



Newton Lower Falls
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

LOWDOWN

SUMMER 2019

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Kathleen Snyder

Dear Neighbors:

Happy Summer! I hope this edition of the LowDown finds you enjoying a cool breeze, a dip in a pool or an air conditioned room. Although things often slow-down in the summer, there is a lot going here in Lower Falls.

The Riverside Committee is working hard this summer. They are covering meetings at City Hall, and tirelessly advocating for a development that fits in with the nature and character of Lower Falls and Auburndale. Please sign up for the Riverside Committee emails so you don't miss important updates.

The LFIA is sponsoring two movie nights in the park, the first is next **Saturday, July 27 (rain date August 3rd)** and the second is **September 7th**. There will be a pre movie picnic at 7 with the movie starting at dusk. [You can order pizza through our website](#) or bring your own picnic. Please [RSVP here](#) to attend.

While you are at the website, check out our [Lower Falls T-shirts](#). Great for wearing to the beach or to meetings at City Hall. (See "Tips for Using the NLF Website" below for how to order.)

Finally, I would like to thank Cara Colgate and the Falls Ball Committee for putting on a fantastic neighborhood party. We had wonderful support from many local vendors, listed on the final page of this edition of the LowDown. Please show them your support and patronize their businesses.

If you have an idea for an event, a question about the neighborhood, or would like to get more involved, please contact me at snyderkathleen@gmail.com or 617-230-4576.

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NEW NEIGHBORS

By Cate Stabile

A few new neighbors have arrived in Lower Falls.

Pushpa Narayanaswami moved from Brookline to 49 Moulton Street end of April. She is a neurologist at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and has an adult daughter in New York City and son who attends UMASS Amherst. She already loves the sense of community in her new neighborhood and is excited to be here!

Dan Tortorice and Kartini Shastry and their children Jai and Sammy are delighted to welcome a new family member. Rhody, a 12 week old Labradoodle, has joined life in Lower Falls.

Please welcome our new neighbors!

New to the neighborhood? Want to be included in the next Lowdown? Please contact me at stabilec@gmail.com.

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RIVERSIDE DEVELOPMENT HEATS UP

By the LFIA Riverside Committee

Here is a quick look at the latest on the Mark Development proposal for Riverside.

Thanks again for coming to the zoning and land use committee meetings in June. Neighborhood support is vital in order for us to make an impact on the outcome of the Mark Development proposals. We don't expect many

(if any) public hearings in July and August, but we will keep you posted.

We're not taking the summer off! We continue to meet with city and state elected officials, to work on reducing the height and density of the project (and the resulting traffic).

We are also preparing for the possibility of bringing a referendum petition to challenge the City Council's zoning for Riverside. This would happen only IF the Council votes, despite our efforts, to allow outsized/oversized/unacceptable levels of height and density for Riverside. We will hold a "how-to" training on the petition on July 16 and will offer another training in the fall. If the referendum happens, we will need at least 50 volunteers.

Questions? Visit:

<https://newtonlowerfalls.org/Riverside>

Want to know what YOU can do?

- Let the City Council know how you feel: citycouncil@newtonma.gov
- Submit letters to the Tab (350-word limit, 5pm Friday deadline): newton@wickedlocal.com
- Display a Rightsize Riverside lawn sign and ask your friends across the city to join in. Get one here: <https://newtonlowerfalls.org/event-3420610>



TIPS ON USING THE NLF WEBSITE

By Michael Lorant

Our website at www.newtonlowerfalls.org is a great place to find out about the fun events happening in our neighborhood, keep updated on the current Riverside development news or join the listserv or the Lower Falls Improvement Association. You don't have to sign in to browse the website, but you will have to create a free account if you would like to register for an event, donate, get a RightsizeRiverside sign, or purchase a NLF t-shirt.

Here's how to buy an NLF t-shirt at our website:

1. Go to www.newtonlowerfalls.org and sign in on the top right.
2. If you can't remember your password or are signing in for the first time, click on "Forgot Password."
3. Now scroll down to where you see "For Sale" on the right.

4. Click on "child" or "adult" category to start shopping.
5. Click "continue shopping" if you would like to buy in more than one size category.
6. Click "view cart" to check out.
7. Click "proceed to checkout" to choose to pay online or by check. If you are a current member, you will receive the member price.

If you would like to pay your dues or join the LFIA online, click on the links right under the words "Welcome to our new website" on the left.

The screenshot shows the website's header with the logo and navigation links. A search bar is present with the text "Enter search string". Below the header is a large image of a park. The main content area is divided into sections: "Welcome to our new Website" with links for "Join and Pay your dues", "Learn about your community", "Volunteer", and "Donate"; "Upcoming Events" with details for "RightSize Riverside lawn sign" and "Lower Falls Pizza and Movie Night"; and "For Sale" with two t-shirt options. Red annotations highlight the "Sign in here" link, the "Join and Pay your dues" link, and the "For Sale" section.

Keep on scrolling down the homepage to find links to RightSize Riverside (you can get updates, join their mailing list, or buy a lawn sign).

Further down you can get information on recommended neighborhood vendors or learn about plans for a new Senior Center.

If you ever have any problems with the website, email us at Contact Us@newtonlowerfalls.org for assistance.



BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

By Becky Shelton

It takes a village to keep our village trees, playground, and baseball diamonds thriving! Many individuals and families came out in the spring on two separate occasions to clean up both baseball diamonds and spread 10 yards of mulch to protect the roots of the trees in the park. Thank you! It is so much more fun to share this effort!

Echo Falls and RecPlace deserve kudos for showing children how to cooperatively move and spread 10 yards of fibar (safe and clean wood chips) to keep the playground safe!

We also had a Ted Talk (thank you, Ted Chapman) to teach how to prune fruit trees and tend the garden in early spring. Ted also planted a lovely flowering tree for Martha and Lena and has designed plaques for neighbors who have been passionate and committed about Lower Falls.

A huge thank you to all that are maintaining the flower beds at the corner of Grove and Hagar!! Next: the mums fundraiser will return this fall.

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PORCHFEST WAS A SUCCESS!

By James Wexler

The second annual Newton PorchFest was an amazing time. Thanks to all the porch owners, musicians, volunteers, and music fans for making the day so much fun. We had 29 porches of great music across Lower Falls, and a total of over 80 porches and 100 bands across Lower Falls, Auburndale, and Waban.

Mark your calendars for next year's PorchFest on **Saturday June 6th 2020**. We'll see you there!

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STAND MIXER PIZZA DOUGH

Credit: www.cuisinart.com

Ingredients: 1 1/2 cups warm (105-110°F) water, 2 teaspoons active dry yeast, 1 teaspoon honey, 4 to 4 1/2 cups bread flour, 2 teaspoons kosher or sea salt, 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil + more for the bowl

1. Place water, yeast and honey in the mixing bowl for stand mixer and stir to blend. Let stand for 5 minutes, to proof until the mixture is foamy and bubbly.

2. In a medium bowl, combine 4 cups of the flour with the salt. Reserve the additional 1/2 cup of flour. Insert the dough hook. Add the olive oil and the 3 1/2 cup flour/salt mixture to the yeast mixture. Mix on speed 2 and mix for 2 minutes. Continuing on speed 2, add the remaining flour 1 tablespoon at a time until a dough ball forms that clings to the dough hook and cleans the sides of the bowl. Set the timer for 4 minutes and the speed to 3 to allow the dough to knead.

3. Transfer the dough to a large bowl that has been lightly coated with olive oil. Turn to coat and cover tightly with plastic wrap. Let rise in a warm, draft free place until doubled in volume, about 1 hour. Punch dough to deflate and let rest for 10 minutes. If time permits, allow dough to rise a second time for a more developed flavor and texture.

4. Use for your favorite pizza, focaccia or calzones. Dough can be made a day ahead. Place in a resealable bag and refrigerate. When ready to prepare, punch down dough and allow it to come to room temperature before continuing.

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The Lowdown is the newsletter of the Lower Falls Improvement Association, Newton Lower Falls, MA 02462 • LFIA website: <https://newtonlowerfalls.org>

Editor: Summer Zeh • Email comments to summerzeh@gmail.com

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