

# Whalen

Fire, Smoke, Soot, Water & Mold Remediation Services  
Board-up \* Cleaning \* Deodorizing \* Reconstruction

## Winter Newsletter

2017- 2018



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### Happy Holidays

from the Whalen Restoration Services team!

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#### ***Holiday Safety***

With all of the decorating, cooking, company and busy schedules it's no secret that the holiday season brings a large increase in property damages and injuries. We're here to help those numbers go down! Before you deck the halls, light the menorah or ring in the New Year with a crowd [read this refresher on how to keep the celebrations safe](#). We talk about cooking, decorating and provide links to some great ideas!

[Show us your beautiful holiday displays!](#)



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#### ***Our Community***

What a fantastic time we had at this year's annual Dennis Police 5K Halloween Hustle! We helped each runner fuel up with adorably labeled granola bars that we contributed to their grab bags. Keep an



eye out on Facebook for the [event's photos](#), but for now you can [check out some of ours!](#)

Looking ahead, the season of giving continues with some of our favorite local programs. We're proud to be a part of the annual Dress A Live Doll program through the Salvation Army which welcomes volunteers to help make a child's holiday better. Donations go to volunteers who are assigned a child or children. The volunteers receive their sizes and shops to outfit them with everything from underwear and socks to shirts, jackets, hats and gloves. The volunteers deliver their gifts to the Salvation Army who then has volunteers distribute them just before Christmas. [Reach out the Salvation Army to find out how you can participate.](#)

## ***National Community***

Here are some amazing ways anyone can contribute this holiday season:

- Volunteer for the [Salvation Army](#). Reach out to your local office to find out all of the opportunities in your area such as toy sorting, assisting truck deliveries and food

basket deliveries.

- Reach out to your local hospital and see how you can volunteer or visit the patients.
- Share some love with furry friends and the [MSPCA](#).
- Volunteer at your local shelter preparing and serving meals to the homeless.
- Bring some cheer to senior citizens so no one has to spend the season alone or without a home cooked meal.
- Make a difference in the life of a child with a life-threatening medical condition with the [Make-A-Wish](#) foundation.
- There's always the timeless tradition of carding. Check with your local community centers and neighborhood groups or rally a crew of your own. You could even merge this with the senior and hospital suggestions above! Make it even more fun by dressing up as holiday characters!
- Reach out to your local food pantry and see if you can help deliver holiday meals.
- Check out <https://www.volunteermatch.org/>.
- Other sweet giving opportunities:
  - Pay for someone's layaway anonymously.
  - Buy the coffee order for the person behind you.
  - Pay for someone's dinner tab.
  - Bring a panhandler a brown bag lunch.
  - Enjoy a street musician's talent and pay them for the show.
  - Make a tax-deductible donation in a friend's name

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## ***Dates to Remember***

<b>December</b> Is the month of...	<b>January</b> Is the month of...	<b>February</b> Is the month of...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe Toys and Gifts</li> <li>• Universal Human Rights</li> <li>• Food Service Safety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nat'l Mentoring</li> <li>• Nat'l Glaucoma Awareness</li> <li>• Nat'l Blood Donor Month</li> <li>• Nat'l Birth Defects Prevention</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black History</li> <li>• American Heart</li> <li>• Library Lovers</li> </ul>
12/1 – Friday World AIDS Day	1/1 - Monday New Year's Day	2/2 – Friday Groundhog Day
12/7 – Thursday Pearl Harbor Remembrance	1/15 – Monday Martin Luther King Day	2/4 – Sunday Super Bowl Sunday
12/12 – Tuesday Hanukkah Starts 	1/27 – Saturday Int'l Holocaust Remembrance Day	2/14 – Wednesday Valentine's Day 
12/21 – Thursday Winter Solstice		2/19 – Monday Presidents Day
12/25 – Monday Christmas 		2/21 – Wednesday Int'l Mother Language Day
12/26 – Tuesday Kwanzaa Starts 		2/22 – Thursday World Yoga Day

## ***New Winter To-Do List***

### December

1. Test all of your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.
2. Unpack and test all electrical holiday decorations. Repair or discard any that do not function properly.
3. Review the family fire escape and emergency plans with every household member.
4. Check your fire extinguisher's expiration date and the gauge to ensure that it is fully charged.
5. Check that there is still insulation around all exterior pipes and make sure that water cannot seep under the insulation.
6. Detail clean your dishwasher, trash compactor and countertop appliances.
7. Clean your range hood and either clean or replace the filter.

[December Printable Version Here](#)

### January

1. Test all of your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.
2. Keep an eye out for bargains on discontinued appliances and tools. Before buying make sure the warranties are still valid.
3. Organize your home improvement files. Review warranties and product manuals for recommended maintenance for furnaces, equipment, appliances and tools. Update your calendar to keep everything on schedule.
4. Update your home inventory list. Add new items that you received as holiday gifts and include pictures of each item.
5. Review your homeowners policy. Make sure you have enough coverage under your contents section (your updated inventory list comes in to play here), and be aware of the different deductibles you may be subject to. Make notes on any questions you have for your agent.
6. Remove drain traps from under your sinks and clean them thoroughly along with the pop-up drain plugs.
7. Test your water heater temperature pressure relief valve by lowering the test lever and allowing some water to flow through the pipe. If no water flows or if it only trickles out replace the valve.

## February

1. Test all of your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.
2. Test all of your ground-fault circuit interrupter outlets by pushing the "test" button. The "reset" button should pop out indicating that it is working properly. Then press the "reset" button so it'll be set to work when you need it to.
3. Check inside of bathroom vanities and kitchen sink cabinets for signs of moisture or leaks. Carefully inspect for condensation or slow drips.
4. Check your grout and caulking around your showers, tubs and sinks. Replace missing grout after chipping out the cracked areas. If caulk remains discolored after cleaning remove and replace it with caulk that is mildew-resistant.
5. Inspect for loose knobs and hinges on cabinets, vanities and furniture. Tighten or repair where necessary and lubricate squeaky hinges.
6. To eliminate any musty closet odors remove all of the contents and wash the walls with a diluted solution of chlorine bleach. Replace solid doors with louvered doors. If the smell is the result of too much moisture in the area you'll need to locate the source and fix it or the problem will return. You may need to simply start running a dehumidifier in that area.
7. Use a vacuum with a narrow nozzle to clean the condenser coils on the back or underneath your refrigerator.

[February Printable Version Here](#)

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## *Ham and Cheese Sliders*

by [The Girl Who Ate Everything](#)

*A great recipe for leftover ham, and it's a quick and easy crowd-pleaser!*

### Ingredients:

- 24 white dinner rolls
- 24 pieces honey ham
- 24 small slices Swiss cheese
- 1/3 cup mayonnaise
- 1/3 cup miracle whip

### Poppy seed sauce:

- 1 Tablespoon poppyseeds
- 1 1/2 Tablespoons yellow mustard
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 1 Tablespoon minced onion
- 1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce



### Instructions

1. In a small bowl, mix together mayonnaise and miracle whip. Spread onto both sides of the center of each roll. Place a slice of ham and a slice of Swiss inside of each roll. Close rolls and place them into a large baking dish or heavy cookie sheet. Place very close together.
2. In a medium bowl, whisk together all of the poppy seed sauce ingredients. Pour evenly over all of the sandwiches. You do not have to use all of the sauce! Just use enough to cover the tops. Let sit 10 minutes or until butter sets slightly. Cover with foil and bake at 350 degrees for 12-15 minutes or until cheese is melted. Uncover and cook for 2 additional minutes or until tops are slightly brown and crispy. Serve warm. Note: Sandwiches can be assembled ahead of time. I don't like to do it more than a day ahead because they can get soggy from the mayo mixture.

Notes: Source: adapted from [Our Recipe Club](#)

[What's your favorite recipe for game day? Share it with us!](#)

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## ***Don't Take Our Word For It***

The Dai/Cuciniello Family of Wellfleet, MA wrote us the sweetest letter. Dear John, I want to thank you again and again for all your hard work, knowledge, kindness, and attention during the renovation



of our home at (address) in Wellfleet. As you know, we are going through a very difficult time in our family, and when the flood happened we were very stressed over how we would deal with it from New York, but knowing that we were able to count on you and all the other kind and hard working knowledgeable people at Whalen Restoration it was really comforting. The house looked beautiful!! Aside from the beautiful work, it was also left very clean and orderly, and that we also appreciated. You and the people from Whalen made what appeared to be a very difficult situation as pleasant as possible, and made the whole process go very smoothly. My whole family is go grateful!! Wishing you well, and

that you for everything! Hope you like the Yankee shirt!! GO YANKS!! Very truly Yours, Debra and Christopher Dai and The Cuciniello Family

[See the original letter!](#)

[See more testimonials here!](#)

**Chem-Dry by Whalen Services**  
 is happy to offer you  
**15% SAVINGS**  
 on Carpet Cleaning, Upholstery Cleaning  
 or Area Rug Cleaning

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Offer Expires 2/28/2018

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## Contact

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[WEBSITE](#)

[E-MAIL US](#)

## Connect with us!





*"In the depth of winter I finally learned that there was in me an invincible summer."  
~ Albert Camus*

*"This is my wish for you: peace of mind, prosperity through the year, happiness that multiplies, health for you and yours, fun around every corner, energy to chase your dreams, joy to fill your holidays!"  
~ D.M. Dellinger*

*"May your walls know joy, may every room hold laughter, and every window open to great possibility."  
~ Mary Anne Radmacher*

*"Nature looks dead in winter because her life is gathered into her heart. She withers the plant down to the root that she may grow it up again fairer and stronger. She calls her family together within her inmost home to prepare them for being scattered abroad upon the face of the earth."  
~Hugh Macmillan, "Rejuvenescence," The Ministry of Nature, 1871*