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## 300 Santas Trample Streets

*Mattapoisett Santa Stampede 5K*

**By Sam Bishop**

On a chilly Saturday, December 6 with the icy breeze skirting along the sea, 300 Santas descended on Mattapoisett's Shipyard Park for the Santa Stampede road race.

The 5K began at the park and went past the town beach, up Ned's Point Road to and around the lighthouse, around Tupola Lane and back down Water Street to the finish. A man dressed as the Grinch – or possibly the Grinch himself – was at the head of the pack on a bicycle. Typical. All others came dressed as Saint Nick or received their complimentary outfits from the starting line. There was also a healthy number of elves to help the large number of Santas.

The race began at 9:00 am sharp, with a little over 300 registered racers at the starting line. With some walkers, some runners, and some being pushed in a stroller, the line of Santas stretched uninterrupted from downtown to Ned's Point.

For men's results, 34-year-old Kiefer Calisto of New Bedford finished first (bib #251; 18:36.7), 29-year-old Ethan Souza of Fairhaven finished second (bib #164; 18:50.6), and 37-year-old Eric Place of East Hampton, Connecticut finished third (bib #167; 19:26.6).

For women's results, 22-year-old Maggie Carroll of Fairhaven finished first (bib #190; 19:32.0), 34-year-old Kalie Marion of New Bedford finished second (bib #28; 21:59.1), and 24-year-old Reagan Dasneves of Fairhaven finished third (bib #296; 23:07.9).

Fastest man and woman from the Tri-Town were Andrew Mullen of Marion (bib #225; 20:45.0) and Penny Prather of Mattapoisett (bib #222; 26:29.9).

The Santas had great success on their detour to Mattapoisett, if only to have to return to the North Pole after. Proceeds of the race were donated to various Multiple Sclerosis foundations.

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**On the Cover:** The Mattapoisett Santa Stampede was held on Saturday, as the number of Santas running through town and up to Ned's Point in this holiday-themed 5K race appeared to be in the hundreds. Though it was cold, many showed up sporting their best Santa or elves, with even the Grinch making an appearance on a bike! Photo by Sam Bishop

## EV Charger Study in Marion

*On-Street Charging Solution Program*

**By Sam Bishop**

The town of Marion has been awarded a study by the state in order to ascertain the residents' desire for and town's potential plans for electric vehicle (EV)

## Don't Forget

### Mattapoisett Holiday in the Park

Saturday, **December 13** from 3pm to 5pm  
Shipyard Park, Water Street

## Don't Forget

### Marion Village Stroll

Sunday, **December 14** from 3 to 5:30 pm  
Old Landing and Front Street

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Send to [office@wanderer.com](mailto:office@wanderer.com), for  
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Send Letters to the Editor to  
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charging stations. The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) selected Marion for a feasibility study as it sets forth EV initiatives across the state through their "On-Street Charging Solution Program."

The study will incite no cost to the town, with funding coming from MassCEC and their private partners, the Worcester-based Commonwealth Electrical Technologies and the national Leidos corporation. The town applied for and was recently selected by MassCEC for a feasibility study and online survey, available off a link on the town's website at: form.jotform.com/252333711341143.

The study seeks to gain the following info: ideal charger locations, neighborhood access needs, and local priorities/concerns. In pushing for the state to adopt clean energy generation and meet Massachusetts's climate goals, the survey is designed to help the state understand the want for and feasibility of EV chargers.

Possible locations narrowed down for EV chargers currently sit off Route 6 or closer to downtown: Spring Street in the vicinity of Main Street area, Spring Street in the vicinity of Cottage Street, Wells Road in the vicinity of Spring Street, In the vicinity of 31-41 South Street, or Point Road Park. The group also, in seeking community engagement, is looking for other recommended locations.

The survey will be open until December 31. Following this, the organization and state will review results and formulate a plan going forward.

## Village Streets Project Reaches 25 Percent

Department of Transportation Public Hearing

By Marilou Newell

On December 4 the Massachusetts Department of Transportation held a public hearing to share with the town the 25% design of the Transportation Improvement Project (TIP) scheduled by the town in concert with the state.

To say the project, informally dubbed the "village streets project," has been a long time in the making is a serious understatement. It has been on the town's

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improvement project list for 10 years. During that time, slow but steady movement towards creating a plan has intended to address the DOT's technical requirements while being mindful of residents' concerns. The fate of the mature tree canopy and the need to obtain construction easements has, at times, found the Select Board fielding articulated public outcry over the cutting down of trees, along with the need to improve sidewalks.

Also taken into consideration during this design phase was the need to address ADA noncompliance, which has long been an issue with the condition of sidewalks and street crossings.

The agenda noted, "The proposed project consists of reconstruction of Main Street, Water Street, Beacon Street and Marion Road, the construction will include new concrete sidewalks (of varying widths) on at least one side of the roadway for the entire length."

Other improvements noted were replacement of the existing drainage system and the water distribution system. The town will be responsible for the acquisition

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of rights to private land (easements). Last but not least will be the "full depth" pavement reconstruction.

Regarding tree removal, the public heard that an arborist, hired by the town, has been engaged to examine all trees slated for removal. Thirty-two trees are planned for removal either due to disease or poor growing conditions. Of the 32 in this category, 24 are not viable and potentially may fall, endangering the public.

The DOT team was asked about the possible placement of utilities underground, which would in essence make tree removal far less of a necessity. Town Administrator Mike Lorencio said that the town has met with the utilities and that not only is there no room for



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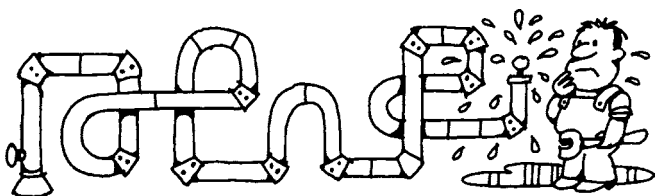
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Source: Eversource. Heat Pump Rate. Retrieved from <https://www.eversource.com/residential/account-bill/manage-bill/about-your-bill/rates-tariffs/heat-pump-rate> (accessed October 28, 2025).

such a plan, residents would have to bear the associated cost (a betterment fee) estimated above \$7,000,000.

The DOT team was asked about construction phasing. Now that the 25% design has been accepted by the town and the state, it can move to the next stage (75%). In this phase, cost estimates will be firmed up and timelines will become clearer.

From the audience, resident and Bike Path Committee member Bonne DeSousa questioned why the plans did not include traffic-calming features that had been previously discussed. Lorenzo said that the public-safety officer reviewed possible traffic calming options but that ultimately it was determined that such devices were not necessary and might even create more problems rather than solve them. He said that more intense policing of known speeding hot spots would likely slow traffic down.

The total cost estimate for the 1.4-mile-long roadway project stands at \$18,500,000. The DOT believes the easements will be secured by 2027.

To learn more, visit [Mattapoisett.net](http://Mattapoisett.net) and click on the Community tab for complete details.

## Green Traditions and Lore of the Season

*The Seaside Gardener*

**By Laura McLean**

As the daylight recedes, I continue to make a bee-line for my coveralls and a little time in the garden after putting in a day of work in education. It feels good just to be outside and also to get more tasks accomplished - all bulbs are in the ground as of this weekend; more perennials need trimming and leaves raking to be that more ahead of things come spring.

I look at the silhouette of trees now bare noting an occasional bird's nest against the dying light...I recall the days of summer, the greenness, the blooms that are now just a frazzled dry stub and I fast forward to next year's growing season draped in green again. I recently found myself taking strands of bamboo from a hedge where my rowing team parks our boat; perhaps for the same reason that people bring plants indoors at this time of year - to

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remind ourselves that the renewal will come. Some of the lore behind Yuletide greenery comes from that same idea.

Take mistletoe. While you're puckering up under it for a little Yuletide kiss, consider this: The Druids believed the "heal-all" sacred and hung it in the doorway to repel evil spirits during the darkest time of the year. He who had the plant hanging over his doorway enjoyed good health and fortune in the coming year.

Exchanging a "kiss of peace" under the mistletoe was a popular practice in Scandinavia, where it was said the goddess of love would kiss all who stood under its boughs. In Victorian times each kiss required plucking a white berry, so presumably when the last berry was picked you were out of luck.

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Despite its romantic association, mistletoe (*Viscum album*) is actually a parasitic plant that grows into tree branches depleting moisture and nutrients. Medicinally it's been used to treat convulsions, heart conditions and cancer.

Children in southern France are known to put their slippers out on Christmas Eve in the hope that Pere Noel will fill them with treats - another version of hanging stockings by the fireplace.

Holly had many associations in legend. For the Romans it symbolized friendship and goodwill and was exchanged during the midwinter feast, Saturnalia. The ancient Chinese brought in the New Year with it. In Old England, holly was said to provide a safe haven for fairies and elves. For Native Americans it stood for eternal life and courage. European legend has it that a sprig of holly hanging on the bedpost brings sweet



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dreams.

Holly is the trademark plant for Christmas, if ever there was one. Its scarlet berries and cutout leaves combine well with any green for wreaths, centerpieces and swags. A holly tree in snow is the quintessence of Christmas. Most holly plants are easy to grow and will live for centuries. But remember that most evergreen varieties require companionship for pollination.

*In Dutch fairy tales, it snows when "Holle, the Queen of Winter, shakes out of her mattress, causing the feathers to fall.*

Bringing evergreens into the home is actually an ancient practice dating back to Mesopotamian times. People brought branches into their homes to give warmth and to dispel evil spirits. Long before the advent of Christianity, plants and trees that remained green all year had a special meaning. Evergreen boughs stood for everlasting life, recalling the green plants that would grow again when the summer returned.

This was done at the time of the winter solstice, which marks the shortest day and the longest night of the year in the northern hemisphere (usually around Dec. 21). The practice became Christianized around the 17th century, when St. Boniface used the triangular shape of the fir tree to explain the Holy Trinity.

*In Italy, children wait for the arrival of la befana, a good witch who is said to ride down the chimneys on her broomstick to deliver gifts.*



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The first decorated Christmas tree was at Riga in Latvia in 1510. By the mid-16th century, Christmas markets were in place in German towns, selling gifts, food and ornamentation. The Georgian kings brought the first trees to England, but the public didn't adopt the practice until the more popular Queen Victoria took the throne. She and husband Prince Albert were pictured with their children around a Christmas tree in the Illustrated London News in 1846 and from then on it enjoyed wide use.

Hessian troops stationed here during the War of Independence as well as immigrants were responsible for bringing Christmas trees to America. By 1850 the Christmas tree had become fashionable in the Eastern states and the first retail lots were opened. The first national tree was lit in 1923 by President Calvin Coolidge on the White House lawn.

*The British custom of breaking open Christmas crackers (a practice we follow in our family) is inseparable from the festivities of Christmas, invented in 1847 by Thomas Smith, a confectioner and stationary goods merchant, the idea originated from almost BonBons, which were wrapped in fancy papers with twisted ends. From this original concept emerged the cracker as we know it today: two ends and a center with a novelty, tissue crown, snapper and motto inside.*

The Yule log is another European tradition, where a large central trunk of a great tree was dragged from the forest to the hearth and then burned for the 12 days of Christmas. There were many superstitions surrounding it, such as a belief that if the log didn't burn right away it would bring bad luck. In the Balkan countries, women decorated the log with red silk and flowers before it was thrown into the fire.

A modern twist is to decorate a log with fragrant spices and herbal spring as well as a paper bow and holly and display it by the hearth until Christmas. Then gather the family around for a fragrant fire.

*"The gloom of the world is but a shadow; behind it, yet within our reach, is joy. Take joy."*

*-Fra Giovanni Giocondo.*

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### Cannabis - what is it Good For?

*What Does The Doctor Say?*

**By Dr. Edward Hoffer**

While cannabis (marijuana) is still classified as a Schedule I drug at the federal level, meaning it has no legitimate medical use and a high potential for abuse, the same is not true at the state level. Forty states plus the District of Columbia allow licensed health professionals to prescribe cannabis products for medical use.

(24 states allow recreational use of cannabis – no prescription required.)

One consequence of the federal classification is that the NIH is not allowed to fund studies of medical marijuana use, and this has greatly limited good research

on such use. Despite this, 27% of U.S. adults have tried marijuana at least once for medical purposes.

There are FDA-approved cannabis-like products (dronabinol, nabilone) which are approved for nausea and vomiting due to chemotherapy and for severe anorexia due to HIV/AIDS. Another, cannabidiol, is approved for rare pediatric seizure disorders. That, according to the FDA, is that.

Advocates, however, claim that cannabis can do wonders for just about every ailment. Are any of these claims valid?

Chronic pain is a common reason for cannabis use, and a recent study found that chronic pain patients using narcotics were able to reduce their narcotic use after



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using cannabis. Certainly marijuana is less dangerous than narcotics.

Most of the other reasons cannabis is used have limited or no good data supporting this use. Anxiety may improve but may get worse. Cannabis is used for insomnia, but the sleep it induces is often poor quality. Some PTSD sufferers report help.

Inhaled marijuana lowers eye pressure, but this effect wears off within a few hours, making it of minimal benefit for glaucoma.

Migraines, inflammatory bowel disease and fibromyalgia are often treated with cannabis, but again, there is little solid evidence of lasting benefit.

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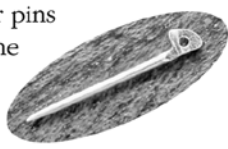
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Cannabis is not harmless. Acute side effects include heart racing, drop in blood pressure, dizziness, impaired coordination and slowed reaction time. Driving after cannabis use is as bad as driving under the influence of alcohol.

With chronic use, particularly daily use, there is evidence that cannabis increases the risk of heart attacks and strokes. Use by adolescents and young adults is associated with cognitive defects and lower IQ scores in adulthood. Regular users can have a severe vomiting illness requiring emergency department visits. Susceptible individuals can develop psychosis and/or increased anxiety.

If you are considering using cannabis for a medical condition, discuss it with your doctor. If what you have been using is not working, there may be better options. Marijuana should be a last choice, not your first.

Edward Hoffer MD is Associate Professor of Medicine, part-time, at Harvard.

## The Battle of Great Bridge

This Week in Revolutionary War History

By Sam Bishop

This week in Revolutionary War history, let's check up on what was going on 250 years ago in and around the colonial Province of Massachusetts Bay. Last week, General Washington received various anxieties originating from Boston by Lieutenant Colonel Loammi Baldwin. Baldwin stated there were large deliveries of ammunitions from Britain arriving in the harbor. He also expressed great concern over refugees fleeing the city, highlighting poor conditions and lack of food for the city's populous, with some dying on the beach as they leave. Colonel Henry Knox is still on the way to Ticonderoga, but informed Washington of his convincing New York to send 12 additional cannons east. Finally, issues of pay and a lack of discipline had resulted in various mutinies for both the army and navy.

On December 4, 1775, Colonel Henry Knox writes from Fort George, at Lake George. He reports of the dire conditions the area is in. "The garrison at Ticonderoga is so weak," he says, while also referring to the terrible

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road conditions making it difficult to even approach. The "precarious" crossing of the lake is compounding by the muddy and "gullied" roads leading up to the fort. He says it will take him possibly ten days to make the short but grueling trek. He has received an inventory of the fort's armaments, which he forwards to Washington: twelve 18-pounders, eleven 4-pounder brass field pieces, and twenty-five boxes of lead ammunition.

On December 6, Washington sends an angered letter to James Otis Sr. of Barnstable. Otis is a prominent lawyer and lawmaker for Massachusetts, and Washington has recently received word that Massachusetts militia men are being paid more than those of other state's regiments. That is all well and good, however, Washington fears



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jealousy and resentment. He says, “jealously, & discord – But sir, if the Gen[eral] Court of this Colony have resolved on the latter, you must give me leave to add, that it aims the most fatal stab to the peace of this army that ever was given; & that Lord North himself, could not have devised a more effectual blow to the recruiting service.” A precautionary measure, as the other states would struggle to up their pay to match and recruitment numbers are dwindling.

On December 7, the Continental Congress commissioned 28-year-old John Paul Jones of Scotland as a First Lieutenant of the Continental Navy. Jones will soon become a dreaded privateer, made famous by numerous engagements across the Northern Atlantic.

On December 9, Phillip Schuyler in Albany writes to request from the general 3,000 troops so Schuyler can head north and assist Arnold in Canada. He says he can get the men there by the middle of January. Even if Washington agreed, the middle of January would prove to be too late. That’s a story for the next few weeks though.

That same day, the Battle of Great Bridge is fought in southern Virginia. Over 800 Virginia militia, led by Colonel William Woodford faced a little over 400 British infantry. Lord Dunmore tried to break out of their fortified positions in Norfolk and halt a build-up of local forces. By the end, one patriot was wounded, with anywhere between 62 and 102 British killed. Dunmore’s defeat was catastrophic for the British. He and the remainder of

British forces would board ships and anchor off the coast for the following months. Norfolk, now captured, would soon be razed to the ground by patriots.

## Town House Renovation Sourcing Approved

*Marion Select Board*

**By Jeffrey D. Wagner**

The Marion Select Board met on December 2 at the Benjamin D. Cushing Community Center to wrap up some annual work before 2026.

The board approved all annual business licenses for 2026, and it also set the estimated seasonal population at 5,428. The latter number helps determine the number of alcohol licenses the board can issue, per the state Alcohol Beverage Control Commission’s guidelines.

The board also approved all numbers and funding sources tied to the Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) for the Town House renovation project. Included in that approval were sidewalks, as well as road and way repairs. The project was approved at the Annual Town Meeting last May. Those approved were Article 17, Town House Renovation, and Article 51, Sidewalks Road and Ways Repair.

The board approved a Water/Sewer commitment of \$1,269.59, based on a late-November reading.

This short 15-minute meeting allowed for some updates on news connected to the holiday season.

Town Administrator Geoffrey Gorman noted that the new wooden buoy tree is up and secure next to the Music Hall. Last month, Tabor Academy students Morgan Karvonen, Taylor Karvonen, and Deming Dwyer received approval for a new tradition – a wooden tree with 300 ornament buoys on them. The three high school juniors said they have started a non-profit, which will go to a food pantry in Wareham.

Gorman also said that the Buzzards Bay Coalition has donated a holiday tree to the town – another holiday tradition.

The meeting was a short one, though it had many discussion points, action items, and approval votes. The next meeting of the Marion Select Board is scheduled for Tuesday, December 16.

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## Beach Neighborhood Path Permitted

*Mattapoisett Conservation Commission*

**By Marilou Newell**

Residents in the beach neighborhood located off Dyar Road came before the Mattapoisett Conservation Commission on December 8 with a Notice of Intent filing for the maintenance of a beach pathway.

The filing reads, “The applicant (8 Dyar Road Nominee Trust) propose maintaining the footpath section of Byrne Avenue and Shell Beach Road.” The maintenance activities were defined as light pruning and clearing of vegetation and the clearing of other debris and other obstructions as necessary to maintain



community neighborhood beach and boating access, while maintaining the health and stability of the coastal pathway on Shell Beach Road.

What ensued was a difference of opinion between the applicant and at least one other resident of the area who took umbrage to the filing. The trust's applicants are Lizanne and Malcom Campbell and Margaret and David Wizansky. Campbell spoke for herself and other residents in the area who collectively sought the Notice of Intent conditioning.

After Campbell's comprehensive detailing of the proposed work in jurisdictional areas, Stephen Vaitses of 5 Dyar Road approached the conference table to share his concerns. He said that previously Campbell had performed cleanup of the pathway and placed signs stating that boats and other watercraft could no longer use the beach area or leave items along the pathway.

For roughly an hour, the commission heard varying descriptions of work that had taken place. The commission was aware of a superseding Order of Conditions, but the actual document memorializing that was not available.

Commission Chairman Mike King at several points during the narratives offered by Vaitses and Campbell noted that the neighbors should get together to hash out differences and that the commission was not law enforcement.

In the end, the filing did receive conditioning



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with a special condition being that other people in the neighborhood utilizing the pathway have the same rights as Campbell for maintenance (no plantings).

Also coming before the commission was Andy Stackpole of Field Engineering with a Notice of Intent filed by Leslie and Maxwell Richmond, 4 Parker Street for the demolition of an existing garage and construction of a new one. The filing received conditioning.

After several attempts to receive conditioning of his Notice of Intent filing, Colin Labrie, 7 Hollywoods Road succeeded. He explained that the most recent plan now calls for a 7,000 square-foot reduction of disturbed area, no work in the buffer zone, and the planting of green giant arborvitaes.

A Certificate of Compliance was issued to Robert Bourdon for work completed at 6 Meadowbrook Lane.

The commission had received a complaint for disturbance of a stream located at 3 Melissa Anne Lane. They ordered a letter be sent to the property owner to come before the commission to discuss the matter.

The next meeting of the Mattapoissett Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday, December 22.

## Secondary-Meter Talks Begin

*Marion Water & Sewer Regulations Review Committee*  
**By Sam Bishop**

The Marion Water & Sewer Regulations Review Committee met on Thursday, December 4 to discuss the now-deferred Citizens' Petition Town Meeting article regarding secondary water meters.

The committee was created by the Select Board in July for the purpose of reviewing, assessing, and recommending updates to the town's regulations regarding sewer and water services. For their 11th meeting, having generally met three times per month since their first meeting in September, they dedicated most of their time to a discussion on the Fall Town Meeting's Citizens' Petition submitted by Andrew Daniel for the creation of secondary water meters to split usage tracking between sewer and water. Vote on the article was postponed, per vote, to the 2026 Annual Town Meeting in May.

Town Administrator Geoffrey Gorman began by stating the purpose of the committee's meeting was "to review the impact of the November 20, 2025, Special Town Meeting Citizens' Petition article calling for secondary water meter inclusion into water regulations. These impacts should include, but are not limited to, the effective changes on sewer and water enterprise accounts over the next five years." From that, they also sought to discuss ways to effectively implement the proposed policy into existing regulations to have recommendations for the Select Board by January 6, 2026.

One of their first discussion topics was billing for the secondary meter and the frequency of such.



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Select Board member John Hoagland said yearly billing “would be an administrative nightmare” with Gorman recommending quarterly billing, or every 90 days. They also talked on the town’s billing software, saying it is “really, really difficult” and will potentially offer its own difficulties in this process.

Being the first post-Town Meeting discussions regarding the secondary meter petition, there was a lot of ground to cover. Of course, this is all ground-laying work in preparation for the town’s next Town Meeting in the spring and another vote on the petition.

The next meeting of the Marion Water & Sewer Regulations Review Committee is scheduled for Thursday, December 11 at 3:00 pm in the Town Hall Annex, 14 Barnabas Road.

### **Further Conditions for Bike Path**

*Marion Conservation Commission*

**By Jeffrey D. Wagner**

The Marion Conservation Commission met on December 3 in the police station’s conference room and approved the South Coast Bikeway project’s path through Marion – provided that some conditions are met.

Project engineer Jeremy Packard met with the commission on November 19. Commissioners did a site review in late November after that hearing. The conditions include that project maintenance does not use chemically treated ice-removal methods, informs the

commission about any changes, and also provides an annual report about wetlands-replication work and how it has impacted native species or waters.

Packard told the board that, since the November 19 meeting, it was discovered that one area of around 3,200 square feet slopes and could impact wetlands. He said the project proponents would raise the elevation to avoid wetland damage.

As mentioned at the previous meeting, Conservation Commission members lauded the plans with Shaun Walsh calling it “the most comprehensive plan” the commission has seen in a long time.

The 3.9-mile proposed path through Marion via Front Street will also offer parking at Washburn Park and Point Road, totaling around 15 spots, according to Packard.

Packard, who has been working on the project for 10 years, noted that the Marion leg of the project width has been narrowed from 12 paved feet to 10 paved feet, maintaining the same elevation and making minimal impacts to wetlands and related buffer zones, according to rules detailed in Wetlands Protection Act.

There will be swales on the shoulder of the path and three infiltration basins.

Packard said that next year the project will procure all necessary permits and hope to begin construction in 2027 on this eastern portion of the path. Packard said he expects the path to be open to Marion



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residents by 2029.

At the December 3 meeting, Packard said he does not anticipate any other changes but agreed to keep officials in the loop if any state agencies take issue with any of the new plans.

The meeting had very little on the agenda, and within 30 minutes the commission heard Packard's new update, closed the public hearing, and approved the project with the conditions.

The next meeting of the Marion Conservation Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, December 17.

### More Work on the Point Road Bike Path

*Marion Open Space Acquisition Commission*

**By Jeffrey D. Wagner**

The Point Road Bike and Walking path still needs work, according to the Marion Open Space Acquisition Commission.

The committee met on December 4 at the Police Station conference room and agreed that work needs to be done on the path, which will tie in with the larger South Coast Bike Path, an endeavor that seeks to create a continuous walking and bike path from the Greater Fall River area to Wareham.

The gravel surface Point Road bike path was approved in 2019 and opened this year, relying on some donated gravel materials for use.

OSAC members have been talking with members of the public and concluded that the gravel stones are too large, making it hard to push a baby carriage along the surface, as well as walking in general for those with mobility issues.

Resident Sean Walsh, also a Conservation Commission member, said that a Joann Drive resident said that it is a difficult walk for those with mobility issues. OSAC member Tom Friedman said his dog will not walk along the stone and often will try to drag the leash into the wooded area. Walsh said most gravel walkways of this kind use smaller pea stones. He noted that the larger stones create gaps and make travel more difficult for pedestrians and cyclists.

OSAC member Normal Hills, also a Select Board

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member, said that he observed some people veering off to the road versus walking the hard path. OSAC Chairman John Rockwell said he does not know what the solution should be – fill the voids or try to compact the stones. He recommended that OSAC members contact engineers for a solution.

Hills, who is an engineer, spoke of a larger problem – open space and recreation projects not being completed with the initial design in mind. He said officials should do better work at specifying exactly what needs to be done for some of these projects so issues will not arise at a later time.

The OSAC discussed maintenance issues of other town open spaces. Rockwell said he has been in contact with the Department of Public Works, which often will help maintain some of the grass and brush around these properties but the DPW's time is often limited, especially during the winter season, when sanding and snow removal are more of a priority.

Rockwell said a meeting has been proposed with the DPW, Select Board, Conservation Commission, and the OSAC to develop a plan and a line item for this type of work.

Citing another conversation with the DPW, Rockwell said that there are materials around a dike at Grassi Bog, which will require more than in-house maintenance.

That area around the dike should receive attention



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OSAC is scheduled to meet again next month, on January 8.

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Photographs of area events and newsmakers are also accepted and encouraged. *The Wanderer* accepts well-lit and clearly defined photographs for publication provided that they include a brief summary of the event or subject. We cannot return photographs. Like news items, the deadline for photos is Monday at noon, and the publication of photographs is also subject to spacing constraints and cannot be guaranteed.

All submitted copy is subject to alterations and/or condensation as space allows at the editor's discretion. All submissions become the property of *The Wanderer* and are assumed to be submitted for the purpose of publication. Submissions cannot be returned; therefore, please make sure to retain copies.

Poems and essays submitted for publication are subject to *The Wanderer's* Copy Submissions and Letters to the Editor policies.

Ideas for features, breaking news tips and other suggestions for the news department are welcome. Please call the News Editor with news tips and ideas at 508-758-9055. If it is after hours, please leave a message or email news@wanderer.com.

## ORRHS Hosts Second Annual Community Service Learning Day

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Principal Michael Devoll are pleased to share that Old Rochester Regional High School hosted its second annual Community Service Learning (CSL) Day on Wednesday, November 26.

More than 600 ORRHS students and staff members spent the half-day before Thanksgiving break engaging in hands-on service projects benefiting local schools, nonprofit organizations, community groups, senior residents, Veterans and public spaces throughout Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester.

Designed to connect learning with civic engagement, CSL Day allows students to explore community needs, understand the importance of volunteerism, and develop a sense of stewardship for the

place they call home.

This year's projects included campus beautification and gardening; environmental clean-ups at Silvershell Beach, the Mattapoisett Land Trust, and local disc golf areas; along with service at the Mattapoisett Museum and Library; classroom support and programming at Sippican School, Rochester Memorial School, Center School, and other early-childhood centers. Other CSL Day projects involved yard work for veterans; baking and crafting projects; mural work; letter-writing campaigns for Girls Love Mail; card-making for seniors and hospitalized children; CPR and Narcan education; and volunteer contributions to nonprofits like Friends of Jack, Marion Buoys of Hope; Gifts to Give, an organization that provides children's items and presents to local kids in need.

More than 70 faculty and staff members

supervised and collaborated on these projects, guiding students in meaningful CSL experiences across dozens of locations throughout the Tri-Town area.

Funding for transportation to the off-campus activities as part of CSL Day was provided by MassHire, the state's workforce development network.

"Our students' buoy-painting for Marion Buoys of Hope was a beautiful reminder of what we can accomplish when creativity meets service," said Assistant Principal Lauren Millette. "Our students showed that service is more than volunteering - it's using your talents to lift others."

"This being my first year participating in CSL Day, I was truly inspired by our students as they gave back and worked together, reflecting the relationships that make the tri-town community so special," said Director of Guidance Christina Cioffi. "Overseeing our Community



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NB WHALING MUSEUM

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COLD STONE CREAMERY

TOWNE HOUSE STEAKHOUSE

BREWHOUSE DISTRICT RESTAURANT

MIKEY B'S

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FRONTERA GRILL

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MA RAFFA'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT

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PIEZONI'S

KABOB & CURRY

BEN & JERRY'S

DON PATRON MEXCAN

POLAR CAVE

SKIPPY'S PIER 1

GATEWAY TAVERN

CHARDONNAY'S

THE PROFILE TAVERN

BRIDGEVIEW GRILL

PHOENIX RESTAURANT

JAKE'S DINER

TOTI'S RESTAURANT

LOUKAS' PIZZA

TA RESTAURANT

CASA VALLARTA

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**Cardoza's Wine & Spirits** (Scotcut Neck Road)

**Scuttlebutts** (407 Main Street)

## **DARTMOUTH**

**Dartmouth Mall** (At Good News)

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## **NEW BEDFORD**

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**Buttonwood Park Zoo** (Gift Shop)

**Jay Liquors Fieldstone Marketplace** (500 Kings Hwy)

**Jay's Wine & Spirits** (446 Dartmouth Street)

Next to Stop & Shop

## **MARION**

**Fieldstone Farm Market** (806 Mill St, Rte 6)

## **WAREHAM**

**Mazzilli's Farm Stand** (3134 Cranberry Hwy)

**East Wareham Liquors** (2991 Cranberry Hwy)

(Stop & Shop Plaza)

## **ROCHESTER**

**Friends Marketplace** (at Plumb Corner)

## **WESTPORT**

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Collection project as part of CSL Day, you could see students realize how even small individual contributions can add up to a major impact. Students were thoughtful, enthusiastic, and eager to help their neighbors. It was a privilege to guide them."

"Community Service Learning Day is becoming one of my favorite traditions at ORR because it shows the best of who our students are," said Principal Michael Devoll. "Seeing hundreds of young people step forward to give back - through physical work, creativity, compassion, and collaboration - reminds us why service is such an important part of education. I'm incredibly proud of the effort our students and staff put into this day. We hope students walk away learning that service is not just a one-day activity, but a lifelong mindset of connection to the community."

"The entire Tri-Town community benefits when students learn the value of connection, contribution, and civic responsibility," said Superintendent Michael S. Nelson. "We're grateful to the nonprofit organizations, schools, and other local partners who welcomed our students, and to all of our faculty whose leadership made this day possible. CSL Day continues to grow as a signature example of what makes Old Rochester Regional such an awesome place to live and go to school."

### **Old Rochester Students Begin Year of Playbook Initiative Workshops**

The Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55 have launched this year's Playbook Initiative and Project 351 programming with two fall workshops already completed.

Through a partnership with the Boston Celtics and Project 351, the school system's Playbook work connects student leaders in grades 4 through 12 from Old Rochester Regional High School, Old Rochester Regional Jr. High School, Sippican Elementary School, Old Hammondtown School and Rochester Memorial School.

This year's work began with two student-led workshops and continued with the Playbook Immersion Summit on November 14 at the Celtics' Auerbach Center.

ORRHS Assistant Principal and Playbook Coordinator Lauren Millette attended alongside two student trainers, Junior Olivia Thompson and Sophomore Luc Silveira.

Students heard from Boston Celtics leaders and staff, including Brad Stevens, Brian Scalabrine and Xavier Tillman Sr., while taking part in training on community-building, leadership and racial equity.

On October 22, Project 351 Influencers from all three elementary schools participated in a morning of leadership training at ORRHS. High school Project 351 leaders ran activities that focused on the traits of effective leaders. Students then broke into small groups to talk through scenarios and situations when they would utilize those skills.

"Watching our students take the lead has been one of the best parts of this work," said Assistant Principal and Playbook Coordinator Millette. "They show up prepared, they listen to one another and they create a space where their peers feel comfortable speaking up. Students build confidence during these workshops that they take back into our classrooms."

One sixth-grade Project 351 Influencer said, "I got to work with some nice people and learned that sometimes being a leader means sticking up for yourself and others." A fifth-grade Influencer added, "I learned a lot about what being a leader means and that there are different types of leaders."

"When students lead other students, the learning feels immediate and real," said Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Shari Fedorowicz. "These workshops help young people find their voice and practice leadership in a supportive setting. It has been powerful to watch the growth across all grade levels."

At the elementary school level, principals saw the same impact.

"It was a great day of learning about one another's feelings, and what makes us feel excited, brave, or confident," said RMS Principal Heidi Letendre. "The students engaged in great conversations around inclusiveness. Congratulations to the high school team for putting on a great workshop for our young leaders in the making."

"Our partnership with Project 351 and the Playbook Initiative gives students a chance to build community through meaningful dialogue," said Sippican Principal Lynn Dessert. "These experiences help them understand their role in shaping a school where everyone feels seen."

Staff members have also chosen three ORRJHS Project 351 Ambassadors, one from each town:

Lilah Silveira (Marion)  
Elliot Jacobsen (Mattapoisett)  
Delaney Vieira (Rochester)

These ambassadors will join eighth-grade leaders from all 351 Massachusetts cities and towns for a year of service and statewide leadership training inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision of the Beloved



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Community.

"Our students step into this work ready to learn and listen, which results in building stronger school communities," said Superintendent Michael S. Nelson. "The Playbook Initiative gives them the tools to lead with empathy. It also shows them that their voice matters in shaping a place where every student feels like they belong."

### Local Teens Request Warm Weather Donations for Veterans

The Mattapoisett Free Public Library's Teen Advisory Board (TAB) requests your help collecting NEW hats, gloves, and scarves through **January 11**.

TAB recognizes that winter can be especially difficult for veterans, so our members have teamed up with The Veterans Transition House in New Bedford to help. Your donations of NEW hats, gloves, and scarves will offer much-needed warmth and comfort to those who've served our country. Please drop off your contributions in the boxes at the Mattapoisett Library, 7 Barstow Street, Mattapoisett by January 11.

If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Lawrence, Adult Services Librarian, at [ALawrence@sailsinc.org](mailto:ALawrence@sailsinc.org) or call the library at 508-758-4171.

Thank you for your support and compassion for our veterans. The Teen Advisory Board and The Veterans Transition House truly appreciate your kindness.



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### ORRJB Students of the 1st Quarter

Silas D. Coellner, Principal of Old Rochester Regional Jr. High School, announces the following Students of the 1st Quarter.

Green Team: **Madison E. Ferreira** and **Dominic L.**

**Philie**

Orange Team: **Harper L. Osetkowski** and

**Manuel J. Palomo**

Blue Team: **Penelope M. Conley** and **Charles S.**

**Whinnem**

Red Team: **Emelia E. Marmelo** and **Eli P. Linane**

Exploratory Team: **Olivia G. Carillo** and **Elias A.**

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## PUBLIC ACCESS

### Comcast Channel 9

### Verizon Channel 36

Thursday December 11, 2025

7:00 AM Seniorize  
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape  
8:00 AM Marion Veg - with Barbie Burr and Brooke Johnson  
8:30 AM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - Dana Debarros and Rhonda Pina Mendes  
9:30 AM Mattapoisett Woman's Club Speaker Series - Jack Matthews  
10:30 AM Rochester Historical Society - Cemeteries, Genealogy, & the Revolutionary War  
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?  
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline  
1:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre  
1:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show  
2:00 PM The Collective Chat Experience  
3:00 PM MAC Jazz Jam  
4:30 PM Tri-County Symphonic Band - Power and Glory  
6:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx  
6:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow Today  
7:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Global US  
7:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe  
8:00 PM Teach Your Home Energy Costs! with David Green  
9:30 PM Marion Natural History Museum - The Early Life of Humpback Whales  
11:00 PM Classic Movie

Friday December 12, 2025

7:00 AM Seniorize  
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape  
8:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx  
8:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow Today  
9:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Global US  
9:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe  
10:00 AM Southcoast Matters  
11:30 AM Fall Family Fun Day  
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?  
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with

Coastline  
1:00 PM Rochester Affordable Housing Inc ADU Presentation  
2:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre  
3:30 PM The Collective Chat  
3:00 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience  
3:30 PM Marion Veg - with Barbie Burr and Brooke Johnson  
4:00 PM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - Dana Debarros and Rhonda Pina Mendes  
5:00 PM Tri-Town Veterans Day Events  
7:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show  
8:30 PM Paltrowitz with Darren Paltrowitz  
9:00 PM A Conversation With...  
9:30 PM Fur, Fins and Feathers  
10:00 PM For Your Health  
10:30 PM Sidewalks Entertainment  
11:30 PM Classic Movies

Saturday December 13, 2025

6:00 AM Saturday Morning Cartoon Festival  
9:30 AM Tri-County Symphonic Band - Power and Glory  
11:00 AM Marion Veg - with Barbie Burr and Brooke Johnson  
11:30 AM Fall Family Fun Day  
12:00 PM Mid-Day Movie  
2:00 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show  
2:30 PM The Human Truth - with Chuck McIntyre  
3:00 PM The Collective Chat  
3:30 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience  
4:00 PM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - Dana Debarros and Rhonda Pina Mendes  
5:00 PM Sippican Historical Society - 100 Years of the H12 with Halsey Herreshoff  
6:00 PM Marion Natural History Museum - Sea Turtles in Massachusetts  
7:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show  
8:30 PM Paltrowitz with Darren Paltrowitz  
9:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment  
9:30 PM A Conversation With...  
10:00 PM Beacon Hill Report  
10:30 PM Gay USA  
11:00 PM Classic Movies

Sunday December 14, 2025

7:00 AM Lamb of God Christian Church  
8:00 AM Mattapoisett Congregational Church  
9:00 AM First Congregational Church of Rochester  
10:00 AM St Gabriel's Church  
11:00 AM Tri-Town Veteran's Day Events  
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?  
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline  
1:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx  
1:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow Today  
2:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Global US  
2:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Shift  
3:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe  
4:00 PM Miss New Bedford  
5:00 PM Putnam Murdock Concert at the Marion Art Center  
7:00 PM ORR Boys Soccer vs North Reading  
8:30 PM ORR Homecoming Pep Rally  
9:30 PM Tri-County Symphonic Band - Power and Glory  
11:30 PM Classic Movies

Monday December 15, 2025

7:00 AM Seniorize  
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape  
8:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx  
8:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow Today  
9:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Global US  
9:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe  
10:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Shift  
10:30 AM A Conversation With...  
11:00 AM For Your Health  
11:30 AM Money Matters  
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?  
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline  
1:00 PM Beacon Hill Report  
1:30 PM Southcoast Matters  
2:30 PM Sidewalks Entertainment  
3:00 PM Paltrowitz with Darren Paltrowitz  
3:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show  
4:30 PM The Human Truth  
5:00 PM Tri-County Symphonic Band - Power and Glory

6:30 PM Marion Veg - with Barbie Burr and Brooke Johnson  
7:30 PM Sippican Historical Society - Women's Involvement in the History of Preservation in New England  
8:30 PM Marion Natural History Museum - The Early Life of Humpback Whales  
9:30 PM The Collective Chat  
10:00 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience  
10:30 PM AMC Outdoor Journey Fund  
11:00 PM Classic Movie

Tuesday December 16, 2025

7:00 AM Seniorize  
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape  
8:00 AM For Your Health: Stress  
8:30 AM Reeling: The Movie Review Show  
9:00 AM Sidewalks Entertainment  
9:30 AM Mike Paige Doodle Club  
10:00 AM Saturday Morning Cartooning  
10:30 AM The Collective Chat  
11:00 AM The Jeannine Hunt Experience  
11:30 AM In the Toy Box  
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?  
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline  
1:00 PM Point Road Park Renaming Ceremony  
1:30 PM Miss New Bedford Insider  
2:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre  
2:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow and Today  
3:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx  
3:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Global US  
4:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe  
4:30 PM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape  
5:00 PM Four Deep Sports Talk  
6:00 PM Sippican Historical Society - 100 years of the Herreshoff H-12  
8:00 PM The Beacon Hill Report  
9:00 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show  
10:00 PM Gay USA  
11:00 PM Classic Movie

Wednesday December 17, 2025

7:00 AM Seniorize  
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape

8:00 AM Cape Conversations  
8:30 AM For Your Health  
9:00 AM Two Grannies on the Road  
10:00 AM Sidewalks Entertainment  
10:30 AM Paltrowitz with Darren Paltrowitz  
11:00 AM Mattapoisett Congregational Church  
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?  
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline  
1:30 PM Southcoast Matters TV  
2:00 PM Marion Veg - with Barbie Burr and Brooke Johnson  
2:30 PM Money Talk Tuesday  
3:00 PM A Conversation With...  
3:30 PM ORR Girls Soccer vs Fairhaven  
5:30 PM Beacon Hill Report  
6:00 PM Building the Future  
6:30 PM Pete on the Street  
7:00 PM World Fusion Show  
7:30 PM Tri-County Symphonic Band - Power and Glory  
9:00 PM Teach your Home Energy Costs! With David Green  
10:30 PM Mattapoisett Women's Club Speaker Series - Jack Matthews  
11:00 PM Classic Movies

## MARION GOVERNMENT Comcast Channel 26 Verizon Channel 39 Daily Schedule

7:00 AM Marion Board of Selectmen  
7:30 AM Marion Planning Board  
8:00 AM Marion Finance Committee  
8:30 AM Marion Special Town Meeting  
10:00 AM Marion Board of Health  
11:00 AM Marion Board of Health  
11:30 AM Marion Water and Sewer  
1:00 PM ORR School Committee  
3:00 PM Marion Marine Resources  
4:00 PM Marion Affordable Housing Committee  
5:00 PM Marion Open Space Acquisition Commission  
6:30 PM Marion School Committee  
7:00 PM Marion Board of Selectmen  
7:30 PM Marion Special Town Meeting  
9:00 PM Marion Planning Board  
10:00 PM Marion Board of Health  
11:00 PM Marion Water and Sewer

## ROCHESTER GOVERNMENT

### Comcast Channel 26 Verizon Channel 40 Daily Schedule

7:00 AM Rochester Board of Selectmen  
8:00 AM Rochester Conservation Commission  
9:00 AM Rochester Planning Board  
10:30 AM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals  
11:30 AM Rochester School Committee  
1:30 PM ORR School Committee  
3:30 PM ORR Joint School Committee  
5:00 PM Rochester Board of Selectmen  
6:00 PM Rochester Planning Board  
7:30 PM Rochester Conservation Commission  
8:30 PM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals  
9:30 PM Rochester Public Safety Facility Building Committee  
10:30 PM Rochester School Committee

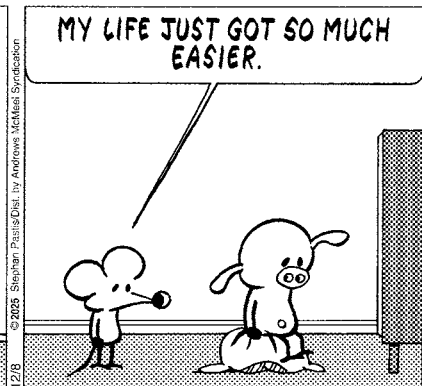
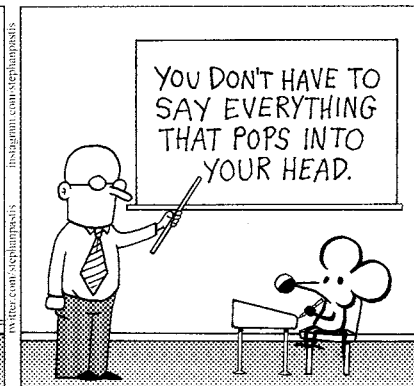
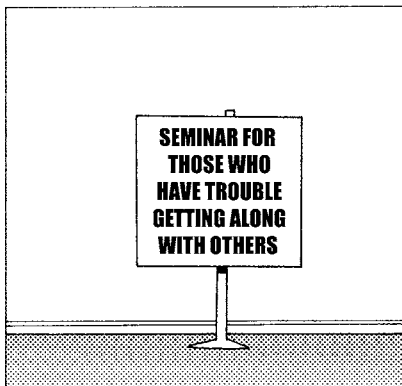
## EDUCATION CHANNEL

### Comcast Channel 8 Verizon Channel 37 Daily Schedule

7:00 AM Bulldog Weekly  
7:30 AM Bulldog Sports  
8:00 AM ORR School Committee  
10:00 AM ORR Joint School Committee  
11:30 AM Old Colony National Honor Society Ceremony  
12:00 PM Bulldog Weekly  
12:30 PM Bulldog Sports  
1:00 PM ORR Graduation  
2:30 PM ORR Boys Soccer vs GNBVT  
4:00 PM Old Colony Graduation  
5:00 PM ORR Promenade  
5:30 PM Bulldog Sports  
6:00 PM Bulldog Weekly  
6:30 PM ORR Football vs Apponequet  
8:30 PM ORR Unified Basketball  
9:00 PM ORR Girls Soccer vs Durfee  
10:30 PM ORR Volleyball

## MATTAPOISETT GOVERNMENT Comcast Channel 26 Verizon Channel 38

## PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis





## Tri-County Symphonic Band Annual Children's Christmas Concert

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the land, Town folks were gathering to hear the Tri-County Symphonic Band.

The Tri-County Symphonic Band, under the direction of Philip Sanborn, celebrates the festive holiday season with its Annual Children's Christmas Concert, on Sunday, **December 14**, 1:30 pm at the Sippican School, 16 Spring Street, Marion, in the Multi-Purpose Room. The concert is a wonderful family experience designed for all ages and is free of charge.

The Tri-County Symphonic Band will perform seasonal favorites including "Christmas-Time Around the World", "Carol of the Shepherds", "A Canadian Brass Christmas", "Christmas Calypso", "That Christmas Tree Jazz" and "Introduction, March and Shepherd's Dance" from Amahl and the Night Visitors.

A special part of this year's concert will feature the Sippican School Concert Choir, under the direction of Patricia Richard performing "Dormi, Dormi" and "Moonlight Sleigh Ride" The Concert Choir will also perform "The Christmas Song" with the Tri-County Symphonic Band.

The youngsters in the audience will enter a drawing with the winners playing the sleigh bells with the Tri-County Symphonic Band in Leroy Anderson's



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"Sleigh Ride".

The concert will conclude with a "Christmas Sing-a-long" featuring the Sippican School Concert Choir, followed by a volunteer community band called the "Cottage Street Jam Band", under the direction of Hannah Moore, leading a march from the Sippican School to Island Wharf to greet Santa as he arrives via "water sleigh". The Sippican School Band will then perform in the Marion Village Christmas Stroll which directly follows the Tri-County Symphonic Band concert.

As the band rounds the corner and jolly Santa's is in sight, he wishes peace to all and to all a good night.



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## Family Heritage Project at Sippican School

The conversations start at home with Sippican Elementary School students talking to their families, asking, "Where did our ancestors come from? And how did they end up in America?"

Then, the second graders come to class and begin their research, using a special collection of informative books about foreign countries and their cultures, allowing the students to learn more about their familial heritage and where it has its roots.

Those books were purchased this past year through a \$689 grant that was awarded by the Old Rochester Regional Tri-Town Education Foundation Fund to Sippican School Grade 2 teacher Ashley Sweatland to

expand the collection of age-appropriate research books used in the school's annual Family Heritage Project.

The family heritage research project culminates with the students presenting their findings on posters made in the shape of suitcases, with handles on both sides that make them easy to hold up before the class. Through the project and the grant-funded books, students explore and celebrate their family history while learning about global geography, cultures and migration, helping the school to exceed Massachusetts curriculum standards in both history and civics.

"With the help of these books, students gained a deeper knowledge and understanding of their family heritage," said Sweatland. "Students enjoyed sharing

# TriTOWN HAPPENINGS



Winston Eddy and Norma Klein reading *The Wanderer* in Matera, Italy, known for its Sassi di Matera and cave dwellings, and one of the longest continuously inhabited cities in the world.

Family and friends made the Mattapoisett Congregational Church pageant extra memorable. Faith formation leaders conducted a fantastic retelling of the Christmas story. Photos by Jennifer Shepley



If you would like to share your travel photos with our readers too? All you have to do is take along a copy of **The Wanderer** (or your favorite aardvark) and submit your photos by email to: [news@wanderer.com](mailto:news@wanderer.com). You can also drop photos off at our office at 55 County Road (Route 6) in Mattapoisett.

These photos and more are available online at [www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com)



with their classmates all about special traditions, foods, celebrations and history that represents where they came from. We were able to share and present our final projects with grade-level peers, as well as adults in the school. Everyone was so impressed with the wealth of knowledge these students had."



#### The Old

Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55 are pleased to share this story and the outcome of a total of more than \$9,400 in private grants provided by the nonprofit Old Rochester Regional Tri-Town Education Foundation for the 2024-25 school year.

The Old Rochester Regional Tri-Town Education Foundation Fund is a growing endowment under the umbrella of the SouthCoast Community Foundation. Supported by community donors, the fund helps educators pursue innovative, high-quality learning experiences for students throughout Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester.

This is the second in a series of articles describing the impact of grants awarded by the Tri-Town Education Foundation Fund to support innovative teaching and student enrichment across the school system.

"Hopefully this has inspired students to continue to inquire and learn more about this as they grow," Sweatland said. "Students have had a wonderful time researching and creating a hands-on suitcase project representing their family's heritage. These books were so helpful, as they were at a reading level students could access, providing beautiful illustrations that allowed a deeper understanding for my students."

Early Childhood Coordinator Doreen Lopes said the project enriches both academic and personal growth for young learners.

"This project encourages students to learn about their roots in a meaningful and developmentally appropriate way," Lopes said. "These new grant-funded books will help ensure that every student has access to the resources they need to explore their heritage with curiosity and confidence."

Superintendent Michael S. Nelson expressed gratitude for the Tri-Town Education Foundation's contribution to classroom projects like this one that strengthens both learning and community building.

"The Family Heritage Project helps students build knowledge and pride in who they are and an understanding of the diverse backgrounds and experiences that shape our communities," Superintendent Nelson said. "We are thankful for the Tri-Town Education Foundation's support in making these research materials more accessible to all second graders at Sippican School. We urge the community to continue supporting the Foundation in its efforts to assist our schools, providing additional resources that are so helpful with learning and deeply enrich the experiences of our students."

### MGG Holiday Boutique

The Marion Garden Group's annual Holiday Boutique opens on Saturday, **December 13** at 9:00 am and closes at 11:30 am. An assortment of wreaths, garlands, table decorations, and hand-made one-of-a-kind ornaments will be beautifully arranged in the Marion Music Hall.

Volunteer MGG elves have been working tirelessly all year in preparation for this festive event. Cash, checks, and credit cards are accepted.

Proceeds benefit the non-profit organization and support beautification projects around town, as well as educational and enrichment programs.

The line forms early - so make plans to attend and purchase our holiday greens and beautiful locally made gifts.



### Holiday By the Sea Raffle Experience

The Sippican Woman's Club is thrilled to announce its annual "Holiday By The Sea" Raffle, offering one lucky winner an unforgettable seaside escape. This year's exclusive prize invites you to enjoy an enchanting

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# OBITUARIES

**Maureen Coughlin**, 78, of Mattapoisett, MA passed away December 9th, 2025 of heart complications. Maureen was raised in North Weymouth, MA by parents Genevieve and Robert Coughlin. She was a faithful Christian woman whose big heart was the foundation of her character. Maureen was abundantly generous, had a keen sense of humor and always saw the good in people. Carrying on her memory are her siblings Arleene, Kathleen, Colleen and Robert along with many treasured nieces and nephews. She now joins in peace her son, Douglas, her parents, and all the loved ones that have passed before her. Private funeral services will be held for immediate family. Those wishing to honor her memory may make a donation in her name to Olive Tree Ministries.



**Robert "Bob" Demeo**, a long-time resident of Marion, MA, passed away peacefully on Sunday, November 30, 2025. Bob was born on October 3, 1931, in Boston to Sophie A. (Bucewicz) Demeo and Pasquale J. Demeo. He was predeceased by his cherished wife of 62 years, Patricia J. (Gannon) Demeo; his two half-brothers, Patrick Demeo and Rick Keith Rickson; and his half-sister, Candice Rickson.

As a teenager during World War II, Bob served in the Massachusetts State Guard, helping combat forest fires on Cape Cod. After graduating from Brighton High School in 1949, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served throughout the Korean War as a Petty Officer Second Class.

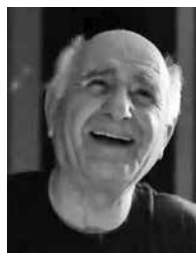
Following his military service, Bob earned his Associate's Degree from Grand Rapids Junior College in 1955 and his Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Michigan in 1959.

Bob met his future wife, Patti, at a gathering of the "Hi Hubbers," a social club for tall people in Boston. They married in 1961. Originally living in Peabody, they settled in Marion in 1963, where they built their home and raised their family.

Bob first came to Marion after joining Sippican Ocean Systems, and later continued his career at the Charles Stark Draper Laboratory in Cambridge, from which he retired in 1997. In retirement, he enjoyed woodworking, computers, and was also proud to serve as Commander of VFW Post 2425. He and Patti enjoyed attending numerous U.S.S. Destroyer Buck 761 reunions of "Tin Can Sailors" throughout the country where he rekindled old friends.

Bob is survived by his four children: Andrea (John) Adriany of San Diego, CA; Martha (James) Turner of Newbury, VT; Kristen Brown of Taunton, MA; and Paul (Michelle) Demeo of Merrimack, NH. He is also survived by his half-sister, Wendy M. Rickson of Grand Haven, MI. His legacy includes five grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and many dear friends and extended family members.

Visitation was held at the Saunders-Dwyer Mattapoisett Home for Funerals, 50 County Rd., Route 6, Mattapoisett, on Tuesday, December 9th. A Funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Rita's Parish, 113 Front St., Marion, on Wednesday, December 10th. Interment followed, with military honors, alongside his wife at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne. For the online guestbook, please visit [www.saunders-dwyer.com](http://www.saunders-dwyer.com).



**Andrew "ANDY" Dadagian, M.D.**, age 94, passed away at home on November 30, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. He was born on August 10, 1931, in Watertown, and was the only child of the late Rose (Meremian) and John Dadagian. Andy's work ethic, appreciation of life, and resilience were shaped by his childhood in Watertown, known as 'Little Armenia'.

His parents, whose families had been killed in the Armenian Genocide, met and married in France and immigrated to America. Andy explained that when they arrived in this country, his parents did not know how to read or write the language and had no funds. "To this day, I cannot comprehend how they survived," he noted.

Andy was a superb track and field athlete. While on the Watertown High School track team, Andy set numerous school records, was a captain, and led the team to indoor and outdoor state championships. He won state titles in the 440- and 600-yard events and high jump, and was inducted into the Watertown Hall of Fame in 2010. After graduating from Watertown High in 1950, Andy was awarded a scholarship to Wilbraham Academy, where he flourished. He was a National Merit Scholar and named Wilbraham's Most Outstanding Athlete. He won the 440-yard event at the National Prep School Championships in Madison Square Garden in 1951. At Cornell University, Andy was a top collegiate athlete in the 400-meter hurdles and 600-yard dash. He anchored the Cornell mile-relay team, which won both the Ivy League Championship and the Penn Relay Championship for three consecutive years. As senior captain, he starred at the Heptagonal Games, helping Cornell win both indoor and outdoor titles. He was selected to represent the U.S. at a series of European track meets and set Ireland's 440-yard hurdles record in 1954. He was named the Armenian Athlete of the Year in 1954 by the Armenian General Athletic Union. While at Cornell, Andy won the Woodford Oratorical Contest and spoke movingly about his experiences as a first-generation Armenian-American. He was the first captain of any varsity sport at Cornell to win this prestigious award. Upon graduation, he attended New York Medical College and became an otolaryngologist. During his final year in medical school, Andy met the love of his life, Barbara Davison, and they married 6 months later.

*Continued on page 32*

evening at Harbortown, the iconic mixed-use building overlooking Plymouth's sparkling waterfront.

The winner will unwind in a magnificent private suite with sweeping views of the harbor, then savor a memorable dinner at The Terrace, the renowned rooftop restaurant offering a one-of-a-kind dining experience high above the waterfront lights. It's the perfect blend of luxury, coastal charm, and holiday magic.

Raffle chances are just \$10 for this extraordinary getaway, and every ticket purchased directly supports the Sippican Woman's Club's local scholarship programs, which have enriched the lives of students in our community for decades.

To purchase your chance to win this amazing stay, visit [www.SippicanWomansClub.org](http://www.SippicanWomansClub.org), to learn more about the property visit [www.HarbortownPlymouth.com](http://www.HarbortownPlymouth.com).

Don't miss your opportunity to experience your very own Holiday By The Sea - and support a wonderful cause at the same time.

### Marion Art Center

The MAC is auditioning actors for the comedy, *The 39 Steps*, adapted by Patrick Barlow from the novel by John Buchan. The play will be directed by John Heavey. The auditions will be held at the MAC's Anne Braitmayer Webb Theater located at 80 Pleasant St., Marion, MA on Saturday, **January 3** from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm and on Sunday, **January 4** from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. There are nine performance dates: March 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22. Evening shows are at 7:30 pm, and Sunday matinees are at 2:00 pm.

*The 39 Steps* is a fast-paced, slapstick comedy thriller where an ordinary man, Richard Hannay, is framed for murder and must go on the run to stop a spy ring from stealing vital British military secrets. The humor derives from the entire story being performed by a small cast who play over 150 characters, often making rapid costume and character changes. One actor plays the hero, Richard Hannay; an actress plays the three women with whom he has romantic entanglements; other actors play every other character in the show, each occasionally playing multiple characters at once. Thus, Alfred Hitchcock film's serious spy story is given a comedic, zany twist.

Although *The 39 Steps* was originally produced with just four actors, the MAC production's casting will be flexible with regard to gender and doubling or even tripling of roles. The two exceptions are that Hannay will be played by one man throughout and Pamela and Annabella will be played by a single woman. Auditions will be cold readings from selected scenes of the script. In casting we are looking for versatile performers with a rich imagination who can make bold, physical choices. Find the full character list, along with more information, at [marionartcenter.org/auditions](http://marionartcenter.org/auditions).

Extended Hours at the MAC - The MAC will be extending gallery hours during the Holiday House

[www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com)

Tour, on Saturday **December 13** from 10:00 am to 4 pm. The MAC offers the Small Works & Holiday Shop which supports local artists. All pieces may be collected upon purchase for this "cash and carry" show. The Marion Art Center is located at 80 Pleasant Street, at the corner of Pleasant and Main streets in Marion.

Holiday Photo Booth at the MAC - The MAC will once again be offering the Holiday Photo Booth on the MAC patio, weather permitting, on Sunday, **December 14** from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm. Stop in during the Marion Holiday Stroll; climb inside our winter wonderland igloo to take your own selfies, pet snapshots, family portraits, and photos with friends. The MAC elves will be on site and available to help. Our galleries will open for shopping between 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm. The MAC is located at 80 Pleasant Street, Marion. More information at [marionartcenter.org/events](http://marionartcenter.org/events).

### Mattapoisett Democratic Town Committee

The Mattapoisett Democratic Town Committee will hold its final meeting of 2025 on Tuesday **December 16** at 6:30 pm in the downstairs public meeting room of the Mattapoisett Free Public Library. The featured speaker will be 10th Bristol State Representative Mark Sylvia, who will join local Democrats and attendees to review the past year and look ahead to 2026.

Rep. Sylvia will offer a year-in-review update on key legislative actions on Beacon Hill, including issues



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# OBITUARIES

This year marks their 66th wedding anniversary. He was a captain in the U.S. Air Force for two years and eventually moved to Marion. He loved being a physician and helping people, always showing patients and colleagues kindness and respect. He practiced at Sturdy Memorial Hospital, Tobey Hospital, and St. Luke's Hospital in New Bedford, where he was Chief of Otolaryngology.

Andy's pride and joy was his family. He prioritized his children and was incredibly generous with his love and time. Grandpa was the infallible beacon of wisdom. His dinner toasts were as nourishing as the meals, which often consisted of Armenian specialties like pilaf, shish kebab, and paklava. Family gatherings involved playing cards and backgammon and watching Seinfeld reruns. Andy and Barbara traveled extensively, attending multiple Olympic Games, enjoying river boat cruises throughout Europe, and spending time in Aruba every winter. Often labelled 'The World's Most Interesting Man' by friends, Andy was charismatic, curious, and adventurous. A proud New England Patriots season ticket holder since 1974, Andy attended every game he could. Being invited to a Patriots game with him was like finding the golden ticket in Willy Wonka; all guests were guaranteed a grilled rare steak and a good parking spot.

Though Andy's parents never drove or owned a car, he was a passionate automobile enthusiast, a self-taught engine master. He loved driving sports cars, preferably at high speeds, yet was drawn to the history and elegance of classic antique cars. His Cadillac V16 Roadster and 1938 Horch Cabriolet were awarded National Championship honors. The Marion July 4th Parade was a family highlight, with him behind the wheel of his 1929 red Stutz Blackhawk Roadster, followed by his 1930 Dodge Woody, both cars filled with his grandchildren. A joy of his later years was being driven by his sons in the Dodge Woody to get ice cream. Andy loved nature and spent hours planting tulip bulbs from Holland. He marveled at the world of birds and never left the feeders empty. He considered his beloved Suzy, an Old English sheepdog he trained, to be the standard of excellence for all other family dogs. Suzy sparked Andy and Barbara to breed Old English sheepdogs for many years.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Barbara; his son Stephen Dadagian and wife Katherine, of Concord; his daughter, Jacqueline Dadagian and husband Gary, of Arlington; his daughter Laura Dadagian-O'Rourke and husband, James, of Oak Bluffs and Marion; his daughter Andrea Bilodeau, of Marion; and his son Christian Dadagian and wife, Jennifer, of Hopkinton; eleven grandchildren, Antranig 'Max', Theo, Benjamin, Marina, Zachary, Andrew, Julia, Alexander, Zoë, Sam, and Ryder; and two great grandchildren, Cameron and Blair.

When asked what he would like included in his obituary, Andy replied, "He lived a full and extraordinary life." That he did. He will be missed tremendously.

The family will gather privately to honor his memory.



**Henry A. Zajac**, 85, of Mattapoisett, passed away peacefully at home on December 2, 2025, with his loving wife by his side. Born on September 26, 1940, he was the son of the late Henry M. and Janet K. Zajac. He grew up in the South End of New Bedford and attended Holy Family High School before enrolling at New

Bedford Institute of Technology. He joined the Army Reserves and was very proud of his service in the Military Police. He had a fulfilling 25-year career with the Reece Corporation, which brought him great joy, lasting friendships, and opportunities to see the world. After leaving Reece, he worked at Sippican Ocean Systems and later retired from American Power Conversion.

Known to many as Henry or Hank, and to those closest to him as Bunny, he cherished every stage of life, especially the years when he became lovingly known as "Grampa Bunny". A devoted family man, he was celebrated for his kindness, charm, and quick humor, always ready with a song, a story, or a one-liner. He could repair almost anything, big or small. He loved reading, learning, and keeping up with current events, and was an avid Celtics and Yankees fan. Bunny's passing leaves a hole in our hearts that can never be filled. He will be deeply missed.

Survivors include his beloved wife of 46 years Kathy; a son, John Zajac and his wife Nicole Saquet of Wrentham, MA; a daughter, Jane Zajac of Mattapoisett; two brothers, Mort Zajac and his wife Barbara of Mashpee and Peter Zajac and his wife Nancy of New Bedford; 2 sisters, Rosemary Bowman of Mattapoisett and Janet Shartle of Fairhaven; a brother-in-law, John Connor and his wife Joan of Lakeville; 3 grandchildren, Henry, Nicholas and William; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by Michael Zajac, Ann Zajac, Walter Bowman, Leonard Shartle, Judith Zajac, and Eileen Connor.

His family would like to thank all those who helped to care for Bunny in his time of need.

Henry's visiting hours will be held on Friday, December 12th from 3-6 pm at the Saunders-Dwyer Mattapoisett Home for Funerals, 50 County Rd. (Rt. 6), Mattapoisett. His Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, December 13th at 9:30 am at St. Anthony's Church. Anyone attending the Mass is invited to meet directly at Church. Burial will follow at St. Mary's Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, remembrances in his name may be made to the Salvation Army at 619 Purchase St. New Bedford, MA 02740. For directions and guestbook, visit [www.saundersdwyer.com](http://www.saundersdwyer.com).



affecting South Coast communities, while also discussing priorities for the upcoming session and 2026 elections.

Matt Dems asks that attendees bring a Holiday Food Gift Card of any amount for local grocery stores to support local families in need during this holiday season. We are working jointly with the Mattapoisett Elementary School System to assist families who have lost their SNAP benefits so that no family goes without food.

This meeting is open to anyone interested in getting involved in local and state politics and all newcomers are especially welcome. Come with a neighbor, family member or friend and bring any questions you might have or just listen in. For more information, please reach out to Nicki Demakis, Chair of Matt Dems at [ndemakis@tidhlaw.com](mailto:ndemakis@tidhlaw.com).

### Ramps For The Holidays

Buzzards Bay Area Habitat for Humanity (BBAHFH) is seeking metal wheelchair ramp donations and support for their Ramp Donation Program. According to Executive Director Christine Lacourse, "We have currently helped 26 families with ramps this year with the community's support. We have three more families that need our help before the end of the year, but we are out of inventory. We need to raise \$10,000 to buy 3 (or more) used ramps for Joanne, Nancy, and Lorraine, so that we can help change their world, and we are hoping for strong year-end support. Imagine, each tax-deductible gift will give someone the ability to stay or return home for the

holidays."

"There are many reasons why someone might need a ramp, from a simple broken leg to a chronic disease like multiple sclerosis to cancer," explained Lacourse. "Many of our ramp recipients have been healthy all their lives but now in their senior years, need a walker or are in a wheelchair. What a difference a ramp makes for an individual and their family. It literally gives someone freedom, independence, and the ability to Age-in-Place."

Ramp recipients have ranged in age from teenagers to those in their nineties. As one recipient's daughter enthused after her mother in her eighties got a ramp, "We are absolutely thrilled.... The ramp was installed today and my mother had a doctor's appointment at 2:30 and she did not have to hold on for dear life going down the stairs, while 10 out of 10 pain went down her hip. She just used her cane and held the railing and smoothly went down the ramp. And my Dad's hip is not in excruciating pain from going down and up the stairs. And the men who came and installed it were wonderful."

According to Janice, another recent ramp recipient who is 86 years old, "It made me feel alive. Really and truly. I don't have to lift my legs that I can't lift. I used to have to cling to the rail to get up, then lift my legs three times because I had three big steps, and now I can run up it. A flock of angels put it up. All gentlemen and very nice."

## OBITUARIES



**D. Ralph Whiterell**, 98, of Mattapoisett passed away Thursday, December 4, 2025 peacefully at home surrounded by his family. He was the husband of the late Barbara A. (Cox) Whiterell.

Born and raised in Worcester, MA, son of the late John and Cora (Gaulin) Whiterell, he lived in Mattapoisett for most of his life.

He was a communicant of St. Anthony's Church.

Ralph served honorably in the United States Army Air Forces during World War II.

He was a graduate of Clark University in Worcester.

Ralph was formerly self-employed as an accountant for many years until his retirement.

He was a long-time member of the Mattapoisett Lions Club and The Bay Club.

Ralph enjoyed golfing, sailing, skiing, reading, gardening and watching sports, especially the Boston Red Sox and the New England Patriots.

He is survived by three daughters, Susan Soares and her husband Paul of South Dartmouth, MA, Deborah Wheeler and her husband Jim of Beverly, MA, and Laura Lemos and

her husband Jaime of Hollis, NH; eight grandchildren, David Soares and his wife Katie, Jeffrey Soares, Alex Wheeler, Emily Wheeler and her husband Ben Stanford, Sam Wheeler and his wife Sarah, Justin Lemos, Sydney Lemos, and Madison Lemos; three great-grandchildren, John, James, and Elsie Soares; and many nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his six siblings, Roland Whiterell, Ludger Whiterell, Irving Whiterell, Edward Whiterell, Edith Grenier, and Florence Berry.

His Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 10:30am at St. Anthony's Church, 26 Hammond St., Mattapoisett, with everyone invited to meet directly at the Church. Burial will follow in the Massachusetts National Cemetery, Bourne. In lieu of flowers, donations in Ralph's memory may be made to the Veterans Transition House, 1297 Purchase St., New Bedford, MA 02740. Arrangements are by the Saunders-Dwyer Mattapoisett Home for Funerals, 50 County Rd., Mattapoisett. For online condolence book, please visit [www.saundersdwyer.com](http://www.saundersdwyer.com).

*If you have a notice you would like to have included in the Obituaries section, please contact our office at: 508 758-9055, or by email at [office@wanderer.com](mailto:office@wanderer.com).*

# TriTOWN HAPPENINGS



*Salty in his New Santa Hat. Photo by Lar Kupferschmidt*



*Photo by Jennifer Shepley*



*Ned's Point. Photo by Rob Grant*



*The Mattapoisett Congregational Church held their Fair and Kids' Pageant this weekend. Elliott Talley provided carols on the piano. The members of the congregation want to thank our community for attending our fair, enjoying some camaraderie and shopping. Photos by Jennifer Shepley*



**These photos and more are available online at [www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com)**



In 2024, BBAHFH formally introduced the Ramp Donation program giving low-income homeowners the accessibility they need to remain safe in their homes. Through ramp donations and purchases, BBAHFH tries to maintain an inventory available that can be loaned out and installed by volunteers when needed by a family, but this can be difficult as ramps are expensive, and the need is great. BBAHFH is grateful for its partners, including the families who have donated ramps to be reused, supporting foundations in the region, and Oakley Home Access for making ramps available on a discounted basis.

When a family no longer requires the ramp, it is picked up by BBAHFH and then loaned to another low-income family in need. The Ramp Donation program helps those with existing accessibility issues, temporary injuries, or those who are checking out of a rehabilitation facility with hopes of returning home.

BBAHFH is running this program throughout Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Rochester, Wareham, and Westport, and ramps are installed at no cost for families. This project is funded in part by grants from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, and the Executive Office of Aging & Independence and Coastline Elderly Services, the Area Agency on Aging, through Federal Title-III funds.

For more information on BBAHFH's Ramp Donation program, contact BuzzardsBayAreaHabitat@yahoo.com, or call 508-758-4517. Tax-deductible donations to support the program may be made at [www.BuzzardsBayHabitat.org](http://www.BuzzardsBayHabitat.org) or by sending a check to BBAHFH, P.O. Box 1584, Mattapoisett, MA 02739, and please note "Ramps for the Holidays."

### Hello from Plumb Library

We invite you to join us from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm on Saturday, **December 13** at the Library for the Annual Friends Holiday Fundraiser. We will be auctioning off 12 beautifully curated, themed baskets, as well as a couple of deluxe gift baskets worth over \$100 each. Tickets are on sale now and will be sold through the end of the event. Deluxe basket tickets will only be sold the day of the Holiday Fundraiser and prices may vary. In addition to the auction there will be a Bake Sale Table, a chance to visit with Santa, and a kid's craft activity. The Rochester Historical Society will be also be on-hand selling books, shirts, and other local history items. Ticket sales and Historical Society items are cash or check only, the bake sale is by cash donation.

All proceeds from the ticket sales and bake sale benefit the Friends of the Library, the non-profit fundraising arm of the Library. Thanks to the support of the Friends, we are able to provide programs, talks, and events for all ages at Plumb Library, which include things like the Summer Reading Program, author talks, and BookPage magazine. Interested in helping out? Ask us how you can become a member of the Friends of the

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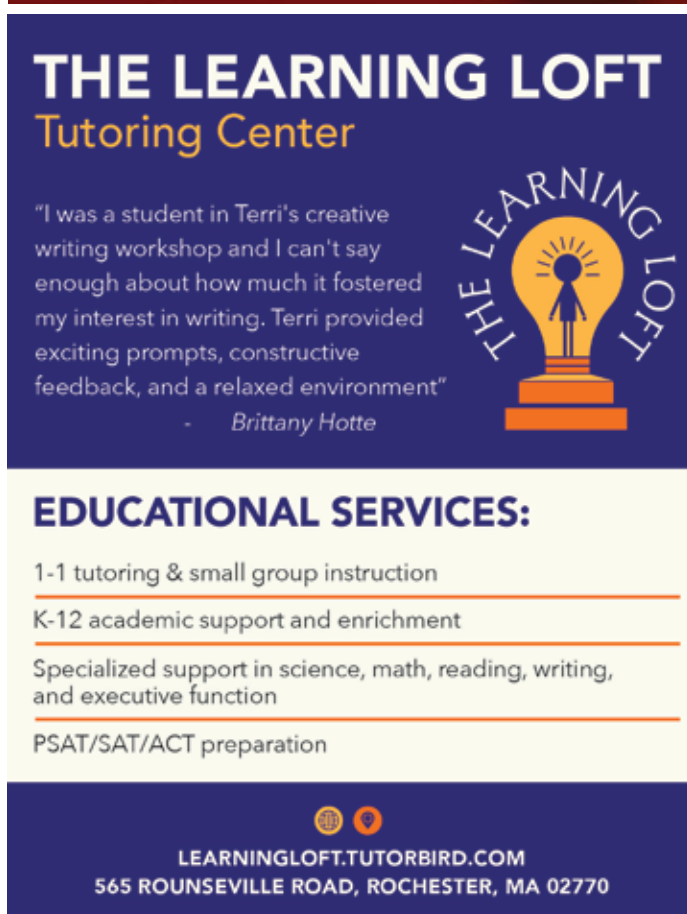
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# MOVIE REVIEW

## Good Night, Sweet Prince

By Rob Gonsalves  
[www.robsmovievault.com](http://www.robsmovievault.com)

**Hamnet.** Starring Jessie Buckley and Paul Mescal.  
Directed by Chloé Zhao. Running time: 126 minutes.  
MPAA rating: PG-13. Now playing in theaters.

*Hamnet* is meant to be a tribute to the power of art to memorialize the dead and engage with the deepest grief, but I'm afraid I wasn't buying it. For one thing, the movie would be nowhere without Jessie Buckley, to whom they may as well hand the Oscar now and save the fuss. Buckley plays Agnes Shakespeare, wife of William (Paul Mescal), who bears him a daughter and then twins — a boy and a girl. The boy, Hamnet, is a sensitive lad who wants to swing a sword in his father's plays. But then Hamnet's twin sister Judith, who nearly died in childbirth, comes down with the plague. Hamnet, who certainly *means* well, lies with Judith in her bed and wishes for Death to switch its focus to him. He gets his wish.

Buckley never half-asses anything in *Hamnet*. Her Agnes moves through lust, joy, worry, agony, and rage, always ferociously. Director Chloé Zhao (*Nomadland*), who wrote the script with the author of the source novel Maggie O'Farrell, stays with Agnes most of the time; it's Agnes' movie, not William's. Buckley repays Zhao's indulgence with a sharp and honest performance that, in its extremes of despair, is not always easy to watch. If *Train Dreams* enacted the man's side of familial grief, *Hamnet* delivers the woman's side, and well it should. That's not really the problem.

The problem, I suppose, is that the narrative feels awfully unbalanced. William, after all, also lost a child, and for a while his pain is sort of sidelined — possibly because he sidelined himself, spending a good deal of time working at the theater in London while his twin children were dying or recovering. He left Agnes behind to deal with all of that by herself, and he's well aware of that. In case he ever *isn't* aware of that, Agnes disdainfully reminds him on several occasions that he wasn't there. "You could have bid him farewell," she tells William, really sticking the knife in and twisting. Alone at the edge of the Thames — yes, he insists on going back to London, as he's needed more there and can't do much at home aside from absorbing regular guilt trips — William runs through "To be or not to be," then apparently chooses to be.

*Hamnet* slouches towards its guaranteed-tear-jerker climax, in which William premieres his new play



*Hamlet* and Agnes attends in a state of agitated disbelief. What has *this* to do with her son? She stands in the front row, seeming to dare the play to move her out of her anger. Eventually she realizes that William has written this play for Hamnet, to enshrine his memory forever, and instead of freaking out when Hamlet/Hamnet dies within inches of her, she has a vision of her Hamnet fading into the darkness of the backstage, and she laughs and smiles. End of movie. As for William, crying backstage, to hell with him, I guess. He wasn't *there*.

Early on, Agnes is rumored to be the daughter of a forest witch, and Zhao does justice to that concept with resonant images of Agnes in a red dress snuggling between the roots of two giant intertwined trees and, later, giving birth in the same spot. The imagery seems primordial — perhaps owing more to Grimm than to Shakespeare. But soon after, the images become dull and gray, possibly following Agnes' moods, and the pace slackens. Zhao honors female pain (Emily Watson has a fine saddening speech as William's mother, who recalls the three children she lost) but shows benign neglect for William. Somehow, Mescal keeps us from hating William when he takes off to London, and to her credit, Zhao doesn't really endorse Agnes' rage at him. But she doesn't seem to feel one way or the other about William's loss or his relationship with his bullying father.

Nor — and this is the crucial flaw — does Zhao seem to feel Agnes' horror and grief along with her. At times she seems to abandon Agnes as much as William does. And her indulgence of Buckley's emoting carries a price. I think it was Michael Caine who noted that to make the greatest impact, an actor should seem to be struggling really hard *against* the moment. If the character is supposed to be drunk, Caine said, the actor must *maintain*, try desperately hard to seem *sober*. If the character is meant to be sad, waterworks won't do; Caine advised trying like hell *not* to cry, and the audience will cry for you. Well, Buckley screams and sobs and twists her face, and the movie's view of Agnes' pain seems external, almost abstract, borderline performative. We don't cry for her; we just watch the waterworks.

Library.

Other Upcoming Meetings & Events: Knitting Group 6:30 pm Mondays **December 15, 22, 29**; Board of Library Trustees 6 pm Thursday **December 11**; Writers Group 6:30 pm Thursday **December 18**; Books & Babble Bookclub 6:30 pm Monday **December 29**. Please note: The COA Book Group will not be meeting in December.

Please note: The Library will be closing at 1 pm Friday **December 12** for the Town Employee Christmas Party. Our Holiday Hours are: Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve 10 am-2 pm ; we will be closed all day Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

More information and links for registration can be found on the Events Calendar on our website [www.plumblibrary.com](http://www.plumblibrary.com). Want to stay up-to-date on Library happenings? Ask to be added to our monthly Newsletter email list, check out our online Events Calendar, or "like and follow" us on Facebook and Instagram.

Library hours: Monday / Thursday 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm; Tuesday / Wednesday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm; Friday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm; Saturday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm; closed Sundays and Holidays. Contact us: call 508-763-8600 or email at [info@plumblibrary.com](mailto:info@plumblibrary.com) during regular hours.

### Upcoming Events at the Elizabeth Taber Library

The Library will be closed on Wednesday, December 24, Thursday, December 25, and Friday,

December 26 in celebration of Christmas. The library will reopen on Saturday, December 27.

Visit the library on Friday, **December 12** at 6:00 pm to welcome the holidays with the Cooking Club Holiday Spectacular! Join chef Jeni Wheeler as she shares her holiday tips and tricks for hosting this holiday season. Free small bites, mocktails and fun. Registration is Required- call the library at 508-748-1252 or register online.

Drop in anytime from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Tuesday, **December 16** to create a custom spice blend from the ETL Spice Pantry. Make unique gifts for the food lover in your life at this free, self-led event.

For more information on the Elizabeth Taber Library visit us at [www.ElizabethTaberLibrary.org](http://www.ElizabethTaberLibrary.org) or email the library at [ETLibrary@sailsinc.org](mailto:ETLibrary@sailsinc.org).

### Rochester Historical Society Holiday Happenings

On **December 13** from 10:00 pm to 1:30 pm, the Rochester Historical Society will be at the Plumb Library Holiday Fund Raiser. We'll be right there as you come in the door, and we hope you will stop to say hi and to check out our items for sale. We're Santa approved with many potential Christmas gifts. Along with our usual clothing, we have a new item, a fleece vest with our Rochester logo embroidered. Some of our board members have been testing them out and find them warm and comfortable.

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# TRI-TOWN POLICE LOGS



## MARION

### Log highlights Nov 30 – Dec 6

- Cove Cir – General service
- Brigg's Ter – EMS/medical
- 195 West – MV collision
- Parkway Ln – EMS/medical
- 195 West – Suspicious MV
- Spring St – General service
- 195 West – MV collision
- Wareham Rd – MV collision
- Point Rd – General service
- Washburn Ln – B&E/past
- Wareham Rd – Health/welfare
- Point Rd – Attempted B&E
- Village Dr – A&B/past
- Point Rd – Paper service
- Mill St – Order of Protection
- Point Rd – Officer wanted
- Converse Rd – EMS/Medical
- Mill St – Health/welfare
- Spring St – MV collision
- Point Rd – Road hazard
- Front St – Officer wanted
- Holmes St – EMS/medical
- Village Dr – Larceny/past
- Wareham Rd – MV collision
- Point Rd – B&E/in progress
- Mechanic St – Lost property
- Mill St – Disturbance
- Main St – MV collision
- Field Stone Ln – Health/welfare

## MATTAPOISETT

### Log highlights Nov 30 – Dec 6

- Long Plain Rd – Animal control
- Massasoit Way – Property lost
- Reservation Rd – 911 call
- North St – MV crash
- Beechwood Rd – Follow up call
- Baker Ln – Animal control
- Acushnet Rd – Follow up
- 195 East – 911 call
- Grand View Ave – Restraining order
- Captain's Ln – Health/welfare
- County Rd – Officer wanted
- North St – Complaint
- 195 East – MV crash
- County Rd – MV lockout
- 195 West – MV crash
- Oakland St – Medical alarm
- Marion Rd – General service
- North St – MV violations
- Marion Rd – MV crash
- Golf Cottage Way – 911 call
- Water St – Animal control
- Marion Rd – Suspicious persons
- Reservation Rd – General service
- North St – MV lockout
- Gosnold St – MV lockout
- Beaver Path – 911 call
- Mechanic St – Property lost
- Fairhaven Rd – Health/welfare
- Goodspeed Island – General service

## ROCHESTER

### Log highlights Nov 30 – Dec 6

- Snipatuit Rd – Follow up
- Rounseville Rd – 911 call
- Kings Hwy – Well-being check
- Dexter Ln – Firearms licensing
- Katlyn Cir – Detector issue
- Looks Mill Ln – Well-being check
- Neck Rd – General services
- County Rd – Disabled MV
- Dexter Ln – General services
- Pine St – Detector issue
- Cranberry Hwy – Assist other
- Alley Rd – Animal control
- County Rd – MV stop/towed
- Marys Pond Rd – Panic alarm
- Marion Rd – Burglar alarm
- Neck Rd – Suspicious activity
- Marion Rd – Suspicious activity
- High St – 911 call
- Forbes Rd – General services
- Walnut Plain Rd – MV stop
- North Ave – MV stop
- Walnut Plain Rd – Road hazard
- New Bedford Rd – Road hazard
- Neck Rd – MV stop
- Cranberry Hwy – Burglar alarm
- Mayflower Ln – Keep the peace
- North Ave – 911 call
- Marion Rd – MV stop
- Cushman Rd – Animal control

For a full PDF of the three towns' police logs from the past week, including arrest reports, visit [www.Wanderer.com](http://www.Wanderer.com).



## REGIONAL LUNCH MENUS

### COASTLINE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM

**Monday, Dec 15:** Cheese ravioli w/turkey bolognese, parmesan cheese, Cali blend vegetables, wheat bread, orange

**Tuesday, Dec 16:** Beef Stroganoff, egg noodles, brussel sprouts, wheat roll, cinnamon apples

**Wednesday, Dec 17:** Cheesy chicken casserole, seasoned rice, green peas, dinner roll, pear fruit cup

**Thursday, Dec 18:** Maple glazed honey ham, roasted potatoes, carrots, wheat roll, chocolate swirl, diet: fruit

**Friday, Dec 19:** Broccoli & egg bake w/buttermilk biscuit, mixed vegetables, vanilla pudding, diet: fruit

### CENTER SCHOOL

**Monday, Dec 15:** Homemade chicken noodle soup, grilled cheese sandwich

**Tuesday, Dec 16:** Taco Tuesday, brown rice, black bean salad, taco toppings bar

**Wednesday, Dec 17:** Wacky

waffles, maple syrup, potato smiles, assorted yogurt cup

**Thursday, Dec 18:** Baked creamy chicken penne, garlic breadstick, steamed broccoli

**Friday, Dec 19:** Cheese pizza, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

### OLD HAMMONDTOWN

**Monday, Dec 15:** Homemade chicken noodle soup, grilled cheese sandwich

**Tuesday, Dec 16:** Taco Tuesday, brown rice, black bean salad, taco toppings bar

**Wednesday, Dec 17:** Wacky waffles, maple syrup, potato smiles, assorted yogurt cup

**Thursday, Dec 18:** Baked creamy chicken penne, garlic breadstick, steamed broccoli

**Friday, Dec 19:** Cheese pizza, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

### OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH

**Monday, Dec 15:** Homemade chicken noodle soup, grilled cheese sandwich

**Tuesday, Dec 16:** Taco Tuesday, brown rice, black bean salad, taco toppings bar

**Wednesday, Dec 17:** Wacky waffles, maple syrup, potato smiles, assorted yogurt cup

**Thursday, Dec 18:** Baked creamy chicken penne, garlic breadstick, steamed broccoli

**Friday, Dec 19:** Pizza crunchers, marinara sauce, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

### ROCHESTER MEMORIAL

**Monday, Dec 15:** Homemade chicken noodle soup, grilled cheese sandwich

**Tuesday, Dec 16:** Taco Tuesday, brown rice, black bean salad, taco toppings bar

**Wednesday, Dec 17:** Wacky waffles, maple syrup, potato smiles, assorted yogurt cup

**Thursday, Dec 18:** Baked creamy chicken penne, garlic breadstick, steamed broccoli

**Friday, Dec 19:** Cheese pizza, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

### SIPPICAN SCHOOL

**Monday, Dec 15:** Homemade chicken noodle soup, grilled cheese sandwich

**Tuesday, Dec 16:** Taco Tuesday, brown rice, black bean salad, taco toppings bar

**Wednesday, Dec 17:** Wacky waffles, maple syrup, potato smiles, assorted yogurt cup

**Thursday, Dec 18:** Baked creamy chicken penne, garlic breadstick, steamed broccoli

**Friday, Dec 19:** Cheese pizza, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

### OLD COLONY REGIONAL

**Monday, Dec 15:** Build your own beef tacos, salsa, cheese, lettuce, tomato, corn & black beans

**Tuesday, Dec 16:** Macaroni & cheese OR buffalo mac & cheese w/ green beans & dinner roll

**Wednesday, Dec 17:** Chicken chow mein & chop suey veggies

**Thursday, Dec 18:** BBQ chicken, bacon, ranch flatbread

**Friday, Dec 19:** Assorted pizza & Caesar salad



They come in all sizes and in black, red, navy, bright blue, and the Historical Society favorite of iron gray. They wash well and don't pill. Definitely, the look for 2026.

On **December 14** at 1:30 pm, it's Christmas at the Rochester Historical Society Museum at 355 County Road, Rochester.

Our rare Vocalion organ will be the star of our holiday music and sing-along. Sheila Perry will be playing our organ, and she and Tom will lead us in singing along to favorite songs and carols. It's truly a magical experience to enjoy this music in a 19th century church. It is an oasis of calm during the busy holidays.

There will be hot cider and cocoa with goodies after the concert. The price of admission is an unwrapped gift for a teen or child.

### Marion Village Stroll

The Marion Village Stroll will take place on Sunday, **December 14** from 3:00 pm to 5:30 pm. Coordinated by Angela Rossi and sponsored by The Marion Business Community Association, local merchants offer hospitality and treats; Santa arrives via boat at the Old Landing at 3:00 pm; Clydesdale horses pull wagons of happy guests. Added to this are crafts, games, and musical performances, and the Tree lighting at 5:30 pm at the Bandstand. During the Stroll, The Sippican Woman's Club's clubhouse, aka "The Tavern", 152 Front Street will be open to sit, visit and enjoy.

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### From the Files of the Rochester Historical Society By Connie Eshbach

When I started writing about Rochester history, I titled the articles from the "Files of the Rochester Historical Society" because one of the important things that we do within our museum is to collect and preserve pictures and all kinds of paper (ephemera and archival material) that are important to the understanding of Rochester as a town and also of its place in Massachusetts history. History after all is just a story of a time, a place, an event, a community or an individual.

In addition to all that "ephemera" that is filed

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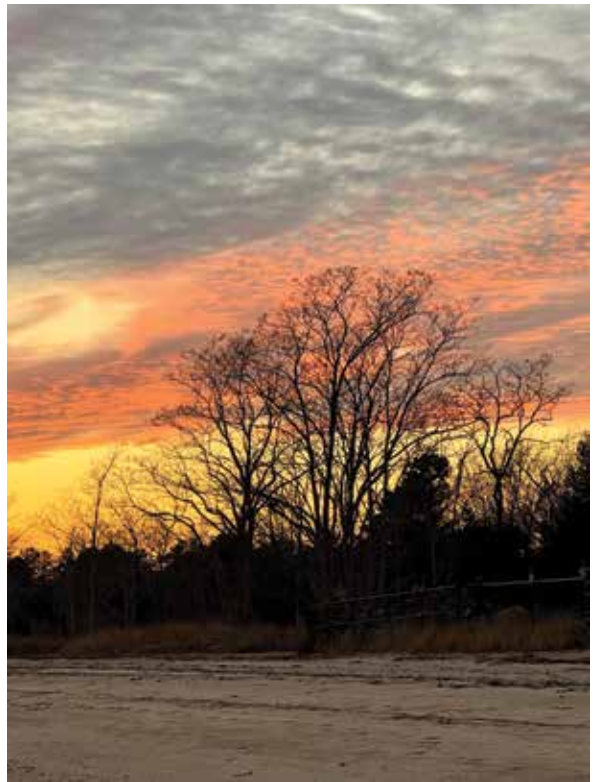
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# TriTOWN HAPPENINGS



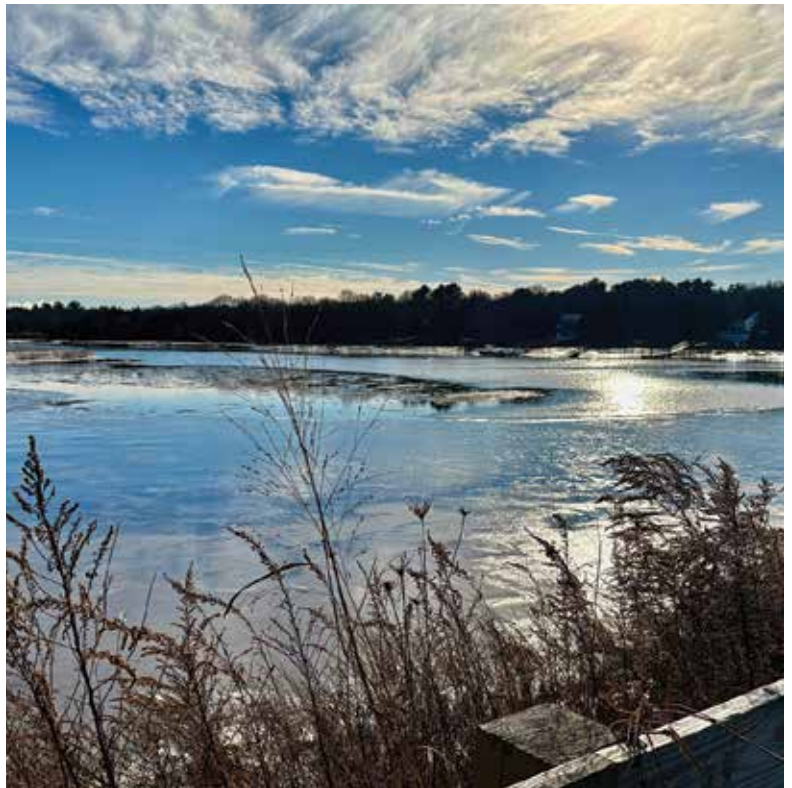
*Aardvarks getting into the Christmas spirit at the Plumb Library.  
Photo by Chrystal Martin*



*Photo by Jennifer Shepley*



*Photo by Steve Chicco*



*View from the Mattapoisett Bike Trail. Photo by Ruth A. Griffin*

**These photos and more are available online at [www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com)**



away, we also have many items donated by individuals who didn't want to send their historic items to the landfill. Among these items is one of the earliest treadle sewing machines, a rare vocalion organ, a newly acquired flax wheel and the bench from Bettencourt's front porch where workers from the Hartley Sawmill would sit to eat their lunches and occasionally, carve their names or initials into the wood.

If historical societies aren't careful, they can simply become repositories of dry papers and dusty stuff. This can be particularly true of small, underfunded ones similar to ours. However, the Board of the Rochester Historical Society, pictured here at a meeting (with some incidentally wearing our newest Rochester item, a fleece vest with our embroidered logo which will be for sale at the library's Dec. 13th sale) believe that history is a living thing that should be shared with its community. It shows us where we've been, so we know how we've gotten to where we are today.

To bring Rochester history alive, we plan monthly programs and yearly exhibits (with the help of those who donate or loans their historic items). All of this takes work and planning from moving heavy cranberry sorters and awkward agricultural spreaders to creating programs that we hope people will find interesting.

For a small, member-supported museum reliant on donations and Cultural Council grants, we definitely punch above our weight class (I think that's a boxing term). A few years ago, when our exhibit centered on maps, it was listed on an international website for museums



focused on maps. More recently, a local educator praised our exhibit on how people of Rochester entertained themselves for over 300 yrs. as one of the best social history exhibits he'd seen.

We know an exhibit is a success when the people visiting identify with it. As people left this year's exhibit of "The Tools and Industries That Made Rochester" there were comments that the exhibit "really took them back" or reminisces about working with some of the tools. I know I have a much greater appreciation of the 19th and early 20th century workers who hefted the heavy iron and wooden tools on display.

Hopefully, our upcoming 2026 exhibit, "Rochester and the Revolution" will live up to its predecessors. We'll be opening sometime late spring/early summer and would appreciate any Revolutionary or colonial memorabilia that could be loaned to the museum.

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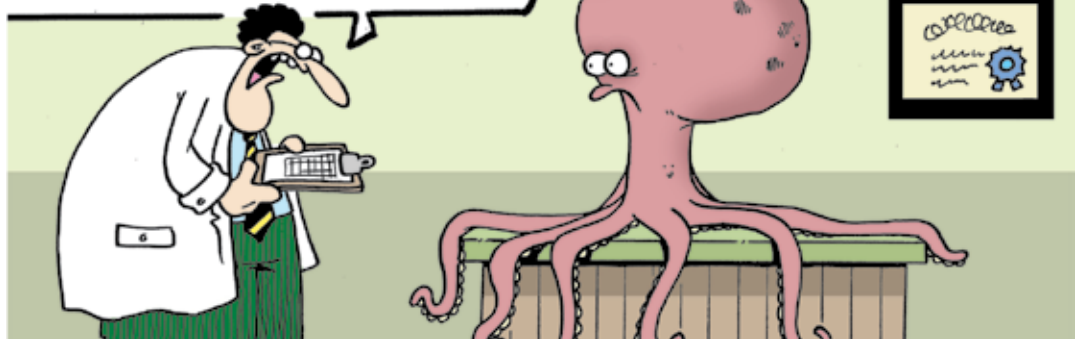
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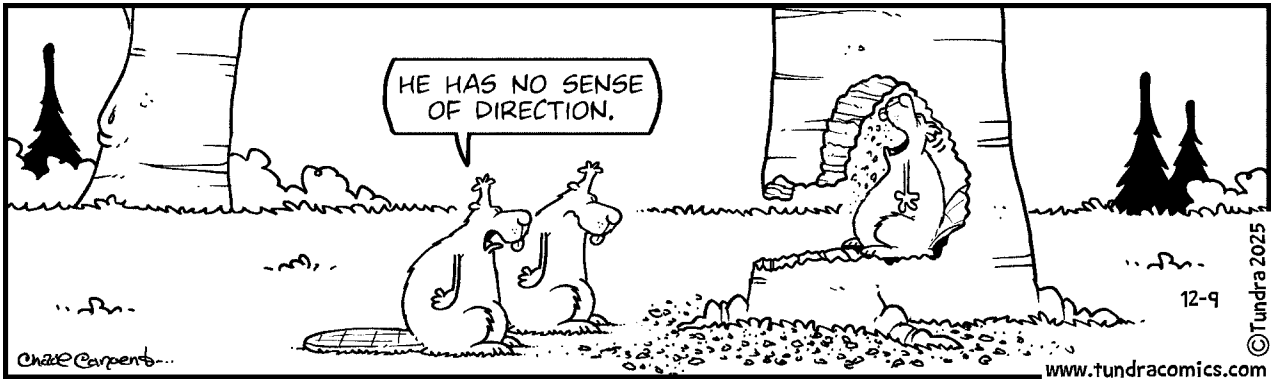




BAD NEWS, I'M AFRAID.  
CARPAL TUNNEL.



Tundra  
by Chad Carpenter



## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



## **Mattapoisett Holiday in the Park**

Mattapoisett's Holiday in the Park will take place on Saturday, **December 13** from 3pm to 5pm in Shipyard Park. There will be a special appearance by Santa and Mrs. Clause who will be joined by Rudolph, Frosty, and the Elves. There will also be special performances by the ORRJH Band and Showstoppers as well as the Annual Tree Lighting.

## **Tinkhamtown Chapel Christmas Sing**

The annual Tinkhamtown Chapel Christmas Sing-along will take place on Saturday, **December 20** at 5:00 pm at the Chapel on the corner of Acushnet Road and Tinkham Lane. Join your friends and neighbors as we sing the old favorites under the light of kerosene lamps and accompanied by an antique pump organ. Refreshments will be served in the Sewing Circle Building next door. If anyone would like to perform a solo instrumental or vocal selection, or if you have any questions, please contact Gail Roberts at 508-758-9559 or by emailing [peggsmom@gmail.com](mailto:peggsmom@gmail.com).

If you can't attend on December 20, please join us at the Mattapoisett Museum, 5 Church Street, on Sunday, December 21 at 4:00 pm for a Christmas carol sing-along, plus a visit from Santa.

## **Mattapoisett Seeks Volunteers for 4th of July Celebration**

The Town of Mattapoisett is gearing up for an Independence Day celebration, and we need your help to make it happen!

We're calling on community members of all ages to volunteer for this year's July festivities. We have several ideas that are being considered to present a small-town celebration for the USA on the 250th birthday. The celebration will begin on the evening of July 3 and conclude possibly on Sunday, July 5. The programs are designed so as not to interfere with the annual road race or the parade in Marion. This will be family friendly and give us all chance to mark this big national celebration.

There will be a meeting for anyone interested to help on **December 10** at 6:00 pm at the legion hall on Depot street. We can share our ideas which are pretty simple but will take many volunteers to make it happen.

Questions may be emailed to [theseamstress058@gmail.com](mailto:theseamstress058@gmail.com).

## **St. Gabriel's Annual Christmas Fair Returns**

St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church is thrilled to announce the return of its Annual Christmas Fair on Sunday, **December 14**, running from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Back by popular demand and expanded for 2025, this year's fair promises to be bigger and better than ever.

With 25 talented local artisans, visitors will discover a unique selection of handcrafted gifts, holiday décor, artwork, jewelry, specialty foods, and one-of-a-

kind treasures - perfect for checking off your Christmas shopping list while supporting small, local businesses.

The festive fun doesn't stop there. Guests can enjoy hot breakfast and a delicious homemade lunch, plus an irresistible assortment of baked goods and sweet treats available throughout the day.

And new this year - bring your family and strike a pose with our very special surprise guest who will be visiting the fair for photos.

The event also coincides with the town's beloved Marion Stroll, making St. Gabriel's a perfect stop as you enjoy a full day of holiday cheer in our community.

Join us for a joyful, family-friendly celebration of the season - shop, eat, mingle, and support a wonderful local tradition.

## **Marion Natural History Museum**

Marion Natural History Museum is hosting Marine animals of our coastline, Friday **December 12** from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Marion Natural History Museum, 8 Spring Street, Marion.

Join Carol "Krill" Carson for an informative presentation on the unique marine wildlife that can be found off the shores of Cape Cod and southeastern Massachusetts. Krill is a marine biologist who has been rescuing and researching marine wildlife in the New England area since 1980. Hear about the humpback whales, gray seals, ocean sunfish, basking sharks, great whites, sea turtles and the other species that come to feed and raise their young in the waters off Cape Cod.

Krill is the founder and president of New England Coastal Wildlife Alliance (NECWA), an all-volunteer nonprofit based in southeastern MA. "Every Animal Counts" is NECWA's motto. NECWA responds to any distressed and stranded marine wildlife on our beaches but specializes in marine wildlife that are not taken care of by other organizations in the area. To learn more about NECWA, go to [www.necwa.org](http://www.necwa.org).

To register please go to the museum's website: [www.marionmuseum.org](http://www.marionmuseum.org). Suggested \$10.00 donation to the museum is much appreciated.

## **"Holiday By The Sea" House Tour**

The Sippican Woman's Club invites the community to celebrate the magic of the season at the 35th Annual Holiday By The Sea House Tour on Saturday, **December 13**, a beloved tradition that transforms Marion into a festive wonderland.

This year's Holiday Spectacular showcases five beautifully decorated homes throughout our historic seaside village and community, each offering its own charm, story, and seasonal inspiration. As part of the Tour, guests will enjoy two cherished signature experiences:

-The Enchanting Sugarplum Fairy Tea at Tabor Academy - a delightful stop filled with sweets, sparkle, and holiday whimsy.

# Super Crossword

ONE AND THE SAME

## ACROSS

- 1 Enchilada alternative  
8 Threaten like a mad dog  
15 Recurring design  
20 Proved to be beneficial to  
21 Audrey of "Sabrina"  
22 "Magic Bites" author Andrews  
23 [Span] [Span]  
25 Some spongy balls  
26 Morning times, in brief  
27 Astrologer Sydney  
28 Films based on reportage, for short  
30 Heavy drinker  
31 Musical scale starters  
33 [Cogitates] [Cogitates]  
36 Severe shock  
39 Pear or lime  
41 Somber  
42 [Criminal] [Criminal]  
46 Surrealist painter Max  
47 Swiss peaks  
48 Ukraine city  
49 Having some benefit

- 52 Pick-up-sticks logic game  
53 Lad from London, say  
54 Old-time TV announcer Johnny  
56 Spike of corn  
59 "I — reason why ..."  
61 [Star] [Star]  
67 Reportage on American events  
69 Gas station brand  
70 Golf great Sörenstam  
71 [Residence] [Residence]  
76 Old Icelandic poetry books  
77 Coast Guard officer: Abbr.  
78 Strong winds  
79 — and aahs  
81 Raised trains  
82 Not asleep  
84 Obstruct  
87 Parisian gal pal  
88 Setting  
91 [Brotherly] [Brotherly]  
95 Bach choral composition  
98 Poets' Muse  
99 Pie portions  
100 [Dictated] [Dictated]

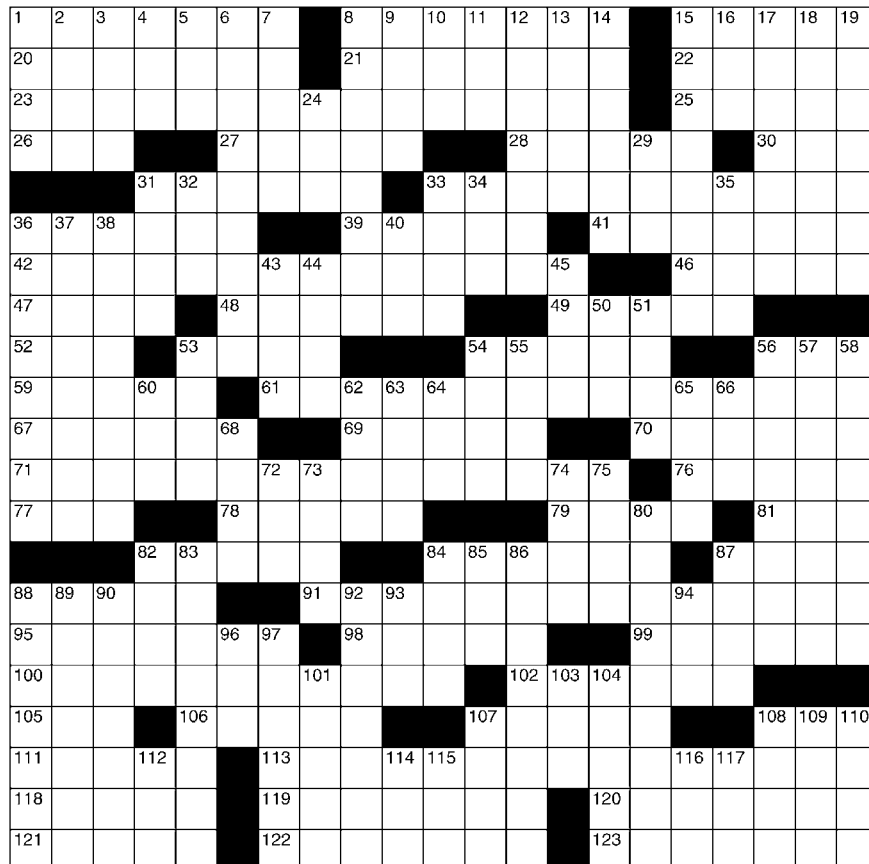
- 102 Accessories for cue sticks and black-boards  
105 Follower of "http://"  
106 Greek epic about Troy  
107 Mario's video game brother  
108 Real devotee  
111 Jazz singer Cleo  
113 [Character] [Character]  
118 Snaky curves  
119 Attack the integrity of  
120 Go in circles  
121 Butler played by Gable  
122 Foyer sofas  
123 For the purpose of diagnosing

## DOWN

- 1 "And there it is!"  
2 Egg, formally  
3 Drains energy from  
4 Up to, in ads  
5 Longtime foe of Frazier  
6 Interior designer, e.g.  
7 "There Is Nothin' Like —"  
8 County officers  
9 State east of Wyo.  
10 Mo. before May  
11 Slugging stat  
12 Avoider of high-tech stuff  
13 Element #18  
14 High, tight sweater  
15 Singer of lyric poetry  
16 Chilean cheer  
17 Process of being twisted  
18 Not blurry, as an image  
19 Most rapid  
24 Scottish cap  
29 Purpose  
31 Club fees  
32 German for "grandma"  
33 Sushi fish  
34 Concealed  
35 Metallic string  
36 Ooze through pores  
37 Trusts in  
38 Option lists for e-device downloads  
40 Hi- — screen  
43 Like poems of praise  
44 Lavish party

- 45 Oxidation formation  
50 Mattel product  
51 Old Cuzco native  
53 Play tenpins  
54 Bicolor whale  
55 Roarer in Oz  
56 Uncontrolled outbreak  
57 Having a pH over 7  
58 Appraise again  
60 Bird's beak  
62 Wedding veil material  
63 Very big birds  
64 Conk  
65 Low bills  
66 Linking word in German  
68 Former rival of Nintendo  
72 Sturdy wood  
73 Symbol on a musical staff  
74 Either director of "Fargo"  
75 Jedi master  
80 They're called to get assistance  
82 Pot payment  
83 Most fatigued  
84 Russia's — -Tass

- 85 Came upon  
86 Obtains  
87 Leaves speechless  
88 Giver of an angry look  
89 Place to take a dirty vehicle  
90 How sausage links are connected  
92 Adjust to a situation again  
93 Bush press secretary  
94 "— ToK" (Kesha hit)  
96 Phone no.  
97 Nike rival  
101 Intermission  
103 That fellow's  
104 Ancient Greek market  
107 — majesty (high treason)  
108 Manicure tool  
109 Off-road trucks, briefly  
110 No, in Russia  
112 Insect trapper  
114 Allow to  
115 Start for teen or adolescent  
116 Film director DuVernay  
117 Large number



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# SALOME'S STARS

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Make your holiday preparations one step at time in order to avoid being overwhelmed and leaving things undone. That confusing family situation continues to work itself out.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Ease this year's holiday money pressures by letting your thrifty side guide you as you look for those perfect gifts that typically reflect your good taste and love of beauty.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) You'll have a good handle on potential holiday problems if you delegate tasks to family members, friends or co-workers -- most of whom will be more than happy to help out.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Right now you are especially vulnerable to holiday scams that seek to take advantage of your generosity. Best advice: Check them out before you transfer any money.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) The upcoming holiday season gives the Big Cat much to purr about. Relationships grow stronger, and new opportunities loom on the horizon, just waiting to be pounced on.

**VIRGO** (Aug 23 to September 22) A changing situation brings conflicting advice about how to go forward with your holiday plans. Your best bet: Make the decision you feel most comfortable with.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Holiday plans get back on track after some confusion about the direction you expected to take. A potentially troublesome money matter needs your immediate attention.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Your holiday preparations are on track. But you need to confront a personal situation while you can still keep it from overwhelming everything else.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Tight financial matters ease a bit during this holiday season. But the sagacious Sagittarian is well-advised to keep a tight hold on the reins while shopping for gifts.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Don't put off making decisions about this year's holiday celebrations, despite the negative comments you've been getting from several quarters. Do it NOW!

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) The holidays will bring new friends and new opportunities. Meanwhile, be careful to use your energy wisely as you go about making holiday preparations.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) There's good news coming from a most unlikely source. And it could turn out to be one of the best holiday gifts you have had in years. Remember to stay positive.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You are respected for your honesty and loyalty. You make friends slowly -- but with rare exceptions, they're in your life forever.

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-Warm After-Hours Gathering at the Beverly Yacht Club - a cozy celebration overlooking the waterfront, brimming with holiday cheer.

The Tour begins at Handy's Tavern, 152 Front Street at 10:00 am, where ticketholders will receive their programs and maps for the day.

A treasured community fundraiser, the Holiday By The Sea House Tour proudly supports the Sippican Woman's Club Scholarship Program, which has awarded over \$500,000 to local students. Proceeds also benefit many nonprofit organizations and community initiatives throughout Marion and our local region. Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door.

As the festivities continue, the community is warmly invited to visit Handy's Tavern during the Marion Holiday Stroll on Sunday, where the Sippican Woman's Club will be offering warm Wassail and welcoming neighbors into the historic tavern.

For more information, updates, or advanced ticket links, please visit the Sippican Woman's Club website [www.SippicanWomansClub.org](http://www.SippicanWomansClub.org) or follow us on social media.

### **North Rochester Congregational Church Lessons & Carols**

The North Rochester Congregational Church, 247 North Avenue in Rochester, will be having its Lessons & Carols service on Sunday, **December 21** at 6:00 pm. Paul Sardinha, their longtime organist, will provide the music. Food and fellowship will follow the service. Everyone is welcome.

### **Rochester Historical Society News**

The last Sunday that the Museum will be open from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm is the 30th, however, it's a good idea to call Sue at 508-295-8908 to make sure there's coverage. After this you can always call Sue or Connie 617-750-2818 to arrange a visit.

We will be at the Plumb Library Holiday Fundraiser from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm on **December 13** with our Rochester clothing and other merchandise, all of which make good Christmas presents. In addition to tees, 3 styles of sweatshirts, hats, books, maps, Rochester tic-tac-toes and a new item, fleece vests.

On December 14 at 1:30 pm we will have our Holiday Organ Concert and Sing Along as well as our Christmas Party. More info later.

### **Church of the Good Shepherd Weekly Free Meal**

The Good Shepherd's Table at the Church of the Good Shepherd on 74 High St. in Wareham serves a free in-person meal, which is open to the public, every Thursday at 4:30 pm. All are welcome to the church's dining hall- come as you are and enjoy free dining and fellowship. The December menu is December 4, Baked

[www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com)

St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church  
124 Front St. Marion

## **CHRISTMAS Craft Fair**

Sunday, December 14th

9am - 4pm

Support Local Artisans  
Gifts \* Food \* Music

## **Old Tyme Chimney**

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[www.OldTymeChimneySweep.com](http://www.OldTymeChimneySweep.com)

## LEGAL NOTICES

### TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT ROAD CLOSURE PUBLIC NOTICE

Antassawamock Club, Inc. will close its Private roads to public traffic on Saturday, December 27, 2025.

Signed: Board of Directors  
Antassawamock Club, Inc.  
Susan Chapman Moss, Secretary 12/4, 12/11

### TOWN OF MARION ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CASE #838

The Marion Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at 6:30 pm on Thursday, January 8, 2026 in the conference room of the Marion Police Station, 550 Mill Street, on the application of William F. and Dina J. Quinlan, for a Variance under section 230-5.1 of the zoning by-law to construct a single family dwelling on a lot which is short the minimum lot area as outlined in Table A in said section of the by-laws.

The property, located on Briggs Terrace, is further identified on Assessors' Plan 23 as Lot 9. Cynthia Callow, Chairperson 12/11, 12/18

### TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Mattapoisett Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, December 22, 2025 at 6:30 pm in the Mattapoisett Town Hall on a Notice of Intent submitted by Derek & Kylene Gregoire. The meeting will also be a hybrid meeting. Please contact the Conservation Commission for the Zoom information.

The Applicants request an Order of Conditions for changes to a previously approved deck, patio, in-ground swimming pool and fire pit which results in an increase in the scope of work approved under DEP File No. SE 44-1520.

The proposed work will be performed within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, Flood Zone VE (E1, 17) & within the 100 ft. Buffer Zone of a Coastal Bank & Coastal Beach.

The property is located at 2 Goodspeed Island and is further identified as Lot #28A on Assessors Map #10. 12/11

### TOWN OF MARION SELECT BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Application - Change of Category  
Wine & Malt License to All Alcohol Off Premise

## LEGAL NOTICES

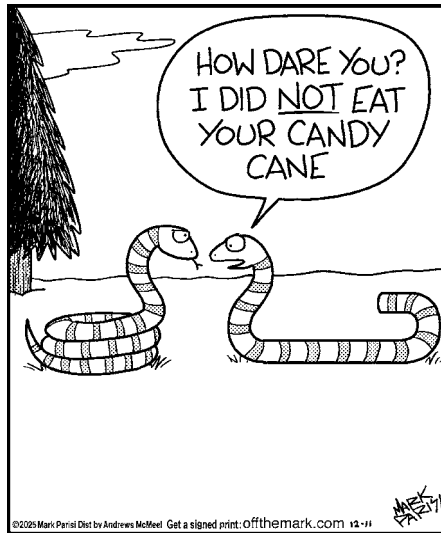
License  
C & J SULL LLC, d/b/a J. Sull Wine  
119 Wareham Road, Unit 105, Marion, MA

The Marion Select Board, acting as the Local Licensing Authority, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Marion Police Department Conference Room, 550 Mill Street, on the application of C & J SULL LLC, d/b/a J. Sull Wine for the change of category from a retail package goods license for the sale of wine and malt beverages to a retail package good license for the sale of all alcohol beverages.  
Randy L. Parker, Chair 12/11, 12/18

### TOWN OF MARION SELECT BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Marion Select Board, acting as the Local Licensing Authority, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 6:20pm in the Marion Police Department Conference Room, 550 Mill Street, Marion, on the application of Magan Corp., d/b/a Light House, for a retail package goods license for the sale of all alcohol beverages.  
Randy L. Parker, Chair 12/11, 12/18

off the mark by Mark Parisi



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## Weekly SUDOKU

		6		5		4		
	5				1			3
7		1	4					
							6	
8	9		3				7	5
	7			4			9	2
	6	8	7				4	9
2	3				4			8

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Grit

ARLOV

Kind

AHMENU

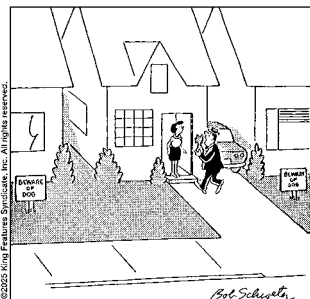
Vague

ROCUBES

Prompt

LIMPE

**TODAY'S WORD**



"The vet says he's a very

\_\_\_\_\_ cat."

Chicken Dinner; December 11, Hot Dogs and Beans Dinner; December 18, Chicken Cacciatore Dinner; December 25 Christmas Day, no meal that night.

### Mattapoissett Food and Toy Drive

The Mattapoissett Lions will be hosting a food and toy drive **December 13** in front of Ying Dynasty from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm and from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm at Shipyard Park during the town tree lighting event. Monetary donations are also encouraged.

All toys will be shuttled over to the Mattapoissett Fire Department. The Lions have collaborated with the Fire Department on this toy drive for many years. All food and monetary donations will be donated to Damian's Pantry. If you want to donate a supermarket gift card, Damian's suggested \$25 increments.

### Holiday Luncheon And Cookie Sale

The First Congregational Church of Marion is happy to host its Annual Holiday Luncheon to coincide with the Sippican Women's Club Holiday House Tour. The luncheon takes place on Saturday, **December 13** from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. With a price of \$18 per ticket, this event promises to be a delightful stop during the House Tour or an opportunity to enjoy some holiday cheer.

The luncheon features our famous hot chicken salad or soup, dressed greens, bread, beverages, plus cheesecake with topping for dessert. The cost of the luncheon is \$18. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the Marion General Store, at Penny Pinchers, online, and will also be available at the door on the day of the event.

Before or after lunch, stop by the Cookie Sale to purchase delicious holiday cookies made by some of the best bakers of the church. These cookies will be offered in beautifully decorated boxes and will make a perfect host or hostess gift or a special treat when company pops in.

The Holiday Luncheon and Cookie Sale will be held on the second floor of The First Congregational Church Community Center, 144 Front Street, Marion. This building, equipped with a stairlift, is located at the rear of the Marion General Store parking lot. Parking is available at the back right of the lot, plus there is additional parking at Island Wharf.

Come, bring your friends, and enjoy.

### Hear Our Voice

The Hear Our Voice concert will be presented at Wickenden Chapel on Saturday **December 13** at 4:00 pm. This special concert is a collaboration between the South Coast Children's Chorus, St. Gabriel's Choir, and Tabor Madrigal Singers.

Hear Our Voice is a heartfelt choral project celebrating themes of community and the power of our children's voices. The performance brings together the South Coast Children's Chorus (SCCC), including its Advanced and Preparatory Choruses, alongside St.



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The Elizabeth Taber Library is seeking a part time  
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and over the phone, checking materials in and out,  
shelving books, helping patrons with computer  
questions, and performing opening and closing  
duties. Scheduled hours are Wednesdays and  
Thursdays from 9:30-2, with occasional Saturday  
hours included. Additional subbing opportunities  
are also available. Library or customer service  
experience is preferred, please submit resume to  
Library Director Elizabeth Sherry at [esherry@sailsinc.org](mailto:esherry@sailsinc.org), see more information at [www.ElizabethTaberLibrary.org/job-opportunities](http://www.ElizabethTaberLibrary.org/job-opportunities)

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## CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Classified Policy: All Classified  
Advertisements must be prepaid and  
can be placed at our office or on line at  
[www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com).

Classified Deadline: Tuesday at  
10:00 am for Thursday's paper.

Classified Rates:  
Classified Advertisements are \$8.00  
for 3 lines or less per week. Each  
additional line is \$1.00 per week. There  
are an average of six words per line.  
Bold is an addition \$1 per week.

### Classified Guidelines:

\*As a general rule, there are  
approximately six words per line in a  
standard Classified Ad.  
\*Blank lines cannot be used in  
Classified Advertisements.  
\*There is only upper case and lower  
case lettering.  
\*No graphics may be used in Classified  
Advertisements.  
\*Classified Ads cannot be placed on  
hold.  
\*Classified Ads cannot be taken over  
the phone.

Mailing Classified Ads: Ads can be  
mailed with payment to P.O. Box 102,  
Mattapoisett, MA 02739

Placing Classified Ads On-line: Ads  
can be placed on line at:  
[www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com)

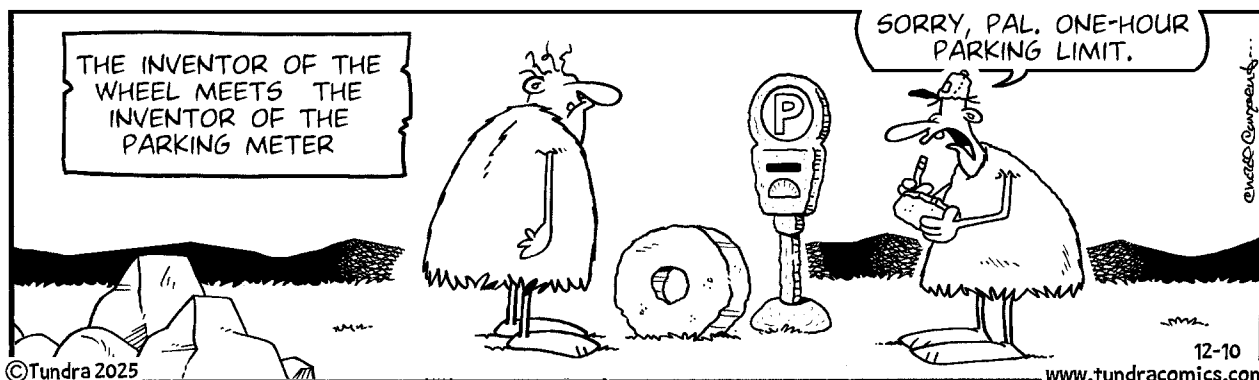
Dropping Off Classified  
Advertisements: Ads can be dropped  
by our office at 55 County Road in  
Mattapoisett, Monday, Thurs, Fri -9am  
to 3pm; Tuesday 9am to noon

Payment Policy: All sales final, we do  
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### Legal Advertisements:

\*Legal Ads are \$1.00 per line, at a  
minimum of \$25. per ad.

**Tundra**  
by Chad Carpenter



Gabriel's Choir and Tabor Academy's select ensemble the Madrigals.

Hear Our Voice is open to the public and free of charge on Saturday, December 13 at 4:00 pm at Tabor Academy Wickenden Chapel, 86 Spring Street, Marion.

The mission of the South Coast Children's Chorus is to provide a joyful, educational choral experience for young singers, helping them to develop responsibility, confidence, musicianship, and a passion for excellence in all they do. The SCCC core values are Service, Culture, Confidence & Community. SCCC singers are from many communities throughout the South Coast of Massachusetts including: Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Rochester, Wareham, and international destinations through the Tabor Academy partnership. Under the direction of Dr. Tianxu Zhou, SCCC performs throughout the South Coast and provides free music education through choral singing to 60+ singers in grades 1-12 each year.

SCCC website at [www.singsouthcoast.org](http://www.singsouthcoast.org). For more information contact: [SCCCsings@gmail.com](mailto:SCCCsings@gmail.com) or [SCCCsingsmanager@gmail.com](mailto:SCCCsingsmanager@gmail.com) also, visit us on Facebook [southcoastchildrenschorus](https://www.facebook.com/southcoastchildrenschorus).

### Holiday Luncheon and Cookie Sale

The First Congregational Church of Marion is happy to host its Annual Holiday Luncheon to coincide with the Sippican Women's Club Holiday House Tour.



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December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 | 2 PM - 6 PM



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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Don't forget to wish these people a Happy Birthday!

Diane S. Hartley	December 11
Elizabeth Foley	December 11
Kenyon Rezendes	December 11
Paige Sommers	December 11
Sandy Hering	December 11
Stet Drake	December 11
Thomas Silva	December 11
Charles Rogers	December 12
Derek J. Medeiros	December 12
Jessica Collyer	December 12
Louie Aiello	December 12
Alaina May Franco	December 13
Grace Hebert	December 13
Jeffrey Despres	December 13
Patrick Saunders	December 13
Ronnie Morrell	December 13
Scott Greany	December 13
Stephen J. Burke	December 13
Tammie Dianne Moreno	December 13
Beth Redman	December 14
Jeanette Webb	December 14
Meadow Perry	December 14
Daneen Eilertsen	December 16
Brandon Garde	December 17
Donna Walther	December 17
Kimberley Goguen	December 17
Molly Janicki	December 17
Thomas DeCosta	December 17

If you would like *The Wanderer* to announce a birthday for yourself, a friend or family member, please submit your information online to us at [www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com). To submit information by regular mail, please send the person's name (month and day) along with your name and phone number so we can confirm the information to Birthdays, c/o The Wanderer, P.O. Box 102, Mattapoisett, MA 02739. You may submit birthday announcements anytime during the year and they will be published/posted during the appropriate week.



A CONSERVATION-MINDED  
EAGLE PRACTICES  
CATCH-AND-RELEASE





The luncheon takes place on Saturday, **December 13** from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. With a price of \$18 per ticket, this event promises to be a delightful stop during the House Tour or an opportunity to enjoy some holiday cheer.

The luncheon features our famous hot chicken salad or soup, dressed greens, bread, beverages, plus cheesecake with topping for dessert. The cost of the luncheon is \$18. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the Marion General Store, at Penny Pinchers, online, and will also be available at the door on the day of the event.

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### Small Works + Holiday Shop

The Marion Art Center announces its annual exhibit, Small Works + Holiday Shop. The show runs through **December 19** with an opening reception scheduled on Saturday, November 22, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

The exhibit will feature original works of art all under fourteen inches, plus a curated selection of handmade goods such as jewelry, textiles, ceramics, woodworks, gifts, and more. Shop for yourself or find the perfect gifts for others. All pieces may be removed from the galleries upon purchase for this cash and carry show. Can't decide? We have gift certificates available. Learn more at [marionartcenter.org/on-exhibit](http://marionartcenter.org/on-exhibit).

### Bulldog Pride Alumni Association Grant Program

The Bulldog Pride Alumni Association (BPAA) is pleased to announce the launch of its Grant Program for the 2025–2026 academic year, supporting creative and impactful initiatives at Old Rochester Regional Junior High School (ORRJHS) and Old Rochester Regional High School (ORRHS).

The program is open to students, teachers, and current staff of ORR schools. Applicants must complete the digital application as directed and are kindly asked to inform their school principal of the proposed project prior to submission.

BPAA grants aim to fund programs that enhance the educational experience during the current school year. Disbursements for equipment and services will begin on February 2, 2026, while reimbursements for materials and supplies must be submitted no later than June 1, 2026.

Applicants may indicate if their proposal is part

of a multi-year project. Upon successful completion of the first year's goals, they may apply for an additional grant for the 2026–2027 school year. The BPAA Grants Committee will evaluate these applications based on the merits of the completed project.

For the 2025–2026 cycle, the BPAA is committing \$3,000 to support selected projects through this grant program.

Application Deadline: All applications must be submitted by Monday, December 22 at 11:59 pm.

To apply, visit: [www.orralumni.org/apply-for-a-grant](http://www.orralumni.org/apply-for-a-grant).

For questions or more information, please contact the BPAA Grants Committee via the website.

### MWC Great Decisions Discussion Group

Do you have plans on Wednesday afternoons this winter? Get out of the house and join a thoughtful group of tri-town residents who seek to learn more about the world we live in. The Mattapoisett Woman's Club is offering the Great Decisions Program, a weekly in-person gathering where local residents meet to discuss foreign policy topics in an informal atmosphere. Moderators take turns launching the discussion which often includes guest speakers or videos to kick it off. Topic materials are provided in advance by the nonprofit, nonpartisan Foreign Policy Association. The conversation is friendly and welcoming of all perspectives. We offer



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Give us a call for a free estimate! **774.849.2325**

Thank you all for entrusting us with your homes!  
It has been a pleasure serving the community for  
the past 8 years and we look forward to the years  
to come!

From our family to yours: **Happy Holidays!**  
Best Wishes, **Nathan Demers & Family**

### Depot Road Painting

Interior or Exterior -36 yrs experience  
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Average size room, 2 coats on walls, \$300  
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## The Wanderer

*The Wanderer is an independently  
owned and published weekly  
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the surrounding communities.*

### Mailing Address:

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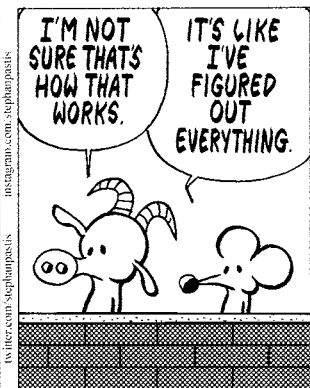
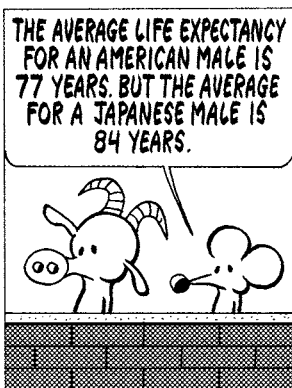
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## PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



light refreshments, coffee and tea. You don't have to be a foreign policy expert to participate—just someone who wants to become an informed global citizen.

Great Decisions meets Wednesdays from **January 14** through **March 4** from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm in the downstairs Community Room at the Mattapoisett Free Public Library, 7 Barstow Street.

Registration is limited to 30 people and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. This program is open to all members of the Mattapoisett community and surrounding towns.

To register please submit your information using the following link: [forms.gle/836hn9gX8m6wKyLu9](https://forms.gle/836hn9gX8m6wKyLu9) and send a check made out to the Mattapoisett Woman's Club for \$40.00 to cover text and expenses. If two registrants are sharing one book the price is \$50.00. If you prefer to mail in your registration, please include your name, address, email address and phone number on a piece of paper and include it with your check and mail it to: Mattapoisett Woman's Club, Box 1444 Mattapoisett MA 02739, Attn: Treasurer (memo on check Great Decisions).

If you have any questions, please email: [mfp1@sailsinc.org](mailto:mfp1@sailsinc.org).

### Mattapoisett Scholarship Committee

The Mattapoisett Scholarship Committee (MSC) is seeking volunteers to apply for an opening in the Committee. The MSC is comprised of seven members who meet 4-to-5 times per year to publicize, solicit student applications, determine the qualifications, and award scholarships to Mattapoisett residents. There are two Scholarships: Mattapoisett Graduating Senior Award and Mattapoisett Continuing Education Scholarship. These scholarships are funded by residents who submit



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Christian McCullough / Michael Bichsel - Owners

funds in accordance with Excise tax collection.

Please submit your interest and any helpful information by email to: Christine Richards, [crichards@mattapoisett.net](mailto:crichards@mattapoisett.net); and Paul Criscuolo (Chair), [paulcriscuolo@gmail.com](mailto:paulcriscuolo@gmail.com) at your earliest convenience. It is our plan to determine the outcome by **December 15**.

### Abigail Adams Returns

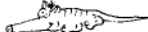
Abigail Adams, considered by many to be one of the founders of the United States, will be brought to life on **April 12** by Sheryl Faye, the actress renowned for her dramatic portrayals of historic women. This important fundraising presentation, in honor of our nation's sesquicentennial, is sponsored by the Friends of the Elizabeth Taber Library of Marion as the featured event at their annual spring Tea at the Marion Music Hall. To further the festive celebration there will be prizes given for most creative hat, the most patriotic outfit (for man or woman), as well as a Revolutionary trivia contest. Details will be forthcoming.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS			See past listing on our website: <a href="http://www.wanderer.com">www.wanderer.com</a>		
Buyer(s)	Seller(s)	Address	City	Date	Price
Creative Property Assos LLC	Gifford, John K TR Howell, Kathleen By TR Howell, William D Howell, Beverly M	160 Allens Point Rd	Marion	11/19/2025	1,750,000.00
Szepatowski, Thomas J Anderson, Katherine S	Long Built Homes Inc	13 Shagbark Cir	Mattapoisett	11/20/2025	1,405,000.00
Choice Real Estate & Dev	Pina, David Pina, David A	0 Point Rd	Marion	11/20/2025	230,000.00
Morse, Carter Douglas Morse, Patrice Elaine	Stann, Michael R Stann, Sasha A	7 Anawan Rd	Mattapoisett	11/21/2025	2,162,500.00
Hurley Homes LLC	Usa, Housing Urban Dev	703 Mill St	Marion	11/21/2025	283,500.00
C W Rodrigues Enterprises LLC	Denardis, Ann Ponichtera Davis, Charles C Est Davis, Erin Davis, Ryan	10 Briggs Ln	Marion	11/21/2025	626,000.00
Morris, Gregory Morris, Elaine	Rodrigues, John M Jr	Marina Dr Lot 47	Mattapoisett	11/25/2025	95,000.00





Local Tides					
Day	Date	High		Low	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	December 4	6:48	7:15		1:09
Friday	December 5	7:41	8:07	12:40	2:05
Saturday	December 6	8:34	9:00	1:34	2:59
Sunday	December 7	9:27	9:54	2:28	3:49
Monday	December 8	10:22	10:50	3:21	4:39
Tuesday	December 9	11:18	11:48	4:14	5:34
Wednesday	December 10		12:14	5:11	6:41
Thursday	December 11	12:45	1:08	6:26	7:46
Friday	December 12	1:41	2:01	8:18	8:33
Saturday	December 13	2:37	2:57	9:27	9:08
Sunday	December 14	3:34	3:54	10:14	9:41
Monday	December 15	4:29	4:49	10:51	10:17
Tuesday	December 16	5:18	5:37	11:26	10:55
Wednesday	December 17	6:01	6:19		12:02
Thursday	December 18	6:40	6:57	12:05	12:41
Friday	December 19	7:16	7:35	12:16	1:22
Saturday	December 20	7:52	8:12	12:58	2:03
Sunday	December 21	8:28	8:50	1:40	2:42
Phases of the Moon		Last Quarter New Moon First Quarter Full Moon		December 11th December 19th December 27th January 3rd	



### I Found the Aardvark!

Each week, hidden somewhere in the pages of *The Wanderer* is a tiny drawing of an aardvark. The little guy you are looking for looks exactly like the one pictured above (but don't put down this page as your answer, there's another one hidden somewhere in this issue).

Once you find the aardvark you can submit your answer on line and if you are right you will get Aardvark Points! You can then use these points to get cool Aardvark Prizes!

To enter visit: [www.wanderer.com](http://www.wanderer.com) and Click on *I Found the Aardvark*

In the December 4, 2025 edition the Aardvark was on page 12

## PUZZLE ANSWERS

### CROSSWORD SOLUTION

T	O	S	T	A	D	A		S	N	A	R	L	A	T		M	O	T	I	F	
A	V	A	I	L	E	D		H	E	P	B	U	R	N		I	L	O	N	A	
D	U	P	L	I	C	A	T	E	B	R	I	D	G	E		N	E	R	F	S	
A	M	S		O	M	A	R	R		D	O	C	U	S		S	O	T			
			D	O	R	E	M	I		T	H	I	N	K	S	T	W	I	C	E	
T	R	A	U	M	A		F	R	U	I	T		S	E	R	I	O	U	S		
R	E	P	E	A	T	O	F	F	E	N	D	E	R		E	R	N	S	T		
A	L	P	S		O	D	E	S	S	A		U	T	I	L	E					
N	I	M		B	R	I	T			O	L	S	O	N			E	A	R		
S	E	E	N	O		C	E	L	E	B	R	I	T	Y		C	O	U	P	L	E
U	S	N	E	W	S		A	M	O	C	O			A	N	N	I	K	A		
D	O	U	B	L	E	O	C	C	U	P	A	N	C	Y		E	D	D	A	S	
E	N	S		G	A	L	E	S		O	O	H	S		E	L	S				
			A	W	A	K	E			I	M	P	E	D	E		A	M	I	E	
S	C	E	N	E		F	R	A	T	E	R	N	A	L	T	W	I	N	S		
C	A	N	T	A		E	R	A	T	O			P	I	E	C	E	S			
O	R	D	E	R		P	A	I	R		C	H	A	L	K	S					
W	W	W		I	L	I	A	D			L	U	I	G	I		F	A	N		
L	A	I	N	E		D	U	A	L	P	E	R	S	O	N	A	L	I	T	Y	
E	S	S	E	S		A	S	P	E	R	S	E		R	E	V	O	L	V	E	
R	H	E	T	T		S	E	T	T	E	S		A	S	A	T	E	S	T		

## SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Valor; 2. Humane;  
3. Obscure; 4. Impel

Today's Word  
**NERVOUS**

### Sudoku Answer

3	8	6	9	5	7	4	2	1
4	5	9	2	6	1	7	8	3
7	2	1	4	8	3	9	5	6
5	1	2	8	7	9	3	6	4
8	9	4	3	2	6	1	7	5
6	7	3	1	4	5	8	9	2
9	4	5	6	1	8	2	3	7
1	6	8	7	3	2	5	4	9
2	3	7	5	9	4	6	1	8

IT'S BEEN LIKE THIS EVER SINCE HE WAS IN THAT CHARLIE BROWN SPECIAL



at PLUMB CORNER

SALE EFFECTIVE:

Friday, December 12 to Thursday, December 18, 2025

565 Rounseville Road • Rochester, MA 02770 508.763.5333

Open Daily: 7am-8pm

## GROCERY, DAIRY & FROZEN

1 Liter Bottle Polar Seltzer Water	<b>\$1<sup>59</sup></b> <small>+Dep</small>
46 oz. Selected Variety V8 Beverages	<b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b>
64 oz. Selected Variety Mott's Apple Juice	<b>\$3<sup>79</sup></b>
12 oz. Kellogg's Corn Flakes	<b>\$4<sup>49</sup></b>
15.16 oz. Selected Variety Kellogg's Raisin Bran Flakes	<b>\$4<sup>49</sup></b>
24 oz. Selected Variety Classico Pasta Sauce	<b>2/\$6</b>
12 oz. Velveeta Deluxe Dinner	<b>\$3<sup>29</sup></b>
16 oz. Selected Variety Newman's Own Salsa	<b>\$3<sup>59</sup></b>
1 oz. McCormick Pure Vanilla Extract	<b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b>
5-6 oz. Selected Variety PAM Cooking Spray	<b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b>

12-16 oz. Selected Variety Betty Crocker Frosting or Cake Mix	<b>2/\$4</b>
5 lb. King Arther Unbleached Flour	<b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b>
10-12 oz. Selected Variety Nestlé Toll House Baking Morsels	<b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b>
2.875-5.125 oz. Selected Variety Frito Lay Minis Snacks	<b>2/\$6</b>
13.7-13.8 oz. Selected Variety Kellogg's Town House or Club Crackers	<b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b>
16 oz. Selected Variety Blue Diamond Almonds	<b>\$7<sup>99</sup></b>
7 oz. Instant Cabot Whipped Cream	<b>2/\$6</b>
16 oz. Original Hood Sour Cream	<b>\$2<sup>49</sup></b>
10 oz. Selected Variety PictSweet Farms Steam'able Vegetables	<b>2/\$5</b>
16 oz. Selected Variety Talenti Sorbetto or Gelato	<b>\$4<sup>49</sup></b>

## MEAT, DELI, PREPARED FOODS & CHEESE

16 oz. Pkg. Regular  
or Thick Cut  
Hormel  
Black Label  
Bacon  
**\$8<sup>99</sup>**



Deli Fresh  
Friends'  
Store Made  
Macaroni Salad  
**\$9<sup>99</sup>**  
lb



9 oz. Pkg.  
Boar's Head  
Genoa Salami  
**\$7<sup>99</sup>**



Ready to Serve  
Allen's  
Rotisserie  
Chicken  
**\$9<sup>99</sup>**  
ea



24 oz. Pkg.  
Simply Potato  
Mashed Potatoes  
**\$3<sup>99</sup>**

Deli Fresh  
Friends' Store Packaged  
Red Bliss Potato Salad  
**\$6<sup>99</sup>**  
lb

8 oz. Pkg.  
Boar's Head  
Muenster Cheese  
**\$4<sup>99</sup>**

## BAKERY

6 oz. Selected Variety Steve's Snacks Bakery Whoopie Pies	<b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b>
21 oz. Sliced Half Loaf Nashoba Brooke Bakery Sourdough Bread	<b>\$5<sup>49</sup></b>

## WINE

Juve & Camps - 750 ml. Spain Brut Nature Cava	<b>\$19<sup>99</sup></b> Reg. - \$22.99
Avignonesi - 750 ml. Italy Sangiovese Red	<b>\$20<sup>99</sup></b> Reg. - \$24.99

## CHEF PREPARED

With Blue Cheese Dressing Game Day Wings!	<b>\$10<sup>99</sup></b> <small>ea</small>
Fresh Garden Side Salad	<b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b> <small>ea</small>
Pint Farro Salad	<b>\$10<sup>99</sup></b>
Various Styles Take & Bake Pizza	<b>\$8<sup>99</sup> - \$10<sup>99</sup></b> <small>ea</small>
Homemade Savory Pies to Go!	<small>Small</small> <b>\$13<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Large</small> <b>\$19<sup>99</sup></b> <small>ea</small>
Chicken Pot Pie	<b>\$13<sup>99</sup></b> <small>ea</small>
Shepherd's Pie	<b>\$12<sup>99</sup></b> <small>ea</small>

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!



LET US CATER YOUR HOLIDAY!

WE HAVE SOME FABULOUS HOLIDAY ITEMS  
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Due to current market conditions, item retails may change, and products may become unavailable unexpectedly.

**SALE EFFECTIVE: Friday, December 12 to Thursday, December 18, 2025**

## BLOCKBUSTER SAVINGS!

Fresh  
Bell & Evans  
Split Chicken  
Breast  
**\$5.49**  
lb



Liter Bottles, Selected Variety  
Adirondack  
Seltzer Water  
**69¢**  
+Dep



12-16 oz. Selected Variety  
Barilla  
Pasta  
**\$1.59**



Deli Sliced  
Friends'  
Store Baked  
Turkey  
**\$9.99**  
lb



7-8 oz. Selected Variety  
Cabot  
Cracker Cut or  
Sliced Cheese  
**2/\$7**



40.25 oz. Selected Variety  
Wild Mike's  
Pizza  
**\$8.99**



**\$2 Coupon  
Available**

## QUALITY PRODUCE



Pint  
Blackberries **\$3.99**

Pint  
Blueberries **\$3.99**

Fresh  
Cara Cara Oranges **99¢**



3 lb. Pkg.  
Peelz  
Clementines **\$5.99**

Seedless  
Red Grapes **\$2.99**  
lb

Fresh  
Honeycrisp Apples **\$1.99**  
lb

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!