



WINDSOR

NOW and THEN

DEADLINE for JULY issue: Thursday, June 22

Send news to editor:
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(mark subject line: WN&T)

Windsor, Massachusetts

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JUNE 2017

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES THIS NEWSLETTER POSSIBLE.

TO MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE

DONATION to Friends of Windsor, Inc., mail check to:
FOW, 1890 Route 9, Suite 8, Windsor, MA 01270, or email:
fowindsor@gmail.com

Thanks to Our Recent Donors

Debra & Daniel Morris • Jo & Victor Yohay

Special gratitude to video sponsor:

Hill-Engineers, Architects, Planners, Inc.

Windsor Video Sponsorship Opportunities

At the July 15 Our Town Celebration at Notchview, FOW will be premiering a video showcasing Windsor's natural beauty, rich history and rugged hilltown spirit and featuring footage shot throughout Windsor, original music, and authentic voice-overs.

Your business can be a sponsor with a tax-deductible donation of \$250 (your logo will appear in a 3-5 second frame with no more than five other sponsors' logos) or \$500 (your logo will appear by itself in a 2-3 second frame). To be one of our select sponsors, please mail a check payable to Friends of Windsor to the address listed above, and email a file of your logo (preferably .png, but jpeg is acceptable) to fowindsor@gmail.com.

Windsor Now & Then Guidelines

This paper is a publication of Friends of Windsor, Inc. a nonprofit public organization dedicated to fostering communication and supporting town organizations, activities, and projects that cultivate community. We welcome submissions from community groups and members supporting these goals.

This is a non-sectarian publication and not a forum for promoting any particular religious or political position. The articles included do not necessarily reflect the views of FOW. We reserve the right to edit and deny publication on the basis of length or content.

To enable us to accommodate as much information as possible, we request that basic news items be limited to about **150 words**. For submission of longer feature-length articles related to appreciation of Windsor's unique assets—our natural setting, people, and community—contact deborah.balmuth@storey.com.

FRIENDS OF WINDSOR INC. BOARD MEMBERS

Patty Crane, president; Deborah Balmuth, co-editor; Susan Edwards, graphics; Val Kohn, director; Susan Phillips, co-editor; Diane Sturtevant, treasurer.

Paper Talk Improve your photo skills, be inspired by the poetry of two local bards, purchase locally grown food & goods, exercise your citizenship, browse a great tag sale, and lend a hand for the July 15 community celebration—all right here in bustling Windsor! --Deborah

Friends of Windsor News

All Together Now! Not much more than a month until the upcoming **Our Town celebration on July 15th from 10 am to 4 pm at Notchview.**



This joint venture by Friends of Windsor and Notchview is a chance for Windsor to shine, to gather, and to have fun! We'll have a woodland nature trail with activities for kids, the premier of a short video about Windsor, and the unveiling of a geocache challenge connected to Windsor's history.

So much to do, so little time!

WINDSOR MAKERS & GROWERS: We already have a strong line-up of local producers who will be showing off and selling their wares. But there's room for more. Locally made and grown products only! We have a few tents and tables but hope most vendors will bring their own, 10 x 10 or 8 x 8 pop-up tents are ideal. Get in touch by June 15 if you want to take part.

HOW YOU CAN HELP: Get that warm feeling that comes from doing a good thing while hanging out with neighbors, help put on this event!

Before the Event

- Prepare the woodland nature trail – we will schedule work sessions.
- Spread the word via social media, word or mouth, flyers, etc.

July 15 Event Day

Sign up for one or two hours helping with:

- Set up / Parking
- Welcoming/guiding visitors
- Helping at kids' craft tables/ Selling raffle tickets
- Clean up

Contact Friends of Windsor, fowindsor@gmail.com, or call Patty at 684-3334, to ask about having a table or tent, or to volunteer.

LOCAL BUSINESS SPONSORSHIPS: If you have a local business you can support the event with a display ad. For \$50, your logo will be featured on a display banner & printed pieces distributed on the day of the event, plus we'll acknowledge your sponsorship in WN&T and on our website. Please make your \$50 check payable to FOW and mail it to us at 1890 Route 9, Suite 8, Windsor, MA 01270. And email a jpeg file of your logo to fowindsor@gmail.com by **NO LATER THAN JUNE 15.** --Susan Phillips

Town Clerk Notes

A lot of important updates this month— please read carefully!

Census forms are overdue. All stragglers will be called this week to complete their forms.

Dog Licenses are now overdue. Please expect to pay the \$10 additional late fee to license your dog.

Election Results and Certified ATM Minutes can be found on our website, www.windsormass.com. All expiring appointments should email windsortownclerk@gmail.com, requesting reappointment or notifying the SB of the vacancy. Please consider volunteering on town committees. Openings are anticipated on COA, Cultural Council, Parks and Rec (our social committee), Historical Commission, Conservation, and internet café.

Windsor's Inauguration picnic will take place July 1 (rain date July 2) at the Town Park. Come join the festivities, watch your civic-minded neighbors be sworn in, feast on as elaborate a tailgate as you see fit (don't forget to bring your beverage of choice), listen to music, sit around the bonfire, and enjoy the spirit of Windsor. Picnic will start at 6pm with the brief ceremony at 7pm.

Internet Café: Per residents' request, the Internet café at the Town Hall will be open Tuesday mornings 9:30-11:30. Come have tea, play games, have deep political discussions, talk about town happenings, or just chat. Of course, you can check your email or work on your laptop, but just socializing is totally acceptable and encouraged.

Route 9 Beautification. Summer is here, time to spiff up Windsor's main drag. Please consider donating flowers, straw figures or landscape items to the effort. Creative and/or hard working people are needed for this effort.

The Accessible bathroom at the town office is well under construction and the ramp is in the bidding process. The new storage shed has been delivered to the transfer station. The Veteran Park area, with the massive Windsor Rock, is complete with a beautiful stone bench donated by Helen Koziara. It's Spring!!

--Madeline Scully, Town Clerk

Windsor Board of Health Update

Your Windsor Board of Health has been hard at work over the 18 months since it was first formed. Members are Joe Pfeiffer, Jean Wagner and Sue Jacobs. A summary of our activities in FY 2016 was published in the annual Town Report.

In December, 2016, the town's longtime Health Agent, Skip Hugabone, resigned. Over the next three months, the Selectboard carefully considered several options to ensure that our community had a health agent to serve the town. Ultimately, the best fit for Windsor was a contract with the Berkshire Health Alliance. We are fortunate to have Mr. Charles Kaniecki, a knowledgeable, well-known, and respected Agent with 40 years of experience in the field. We are in very capable hands.

With our current fiscal year end in sight, one of our members, Jean Wagner has chosen not to be reappointed. Jean has been a valuable resource and dedicated participant who will be missed. **We need to fill her position by July 1, and are inviting interested residents to attend the June 12, 2017 BOH meeting at 6 PM for more information.** A job posting will be available at the Town Offices on June 1. --Sue Jacobs

Town Discussion Meeting June 12, 7PM

Two major issues are facing our town and your Selectboard is asking all residents to help make decisions and form policies regarding Broadband and Marijuana.

Windsor is moving forward with our plan to build our own fiber optic broadband network. We recently received \$830,000 in state grant funds that, along with our \$1.3 million bonding, completes the financing for this project. Since the town will own this network, we need to make some fundamental decisions about the network's structure and operation. These decisions will impact both the construction costs and the eventual costs of subscriptions.

All residents are invited to attend a town hall meeting on June 12 at 7:00 PM to participate in a discussion that will serve to inform those decisions. At the meeting attendees will also get an update on the proposed operation of our

network as part of a regional network including adjacent towns.

Following the Broadband discussion, the Selectboard will host a discussion on the topic of commercial marijuana businesses.

As you are probably aware, marijuana use for recreational purposes became legal in Massachusetts effective December 2016. The state is in the process of developing policy relative to retail sales, with expected completion by July 2017. The application process for retail sales opens on April 1, 2018. The State is advising municipalities to develop specific language relative to retail sales of marijuana in advance of the April 2018 milestone. The law allows for restrictions, including prohibiting commercial marijuana businesses or limiting the number of establishments. Towns have also been voting on a moratorium for one year to make a determination based on the state policy revisions.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.mass.gov/courts/case-legal-res/law-lib/laws-by-subj/about/marijuana.html> --Madeline Scully

Senior News

The May catered Senior Lunch was thoroughly enjoyed, as was the Ben Franklin presentation. The June luncheon will be held on Wednesday, June 14. Same time, same place. Seniors, pre-seniors, guests – come enjoy the camaraderie and let's get thinking about the July picnic.

--Mame Whelihan

Flag Fund Update

Spring has sprung (so the calendar says), and the flags are once again up and flying in time for Memorial Day. They will remain flying until after Veteran's Day in November.

As always, the high winds and difficult climate of Windsor caused damage to many flags.

To keep the flags flying, your support is always needed.

To make a contribution to the flag fund, please send a check, payable to the Town of Windsor, to:

Jeb Chard, 1060 High Street Hill, Windsor, MA 01270

Windsor Church Tag Sale
Saturday, June 17
9am-1pm

Stop in and find a treasure and help support our local church.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR TAG SALE

Donations for the church tag sale can be dropped off on Wed, Thur, or Friday (June 14-16) at the church.

We are so grateful for town support and hope that as you do your spring cleaning, you will donate reusable items again this year.

Thanks in advance for your help. --Sharon DeGeorgis

Learn Phone Photo Basics at the Internet Café June 14

“The best camera is the one you have with you” is a photography saying of murky origins and a whole lot of truth. Which means, for those of us lucky enough to have smart phones, our best camera is our phone.



Come to the Windsor Internet Café for a series of sessions on how to make the most of the camera in your iPhone or Android phone, with Susan Phillips. The first session will be on Wednesday, June 14, from 6:30 to 7:30.

Bring your phones! --Susan Phillips

The Selectboard Corner

About the time I think I have flogged a topic of public interest to total exhaustion, it is usually about the point where effective communication starts. In that vein, and in the interest of full blanket coverage of the topic, I am dedicating The Corner to the same topic as the enclosed flyer and cover page article - Our Town, a Community Celebration.

Please reserve July 15th on your calendar. Support, engagement, and momentum behind the celebration are building rapidly and this is going to be the biggest community gathering in anyone's memory. Be there or be square.

Among the activities, there is truly something for everyone. For those unfamiliar with Notchview you will discover what a great venue we have for this sort of event, virtually in the middle of town.

I hope to see you there at Notchview on July 15th. That's a Saturday this coming July, for a Windsor Community Celebration event. Mark your calendars (wait, did I already say that?).

Ok, enough already! --Tim Crane, Selectboard Chairman

Sense of Community

“What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others.”

— Pericles

The Windsor Historical Commission is pleased to be hosting the following special events this June at our two sites: the historical museum on Route 9 and the East Windsor Chapel on Old Route 9 in East Windsor. Please join us!

Windsor Community Market & Museum
Open House Sunday June 11

The first Windsor Community Market will be held Sunday, June 11, 11AM-2PM at the Windsor Historical Museum on Route 9 in the center of town.

Come buy locally grown vegetables and other yummy edibles, purchase Windsor-made crafts, and browse the museum exhibits. Hope to see you there!

Stephen Philbrick & Colin Harrington
Poetry Reading June 25 at
East Windsor Chapel

Shaw Road's neighboring poets Stephen Philbrick and Colin Harrington will share their poetry with the community on Sunday, June 25 at 4PM at the East Windsor Chapel on Old Route 9 in East Windsor.

Long-time neighbors and friends, Stephen and Colin have been sharing their poetry with each other in a regular writing group for more than 20 years. They will be reading from their own books of published poetry along with their most current work, some of it inspired by hilltown life.

Refreshments will be served along with many curious, pleasing, and thought-provoking words!

This event is supported with a grant from the Windsor Cultural Council, a local agency, with funds from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

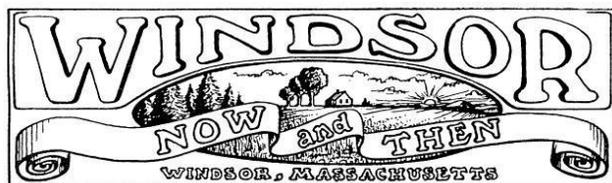
REFLECTIONS FROM MAME WHELIHAN

Heather Hill Farm, Shaw Road

VETERANS' MEMORIAL Another Windsor story coming up! The Veterans' Memorial plaque next to the Town Hall was in dire need of attention. It got it! Extensive research was done. Names of deceased military from the Civil War, the Revolutionary War, World Wars I and II, the militia men, the Spanish American War were checked and re-checked and placed on the newly ordered bronze plaque.

It was suggested that we purchase a rock to attach it. “Purchase” a rock – hey, this is Windsor, home rocks. The search was on. We needed a 4' x 22” rock, flat on one side (for the plaque). I can now lead a guided tour though these parts in places I didn't know existed. Dave L. was the one who spotted it on the side of Bates Road. How he got it relocated to its planned spot is another story.

Next step was to install it and what a sight that was. Highway Dept. expertise and mighty muscle got it upright and secured. Through the combined effort of Dave M. and Doug it now stands adorned with its beautiful bronze plaque. The stone bench Helen Koziera donated stands in front. Windsor's tribute to the many deceased men and women we honor stands proud. This took a lot of thought and hard work and I am proud to say . . . nice job everyone! We are the Rock.



1890 Route 9, Suite 8

Windsor, MA 01270

SPECIAL INSERT

July 15 Our Town Celebration—

Be a Part of it!

A Local Story: Busy with Bees

Thirty-some years ago, someone gave young Joe Moncecchi a wooden beehive that he wasn't using. Today, Moncecchi has 60 hives in four Berkshire County locations, including at his Flintstone Road home. As the man behind "Giuseppe's Local Honey," Moncecchi harvests and sells between 3,000 and 4,000 pounds of honey a year, and dreams of expanding when he eventually retires from his full-time-plus work as a master electrician.

Moncecchi dates his avocation to his first sight of a huge group of wild honey bees clustered in a tree, when he was 13. He learned that the behavior was probably a collective effort by the bees to cool their hive to protect the brood and from then on, honey bees had his attention.

Once Moncecchi had his hive and other necessary gear, he ran into a problem finding honey bees to populate it. While searching, Moncecchi found a mentor.

"I knew that Walter Zepka in Adams was a bee guy," Moncecchi remembers. "I was maybe 18, he was in his 80's." Moncecchi went to find Walter at Zepka's Flower Shop. "I was asking him how I could get bees, and he was saying, 'Well, you need this, you need that', and I said I had everything. Then all of a sudden, his wife pipes up and says, 'Walter, just get him some bees!'"

From there, the two struck up a friendship. Moncecchi would pick Zepka up once a month to attend meetings of the Northern Berkshire Bee Association, which was just getting started. (The Association still meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Adams Visitor Center.) "I learned from him, and I learned from them...I was the youngest one there for the longest time," Moncecchi remembers.



These days, Moncecchi has hives in Windsor, Lee, Adams and Hancock Shaker Village. He easily sells his entire harvest locally. In addition, he sells bees, gives classes, and helps people get started with honey bees. The biggest threats to his bees, he says, are the Varroa mite and the burgeoning black bear population.

Giuseppe's Honey is for sale at Sangar's and Friendly Fred's, Whitney's, Hancock Shaker Village and other local outlets.

—Susan Phillips