



Newsletter

July 2014

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Support Neighborhood Falmouth!

Stephanie Miele Concert: July 30th

Join us for "Everything Old Is New Again: Songs from the Stage and Screen." Vocalist Stephanie Miele and pianist Lucy Banner present a benefit concert for Neighborhood Falmouth. Encourage your friends and family to come enjoy the music.

We are happy to provide rides to members.

Wednesday, July 30th, 5:00 p.m. First Congregational Church on the Village Green. Tickets are \$15 at the door, children 16 and under are \$5.

MORE JULY CULTURAL AND SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Let NF keep you connected to the cultural life of Falmouth. Many of our volunteers are already planning to go to these and other activities around town. If you'd like to go too, we'd love to get you a ride and give you a friendly person to sit with.

Please call the office if you are interested and need a ride.

Hyannis Sound: Mondays, 7 p.m.

If you've never heard them before, Hyannis Sound is a group of 10 college a cappella singers who perform at various Cape venues each summer. Their Falmouth concerts are every Monday night at 7 p.m. at the First Congregational Church on the Village Green. Tickets are \$12 at the door.

Cole Porter, A Robert Wyatt Lecture: July 12th

Tickets are \$20 for Highfield members, \$25 for non-members. Call Jennifer at 508-495-1878, ext. 2, for tickets.

Tea with Salley Mavor: July 19th

An afternoon of tea and treats while talking about art, history and the mixing/matching of the two. Saturday, July 19, 1-3 p.m. Museums on the Green. Free.



Meet Davien Gould

A Profile by Pamela Nelson

Although Davien Gould is a member of the Neighborhood Falmouth board of directors, she expresses some personal doubts about serving on boards. She is not inexperienced, having served for a year on the board of the Cape Cod Children's Museum, along with a brief stint with the Falmouth Theater Guild (FTG). But "I'm more of a project person. Give me a project and I will do it to the best of my ability," says Davien.

We are not talking small projects, mind you, such as baking a batch of cookies or planting a few flowers and tomatoes in pots on the back porch. No, a Davien project is something huge, such as directing the 2010 FTG production of *Peter Pan*, with actors who are expected to fly predictably and with a whole segment of the script needing to be completely rewritten. (Having taught for 22 years in Mashpee, with its large Native American population, Davien was not about to have insensitively portrayed "Indians," as in the original *Peter Pan*, in her own production.) More recently, Davien directed FTG's 2014 wildly successful and technically challenging *Young Frankenstein*, a complex and demanding musical theater production with every detail—from costumes, lighting, and sets, to selecting and coaching its

multitalented cast—having to meet her own very high standards.

Where do Davien’s explosive energy and perfectionism come from? “I was between my mother and my father in my personality,” she says. “My father was my theater person. He was an amazingly creative, funny, light-up-the room type of person. When I was four, he would take me to New York, to Broadway. He also took me to pre-views of shows in Philadelphia before they went to New York. He would take me to the opera, to a rehearsal, to the symphony, the ballet.”

“My mother,” she continues, “was more ‘you should be a good student, you should be responsible, organized.’ She was always chairman of this or that. She was a professional substitute teacher, sometimes for a month, sometimes for a day, until she retired. And then after retirement she volunteered in the same school. She taught me how to fit into the world. You were expected to pull your weight. She had high expectations.”

Davien was born in Bethlehem, PA, where her family lived until she entered third grade, when they moved to Hyde Park, NY. She attended high school at Miss Hall’s School in Pittsfield, MA, a school that focused on teaching girls how to become leaders in their communities and in the world. “Going there was life-changing because that is where I found theater.” At Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, NY, Davien continued to pursue her theater interests, starting out as a theater major. “I think my mother thought, ‘she’ll get over it.’ But I didn’t, and she then said, ‘We can’t support your doing theater. You have to do something you can make a living at.’ So I thought, well, I like kids. I’ll do teaching. Skidmore had a very progressive school of education. I ended up doing a double major in theater and elementary education.”

Davien has a unique outlook on teaching that combines her interests in theater and in education. “Every day you go into a classroom, you’re acting,” she says. “You can’t be a teacher and not be an actor. Imagine having your life struggles and bringing them into the classroom? You have people who depend on you to be in a good mood all the time. It’s very wearing. But it’s fabulous at the same time.”

Davien moved to Woods Hole in 1974 on an impulse, encouraged that several classmates from Skidmore had found jobs easily at WHOI and MBL. On arrival, she found fewer well-paying jobs

available than she expected, and went to work for the Cape Cod Child Development program as the

DATES TO REMEMBER

Summer Service Camp: July 28-31

Thanks to a teen campers in Summer Service Camp at the First Congregational Church, Members can get those windows cleaned, the yard picked up, or garden projects attended to. Please call the office if you have a home project you’d like addressed.

Meet for Lunch and Meet for Breakfast:

See you in September!

Neighborhood Falmouth regularly organizes a monthly breakfast (first Monday, usually at Friendly’s) and lunch out together (second or third Wednesday, restaurant varies). All members, volunteers, and guests are welcome.

Since we take July and August off, watch this space for September dates. Hope to see you then!

NF Book Club: July 10th

Rescheduled from June-Thursday, July 10th at 2:30 p.m. We’re reading a lovely, uplifting book *The Day the World Came to Town: 9/11 in Gander, Newfoundland* by Jim DeFede. New members always welcome. Call the office for location. Next book: *Me Before You* by Jo-Jo Moyes. Audiobook version is available through the library.

MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS: WE NEED YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

One of the services we offer at Neighborhood Falmouth is furnishing members with recommendations on local service providers such as plumbers, handymen, housekeepers, and yard maintenance workers. If you have used someone that you would like to be on our list, please let us know. Similarly, if we have recommended a service person to you who has done a poor job, we want to know that too. Call the office so that we can keep a good, up-to-date list for everyone’s benefit! Thank you!

director of the Falmouth Day Care Center, based at St. Barnabas Church. "This job changed my life in another way," she says. Under her supervision were a number of older, experienced day care workers. At age 23, Davien learned to navigate a fine line between respecting individual family values while injecting her strong philosophical beliefs and knowledge of child development. Over her three years as center director, she managed to earn the cooperation of her staff while improving the quality of the care offered to the children and families in the program. She then became the education coordinator for the entire agency, providing materials, workshops, and training for the staff. She later became the agency's family day care coordinator. Since 1987 she has conducted workshops and trainings for parents and early childhood professionals, Capewide and throughout southeastern Massachusetts.

While Davien was assistant director at the Small World school, she was offered the opportunity to become a consultant for the Mashpee Public Schools through a grant from the Department of Education. Her work was instrumental in developing the first preschool program in that school system. After earning a master's degree in early childhood education at Wheelock College, she accepted a position teaching kindergarten in the Mashpee public schools. During her 22-year tenure in the Mashpee school system, she also taught integrated arts and second grade.

Although she loved teaching, a change in pedagogical philosophy by policy makers—a shift in emphasis from a child-centered approach to "a dehumanized curriculum-based program"—made her reconsider her previous thoughts that she "would have her retirement party and funeral on the same day." Matthew, Davien's wonderful husband and theater partner, encouraged her to retire rather than continue to drive herself crazy. So, two years ago Davien retired. Of course, she has stayed busy. Of new opportunities that present themselves, she says, "I'm not afraid to say no. It's just that I like to do so many different things that I say yes."

Among other things, she began to volunteer for Neighborhood Falmouth. Helping people stay in their own homes is very appealing to her. Her voice grows wistful. "I find myself wishing my mother had had something like this." As a board member, she participates on the membership and

volunteer committees, and she initiated the Neighborhood Falmouth Culture Club earlier this year. This effort is designed to provide transportation to such events as theater and musical performances, art openings, and lectures so that NF members can participate more fully in the community and take advantage of the myriad arts opportunities on Cape Cod. (See Cultural Activities, page 1.)

Neighborhood Falmouth gratefully acknowledges recent support from the following merchants and organizations:

Amy Rader, Photographer
Bank of Cape Cod
Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank
Cape Cod Marathon
Clipper Landscape
Falmouth Newcomer's Club
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Janney Montgomery Scott
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Kaleidoscope Toys
Lawrence Lynch Corporation
Locust Street Sign Company
Mahoney's Garden Center
Stop & Shop Companies, Inc.
Waterbury & Olson Optometry
Windfall Market & Windfall Florals
Wood Lumber Company

Thanks to all our members and volunteers for making Neighborhood Falmouth such a terrific organization. Please make sure to tell your friends and neighbors about Neighborhood Falmouth. New members and new volunteers are always welcome.

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