

The Village News

NORTH FALMOUTH VILLAGE ASSOCIATION • VOLUME 55 • JANUARY 2020

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello and Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and a great start to 2020!

My husband Corey and I have been discussing with the board and other friends our goals and hopes for our little village in the next year. This is what we have come up with:

1. Increase use of our Junction Building (212 Old Main Road) through Community Enrichment events and happenings.
2. Create 1 or 2 large events (in addition to our Village Unplugged) to provide entertainment and an opportunity for neighbors to connect.
3. Increase membership and involvement.

Our thoughts are if we do numbers 1 and 2, number 3 will naturally happen. If you would like to help out with any of these items, or have ideas and skills to share, please contact me. Or join us for one of our monthly board meetings, the second Tuesday of every month. I look forward to seeing and talking with you!

Stay warm!

Peggy Heaslip

peggyheaslip@gmail.com

508-274-3930

Christmas Memories of Downtown Falmouth

There was something very special about Main Street Falmouth in the days leading up to Christmas in the 1950s. It seemed brighter and a lot more fun back then and I don't think it was all because I was a lot younger. The Village Green was about the same as today, but the lights decorating all the holiday scenes and running up the flagpole were much bigger and brighter. Instead of today's teeny weeny light bulbs, those old bulbs were much larger, almost the size of today's regular sized lamp bulbs, about 2 full inches in diameter and perfectly round. I wish now that I had saved one to show, but they belonged to the town. Also, instead of today's nice white wooden fence, the Village Green was surrounded by a black iron Victorian fence.

As you walked down Main Street from the Village Green, you would see two rows of real Christmas Trees along the sides of the street, 5 or 6 feet in height, spaced about 50 feet apart and suspended over the sidewalk about 7 feet. Each tree had about a dozen of the large colored light bulbs like on the Green. It was a beautiful sight to see these 2 rows of Christmas trees all the way down Main Street. This was the case for many years and only stopped when electricity and maintenance costs got to be too expensive.

Walking a little further down Main Street with the Post Office on your left, things started to get interesting for us kids. For the boys, there was Eastman's Hardware on the left and Western Auto across the street. For the girls, there was Buttner's Clothing and then Mrs. Weeke's Shop. Across the street on the right was the Community Center, if you needed to use the plumbing (now the Town Hall area).

Next on the left was the Elizabeth Theatre for all the latest movies, with Saturday matinees for us kids. Across the street was Issokson's Clothing, and my personal favorite, JJ Newberry's 5&10 with a soda fountain and a lunch counter! They also had a great toy department! This part of town was my idea of heaven and I could easily spend all day there. Next to Newberry's was the Store of 3 Wonders on the corner of Walker Street with Malchman's Clothing on the opposite corner. Across from Malchman's was the Iris Rexall Drug Store, a small A&P food store and the Big New Yorker Restaurant. The old Town all

was next where Peg Noonan Park is now. Opposite this was Ten Acre Grocery (part of the SS Pierce chain), then Elm Arch Way and the old Methodist Church. (I didn't know this then, but during the summer, NFVA member Leonard Johnson, Bill Ware still living in Cataumet, and Ted Michon and his then girlfriend Evie Kramer worked there along with my cousin, Jack Crapo.)

Beyond the old Town Hall with the Police Station behind it, there was the original Falmouth Public Library, much smaller then, but none of us kids cared much about that. Across from the Library was the Town House Restaurant and then another kid-friendly place, Harvey's Hardware Store, with a Lionel electric train layout and live animals! No kidding. Harvey would always have a real, live donkey or pony, llama or goat, always domesticated and usually very gentle, for us kids and everyone to pet and enjoy. Harvey also carried the complete line of Girl Scout and Boy Scout paraphernalia and was well loved by the entire town for his good deeds and friendly disposition.

Continuing on the right side of Main Street, next came William C. Davis Furniture, Shore Street, and the infamous Falmouth Hotel, which we kids were mostly too young to know anything about. Across from that was First National Supermarket, Paul Dupee's Sporting Goods and Bicycle Shop and some smaller shops. On the right was the Fire Station headquarters. On the corner of Gifford and Main was one of our many gas stations.

The next block of shops included the very popular Smitty's Variety Store and The New Bedford Bargain Store where most of our (my) clothes and shoes came from. Smitty's was very popular with us kids. He had everything there! This was where the fully lit Christmas trees stopped. There were a few more shops, bars, barber shops, etc. but no, we did not have a Falmouth Plaza back then and, of course there was no Falmouth Mall. But we all were very happy anyway with our Main street which seemed to have everything we wanted and needed. To this kid from North Falmouth it was all Totally Awesome!

Dedicated to my beautiful lady friend and high school classmate who passed away in 2015, Lynne (Metcalf) Olsen of Falmouth. Rest in Peace, dear lady.

Around the Village

ROAD RACE FUNDS PUT TO USE AT NORTH FALMOUTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Every year before Thanksgiving we at the North Falmouth Village Association give a considerable amount of our funds raised in the Paul White Road Race to the North Falmouth Elementary School. These funds are given in the form of a check, usually \$2000, to Angela LeBlanc, the adjustment counselor, to use at her discretion to assist families in the North Falmouth School District. Ms. LeBlanc wanted to share with us one of the ways she has put our gift to use. Last month the mother of a student contacted Ms. LeBlanc requesting assistance. The mother had recently separated from her husband and needed to find affordable housing along with repairing her car. Ms. LeBlanc sent her WalMart and Stop & Shop gift cards. She was extremely grateful! These gift cards enabled her to purchase groceries for her family and a few presents for the student. This is just one of the ways the NFVA supports people in our community. Thank you for your contributions!

DROP-IN TOWN HALL MEETING

This Spring look for an announcement of a Precinct 5 'Drop-In Town Hall' where we can gather to talk about Spring Town Meeting Articles. Among others, Precinct 5 Town Meeting member Lillia Frantin will be there to listen to your thoughts...More info to come!

CALLING ALL NEWSLETTER AFICIONADOS

You may have noticed our newsletter looks different. We are so grateful to Grace Simpkins for her years of laboring away on our North Falmouth Village Association Newsletter. Now that Grace's children have moved on from North Falmouth Elementary she will be focusing her energy on her family and career. Grace, we thank you!

If you have skills in using Publisher or InDesign or any other newsletter making program and want to help please contact me ASAP! If you enjoy writing short articles on things that are important to our village please contact me ASAP!

Peggy Heaslip peggyheaslip@gmail.com or 508-274-3930



LET THE GAMES CONTINUE! Andrea learned Mahjong with us these past months and is now a winner! Join us again in January 2020. All levels are welcome to our playing and teaching gatherings! All supplies are provided.

Call Ilene Karnow for information 978-430-5664

FEBRUARY NFVA BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, February 11, 7:00pm

**Junction Building,
212 Old Main Road,
North Falmouth**

*Guest Speaker: Pamela Rothstein
Co-chair of Bikeway and Pedestrian Committee*

All welcome. To contribute additional topics for discussion, contact peggyheaslip@gmail.com

Neighborhood Falmouth

Helping Seniors Age Safely and Comfortably in Their Homes

Alicia Abell* loved to read, garden, and participate once a month in a book discussion group at her local library. But due to sudden vision loss, the hobbies she loved became nearly impossible to continue. Even worse, the likelihood she could continue to live independently in her own home of 45 years was in question. Nonetheless that was her desire.

Remaining in one's home during senior years of life, also known as "aging in place," has many advantages for older people. In addition to the comfort of living in the familiar place they know and love, it offers the ability to stay connected with friends and neighbors of all generations, and remain engaged within the community.

But when the aging process takes its course or when personal loss strikes, as it did for Alicia, simple tasks that were once easy--like maintaining a garden, driving to doctors' visits, and cooking a nutritious meal--suddenly become daunting. As a result, some seniors opt to downsize or move into assisted living, while others stay put in a non-ideal environment whether due to personal choice or financial circumstances.

Fortunately, there's an organization that's dedicated to helping seniors like Alicia live out their golden years safely, productively and comfortably in their own homes: Neighborhood Falmouth.

Founded in 2009, Neighborhood Falmouth is a non-profit organization with a mission to help older Falmouth residents continue to enjoy their multi-generational community from the comfort of their own home. The organization is run by a small staff headed by Susan Loucks, Executive Director, who are backed by a team of more than 120 committed volunteers. Working an average of 2-3 hours a week, volunteers deliver services that can range from light home maintenance, transportation to doctors' visits, household finance help, emergency pet care, and much more. Services may also take the form of friendly phone check-ins once or twice a week--a virtual life-line to a person who may be isolated or separated from family living a distance away.

Susan explains, "Sometimes just a little help--with home maintenance tasks, a ride to the beauty salon, or a quick visit for a game of cards--can make all the difference in the quality of life of an older person. In Alicia's case, a volunteer helped enlist her with books

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

On December 1st the North Falmouth Village Association held the annual tree lighting at the Junction! This fun family event was put together by volunteers. Caroling on Old Main Road was followed by homemade cookies and hot chocolate at the Junction, ending with the lighting of the 8ft balsam tree grown in NH! Thank you to all who attended this wonderful holiday event!

Standing: Andrea Wilson, Rosemary Carey, Peggy & Corey Heaslip, Anju Connor, John Tarr; kneeling: Jake Gebbie; children: Grace McGlinchey, Penelope Heaslip, Scarlett Oberton, Winnie Hatch, Alaina Gebbie, Prem Connor



on tape by mail service, and provided a weekly ride to her beloved book discussion group.” That’s the kind of success story Neighborhood Falmouth loves to tell.

The cost of membership in Neighborhood Falmouth (NF) is \$50 per month, relatively affordable considering there are virtually no limits to the number of services a member can receive. Those who need rides to physicians’ offices or shopping in neighboring towns such as Bourne or Sandwich can receive the rides they need, though the volunteer drivers do not take members off-Cape.

“The only limit to the services NF can offer is the number of volunteers. We have grown so much that we now have a six-month waiting list,” she says. Volunteers are requested to provide just one service per week, which can take as little as 1.5 hours. To a senior that small investment of time can mean all the world.

Neighborhood Falmouth conducts regular outreach to seniors and volunteers by visiting civic and community groups around town. But the most effective means of promoting the service to new members and volunteers is by far, word of mouth, says Susan. “We have a lot of satisfied customers that spread the word.”



For more information about Neighborhood Falmouth, come hear Susan speak at the March 10th North Falmouth Village Association meeting, or visit www.neighborhoodfalmouth.

**Name replaced to respect privacy of member.*



BUILDING UPDATE & HELP

The Junction building has been prepared for winter. The gas burner has been serviced and storm windows have been secured. During the really cold days the water will be shut off to avoid any freeze-ups of the water pipes. The gutters were cleaned and debris was cleaned off the back roof.

In the next few months we will be painting the inside of the Junction Building! This will require a significant amount of help as we need to sand and prep the trim and touch up some of the plaster. There will be several work days and opportunities to help.

If you are interested contact Peggy Heaslip: peggyheaslip@gmail.com , 508-274-3930



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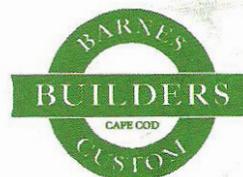
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Salt Architecture

Founded in 2014, Salt Architecture is proudly owned by North Falmouth residents Chris Harris and Alissa Hike Harris, and boasts an impressive portfolio of projects of all sizes in their five years of business. The firm recently opened a new office in West Falmouth, located at 628 West Falmouth Highway (formerly the Europa building). Having both graduated with Master of Architecture degrees from UNC's Charlotte's College of Architecture, they relocated to the Cape shortly after graduation to work at local firms. Chris worked for Jill Neubauer Architects in Falmouth for nine years, and Alissa, a Falmouth native, worked at Hutker Architects in Falmouth for two years before joining Chris at JNA. After honing their craft with local experts, the pair went out on their own and have been impressing clients ever since.

With a focus on eco-conscious building, the couple is adept at weaving their clients' priorities for a project into the final design in a way that is both environmentally responsible and visually satisfying.

Just a quick tour of their own home in New Silver allows you to see how talented they are in creating beauty within the context of a space. Chris describes their work as being in the Cape Cod vernacular with a modern influence and reiterated their client-focused approach to all projects.

In addition to providing full service custom residential architectural services for new homes, Salt Architecture is also able to service clients on smaller projects such as master bath renovations and new kitchens. Through partnering with local contractors and vendors, Salt has a unique advantage with being able to service our Village area as well having been successful with projects throughout Cape Cod and beyond.

For further information on Salt Architecture contact Chris Harris: 774.763.2601, info@saltarchitecture.com, www.saltarchitecture.com

MARCH NFVA BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, March 10th, 7:00pm
Junction Building, 212 Old Main Road, North Falmouth

Guest Speaker: Susan Loucks of Neighborhood Falmouth

Learn more about the organization and how people can receive services and how people can help.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

from the

NORTH FALMOUTH VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

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