

CLERKS CORNER 5.17

Involvement aids Humanity!

Thank you to all the Local Officials who attended the Showcase of Local Officials on May 8, 2017 in commemoration of Municipal Clerks Week. It was a stimulating evening of dialogue with Officials from seven local communities as well as three State Level Officials. The Clerks Contest winner is one very happy young man who completed his entry correctly and whose name was then drawn to win the basket of goodies that contained items donated by the seven Clerks from Beverly, Gloucester, Hamilton, Lynnfield, Nahant, Rockport, and Wenham. Additional items were donated by Connolly's Pharmacy in Hamilton and The Sports Stop in Wenham and the Boxtops Shops in Topsfield.

After speaking with Officials from all these communities at the Showcase, I realized that there are countless committees, commissions or boards in any given municipality that all rely on resident participation. Some require attendance at monthly meetings while others require less. Some require a three year commitment while others a smaller period of time. Some prefer some sort of specific knowledge while most rely solely on one's commitment to and desire to assist the community.

A community does not run itself; it is directed by its residents. While it may seem like there are enough volunteers, this is never the case. There is a continual need for new people with new ideas and/or a new way to look at something. A rotation of volunteers brings forward new ideas and viewpoints which are always helpful to any organization.

Getting involved in any of these organizations also benefits the resident. It offers the opportunity to meet other residents, to

learn other people's opinions and to work as a group for the best of the community. The League of Women Voters of Hamilton & Wenham brought Eric Liu to speak on citizen power at the Hamilton Wenham Regional High School. Eric Liu is the founder and CEO of Citizen University. I agree with Liu when he said having a connection to your community benefits humanity, and we could all use more humanity. The more we stay connected, the more compassion and empathy we have for others especially our co-inhabitants. People can and will always disagree but working through that for the benefit of your community by listening to everyone's opinion allows the group to make the best possible move. These decisions usually involve compromise which is something that we do not see very often but is imperative to our livelihoods.

Back to the local scene here in Wenham, the list of committees, boards and commissions is on our Town website; www.wenhamma.gov. Many such as the Veterans Committee, Finance and Advisory, and Wenham Issues of Social Service to name a few are looking for volunteers, so step right up. Your community is waiting for you.

There are several important dates and events that Wenhamites and neighbors will want to put on their calendars. On Friday May 26th the Hamilton Wenham Schools will host Memorial Ceremonies. Memorial Day is Monday May 29th and the parade in Wenham begins at 1pm. The Two-Town Patriotic Celebration is scheduled at Patton Park, Hamilton on Saturday June 24th with loads of all age events planned for the day. Art Grows Here is a community wide art project that begins on July 14th. Wenham Day is scheduled for Saturday August 26th.

Dianne Kaplan Bucco was elected the Wenham Town Clerk April 11, 2014 and re-elected on April 6, 2017. For more information on the clerk's office, please go to www.wenhamma.gov or follow the Wenham Town Clerk on Facebook.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas The Office of the Municipal Clerk, a time honored and vital part of local government exists through the world; and

Whereas The Office of the Municipal Clerk is the oldest among public servants; and

Whereas The Office of the Municipal Clerk provides the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies and agencies of government at other levels; and

Whereas Municipal Clerks have pledged to be ever mindful of their neutrality and impartiality, rendering equal service to all; and

Whereas The Municipal Clerk serves as the information center on functions of local government and community; and

Whereas Municipal Clerks continually strive to improve the administration of the affairs of the Office of the Municipal Clerk through participation in education programs, seminars, workshops and the annual meetings of their state, county and international professional organizations; and

Whereas It is most appropriate that we recognize the accomplishments of the Office of the Municipal Clerk,

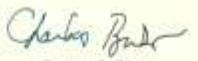
Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim the week of May 7th to the 13th, 2012, to be,

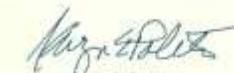
MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this fifth Day of May, in the year two thousand and seventeen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty first.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY


CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH


LETT E. POLITO
CL. SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH


WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts