

The Cornerstone

Published Periodically by the West Barnstable Civic Association

A Message from the WBCA President ~ Andy Lee

Happy August! I hope everyone is having a great summer! It started out rather rainy, but hopefully, long stretches of good weather are in the forecast. I've become extra mindful of rainfall and temperature swings since receiving my garden plot at Meetinghouse Farm in 2022. For years I've driven by the farm and had no idea that the community garden existed in the rear of the property. Although I've always wanted to grow my own vegetables, my back yard is quite shady and not terribly conducive to a successful garden. Longtime gardener at the farm, Cheryl Moniz, suggested that I apply. Applications are available online and plots are assigned on a first come, first served basis. Preference is given to residents of the Town of Barnstable and repeat participants. Non-residents are encouraged to apply in case plots remain available at the beginning of the growing season. The current fee for a 15' x 15' plot is \$35. It has been a wonderful experience. Each plot is equipped with its own water spigot, the soil is dark and fertile, and there is an abundance of sunlight. I often check on my plot early in the evening after coming home from work. There is something very satisfying and cathartic about tending your own garden and I recommend it to everyone. So, if you haven't already, check out our little West Barnstable gem, Meetinghouse Farm. Oh, and be sure to visit the recently constructed labyrinth and say hello to the longtime farm stalwart, Judy Desrochers.

It was great seeing you all at the Fourth of July Parade! There was a huge turnout at both the parade and Hollow, a whole lot of fun, and a great sense of community. A special thank you to all the volunteers and parade committee members. Also, a big congratulations to this year's Grand Marshal, Nancy Meagher.

Hoping to see you all at the Village Festival.

Meetinghouse Farm ~ Judy Desrochers

West Barnstable Village Festival Day on Saturday August 19 is coming fast with lots of family fun in store. We hope you'll jump start your festival day with the energetic Cape Cod Ukulele Club's concert at Meetinghouse Farm. The hour-long concert starts at 10:30 and will feature a collection of upbeat summer songs to start the day.

The Farm will also feature its popular *Make Your Own Bouquet* activity. For \$5 you can create a large, personal arrangement from farm grown and donated flowers to enjoy for the weekend.

The Farm will also be conducting a raffle at the festival that will continue until the drawing at our annual pie sale in November. For \$10 you can buy tickets for an electric bike valued at \$2000! It is beautiful, sporty and sleek, a product of Sea Sports in Hyannis, owned by local businessman Jeff Craddock. The bike will be on display at the festival, so take a look and buy your tickets!

Of course, festival day always ends with the West Barnstable Fire Department's Fun Foam Frolic! This event is held in the large field at Meetinghouse Farm and draws enthusiastic village kids in their bathing suits eager to disappear into layers of white foam. A perfect way to end a perfect day!



Nancy Meagher, Beth Meagher Friel, and Ruth Weil judge Round One of the Pie Eating Contest, and a talented stilt-walker carries the American Flag on the Fourth of July. *Photos courtesy of Robin Morse Shusas and Julie Lee.*

2023 Officers and Directors of the West Barnstable Civic Association

OFFICERS

Andy Lee

President

Ed Jay

Vice President

Bob Stolte

Treasurer

Maria DeMayo

Secretary

Nancy Meagher

Immediate Past President

Cornerstone Editor

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Dave Kern

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Dolores Schermer

MEETING & EVENT SCHEDULE

Civic Association General

Membership Meetings:

Third Tuesday of the month.

Social begins at 6:30 PM,

Meeting at 7 PM

January, May, October

Next General Meeting:

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

Meet the Candidates Night

Held at 1717 Meetinghouse

Board Meetings:

First Tuesday of each month 7:00 PM at the

West Barnstable Community Building.

All meetings are public and those interested

Civic Association

Membership

www.westbarnstable.org

We invite you to join
the Association.

Annual dues:

Individual \$15 Family \$25

WEST BARNSTABLE VILLAGE FESTIVAL

Many hands make light work.

If you would like to help out
for an hour or two,
we'd love to hear from you.

Email to volunteer:

westbarnstablecivic@gmail.com

Everyone is welcome!

George Zoto is West Barnstable 2023 Citizen of the Year!

George Zoto will receive West Barnstable's 2023 Citizen of the Year Award Saturday, August 19th, at the WB Village Festival. The Trustees of Whelden Memorial Library present this award annually to a resident who has made West Barnstable a better place through inspiration, dedication, and community spirit. George's volunteer activities have had a direct impact on improving the quality of life for the residents of West Barnstable and the Town. George's contributions are many and they are significant. His commitment to the environment and clean drinking water is exceptional. George has served on the Town's Planning Board, the Local Planning Committee, the West Barnstable Civic Association, the School Committee, and the Shellfish Committee.

In 1993 George founded the Southeast Drinking Water Fair with EPA support. The Fair is now held annually by the Plymouth and Barnstable County Water Supply Superintendents Associations each June. This is their annual training event for keeping water system operators and owners informed of new regulatory requirements and for keeping them current on the latest equipment and operational procedures. George was a member of the Science Education Center of Cape Cod since 1978, President 1981-1983. This non-profit organization was established to increase awareness of all branches of Science through children's programs and evening lectures. George is a Founding Member and Past Chairman of the Massachusetts Envirothon, a state-wide environmental education program for high school students that involves a partnership among federal, state, and county agency professionals, nonprofits, and private organizations. Congratulations, George!



Cape Cod Chapter, NRHS and the West Barnstable Train Station and Museum ~ Linda L. Pegnato

Greetings to our *Cornerstone* friends! The train station is open Saturdays from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM with a narrated scenic excursion departing at 11:25 AM heading up to the canal and return. Visitors have been continual, and ridership has increased. As always, be safe and stay off and away from the railroad tracks. We welcome and open the station for the Cape Cod Mustang Club in July and August on their Thursday cruise nights from 5-7 PM. We also look forward to continuing the summer with the Village Festival on Saturday August 19, 2023.

An Operation Lifesaver representative returns with railroad safety handouts for all and the Cape Cod Mustang Club will be attending at the train station for all our pleasure. Also, in continuing our efforts to keep the 112-year-old train station maintained and operating, there are some important repairs coming up and we need your help. We invite everyone to become a member of NRHS or a Friend of the Chapter. You can download forms through our website at www.capecodnrhs.org or just come by the train station. We value your support!

1717 Meetinghouse Foundation ~ Steve Musselman, Trustee

Originally built in 1723, and rebuilt seventy years ago, the 1717 Meetinghouse Bell Tower recently underwent some significant repairs.

Seven decades of dry-rot and weather infiltration inside the cupola took its toll, so the 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation partnered with restoration engineers and contractors in CT to bring the Tower back into a state of structural soundness.

You may have noticed the new venting around the cupola which should help prevent the conditions which originally led to the dry-rot. New copper flashing has been added to further protect the Tower from harsh New England weather.

While we were at it, the Foundation had the 1723 Rooster Weathervane re-gilded. Phase Two of our driveway and hardscaping project can now proceed, and, at long last, the Meetinghouse is air conditioned!

All these projects are thanks to the donations our neighbors and friends have given over the years to the 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation.



The Basics of Healthy Aging

Thursday August 10th

10:00 am

This program will review the many factors which influence healthy aging. While some of these factors, such as genetics, are not within our control, research shows there are many steps you can take to help manage your health, live as independently as possible, and maintain your quality of life as you age.



2401 Meetinghouse Way | wheldenlibrary.org | 508-362-2262

WHALE WALK-IN

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 12-1PM

WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

PLAY

AND

LEARN

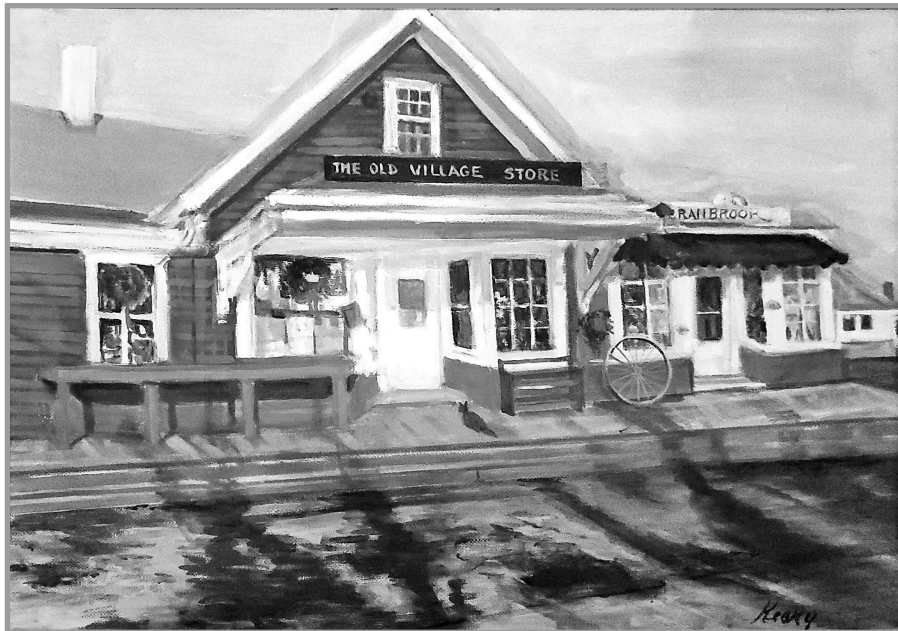
Hey there Delilah, what's it like inside your belly?

Time to learn lots about right whales around us in local waters!

Take a walk through the belly of a life-size inflatable right whale, Delilah, brought to us by the Dolphin and Whale Conservancy.



West Barnstable Historical Society ~ Nancy Viall Shoemaker



Marge Keary painting and Old Selectman's Building. Photo courtesy of Nancy Viall Shoemaker.

The Old Selectmen's Building (OSB) is an architectural and historical treasure of West Barnstable. Built in 1889, it was our Town Hall for 36 years. Town government was conducted here until a new Town Hall was built in Hyannis (now John F. Kennedy Hyannis Museum). The building is an example of "Stick" style, the last surviving building of its kind on Cape Cod.

In July 1888 the town selectmen sweltered at a meeting in a tiny room in the alms house. That's when they decided to raise \$1,000 to build a town hall. The building has since had a variety of uses including community center, Conservation Commission headquarters, and a storeroom for the Town's excess furniture. In 1989 a group of villagers got together to bring the building back to life - a gift to

Barnstable on its 350th anniversary. Tom Bednark restored the front trim and Dick Kiusalas of West Barnstable Table Co. carved a new mantle. A dedicated crew cleaned, repaired and painted the building. It serves as a village meeting place and an art gallery for local artists.

The OSB will be open for the West Barnstable Village Festival with an exhibit of West Barnstable art and artists, along with a number of historical artifacts and photographs. Presented by the West Barnstable Historical Society, the exhibit will be open Thursday and Friday, August 17 and 18, from 10 AM - 2 PM, and during the Festival on Saturday. WBHS hosts a celebration on Thursday at 7 PM! Come see the work of artists who have appreciated the beauty of our village.

Town Council Update ~ Kris Clark



We are fortunate to be living in West Barnstable! Good things are happening in our Village, especially with the upcoming 32nd Village Festival on August 19th.

Please know that as your Town Councilor for Precinct 11, I have addressed constituent requests and concerns and that the Town staff has been receptive. We had a new flagpole installed at the Village Green, received new

tables at the West Barnstable Community Building and are awaiting the installation of a generator for the West Barnstable Community Building. That, along with some problem solving (broken signage, illegal dumping, road concerns, etc.) get quickly addressed by the Town's DPW, whenever I send a request.

After some redistricting by the state in response to the 2020 U.S. Census, all town councilors are up for reelection this year. With my husband's support, I am running for reelection to the Town Council again this fall. I can best be contacted by email for local concerns: Precinct11clark@gmail.com.

I also send out a periodic e-newsletter with local and Town updates. To sign up to receive them, either contact me by email or through my website: www.precinct11clark.com

Our Town needs YOU! Please consider applying to join a Town Committee. Information may be found at: <https://tobweb.town.barnstable.ma.us/boardscommittees/towncouncil/Committee-Vacancies.asp>

See you around the Village! Proud to serve as your town councilor.

A FULFILLING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

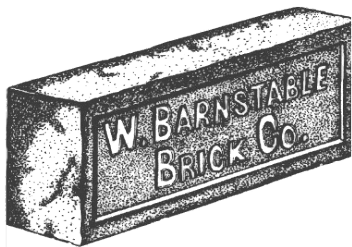
Barnstable Neighbor 2 Neighbor (BN2N) is a group made up of volunteers who serve older residents in the Town of Barnstable who are living safely and independently in their homes. We need more volunteers to ensure that we can meet the service needs of members. We currently have a waiting list of 42 potential members. A member makes a request and a volunteer signs up to fulfill the request. Examples of what our volunteers do include:

- Drive members to appointments, run errands, grocery shop, or to attend a concert or movie
- Do light household tasks including small repairs, organizing cupboards, putting away groceries
- Guide members learning new technology like smart phones, tablets, TVs

Volunteers choose services to fulfill based on their own schedules and availability.

If you would like to join us in volunteering, please request a volunteer application and CORI form by calling 508-418-9220 or leaving a message on our website: barnstableneighbor.org

Thank You!



The Cornerstone
West Barnstable Civic Association
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West Barnstable, Massachusetts 02668

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In partnership with the West Barnstable Civic Association
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The WBCA wishes to express sincerest thanks to
Sunderland Printing for their continued support in
producing *The Cornerstone*.

TREASURE HUNT
at Meetinghouse Farm
Monday, August 14th, 4pm

Come to the Meetinghouse Farm's big Field and hunt for unburied treasure!

After finding the treasure chest everyone gets a new book and chocolate gold coins!
We begin promptly at 4pm, don't be late or you'll miss all the fun!

Register:
Visit: wheldenlibrary.org
Email: whelden@comcast.net
or Call: 508-362-2262

WHELDEN MEMORIAL LIBRARY Welcomes SEA CROW PRESS amplifying voices

For An Author Anthology Featuring:

WS CHILDRESS Author	JANE EDMONDS Author, PR, Marketing & Editor at Sea Crow Press	MARY PETIT Author, Poet, Publisher, and founder of Sea Crow Press	GENIE NORDEGG Editor-in-Chief, Sea Crow Press
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More information and bio's available through our website.
Thursday, August 17th @ 6:30pm
Registration Required!
visit: wheldenlibrary.org/events
or call 508-362-2262

WILDLIFE ON THE CAPE
FRIDAY, AUGUST 18TH
1 PM

Interested in seeing some of Cape Cod's resident, transient and migratory animals up close and personal in a safe setting?
Now's your chance!

Then head on down to the Whelden Library to meet Senior Natural Resource Officer Amy Croteau and her taxidermy collection.
Ask questions, take pictures, and learn some fun facts about Cape Cod wildlife.

**THE 32ND ANNUAL
West Barnstable
Village Festival**
Saturday, August 19th
10am to 3pm

Rain Date — Sunday, August 20

West Barnstable Community Building
Whelden Memorial Library — Train Station
WB Fire Station — Meetinghouse Farm
1717 Meetinghouse & West Parish Church
All along Route 149 in West Barnstable Village

Free Shuttle between all Festival Sites

- ☒ Classic Car Show
- ☒ Games & Races for Kids
- ☒ Magic by Rich Archer
- ☒ Police K-9 Dog Demonstration
- ☒ Live Music
- ☒ West Parish Yard Sale
- ☒ Model Railroad
- ☒ Snow Cones
- ☒ Used Book Sale
- ☒ Foam Frolic
- ☒ Face Painting
- ☒ Dunk Tank
- ☒ Dig & Delve Garden Club Flowers
- ☒ Cotton Candy
- ☒ Balloons by Zach
- ☒ Cape Cod Ukulele Club
- ☒ Cape Cod Art for Kids
- ☒ Food!
- ☒ Nisu Bread
- ☒ Discounted Train Rides
- ☒ WB Civic Association

The Cooperative Bank of Cape Cod

Town of Barnstable Tourism Mini-Grant

Mass Cultural Council

Visit www.westbarnstable.org for updates or call West Barnstable Fire Department at 508-362-3241