

# DANVERS BI-PEDS NEWS

Volume 4, Number 2/3, Summer/Fall 2006



## TOWN MANAGER REPORTS ON MBTA LEASE

At the February 21 Board of Selectmen's Meeting they directed Wayne Marquis to begin negotiations with the MBTA on a lease of the rail bed in Danvers. When the Selectmen met on September 5th, Wayne Marquis gave an update on the progress of the lease negotiations. He stated that his negotiations with the General Manager of the MBTA seemed to be a positive process. They were discussing liability issues which the recently passed Resor Bill should make more palatable. He did not see the fact that Guilford Rail still has a freight easement on part of the rail line as an insurmountable problem. The MBTA has set up a rather standard lease which all towns are expected to pretty much follow. One of the conditions is that the right of way be used for a pathway, as in alternative transportation on a transportation corridor. On this point, the town manager's idea differs. He would like to lease it as open space leaving the town with the option of what to do with it. He felt that by the end of the year, he would have a lease in final form to present to the Selectmen.

Each Selectman had a concern or two. Gardner Trask, who feels the town should get the land

for future infrastructure use said that as with all town open space, people can petition how it is used. He was concerned about the bridge structures along the line.

Keith Lucy was interested to know exactly which rail lines were included in the lease.

Bill Clark pointed out that the spur line which runs from the recently sold former Sylvania plant on Sylvan Street to the main Newburyport Branch could be a good transportation route for the future workers there.

When the town manager comes back with the lease in final form, it will still have to be voted on by the Board of Selectmen. Their approval is very important. Therefore the Bi-Peds must continue to attempt to demonstrate that this land as a pathway would be a desirable, viable, and affordable option for them to pursue just as it is in so many surrounding communities. It is, as always, important to let the Selectmen and Town Manager know how you feel about the proposed trail and general biking and walking conditions in Danvers. For contact information, go to the front section of the community phone book or to [www.danvers.govoffice.com](http://www.danvers.govoffice.com).

## TOWN MEETING UPDATE

The members of Bi-Peds who worked on the contacting all the town meeting members following the information packet mailed out to them in Spring now know how difficult it is to get in touch with many of them. Matt Duggan, Bi-Peds Vice President, entered the race for town meeting in Precinct 1 on a pro rail trail stance. He took his decision to run seriously, put in a lot of time and 'shoe leather' to achieve his goal, including doing an impersonation of the Gloucester fisherman on a rainy election day.

Congratulations and thank you to Matt on behalf of all those dreaming of a pathway through Danvers.

Matt also wrote an citizen's petition, which was approved and appeared on the May town meeting agenda asking for a show of support of efforts by the town to study the feasibility of construction of a multi use path on the Newburyport Rail line. Many, including Bill Clark, spoke up in favor of the article and it passed easily.

## REPORT ON SEPTEMBER 11 MEETING

After an update on past events over the summer, the group of 12 people, some of them adjacent homeowners themselves, discussed the information which was presented to be used in meeting with adjacent homeowners. In the spirit of cooperation, 9 people divided up the list of homeowners to contact during the next 7 or 8 weeks.

**The next Danvers Bi-Peds meeting is Oct. 16 at 7:00 pm in the Carriage House at Endicott Park. If you are interested in safer biking and walking in Danvers, you are welcome to attend. Adjacent homeowner comments will be discussed.**

## WALKING GROUP TO END SEASON WITH A FAMILY HALLOWEEN COSTUME WALK

The Danvers Bi-Peds began a weekly Monday night walking group at the start of daylight saving time. As the daylight hours grow shorter, it seemed appropriate to hold the last one, at least for this year, at the end of daylight saving time.

So come Sunday, October 29th put on your funniest or scariest costume and join the group hiking the fitness trails at Endicott Park. The group will head out from in front of the Carriage House at 3:00 pm. Parents are asked to pre register the children with Keelin Dawe at 978-750-4111 or keelindawe@comcast.net as small surprises will be given out to the children. Register early as participation is limited to 30 children, but an unlimited number of adults. The paths are dirt. All should wear walking shoes. People are asked not to wear masks as they can obstruct ones view and be sure that costumes are not so long as to hamper safe walking. Older children and adults who want a longer walk can add the trails on Whipple Hill to the hike. Costumes on the adults are not required to participate but encouraged in the spirit of the day.

## ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW

The annual meeting which was held on May 22 was well attended. Guest speaker, Steve Golden, of the National Park Service started his talk by presenting Ingrid Barry with her own Junior Ranger National Park Service Hat. He got everyone involved when he passed out large aerial photos of several locations along the proposed Danvers rail trail. Small groups gathered around each to throw out ideas as to what would be the best approach for the trail in that area. The Bi-Peds thank the Danvers Bank for the use of their community room and Steve Golden for generously sharing his time and knowledge with the group.

## DANVERS BI-PEDS, INC. TAKES STEPS TO BECOME NON PROFIT

Confident that eventually the Danvers Bi-Peds, Inc. will become a fund raising organization to assist in the construction and maintenance of a pathway across town, they have filed with the federal internal revenue service to be a nonprofit (charitable) organization. It would not have been possible without the generous donation of time and skill by Pete Maddock which saved the organization a great deal of money. The Bi-Peds greatly appreciates his help.

## STREET NEWS

- Look for work to begin on the Wenham/Locust Street intersection sometime during September.
- If you noticed the new surface on Cabot Road and thought fog lines (those white lines near the edge of the road) would have been helpful as they are known to help slow traffic down, according to David Lane, Danvers director of operations, they planned to install fog lines on Cabot but ran into a budget issue. It is still their intent.
- He also said that because Collins Street is still scheduled to be reconstructed through the state transportation improvement program, they held off on fog lines. The thin new surface is only to hold the road together until then.



## HOME OWNER SIDEWALK DUTIES

Spread the word - vegetation planted by the homeowner should not hang over the sidewalk or grow on top of it. Trees over the sidewalk should clear it by 8 feet. Accumulated leaves and dirt on the walk should be removed. The sidewalk was no doubt 5 feet wide when it went in and it should remain that way. Broken sidewalks should be reported to Public Works at 978-762-0231 or go to [www.danvers.govoffice.com](http://www.danvers.govoffice.com) and fill out the contact form under public works.

# WELCOME TO ALL OUR NEW MEMBERS SINCE MAY

## ADULT

Amanda Bird  
Ann Sousa

## FAMILY

Linda and Michael Bowden  
Hildegard and Charles Wilson

## SUPPORTIVE

George Abi-esber  
Dawn and Joseph Masterson  
Paul Mooney

## CORPORATE

Eleanor and William Hersey

# THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE RENEWED SINCE MAY

David Symmes  
Larry & Jennifer Fliegelman  
Patricia L. Gagnon  
Lew Hathaway  
John & Tanneke Streefkerk  
George Abi-esber  
Daniel Bennett  
Linda & Michael Bowden  
Ed Bruenjes  
Lorraine Erickson  
Michael Goriansky  
Eleanor & William Hersey  
Becky Kilborn  
Dawn & Joseph Masterson  
Robert & Pat Rocco  
Frank Turrell  
Hildegard & Charles Wilson  
PJ & Laurie Curran

Robert & Janine Raby  
Gail Bean  
Amanda Bird  
Diane & James Brayden  
Mary & Charles Burke  
Katherine E. Cameron/Kusnick  
Bob Farley  
John & Shirley Fraizer  
Paula & Donald Gates  
Charles Lincicum  
Paul Mooney  
Dick Parkinson  
Michael Reich  
Carolyn & Arthur Skarmas  
Ann Sousa  
ellen & John Zavaglia  
Susan Stephan & David Read  
Sandra Theodorou

## Danvers Bi-Peds Board Members

**President:** Ingrid Barry 978-774-8159  
**Vice President:** Matt Duggan 978-777-1884  
**Secretary:** Maxine Taymore 978-777-5707  
**Treasurer:** Pat Gagnon 978-774-1948  
**Membership Chairman:** Larry Tormey 978-774-6630  
**Board of Directors:**  
Ralph Ardoff 978-774-7123 Lewis Hathaway 978-774-5848  
Charles Lincicum 978-777-5574 Peter Maddocks 978-762-3701  
Steven Cotter 978-750-0532

Become a member or  
ASK A FRIEND TO JOIN

**YES! I want to help make Danvers  
a safer place to bike and walk.**

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name .....

Address .....

Phone.....

E-mail.....

- Sponsor
- \$100 Corporate
- \$50 Proponent
- \$35 Supportive
- \$20 Family
- \$10 Adult
- \$5 Youth (under 18)

Make check payable to  
Danvers Bi-Peds, Inc.  
c/o Larry Tormey  
21 Bradley Road  
Danvers, MA 01923  
[www.danversbipers.org](http://www.danversbipers.org)

## A FUN WAY TO SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT RAIL TRAILS

John Harvard's Brew House located in Shopper's World Plaza, 1 Worcester Road, Framingham has been a dedicated supporter of the Cochituate Rail Trail (CRT). As a show of this support the managers and brew master of John Harvard's have created its "Rail Trail Ale." A portion of the profits from every pint, pitcher and growler sold will be given to the CRT as a donation to support the development of the trail. If you ever find yourself in Framingham thirsty for ale, you can quench your thirst and help out the Framingham Cochituate Rail Trail at the same time.

## MBTA COMMUTER RAIL BIKE COACH

During week ends in summer the MBTA ran a special car from Boston to Cape Ann which was fitted with bike racks and seating. Over its first 6 weekends of service, the bike coach has transported more than 550 bicycles and their riders to Cape Ann. At this time it is not known whether it will continue through September.

REMEMBER TO SHOW YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD FOR A DISCOUNT WHEN SHOPPING AT WESTERN CYCLE, 22 MAPLE STREET, DANVERS, ON THE WEB AT [WWW.WESTERN-CYCLE.COM](http://WWW.WESTERN-CYCLE.COM).



3 Riding Club Road  
Danvers, MA 01923

**DO YOU HAVE A BIKING OR WALKING CONCERN OR SUGGESTION?**

Please let us know about it. Call any board member.

Together we may be able to work on it.

### UPCOMING EVENTS, SCHEDULED TO DATE

**September 16, 2006 - Cape Cod Bike Fest, see below.**

**October 16, 2006 - Bi-Peds meeting, 7:00pm at the Carriage House**

**October 29, 2006 - Family Halloween Walk, see page 2 for details.**

**November 6, 2006 - Bi-Peds meeting, 7:00pm at the Carriage House**

### THANK YOU TO -

- **Matt Duggan** for getting the warrant article before town meeting.
- **Larry Tormey** for leading the Marblehead bike ride in April (and planning such perfect weather for it).
- **Pete Maddock** for filing the request for nonprofit status form.
- **Steven Cotter** (and his assistant Alexander) for taking over as weekly walk leader
- **Steve Golden** for speaking at the annual meeting

### WISH LIST -

- Volunteers to help contact adjacent homeowners.- phase 2.
- All work and no play is not fun - if you have a community or family event idea that you would like to see happen related to walking or biking, let us know.

### **Bikefest '06!, Cape Cod Rail Trail - Dennis, MA, Saturday, Sept. 16, 2006 (Rain date -9/17/06) 9 AM - 2 PM**

Fay, Spofford & Thorndike Engineers (FST) is sponsoring an outing on the newly reconstructed Cape Cod Rail Trail. Whether you are looking for a fun day on the Cape with your friends or family, or looking for ideas when developing a trail in your own community, we invite you to attend Bikefest '06!

For more information visit: [www.fstinc.com/bikefest06](http://www.fstinc.com/bikefest06)

The free event includes a guided bike tour of the trail improvements designed by FST, family nature walk led by LEC Environmental Consultants, face painting, treasure hunt, cookout and free raffle!