



# 2026

## A YEAR OF CELEBRATION

# Norwell

Where history lives.

Honoring the battles of King Philip's War after 350 years

**1676**



Celebrating 300 years of the Jacobs Farmhouse

**1726**

Saluting 250 years of America

**1776**

**FEBRUARY**

**2026: A CELEBRATORY YEAR  
IN 10 OBJECTS**  
Wed, February 11<sup>th</sup>

Join the Norwell Historical Society for our 2026 kick-off event! Historian Stephen O'Neill will showcase 10 items that speak to this historic year. Stories about the Revolutionary War, the Jacobs Farmhouse, and King Philip's War will be told through artifacts in the Society's collection.

**VALENTINE'S TEA WITH THE JACOBS**  
Sun, February 15<sup>th</sup>

The Jacobs Farmhouse is 300 years old, and so is the marriage of Joshua and Mary Jacobs. Have tea and 18<sup>th</sup> century treats with the Jacobs as they discuss their wedding, their marriage, and their home. Of course, they will offer tours as well!

**NORTH RIVER  
HISTORY + HERITAGE  
POP-UP MUSEUM**  
Sat, March 7<sup>th</sup>

**MARCH**

Five North River Historical Societies, the Mattakeeset Tribe, and the North River Watershed Association all join together to celebrate our beloved North River and its history.

**KING PHILIP'S WAR: INDIGENOUS  
SLAVERY, INDENTURE + FREEDOM**  
Wed, March 25<sup>th</sup>

Historian Marjory Gomez O'Toole will discuss slavery, the little-known secret behind the fighting during King Philip's War. Learn why history rarely mentions this troubling fact.

**JACOBS FARMHOUSE: OPEN  
MUSEUM DAYS**  
First Sundays  
April–November

**APRIL**

Celebrate the 300<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Jacobs Farmhouse all year! Every first Sunday of the month (from April to November) the house will be open for tours from 3:00–5:00.

**ANTIQUES APPRAISAL DAY**  
Sun, April 26<sup>th</sup>

It's a historic year, what treasures do you have to celebrate? Make an appointment to have your antiques discussed and appraised, or stop by to watch the action and hear the amazing stories.

**MAY DAY BASKET  
MAKING**  
Fri, May 1<sup>st</sup>

**MAY**

Come to the Jacobs Farmhouse and make a basket for your neighbors' door. Celebrate history with this quaint tradition.

**COLONIAL MILITARY FESTIVAL  
ON THE  
JACOBS HOMESTEAD  
FIELDS**  
Sun, June 28<sup>th</sup>

**JUNE**

Talk with re-enactors, observe military training and living history demonstrations, and shop with period and local vendors. This open air event will celebrate America, the Jacobs' family military veterans, and the Jacobs Farmhouse.

**THE JACOBS BROTHERS  
DISCUSS THE WAR:  
A PLAY IN THE WEST BARN**  
Sun, Jun 28<sup>th</sup>, Tue, June 30<sup>th</sup> + Thu, July 2<sup>nd</sup>

James Jacobs, who in 1776 lives in the Jacobs Farmhouse with his wife Deborah, has returned from fighting with the Scituate Militia. Join him in his barn as he tends to his cows and discusses the trials of war with his brother Joshua, who just completed his service in Col. Bailey's Regiment, and brother John, who is on leave as a field officer in the Continental Army.

**REVOLUTIONARY CONCERT +  
COMMUNITY EVENT**  
Wed, August 12<sup>th</sup>

History lives on the Town Green in Norwell Center! Stop by to listen to an interactive concert featuring the Middlesex County Volunteers Fife + Drum Corps, and stay for the community event!

**NATIVE HISTORY IN NORWELL  
PRESENTATION  
+ ANNUAL MEETING**  
Wed, September 30<sup>th</sup>

**SEPTEMBER**

Join the Historical Society for its (brief!) Annual Meeting followed by Native historian Darius Coombs, who will speak on the history of the indigenous tribes who lived in what we today call Norwell. His presentation will begin 12,000 years ago and review tribal history up to present day.

**FIRST PARISH COMES ALIVE!  
CEMETERY TOUR:  
REVOLUTION EDITION**  
Sat, October 24<sup>th</sup>

The 7<sup>th</sup> annual re-enactment tour will feature portrayals of historic individuals who are related to the American Revolution. Patriots were not only soldiers—meet the historians, diplomats, and women who also supported the cause.

**BOOK LAUNCH PARTY  
FOR POSTCARDS +  
NORTH RIVER PACKET:  
HISTORIC TALES OF NORWELL**  
Fri, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>

**NOVEMBER**

The Society is publishing two new books for 2026, come meet the authors and pick up your copies while they last! Jon Bond's *Postcards of Norwell* contains historic images of our hometown and the North River, and *The North River Packet: Historic Tales of Norwell* is a compilation of our best newsletter articles, oral histories, and cemetery tour scripts.

**CHRISTMAS AT THE FARMHOUSE  
+ ANNIVERSARY PARTY  
FOR THE JACOBS**  
Sat, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>

Let's finish this historic year with a party for Joshua and Mary Jacobs and the amazing house they built, lived in, and their family later gifted to Norwell.

Celebrate 2026, independence, bravery, and home. And celebrate our hometown—where history lives through the Norwell Historical Society!