

In This Issue

- Mourning Carol Doherty
- TCC Enters Its 66th Season
- It's the Scholarship Season!
- Meet some TCC Newbies

Chorus Mourns State Rep. Carol Doherty

The Taunton Civic Chorus is mourning the passing of State Representative Carol Doherty. Carol was a long-time member and supporter of TCC.



Left Photo-Carol Doherty(right), soprano, takes part in TCC's 60th Anniversary concert in May 2019. Gazette Photo
Right - Carol presents a check to former TCC President Barbara Quill, a check for Covid Relief from the Massachusetts Legislature and the Mass Cultural Council.

Before entering politics, Carol was an educator – a teacher, then a guidance counselor. She served as President of the Massachusetts Teachers Association for four years. Carol took that background to serve as an education and political consultant at Lesley College and Northeastern University. She also served on The Taunton School Committee for four terms. From there, Carol served as state representative in the 3rd Bristol District until her death February 15th.

Chorus Co-President Anne Alexander, a longtime friend of Doherty said, "The Taunton Civic Chorus will forever cherish Representative Carol A. Doherty's memory and her dauntless support. Her legacy as a champion of music and community spirit will continue to resonate for generations to come. As we mourn her passing, we extend our deepest sympathies to her husband, Dennis, and her extended family. May she rest in



peace, knowing that her voice and her impact will never be forgotten.”

TCC's Season Halfway to Concert Time

Contact us:

- **Email-
taunton.ma.civic.
chorus@gmail.com**
- **Like us and follow
us on Facebook**
- **Web -
Tauntoncivicchorus
.org**
- **P.O.Box 217
E. Taunton,02718**

A new season is underway for Taunton Civic Chorus. The Spring season began on Thursday, January 9th with Music Director Chris Hoskins leading singers, along with Assistant Music Director/Accompanist JJ Ward.

The spring concert entitled *Stevie!* will feature the music of Stevie Nicks, Stevie Wonder and other favorites such as Joni Mitchell, Bill Withers, and more.

Music Director Hoskins said the chorus will be singing such modern popular music such as “Landslide”, “Sir Duke”, “Edge of Seventeen”, and “Big Yellow Taxi”.



Hoskins describes the concert as, “a fitting tribute to two musical icons who helped shape modern popular music.”

The Taunton Civic Chorus is the area’s longest running choral group and has been an important part of the cultural life of Taunton since 1959. In addition to presenting an annual spring and holiday concert, the TCC performs at local events such the Liberty and Union Festival, Taunton River Festival, The Dighton Arts Festival, and Lights On – Taunton. Each year, TCC proudly awards a

scholarship to a young person entering college who has been involved in the performing arts in high school.

TCC to Award Scholarships to High Schoolers

Each year, Taunton Civic Chorus awards a scholarship(s) to area high school students. The \$800 scholarship is open to graduating seniors from greater Taunton area high schools: Taunton High School, Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School, West Bridgewater High School, Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School, Somerset-Berkley Regional High School, Apponequet Regional High School (Lakeville/Freetown), Middleborough High School, Norton High School.

The student must be a participant in an organized musical activity (chorus, band, orchestra, private voice or instrumental lessons, drama club, dance lessons), and be accepted into a 2 or 4-year college degree program, pursuing any major.

Applications are available through high school guidance/music departments, or taunton.ma.civic.chorus@gmail.com.

The deadline for applications is Monday, March 10th.

TCC Welcomes Newbies - Part 1

Since last Fall, TCC has welcomed in several new singers. Here's a look at four of them; the others will appear in the next issue of *Chorus Line*.

There are some familiar faces in that group – one a former singer, another associated through family for decades.

Tina Mandell has been singing with the Taunton Civic Chorus on and off for many years, depending on what was going on in her life. But it was her love of music that brought her back.

"I have been performing since I was a child," said Mandell. "I'd like to think I could bring my experience and enjoyment of music to help put on an awesome show."

Mandell, a native of Taunton, and a direct care worker at a group home, includes middle and high school concert and marching bands in her resume, as well as professional marching bands, club, party, and wedding gigs, plus church choirs.

Tricia Sittig, was drawn to TCC by her daughter who knew how much she missed singing. It was her daughter who tracked down TCC online and told her mother about the group.

"I've been singing with choruses since high school (in Pittsburgh under a director who helped us win many awards), then college."

As for TCC, Sittig said she arrived in January for rehearsals for the new season, and signed up the second week she was there!



Tina Mandell and Tricia Sittig

Sittig is a psychotherapist and lives in Berkley.

Susanna Shafer is no stranger to TCC. She's been a longtime supporter of the chorus. She is also the daughter of Dick Shafer who has been singing with the chorus for more than 45 years!

Shafer's love of music dates back to Taunton High School days in chorus, select chorus and drama club under the direction of former TCC Music Director Ken Almeida. From there, she participated in the Sage Chapel Choir at Cornell.



Dick and Susanna Shafer

Shafer "loves the civic chorus and I love to sing, and I am happy to spend extra time with my dad, Dick Shafer." She added the concert in December was the inspiration to finally join the group.

"I do have enthusiasm and a willingness to try to sing soprano," she said. "I will be bringing my dad each week, hopefully on time!"

Shafer is an immigration lawyer specializing in asylum, humanitarian, family reunification and citizenship cases. She lives in Taunton with her partner and her 12-year-old son.

Kathryn DeAmaral came to the chorus by way of her friend Jessie Beerman. She loves all things music.

Her musical experience goes back to her youth participating in chorus and her church choir. Also, in college, DeAmaral was a member of the Jazz Ensemble (for voice).



Kathryn DeAngelo

She's hoping she brings a lot to TCC. "I'm an extrovert and love to sing...seems like a good fit!"

When not working at her job at the Providence Performing Arts Center (PPAC) as a concert and comedy buyer, she's attending PPAC shows. She also loves watching her daughter perform. Mom describes her daughter as a very musical 16-year-old who is heavily involved in community and school theater.

DeAmaral grew up in Rehoboth and now lives in North Dighton.

Join a Committee; Share Your Creativity

Taunton Civic Chorus would love your input. The chorus runs with the help of several committees- Fundraising, Membership, Scholarship, Social Media, and Public Relations/Marketing. Please consider joining one! Contact Co-President Anne Alexander.

