

## What's Happening in the Village

As we move into fall it seems a good time to review some of the important things happening with the Greater Newburyport Village. We begin by celebrating our continuing successful growth: more than two dozen new members in the last six months! Welcome to you all! Come to Village events and meet other members and volunteers.

Much of the Village's growth has resulted from members and Board members working "behind the scene" to spread the word about the many benefits of membership. Presentations to church groups, an Amesbury COA health fair, and recently to an enthusiastic public at the Newburyport Library have helped get the word out. Meetings are planned with area realtors to get information to new residents seeking community involvement and services. Village Talks and events such as the Watch Party with Atul Gawande also help people learn about the value of joining the Village.

Our Membership Assistance Program has also helped several new members join. You may recall, earlier this year, the Board announcing a substantial anonymous donation to the Village to pay part or all of membership dues for people who otherwise could not join the Village. Please tell Member Care Director Bill Franz if you know of other individuals who could gain from Village services, as this program continues to expand.

The Concierge also reports that over the summer, Village Good Neighbor volunteers have provided over a hundred services to members, including errands, household help, light indoor maintenance, member support, dog walking, technology assistance, vendor requests, yard work, and many rides to doctor appointments, physical therapy, and Village events. Don't be too shy to request a little help if you need it—see below, right, for how to contact the Village.



Some of the Villagers at a recent member & volunteer dinner at Jewel in the Crown

In addition to planning community outreach programs, the Board is also now planning a town hall meeting in the next month or two to bring together all Village members and volunteers. The goals include hearing the thoughts and ideas of everyone involved with the Village so that we can continue to grow and meet the needs of our Village community.

Finally, if you haven't visited the Village website lately, check it out. As updating and improvements by volunteers Ellen Chulak and Donna Franz continue, one notable new feature is the collection of photos from Village events, from member/volunteer dinners and outings to events for the public. Check the "Photo Albums" link under the "About Us" tab on the home page. Kudos to volunteer Barbara Dowd for her excellent photos and hard work organizing this section. Take a look at all the happy Villagers enjoying experiences together!

## Upcoming Events

See Website for more info!

**Village Talks – Open to the Public:**

**Oct 18, 1 pm, Newburyport Senior/Community Center**

"Emerging Trends, Resources & Living Options for Seniors and Their Families" with Corinne McKeown, MA, SRES. (See story, p. 2.)

**Nov 15, 1 pm, Newburyport Senior/Community Center**

"Nature in Our Back Yard" with Bill Gette, former Sanctuary Director of Mass Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center in Newburyport.

**Dec 20, 1 pm, Newburyport Senior/Community Center**

Singalong with Barry Spiro.

**Greater Newburyport Village Members & Volunteers Only:**

**Nov 16, 6 pm, Member and Volunteer Dinner: Loretta's, Newburyport.** RSVP by Nov 12.

**Coming in December:** "Nutrition for Healthy Aging and the Yoga of Eating" (watch for more info).

**Community Event:**

**Oct 14, 6 to 9 pm, Rubbish to Runway fun fundraiser event for Long Way Home, with Village presence, Blue Ocean Music Hall, 4 Ocean Front N, Salisbury.** (See story, p. 2.)

**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

# Aging in Community: The Village Movement

Village member Kate Derrick recently attended a day-long meeting in Albany sponsored by the National Village-to-Village Network. The goal was to share how Villages in New York State and New England have grown and what they offer their members. After hearing about several Villages from towns around us, she believes that the

Greater Newburyport Village is on the right path to offer our members the kind of home help and social and educational events that not only enrich our lives but allow us to remain in our homes for a lifetime. Won't you join us? If you are interested in volunteering only, you do not need to become a member. If you are

someone in need of some neighborly help at home, or if you do not drive and need transportation, by becoming a member you will enjoy all that we have to offer. Members are not required to become volunteers but may choose to do so.

## Upcoming Events Not to Be Missed!

**On October 18,** The Village Talk features Corinne McKeown discussing **“Emerging Trends, Resources & Living Options for Seniors and Their Families.”** With the ever-growing number of mature people in our world, new services and establishments are emerging for seniors, whose needs are quite different from those of younger consumers, particularly with respect to housing. McKeown, author of *“Forward Move: A Senior’s Guide to Real Estate and Housing Options,”* will discuss some of these emerging trends in senior housing and community resources. This talk is for anyone who may need to navigate the financial, logistical, and emotional aspects of a later-in-life move (for themselves or loved ones) or explore what is needed to safely age-in-place.

**On October 14,** the Newburyport Village is participating in **Rubbish to Runway**, a fundraising event for Long Way Home, a nonprofit organization that builds sustainable schools in Guatemala. This is for a great cause and will be lots of fun! Join our Village designers, Susan Coolidge, Ellen Chulak, and Linda Bogdanoff, and other Village friends in this high-fashion show of outfits made completely out of recycled materials. To learn more about this fundraiser and get tickets, see <https://www.rubbishtorunway.org/fashion-shows>.

## Village Watch Party a Big Success

Despite some unfortunate technical glitches, the national Village-to-Village Network watch party in September at the Newburyport Senior/Community Center, with author Atul Gawande and NPR interviewer Robin Young, succeeded in helping about a hundred attendees better understand the national Village movement. Much of the positive feedback we received was about

the underlying message that we as individuals should create our own future, set our own goals, and not conform to generalities about how and what we should be like as we age—and how a Village can help its members achieve their own personal goals. After the presentation, many people stayed to talk with Villagers about how the Greater Newburyport Village is helping meet the goals Dr. Gawande spoke of. Special thanks to Dianne’s Fine Desserts for donating an arrangement of wonderful goodies and to the Village’s Programs and Events Team for their efforts in setting this up. Thanks also to Ellen Chulak for working with the Village-to-Village Network to bring us this important presentation.



### Our Mission

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



Birder extraordinaire Bill Gette led an enthusiastic group of Villagers on a Plum Island wildlife and birding expedition in early October.



In September, Professor Lois Ascher gave Villagers a tour of Boston’s West End, including the West End Museum.