

Meet the Mercers, Village Members

Greater Newburyport Village members John and Florence Mercer have lived in Amesbury for 45 years and raised their daughter here. While in the working world, John was a communications consultant specializing in business writing, and Florence was a hospital librarian at Anna Jaques Hospital. John was



an early adopter of computers, learning their language and putting them together. Florence is a voracious reader, but is glad she doesn't read about all the diseases out there—now only one. They say they are glad they traveled and climbed mountains when they could. "We still enjoy being in the woods but only consider much smaller mountains. We are lucky to have so many enjoyable trails in the area."

They learned about the Village concept from a hiking friend from Beacon Hill when that Village had just started. Then when one of the Greater Newburyport Village founders mentioned its formation, they were immediately interested and joined soon after. They have enjoyed many social events in the past and now enjoy the COVID-19 resource page, saying it provides much needed information. They are also active in their church, the First Religious Society, and as an offshoot of that, help put on the annual Jean Wilson Music Series. During this crisis, John says he enjoys his computer and his Zoom business course, and Florence enjoys reading and cooking. They both enjoy weekly Zoom meetings with friends and family. Florence has been retired for ten years and so is used to being at home with John. Because their daughter wants them to stay home, she buys and delivers their groceries. "Although we're sorry our usual summer activities won't be happening this year, we'll be exploring many new local trails. Happy trails to you!"

Village Zoom Happy Hour Continues

For some time now our Village has been offering a social distancing alternative to Village Bites: our very popular Village Zoom Happy Hour! Every Friday evening from 5 to 6 pm members are invited to "meet up" with your Village friends with your beverage of choice in hand. If you haven't yet joined in on these weekly get-togethers, do think about doing so. We'll be continuing for as long as we need to meet this way. It's all very easy-going with lots of laughter and light-hearted chat. There's no limit on how many can participate, but as it's difficult to chat with too many at a time we ask that you register so that we can plan ahead to split into Zoom Rooms if necessary. Registration details are on the Village website, or if you would like more information please contact Jennifer Attenborough or Mary Olson (contact information in the Membership Directory on our website). See you soon!

Upcoming Events See Website for more info!

As you know, the Village has suspended our traditional programs and events during this period of social distancing.

Stay tuned for upcoming announcements of programs and activities we can participate in together on Zoom.

For members and volunteers:

Every Tuesday Chair Yoga 10-11 am: continuing on Zoom through the summer. Check your Tuesday Village Update email for how to enter the Zoom session.

For members:

Weekly Zoom Village Happy Hour, Fridays 5-6 pm continuing indefinitely. Please register by Tuesday if you plan to join on Friday.

Visit the Resources page on our website frequently for new information.

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:

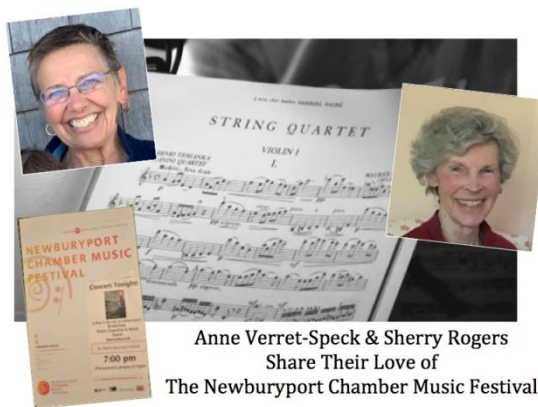
services@greaternewburyportvillage.org

Villager Voices: The Newburyport Chamber Music Festival

Would you like to learn about the Newburyport Chamber Music Festival (NCMF)? Although the Festival will look different this August due to the pandemic, you can learn about NCMF in the newest addition to Villager Voices. Members Anne Verret-Speck and Sherry Rogers talk about the rich personal and community benefits of the festival, which is a cultural gem for all of greater Newburyport. Anne is the NCMF's Executive Director and Board member Sherry arranges local home placements for the musicians while they are in residence. You can find their conversation with some wonderful archived photos of performers and Newburyport attendees on the Village website.

To find the Village video, go to our home page at www.greaternewburyportvillage.org and click on the tab labeled About Us, and scroll to Villager Voices to see all of the recordings.

Villager Voices is available to all Village members and volunteers who wish to record a memory, a poem, or thoughts about an interest or a loved one. Anyone who wishes to have their thoughts recorded can call the Concierge at 978 206-1821 or email membership@greaternewburyportvillage.org to let the Member Care team know. We'd be delighted to work with you to capture your story.



Our Mission

To promote living well and independently through community engagement and neighborly support.

Calling All Writers (and Listeners)

If you have a strong interest in the written word in its various forms and would enjoy either reading your original work or listening to others and providing feedback, the Village is organizing a Writer's Group that will start in the fall. Let us know of your interest by emailing membership@greaternewburyportvillage.org.

Before the Heat Gets to You

Removing window air conditioners in the fall and reinstalling them in the summer has long been a popular Village volunteer service for members unable to manage this on their own. While the Village has had to temporarily suspend other in-home volunteer services during the pandemic, we can still install window units now because they can be essential for health in a hot spell. We are taking special precautions for the health and safety of both members and volunteers. If you need help with a window AC, get in touch with the Village Concierge.

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



More Pandemic Humor

Corona-virus has turned us all into dogs. We wander around the house looking for food. We get told "No" if we get too close to strangers and we get really excited about going for walks and car rides.