

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The Village's New Year

Here's hoping everyone's having a wonderful holiday season so far! The Greater Newburyport Village is looking forward to another new year of expanding our activities, services, volunteers, and membership. In March 2019 we enter our third full year of operation, thanks to so many people who've worked hard to make the dream a reality. The Board is pleased to announce we have continued on track with our strategic plan for growth and increasing member services and events for members, volunteers, and the public. As you read the article below from the national Village-to-Village Network, consider how important our Village is to so many people. Happy New Year!



From the Village-to-Village National Network:

Villages Make It Possible to...

10. **Engage at every age.** One very important component of aging in place is having the opportunity to remain engaged in one's community.
9. **Learn something new.** Villages help create and foster a variety of learning experiences and social interactions.
8. **Get a ride.** Rides to doctor appointments, to the grocery store ... you name it! Volunteer drivers report becoming friends with those they give rides to.
7. **Help my neighbor.** Volunteering is shown to have many positive benefits to your health and wellness. It's a great way to get to know people in your community.
6. **Get the job done.** Contact your local Village to see what jobs (such as around your house) they can get done for you!
5. **Access resources.** Contact your local Village to see what resources they have available for you!
4. **Utilize technology.** Many Villages offer help with technology such as laptops or smartphones. Your local Village does offer such services.
3. **Stay engaged.** A major benefit of being a member of a Village is that it keeps you engaged with people. From daily check-in calls, to friendly visits, to social activities, Villages offer services that ensure you don't become lonely as you age.
2. **Visit with friends.** Village members often become friends with each other and form lasting friendships with volunteers and staff. Social and educational activities are a big part of what Villages have to offer, as these programs ward off loneliness and foster valuable relationships.
1. **Stay where you want.** The Village Movement started to give older adults options that would allow them to remain where they choose as they age.

Upcoming Events

See Website for more info!

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

January 16, 1-2 pm. "A Newburyport Marine in World War I: The Life and Legacy of Eben Bradbury" with author Bethany Groff Dorau. (See p. 2)

February 20, 1-2 pm. "Exploring Alaska - Nome, Denali, and the Kenai Peninsula" with Bill Gette.

For Village Members and Volunteers (and guests):

January 15, 6-7:30 pm, Village Dinner at The Black Cow, Newburyport. (Separate checks as usual.) RSVP by Jan. 11. Reserve early as space is limited.

February 12, 1-2:30 pm, Village Lunch at Park Lunch, Newburyport. (Separate checks as usual.) RSVP by Feb. 10. Reserve early as space is limited.

For Village Members Only:

February 7, 1-3 pm, Haiku Workshop (Details on p. 2)

Village Going Deeper Series Session Two – being planned for near the end of February – stay tuned for details.

To Contact the Village

For information:

call 978-206-1821

email:

info@greaternewburyportvillage.org

visit our website:

www.greaternewburyportvillage.org

For member services:

call 978-206-1821

email a service request to:

services@greaternewburyportvillage.org

We Want To Know If you know a member or volunteer who is facing surgery, a loss, or an important milestone, let the Village know so we can acknowledge it appropriately and offer help as needed. Please call 978-206-1821 or email membership@greaternewburyportvillage.org.

Discovering Haiku: A Two-Hour Members Workshop

What accounts for the enduring worldwide popularity of this ancient Japanese form? Who started haiku, and when? What are its essential characteristics? How has it evolved? After discussing these questions, participants will choose a haiku from samples offered and read it aloud as we discuss what makes a haiku. Participants will have the option to write and share their own haiku. Prior experience is welcome but not required.

Newburyport artist, teacher, and poet Ann McCrea will lead this workshop just for

Village members. Her book "Walking Haiku" features her collages and haiku inspired by the Merrimac. She presented a program of her haiku and the Japanese landscape paintings from which they arose at the Audubon Center at Joppa Flats. She has published her haiku and reads at open mics throughout the area.

The workshop will be on Feb. 7 from 1 to 3 pm at the Central Congregational Church, Newburyport. With a maximum of 20 participants, registration is required; please respond by Jan. 31.



At the December Village Talk, the Greater Newburyport Children's Chorus brought cheer to all. (Photo by Ellen Chulak)

Village Talk: A Newburyport Marine in World War I

Eben "Bunny" Bradbury, son of two historic Newburyport families, joined the United States Marine Corps just days after the declaration of war in April 1917. Everyone in the city knew him, and his sudden death a year later in at the Battle of Belleau Wood in France was commemorated with a public monument. Ninety-seven years later, a chance encounter brought a local historian and distant cousin to ask about his monument, leading to the discovery of intimate letters, personal diaries, photographs and military records from around the world. Author Bethany Groff Dorau reveals a story that goes beyond a tragic battlefield death and uncovers a rich and complex American family, rooted deeply in a truly American city. *Jan. 16, 1 pm, at the Senior/Community Center.*

Our Village's Mission

To promote living well and independently for a lifetime through community engagement and a network of neighborly support.



Forty smiling Village members of the more than 50 who attended the Village Holiday BBQ in December. A great time had by all! (Photo by Barbara Dowd)