



WINDSOR

NOW and THEN

DEADLINE for NOVEMBER issue: Friday, October 29
Send news to:
fowindsor@gmail.com
(mark subject line: WN&T)

Windsor, Massachusetts

Volume XXXVII, No. 9

www.friendsofwindSOR.com

OCTOBER 2021

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES THIS NEWSLETTER POSSIBLE.

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Thanks to our Recent Donors

Dave and Doreen Horton / Susan Phillips and Scott Rogers
Barbara West
~~~~~  
Grace Walter

*In loving memory of two beautiful women who loved to garden: Louise Feigin and Carolyn Westwood*

### 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, welcomes 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 articles related to appreciation of Windsor's unique assets (natural setting, people, and community), email [fowindsor@gmail.com](mailto:fowindsor@gmail.com).

#### FRIENDS OF WINDSOR INC. BOARD MEMBERS

Patty Crane, president; Julia Allan, director; Deborah Balmuth, co-editor; Cindy Efinger, director; Dominique Frink, director; Val Kohn, director; Eileen Markland, director; Susan Phillips, co-editor; Leslie Reed, treasurer

### Sense of Community

*Remember that the Happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more.* —H. Jackson Brown, Jr & Rochelle Pennington

### Friends of Windsor

It was wonderful to see so many Windsorites, along with friends and family, enjoying the Fall Festival festivities on October 3. Thanks to the hard-working committee members for bringing together such a wonderful group of vendors, musicians—and competitive chili makers and pumpkin decorators!

As always, we're so grateful to all of you for your support which makes it possible to print and mail this newsletter. And remember—we're a nonprofit, so your donations are tax-deductible. Thank you! —*Deb Balmuth*



*The Celebration Continues!*

### Old Growth Forest Tour October 17

Jack Sobon will lead a tour of Old Growth Forest remnants in Windsor, on Sunday, October 17, at 1PM, starting from the Historical Museum on Route 9 (driving to various sites around Windsor).



Come discover the hidden places where ancient trees stand!

The Historical Museum will be open on Sunday, October 17 from 12 noon to 1pm (before the Old Growth Forest tour). If you didn't get a chance to view our unique dioramas created by Olive Volsky (see storey inside), here's your chance to get in before it becomes too cold to visit.

### Trunk or Treat in the Town Park October 30

Calling all Ghosts and Ghouls! Windsor's annual Trunk or Treat will be held October 30<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 6pm at the Town Park. Bring your own treats to share, hand out, and decorate your car or truck if you wish. Spooktacular fun for all ages! Enter the raffle to win a spookishly, delightful basket of candy. Fun for all ages!



## Town Clerk Notes

**Special Select Board Election Results**  
Chris Cozzaglio is Windsor's newest Select Board Member finishing Kim Tobin's term, until June 30, 2022.

Contact for Chris is on windsormass.com. He will be holding regular office hours to meet with residents on Fridays, 12-2PM and Mondays, 6-7PM at the Town Offices.

**Construction of the culvert on River Road** near the Savoy line began this week. River Road is closed to through traffic at that point. The recommended detour between Route 9 and 116 is to use 8A, but Windigo road to Windsor Bush Road, or West Street in Plainfield also provide a bypass. If all goes well the closing will end prior to winter weather.

**I will be on vacation** from Town Clerk and SB Assistant October 4-18. Email or leave a message and it will be handled. --*Madeline Scully*

## From the Green Committee

The Town has received another grant from the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Green Communities Division for \$45,595 for three projects at the Town Hall. The grant will provide \$23,000 for weatherization and insulation, \$7,854 for thermal shades, and \$14,741 for Air Source Heat Pumps (ASHPs).

The effective date for the grant was September 7, 2021, so the Committee is busy preparing to solicit bids for the three projects. The combination of thermal shades and weatherization will mean more insulation for walls, floor and even windows in the Town Hall. Our goal has been to create a full envelope around the building. However, an inaccessible part of the basement (under the stage and part of the main floor) prevents a full envelope. But there will be many fewer drafts and cold spots once the insulating is complete. (The last DOER grant allowed us to insulate the attic and ceiling.) ASHPs provide more energy-efficient heating than traditional oil and propane gas boilers and furnaces and will allow for air-conditioning that the whole community can use in a weather emergency. --*Holly Higinbotham, higinbo@hotmail.com, 413-212-435*

## Library Seeks Volunteers

The Windsor Free Public Library is seeking temporary volunteer help to assist us in completing tasks that will allow the library to open in January 2022.

The projects are suitable for all ages and the amount of time that you contribute is your decision. Contact Katie Richter ([libgrgl@yahoo.com](mailto:libgrgl@yahoo.com)) to learn more about how you can help.

## Flag Fund Update

With fall temperatures upon us, winter isn't far behind. The flags will be up until Veteran's Day. Thanks to Fran and Marc Reilly and Rolf Karl and Joanne Singleton for their generous donation to keep them flying.

We always welcome donations. Checks payable to the Town of Windsor can be sent to: Job Chard 1060 High Street Hill, Windsor, MA 01270

## Windsor Cultural Council Grant Applications Invitation

The Windsor Cultural Council invites grant applications for the 2022 funding year. The grants, distributed through the Massachusetts Cultural Council, provide funding for local cultural and educational programs. To complete the form online, visit <https://massculturalcouncil.org/>. It's a great opportunity for artists and educators to share their talent and expertise with our community.

**Deadline for applications: October 15.** Grant support is also available for festivals. [seemasscultural.org/communities/festivals](http://seemasscultural.org/communities/festivals) for more information and deadlines (different from deadline for individual events).

The Windsor Cultural Council does not seek or schedule community events; it just provides monetary support. If you have a favorite program you would like to see offered in Windsor, please encourage the presenter to apply for a grant.

For questions, call Ben Harellick at 978-771-8118.

## REFLECTIONS FROM Mame Whelihan

HEATHER HILL FARM, SHAW ROAD

**A Song in My Heart.** Sometime a song can really make an impact on your life. I grew up in a small town which had a bar "where everybody knows your name" just like on "Cheers." It was owned by two friends of my father's and named after them - Van and Eddie's.

I always loved it when my father and I would drop in there. That was back when taking a child into a bar wasn't considered child abuse (even if it horrified my mother). All his buddies were so glad to see us and they would insist he sing our favorite song.

He was an Irish Tenor and really loved to sing. In very short order, "Pennies from Heaven" filled the room. I loved it.



I wish I could remember all the words. It was such an uplifting song and made you feel good. I was so proud and hummed it all the way home. Unfortunately, that told my mother where we had been. It's still one of my very favorite songs and memories. I sure would love to hear it again.

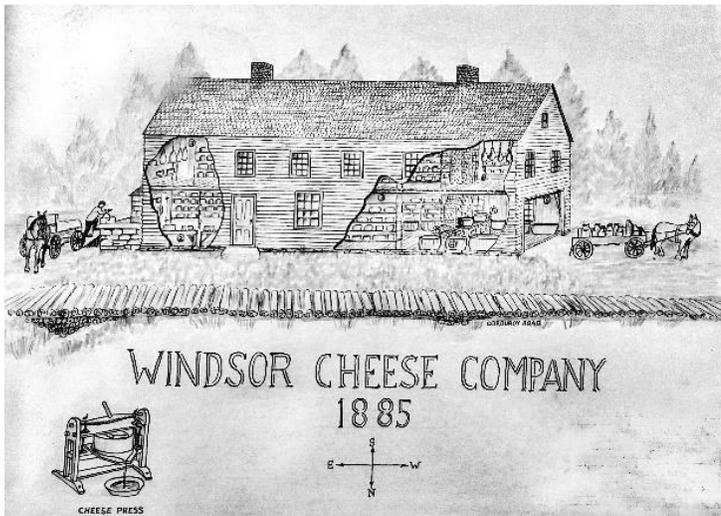
## Park Run is a Winner!

Run for the Park 5k: A huge thank you to all of the volunteers, sponsors, donors, and runners who made this event so incredibly successful. The Parks and Recreation Committee was able to raise roughly \$7,000 which will be applied towards purchasing new playground equipment for the Windsor Town Park. There were 51 runners on what turned out to be a nearly perfect, late summer day. -*Megan Anello*

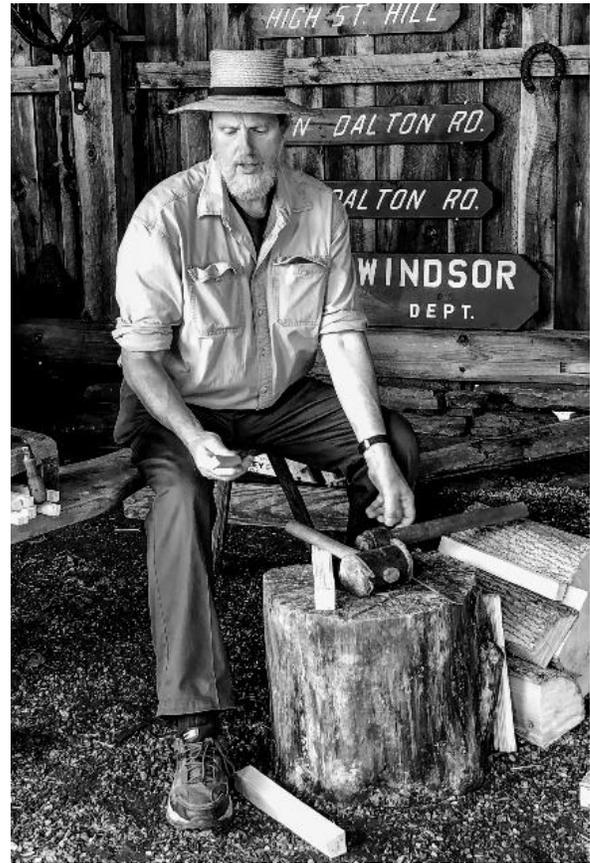
## History Day Celebration a Success!

After a long pandemic shutdown, it was a joy to welcome visitors to the Windsor Historical House on September 12. With a new coat of barn-red paint on two sides of the house, and a thorough decluttering of our beautiful timber-frame carriage shed – a monument to Windsor’s volunteer spirit if there ever was one – it was a perfect day to celebrate our community, past and present.

Visitors could step inside the main room for a fresh look at Olive Volsky’s dioramas depicting long-ago Windsor, as well as her drawings of vanished landmarks like the Windsor Cheese Factory. Or they could duck into the tepee on the front lawn, where Jennifer Lee led the way in a consideration of the life of the Mahican community here before and after the arrival of colonists in 1771.



Over in the shed, master timber framer Jack Sobon demonstrated a few of the skills used by the volunteer crew he led in building the shed back in 1997. The stubbornly un-buried time capsule from our bicentennial in 1971 was on display as well, along with tools both mysterious and familiar from the Historical Commission collection.

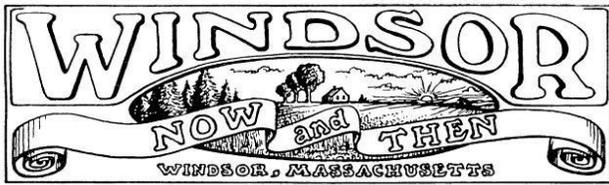


Jack Sobon demonstrating peg-making for timber framing.

Later, under the tent, Peter Utz and Robin Volsky sparked a lively and very funny round-robin exchange of memories of Windsor “back in the day,” with particular attention to the vanished teachers, classrooms and playgrounds of Crane Community School. Somewhere Viva Bates was smiling.

Thanks to everyone who came, and everyone who helped. The Historical Commission will be continuing to oversee much-needed renovations to the building over the coming years and looks forward to hosting more community events – we welcome your support and suggestions! – Susan Phillips

OCTOBER 2021



1890 Route 9, Suite 8

Windsor, MA 01270

### Wigwam Talk Follow-Up from Jennifer Lee

On Windsor History Day, September 12<sup>th</sup>, Jennifer Lee welcomed many of us into her wigwam for learning and conversation about the native culture and history of our lands. She shared a number of resources for information and action items in response to our questions, and thought it would be helpful to share them again here in our newsletter. So here you go!

#### Ohketeau Cultural Center

(<https://www.ohketeau.org/>) *Ohketeau* is the Nipmuc word for a place to plant and grow. Located in Ashfield.

**Rhonda Anderson** is a co-director of Ohketeau and the Native youth empowerment foundation. She is also the Western Massachusetts commissioner of Indian Affairs.

**Bonnie Hartley** and **Nathan Allison** are Mohican Representatives in Williamstown and Massachusetts tribal historical preservation officers.

#### The Nolumbeka Project

(<https://nolumbekaproject.org/>) provides opportunities for Native voices to be heard in the area. They are working to protect Native sacred sites and stone features through the national register of historic places.

*Thank you, Jennifer, for sharing your insights.*



Jennifer Lee sharing reflections on the Mahican roots in the place we call Windsor.

SEND US YOUR STORIES! – *Do you have a story to tell? Expertise to share? A new project or business to promote? Get in touch with your submission, or to ask for our help pulling your story together. Contact Susan Phillips at [susanphillips57@gmail.com](mailto:susanphillips57@gmail.com)*