



The Vermeer Quest

A Talk by Judy and Jim Barr

**Thursday, March 28, 7:00pm, Wakelin Room, Wellesley Free Library or Zoom
Co-sponsored with the Wellesley Free Library**

When Vermeer's *The Concert* was stolen in the 1990 famous Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum heist, Judy and Jim Barr were prompted to embark on a Vermeer Quest--to see each of the Vermeer paintings in their home museums. Follow the Barrs as they travel for a purpose along the eastern seaboard and then through Europe searching for the Vermeers. Learn about new friends they made and humorous situations they encountered. Actively view each painting and track the frequency of several motifs that Vermeer repeatedly used. And be prepared for a surprising conclusion.



Jim and Judy in front of
Vermeer's *The Geographer*
(1669), Frankfurt, Germany

Judy Barr, a native of Ohio, migrated to the Boston area to attend Simmons College. While there she fell in love with the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum and its Vermeer, *The Concert*. With a Masters degree from UMassBoston and a doctorate in health policy/management from Harvard, she had a long career as a faculty member, administrator, and researcher at Northeastern University.

As a patient-centered outcomes researcher, she presented many papers at the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR) fall meetings held in major European cities. Judy and her husband Jim Barr (Antioch BA, Wesleyan MALS), a Wellesley High School Hall of Fame math teacher from 1964-1997 and co-founder of Wellesley's A Better Chance Program, used these travel opportunities to embark on their Vermeer Quest.

Register for in person or online access at wellesleyneighbors.org or visit wellesleyfreelibrary.libcal.com/event/12067058

Hospice, Palliative Care, and Homecare: An Overview

A Talk by Matthew Smith

April 9, 2024, 3:00-4:30pm

**Len Green Recreation & Athletic Center at Babson College
Presented by the Health & Well-Being Committee**



Matthew Smith RN, BSN, CHPN, CHHPO, WCC
Senior Clinical Director
Home Care, Palliative Care,
and Hospice Care Services

Matthew will give a general overview of Skilled Home Care, Palliative Care, and Hospice Care Services, including eligibility requirements and the typical referral and admission process. He will explain in depth the typical frequency and length of visits by various team members in each program. To complete the presentation, Matthew will review insurance coverages and give an example of how someone may move seamlessly through the continuum of these services. There will be time for questions and answers.

Matthew Smith is the Senior Clinical Director of Certified Home Care, Outpatient Palliative Care and Hospice Care services at Hebrew SeniorLife. He has 20+ years' nursing experience which includes Combat Medic/Army Nurse, Acute, Sub-Acute and Community-Based Health Services, both as a direct care provider and in Senior Management. Matt started his career as an Army Nurse providing care to soldiers and civilians; He also provided disaster relief to United States citizens during the 9/11 attack on the Pentagon and Hurricane Katrina. His professional interests lie in expanding healthcare to seniors through a cross continuum of programs.

For more information and to register go to wellesleyneighbors.org

From the President



Hello Members –

I was invited to attend the Activities and Newsletter Teams meetings. My role was to observe, listen and, if asked, to provide my thoughts. I was impressed with the collaborative thought process applied by each Team to arrive at a balanced activities program or ways to update the Newsletter. I am very happy to say that the Activities Team works diligently on your behalf to provide well-blended and diverse activities for your pleasure. In a very collegial manner, the Newsletter Team discussed the Newsletter format and ways to improve the contents and meet the readers' interests. I plan to sit in on all Team meetings, to hear their roles on behalf of the membership, and to learn of resources needed.

The February Board convened with the following items discussed and/or voted upon:

- Current enrollment = 107
- Treasurer reported that WN is financially sound
- Update on the WN website revisions
- Babson continues to provide members with senior wellness classes
- Sara-Jane Green is the Wellesley Green Cluster Leader

I am working on the recruitment process for the WN administrative support person and designing a work plan for Membership Recruitment & Retention.

Deb



February Service and Support

Service Requests: 1 (lawyer)

Support Requests: 1 ride

To request service or support, call 781-283-0417, ext. 1



See page 4 for tributes to Joyce Wadlington

We will greatly miss Deborah Slocum, who died at her home in Wellesley on January 21. She and her husband, Joel, joined Wellesley Neighbors in 2010 before the new organization had officially opened!

(Obituary notice was sent to WN members on January 25, 2024.)

WNN team: Jean Berry, Mickey Goldin, Marcia Goldsmith, Teri Lilly, Curt Martin, Ann Swanson



Wellesley Neighbors, A Proud History



Wellesley Neighbors –A Brief History

What we know as Wellesley Neighbors began its life as Wellesley At Home, following the example of other communities, including Beacon Hill Village, whose leadership assisted in early planning. The purpose behind the villages was to keep seniors active, independent, and socially connected as they remained in their homes.

In the fall of 2011 Wellesley At Home, a non-profit organization, officially opened. Since 2008 a small group of Wellesley residents had conferred, raised funds, and organized, with advice from the Council on Aging, Wellesley College, and the Wellesley Free Library. Janet Giele, who started the organization, was elected president in 2009. Others involved included Tom DeRiemer, Ruth and Stan Treitman, Ralph Wagner, Jean Boyle, Hank Solomon, Parker and Marjorie Damon, Mary Lefkowitz, Ann Swanson, Nancy Gans, and Stephen Beach.

In 2013, the name was changed to Wellesley Neighbors to reflect members living in Natick, Needham, Dover, and Weston, as well as Wellesley. The new name also signified that we were not only at home but also out and about in the community.

The early cooperative feeling of the organization made for its success. Today, we want to continue that reward of participating in an active organization, with activities and assistance designed for all members.

[For a more detailed history, read the website's history and also Janet Giele's article in the March 2021 issue of the *Wellesley Neighbors Newsletter*, (page 3) available on the WN website]

JB

WN Presidents from 2009-2024

Janet Giele (2009-2112)
Margot Lansing (2012-2015)
Nancy Gans (2016-2017)
Ilse Sangree (2018-2019)
Catherine Connor (2020-2021)
Adele Langevin (2022-2023)
Deb Cogill (2024 -)

Founding of Wellesley Neighbors

I had moved my law office out to my house and hated it, after being used to sharing ideas as well as casual conversations with others in my office. Neighbors I knew had moved away or died. Someone told me to call Janet Giele, who was working on an interesting project. Janet invited me to a planning meeting. I walked into a room full of people I had never met, discussing a proposed business plan for a new organization for older adults. After the meeting, Janet asked if I would like to join them, and I happily said yes, ending my own isolation.

The central concern of the new organization was the well-being and social connectedness of older people who had retired. In retirement, people lose their business social connections, and many neighbors have moved away. In addition, people who have just moved to the area need new friends. Everything the organization did would focus, in one way or another, on enhancing social connections and creating a community. We would have committees to plan and run the organization, provide activities, rides to appointments and other services, all with a view toward creating that community.

As an example of our thinking: we wanted to provide referrals to service providers, since members' plumbers and electricians, etc., might be retiring. A computerized referral list, while efficient, would do nothing to create connections among members. If our Executive Director kept the list, a member needing a new plumber would first talk to her. She could inquire about their general well-being and give the names of a few plumbers and the referring members. The member could call the referring members, some of whom might be previously unknown, to help decide which plumbers to call. Now, after the member has made several calls and after finding a plumber, he or she would be able to follow up. An ordinary need helped create connections to other members instead of increasing isolation.

The federal government has released a study confirming that loneliness is a danger to health. Wellesley Neighbors, with its motto of "Caring, Connection, and Community," has been addressing that danger since its founding.

Nancy Gans



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS Mary and John Brown. John grew up in Chicago and attended Harvard as an undergraduate. After a year in Europe, he went to graduate school in economics in Berkeley, where he met Mary. She had grown up in New York and Connecticut and attended Radcliffe as an undergraduate, then had gone out to California to see the great west. She and John were married and together moved as John taught first at Brown and then at Cornell, then went to the Federal Trade Commission in Washington DC. They raised three children, Sam, Abby, and Kate, in Washington. Once the children were all off to college, John and Mary moved to New York City. They continued to live in New York, even after John retired, enjoying the opera and museums and the vibrancy of the city. The arrival of Covid, however, made them decide to take up residence in Natick, near Abby, her husband and two children. "It has been wonderful to be near family."

TRIBUTES TO JOYCE WADLINGTON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR October 17, 2011 to March 15, 2024



In the summer of 2011, Wellesley Neighbors decided we needed an Executive Director who would manage contacts with members, oversee provision of services, and serve as an anchor for our new organization. Janet Giele as president and Margot Lansing as an experienced search consultant, interviewed several candidates for the job. Joyce was clearly the obvious choice, with the extensive experience that fit our needs. Since then, Joyce has served the organization with distinction by organizing an outstanding speaker series and coordinating many meetings held at the Wellesley College Club. She has made referrals for rides and to our list of recommended service providers. Our sick and grieving members have received her special attention. We are pleased that she will continue as a member and as our representative to the Massachusetts Network of Villages.

Janet Giele, First President, 2009-2012 (member since 2011, but was one of the original organizers)

Margot Lansing, Second President, 2012-2015 (member since 2011)

As Wellesley Neighbors' Executive Director, Joyce made a significant impact on the formation and function of the organization as a viable entity. Her leadership, passion, and commitment were essential in articulating our vision and purpose as defined by the founders...caring, connection, and community. We are indebted to her for her loyalty and dedication to Wellesley Neighbors and look forward to her continued participation as a member.

Hank Solomon (member since 2011)

Joyce was always there for members, regardless of the event or the ask.

Ralph Wagner (member since 2008!! An original organizer)

I was introduced to Joyce and WN when I accompanied member Ilse Sangree to Blue Ginger. Joyce's warm welcome and her representation of WN and its benefits impressed me greatly, and were key to my joining the organization. I was to learn later, when I was president, how invaluable were her historical knowledge of WN and her unparalleled ability to interact with and assist members as well as their families with health problems. These, and so many more attributes, will be sorely missed as Joyce leaves the position of Executive Director.

Catherine Connor, President 2020-2021 (member since 2016)

Joyce cares deeply about Wellesley Neighbors and has superb organizational skills. She stayed in touch with WN committees to get an overview of what was happening. She managed our former relationship with the Wellesley College Faculty Club, helping us to use it for our monthly speaker series and member luncheons. She organized a wonderful variety of speakers over the years. She organized rides for members; if she couldn't find someone to drive, she did it herself. Her connection with other Massachusetts "village" executive directors gave us many new ideas. If a member was struggling, she would stay in touch with the member and the member's family, near and far. She is a fabulous recruiter of new members, both in public speaking and conversations with potential new members in person and on the telephone. It was a privilege to work with her when I was president. I am so glad that she will stay a member. Thank you, Joyce!!

Nancy Gans, President 2016-2017 (member since 2011)



March Events/Interest Group Meetings

NOTE: Events on Zoom are marked (Z)
Watch weekly blasts for new information!

Fri. Mar. 1, 1 pm – Play Reading Group
 Sat. Mar. 2, 1:30 pm - Savoyards Players, Sudbury,
 Gilbert & Sullivan, *Princess Ida*
 Tues. Mar. 5, 1 pm - Lunch at Seasons 52, Chestnut Hill
 Wed. Mar. 6, 5:30 pm - Women's Night Out, The Local
 Thurs. Mar. 7, 12:30 pm - Men's Lunch (Z)
 Thurs. Mar. 7, 2 pm - New Yorker Group II
 Fri. Mar. 8, 11 am - Davis Museum, Wellesley
 Fri. Mar. 8, 12:45 pm - Lunch at Frescafe, Natick
 Wed. Mar. 13, 2 pm – New Yorker Group I (Z)
 Thurs. Mar. 14, 3 pm - Balance & Posture Class, Babson
 Fri. Mar. 15, 5 pm - Cocktail Hour (Z)
 Sun. Mar. 17, 2 pm - TCAN, Natick, Agatha Christie,
The Spider's Web
 Sun. Mar. 17, 5 pm - Dinner at Agostino's, Natick
 Wed. Mar. 20, 1 pm - Lunch at Bernard's
 Thurs. Mar. 21, 1pm – Short Story Group (Z)
 Fri. Mar. 22, 7 pm - Babson Sorenson Center, Karen Slack,
 Opera Performance and narration (*Of Thee I Sing:*
Songs of Love and Justice- Free (10 tickets already
 reserved)
 Sun. Mar. 24, 4 pm - Wine Tasting, Newton, \$40
 Thurs. Mar. 28, 7 pm - Speaker Series, Judy & Jim Barr
 Wellesley Library and (Z). (See pg. 1)
 Fri. Mar. 29, 1 pm - Lunch at 110 Grille, Cochituate

Early April Events

Wed. Apr. 3, 5:30 pm - Women's Night Out, The Local
 Thur. Apr. 4, 12:30 pm - Men's Lunch (Z)
 Thurs. Apr. 4, 2 pm – New Yorker Group II
 Tues. Apr. 9, 3 pm - Health & Well-Being Committee Speaker,
 Matthew Smith. (See pg. 1)
 Wed. Apr. 10, 2 pm – New Yorker Group I (Z)
 Thur. Apr. 11, 3 pm - Balance & Posture, Babson
 Thurs. Apr. 18, 1 pm – Short Story Group)(Z)
 Fri. Apr. 19, 5 pm - Cocktail Hour (Z)
 Wed. Apr. 24, 11 am - New Bedford Museum of Glass, New
 Bedford, \$10.
 Tues. Apr. 30, 7 pm - Speaker Series, Rachel Gans, Wellesley
 Library and (Z)

March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 .	2 .
3	4	5 .	6 .	7 .	8 .	9
10	11	12	13 .	14 .	15 .	16
17 .	18	19	20 .	21 .	22 .	23
24 .	25	26	27	28 .	29 .	30
31						

Volunteers Make It Happen

Judy Frommer and Polly Conlon organized the recent trip to the Harvard Art Museums. "We had a wonderful time, thanks to Judy and Polly who acted as our docents," said Maureen Donlon, Activities Committee Chair.



Members enjoyed lunch in the indoor museum courtyard.

March Newsletter

Wellesley Neighbors
P.O. Box 812609
Wellesley, MA 02482

«Name»
«Street» «Addr 2»
«Town, State, Zip»

Board of Directors 2024

OFFICERS

Deborah Cogill, President
Polly Conlon, Vice President
Adele Langevin, Past President
Gloria Rose, Clerk
Richard Lansing, Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Catherine Connor, Arthur Ensroth,
Judy Frommer, Jerry Gans,
Janet Giele, Rosalie Gimeno,
Marcia Goldsmith, Linda Griffith,
Dan Kemp, Carol Kupperschmidt,
Teri Ann Lilly, Hank Solomon,
Susan Taylor
