

The Cornerstone

Published Periodically by the West Barnstable Civic Association

A Message from the WBCA President ~ Nancy Meagher

The wonderful and dedicated WBCA Officers, Board, Committee Chairs, and volunteers have done an exceptional job serving our village for the past two, unprecedented years. We persevered throughout the pandemic to conduct business, to carry out traditions, and to inform. You, our friends and neighbors, showed up for Earth Day Village Clean Up in April, raised \$9,000 so that six generous Scholarships could be awarded in May at our outdoor meeting, attended our moving Flag Day ceremony in June, and the fun-filled Village Festival in August. We were able to hold an in person General Membership Meeting in October where we met the three School Committee Candidates, and enjoyed a Vineyard Wind update provided by Rose and Nate. (Photos below) We appreciate Kris Clark, our tireless and committed Town Councilor who works so hard for our community and for all of us.

Look for delightful decorations at the Community Building and the Old Selectman's Building soon, the WBCA Merchandise Black Friday sale next week, the Village Tree Lighting in December, and emails to keep you in the loop.

In January, at the Annual General Membership meeting, you will be electing a new President, so this will be my final Message in the *Cornerstone*. It has been an honor and a pleasure to hold this office for more than three years. All that has been accomplished was possible due to the constant support of so many, and I can't thank you enough for the privilege. It does take a village, and you certainly make West Barnstable a special place to live. Be well, be kind, and find the joy!



WBCA General Membership Meeting 10/19/21 (top); School Committee Winning Candidates Peter Goode and Andre King (below left).



Rose DeCosta and Nate Mayo from Vineyard Wind.
Photos courtesy of Tony Lovell

WBCA Educational Scholarships ~ Sue Leary

Since 2012, the West Barnstable Civic Association has awarded 48 scholarships to graduating seniors from public or private schools who are residents of West Barnstable. Students demonstrate academic achievement and evidence of participation in West Barnstable civic affairs, community service and volunteerism.

Applications will be available on the WBCA website February 1, 2022 to be submitted by April 15, 2022. The Scholarships Awards will be presented at the May 17, 2022 WBCA General Membership Meeting. This wonderful evening, brings the community together to support the very best of West Barnstable's young adults.

2021 Officers and Directors of the West Barnstable Civic Association

OFFICERS

Nancy Meagher

President

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Cornerstone Editor

Nancy Meagher

MEETING & EVENT SCHEDULE

Civic Association General

Membership Meetings:

Held at the West Barnstable

Community Building:

Social begins at 6:30 PM,

Meeting at 7:00 PM

Next General Meeting:

Tuesday, January 18, 2021

Board Meetings:

First Tuesday of each month

7:00 PM

at the West Barnstable

Community Building.

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

Civic Association

Membership

www.westbarnstable.org

We invite you to join the

Association. Annual dues

Individual \$15

Family \$25

WBCA BLACK FRIDAY

Merchandise Sale

Friday, November 26th

10:00 AM - 12 Noon

Outside the WB Post Office

Cape Cod Chapter, National Railway Historical Society ~ Linda Z. Pegnato

The season at the West Barnstable Train Station is closed until May, 2022. We would like to thank all of our West Barnstable neighbors who rode the train at the reduced rate on the Village Festival Day in August. We also enjoyed all the visitors who stopped in to tour the station and ride the train this past year from West Barnstable Train Station and Museum. The station will be open 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM for passengers to purchase tickets for the Cape Cod Central Train Excursion up to the canal and return beginning next May. The Polar Express Train is taking reservations now departing Buzzards Bay. Check out www.capedtrain.com for their schedule and ticket information. Hopefully, everyone will get back to normal this coming year. Many Cape Cod Rail Fans post their wonderful rail photos and drone videos of the train station and Cape Cod trains on Facebook for all to enjoy. When you're in Barnstable and on Cape Cod, stop by and visit us! www.capecodnrhs.org



Town Councilor's Update ~ Kris Clark

Happy Thanksgiving, our kickoff to the Holiday Season!



Especially this time of year, I am grateful for many who make our community the special place it is. Many work behind the scenes to be good neighbors, supporting good causes and each other. Speaking of which, there's a new program in Barnstable called **Barnstable Neighbor 2 Neighbor**, and they are looking for volunteers willing to serve Barnstable residents with minor tasks. Consider this local opportunity to be a volunteer to serve

others in our town: <https://barnstable.helpfulvillage.com/>

This is also a time of year for reflection of those we have lost

and those needing our prayers - my list is a long one. A gift this year has been the development and distribution of COVID vaccines. It has enabled us to move toward a more normal interaction with each other, for which I am grateful. The Town of Barnstable and Barnstable County have worked to provide vaccines and COVID testing, working with Cape Cod Healthcare to help protect our community.

Please know that I gladly serve as Town Councilor for Precinct 11 and welcome your input. I send out a periodic e-newsletter with local and town information that I find worthy to share. Feel free to sign up for it on my website: www.precinct11clark.com You may reach me by email: precinct11clark@gmail.com or by phone: 508-428-8754

I am proud to serve as your town councilor and genuinely appreciate those who make our community a better place.

Meetinghouse Farm ~ Judy Desrochers

I'm hoping this issue of the *Cornerstone* is in your mailbox in time to remind you of the Farm's pre-Thanksgiving Pie and Bake sale on Nov. 24th and our Holiday Sale on December 11th and 12th. Although COVID is still a concern we are very happy to be having both sales with some necessary adjustments. Autumn has been incredibly beautiful, despite one nasty storm and one tornado warning! We are looking ahead with confidence that the holiday season will be one of joy and optimism.

We are also focused on the Farm's most current project, the building of a woodland labyrinth at the Farm. This project is designed to encourage reflection and contemplation in the community by providing a peaceful and beautiful space for individuals and groups to visit. Whether sitting in meditation or walking the labyrinth pathways, there are questions to be asked and answers to be found for all of us in the energy of nature. As this project moves forward we are hoping the community will support the project financially to reflect the collaborative nature of the project. It is difficult to ask but our motto is, "Give a little. It means a lot." There will be over one thousand pavers creating the labyrinth pattern. If each of these represents a donation, however small, the labyrinth will become a reality and a symbol of a committed community goal. With the gift giving season ahead, please think of the Farm and the proposed labyrinth for a possible donation.

If you would like to donate, you can send a check to MHF at Box 330, WB 02668 or visit our GoFundMe link at our website meetinghousefarm.org or go to www.gofund.me/eo8fda6a.

Have a wonderful holiday season from all of us at Meetinghouse Farm.

Meetinghouse Farm Pre-Thanksgiving

PIE IN THE SKY

Pie and Bake Sale
Wednesday November 24
8 AM - 11 AM



West Barnstable Community Building
Route 149 West Barnstable

Pies * Cakes * Cookies * Breads
Tekla's Finnish Braids and Breads
Come early! We always sell out!



DON'T MISS...
MHF Holiday Sale December 11&12

2135 Meetinghouse Way W. Barnstable, MA
meetinghousefarm.org
2021

West Barnstable Fire Department ~ Chief Joe Maruca and Deputy Chief David Paananen

More water at "West Parish". The installation of the 60,000 gallon underground water tank (cistern) for firefighting water the intersection of RT 149 and Cedar Street is complete. This replaces the old 20,000 gallon water tank and triples the amount of water available for firefighting.

The design, funding and installation of this cistern are the result of a multi-year collaboration between the 1717 Meetinghouse Trustees, the Town of Barnstable, and the West Barnstable Fire District. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this possible.

The West Barnstable Fire Department has added two new administrative staff. Bernie Meyler has been hired to be our part-time accountant to replace Susan Rao who is retiring.

Bernie was Comptroller for the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority and has a great deal of state and municipal accounting experience. Jennifer Sonnabend has taken over as our part-time records access officer, replacing Nanette Jacob who moved to Florida. Jen handles our filing systems, records retention, records requests, and paperwork compliance. Join us in welcoming them aboard.

The WBFD will be starting a new class of volunteer firefighters and EMS responders over the winter. If you or anyone you know is interested in joining us, please stop by the fire station to pick up an application or learn more. If you haven't, check us out on Facebook.

Why Be a Member of the WB Civic Association? 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.

West Barnstable Historical Society ~ Nancy Viall Shoemaker



West Barnstable's 1717 Meetinghouse has a rich history. The Otis family worshipped here. Mercy Otis's marriage intentions to James Warren were posted on the Meetinghouse door in 1754. She and brother James Otis, Jr. received a classical education here with Rev. Jonathan Russell, Jr.

"Mad Jack" Percival's funeral services were held at the Meetinghouse in 1862. Percival was the captain of the USS Constitution on its 52,279-mile trip around the world (1844-46).

This building is treasured by our village, our town, our country. And it has an added protection now. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on November 14 for the installation of two 30,000-gallon underground water tanks. West Barnstable Fire District does not have town water and, therefore, does not have water hydrants. Four cisterns aid the Fire Department with the storage of water. One of those sites has been West Barnstable's Town Green on Route 149. But that water tank was nearly a century old and needed replacement. Thank you to the 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation for funding and overseeing this project. The Meetinghouse - and West Barnstable Fire District - now have a reliable source of 60,000 gallons of water for fire protection.



The Ribbon Cutters left to right: Found. Trustee Dr. Peter Smith; Found. Trustee Steve Musselman; WBFD Chief Joseph V. Maruca; Foundation President Georgia Lonkart; and Town Councilor Kris Clark.

Photos courtesy of Nancy Viall Shoemaker

The Cooperative Bank of Cape Cod ~ Paul Forni

Most people think cyber-attackers use elaborate techniques and cutting edge technology to "hack" (or trick) people into divulging their sensitive data or downloading the attack's malicious software (malware) onto their devices. Truth be told, most cyber-attackers have learned that the easiest ways to steal your information, hack your accounts, or infect your systems is by simply tricking you into doing it for them using a technique called social engineering.

What is Social Engineering?

Social engineering is the psychological manipulation of a victim to get them to do something they shouldn't. Think of scammers as con artists; it is the same idea; however, today's technology makes it much easier for any attacker, that could be anywhere in the world, pretend to be anything or anyone they want.

Different Social Engineering Methods

Today's cybercriminal has a number of tools at their disposal, and they may vary their attacks based on what they think will work best. The three different methods are Phishing, Pre-text Phone Calling, and Physical Breach Attempts.

Phishing is when a cybercriminal uses an email to trick someone into opening an infected email attachment, clicking on a malicious link, or giving up sensitive information. Spear Phishing emails can be highly customized and targeted attacks. This is when the attacker has done research on you (or the organization you work for) and has included information within the email to add to their credibility. Lastly, attackers may impersonate a high level employee within your company, called Masquerading or CEO Fraud.

Learning to Spot Phishing Emails does not have to be difficult, there a number of warning signs you should look for:

- ♣ Grammatical Errors and/or Misspelling in emails
- ♣ Questionable "From" email address, you do not recognize the sender
- ♣ Questionable links embedded in the email
- ♣ Content plays on base emotions
- ♣ Content plays on natural curiosity

- ♣ Questionable Subject lines in email
- ♣ Body of email is not directly addressed to you, i.e. "Dear Customer"
- ♣ Threat to discontinue or interrupt services
- ♣ Promises of awards or prizes

Pretext Phone Calling or Vishing is when a cybercriminal contacts you via telephone while impersonating someone else, like a government agency, an online retailer, or even a family member.

You receive a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS informing you that your taxes are overdue and if you do not pay right away, you will be fined or arrested. Callers use a sense of urgency, threats, or promises of awards/prizes to either get money or personal information from you.

Both Phishing and Pretext Phone Calling attacks are not limited to phone calls or email; they can happen in any form including text message, social media, or even in person. A good rule of thumb is to never divulge account numbers or personal information unless you are the person that initiated the phone call.

Physical Breach Attacks are when the cybercriminal physically attempts to gain access to sensitive documents, your computer, or computer networking. An example is if a technical or utility worker arrived unannounced and tells you that they are there to investigate or fix a problem with a utility or service you may subscribe to. Dumpster Diving is when a criminal goes through trash looking for discarded documents that may contain sensitive information. It is important to shred documents like credit card statements, bank statements, or anything else that contains sensitive information.

In closing, take it upon yourself to get educated on Social Engineering and stay informed on what the most recent events/themes criminals are using to trick people. If you suspect someone is trying to trick or fool you, do not communicate with the person and block them from calling or emailing you.

Remember, common sense is your best defense.

We're Here to Help. If you have any questions or concerns about your accounts, please don't hesitate to contact us by visiting one of our convenient branches or calling our Customer Assistance Center at 508.568.3400. As a reminder, please mail deposits and other correspondence to our main office at 25 Benjamin Franklin Way, Hyannis MA 02601. The Cooperative Bank of Cape Cod in West Barnstable is open Monday-Thursday 8AM - 4PM, Friday 8AM-5PM, Saturday 8:30AM - 2PM. Our 24/7 ATM is always available. Member FDIC. Member DIF. Equal Housing Lender.



The Cornerstone
West Barnstable Civic Association
Post Office Box 243
West Barnstable, Massachusetts 02668

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
West Barnstable,
MA 02668
Permit 8



VILLAGE RESIDENT WEST BARNSTABLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02668



**Santa & Mrs. Claus Visit
LUKE'S LOVE
Boundless Playground
to Benefit
A BABY CENTER**

**Saturday,
December 4th
From
11AM to 1PM**

PLEASE BRING A GIFT OF DIAPERS, WIPES
OR NEW CLOTHING TO STUFF
THE BABY VAN THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

- Arrival on a WBFD Fire Truck •
- Photos & Playtime • Great Pics •
- Festive Music • Fresh Air •
- Free Gift Raffle • Cookies & Cocoa •

FREE FAMILY EVENT
SPONSORED BY LUKE'S LOVE
2377 Meetinghouse Way - Route 34B
West Barnstable, MA 02668

**SUNDERLAND
PRINTING**

The WBCA wishes to express sincerest thanks to Sunderland Printing
for their continued support in producing The Cornerstone.

The Cornerstone is sponsored for the 20th year by:

BECAUSE WE'RE
**BIG
ON SMALL
BUSINESS**

QUICK
TURNAROUND

The Cooperative Bank
of Cape Cod

Please join us for:
THE ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING
Route 149, off of exit 65, formerly exit 5
Sunday, December 5, 2021 ~ 5:00 PM
Accompanied by Jeremy Cadrin, Trumpeter

SANTA will be there to help light the tree and CAROL SING with us!
Song sheets and the popular pen lights will be passed out
while supplies last.

Our traditional telling of the CHRISTMAS STORY begins at 5:30 PM
Featuring a living crèche and the West Parish Handbell Choir
in the historic 1717 Meetinghouse.
(Masks required inside)

Afterwards, hot cider and candy canes will be served outside.

This holiday presentation is a collaboration of the:
West Barnstable Civic Association
1717 Meetinghouse Foundation
West Parish of Barnstable, United Church of Christ

Additional information: westbarnstablecivic@gmail.com

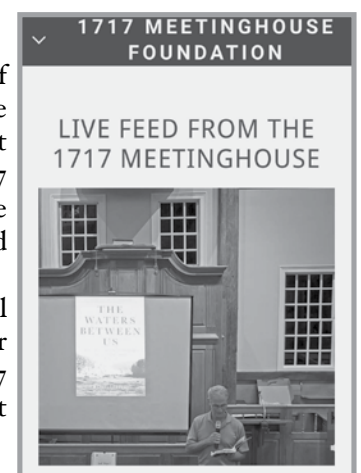
1717 Meetinghouse Foundation ~ Steve Musselman

It's community outreach via 21st century technology!

You may have seen those pixel squares as seen in this promotion for "The Meetinghouses of Barnstable" and wondered what they are all about. If you hold your smartphone camera to one of those QR codes, you will be automatically sent to a website. Capturing this specific code will send you to a short video detailing the history of the Meetinghouses of Barnstable. And, if you've recently visited the 1717 Meetinghouse, you may have seen what looks like a security camera facing the pulpit. Actually, the Meetinghouse is now live web-streaming the services of West Parish and Meetinghouse programs as seen in this captured image from a recent lecture.



Some of the next performances at the Meetinghouse will include the Annual Village Tree Lighting at 5:00 PM on December 5th, and the Winter Concerts for The Cape Cod Chorale on December 11th and 12th. After 300 years, the 1717 Meetinghouse is still a center for a variety of activities for the greater West Barnstable community, and it's now outfitted for the 21st century!



Whelden Memorial Library ~ Rusty Gage, WML Board of Trustees President

Hello Neighbors! In the past eighteen months much has been accomplished at the Whelden Memorial Library. We have new floors, a new front step with railing, new gutters with paint on the entire outside of the building, a new bottle and can redemption shed, and last but not least, five very old and brittle trees taken down in the back.

Kelly Depin has stepped down from the Directorship of the Library and will be sorely missed. The good news is that Andrea Figaratto has accepted the position and will begin her duties this week. Come on down and see us!

A team of wonderful volunteers worked at the Redemption Shack the month of September and raised more than \$5,000. Now we're there weekends only in October and November and we've raised another \$5,000 with one weekend to go! Thanks to our hearty volunteers for their time and effort!!

