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Falmouth Housing Trust To Honor Joseph Martinho

Oct 16, 2015

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The Falmouth Housing Trust will hold its annual meeting and reception on Thursday, October 22, at the Falmouth Yacht Club on Clinton Avenue, at the head of Falmouth Harbor. The evening's festivities will begin at 5:30 PM. The event is free and open to the public, but requires a registration available online, www.FalmouthHousingTrust.org.

The housing trust will start the evening with a cocktail reception and live music will be provided by Four Guys in Tuxes: the Duo. After a brief business meeting, the trust will honor retiring board member Joseph A. Martinho, followed by a brief fundraising auction.

Mr. Martinho has a long history of volunteerism in Falmouth. He came to Falmouth in 1958 with his parents, Leonel and Dulce Martinho, from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Joseph Martinho became a US citizen when he was in 5th grade.

Mr. Martinho attended Falmouth Public Schools and graduated from the Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical High School in 1975, where he was class president. He worked in the electrical field, and his employment led him to work and live in many exciting places, including Nigeria, Barbados, and Antigua. He returned to Falmouth in the late 1970s to take over his family's business, Leonel's Shoe Repair.

In 1981 he married Linda Alfares. He obtained his electrical license a few years later. In 1985 he opened Martinho Electric, Inc.

Mr. Martinho's community service began in earnest in 1986 when he served on the board of appeals, as a member of Town Meeting, as a member of the chamber of commerce board of directors and as a VIPS volunteer. He also joined the Falmouth Housing Trust board of

directors in the 1990s and was instrumental in the evolution and growth of the organization.

“It is so important for members of the community—residents of Falmouth—to give back to their hometown through volunteerism and any support they can give, be it financial or time or their professional expertise. It is what makes our community great and sets Falmouth apart from other places to live,” Mr. Martinho said.

Mr. Martinho is a member and past president of the Portuguese American Association. He still is an active volunteer with the Falmouth Road Race, the Falmouth Fireworks committee, Carousel of Light, Falmouth Preservation Alliance, and the After-Prom Party. He has long coached and volunteered in local youth sports and is the father of four adult children and one granddaughter.