

Clerks Corner 6/2018

Leadership as a way to life

There has been a lot of royal frenzy recently with the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle and the popularity of The Crown on TV. The Wenham COA even enjoyed Crown & Crumpets throughout May! I have never been enamored with the royals but I will admit that I fell so in love with Queen Elizabeth II portrayed by Claire Foy that I registered myself for a class based on the book, Elizabeth I CEO, Strategic Lessons from the Leader Who Built an Empire by Alan Axelrod. The class is an Athenian Dialogue and all participants explore leadership principles and practice through the insights contained in a book. Within the book, I found that both Elizabeth's had characteristics that are not only traits of leadership but ones that if developed would serve us and our communities well.

Strengthening our core values, thinking before we speak, and being sympathetic to those who do not agree with us are all traits that both women had as leaders but are important for all members of a community. Both Elizabeth's understood the importance of personal contact and took great steps to achieve that as best they could. Queen Elizabeth I traveled every summer to visit with her people. Queen Elizabeth II's first action was to travel to Australia to connect with those members of her kingdom. In today's world, personal contact is easier yet it is not the norm as the ease of remote communications increase. As fun as connecting on social media is, I believe both honorable women would agree that face to face interaction is what builds relationships and deep connections and that is what melds a society.

More things to think about and put on your calendar are the events celebrating Wenham's 375th and the upcoming Citizen Academy. History buffs will love both of our June events. The "Knowing our Roots" event features oral histories of six of our elders taken by twelve of our AP US history students is scheduled at the Hamilton Wenham Library on Monday June 18th from 6-8pm. The Princemere Tour will take a look at the original Estate and life of Frederick H. Prince and family at the Frost Building, Gordon College, 255 Grapevine Road Wednesday June 20th at 6-7:30pm. And of course, the big celebration day includes a parade and community day is scheduled for Saturday September 8. Both events are actively accepting community involvement as volunteers and participants. Contact the Committee through the Clerk at 978-468-5520 x1 or dbucco@wenhamma.gov.

Also this fall, the Town will be offering the third annual Citizens Leadership Academy which is a series of 10 classes that cover all there is to know about how town government works. Each class delves into a departments and/or committee that take part in running our town. It is a great way to learn about our community and how you can get more involved. Find out more on the Town website, wenhamma.gov.

Dianne Kaplan Bucco was elected the Wenham Town Clerk April 11, 2014 and has achieved the designation of Certified Municipal Clerk in 2017. For more information on the clerk's office, please go to www.wenhamma.gov or follow the Wenham Town Clerk on Facebook.