



Bay State Village NEWS

www.BayStateVillage.org

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Bay State Village
Association

BAY STATE "BASH" FAMILY POTLUCK

Sunday March 6, 2015, 12:00pm to 3:00pm

at the Feiker School/Nonotuck School, 221 Riverside Dr.

Come meet the neighbors! Bring food to share, and come enjoy our beverages, crafts, games (including Bay State Bingo and the Twister Competition), great music, a raffle, and the Bay State Wall of History. For more information, or to help, please contact Jeff Dawson at 413-695-4007 or dawsonjeffreyj@gmail.com

BSVA has a New President

Jeffrey Dawson is passionate about engaging people with the landscapes they live with and exploring ways to connect people to places and their stories. Jeffrey endeavors to integrate people and places in meaningful ways that balance interaction and integrity. His two children Ainsley and Josiah, are the sixth generation to live in their home in Bay State Village.

Jeffrey is an ecological designer at a local environmental consulting firm. He received his Masters Degree in Ecological Design from the Conway School of Landscape Design in 2014. He received his BA from the College of the Atlantic, where he studied social movement strategies, education and writing.

From the President

Friends and Neighbors,

Roads have been the focal point of issues in our neighborhood lately. Members of our neighborhood have been working to save the historic Clement Street Bridge, to resist a new 14-foot-wide access road along Riverside Drive, and to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety. Many streets have been receiving overdue upgrades and maintenance.

The Hinckley Street Reconstruction project received a lot of attention, primarily during the Conservation Commission's Notice of Intent hearings, which brought out many residents who questioned the project's rigid design and lasting impact. The proposed 14 foot wide access road, removal of many trees, some with a more than four foot diameter, was unsettling to many of us who use this location to swim and enjoy the river. Ultimately, the City received a permit for this project. The Conservation Commission has issued both Standard and Special Orders of Conditions and the project is going to be constructed this year.



GAZETTE

MAY 15-16, 1993

A Look Back



This is a photo of the first all-female cheerleading squad at Northampton High School. They rooted for the football and basketball teams during the 1926-27 season. From left to right: Kathleen Sullivan Driscoll, Helen Britt Blanchard, Estelle Mew Deane and Helen Bernard Bisailon. They were directed by Helen P. Shannon, supervisor of physical training. The photo was brought in by Blaise Bissailon.

Other issues that have been percolating are traffic calming and improving the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists throughout our neighborhood. The BSVA submitted the first Traffic Calming Request Form to the city's Transportation and Parking Commission in 2008. In time, this request is supposed to lead to funding for improvements. There is renewed interest in pursuing that funding relating to the first request form as well as issues that have come up since then. Overall, it seems like this is an issue that needs to be addressed.

One way we can improve our streetscape will be the revival of our Spring Neighborhood Clean-Up which will take place on Saturday April 23 from 10am to 12 noon. We will be meeting in the cutlery parking lot.

Stay tuned for other events and happenings in the village. I look forward to working with you to improve our neighborhood. Jeff Dawson

Bay State Village /Tobin Family Scholarship

Are you graduating from Smith Voc or NHS this spring? Every year the BSVA awards two seniors for their good grades and community service. Applications are available from your school's guidance department but you must live in the village to be eligible. Last year's winner was NHS graduate Molly McCusker. The Scholarship is named for the Tobin family, Peg, Dot and Jack who in a warm and understated way, nurtured our sense of community and initiated the award.

The Latest from the FRIENDS of the CLEMENT STREET BRIDGE

We are still pursuing the goal of repairs and long term maintenance for the Clement Street Bridge as well as having it listed on the national Historic register. It is time for the city to make a decision on its future.

In a report submitted to the DPW last month the engineering firm of Greenman-Pederson (GPI) says that the lower cords "are in advanced deterioration and could crack and fail" and concludes "it is not readily apparent that rehabilitation or replacement is the obvious solution."

If the city decides to rehabilitate the historic structure GPI says it should be done in the next two years or else a supplemental support system of clamps and turnbuckles will be needed to keep the bridge operable. The repairs are estimated at \$840,000. They found the stone abutments and most other parts of the bridge in good to fair shape.

The report develops four alternatives to replace the 120year old structure. Three of these are two lane bridges costing between 1.6 and 3.9 million dollars and one is prefabricated single lane steel truss for 1.48 million. Choosing any of these means installing the supplemental support (initial cost \$125,000) as GPI says there will be no state funding for at least ten years. The report should be available on the DPW website in mid-February. For more information please contact Peter McLean at peterwfmclean@gmail.com or call 586-7961. Also see <clementstreetbridge.org >

NOTES from our TREASURER ANNUAL DUES

Your BSVA dues support our social activities. These include our annual children's BASH in March, the June Community Tag Sale, our annual Fall picnic, and the Spring Clean-Up. The dues also support information meetings for elections, town proposals and regulations, the garden in front of Rick's Auto, this newsletter, our website, the annual state corporation registration fee, postage and printing expenses.

Dues are \$10 per calendar year per household, payable to BSVA, Inc. Dues are optional for a household with a family member over 65. Please send your check payable to BSVA, Inc. to: BSVA, Inc; c/o Norman Spencer, Treasurer; 26 Nutting Av; Florence 01062. A self-addressed envelope is enclosed with this newsletter for your convenience.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The many gifts to our Scholarship Fund which have accumulated for 20 years have created an endowment of \$14,000. This has provided a scholarship award every year since 1991 to a graduating Smith Vocational School student or a Northampton High School student who lives in Bay State. The scholarship amount has gradually increased to \$350 in recent years.

We have held our endowment mostly in long-term Certificates of Deposit, but the current low interest rates no longer cover that award. We welcome contributions to the Fund to maintain the award amount without depleting the endowment. BSVA, Inc is IRS certified as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, which assures that all contributions to our Scholarship Fund are tax-deductible. Your contribution, payable to BayState Village Association, Inc, can be sent to BSVA, Inc; c/o Norman Spencer; 26 Nutting Av; Florence MA 01062. A receipt will be mailed to you for tax purposes.

Thank you, Norm Spencer

HINCKLEY STREET Reconstruction

The DPW is working with a geotechnical engineering consultant to comply with conditions set last year by Conservation Commission when it granted a permit to construct a storm water outfall next to the Mill River below Riverside Drive. The DPW still plans to begin street reconstruction this summer but must wait until slope design revisions are complete before bidding the project. The water line on Winslow Avenue has been installed and repaving is complete. Ludlow Construction has finished installing the new sewer main and services on Warner Street and will mill down and repave the entire length of the street when the contractor's schedule and weather permits.

As soon as information on bidding for the Hinckley St. project is available, it will be posted on the DPW blog <ntondpw.blogspot.com> . David Veleta can be reached at <dveleta@northampton.gov>



Old photograph of workers at the Cutlery

CALENDAR

Regular meetings are held from 6-7:30, at the Feiker/ Nonotuck School, 221 Riverside Drive on the 4th Tuesday of every month except July, August and Sept.

Earth Day Clean Up - April 23, 10am-12noon. Meet at the Cutlery.

Bay State Village Bash at the Feiker School (Nonotuck Community School), Sunday, March 6. Contact: Jeff Dawson, 413-695-4007, dawsonjeffreyj@gmail.com

Bay State Village Tag Sale, Saturday, June 4 (rain date: Sunday, June 5). Contact: Gary Hartwell, 584-3194, ghartwell@smith.edu

Bay State Village Picnic at Maine's Field • Saturday, August 20. Contact: Alex Ghiselin, 413-586-1849, aghiselin@comcast.net

Website: www.baystatevillage.org

e-bulletin board/listserv is sent to members by email. Add your name or post a message via: <http://groups.google.com/group/baystatevillage>

Bay State Village Association

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