

# Summer 2020

*In October 1902 our Society was established and chartered for the purpose of improving and ornamenting the streets and grounds of the village of Dennis. That was 118 years ago! Our organization is continuing that same mission today.*

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

During these unprecedented times in the Spring of 2020 we have given much thought to how we might adapt to fulfill our charter to *"improve and ornament the streets and grounds of the village of Dennis."* In response to our struggling local economy we too will tighten our budgetary belt and we will start by letting the grass grow a bit taller and delaying some beautification projects. Also with today's social distancing rules and limitations on gatherings we have canceled our Summer Concert schedule, at least for the start. However, should conditions permit safe gatherings later on in the summer we will consider sponsoring a concert or two.

Over the years there have been many studies citing a growing sense of loneliness and isolation, and this recently has been made worse by the restrictions on gatherings and loss of social contact. Being in open areas and enjoying nature has been found to be uplifting to our spirits. Right here in Dennis Village we are fortunate to have green spaces available for your enjoyment: walk along the long stretch of open green space from the corner of Old Bass River Road all the way down to the end of Soldiers Field; visit the stone monument at the end of Soldiers Field to see the history that prevailed on the training field; visit the shaded Nobscussett Park with benches inviting you to stop and sit awhile and enjoy the lovely flower beds planted by the Village Garden Club; enjoy the playground and ball field. These green spaces invite you to walk, bike and drive around and enjoy these common places we all share. Your Village Improvement Society (with countless volunteers) owns and maintains several of these properties and we work closely with the Town to enhance Dennis Village.

With our many volunteers and with your help we will continue to use your donations wisely. One of our projects is our hope to continue to improve the appearance of the parking lot adjacent to Nobscussett Park. Speaking of volunteers, you are welcome to attend any of our meetings and of course lend a hand in enhancing our properties.

We hope you appreciate what we do and will help us with a donation.

*Also did you know?...*To encourage more charitable giving in 2020, the recent stimulus bill (CARES Act) provides additional tax relief. If you take the standard deduction and do not itemize, you can claim a new "above the line" deduction of up to \$300 for cash donations to a charity that you make this year. In addition, if you itemize, the 60% AGI limit is lifted for cash donations.

*For the gladness here where the sun is shining at Evening on the weeds of the river.  
Our prayer of thanks. For the laughter of children who tumble barefooted and bareheaded in the summer grass.*

"Our Prayer of Thanks"  
Carl Sandburg 1878-1967



It is with sadness that we acknowledge the passing of two board members Bob Stout and Walter Korntheuer. Bob served on the Executive Board for over twelve years. Honorary member, Walter Korntheuer supported the Society over three decades. We will miss both Bob and Walt for their enthusiastic support and wise counsel.



*The Society Wishes to acknowledge the following for their support and in-kind-donations.*

*Acorn Landscaping · Bartlett Tree Experts  
Brad Tomasetti Plumbing & Heating  
Dennis Memorial Library · Dennis Union Church  
E. Lambton Landscaping · Fairway Tree and Lawn  
Hart Farm · Northeast Tree and Pruning  
Village Garden Club of Dennis*



Dixie Diehards

## 2020 Summer Concerts



With regret, we must cancel our  
**Summer Concert Series.**  
 Until the sanctions about congregating  
 in groups are lifted,  
 we do not see how we can conduct  
 our concerts that draw large crowds.

Should the situation change,  
 we will place the concert sign  
 on the green on Monday morning.

**Thank you, and please stay safe!**

## The Village Improvement Society of Dennis

### - OFFICERS -

Carole W. Bell  
*President*

Bill Creighton  
*Vice President*

Kate Byron  
*Vice President*

Kathy Tomasetti  
*Secretary*

Judy November  
*Treasurer*

### - EXECUTIVE BOARD -

Cliff Adams  
*Crêche Chair*

Jan Adams

*Corresponding Secretary*

Bill Collins    Bonnie Hempel

Diane Collins    Jeni Landers

Pat Hassett    Gerry May, Jr.

David Kaplan    Brad Tomasetti

### - HONORARY MEMBERS -

Paul Prue    Craig Short

*The Village Improvement Society  
 is a 501c(3) non-profit.*

Our properties include the Village Green and  
 Soldier's Field on Route 6A.  
 Playground at Hwy Boston Road.  
 Maintained on behalf of the town is Hobscussett Park.



Chatham Chorale

## The Village Improvement Society of Dennis

*Est. 1902*

P.O. Box 779  
 Dennis, MA 02638



[www.dennisVIS.org](http://www.dennisVIS.org)  
[www.villageimprovementsocietyofdennisma.com](http://www.villageimprovementsocietyofdennisma.com)

