

November 2014

Phone: 508-564-7543
PO Box 435, Falmouth, MA 02541
www.neighborhoodfalmouth.org

Veterans Day: Neighborhood Falmouth sends thanks to the many men and women and their families who currently serve or once served our country in the armed forces. We recognize and are grateful for your service.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Meet for Breakfast: November 3rd

Our Meet for Breakfast is the first Monday of the month, this month on Nov 3rd at Friendly's at 9:00 a.m. All members, volunteers, and guests are welcome. We order from the menu, and receive separate checks. Please call the office if you need a ride or to reserve a place. We'd love to see you!

Meet for Lunch: November 19th

Wednesday, November 19, 11:45 a.m. Enjoy lunch and the company of NF friends at Percy's Place at the Inn on the Square in Falmouth. All members, volunteers, and guests are welcome. We order from the menu, and separate checks are provided. Please call the office if you need a ride or to reserve a place.

NF Book Club: November 20th

Book Club meets on Thursday, November 20, 2:30 p.m. This month we'll discuss *Clara and Mr. Tiffany* by Susan Vreeland. We make an effort to choose books that have an audio version available. Call the office for location and details.

Organizing Your Memorabilia and Photos: Get Tips and Tricks on November 5th

Falmouth's Mary Anne Threadgold will share tips on how to present a story through organized photos and memorabilia at the John Wesley United Methodist Church on Gifford St. at 2:00 p.m. Wed., November 5. Free. **Presented by NF.**



Pamela Nelson with her mother, NF member Anne Nelson, at Anne's 90th birthday celebration

A Profile of NF Volunteer Pamela Nelson

By Susan Loucks

If you have seen a Neighborhood Falmouth newsletter in the last few years, you have likely read Pamela Nelson's work. This Neighborhood Falmouth volunteer makes her contribution to the organization by interviewing NF members and volunteers and writing the profiles that we are told everyone enjoys.

We decided to turn the tables and share a little bit about *her* with you this month.

To say that Dr. Pamela Nelson has a wandering heart and traveling shoes on her feet would be one way to describe the many places she has lived and studied and worked. Her motivation was always the same: to find a place where she could pursue her interest of the moment and read, read, read.

Her early life was filled with numerous moves around the country, as her father followed a scientific research and teaching career at universities in Lincoln, NE, Chicago, and—when Pamela was 11—at Emory University in Atlanta. Every summer

the family came to Woods Hole, where her father had a lab at MBL.

Being in Woods Hole was the highlight of the year for the entire family. Pamela remembers her middle and high school years in Atlanta as difficult and unhappy, in part because school segregation was still the norm despite not-so-recently enacted desegregation laws. She vowed to never return to the South, a promise she did not manage to keep.

In 1963, her father took a one-year sabbatical in England at Cambridge University. Pushing the boundaries of her parents' patience and her own experience, she petitioned her parents to allow her to attend the Lycée Français de Londres, a large French government primary and secondary school in London, for her tenth grade year. Boarding with a local British family, she remembers the time as exciting and very active. The Beatles were the rage then, and theaters throughout the area were celebrating the 300th anniversary of the birth of Shakespeare. Pamela immersed herself in French, German, and Latin classes while in school and reveled in British culture the rest of the time.

Her independent streak fueled, Pamela finished the year, and decided to apply for college from eleventh grade. At age 16, she began her studies at Brown University, majoring in "reading anything I could get my hands on."

Upon graduation, Pamela moved to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to begin graduate school in radio, TV and motion pictures. She found part-time work as a nurse's aid at Duke Hospital, spending time with returning Vietnam veterans who were waiting to enter a new physician assistant program Duke had recently begun. Deeply affected by her experiences there, she decided to switch career tracks and go into medicine. So there she was, against all odds, back in the South again.

Never one to rest, she became a lab technician at Duke while she completed premed requirements on its nearby undergraduate campus. She attended medical school at UNC Chapel Hill before returning to Duke as a resident in its four-year radiology program. She then joined the staff at Raleigh Community Hospital, which she says was like Falmouth Hospital is now: small, connected, and an integral part of the community. She found the work to be satisfying and meaningful. Not only were the people fun and friendly, but one imperative of the field was reading—x-rays! In all ways, radiology was the perfect fit for her.

During her years in North Carolina, Pamela married and had a son, Philip Gordon, born in 1981. He is now married and recently moved from New York City to Evanston, IL with his wife, Olga.

Falmouth Cares: Ways We Support and Engage Seniors

A conversation featuring

NEIGHBORHOOD FALMOUTH
FALMOUTH SENIOR CENTER
FALMOUTH SERVICE CENTER

Saturday, November 8, 10:00 a.m.
First Congregational Church Hall

Neighborhood Falmouth is hosting this presentation to help the community learn about services for Seniors and volunteer opportunities for those who want to help them.

Please encourage potential NF members or volunteers to come and learn more.

Questions to Susan in the NF Office, 508-564-7543.

Sometime after her marriage to Philip's father had ended, she met and married Kit Olmsted, the owner of a marine towing and salvage business in Woods Hole. "When I met Kit, it was an 'Aha!' moment. I felt I had really come home. I had found the man of my dreams, living in the place I had always wanted to live year-round," she says. "We have been together for 20 years, the first 10 spent commuting back and forth from North Carolina to Woods Hole." She moved to Woods Hole full-time in 2004.

Once she got settled, her first commitment was to use her medical training for the community. She joined Bay Radiology's practice at Falmouth Hospital, telling herself she would spend five more years in medicine. She also wanted to become involved with the community in general. "People will be calling," Kit told her. "They'll be smelling fresh meat," referring to the possibility that Pamela might volunteer at one of the local organizations. The first call was from the Woods Hole Library, where she'd had a part-time summer job as a child.

Since joining the Woods Hole Library board, Pamela has co-edited the library's biannual newsletter and developed "Story Hour for Grownups," an off-season (November to March) free story-reading event that uses the talents of local actors and writers to present both well-known and original

(continued on the next page)

NOVEMBER CULTURE CLUB

Enjoy the cultural life of Falmouth with help from NF! 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 to learn more.

November 6–8, 13-15, 8:00 p.m.

November 8 and 16, 2:00 pm

"Harvey" at Woods Hole Community Hall. Tickets are \$15, half-priced on opening night, Nov 6th. For reservations call 508 540-6525.

November 7–23

Fridays & Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday matinees at 2:00 p.m.

"The Wizard of Oz" at Highfield Theater. Senior tickets are \$18.00. Call 508-548-0400.

Saturday, November 8, 9:00 a.m.

Military History Symposium at Falmouth Museums on the Green. Take part in the South Shore Military History Roundtable's annual symposium on American military history. Tickets are \$10 for museum members or veterans, \$15 for non-members. Active service members are free. For information call 508-548-4857.

Saturday, November 8, 2:00 p.m.

"Eleanor Roosevelt: Private Citizen and First Lady of the World," a one-woman show with Elena Dodd as Eleanor Roosevelt, at Falmouth Public Library. Free. For information call (508) 457-2555.

Saturday, November 15, 4:00 p.m.,

Sunday, November 16, 3:00 p.m.

Falmouth Chamber Players Orchestra presents a concert of Beethoven and Mozart featuring piano soloist Stephanie Weaver at the John Wesley United Methodist Church. Tickets are available at the door and the suggested donation is \$20. Call Fritz at 508-274-2632 for more information.

Neighborhood Falmouth Needs your Support

As the end of the year approaches, we respectfully ask you to remember Neighborhood Falmouth in your year-end giving plans. Membership fees cover only about half of the cost it takes to run this wonderful organization. Your support with a year-end gift, or through a planned gift like a bequest in your will, gives Neighborhood Falmouth the financial stability to continue to serve Falmouth Seniors in the months and years ahead. Thank you!

stories. The 2014 season begins at 3:00 p.m. on November 2 with Halloween weekend spooky fare.

Pamela also became a volunteer for Neighborhood Falmouth when her mom, NF member Anne Nelson, asked her to write her newsletter profile in 2011. Since then, Pamela, has been one of the primary writers of the Neighborhood Falmouth profiles, succeeding Mavise Crocker. "I find it a privilege to interview the members and volunteers of Neighborhood Falmouth," she says. "As a radiologist, I was never on the front lines with people. Now, I get to ask all the questions."

For your Health:

Here are some FREE programs at the Senior Center we thought you'd want to know about.

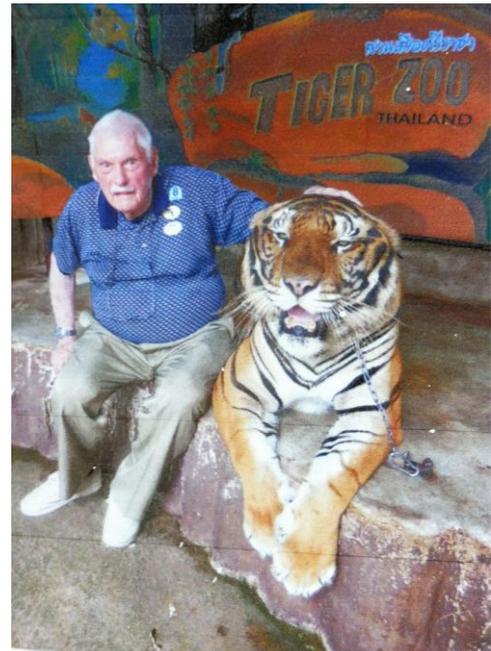
Fall Prevention Workshop

Wednesday, November 12, 1:30 p.m.

Memory Screenings

Tuesday, November 18, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Falmouth Senior Center
Call 508-540-0196 for information
and to reserve your seat.



Neighborhood Falmouth Member, board member, and volunteer Les Wilkinson with a new friend on a recent trip to Thailand. The sound you can't hear is of the cat purring!

**TO EVERYONE IN THE
NEIGHBORHOOD FALMOUTH
FAMILY...**

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

**WE ARE GRATEFUL TO HAVE YOU
IN OUR LIVES, AND**

**GRATEFUL TO BE A PART OF YOUR
LIFE.**

Do you need...?

TRICYCLE AVAILABLE

One of our members wants to give away a Worksman 3-speed folding Port-O-Trike adult tricycle. Metallic cranberry-colored with bell, wide seat with springs, weighted pedals, front basket, big basket in back, a removable back for seat. Works and looks like new. Please call the office if you or someone you know could use it.

Neighborhood Falmouth gratefully acknowledges recent support from:

Amy Rader, Photographer
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