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# The FEDERALIST

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The Federal Street Neighborhood Association is a registered, non-profit group which serves the residents of the Federal Street Neighborhood

Vol. 10

February 2003



## Art on display at Athenaeum

A presentation of drawings and paintings by FSNA neighbor, Judith G. Imm, will be on display through February and March at the Salem Athenaeum, 337 Essex St., Salem. Judith and her husband, Martin Imm, live at 174 Federal St.

There will be an artist's reception on February 9, from 4 to 6 p.m. to which all are cordially invited.

At left is "Pointing the Way," a 30 x 42" charcoal, by Mrs. Imm.

## Neighborhood roundup

### Canal corridor business may have new owner

At our last monthly meeting, we invited Lou Russo of Peabody to attend and to discuss his proposal to purchase Caranno's Auto Lot on Bridge Street. Mr. Russo explained that his intention is to keep the

dealership and to add a mechanic shop which would help him turn a profit. After hearing Mr. Russo's proposal, it was unanimously decided by FSNA that FSNA would object to the issuance of a variance for different use of the property. Several people reported on the North River Canal Corridor Master Planning meetings. Barbara Cleary recommended that FSNA review the vision statement that the committee is coming up with once it has been redrafted. Committee members from Federal Street include John Carr, Rita Markunas and Mary Lee Storrs.

### Crimewatch effort advances

We are now on-line and operating at full force. Thanks to our Web master David Hart, we have been successful in getting our newsletter available to readers "on-line" at: [www.salemcitizens.org](http://www.salemcitizens.org). Once the Web page comes up, click on "Resources and Links" to get to the Federal Street Neighborhood Page. On the bottom of this page, we have attached a Crimewatch survey that we would like everyone to review.

Rita Markunas and Pam McKee have been working with the Salem Police Department since last year and our input is needed to help them build a solid Crimewatch framework and model for our neighborhood. The survey is almost complete for review, so if you would like to take a look at it, please do. At our February meeting, we should have a final copy available for distribution to the neighborhood.

### FSNA Annual Meeting coming up soon

Our Annual Meeting (look for date in March *Federalist*) is a great opportunity to meet new neighbors and celebrate the accomplishments of the previous year. The Annual Meeting also provides the chance to review current issues and bring new ones to the table. We are currently looking for additional volunteers to join the Board of the Federal Street Neighborhood Association. If you are interested, please attend our February 18 meeting, or call Ann Whittier at 744-6076.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### FSNA to meet

The next meeting of the Federal Street Neighborhood Association will be on Tuesday, Feb. 18, at 7:30 p.m. at Grace Church on Essex Street.

### MBTA investment study aired

Wednesday, March 12, a public meeting on the North Shore Major Investment Study of the MBTA will be held at the Peabody Institute Library of Danvers, 12 Sylvan St.

### North River Corridor meetings planned

The following dates remain for future meetings of the North River Canal Corridor Master Plan Working Group:  
March 5 — First meeting with Land Use and Traffic consultant;  
April 2 — Identification of plan alternatives;  
May 7 — transportation plan review;  
June 4 — Draft plan review, and (tentatively)  
July 2 — Final plan review.

The public are invited to attend these meetings and voice their ideas. For more information and history of the issue, log on to [www.salemcitizens.org](http://www.salemcitizens.org).

## Roundup, continued from page 1 New DPW manager to discuss improvements

Stanley Bornstein, our City's longtime DPW manager has retired. Regina Flynn and Tom Philbin are in the process of scheduling a meeting with Salem's new DPW Manager, Brian Thibodeau, and will have our Neighborhood Improvements Committee with him as well. On schedule for this year are the two brick and cobblestone crosswalks - one at the top of Federal Street in front of Murphy's Funeral Home and a second just before Federal Court. We will also be working with the City to create a timetable for repairing and replacing the numerous brick sidewalks in our neighborhood. We have submitted a map that clearly outlines those sidewalks in the most dire need of repair/upgrading.

## MBTA's North Shore future to be laid out

On Thursday, February 6, the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on the MBTA's North Shore Transit Improvements Project was discussed. This meeting focused on the Draft EIS as it affects Salem and communities south of Salem. The five alternatives included in the DEIS scope are:

- No action
- Transportation Systems Management alternatives
- Blue Line extension to Lynn/Salem via the Commuter Rail Eastern Route Main Line.
- Blue Line extension to Lynn/Salem via the Narrow Gauge Right of Way, and
- A connection between the Commuter Rail and Blue Line near Wonderland Station in Revere.

On **Wednesday, March 12**, a public

meeting on the North Shore Major Investment Study will be held at the Peabody Institute Library of Danvers, 12 Sylvan St., Danvers. MBTA project team members will be available at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the project at an Open House and the Public Meeting will begin at 7 p.m. This meeting will focus on the MIS as it affects Danvers, Peabody, and communities north of Salem.

This meeting will be important to Salem residents because it will be the first opportunity to discuss two recent additions to the MIS: "provide a second track within a new tunnel alignment at Salem" and "implement a 4 1/2-mile commuter rail service between Salem and Danvers passing through Peabody Square (the Danvers branch); service to Boston would join the current commuter rail at Salem. The Danvers service would run to a large new parking facility in Danvers.

## Edwards-Beckford House, 8 Carpenter Street

Joseph Edwards, a Salem housewright, built this house on land he purchased from Jacob Lord for \$450 in 1808. Edwards worked on the construction of the Custom House on Derby Street and served as overseer for the building of the Sheriff's House adjoining the Salem Jail. He occupied the house for less than a year before selling it to Joshua Beckford, a cordwainer, who paid \$1,300 for the land, house and rights to half the well water. When Beckford died in 1833, the estate went to his minor son, Daniel. Daniel's guardian, Sarah P.

Beckford, sold the property at public auction to Jonathan S. Bryant, also a cordwainer. When Bryant died in 1859, he left the house to his brother, Hiram, a shoe manufacturer, who added a two-story addition to the eastern end of the house. Hiram Bryant was the maker of Bryant's Elixir, an elixir to "thrill the blood and banish all the ills that mortal flesh is heir to." He ran his business from the Carpenter Street house until it became too successful that he opened an office in Boston. After Bryant's death in 1883, Jennie Emmerton purchased the house. She made several improvements to it and

merged land she owned on the east end to the lot. She sold the property to another widow, Caroline C. Johnson, in 1904. Philip VonSaltza, a Salem marine artist, lived in the house with his family from 1946 until the late 1970s. The front of this two-and-a-half story Federal-style house faces south with its narrow end to the street. A turn-of-the-century enclosed entrance porch is centered on its southern elevation. It features fluted pilasters and a dentil course. Another late-19th-century alteration is the two-story, three-sided bay window adjacent to the doorway.

**HOUSE OF THE MONTH**

### Become a member of Federal Street Neighborhood Association

Throughout 2002, FSNA has provided our monthly newsletter, *The Federalist*, to over 240 residences in the greater Federal Street area. As you've read, there are a few neighbors at the core of the operations who try to keep you informed and in touch with what is going on in our neighborhood. We know that many

people have families and are busy trying to make ends meet, so if you cannot help by volunteering your time, please join us by filling out the membership form below. Keep in mind that the annual dues help to cover the administrative costs (including the newsletter) that keep our group going. Eventually, we'd like

to provide the newsletter via e-mail as well, so, if you like that concept and have the capabilities, provide your e-mail address below. The Federal Street Neighborhood Association is also connected to a Web site where you can find up-to-date meeting schedules and citywide issues being addressed. Simply go to [www.salemcitizens.org](http://www.salemcitizens.org).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Cost of a membership:

\$7 for an individual

\$10 per family

Please make your check payable to the Federal Street Neighborhood Association, and mail it to David Hart, FSNA Treasurer, 104 Federal Street, Salem, Mass. 01970.