



From the Collections

The Newsletter of the Falmouth Historical Society

Summer 2022

May was really busy!

Even before the opening date, we were busy! Our cleaning date, May 17, found us washing floors and dusting everywhere. On May 25, Dave Farnham gave a talk at Falmouth Library about old maps and how to find them on our website. On Memorial Day, members carried the banner in the parade.



The second grade comes for a visit

On May 31 and June 1, eight classes of second graders from Falmouth Elementary toured the Museum and Barn to learn what life would have been like for them if they lived two centuries ago.



Betsy Jo Whitcomb gave a tour of tools and wagons and other items in the barn. Students were shocked

by the chores that were done by their age group before and after school.



Inside the museum, Sally Farneth asked the students what three everyday comforts were not available if they lived in the 1800s. They quickly figured out electricity, but running water and central heating were more challenging. Children also guessed at the purpose of objects in the kitchen. What startled them most were the number of chores they would be expected to do, and where they were in line when it came time for the weekly bath.

June is graduation month

Rich Meserve, FHS vice president, presented the first annual Marion Perkins Memorial Scholarship to a Falmouth High School graduating senior. The scholarship was made possible by a grant from the Perkins family and is awarded to a student who reflects the values of Marion Perkins, Falmouth's highly-regarded town clerk during the 1960s. This year's recipient was Charlie Adams who will study civil engineering at Northeastern University.

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Treasures added to our collections

One of the interesting items added to our collection was a baseball uniform worn by Charles E. Googins (1929-2018) and donated by his wife, Dorothy. She told us that Charlie was on a Falmouth team called the Pleasant Hill Merry Makers who played until almost 1954. The team was sponsored in part by a women's group of the same name to which his mother belonged.

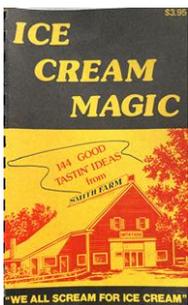


The baseball team played in the young men's league. "Ina"

Andreasen was the coach and his daughter, Ginny, was the scorekeeper. Other members of the team included Norman Blake, Jack Blake, Ernest Alling, Bob Andreasen, Dick Andreasen, Dick Burnes, Carroll Perkins, and Ray Wilcox.

Smith Farm

Smith Farm was a well-known family enterprise on Route 100/26 in Falmouth. It began just after World War II as a farm stand by two brothers, Gordon and Alan Smith, as a way to earn extra spending money. At first, they sold local fruits and vegetables. Then they added jellies, homemade gifts, and candy. Later came ice cream and hot turkey sandwiches. Eventually it became the restaurant housed in the barn that many of us remember.



Mrs. Marguerite Smith, mother of the boys, was the force behind the restaurant, known for her traditional New England recipes. Born in Carthage,

Maine, she grew up on a farm. Bright and enterprising, she not only raised three sons and supervised all restaurant activities, but she also served the people of Falmouth for eight years in the Maine House of Representatives. During that time, she became the first woman to ever serve as Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. She also served as President of the Maine Restaurant Association. Later she traveled around the state for speaking engagements which were entertaining and informative. She wrote two cookbooks: one for ice cream, and one for more hearty fare.

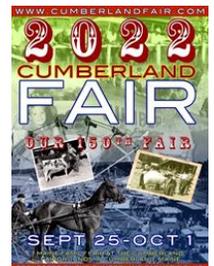
Volunteers needed

Here are tasks where FHS could really use some help. These tasks need only an hour or two of your time.

- Staffing the table at the Cumberland Fair.
- Helping with tasks at the museum on Tuesdays during the season.
- Clipping articles from the paper: about Falmouth houses, people, and events.
- Filing documents in acid-free page covers and putting them in the appropriate file cabinets.
- Accessioning donated artifacts and documents.

Cumberland Fair

Visit the FHS table in the Exhibit Hall at the Cumberland Fair in West Cumberland, September 25 through October 1. We will be there on Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.



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