



The Cornerstone

Published Periodically by the West Barnstable Civic Association

A Message from the WBCA President ~ Nancy Meagher

It bears repeating that there is much to learn and enjoy by actively engaging in town meetings and activities. We saw many of you at the Spaghetti Supper last month. Amazing how a fantastic group of devoted people came together to pull that off. Great job by Leasha Batta and her team. Be sure to check out the photos in this issue. Because you are interested and because you care about our community, we filled the room for the West Barnstable Fire District Annual Meeting April 24th. We voted on the Budget, the Bylaws, and elected two officials. We are looking forward to our General Membership Meeting, May 21st featuring guest speaker Nancy Viall Shoemaker. West Barnstable Civic Association Scholarships will also be awarded in person that night. Flag Day June 14th is always a lovely, sentimental day, so please stop by if you are around. Save some time in mid July for the Whelden Memorial Library Garden Tour. Tickets will be available at the library and online. Then, of course, the best of summer is our Village Festival Saturday, August 17th. This quintessential event brimming with family and friends having a wonderful time is not to be missed. In addition, Whelden Memorial Library continues to offer a full calendar of activities each week. Mark your calendar and plan to join us whenever you can.

We hope you enjoy reading the articles in this *Cornerstone* as they are interesting, historical, and heartwarming.

Our mission is to represent the citizens of West Barnstable in working for the betterment of our community. We support positive working relationships, promote communication, civic engagement and community spirit. We are fortunate to reside in this lovely Cape Cod village where kindness prevails. There are more than 3000 registered voters in our precinct and we'd welcome everyone of you to become a member of the WB Civic Association. (www.westbarnstable.org) For the nominal fee of \$15, you will be in the know. Join today!

Meetinghouse Farm ~ Judy Desrochers

Has the rain stopped? If the grey of spring has felt relentless to you this year, you are not alone. We learn more every day about our intimate connection to the natural world and this spring we certainly learned that mood and weather are close companions.

Gardeners are especially attentive to weather and growing conditions because plants are so vulnerable. What is the temperature? How wet is the soil? How strong is the wind? The eagerness to get started on the garden is intense, but in spite of that passion, nature demands that we be patient and deliberate for success. Another life lesson from the garden.

Please check the Farm's website at meetinghousefarm.org for information on all of the Farm's events. Of special interest, coming on **May 25** is an introductory talk on **Labyrinths**. For a number of years we have hoped to build a labyrinth at the Farm and the time finally seems right. Anne Bonney will be the presenter. Anne has been involved with the creation of the Chatham Labyrinth and has a wealth of knowledge and experience to share. If you are unfamiliar with the history and purpose of labyrinths there is a great deal of information and many pictures on line.

This is an ambitious undertaking but we are regarding the project as a journey, much like the spiritual experience of walking a labyrinth. Please join us on May 25th to learn more.

At the other end of the spiritual spectrum, (pretty much the very end) is your opportunity to sort bottles and cans at the Barnstable Transfer Station. **June** is our month. This is a major fundraiser for the Farm -so drink up and bring your bottles and cans to the Transfer Station. We need volunteers for sorting so if you can help, please contact Mary Ann Donovan at onthecod@comcast.net. It really is fun and you learn a lot about beer!

For now, happy gardening and I hope the sun is shining.



West Barnstable Scholarship Committee ~ Jane Manzelli

The West Barnstable Civic Association held a fundraiser at The Tavern on The Green Restaurant, Olde Barnstable Fairgrounds Golf Course on Sunday March 10, 2019, which benefitted the West Barnstable Civic Association's Scholarship Fund. It was a fun evening with delicious food, fabulous music by Livin' Las Vegas, a cash bar and Silent Auction! Approximately 60 people attended the event, which raised more than \$4,500. The attendees generously bid on an array of wonderful auction items donated by individuals and local businesses.

The West Barnstable Civic Association will present four scholarships to graduating seniors from public or private schools, who are residents of West Barnstable at the May 21st WBCA General Membership Meeting. Hope to see you there.

THANK YOU, Jane and Fran, for steering your hard-working committee through this successful Fundraiser and the Scholarship Award process!!

2019 Officers and Directors of the West Barnstable Civic Association

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Visit
www.westbarnstable.org
for all things West Barnstable
westbarnstablecivic@gmail.com

MEETING & EVENT SCHEDULE

Civic Association General Membership Meetings:

Held at the West Barnstable

Community Building:

Social begins at 6:30 PM,

Meeting at 7 PM

Next General Meeting:

Tuesday, May 21st, 2019

Board Meetings:

First Tuesday of each month 7:00PM at the West Barnstable Community Building.

All meetings are public and those interested are encouraged to attend.

Annual Spaghetti Supper



WBCA Past President Hank Farnham with family members and Town Councilor Phil Wallace.



Shirley Stolte, Joanne Wallace, and Bob Stolte handled the 50/50 raffle which was won by Elaine Grace.

Serving more than 300 dinners at the West Barnstable Fire Station, Leasha, Lenny and members of the Iron Order motorcycle group headed up the kitchen tasks. Scores of volunteers helped before, during and after the Spaghetti Supper, bringing together our West Barnstable community at this popular annual event.

The Spaghetti Supper is designed to promote community spirit in our Village, but also raises funds to support the annual West Barnstable Village Festival. The sun was shining for our gathering at the Fire Station where volunteers from the West Barnstable Civic Association worked with the staff at the Fire Station and volunteers from Whelden Library and others to plan for this community get-together. New and old friends and neighbors enjoyed visiting and catching up after this year's cold and stormy winter.

A favorite part of this event is having young students bus tables and serve the diners beverages and desserts. Lenny's homemade "Auntie's Chocolate Sauce" was a hit as usual.

Save the Date: SATURDAY, AUGUST 17th! The West Barnstable Festival will be happening in the heart of our Village. (Rain date: Sunday, August 18th) The Festival activities will feature the Classic Car Show held at the newly-refurbished parking lot at the Community Building.

The Festival Committee consists of two representatives from the WB Civic Association, the Whelden Library and the WB Firefighters Relief Association, along with six other members at large. Please feel welcome to join the fun and help with planning this wonderful community event. To volunteer, contact Leasha Batta (leasha.batta@comcast.net) or Kris Clark (kris@meganet.net).



Chef Lenny Clark with John Webb



Cashiers Fran and Merrill Davis and Kathi Hausser.



WB Firefighter Stephanie Melanson and family. Seated is Ray Lambert.



Meg Loughran and her husband Pat with Sue and Rich French. Next to Pat is Barry Paster, Andy Lee, and Jon Britton across from Andy.



Joanne and Joe enjoying dinner with Peter and Shirley



Jared and Chrystina Hemmila with their beautiful baby.



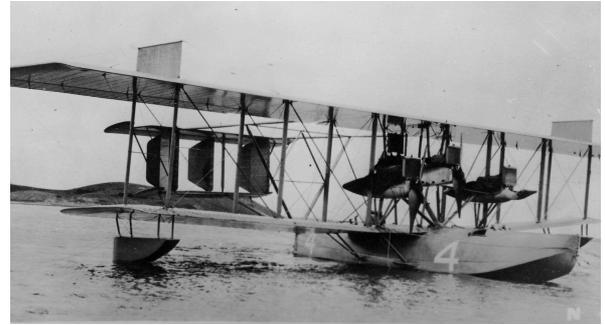
Dorothy Stabley with her daughter Kristin Komar, Kristin's husband, and their son Henry having some fun.

Thanks to photographers Leasha Batta and Kris Clark.

West Barnstable Historical Society ~ Nancy Viall Shoemaker

West Barnstable Historical Society's May meeting will be held at the West Barnstable Fire Department on Monday, May 13 at 7 PM. WBHS vice president and renowned historian David Crocker will be speaking on a timely local subject: the Flight of the NC-4. This "plane" was the first aircraft to cross the Atlantic Ocean. The story is especially interesting as the NC-4 wasn't exactly a plane as we know it, but a seaplane. This flying, floating wonder was one of three Navy Flying Boats that departed on the venture on May 8, 1919. Yes, we are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the historic flight!

So where's the Cape Cod connection? The NC-4 developed engine problems that forced the seaplane to make an emergency landing on Pleasant Bay in Chatham. On May 14, 1919 at 9:07 AM, the plane continued the trip, ending its 3,421-mile journey in Lisbon, Portugal on May 27. Come hear all the fascinating details and human-interest stories about the flight on May 13th at the Fire Station. And if you miss that event, Dave will give an encore presentation at Chatham Historical Society on Sunday, May 19 at 2 PM.



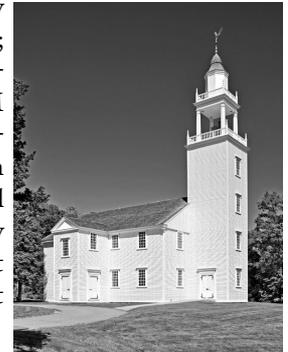
1717 Meetinghouse Foundation ~ Frederick Clausen

Sometime ago Ellen Merritt turned over to the Foundation plans from the 1953 Restoration. These have been handed down through the generations from her grandfather Earle P. Merritt, Sr. On one of the plans was handwritten "Working Plans - W. Parish Meeting House (Copied From Bonnie Hinckley's Father's {Forrest Brown} Working Plans for the Renovation) 1953 -58". This was done in 1983. Then in the old Foundation minutes (1993) was an entry that Nancy Samuel Sykes had submitted a memo describing certain records in her possession - "safely boxed and stored" - in her attic. And, very recently a gentleman came with a well-worn postcard of the church as it looked in 1852.

Even though it has been 300 years since the building was first used, and some 60 years since the restoration, there are still artifacts in "attics". What new discoveries that would add to our knowledge of the history of the Meetinghouse or West Parish of Barnstable remain undiscovered? What's in your "attic"?

West Parish of Barnstable Of and For the Community ~ Reed Baer

The West Barnstable 1717 Meetinghouse houses a congregational church - West Parish of Barnstable - with historic, inextricable and ongoing ties to the community in which it sits at its heart. The church is *of* the community: we are oyster farmers, nurses, teachers, police officers, firefighters, technicians, food service workers, doctors, administrators, landscapers, carpenters, bankers, electricians and more; we are young families and retirees, single, married, life-long West Barnstable residents and new "wash-ashores"; we are as diverse as the Cape in race, color, national origin, gender and gender-orientation, and economic and social situation. The church is *for* the community: we serve the community in a plethora of ways, including the West Parish Family School which provides a quality pre-school experience for over 70 children a week, year-round; the annual Rooster Crows Fair, with its crafts, lobster roll luncheon, and silent auction; hosting the annual community Tree Lighting and Carol Sing each December; the most popular weeknight Alcoholic Anonymous meeting on the Cape; and its outreach to and support of many community organizations, including Meetinghouse Farm, Luke's Love Playground, A Baby Center in Hyannis, CapeAbilities, and more. Plus, of course, with worship available to all at the 4:30 PM Saturday contemporary service and the 11:00 AM Sunday traditional service. The 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation (a separate, not-for-profit corporation) maintains the building and also serves the community through a wide-ranging program of lectures, debates, and musical performances. The church also opens its doors to the wider community for the special occasions, such as weddings and funerals. Stop in some time for a self-guided tour of the Meetinghouse (Memorial Day through Columbus Day, 9:00-4:00, the rest of the year by stopping into the church office so we can let you in), and get more of the history of the church, together with information about current events, at www.westparish.org. Or contact our pastors, the Reverend Reed Baer and the Reverend Christie Burns: 508.362.4445



Whelden Memorial Library ~ Victoria Allard

Whelden Memorial Library has long been a fixture in the community, a Village with a rich storied history. The library is an important and relevant resource that provides invaluable services. Over this past year, the library met and exceeded its goal to increase programming for both children and adults. We hope you have been able to enjoy some of the wonderful events that we have hosted. With 2019 well underway, there are many more programs and events to look forward to; please take full advantage of the lifelong learning opportunities that we will be offering. Keep up to date with all activities by visiting our website www.wheldenlibrary.org or signing up for our newsletter!

MAY:

- 1: Mother's Day Photo Wreaths, 6:00 p.m.
- 6: Stamping and Embossed Card-Making with Mary Howe, 6:00 p.m.
- 8: "Coming to a Suburb Near You," with Mass Audubon Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary, 6:00 p.m.
- 11: Bake and Book Sale, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- 22: "Mary Chilton Winslow," Author Talk with Joyce Prince on early Pilgrim settler, 6:00 p.m.
- 25: Book Sale, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

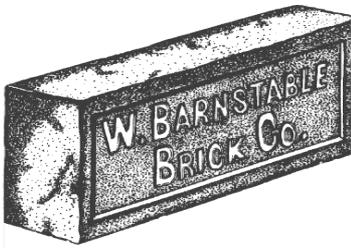
JUNE:

- 3: Yoga/Wellness on the Lawn, 4:00 p.m.
- 24: Movie Night, 5:45 p.m.
- 26: "Planting for Pollinators" with Russell Norton, Agriculture & Horticulture Extension Educator of Cape Cod Cooperative Extension, 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- 27: Summer Reading Kick-off Party at the Centerville Public Library with Trevor the Juggler, 10:00-12:00 a.m.

JULY:

- 2: "Wonderful World of Seaweed," preserving and pressing, for ages 10 & up with Gil Newton, Barnstable Land Trust, 11:00 a.m.
- 10: "Awareness Inspires Conservation" program on sharks for all ages with the Atlantic White Shark Conservancy, 6:00 p.m.
- 17: "A Native Cape Cod Garden - Planting with a Purpose; How to Manage Your Own Piece of Cape Cod" with Kristin Andres, Association for the Preservation of Cape Cod (APCC), 6:00-6:45 p.m.
- 26: Summer Concert with Kareem Sanjagi, at Liberty Hall, Marstons Mills, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Once again, Whelden Memorial Library is excited to participate in the 2019 West Barnstable Village Festival! This all-day event features food, magic, games, car show, flower show, special events, and much more! As part of the annual Festival, Whelden Memorial Library will once more be hosting vendors on the front library lawn. For vendors, a \$30 donation to the library secures a 10'-by-10' space for a table and tent. We welcome vendors offering everything from handcrafts to vintage, and all things in between! For more information and to request a vendor registration form, contact Whelden Memorial Library at 508-362-2262.



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this edition of The Cornerstone is sponsored by:



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Sunderland Printing for their continued support in
producing The Cornerstone.

West Barnstable Train Station and Museum ~ *Linda L. Pegnato*
Open Saturdays ~ May 4th to October 12th 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
CAPE COD CENTRAL RAILROAD COASTAL EXCURSION TRAIN DEPARTS
11:25 AM Saturdays as listed below: Tickets sold at our station Ticket Window.
Parking is free. Restrooms available.
One hour and ten minute round trip from West Barnstable to Cape Cod Canal and return.
www.capestrain.com for ticket prices WBTS Cash Only. All are welcome!
May 4, 25; June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; July 6, 13, 20, 27; August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31;
September 7, 21, 28; October 5, 12 and November 2
Bourne Historical Society special charter to WBTS. All aboard!

**West Barnstable
Flag Day Celebration
2019** *12th Annual*
**Friday
June 14th
6:00pm**

Featuring a ceremonial
USA Flag retirement ceremony

**Meetinghouse Farm
2135 Meetinghouse Way
(Route 149 near Village Green)**

This short festivity will include appropriate music & readings.
Featured will be a Flag Retirement Ceremony hosted by
the West Barnstable Fire Department in accordance with
the US government, Veterans of Foreign Wars and
the five branches of the armed forces.

All are welcome — With Flag or not

The WB Fire Department will accept flags for this ceremony
if you cannot attend but have a U.S. flag to retire.

Visit www.westbarnstable.org for updates and more events



Coastal Excursions



Cape Cod Luncheon or Dinner



Canal Excursions

Town Council Update ~ *Phil Wallace*

Hello, greetings, and salutations!

Someday the rain will stop the sun will come out, you'll be able to recognize it as the shiny thing in the sky. However, in the meantime, the Town Council has just recently finished appropriating the funds for the Capital Improvement Projects Budget. The current five-year plan has 59 Capital Improvement Projects at a cost of \$34 million.

The official ribbon-cutting for the Lombard Field and the new Luke's Love Playground will take place May 10th. We will be moving our polling place back to the Community Building for the next election.

The administration continues to lobby the Community Preservation Committee to advise for additional funding for the completion of the Paine Black House. As of right now all current funding has been expended.

Cleanup continues at the shooting range. There was no appropriation in this year's Capital Improvement Projects to fund it.

The Town Council is currently working on the operating budget. With Capital Improvements and Operating Budgets totaling more than \$210 million.

As the summer season approaches it's my hope that we are all able to enjoy the new facilities available in our village. Thank you.

West Barnstable Fire Department ~ *Joe Maruca*

The West Barnstable FD is always seeking volunteer firefighters. The department currently has seven full-time staff, five part-time staff and forty volunteers. It is one of the last mostly volunteer fire departments in the area. Without its volunteer staff the department would be unable to provide the speed and quality of service that it provides. Come by the fire station, check us out on Facebook, or go to our website to learn more about volunteering.

The WBFD just purchased a new pickup truck to replace its 2007 pickup truck. The new truck is a 2019 F-150 4x4 with 4 doors. It cost \$45,000 and the firefighters association contributed \$20,000 to the purchase. The truck is used to send additional staff to emergency calls, for beach emergencies, for brush fires and other off-road incidents, for inspections, for storm operations and for administrative operations. The WBFD thanks all of the citizens of West Barnstable for their continued support.

If you have any questions about the department please feel free to stop by the fire station or contact Chief Joe Maruca.