

Riverbay Association Newsletter
Spring 2015

Social June 27 to be held at Park Street.

Since the usual venues are not available to us this summer, we have decided to have the social scheduled for June 27 at the Park Street entrance. Rain date will be June 28. Bring an appetizer to share and a libation of your choice. Hours are 5 to 7 pm.

Park Avenue Survey

If you are on our email list, you received an invitation to participate in a survey about the Park Avenue entrance. Terry Sullivan, board member, suggested sprucing up the entrance. The board recognizes that the entranceway is the focal point for visitors. Several negative factors were identified. While the plant beds are irrigated, no electric power available on the plaza. It is estimated that the cost to bring electricity to the area would be prohibitive. A new flag has been purchased and a solar light placed on the pole with mixed result. With an excellent 50% response rate, the results are seen below. Thanks to John Hausner for his help in designing the survey. It seems most want to keep things 'as is' or use existing funds only for improvement.

1. Spend any money on improvements?	No Money 15 (17%)	Only from Current Funds 41(46%)	Special Assessment 33 (37%)
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Several improvements were offered with mixed result:

<u>Question</u>	<u>Only this</u>	<u>This and more</u>	<u>Don't like</u>
2. Expand beds add walk paths	22 (25%)	31 (31%)	34 (39%)
3 Community Garden Plots	7 (8%)	9 (10%)	71 (81%)

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Yard Sale Huge Success

The second Riverbay Association Yard Sales was held on May 30. Thanks to the outstanding organization of a team led by Dale Eckerman, 40 homes participated. In a post-sale survey, the majority of comments were positive. Better advertising (in response to lessons learned from the prior sale) and well placed signs yielded many new shoppers who commented very favorably about the sale and the Riverbay neighborhood itself. The majority of survey respondents want a repeat.



Dale Eckerman (center) with some of his satisfied participants



One of the benefits cited of the sale is meeting your neighbors.

If you are interested in serving on the Riverbay Board please let us know!

<u>Question</u>	<u>Only this</u>	<u>This and more</u>	<u>Don't like</u>
4. Plaza, Fountain, Seating	7 (8%)	16 (18%)	63 (73%)
5. Kiosk or Gazebo	9 (11%)	15 (18%)	61 (72%)
6. Fitness Park	4 (5%)	6 (7%)	76 (88%)
7. Meditation Park, Benches, Plantings	12 (14%)	21 (25%)	50 (60%)
8. Large Level Grass Activity Area	6 (7%)	10 (12%)	65 (80%)
9. Grandkid's Park Play Area	2 (2%)	5 (6%)	78 (92%)
10. Large Sculpture Cape Theme	4 (5%)	4 (5%)	79 (90%)

Meet your Board Members

Sally Davol, VP of the Riverbay Board, moved to Chatham with her family in 2001. Originally from Middleboro, MA, she and her husband Stephen began their family in Sturbridge. After raising their three children, she began teaching in the public school system and is currently the Title 1 Math teacher at Monomoy Regional Middle School. Sally is an accomplished musician, a faculty member of the Cape Cod Conservatory, flutist and President of the Chatham Band. She is the leader of the Chatham chapter of Dining for Women- a not for profit global giving circle that funds grassroots programs working in developing countries to fight gender inequality. An avid Syracuse University fan and alumni, flags will be seen flying at her home during sports seasons. You will often see her walking or running the "Riverbay Loop"

Bernie Pfeifer MD, President, found Riverbay in 2003 as a vacation home and on his retirement in 2013 became a permanent resident. An Orthopaedic Surgeon who practiced at Lahey and in the USAF prior to that, he still is active in AMA, AHA, and AAOS committees. He is also on the faculty of Boston University School of Medicine, the incoming treasurer for the Friends of the COA, and secretary of the Retired Men's Association. When not at home, you can find him on his boat, the Solid Fusion.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MAY 17, 2015 BOARD MEETING

- We presently have 205 paid members.
- Financially strong. We are ahead of where we were a year ago.
- The next social will take place at Park Avenue Saturday, June 27, 2015.
- Still working on sponsorships.
- Beautification: We are behind on clean-up this year. Will try a solar powered light on flagpole to shine on flag. Still considering options for lighting the holiday tree (battery operated, generator, access power). Entranceway needs work.
- Yard sale: Scheduled for Saturday, May 30. We have 50 yard sales signs and presently have 30 homes signed up. There will be Yard Sale signs at each entrance with flyers located in a plastic container on a stand that lists the addresses of homes participating along with a map of Riverbay. Yard Sale signs will be delivered to the homes participating on Friday, May 29. Yard sale signs and container reusable. Ads placed in Cape Cod Chronicle and Craig's List.
- Annual meeting will take place on Saturday, October 17, 2015 at the Community Center. Need suggestions for a guest speaker. Suggestions should be sent to Bernie Pfeifer, President.
- Web site: Still working on a password protected, "Members Only" section on the web site. Web master, Dale Eckerman, with the help of Jan Whittaker and Jeff Lanctot, maintains the e-mail list and flash e-mails. Web site looks very professional.
- Newsletter will be sent out after the yard sale. Renewal of Membership form will ask for corrections, if any, for the Directory.
- New Board members needed for the next 2 years: Vice President, secretary and one at large member. Submitted Ann Marie Hesketh

More Yard Sale Pictures



Some comments from participants about the Yard Sale:

“We met or neighbor who lives in Florida and would never have made the connection. My old friend from Girl Scout days came to my home and we rekindled a friend ship and got caught up on several years that we have not seen one another.”

“A number of buyers commented how nice the neighborhood, landscaping, and layout of the neighborhood was.”

“the story about the dealer who alerted one seller that they had a sleeper worth a lot of money and it should be withdrawn from the sale”

Some Suggestions From the Park Avenue Survey

“I would much prefer any extra money be spent on building a dock on the larger of our two lakes and maybe a little more informal parking. The dock would open up the area to parents and kids fishing off the dock and kayaking. I live on the far other side from the lakes but would love to walk there with my grandson.”

“I think the beautification efforts done to this area in the last five years have been very nice and a great improvement to our neighborhood. I appreciate all the hard work. I also enjoyed the Christmas tree lighting and carol singing. However, I don't feel the corner needs any changes. I fear anything 'big' may require upkeep that we can't be sure will be maintained properly in the future. In other words, let's not bite off more than we can chew.”

“I really like this entrance as it is. It is simple but very lovely as you enter the park. I would like to see Park Ave. itself grassed in better with a few benches donated by members.”

“As the original designer of the current layout, I have urged from the beginning the we should continue to develop plantings et al, based on xeriscaping with native plants and shrubs requiring less and less water. As a Master Gardener and an environmentalist, I endorse less waste of water and use of chemical fertilizer.”

“I believe this entrance is significant to our neighborhood. This is the first impression anyone driving by gets of Riverbay. I would like to see it professionally landscaped and the irrigation system used to provide for a green lawn and gardens/plantings.”

“Construct an underground parking garage and charge for auto storage.”
