

Village Members Tour Clocks, Carpets, Cows, And Commons: What Do They All Have To Do With The State House?

Difficult to picture today, the area surrounding Boston Common, created in 1634, was an undeveloped outskirts of Boston until the early 19th century. Yet the recreational potential of this 50-acre parcel, in combination with the graceful layout of Mt. Vernon and Beacon Streets with their brick-clad, well-appointed Federal and Greek Revival style homes, made this one of the most desirable locations for “the gifted few.” With the addition of the grand public building that is the Massachusetts State House, it is easy to understand how this area of field and pasture developed so rapidly into a desirable residential section of Boston.

Join your Village friends, old and new, on Tuesday, April 24 (rain date Thursday, April 26), for a tour of the South Slope of Beacon Hill and portions of the Massachusetts State House. We will investigate how the creation of the State House helped to give birth to the development of Beacon Hill’s South Slope. We will also examine the geography of the neighborhood and view a memorial to the original height of this highest part of Boston.

The tour will be led by Lois Ascher, Professor in the Department of Humanities at Wentworth Institute. Lois is the clerk of the Board of Directors and a member of the Advisory Board of the West End Museum, and a member of the Greater Newburyport Village and its Program and Events Team. Lois’s past walking tours have been met with praise for her deep understanding of the urban and historical aspects of the West End of Boston. Join this fun and interesting peek into an area that most of us only know by sight.

Traveling by train is recommended. Meet at 9:00 a. m. at the Newburyport train station to catch the 9:15 train to North Station, arriving at 10:18 a.m. The train returning to Newburyport leaves North Station at 3:13 p.m. If you need a ride to the train station, please let us know when you register by emailing services@greaternewburyportvillage.org.

A round-trip senior ticket costs \$11.50 and can be purchased on board; bring cash. Paid parking at the Newburyport station requires a phone app that you can obtain at www.paybyphone.com. If traveling by car, please tell us when you RSVP so team members know not to expect you. If driving, we recommend you park in the Boston Common Garage and meet us at the corner of Charles and Mount Vernon Streets at 10:40 a.m. This is a walking tour with moderate walking and gradual slopes. The pace will be leisurely. Make sure to wear comfortable shoes and bring water. We will stop for lunch on Charles Street. Please bring cash. Note that you will need to go through a metal detector when entering the Statehouse. RSVP is needed by April 20. If you must cancel, please let the concierge know a day in advance. This is critical for our planning. Thanks for your cooperation!



Upcoming Events See Website for more info!

Village Talks Open to the Public at Newburyport Senior/Community Center:

April 18, 1-2 pm “Service Dogs: How they affect the world on so many levels!” with Carlene White (see page 2 article).

May 16, 1-3 pm “Newburyport in World War II: A Documentary by Jean Foley Doyle” (2-hour movie).

June 20, 1-2 pm “Twenty-five years: Greater Newburyport/Bura Alliance” with Joanna Hammond and Ted Van Nahl.

Greater Newburyport Village Members & Volunteers Only:

April 11, 6 pm, Village Dinner, Michael’s Harborside, Newburyport. Please RSVP no later than Friday, April 6.

Greater Newburyport Village Members Only:

April 24 Tour of Beacon Hill and State House (see article at left).

May 9, Tour of Cape Ann Museum (see page 2 article).

How to Contact the Village For member services and RSVPs:

call 978-206-1821
or email a service request or RSVP to: services@greaternewburyportvillage.org

For information:

call number above or **email:** info@greaternewburyportvillage.org
or visit our **website:** www.greaternewburyportvillage.org
or visit us on **Facebook** at: [fb.com/NewburyportVillage](https://www.facebook.com/NewburyportVillage)



April 18 Village Talk: “Service Dogs: How They Affect the World In So Many Ways”

Join Carlene White, the founder of Service Dog Project, Inc. located in Ipswich, as she talks about the inspiring and effective ways that service dogs from the Project serve veterans, families of veterans, and patients with neurological challenges.

Since 2017, the Project has donated 140 balance Danes to military veterans and people with balance issues,

including four children. They have helped local animal hospitals with their innovative ideas and share a Daily Doggy blog, a live “Trainer Talk” session, and an unscripted “Mail Call,” where they interact with thousands of viewers from around the world. Check out their website at www.servicedogproject.org and join us on April 18 at 1 p.m.

Discounted Spring Yoga & Meditation Classes for Village Members!

One of our Greater Newburyport Village members, Chris Morton, is offering members and volunteers a private or group yoga or meditation class at a 10% discount. You can reach Chris at 978-462-3626 or at cmortonyoga@comcast.net.

Village Web Training

Not all Village members know what the Member Portal section of the Greater Newburyport Village website is and how to use it. Do you? On March 28, a group of members gathered at the Newburyport Senior/Community Center for an instructional session about the website and Member Portal. The group toured both the public site and the private portal and learned how to log into and out of the portal, where to locate upcoming events and how to register for them, how to update their personal information in their Village profile (including adding their picture), where to locate members with similar interests, and how to access the Member Directory. Many questions were answered in the informal chat session that ended the evening. Thanks to all who attended. If you couldn't attend but are interested in a web-training session, let us know!

Rounder Records Village Talk

On March 21, despite the threat of yet another nor'easter, 25 people gathered at the Senior/Community Center in Newburyport to hear a wonderful Village Talk by Marian Leighton-Levy and Ken Irwin about Rounder Records, a company in which they are two of three co-founders. Rounder began in 1970 as a collective enterprise by three college friends, passionate music lovers all, to record, preserve, and pioneer the development of roots music and its contemporary offshoots. Marian quickly asked everyone in the audience to gather together at the front of the meeting room and, in an intimate and friendly question-and-answer session, she and Ken shared stories of the early days of Rounder Records and how and why they got started in the music business, and demonstrated what a producer does in helping to create new recordings.

Ken spoke of his admiration for the blue grass group The Seldom Scene. Ken brought them a new idea for a recording of old standards played in a bluegrass style. After considering hundreds of songs, they finally chose about 30 they would seriously consider, then rented a recording studio and went to work. The artists had decided that one of the songs they wanted on the new album was “Everybody’s Talkin’,” written and recorded by Fred Neil in 1966. Ken demonstrated for the audience what a producer does in the sound studio by playing three different versions of this song: Neil’s original recording, Harry Nilsson’s 1969 hit recording for the film *Midnight Cowboy*, and then the bluegrass version by The Seldom Scene. It was amazing to hear these three versions and consider the differences in style and interpretation. There was general agreement that the bluegrass version, although quite different from the previous two versions, was a terrific rendition that remained true to the original.

Ken and Marian are long-time Newburyport residents in the music business. Marian is involved in local social justice circles, and Ken is a founding member of Newburyport’s Belleville Roots Music Concert Series, with events in April and May. Learn more at <http://www.bellevillechurch.org/roots.php>.

Village Visit to the Cape Ann Museum

Join this May 9 Village adventure to explore the beautiful and diverse collections of The Cape Ann Museum. The Museum tells stories relating to this single remarkable place. From earliest times as a fishing and shipping port to its 19th century role in the granite industry, to its singular charms of light and sea attracting countless artists from the 19th century to the present, Cape Ann has boasted a rich culture of significant historical, industrial, and artistic achievement. The fine art collection includes works by native son and renowned marine artist, Fitz Henry Lane, as well as work by prominent painters and sculptors who lived on, visited, or were inspired by Cape Ann. The work of contemporary Cape Ann artists is also exhibited. The permanent collection includes fine and decorative arts, and artifacts from the major industries of the area, the fisheries and granite quarrying. Watch for more detail about the tour in next month’s Village newsletter.



Marian Leighton-Levy and Ken Irwin of Rounder Records