



Newsletter

February 2014

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CULTURE CLUB COMING SOON

Many NF members have expressed interest in getting out into the community to take advantage of local cultural events such as theater, music concerts, art openings, and lectures.

Starting in March, NF will publicize two events each month for which we will provide transportation. Members would be responsible for ordering and purchasing their own tickets and would call the NF office to request a ride, as they do for any other transportation request.

We welcome suggestions for up-coming events from both members and volunteers so that we may better serve our NF community.

We are always looking for more volunteers, so please spread the word! This is a wonderful opportunity for volunteers who have a limited amount of time available but want to enjoy themselves with great company!

March Culture Club Offerings

March 15th and 16th: Falmouth Chorale will present *A German Requiem* by Johannes Brahms. As a tribute to the original Falmouth Interfaith Choir, this music has been selected to launch 2014, the Chorale's 50th Anniversary year. Please call the NF office to reserve your NF discounted tickets (\$15) by March 1st.

March 29th and 30th: Falmouth Chamber Players Orchestra will present music by Rosetti, Bach, Schubert and Rossini.

THANK YOU!

We appreciate all the patience you've shown in recent weeks, especially Laura, NF volunteers and members. There have been many necessary

cancellations and rescheduling of appointments due to the continuing snow storms. Thank you all!



**Jean and Phil Holmes
Members**

Neighborhood Falmouth members Phil and Jean Holmes now live quietly in Davisville, a historic old section of East Falmouth. Their refurbished small home, filled with favorite furniture and art, is suited for a couple in their nineties who have enjoyed other venues.

Phil and Jean met in student council in Whitman High School when Phil was a senior and Jean a sophomore, after Jean's family moved to Whitman from Squantum, MA, in 1939. In 1940, Phil graduated, then spent a year at Williston Academy, graduating there in 1941. He has always considered this school an outstanding part of his education and has attended many reunions over the years.

WWII broke out in December 1941, influencing every young man of that time. Phil did his freshman year at Brown University, then left in August 1942 to join the Maritime Service (Merchant Marine), where he served through 1946.

The Merchant Marine years included many trips from the port of London to Normandy Beach in France during the D-Day invasion and beyond, carrying British and Canadian troops. Other trips were to Naples, Italy, which had been ravaged by long fighting and where cargo needed to rebuild the city and lives of the people in the area was deposited. A trip from Philadelphia to Iran carried war materials, airplanes, and the like, all destined for our WWII ally, the Soviet Union. A trip particularly remembered brought home to America pilots who had been prisoners of war in Germany.

Phil and Jean were married when the war ended in November 1945. Phil re-entered Brown University and was one of the first returning servicemen to do so with wife and family. As no housing had been built on the campus at that time, the young couple felt fortunate to find a basement apartment, which was rented to them providing Phil would be janitor for the entire building. People living in the six other apartments were older, some working tenants, and they took this student's family "under their wings" with care and affection. Phil did continue this job for the remainder of their stay at the university, until "they" graduated in 1948.

When they first arrived in Falmouth in the mid 1950s with four children (the fifth, a little brother for the four daughters, came along later), Phil had taken a position as civil engineer at Otis Air Force Base. In July 1967, Phil opened a full-time office on Main Street, Falmouth, where his sign read: Philip D. Holmes, Registered, Civil Engineer & Land Surveyor. His first employee—and one of the best—was Carl W. Frank. After several years in this growing business, Phil hired Michael B. McGrath, and productive years ensued as the company grew in staff and scope. Michael became a partner in the firm that continues today as Holmes and McGrath, Inc., Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors.

It was a happy, wonderful time for Phil and Jean, both in the business world and for their family. With the business located on Main Street and their home at 57 Main, just up the street on the Village Green, Phil could walk home for lunch! In Falmouth's very early years, this house was home to Benjamin Sanford, a hatter whose business was located at the rear of the property. Later, in the 1900s, it was the home and office of the well-known and beloved Dr. Wiswall, from whose family Phil and Jean bought the property.

To be continued next month

SENIOR ASSESSMENT REPORT

By Bobye Anderson

The Needs Assessment Report is finished after six months of community input. Soon to be printed in the *Falmouth Enterprise*, there were three main areas of emphasis in the report. The first is that by the year 2030, it is projected that one-half of the population of Falmouth will be over sixty. This growth has major implications for the town in general and for all organizations working with the elderly.

The second is that our current Senior Center does not have the capacity or staffing to adequately meet the needs of Falmouth seniors. One very pertinent bar graph showed that other similar towns with smaller senior populations have newer senior centers with many times more square footage than Falmouth's center. While people who use the center had a very supportive response to it, the consensus was that to meet today's needs and needs of the future, a larger, better configured, and newer site is needed.

Thirdly, the findings spoke to several strengths, challenges and opportunities and stressed that this is an issue for all residents of Falmouth, as these issues affect the livability of our town. NF can support this effort both as a partnering organization to the Senior Center and as individuals who will speak in support. A new Senior Center would provide an environment that would improve the well-being of all.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Meet for Lunch: February 19th

On Wednesday, February 19th, 11:45 a.m., we will meet at Peking Palace on Main St. All members, volunteers, and guests are welcome. You may order from the menu, and individual checks will be provided. Please call the office to reserve a seat.

NF Board Meeting: February 20th

NF Board of Directors will be meeting at 2:00 on Thursday, February 20th, at Highfield Hall.

NF Book Group: February 27th

We will meet at 2:30 on Thursday, February 27th to discuss *Inés of My Soul* by Isabel Allende. If you like to read or listen to books, please join us by calling the NF office for the location.

Meet for Breakfast/Coffee: March 3rd

We met this month of the 3rd. Please plan to join us at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 3rd, at Friendly's for a cup of coffee and/or breakfast. It's a great way to begin the week!



Those who helped with the NF office move from North Falmouth to Academy Lane off Main Street in Falmouth included, from left, Christopher Lemay, Bret Folger, Nicolas Pingal, Lian Folger, John Waterbury, Matthew Waterbury, and Lou Larrey. Not pictured are Ken and Karin Bohr, Cam Larrey, Phylisanne Simpson, Mary Lane and Vicky Cullen.

NF OFFICE HAS MOVED

The photo above shows some of the crew who moved the NF office from North Falmouth to office space on the second floor of the Chamber of Commerce building on December 31st. The move went very smoothly, taking only 2 ½ hours to complete. Our phone number and mailing address remains the same as does our email address.

NF/SENIOR DISCOUNTS

Eastman/Ace Hardware: 10% discount to members of NF on most full-priced items and available every day. You must present your NF membership card to receive the discount.

Falmouth Taxi Company: 25% discount to Falmouth Seniors. Be sure to ask for the discount if you use their service.

Green Shuttle: \$15 discount to members of Neighborhood Falmouth.

Mahoney's Garden Center: 10% senior discount every Wednesday.

Windfall Market: 5% Senior discount every Wednesday.

Dunkin' Donuts: 10% Senior discount anytime—you have to request it.

We gratefully acknowledge recent support from the following merchants and organizations:

Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank
Cape Cod Marathon
Eastern Bank
Falmouth Newcomer's Club
Hamilton Tree & Landscape
Janney Montgomery Scott
Kaleidoscope Toys
Lawrence Lynch Corporation
Locust Street Sign Company
Patriot Party Boats
Pies A La Mode Café
Stop 'n Shop
Waterbury & Olson Optometry
Windfall Market