

Wellfleet Non-resident Taxpayers' Association

Promoting community involvement and communication

Update from the Wellfleet Non-resident Taxpayer Assoc.

[Reminder: please pay your 2019 dues on-line or by mail](#)

Just after we went to press with our winter eLetter, came news we wanted to share with you.

Federal money for dredging the harbor

Senator Ed Markey announced last Thursday that the President's 2020 budget for the Army Corps of Engineers will include \$5M for the dredging Wellfleet Harbor desperately needs. The Corps is expected to develop the work plan after the fiscal year 2020 appropriations process is complete, no earlier than October of 2019. The work should begin the spring of 2021. A member of the Environment and Public Works Committee that has oversight of the Army Corps, Senator Markey recognized that "Wellfleet Harbor is the economic engine for the Town of Wellfleet and a regional hub for tourism and commerce." State Rep. Sarah Peake expects that the town will be able to secure another \$5M from the \$2.4B Environmental Bond Bill the state legislature passed last summer, leaving the town to raise \$10M or half of the total cost of the project. We may have more details at our summer program on "Wellfleet Waters."



From Preservation Hall

The capital campaign at Pres Hall is nearing a successful end. In less than a year, the Hall has raised most of the funds needed to expand its full-to-the-gills building. The exterior is nearly complete and inside, the contractor is finishing work on the community room, two additional offices, storage space (with a much-needed ice maker and washer and dryer). A new art hanging system and acoustical panels to soundproof the hall will also be installed. The push to raise the last \$75K is

underway while a celebration is scheduled for the spring.

From the Historical Society & Museum

The other big change in the center of town is the restoration of the façade and grounds of the Historical Society building on Main Street. With the completion of the first phase of the project in late June, the focus will shift to adding an

elevator, accessible restroom, and expanded exhibit galleries in the interior. Even then, the wooden shelves and glass display cases as well as the First Bank of Wellfleet's teller window will remain in the original museum.

"Lots of museums make the mistake of being 'too sterile' and thereby lose the smell and the feel of an old space," says John Connors, the head of the society's building committee.

