



BELLINGHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION, PUBLISHER

# CRIMPVILLE COMMENTS



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## SPRING TRADITIONS IN BELLINGHAM

### Memorial Day: A Living Tradition of Remembrance in Bellingham



Opening Ceremony of the 2025 Bellingham Memorial Day Parade, photo courtesy State Rep. Mike Soter

Each spring, as the lilacs begin to bloom and the last patches of snow recede from the cemetery gates, Bellingham prepares for a tradition that has bound generations of townspeople together in solemn remembrance and spirited community: Memorial Day.

This year, on Sunday, May 18, 2025, Bellingham observed its 154th Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony, marking over a century and a half of communal tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice. This tradition has deeper roots and a more complex history than many realize.

Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day, a name still remembered by some of Bellingham's older residents. The tradition was started by newly freed Black communities of South Carolina and their white Northern abolitionist allies in the aftermath of the Civil War as a ritual of remembrance. While the official national observance of the holiday was declared in 1868, historian David Blight has documented in *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory*, (2001, Harvard University Press), that the first Decoration Day (continued on page 2)

### From Cow Pastures to Championship Glory: Baseball in Bellingham

Spring in Bellingham has always carried with it the promise of longer days, warmer weather - and baseball.

Long before televised games and Little League tryouts, baseball in Bellingham was a community affair in the truest sense. In the 1930s, residents gathered at the affectionately named "Cow-Flap Stadium," a makeshift field in L.F. Thayer's pasture, used when the cows weren't present. See the photo on page 4. Despite the field's humble setting, the games regularly drew large crowds. It was less about scorekeeping and more about community, fun, and the unmistakable arrival of spring.

In South Bellingham, where the Bellingham Drive-In Theater once stood, the Bellingham Farmers baseball team took the field in the 1930s. Managed by Dave Tuttle, the team was known as much for its playful spirit as its skill. Players wore silly costumes, adopted goofy nicknames, and played with serious heart. They raised money for local causes and brought laughter to the stands. Among the notable members were John Horbaychuk (catcher), Stan Wade and Speed Chamberlain (pitchers), and Warren "Pop" Whiting, who played second base. (continued on page 4)



Pictured, from left to right: Warren Whiting, Dave Tuttle, and Edgar Scott. Location: South Bellingham, formerly the Bellingham Drive-In.

<https://openarchives.umb.edu/digital/collection/p15774coll6/id/13856/rec/1>

## Memorial Day: A Living Tradition of Remembrance in Bellingham

ceremony was held on May 1, 1865 in Charleston, South Carolina. According to Blight, the final year of the war saw the Confederates turning Charleston's Washington Race Course and Jockey Club (formerly the planter's/slaveholder's horse racing track - a symbol/place of power) into a grim open-air prison for Union Soldiers, where 257 died and were buried in a mass grave. Over two dozen Black workmen reburied these Union soldiers with dignity and built a fence and an archway where they inscribed "Martyrs of the Race Course" in their honor.

On that day, May 1, 1865, the Black residents of Charleston cooperated with white missionaries and teachers to ignite/organize/carry out an enormous parade of 10,000 people (most of whom were former slaves) right on the slaveholders' race track. It began at 9:00 AM, with 3,000 Black schoolchildren "carrying armloads of roses and singing 'John Brown's Body,'" followed by hundreds of Black women of the Patriotic Association carrying "baskets of flowers, wreaths, and crosses". Black men of the Mutual Aid Society marched behind the women, and then followed massive crowds of citizens. It was a powerful moment of liberation, where formerly enslaved Black Americans turned the site of a Confederate prison that was previously a slaveholder's horse racing club into a memorial for those who died ending slavery. It was a moment that profoundly established this great commemorative tradition for the nation and our local community to reflect on ourselves, our past, and our place in history.

Other early observances include:

- April 25, 1866 - Women in Columbus, MS decorated both Confederate and Union soldier graves.
- 1866 - The Ladies Memorial Association of Columbus, GA advocated for a specific day to honor fallen soldiers. They published an open letter advocating for an annual date to decorate soldiers graves.
- May 5, 1868 - General John A. Logan, the commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), a Union veterans' organization issued a General Order designating May 30th as a day to "decorate the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country."
- May 30, 1868 - The first large scale observance took place at Arlington National Cemetery with General James Garfield delivering a speech.



*All school children at Memorial Day exercises 1923*

Photo from museum archives, source unknown

Bellingham's first official observance of Memorial/Decoration Day was in 1892. Grand Army of the Republic veterans, the Bellingham Band, and a parade of carriages marched from Franklin, along Route 140 to the Center Cemetery, the Civil War Monument, and then onto the Town Common.

They gathered around the Soldiers' Monument, which was a focal point of these tributes, erected in 1874 in honor of local men who served in the Union Army. This photo from the 1923 ceremony shows the school children at the Monument. The Monument was originally constructed at the junction of South Main Street (Route 126) and Mechanic Street (Route 140) in Bellingham Center. In 2005, to protect and preserve the Monument, it was moved from the busy intersection and rededicated on the Bellingham Town Common.

The following names of Bellingham soldiers in the Union Army who were killed during the Civil War are engraved on the monument: Thomas Carey, Jairas Lawrence, W. Ellis Cook, Joseph Osgood, Moses

Drake, H. Perry Slocum, C. Philip Hancock, Calvin C. Thayer, Joseph W. Holbrook, and Lewis E. Whitney.

According to the *History of the Town of Bellingham Massachusetts 1719-1919*, by George Partridge, during Bellingham's first documented official observance of Memorial/Decoration Day, thirty-six Civil War veterans' graves were decorated with wreaths and flags. That year, the town of Bellingham appropriated \$50 for Decoration Day exercises, which was a substantial sum at the time, \$1757 in 2025 dollars!

## Memorial Day: A Living Tradition of Remembrance in Bellingham

One touching recollection from the 1978 *Crimpsville Comments* describes children “enthralled by their imagination” laying flowers on graves, “the love and respect generated for our flag and country penetrated every pore of the child’s being.” The innocence of the day contrasted with the weight of history - of lives lost, of a nation fractured and mended.

According to Blight, Memorial Day’s radical origins were often whitewashed as the holiday became nationalized. By the early 20th century, the holiday had been largely stripped of its emancipatory politics and repackaged as a day of general patriotism, rather than a tribute to the revolutionary struggle toward justice and freedom.

Despite this national shift, Bellingham’s Memorial Day has remained a community-centered event, blending deep, somber reflection with local pride. The meaning of the day has grown along with the town. Over the decades, the parade has evolved as marching bands have expanded, scout troops have joined the procession, and in 2000, the town unveiled a new Veterans Memorial at the Town Common, honoring service members from WWII to the present. And even during the uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, when the parade was canceled, the Memorial and Veterans Day Committee organized modest, socially distanced ceremonies at town monuments to preserve the spirit of remembrance.

This year’s 154th observance honored significant military anniversaries - from the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Lexington to the 25th anniversary of the Bellingham War Memorial’s dedication. The parade marched from Memorial School at 1 pm, with a colorful and solemn procession that included the Army and Marine Color Guards, local school bands, scout troops, classic cars, town officials, and community groups. Fourth-grade students from Bellingham Memorial School, having read books on Memorial Day in library classes, joined in the march with bright enthusiasm and earnest reverence. At the Common, a wreath-laying ceremony honored fallen soldiers from the Civil War up to today. The program included a performance of the National Anthem, the Gettysburg Address, and a bell ringing at the 191-year-old First Baptist Church bell following the reading of names of Bellingham residents who had passed in the last year and those who died in service to the nation.

Chairman Jim Hastings, a Vietnam veteran and longtime steward of this tradition, reminded the crowd why we gather: “Memorial Day is a time to pause and honor the memory of our servicemen and women for protecting us. If it weren’t for those who made the ultimate sacrifice, we’d be living in a different type of United States”.

Memorial Day was never meant to be a sanitized tribute to war or nationalism. It began as a radical act of remembrance and a declaration that the fallen had died for justice and liberation, not just abstract notions of patriotism. In Bellingham, as elsewhere, the holiday has been shaped by the push-and-pull between communal memory and national narratives. To honor Memorial Day fully requires acknowledging this complexity—celebrating Bellingham’s traditions while remembering the holiday’s revolutionary roots. It means recognizing that the men buried beneath those 1892 wreaths fought not just for the Union, but for the end of chattel slavery. And it means ensuring that today’s observances don’t just honor sacrifice, but also ask why those sacrifices were made.

As the town celebrates, there are moments that call back to the holiday’s deeper history. The reading of names of lives lost echoes the original Decoration Days, when communities gathered to name and remember the lives and contributions of those brave soldiers.

While the date and display of the holiday may change, the meaning endures and even grows. Whether it’s Herbert C. Stewart, who played “Taps” for 52 consecutive years in Bellingham, the schoolchildren of 1892 carrying flowers to the graves of long-forgotten heroes, or the Bellingham residents of today commemorating the past, each generation finds its role in this tradition.

And so, from Decoration Day to Memorial Day, from Memorial School to the Town Common, from 1892 to 2025, Bellingham continues to gather, remember, and carry forward the memories of those who gave all. In the words of General John A. Logan’s 1868 proclamation, let us “garland the passionless mounds above them with the choicest flowers of spring-time” and “renew our pledges” to those who gave all.



## From Cow Pastures to Championship Glory: Baseball in Bellingham

Continued from page 1

A Farmers team uniform, worn by Warren “Pop” Whiting was later donated to the Bellingham Historical Museum by his son George Whiting, seen in photo at left. We thank the Whiting family for preserving this charming piece of local history.

By the 1940s, baseball had firmly taken root in the schools. James J. Keough coached the town’s high school team in 1941, just a few years after the high school opened in 1938. The 1947 Bellingham High team became legends in their own right, sweeping through the season with a 16-2 record, seizing the Tri-County League title, and topping it off with a celebratory parade and banquet at the Lenox. Led by Coach Greg Greene and star pitcher Tracy Garneau, the team proved that grit and determination could transform a “green” lineup into champions



The Bellingham Little League was officially formed in 1962, led by George A. Hachey, providing organized baseball for boys ages 8 to 12. By 1968, there were six Little League teams, four senior division teams, and ten Farm teams - serving over 400 boys. This growth mirrored the town’s booming population and deepening love for the game.

The high school team - once known as the “Toppers” before being renamed the “Blackhawks” in 1951 - continued to thrive under coaches like Roger Canestrari, capturing Tri-Valley League Championships in the 1960s and 1970s.

From goat-wagons and vaudeville next to the ballfields of Ambler’s Farm, to the polished turf of today’s youth leagues, baseball in Bellingham has been more than just a game. It’s been a springtime tradition—a celebration of athleticism, camaraderie, and community spirit.



*Reprint of an article about “Cow-Flap Stadium” that was originally in the May 8, 1948 edition of the Milford Daily News.*

## Closing Out the School Year in Bellingham

If Memorial Day marks Bellingham's moment of remembrance, then the end of the school year and its last day are the town's jubilant exhale. For generations of students, it has been a day wrapped in anticipation, laughter, and just a touch of bittersweet reflection.

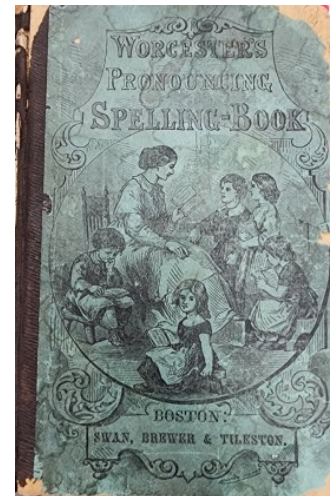
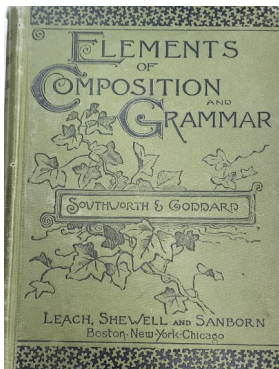
Once the final bell rings, a kind of electricity fills the air. As one local resident remembered from their own school days in the Summer 2017 issue of the *Crimpsville Comments*: "The sense of freedom was ecstatic as my friends and I walked home from school for the very last time before summer vacation."

The Fall 1985 issue of the *Crimpsville Comments* noted that it was a time when chants like: "No more pencils, no more books / No more teachers' dirty looks!" echoed joyfully through the air. No more tests. No more ink stains. Just endless bike rides, baseball games, and dreams of summer adventures waiting just around the corner.

Town Annual Reports note that this spirit of celebration hasn't changed much over the decades. In years past, schools hosted spring concerts, where chorus students sang cheerful tunes. And, according to the Spring/Summer 1996 *Crimpsville Comments*, earlier generations fondly recalled playing marbles, hopscotch, jackstones, and jump rope at recess, games that signaled both the energy of youth and the changing of the seasons.

Some years, the school year ended with a flourish at the Educational Fair, a showcase of student work and talent, where community pride ran high. Other times, the excitement was more understated - just a long walk home in the sunshine, pockets jingling with jacks, hearts filled with promise.

Today, while the games may have evolved and the end-of-year celebrations may look different, that giddy moment of release still lives on. Whether it's tossing a backpack in the air or heading to PJ's after the final bell, the feeling remains the same: Summer has begun.



Grades 1-3 from the Massey (Center) School, circa 1907, flanked by two school books of the era, *The Elements of Composition and Grammar* was owned by Clara Thayer. The barn in the window was remodeled into the Belcher home. The town "lockup" (jail) is visible in the photo. All of these items are on display at the museum.



An immense thank you to Zakary Jacobs, our spring intern from Dean College in Franklin, who did the research and writing of the "Spring Traditions in Bellingham". Detailed citations for this article are available on request from the Historical Commission.



## GUARDIANS OF BELLINGHAM'S HERITAGE: STORIES OF LOCAL PRESERVATIONISTS

As members of the current Historical Commission, we wish to recognize the work put into preserving Bellingham's history by our predecessors both from the Bellingham Historical Commission and the former Bellingham Historical Society.

The Bellingham Historical Society was formed on November 18, 1970. According to the November 20, 1970 Woonsocket Call newspaper, the first officers were elected at a meeting the previous evening. Those officers were: R. Bernard Biron, President; Kathryn E. Whiting, Treasurer; Ernest A. Taft, Jr., Secretary. Serving as directors were: Walter H. Wentzel, Edward F. Sawyer, Florence McCracken, George F. Whiting, and John L. Lundvall. Thelma C. Ambler was also named librarian for the group. That newspaper article also noted that at that meeting it was agreed to apply for a charter.

The Massachusetts Historical Commission was founded by the Legislature in 1963. In 1973, the Massachusetts Legislature approved municipalities having their own Historical Commissions. We cannot confirm exactly why the change was made from a nonprofit Historical Society to a municipal Historical Commission; however, the Bellingham Historical Commission was authorized as an official Town Board in 1972 and authorized by Town Meeting vote in 1974.

The first Commission was chaired by Edward Sawyer and included Florence McCracken, who was an important contributing member for decades. She was the longest-sitting Board member in Bellingham. The Historical Commission is authorized by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40, Section 8D.

Since its establishment, the goal of the Historical Commission has been the protection of the historic structures within the town, the preservation of archeological items and sites and the recording of the Town's history. The latter has been aided by the compilation and publishing of the periodic publication called "*Crimpsville Comments*," which began being published by the Commission in 1972.

The Charter Historical Commission members included: Edward Sawyer, George Whiting, John Lundvall, Jean Brennan, Florence McCracken, Lorraine Sulahian, Ernie Taft and Chester Hood. Over the next few issues, we will be publishing tributes to those who came before us. If there is someone that you think should be recognized as a local preservationist, please let us know!

### Edward Felix Sawyer - November 4, 1917 – February 2, 1974



Edward Sawyer was the owner of Sawyer's Rockledge Farm, a.k.a The Crimpsville General Store, at the corner of High Street and North Main Street and lived at that location. In the early 1970s, he was concerned about the impact of the reconstruction of North Main Street (Route 126) from Hartford Avenue to the center of Bellingham. To fight the changes which he felt were going to heavily impact his business, he put out the first "*Crimpsville Comments*" protesting the changes. He is quoted as saying, "Now we just give up what we treasure most for the sake of accommodating others." He continued to publish The *Crimpsville Comments* as a private paper until the establishment of the Historical Commission.

By 1973, Mr. Sawyer subsequently converted what was a pamphlet into the historical paper that it now is, a periodical newsletter published by the Bellingham Historical Commission. As the first chairman of the Bellingham Historical Commission, he used the paper as an outlet for the dissemination of historical information to the town and any other interested parties. It has been published every year since.

Without Mr. Sawyer, the *Crimpsville Comments*, as well as other town historical records, might not be preserved.

## GUARDIANS OF BELLINGHAM'S HERITAGE: STORIES OF LOCAL PRESERVATIONISTS

**Florence M. (Mooney) McCracken – January 26, 1925 – February 6, 2011**



Florence McCracken was born in Medway, but a lifelong resident of Bellingham. A 1943 graduate of Bellingham High School, she was a charter member of the Bellingham Historical Society and a member of the Bellingham Historical Commission since its founding. Mrs. McCracken's biography tells the story of her commitment to preserving history. In addition to her work on the Historical Society & Commission, she was a member of the Milford Grange, former President of the Oak Hill Cemetery Association and co-chair of the St. Brendan's Church 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, writing the church history. She initiated and helped design the Bellingham town afghan and was one of the writers for the *Crimpsville Comments*. In 1988 she was chosen as Bellingham's Super Senior! Her decades of service to the Bellingham Historical Commission, and Bellingham history in general is to be commended!

**Ernest A. Taft, Jr. - February 1, 1947-December 27, 2010**



Ernest A. Taft, Jr., the namesake for the Bellingham Historical Museum, was born in Bellingham. He was a 1966 graduate of Bellingham Memorial High School and a 1974 Graduate with honors of Holliston College, receiving the Special Faculty Award. He suffered from rheumatoid arthritis for most of his life, undergoing experimental surgery in 1969 at the age of 22, at Robert Breck Brigham Hospital (now Brigham & Women's Hospital) which allowed him to walk.

Ernie retired from his civilian police/fire dispatcher position with Town of Bellingham in 1979 due to his disability, but he was always involved in town activities in general and town history in particular. He served on numerous committees, starting in 1968 by serving on the Historic Book Panel Committee, writing part of the 1969 book "The Town of

Bellingham Massachusetts 1719-1969" and in 1972 was appointed as an organizing member of the Bellingham Historical Commission.

He was the Chair of the Historical Commission from 1987 until his death. He was co-writer of the *"Crimpsville Comments"* and curator of the Bellingham Historical Museum from 1990 until his death. He published the History of Bellingham booklet in 1995, a Historic Guide to Bellingham in 1998, and a booklet on the history of the 200 Years of the Town Hall. He became a published author in 2002 writing the Bellingham book in the Images of America Series.

In addition, he served as:

- A member of the 275th Bellingham Anniversary Committee, overseeing the 2019, 2044, and 2094 Time Capsule Project.
- The Anniversary Ball Committee, the Town Hall Clock Project, and three Town Common Committees before the present Town Common was built.
- Other activities included being a member of the Recreation Trail Committee, the South School Crooks Corner Park Committee, the Bellingham Veterans War Memorial Committee, the Town Hall Restoration Group, the Bellingham Jaycees and the former Bellingham Historical Society. Ernie was also a member of the Silver Lake Association.
- He was appointed by the Bellingham Select Board as the official Bellingham Town Historian.
- Until his passing, he was an elected member of the Bellingham Housing Authority and treasurer of the Bellingham Democratic Town Committee. He was a member of the Oak Hill Cemetery Association and the Bike Trail Committee.

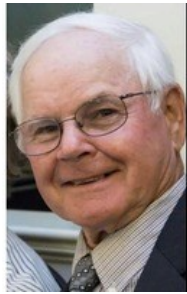
For nearly 50 years Ernie Taft was instrumental and vital in the preservation and documentation of the history of Bellingham, the title of Bellingham Town Historian was well deserved.

## IN MEMORIUM

Below is a list of Bellingham residents who passed away in 2024. Our deepest sympathy to their loved ones. The names in bold are community members who were employed or elected or appointed officials of the town, with their affiliations.

### 2024

Adams, Rose Marie  
Arnold Jr., Lester Raymond  
Baker, Marilyn C.  
Barnes Jr., Walter Joseph  
Bartlett, Dorothy (Hazen)



**Bartlett, Eugene F.**  
**Auxiliary Police**

Beattie Jr., John J.  
Beaulieu, Linda A.  
Bell, Jon Timothy  
Bernard, Jerry C.  
Berube, Leo J.  
Biron, Robert E.  
Brady, Walter Joseph



**Brown, David H.**  
**Constable**

Burnham, Frank J.  
Byron, Wayne

Callahan, Judith  
Dorothy  
Camara, Manuel A  
Campbell, Margaret  
Ann  
Carter, Gertrude K.  
Cassidy, Janice  
Champagne, Paul L.  
Checchia, Gerard J.  
Chicco, Joseph  
Clark, Claire M.  
Cogliano, Christine  
Coniaris, Eleni



**Cornell Smith,**  
**Beth**  
**Human Resources**  
**Director**

Crettien, Rose  
Dalpe, Florent  
Dalpe, Germaine  
D'Amelio, John  
Danello, Gloria M.  
Davis, Joseph S.

Decoff Jr., Henry F.  
Demarais, Rosemarie A.  
Demaria, Ronald J.  
Desmond Jr., Daniel Joseph  
D'Intinosanto, Richard  
Dion Jr, Richard E  
Dubois, Rolande A.  
Eisenstadt, John Paul  
Eugene, Ardens  
Fegan, Florence D.  
Fialkosky, Paul Andrew  
Ford, George Vernon  
Foster, Carolyn  
Frend, Diane Carol  
Fucci, Mary  
Gerlach, Kurt H  
Giardino Jr., John Anthony  
Gingras, Robert H.  
Giordano, Edith G.  
Godbout, Jeannine M.  
Gorman, William T.  
Goryl, James  
Greco, Barbara  
Haley, Franklin N.  
Harrigan, JamesK  
Jason, Michael John  
Johnson, Donna E  
Justice, Marie

Karlson III, Winslow  
Kasper, Timothy  
Keirstead, David F.  
Keniston, Richard  
Kent, Virginia K.  
Kilduff, Rosemarie (Olsen)  
Knaus, Paul Edward  
Kolta, Sanaa  
Landry, Lucienne  
Langley, Bruce A.  
Langley, Marian  
Laquerre, Marcella M.  
Letendre, Donald R.  
Lewis, Karin G.  
Lindsey, Billy D.  
Loflin, Brian M.



**Lord, Linda**  
**School Department &**  
**Library Trustee**

Lovell, Elaine L.  
Luzi, Kara M



# IN MEMORIUM

Below is a list of Bellingham residents who passed away in 2024. Our deepest sympathy to their loved ones. The names in bold are community members who were employed or elected or appointed officials of the town, with their affiliations.

## 2024

Macaulay, Peter A.  
Macneil, James  
Manthe, Ronald W.  
Marcado Perez, Orlando  
Martineau, Normand Gerard  
Maurer, Rosemarie  
Maxwell, Jeanne  
McGaffigan, Roberta  
McNeil, Loretta F.  
McTernan, Mary Anne  
Mekhaeil, Erian G  
Melicharik, Paul A.  
Miller, Robin Sharon  
Moggrass, Jon Norman  
Morrison, Colleen A.  
Moulton, Robert B.



**Louise M (Doyle)  
Mulry  
Library Staff**

Murphy, Margaret  
Nargi, Pasquale A.  
Normandin, Ronald Henry  
O'Brien Timothy  
Odabashian, Albert J  
Ollenborger, Anne M.  
Olson, Marcia L.  
Ouellette, Wilfred  
Palermo, Melissa  
Parker, Diane M

Perry, Mary Louise  
Pessia, Paul  
Phillips, Timothy Raymond  
Picard, Simone Bertha  
Picchiono, Linda H  
Pinet, Mary  
Pontremoli, Robyn  
Pratt, Clara  
Purdy, Renee  
Pye, Tracie  
Rapas, Michael T  
Ray, Lorraine Nathalie (Widdoss)  
Richard, Edna Jean  
Russell, Phyllis H  
Ryan, Michael C  
Sakina, Bibi  
Seely, John Blair  
Slason, Ernestine T.

Spear, Mary Eileen  
St. Laurent, Paul Eugene  
Stallworth IV, Robert Gary  
Stone JR, Peter W.  
Sutherland, Alice Marie  
Sutherland, Michael  
Taylor, Nancy L.  
Thomas, Jane M  
Tobin, Sandra  
Tonnessen, Glen Thomas  
Toolin, Margaret A  
Trimm, Beverly A.  
Tuttle JR, David L.  
West, Richard  
Willey, James M.  
Willitts, Maryetta I

## Meet the Members of the Bellingham Historical Commission



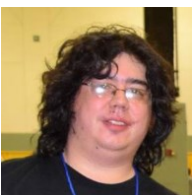
Jeff Prescott  
Chair



Jennifer Russo  
Vice Chair



Bernadette Rivard  
Secretary



Franco Tocchi  
Member



Lauren Hummel  
Member



Rick Marcoux  
Member



Steve Joanis  
Member

## CRIMPVILLE COMMENTS

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Email: [history@bellinghamma.org](mailto:history@bellinghamma.org)

[www.bellinghamma.org/460](http://www.bellinghamma.org/460)



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*Home of the  
Ernest A. Taft Jr. Historical Museum*

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the printing and mailing costs.

The Commission also has a gift fund  
that can accept donations from the  
community. As we move forward,  
we would appreciate your support!

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\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to make a donation to the Bellingham Historical  
Commission. Make the check payable to the *Bellingham Historical Commission Gift  
Fund*.

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**Bellingham Historical Commission**

**3 Common Street**

**Bellingham MA 02019**

If you wish to donate items or artifacts to the  
museum please complete and return an Artifact/  
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