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New England Brittany Rescue Celebrates 25 Years

By Laura Pedulli

It was a Brittany takeover at Silvershell Beach in Marion on a sunny Saturday, October 3, with temperatures reaching 67 degrees.

At the “pawty,” dozens of Brittany’s in all shapes and sizes frolicked, jumping in the water, running across the sand, and playing with one another as their owners looked on. This year’s annual Beach Bash was particularly special: It celebrated the 25th anniversary of New England Brittany Rescue, the organization that connected these dogs to their families.

The Brittany, also known as the Epagneul Breton, is the smallest dog in the pointing retriever group. The Brittany was bred in the French province of the same name in the mid-1800s, quite possibly from crossing French spaniels with English Setters. They were originally bred for hunting, and their functions have been preserved.

Since the New England Brittany Rescue — an all-volunteer foster-based organization — became an official 501(c)(3) organization in 2001, it has rescued 4,500 stray, abandoned and relinquished Brittany’s and other mixed breeds, according to Christine Leachman-Yee, the organization’s president, who resides in Maine. The dogs receive medical and foster care while volunteers work to find them permanent homes.

Its business address is the home of treasurer Bonnie Paiva in Marion, which also serves as the organization’s base.

Leachman-Yee has been involved with the rescue since 2004, when the group was considerably smaller. The organization primarily works with Brittany’s located in New England.

“We’ve been able to expand,” Leachman-Yee said, pointing to the organization’s volunteer transport team and expanded network of foster homes. The volunteer-run transport system allows the rescue to bring Brittany’s from east of the Mississippi into its network of foster homes.

On the Cover: The Old Rochester Regional High School Class of 2027 pose at the traditional senior picnic at Ned’s Point. Photo courtesy Bodil Perkins

Leachman-Yee said she initially became involved with Brittany’s “on a whim.” She had owned dogs throughout her life and grew up with boxers. After one of her dogs died, she began looking at adoptable dogs on Petfinder, which was still relatively new then. She came across a Brittany and was immediately taken with the breed. She applied to adopt a senior Brittany in Kennebunk, Maine.

“Then I got hooked,” she said.

Leachman-Yee said many people who discover Brittany’s have a similar experience.

“They are dogs that are not a golden, lab, retriever, or goldendoodle; they are not popularity-contest breeds,” she said. “But once you get to know one, you’re hooked. They are funny, smart, active, keep you on your toes, and are playful.”

The breed was originally developed as a hunting dog, and Leachman-Yee said that combination of athletic ability and an affectionate temperament is part of what makes Brittany’s appealing to their owners.

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We want to hear from you and include your photos & ideas in The Wanderer - stay in touch!

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"They can make that switch" between being a family dog and working in the field, she said.

"They like to please you. It makes them easy to train," she said. "And they are good with other dogs."

Brittany's are generally between 33 and 45 pounds, making them a medium-sized breed. They are active dogs that require both physical activity and mental stimulation. Most of New England Brittany Rescue's adopters are in New England, although the organization occasionally places dogs outside the region, including in Pennsylvania.

Leachman-Yee said the rescue typically adopts out between 75 and 100 dogs per year. The organization is still feeling some of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, when restrictions shut down transportation networks at a time when many people were home and looking to adopt dogs.

For Leachman-Yee, the work can be difficult but is ultimately rewarding.

"Dog rescue is a very rewarding thing," she said. "You bring these dogs in. Sometimes they are sick, sometimes they have problems. Really, it's a privilege. It's a privilege having them in your home and watching them grow."

She said it is especially rewarding to watch the dogs adjust after arriving in foster care and eventually move into permanent homes. The Beach Bash offers a chance to see that process in action.

"It's 'wow, look at these dogs. Look at how happy they are,'" Leachman-Yee said. "It's a testament to the resilience of dogs, moving from maybe one bad situation to a happy home."

Joe and Mei Wiriadjaja traveled from Weymouth, Massachusetts, to the Beach Bash with their Brittany, Monroe. The couple has owned huskies, labs and other

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breeds in the past.

"It's a great experience. We've never had a dog this close to the family," Mei said. "They are so smart."

In addition to rescuing dogs, New England Brittany Rescue provides breed education and resources for prospective owners and adoptive families. The organization also offers training advice and remains available to families after adoption. The nonprofit relies on donations and adoption fees to cover the costs of caring for rescued dogs. The organization notes that adoption fees often do not cover the dogs' medical expenses.

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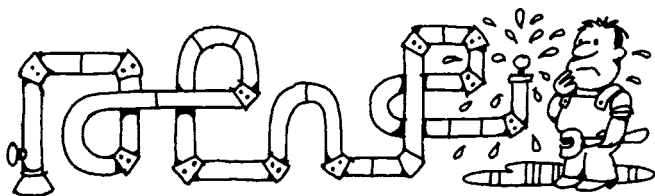
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Back to School — Houseplant Edition

The Seaside Gardener

By Laura McLean

Just as students head back to school when summer winds down, our houseplants need to come home, too. Plants that spent the warm months outdoors should be brought inside before nighttime temperatures fall below 50 degrees, especially tender flowering varieties that don't take kindly to chilly nights.

When it comes to bringing potted plants indoors, timing is everything. The combination of indoor heating and lower light can be stressful, so don't wait for the first chilly night. Bringing plants inside while conditions are still mild gives them a chance to adjust before winter settles in.

Here on the Southcoast, mid- to late October is generally a good time to bring most houseplants back indoors. But if you're growing sensitive tropicals, such as fiddle-leaf figs, elephant ears or hibiscus, don't wait that long. Bring them in when nighttime temperatures dip to 60 degrees — or, as I like to say, basically do it yesterday!

But don't simply carry a plant in from bright summer sunshine and plunk it down in a dark, dry house. The sudden change in light and humidity can cause leaf drop and serious stress. And before you welcome your plants back inside, remember that outdoor pots and foliage can come with some unwelcome hitchhikers: aphids, spider mites, fungus gnats and even sneaky slugs.

Instead, follow these steps to give your plants a smoother transition indoors.

Evict the bugs. Start a week or two before the big move. Using a garden hose, thoroughly spray the tops and undersides of the leaves to dislodge pests. Wash the outside of the pot and check underneath the drainage holes for hidden slugs or other critters. Finally, treat the foliage with an insecticidal soap or neem oil, following the product directions carefully. To help prevent a fungus gnat invasion in your living room, consider treating the soil with an appropriate product labeled for fungus gnat larvae.

Give them an acclimation period. Move your pots to a deeply shaded outdoor area, such as a covered

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porch or beneath a thick tree canopy, for about a week. This allows plants to adjust to lower light levels before making the transition indoors. If you have the time, you can also bring them inside on chilly nights and return them to their shady outdoor spot during the day for several days.

Groom and prune. Cut back some of the leggy growth produced during the summer. This makes plants easier to manage indoors and reduces the amount of foliage the roots need to support. Remove yellowing or dead leaves, too, where moisture and mold can become a

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problem.

Choose the right indoor location — and quarantine. Keep newly arrived outdoor plants separate from established houseplants for several weeks to make sure any hidden pests don't spread. Give them as much natural light as possible, ideally near a sunny south- or west-facing window. If your home is dark, an inexpensive LED grow light can help. Keep plants away from heating vents, radiators and drafty doors.

Dial back the care routine. As daylight hours shorten, most houseplants slow their growth, so their watering and feeding needs change, too. In general, stop fertilizing during the winter unless the particular plant calls for it, and water less frequently than you did outdoors. Don't water by the calendar — check the soil first. If the top couple of inches are dry and the plant's needs call for watering, give it a thorough drink and allow excess water to drain away.

When in doubt, throw it out. If a plant is looking particularly shabby now, bringing it indoors probably won't improve its appearance. In fact, it may look even worse by Christmas — and worse still by New Year's. Sometimes the kindest thing to do is let it go and replace it with a fresh, healthy plant.

It also isn't the ideal time to repot. Unless a plant is truly root-bound or has another urgent need, save repotting for spring, when plants are gearing up for a new season of growth.

And if a plant looks a little under the weather, resist the urge to shower it with fertilizer. First, make sure it has the right light, water and temperature. Once it's settled indoors and actively growing, a mild dose of liquid fertilizer may give it the boost it needs.

*"The trees are in their autumn beauty,
The woodland paths are dry,
Under the October twilight the water
Mirrors a still sky..." — William Butler Yeats*

Tri-Town Students Get Hands-On Lessons in Local Food

By Jeanne Hopkins

On a recent sunny school day, fourth-grade

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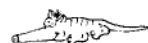
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students at Old Hammondtown ventured outside and got their hands dirty exploring their school garden. With guidance from Nathan Sander, an educator at the Marion Institute, they participated in a harvest taste test, investigated the soil, learned about square gardens, and pulled garlic from the soil.

The monthly hands-on gardening sessions are part of the Marion Institute's farm-to-school program Grow Education. Old Hammondtown students — as well as students from Sippican School in Marion and Rochester Memorial School in Rochester — plant, grow, and taste produce right on their school grounds. For the Old Hammondtown students, the next session will include hands-on work with garlic planting and soil fertility as the garden changes with the season.

Sippican began participating in Grow Education during the 2023-24 school year. Old Hammondtown and Rochester Memorial joined during the 2025-26 school year, according to Sander, the Grow Education program manager.

Last school year, the program reached 166 Tri-Town students: 51 at Sippican, 54 at Old Hammondtown, and 61 at Rochester Memorial.

Grow Education focuses primarily on third- and fourth-grade students. Sander said students participate in hands-on school garden workshops in the fall and spring, with classroom lessons during the winter. The gardens extend the classroom, with students learning



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about soil, plants, climate, nutrition and growing food while applying subjects including science, math and social studies. Students also learn about agriculture and the regional food system.

"We are thrilled to partner with the Marion Institute's Grow Education Program to bring these meaningful, hands-on learning experiences to our students throughout the year!" the Old Rochester Regional School District superintendent's office said in a press release.

Grow Education now operates in 27 schools in seven Southeastern Massachusetts school districts. The total increased this fall with the addition of three schools in Fall River. The program includes taste tests

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and cafeteria food-waste audits, and the Marion Institute works with school food-service staff to increase local food procurement.

Grow Education is also designed to build schools' capacity to sustain much of the work on their own. During the program's first two years, the Marion Institute provides support including garden installation, professional teacher development and curriculum programming.

The school program is one part of the Marion Institute's broader effort to connect communities with the food grown and harvested in the region.

That effort was also the subject of the Institute's September 24 Southeastern Massachusetts Food Summit, where it presented preliminary findings from a food-system assessment covering six counties.

The assessment found strengths in nutrition education and access to fresh and local food, while identifying gaps in areas including emergency food planning, getting locally produced food into schools and other institutions, and support for new farmers.

Other Marion Institute programs include Frogfoot Farm, which grows fresh produce for food relief organizations, and Fields to Families. This gleaning program works with farmers to harvest surplus crops for distribution to nearby food pantries. The South Coast Food Policy Council works on broader regional food-system issues.

"Within these programs, we're really connecting food back to the community and trying to rebuild the food system and increase food access in our region," Christine Smith, program coordinator for the Marion Institute Southcoast Food Policy Council, told *The Wanderer*.

Fairhaven Man Indicted for Mattapoissett Murder

By Laura Pedulli

A Plymouth County grand jury indicted Nicholas Botella, of Fairhaven, on Friday, October 2, on charges that he fatally shot James Rizza of Mattapoissett, according to information released by the Plymouth County District



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Attorney's Office. He is scheduled to be arraigned in Brockton Superior Court at a later date.

Botella was also indicted for two counts of Carrying a Firearm without a License, one count each of Carrying a Loaded Firearm, Possession of Ammunition without a Firearm Identification Card, and Discharging a Firearm within 500 Feet of a Building.

Assistant District Attorney James Duffy is prosecuting the case.

On June 30, Mattapoissett Police responded to a reported shooting at a residence on Harbor Road at about 3:00 pm. Rizza was found severely injured in his driveway with multiple gunshot wounds. He was transported to an area hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Police arrested Botella after a motor vehicle pursuit that ended near Front Street in Marion. Investigators with Massachusetts State Police and local law enforcement learned that a year earlier, Botella had lived next door to Rizza and was aggressive toward Rizza during a dispute.

All Remains Quiet on the Front

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 the early-United States. Last week, General George Washington, pressed with his men into Harlem Heights, tried to get a handle on the diminishing stockpiles for his men: both ammunition and other supplies. The Howe brothers had also attempted to get Americans to defect to the Loyalist side at the same time neighboring states vowed to send reinforcements to New York, where the lines were entrenched in defense.

On October 4, 1776, Washington writes to President of the Continental Congress John Hancock from Harlem. He is appreciative of the great effort Congress has made, though he presses, "Your army, as I mentioned in my last, is upon the eve of its political dissolution." Washington fears many men, even with greater incentives to reenlist, will soon abandon their post and head home.

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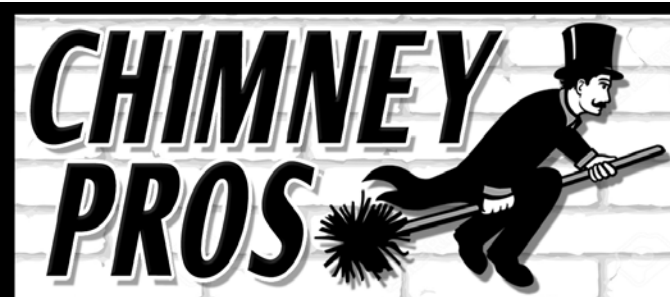
He adds, "True it is you have voted a larger one in lieu of it, but the season is late, and there is a material difference between voting of battalions and raising of men. In the latter, there are more difficulties than Congress [is] aware of; which makes it my duty – to inform them."

He also insists it may be beneficial to offer them \$20 and 100 acres of land to maintain their numbers. They are currently outnumbered on land, and they are also at great risk of a rout.

The next day, Washington writes to his brother, Samuel, and states that what is reported by the news overstates their advantage, writing, "Matters in this quarter, have by no means worn that favorable aspect you have been taught to believe from the publications in the gazettes."

On October 8, the British fleet abandons Fort George on Bald Island, North Carolina, halting their ambition in the southern region and further shifting the focus of the war north to New York.

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contested, and although the lower part of the river near Manhattan is firmly in British control, they maintain efforts to push north, through defenses to drive a wedge and separate New England from the rest of the states. On October 9, Washington frantically writes to Major General William Heath, who is stationed across the Harlem River in Kingsbridge.

The general states that two British ships, led by British General Henry Clinton, in a probing attack, bypassed defenses at Fort Washington and landed men up the river at Dobb's Ferry, about 15 miles upriver. Washington pushes "to be as expeditious as possible in getting the new ships afloat" to stop the loss of the Hudson.

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That same day, far to the west, the Spanish establish the Mission San Francisco de Asís, the oldest still-standing structure in modern-day San Francisco, as they move control north from Mexico.

Rochester Pauses Flock Following Outcry

Rochester Select Board

By Michael J. DeCicco

Residents crowding into the Senior Center meeting room successfully lobbied the Rochester Select Board Monday to suspend the use of the Flock cameras scattered around town that video-record car license plates and, some say, spread townspeople's private data.

Flock cameras are AI-powered automated license plate readers used by law enforcement and private groups across the U.S. to capture vehicle data. Thanks to a recent grant award, five of these cameras have been in use in Rochester since March.

After hearing residents' very vocal reservations about the town system, the select board unanimously approved temporarily suspending its use for 30 days while the town investigates the system and its contract with the Flock company.

Halima Tiffany began the discussion by reading from a prepared statement. "The cameras are used by our PD to solve crimes. That's the public safety argument," she said. "But there is another side of this coin — privacy and civil liberties — and that's what I am here to talk about. It becomes a conversation about how much information the government should be able to collect about ordinary people who aren't suspected of doing anything wrong."

She noted that Flock told the press this summer that it operates 120,000 cameras nationwide. It is one of the most comprehensive vehicle tracking systems ever built in a democracy.

"The data is stored," she said. "The database is the system. The sharing is the system. The network is the system. It is searchable, and it is shared. It operates with no federal oversight. No State oversight. And unless you tell me otherwise, no town oversight, except by the police department."

Police Chief Michael Assad responded that Rochester does not share the data it collects with other agencies. He said the Flock system gathers license data only and stores it for only seven days. The system is for law enforcement only, and only a few of his officers can use it, he said. He has used it to solve crimes, and, in one case, it saved a life when a mental illness issue led to a search.

Other residents echoed Tiffany's concerns and asked why townspeople weren't involved in the decision to install Flock. Shouldn't there have been a town vote? Town Administrator Cameron Durant said today was the chance for townspeople to have a conversation about the issue. Town Meetings decide budget and zoning issues, not policy issues like this one, he said.

Select board member Adam Murphy concluded the town will do its own investigation of the Flock system and the Flock contract. He motioned the vote to pause use of the system for the investigation.

Chief Michael Assad released his response in a statement on October 6: "We have heard the concerns raised by members of our community, particularly regarding privacy, how information is stored and shared, and whether information collected through the system could be sold or used outside of its intended public-safety purpose. We hear you, and we take those concerns seriously."

"We also want our community to understand something important: Rochester Police Officers know firsthand just how valuable these cameras are. We have seen this technology assist with serious investigations, locate people in danger, identify suspects and vehicles, recover stolen property, and provide critical information when every second matters. These cameras have helped us save lives. That makes pausing them difficult from a law-enforcement perspective. But it does not change who we work for. Team RPD works for the people of Rochester."

In other action Monday, the select board meeting came close to filling the recent vacancy within the Finance Committee. The hiring committee, which includes select board chair Paul Ciaburri, Town Moderator David Arancio and FinCom vice-chair Anthony Ruocco, considered applicant Dr. Michael Amato for the seat.

The appointment stalled because Amato could not attend, as he is also an on-call firefighter. Arancio and Ruocco said they wanted Amato at the meeting to answer questions first and go through the same process as other applicants like them have. The agenda item was continued to the next select board meeting.

The select board approved re-appointing Sharon Cruz to the Rochester Memorial School Committee. The board also approved the Lions Club's use of the town hall parking lot on October 17 for a recycling event. The Rochester Select Board did not set its next meeting before adjourning.

Town Meeting Warrant Finalized

Marion Select Board

By Jeffrey Wagner

The Marion Select Board met on September 30 to vote on closing the November 9 special Town Meeting warrant and approving the ballot for the November 3 election.

The brief meeting featured endorsement votes from the Select Board on the three and only Town Meeting articles, two connected to the shared-use path that passes through Marion and Mattapoisett to Wareham.

The bicycle and pedestrian path are part of the South Coast Bikeway and Bay State path network. The Marion section will be approximately 3.8 miles. The State Department of Transportation has been working with

local authorities to finalize path designs, which have required some road layout changes.

Final construction for the Marion section of the path will begin next spring and should be complete by 2029, before state and local authorities begin the extension to Wareham.

According to Town Administrator Geoffrey Gorman, one article will transfer the responsibility and rights-of-way of the shared use path to the Select Board.

Another article seeks approval from voters to alter the path slightly around the Washburn Park Road area and Spring Street, per state DOT's design recommendations.

The third and final article will seek voter approval for phosphorus mitigation upgrades at the Marion Wastewater Treatment facility. The state Department of Environmental Protection has mandated the work, and the town must "break ground by May of 2027," Gorman told the Select Board at its September 15 meeting.

At the September 15 meeting, Gorman said the town is expected to receive \$1.2 million in fees from the Toll Bros. housing project at 78 Wareham Road. That project is building 48 luxury homes and other amenities by the Wareham border for a development called Marion Pointe.

Gorman also said fees from that project will be held in a sewer enterprise fund, pending Town Meeting approval on Nov. 9.



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For election voting information, log on to: www.marionma.gov/272/Town-Meeting-Election-Information

ConCom Considers Treatment for Snipatuit Pond Weeds

Rochester Conservation Commission

By Michael J. DeCicco

The Rochester Conservation Commission began its deliberations Tuesday by approving a Certificate of Compliance for the 7 Forbes Road residential construction project, meaning the completed new home there

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substantially complies with the board's earlier Order of Conditions.

Conservation Agent Merilee Kelly clarified that this is one of the new house lots next to bogs in that area of town. The board's approval vote was unanimous after Kelly confirmed the work is complete.

The commission's next two votes came nearly as quickly. The board approved the Notice of Intent and issued an Order of Conditions for the plan for 527 High Street, the proposed construction of a garage, shed, stone retaining wall and fence, and a 12-foot-wide gravel driveway at a single-family home. Project representative Brian Wallace explained that he had to file the project with the environmental regulatory agency Natural Heritage

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because of possible box turtles in the area and only recently received the agency's response. As a result, the board set a box turtle sweep as one of the project's Order of Conditions.

The board then endorsed a plan to install a pool and pool shed at 48 Bryant Lane, where a corner portion is within the 100-foot wetlands buffer zone, with a Negative Determination of Applicability to town wetlands regulations, meaning the project will not require further action by the commission. The vote came after the board concluded the pool will be a mere 30 feet into the wetlands buffer zone.

The next agenda item was to be a further discussion of the plan to eradicate the water-choking invasive aquatic weeds in Snipatuit Pond with area cranberry growers. But none of them attended. That left the board, along with Fish and Game official David Watling and Snipatuit resident Ben Bailey, to mull the town's next steps on their own.

The first factor the board considered was member Norm Bourgue's report from the state Fisheries and Wildlife that the dates between April 1 and June 30 are the times not to use chemical treatments of the aquatic weeds because of the herring run. Board members and attendees bandied about what the best chemical treatment to use and when to apply it. But they ultimately realized the first step is to have the funding to do it. The commission agreed to seek more time for Kelly to research grant opportunities, and it continued the discussion to its next meeting.

Kelly explained later that the town is awaiting word on receiving funding from a state Environmental Bond. But right now, she said, that funding is still "in committee" at the state legislature.

In other action, the commission continued its



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Notice of Intent hearing on a plan to place a ground-mounted solar array system within a 100-foot wetlands buffer zone on Walnut Plain Road to October 20.

The next Conservation Commission meeting will be October 20 at 7:00 pm at the Town Office Building, 1 Constitution Way.

55-Home Development Proposed Adjacent to Marion Pointe

Marion Planning Board

By Jeffrey Wagner

The Marion Planning Board met on Monday, October 5, with Toll Brothers — a Pennsylvania-

based builder of luxury homes — to discuss a housing development that will run adjacent to its Marion Pointe project at 78 Wareham Road.

Marion Pointe, a 48-home luxury single-family development, is currently under construction; homes are priced starting at \$1,085,955, according to the Toll Brothers website.

Before the hearing started, board members said they wanted to collect necessary information and send it over to Field Engineering to streamline the review process. This project, like the Marion Pointe one, is similar and will not require the same extensive engineering work. Board members said the engineering review should be a quicker process, and the board will be able to discuss

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recommended changes sooner.

The project, Heron Cove Estates, will offer similar-sized homes as Marion Pointe, including a homeowner association (HOA) that will also provide snow removal, lawn maintenance and other amenities, according to company representative Jeff Heidelberg.

The development will offer similar homes, landscaping and signage as the Marion Pointe development. However, Heron Cove will have a different HOA.

The project will offer 55 single-family detached homes with underground utilities and propane heat. Heidelberg said he is unsure whether each individual homeowner will receive a tank or one tank will service the

entire development.

Working out some of the recommendations from the previous development, Heidelberg said the roads will be the same length for fire and emergency services to access the development. Heidelberg said there will be a road connecting it to Marion Pointe, which will also be a safety benefit for emergency vehicles seeking a quick exit.

That said, there will be no gate at the entrance or between Heron and Marion Pointe properties, according to Heidelberg.

Heidelberg said there will be a detention basin downhill from the property to collect stormwater.

Board members asked if residents at Heron Cove will have the same amenities as Marion Pointe, including access to a local dock.

Heidelberg said he is trying to work that detail out with state authorities so Heron Cove residents can access the same amenities.

Board Vice-Chair Ann Morgan raised concerns about snow storage in one area of the development, which could be a problem based on the snowfall of last winter.

Board members also expressed concern about whether there would be enough room for road parking. Heidelberg said he would take a closer look at it, as well as the parking arrangements.

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Strategic Plan Connects Work Across Tri-Town Schools

ORR Joint School Committee

By Jeanne Hopkins

Connecting curriculum, student support and school safety across the Tri-Town schools is the focus of work underway or planned for the fourth year of Vision 2028, the five-year strategic plan reviewed at the October 1 joint school committee meeting.

Superintendent Mike Nelson explained how the plan guides the four school districts while allowing individual schools to address their own needs. Principals will present two-year school improvement plans at upcoming committee meetings, translating the broader objectives into work within each building.

"You have an overarching strategic plan guiding your school system as a whole," Nelson said.

Speaking after the meeting, Frances-Feliz Kearns, Mattapoisett's representative to the Old Rochester Regional School Committee, said the shared framework brings work across schools and districts into one overview, making progress easier to follow.

The Old Rochester Regional District School Committee and School Superintendency Union #55 heard administrators describe this year's priorities, including common assessments, writing instruction and earlier identification of students needing assistance.

One focus is helping teachers understand what students have learned before reaching their classrooms and what they will need for the next grade. Elementary schools are seeking curriculum leaders to support that work, including the rollout of Writing Revolution teaching strategies and updates to Atlas, the system used to organize curriculum.

Schools are also piloting IXL benchmark assessments in English language arts and mathematics, with three assessment periods planned during the school year. Administrators said the results will help educators identify students' strengths and areas needing support.

Over the summer, administrators aligned the schools' curriculum accommodation plans, which describe instructional practices and supports



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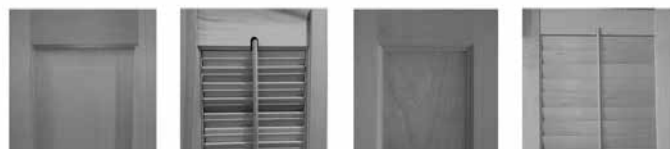
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available within general education. Staff training and implementation will continue this year, along with work on a common referral form for student support teams.

Administrators also described plans to bring attendance and behavior information together through a data system, helping staff review student needs and determine appropriate support. Elementary literacy work will continue to connect classroom instruction with targeted assistance for students who need it.

Safety priorities include cybersecurity awareness, staff training and expanded work on intruder-response protocols at the elementary schools.

Facilities Director Eugene Jones described inventories and replacement planning for furniture,



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technology and grounds equipment, some of which is approaching 25 years old. Building needs will inform phased replacements and capital requests.

In other business, both committees adopted Policy ACL, addressing interactions with officers engaged in civil law enforcement, and waived a second reading.

Nelson said principals serve as the designated administrators within school buildings, with the superintendent responsible at the central-office level. Existing procedures, developed with legal assistance, have been combined with state model procedures, he said.

No members of the public offered comments. The next joint meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2027.

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Sports Roundup

By Aiden Comorosky

Golf: Old Rochester's golf team beat Greater New Bedford Voc/Tech 222-275 on September 30. **Jack Czerkowicz, John Bongiorno, Drew Butler and Brendan Fuller** all shot a 37(+2), and were named the players of the match. They're 11-0 heading into Tuesday's match against Apponequet, Wednesday's match at Dighton-Rehoboth, and the Greater New Bedford Voc/Tech match on October 8.

Football: The Bulldogs lost 34-10 to Foxborough (3-1) on October 2. They'll look to get back on track against Dighton-Rehoboth (1-3) on October 9.

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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.

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Correction

In the September 24 story "Old Colony Facility Plan Coming by Year End" stated that Superintendent Aaron Polansky said that "they don't have any repair priorities in place yet" at Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School. The school is currently identifying its most serious building needs and prioritizing which repairs should be addressed first and will name them and a remediation plan by the end of the year.

Letters to the Editor

The views expressed in the "Letters to the Editor" column are not necessarily those of The Wanderer, its staff or advertisers. The Wanderer will gladly accept any and all correspondence relating to timely and pertinent issues in the great Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester area, provided they include the author's name, address and phone number for verification. We cannot publish anonymous, unsigned or unconfirmed submissions. The Wanderer reserves the right to edit, condense and otherwise alter submissions for purposes of clarity and/or spacing considerations. The Wanderer may choose to not run letters that thank businesses, and The Wanderer has the right to edit letters to omit business names. The Wanderer also reserves the right to deny publication of any submitted correspondence. All letters must be typed and submitted directly to: news@wanderer.com.



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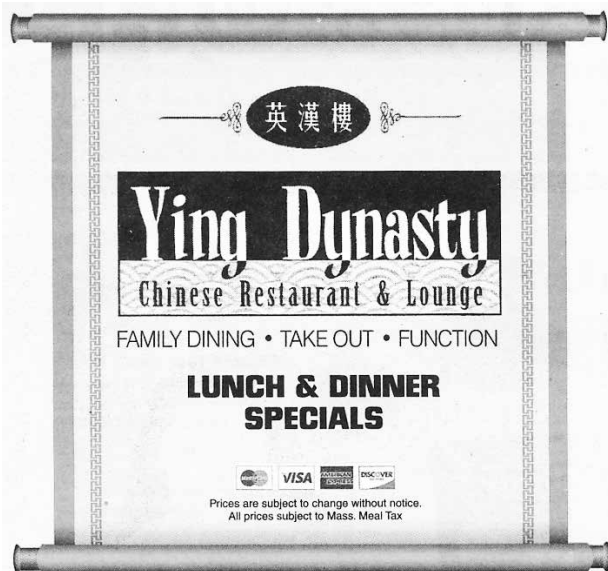
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To the Editor;

The Erosion of Constitutional Order

Every ordered society is governed by core rules, customs, and principles. This is true not only of human communities but, in different forms, of other species that live collectively: the hive of honeybees, the colony of ants, or the pod of whales. Each depends upon established patterns of behavior that allow individuals to coexist and the community to function. Yet one distinction sets human societies apart. Only humans deliberately create constitutions and fundamental laws; frameworks intended not merely to govern people, but to govern those who exercise power over them.

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establish what citizens may and may not do, while a constitution establishes the boundaries within which government itself must operate. It defines powers, limits authority, protects rights, and provides mechanisms to resolve disputes without resorting to force. In a constitutional society, neither leaders nor citizens should stand above the rules. The legitimacy of government depends, in large measure, upon its willingness to observe the restraints imposed upon it.

Since around 2015, however, faith in these principles has appeared increasingly fragile in many Western democracies, particularly in the United States. Political disagreement has become more personal, more absolute, and more difficult to reconcile. Institutions

that once provided a measure of common ground have increasingly become objects of partisan suspicion. Elections, courts, legislatures, government agencies, and even basic facts can be viewed through competing political identities rather than through shared civic standards.

The consequences extend beyond political arguments. When people lose confidence that rules are applied consistently, they begin to question not only particular decisions but the legitimacy of the institutions themselves. When opponents are regarded not simply as people with different ideas but as enemies who must be defeated at any cost, compromise becomes a form of betrayal rather than a necessary feature of democratic government. Suspicion replaces trust, outrage replaces deliberation, and political competition can descend into hostility.

A constitutional order cannot survive on paper alone. It also requires a culture of restraint: leaders willing to accept limits, institutions willing to enforce them, and citizens willing to recognize the legitimacy of those with whom they disagree. No constitution can eliminate conflict, nor should it. Its purpose is to provide a peaceful structure within which conflict can occur.

The challenge, therefore, is not to eliminate disagreement but to recover a shared commitment to the rules that make disagreement possible without destroying society itself. Political victories are temporary; constitutional principles must endure. Without that common foundation, democracy becomes increasingly vulnerable to the very divisions it was designed to contain.

Eileen J. Marum, MPP

The ideas for this essay came from the October nonfiction book group reading of *We the People* by Jill Lepore.

To the Editor;

For over 50 years, Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School has been a place where students can come and learn the skilled trades so that they can train to build full and successful careers. As a



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senior, I look at our school's storied history with immense pride. However, I am writing this piece to raise awareness at this important time in our school's history. Recently, I feel the school's reputation has been tarnished by necessary executive action and funding disputes, which are a necessary part of creating a functioning school and community.

Earlier this year and late last year, citizens from the five sending towns ultimately voted and rejected the proposal to fund a brand new school, utilizing money from the Massachusetts School Building Authority as well as existing funds. These MSBA funds were to the sum of \$129 million, as well as an additional \$11 million in state incentives. Now, I completely understand those who were concerned about a raise in property taxes, as it is a big concern of affordability, especially in our communities, which are largely areas with a higher number, per capita, of retirees and others who may be living rather modestly as it is. I can completely sympathize with those who may simply not have that money: I know people, such as my great-grandfather, who live by themselves and cannot afford these tax raises.

This is ultimately a funding issue, which has metastasized and become palpable in more recent times. I have seen throughout my time at Old Colony a revolving door of academic and technical teachers, replaced with teacher assistants and newer teachers. Now, I respect all these individuals, and I am sure that they are hired with

respect to their merits; however, it is a great necessity to realize that their employment is based on long-serving educators and high-standing tradespeople leaving our community and going to work where they are often paid a higher salary and are employed where the union contract is consistently updated on time.

That brings me to my main motivation: I am writing because the recently expired Teamsters contract has become a pressing issue. I completely understand the teachers' concerns that they are not being paid enough; as long as inflation is positive, the same pay buys less. However, I am very sympathetic to the administration and Mr. Polansky in particular, who wants the best for our school community.



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Tri- Town Play Day

The Bay Club would like to extend an invitation to all residents of Mattapoisett, Marion and Rochester to join us for a complimentary round of golf on Sunday, October 18th.

Reservations are required and will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis beginning seven days in advance by calling 508-207-9215.

Tee times will be available beginning at 10:00 am.

Proper golf attire as well as basic knowledge and ability to play the game are required.

The Bay Club • 63 County Road • Mattapoisett MA • 508-207-9215

Fellow citizens, I ask you to consider the institutional costs that have come with running a 50-year-old building; I am reminded of the famous quote from Senator and former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney, "Corporations are people too, my friend." Old Colony operates with the administrative and fiscal realities of a corporation: balancing assets, operating costs, and labor contracts. But it is a corporation structured entirely for the public good. Its students are the return on that community investment, proving their success every day as they go to enter the workforce, attend college, or join our armed forces.

Out of respect for the teachers and administration of Old Colony, we must be honest about the true problem:



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funding. We must not tear our community apart, and the school committee should continue to do their work as they have been. I call to petition the Commonwealth, as our school, which has the special responsibility of teaching the skilled and technical programs that it does, simply needs more financial support. I fear that the compromise that would come otherwise will not be beneficial for any of the parties involved in ensuring trust in our institution.

Joshua John Major Jr.

Senior, Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School

MAC Theater Presents *Tiny Beautiful Things*

Tiny Beautiful Things opens on the Marion Art Center Stage on Friday, **October 16**, with Margo Ruggiero, Macy Kinney, Amy-Susie Bradford, Stephanie Lawrence and Frank Mitchell Scanzillo. Sarah Jick manages the show, with Steve McManus as technical director and Hannah Bessey as technical assistant. The play is directed by Jennifer Palmer.

The writer Cheryl Strayed is the author of the memoir *Wild*, which was made into an Academy Award-nominated film of the same name, starring Reese Witherspoon. The play, coming soon to the MAC, *Tiny Beautiful Things*, dramatizes an unusual phase of her career before she found fame. At that time, Strayed followed and admired an online anonymous advice



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column called "Dear Sugar." She wrote a fan letter of sorts to the columnist. He wrote back, revealing his identity as a fellow writer she had once met, and he invited her to take over the column. Despite knowing there would be no writing credit and no pay, she said "yes."

Strayed used empathy and her personal experiences to help those seeking guidance for obstacles both large and small. These responses form the backbone of this engrossing play.

Based on Strayed's bestselling book and adapted for the stage by Nia Vardalos, *Tiny Beautiful Things* personifies the questions and answers that "Sugar" published online from 2010 to 2012. *Tiny Beautiful Things* is a play about reaching when you're stuck, healing when you're broken, and finding the courage to take on the questions that have no answers.

Show Dates are **October 16, 17, 18, 23 and 24**, with Friday and Saturday curtain at 7:30 pm and the Sunday matinee curtain at 2:00 pm. All shows take place at the MAC's Anne Braitmayer Webb Theater, located at 80 Pleasant St. in Marion. Tickets are \$23 for members and \$28 for nonmembers. Tickets and information can be found at marionartcenter.org/events.

Marion Fire Department Open House

Join the Marion Fire Department for their Open House on Friday, **October 9**, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Learn about fire safety and meet local firefighters.

Deep Ocean Vents Program

The Marion Natural History Museum will present Deep Ocean hydrothermal vents and #LifeAfterVents with Dr. Stace Beaulieu, senior research specialist with Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, on **October 16**, from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Please register at www.marionmuseum.org.

Hydrothermal vents, or hot springs, have been described as oases of life in the deep ocean. But what happens to the ecosystem after a hydrothermal vent stops venting? This presentation will take you virtually on a dive in the human-occupied vehicle Alvin to the deep ocean floor to investigate life on lesser-studied inactive

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LOCAL CABLE PROGRAMMING

Check www.orctv.org for the latest updates to the schedule.



PUBLIC ACCESS

Comcast Channel 9

Verizon Channel 36

Thursday October 8, 2026

7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 AM The Collective Chat
8:30 AM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
9:00 AM Two Grannies on the Road
10:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
10:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow Today
11:00 AM Rochester 9/11 Ceremony
11:30 AM What's Linda Cooking?
12:00 PM Mid-day Movie
1:30 PM Marion Veg - with Barbie Burr and Brooke Johnson
2:00 PM Rochester Historical Society - How to run a Cranberry Bog in Today's Economy
2:55 PM Hammond Cemetery Plaque Dedication
4:00 PM Marion Natural History Museum - We are all Whalers
5:00 PM Sippican Historical Society - She Devils at the Door
6:00 PM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - Diane Lopes Flaherty
7:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
7:30 PM Paltrowitz
8:00 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
8:30 PM A Conversation With...
9:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre
9:30 PM Marion Art Center - The Constant Wife
11:00 PM Classic Movie

Friday October 9, 2026
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 AM The Collective Chat
8:30 AM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
9:00 AM Two Grannies on the Road
10:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
10:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow Today
11:00 AM Rochester 9/11 Ceremony
11:30 AM What's Linda Cooking?
12:00 PM Mid-day Movie
1:30 PM Marion Veg - with Barbie Burr and Brooke Johnson
2:00 PM Rochester Historical Society - How to run a Cranberry Bog in Today's Economy
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5:00 PM Sippican Historical Society - She Devils at the Door
6:00 PM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - Diane Lopes Flaherty
7:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
7:30 PM Paltrowitz
8:00 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
8:30 PM A Conversation With...
9:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre
9:30 PM Marion Art Center - The Constant Wife
11:00 PM Classic Movie

Burr and Brooke Johnson
2:00 PM Rochester Historical Society - How to run a Cranberry Bog in Today's Economy
2:55 PM Hammond Cemetery Plaque Dedication
4:00 PM Marion Natural History Museum - We are all Whalers
5:00 PM Sippican Historical Society - She Devils at the Door
6:00 PM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - Diane Lopes Flaherty
7:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
7:30 PM Paltrowitz
8:00 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
8:30 PM A Conversation With...
9:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre
9:30 PM Marion Art Center - The Constant Wife
11:00 PM Classic Movie

Saturday October 10, 2026

7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 AM The Collective Chat
8:30 AM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
9:00 AM Two Grannies on the Road
10:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
10:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow Today
11:00 AM Rochester 9/11 Ceremony
11:30 AM What's Linda Cooking?
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7:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
7:30 PM Paltrowitz
8:00 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
8:30 PM A Conversation With...
9:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre

9:30 PM Marion Art Center - The Constant Wife
11:00 PM Classic Movie

Sunday October 11, 2026

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 What's Linda Cooking?
11:30 PM Mid-day Movie
1:00 PM ORR Football vs Bishop Stang
2:30 PM ORR Boys Soccer vs West Bridgewater
4:00 PM ORR Girls Soccer vs Dighton Rehoboth
6:30 PM ORR Football vs Plymouth North
8:30 PM ORR Boys Varsity Soccer vs Somerset Berkley
10:00 PM ORR Girls Soccer vs Seekonk
11:30 PM ORR Volleyball vs Seekonk

Monday October 12, 2026

7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 AM The Collective Chat
8:30 AM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
9:00 AM Two Grannies on the Road
10:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
10:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow Today
11:00 AM Rochester 9/11 Ceremony
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7:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
7:30 PM Paltrowitz

8:00 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
8:30 PM A Conversation With...
9:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre
9:30 PM Marion Art Center - The Constant Wife
11:00 PM Classic Movie

Tuesday October 13, 2026

7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 AM The Collective Chat
8:30 AM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
9:00 AM Two Grannies on the Road
10:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
10:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow Today
11:00 AM Rochester 9/11 Ceremony
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7:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
7:30 PM Paltrowitz
8:00 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
8:30 PM A Conversation With...
9:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre
9:30 PM Marion Art Center - The Constant Wife
11:00 PM Classic Movie

Wednesday October 14, 2026

7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 AM The Collective Chat
8:30 AM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
9:00 AM Two Grannies on the Road
10:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
10:30 AM Deutsche Welle -

Tomorrow Today
11:00 AM Rochester 9/11 Ceremony
11:30 AM What's Linda Cooking?
12:00 PM Mid-day Movie
1:30 PM Marion Veg - with Barbie Burr and Brooke Johnson
2:00 PM Rochester Historical Society - How to run a Cranberry Bog in Today's Economy
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7:30 PM Paltrowitz
8:00 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
8:30 PM A Conversation With...
9:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre
9:30 PM Marion Art Center - The Constant Wife
11:00 PM Classic Movie

MARION GOVERNMENT
Comcast Channel 26
Verizon Channel 39
Daily Schedule

7:00 AM Marion Board of Selectmen
9:30 AM Marion Planning Board
11:00 AM Marion Conservation Commission
12:00 PM Marion Marine Resource Commission
1:00 PM Marion Water and Sewer
3:00 PM Marion School Committee
4:00 PM Marion Marine Resources Commission
6:00 PM Marion Zoning Board of Appeals
7:00 PM Marion Affordable Housing
8:00 PM Marion Board of Selectmen
10:30 PM Marion Open Space Acquisition Commission
11:30 PM Marion Water and Sewer

ROCHESTER GOVERNMENT
Comcast Channel 26
Verizon Channel 40
Daily Schedule

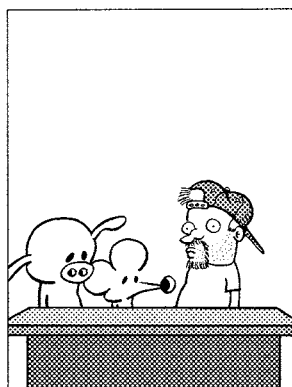
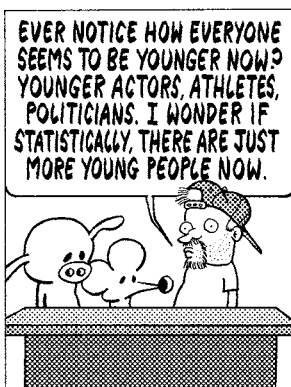
7:00 AM Rochester Board of Selectmen
7:30 AM Rochester Planning Board
8:30 AM Rochester Board of Health
9:30 AM Rochester Conservation Commission
10:30 AM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals
11:00 AM Rochester School Committee
1:00 PM Rochester Board of Selectmen
1:30 PM Rochester Planning Board
2:30 PM Rochester Conservation Commission
3:30 PM Rochester Board of Health
4:30 PM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals
5:00 PM Rochester School Committee
7:00 PM Rochester Planning Board
8:00 PM Rochester Conservation Commission
9:00 PM Rochester Board of Health
10:00 PM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals
11:30 PM Rochester School Committee

EDUCATION CHANNEL
Comcast Channel 8
Verizon Channel 37
Daily Schedule

7:00 AM Old Colony Senior Awards night
8:30 AM Old Colony Graduation
9:30 AM Old Colony Signing Day
10:30 AM ORR Joint School Committee
11:00 AM ORR Varsity Football vs Bishop Stang
12:30 PM ORR Football vs Plymouth North
2:30 PM Girls Field Hockey vs Bishop Stang
4:00 PM ORR Volleyball vs Dartmouth
5:30 PM ORR Boys Soccer vs Somerset Berkley
7:00 PM ORR Football vs Plymouth North
9:00 PM ORR Girls Soccer vs DR
10:30 PM ORR Volleyball vs DR
11:30 PM ORR Football vs Bishop Stang

MATTAPOISETT GOVERNMENT
Comcast Channel 26
Verizon Channel 38

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



sulfide features. Join us October 16 to learn about this new research at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation.

Mattapoisett Congregational Church Food Collection

The Mattapoisett Congregational Church will be hosting a Drive and Drop food collection on Thursday, **October 15**, in the Mechanic Street parking lot from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Thanks to the generosity of the church and community members, last month, we were able to donate over 400 pounds of nonperishable food to Damien's Pantry. Please help us in our continuing effort to help feed our neighbors in need.

BPAA Grant Program

The Bulldog Pride Alumni Association (BPAA) is pleased to announce the call for applications for the 2026-2027 cycle of the Grant Program, 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. BPAA grants aim to augment funding of school projects that enhance the educational and extracurricular experience during the current school year. With a view toward impacting the greatest number of students, the Grants Committee will evaluate grant proposals according to the following criteria:

- Enhance student and teacher well-being
- Foster school and/or community relationships
- Develop creative programs in new areas
- Enrich curriculum or skill-based education
- Encourage professional growth

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 2027-2028 school year. The BPAA Grants Committee will evaluate future grant applications based on the merits of the completed project.

For the 2025-2026 inaugural cycle, the BPAA granted \$1,800 to two applicants from ORRJHS and two from ORRHS. For the 2026-2027 cycle, the BPAA has committed to funding the Grant Program in the amount of \$3,000.

After the review process, the Grants Committee will make its recommendations to the Executive Committee, whose decision is final. Grant recipients will be notified no later than December 7.

Applicants are required to complete the digital application.

To apply, visit: <https://www.orr alumni.org/apply-for-a-grant>.

Deadline: Applications are due by Friday, **November 6**, at 11:59 pm.

For questions or more information, please contact

YARD SALE

Sat., Oct 10 • 8 AM - 12:00

Mattapoisett Friends Meeting
103 Marion Rd.

Much more clothing this year!

Our thanks to the community for items donated



the BPAA Grants Committee via the website.

The Best of Boston: Superstars of Sports

Welcome to The Best of Boston: Superstars of Sports, hosted by award-winning sportswriter and author Marty Gitlin, who wrote *The 50 Greatest Athletes in Boston Sports History*. Watch performance videos of the legends, including Tom Brady, Bill Russell, Ted Williams, Bobby Orr, Larry Bird and many others. Interact with Marty and each other through fun trivia as well. Marty will discuss the impact these athletes made on their teams, sports and fans throughout New England. Marty will have his book available for purchase after the event. So please join in for this fun and enlightening presentation on Saturday,

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TriTOWN HAPPENINGS



Marion Institute Educator Nate Sanders gathers fourth-grade students for a taste of what's growing in the Old Hammondtown School garden and gives them an overview of what they'll be learning throughout the school year. Photo courtesy of Amanda Chamberlin



After getting rained out the week before, Marion Scouts 32 was able to spend an overnight at Camp Hadley. Photos courtesy of Reade Whinnem



Photo by Don Cuddy



On Wednesday, September 30, the fall after-school group walked in Holmes Woods with state forester James Rassman. We discovered how to identify several trees in this young forest, such as Aspen, Maples, birch and others. We also learned how to determine a tree's age using several methods, including counting branches and taking a core sample. James estimates this young forest is about 60 to 70 years old. We had fun finding a red-backed salamander in a log as well as several types of insects and mushrooms that help decay dead logs. Many thanks to Jim for his endless patience with our group. Photos courtesy of Elizabeth Leidhold



At the September 17 Energy Fest, sponsored by the Marion Energy Management Committee, people asked questions and shared experiences about ways to reduce energy bills. The next Energy Fest is scheduled for April 8. Photo by Alanna Nelson



Dozens of Brittany's and their families enjoyed a frolic at Silvershell Beach in Marion on Saturday, October 3. The dog party celebrated New England Brittany Rescue Group's 25th anniversary of finding forever homes for stray, abandoned, or relinquished Brittany's and other mixed breeds. Photos by Laura Pedulli



These photos and more are available online at www.wanderer.com

October 10, at noon. Reserve your seat today on our online Events Calendar at plumblibrary.com

Halloween Events at the Elizabeth Taber Library

We're getting into the spooky spirit and would love to have you join us for our upcoming, free Halloween events.

Our annual pumpkin decorating contest is back. Check out a pumpkin with your library card and then bring it back to the Library by Monday, **October 26**, to enter it in our contest. All manners of decoration are allowed, just no carving. Community votes will determine the winners.

If your child wants to decorate a pumpkin, they can do that on Tuesday, **October 13**, between 3:00 pm and 4:00 pm as part of our After School Activities program. Suggested for grades K-4, we'll provide kid-friendly supplies to decorate a pumpkin and enter it in our contest.

If you're making your own Halloween costume, you won't want to miss our Family Makerspace Day between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm on Saturday, **October 17**. We'll have tools, supplies and staff support to help make your vision come true.

Adults, teens, and tweens (in grades 5 and up) won't want to miss hearing about ghosts and legends from storyteller Jeff Belanger on Tuesday, **October 27**, at 6:00 pm. Registration for this program is required; you can register at elizabethtaberlibrary.org/events.

Our Halloween spirit culminates in our annual Halloween Party on Thursday, **October 29**, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. We'll have tricks, treats, and activities for kids of all ages. This family-friendly event is one of our favorite programs of the year.

Children's Department Events at the Mattapoisett Library

Looking for some story times? Family Storytime, for kids ages 2 and up and their families, happens on Thursday mornings in October at 10:30. Baby Storytime, for ages 0 to 2 and their families, happens on Friday mornings in October at 10:30.

Join us on Thursday, **October 15**, at 3:30 pm to create your own colorful wall hanging using yarn and a cardboard loom (for ages 6 and up). All materials will be provided. Registration is required.

We're throwing a Halloween party. It starts at 10:30 am on Saturday, **October 17**, with storyteller Rona Leventhal. After the show, take part in some spooky crafts and check out everyone's costume. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Mattapoisett Cultural Council, a local agency that is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

On Thursday, **October 22**, at 3:30 pm, we're offering a fun seasonal craft for kids ages 10 and

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Saturday 8am-2pm**

OBITUARIES



Frances Louise (Hiller) Healey, 82, of San Rafael, CA died at home Sunday, September 27 in the care of hospice and her husband Michael.

Fran was born April 7, 1944 at Mass. General in Boston, third daughter of Eldredge and Margaret (Crane) Hiller, and raised in Marion until the family moved to Scarsdale, New York when she was ten.

She returned to the family home every summer to Marion to sail, ride horses, play tennis, and bike and swim.

Her first job after graduating from Skidmore College where she majored in art was with the art department at Raytheon in Burlington, MA where she met her husband Michael. They were married February 8, 1969 in Sudbury, MA and soon moved west to the Bay Area.

After buying a house in Bolinas, Franny worked for the Bolinas Community Public Utility District and began “en plein air” painting with the West Marin Diehards in her spare time. Eventually they moved to San Rafael where she worked for the University of California Cooperative Extension. She continued painting until recently, mostly California landscapes.

She is survived by her sister Betsey Tabraham (Harry, deceased), Peggy Forster (Jim), and Helen Hills (Norm), her nephews Ralph Phillips and Nate Hills, niece Sarah Hoff and by many close friends.



John Mark Hartley, 64, of Rochester, Massachusetts, passed away unexpectedly on September 28, 2026, while at work in Brookfield, MA. His passing leaves a profound void in the lives of all who knew and loved him.

Born May 21, 1962, Mark was the oldest of four children of Meryden Kirby and John “Jack” Hartley. A lifelong resi-

dent of Rochester, he was well known and loved throughout the Tri-Town community.

An industrious self-starter, Mark began working at age 12 at Lionberger’s Farm. He later worked for his grandfather at Geo. Kirby Jr. Kirby Paint Co. and spent many years as a foreman on the cranberry bogs for A.D. Makepeace Co. Mark graduated from Springfield College in 1984 with a B.S. in Biology. His love of nature remained constant, even as his career shifted to trucking. He drove for AGAR Supply Co. and Precision Motor Transport Group before joining Intercity Lines in 2018, where he was highly respected by his coworkers.

Mark was happiest outdoors, especially during family gatherings at the Cottage on Snows Pond, where he loved sunrises, swimming, bonfires, and teaching others to fish. He was a wonderful host, always ready with a story, a thoughtful

question, or a plate of his famous pancakes—reserving one for himself as the “pancake tax.”

An avid reader, crossword enthusiast, and Scrabble ace, he enjoyed horseshoes, ping-pong, pool, bowling, baseball, and softball, playing in local leagues with his many friends under the nickname “Lumber.”

He was also a creative spirit who loved wood carving, painting, and riverboat racing, winning first place with Dana Barrows in 1988. A devoted student of the Bible, Mark loved the Lord Jesus Christ and lived with patience, kindness, and generosity. He will be remembered for his vibrant humor, deep love of family, and distinctive style.

He leaves behind his five children, Salem, Levi, Celeste, Ari, and stepdaughter Heather Bryant; mother, Meryden Kirby; siblings Shawn-Ann, Dana-Lyn and her husband Lon, Matthew, Nicole and her partner Justin, and their families; nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family, and many dear friends and coworkers.

His visitation will be held Friday, October 16th, from 4:00–7:00 pm at Saunders-Dwyer Mattapoisett Home for Funerals, 50 County Rd., Mattapoisett. His Funeral Service will be Saturday, October 17th, at 2:30 pm at the First Congregational Church, 11 Constitution Way, Rochester. Burial will follow in Sherman Cemetery on Pine Street (across from Rochester Memorial School). A Celebration of Life dinner reception will follow in the church Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. For directions and guestbook, visit www.saunders-dwyer.com.



Dr. Earland “Earl” Briggs, a long-time resident and “town dentist” of Marion, left us on September 27th at the ripe old age of 98. Within a few weeks of his death, he was still enjoying lobster rolls, chocolate-coconut cake, and playing “noodle tennis” at his assisted living facility in Boca Raton, Florida.

Earl was the youngest of four children born in North Anson, Maine, to his Canadian parents, Adam and Gertrude Briggs. Arriving 10 years after his previous sibling, the bundle of joy probably came as a surprise. His father died tragically when Earl was only three, and his mother succumbed to cancer when he was ten, so his big sister Alice (Briggs) Halle and husband Arthur along with their four children became his family.

Despite these difficult beginnings in rural Maine, Earl excelled in school. His intelligence, curiosity, athletic ability, and work ethic earned him a spot at Bowdoin College. To pay his way through school he harvested lumber on his uncle’s land, made and sold statues of Maine bears to college visitors, and washed dishes at his fraternity, Theta Delta Chi. Organic chemistry almost derailed his pre-med track, he claimed, but perseverance led to his acceptance into the Tufts

up. Create a Halloween miniature garden with tiny gravestones, skulls, spooky trees and figurines like witches or ghosts. Supplies are limited; registration is required.

Kids Graphic Novel Book Club will be reading *Dracula's Brunch Club* by Brian Gonsar. Copies will be available at the children's desk. Contact faguiar@sailsinc.org with any questions. Registration is optional. Perfect for readers ages 9 and up. The club will be meeting on Friday, **October 23**, at 3:30 pm.

More information about all our programs is available on our website, mattapoissettlibrary.org, or by calling 508-758-4171. We hope to see you in the library soon. Until then, keep reading.

Adult Events at the Mattapoissett Library

Visit us at the Mattapoissett Free Public Library, located at 7 Barstow Street.

Get into the October spirit with a spooky film, *The Cat and the Canary*, on **October 13** at 6:00 pm. Can a group of distant relatives survive the night in a haunted house to learn the secret of a madman's will? Find out in the original Gothic thriller from silent film director Paul Leni, with live music accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis. Remember: in silent film, no one can hear you scream.

Stevie's WINE & SPIRITS Halloween Tasting Friday, October 23rd 4 - 6:00 PM



Find your new favorite spooky flavors at our Halloween tasting!

115 Huttleston Ave

774.510.7881

www.stevieswineandspirit.com

Registration is optional, but priority will be given to those who have registered.

Join us for an Adult Craft Workshop at the library on **October 17** at 1:00 pm. During this session, we will be painting miniature pumpkins to take home. Get creative and create a piece of decor that works for you, or to give as a gift to someone else. Please register to reserve your spot.

Join us for a Sunset Cinema Movie Showing on the MFPL Lawn on **October 21** at 6:00 pm. We will be showing *Scooby-Doo* (2002). Bring a blanket, chairs

OBITUARIES

School of Dental Medicine. After graduating with a DMD in 1954, he worked at Gouverneur Hospital in New York City before serving in the Navy at the base in Bainbridge, MD. During those two years he didn't see any ships or the ocean, he said, just lots of teeth. Many of his military patients had never been to a dentist before. And while on a brief leave, he attended a party where he met his beloved wife of 57 years, Jean (Parkinson) Briggs. While searching for a place to establish Earl's dental practice, Jean showed Earl around the area near her hometown of Fairhaven, Mass. When Earl saw Marion, he knew they'd found their place to settle.

Earl's and Jean's first child, Jennifer, arrived in 1957, followed by their son, Adam in 1961. While Earl's dental practice thrived, he served on several town boards and committees, and the couple became active members of the Sippican Tennis Club, Beverly Yacht Club, and Kittansett Golf Club. The family enjoyed skiing many winter weekends and exploring the beautiful but challenging waters of Buzzards Bay and beyond, sometimes learning the ins and outs of cruising the hard way. Earl had a severe case of boat fever: he was always tinkering with his succession of vessels and always eyeing the next bigger and better one. Eventually becoming a proficient navigator, he was invited to guide several Marion-Bermuda races and taught courses for the Power Squadron program.

Earl retired from dentistry in 1988, selling Marion Dental Health Associates to his long-time partner, Dr. Bill

Hoye. Earl embraced retirement with gusto – he and Jean traveled the world, became Florida snowbirds so they could play golf and tennis all winter, and visited their children's families at the drop of a hat. His creative juices also found new outlets, as he ramped up jewelry making using his skills in casting gold dental pieces, and his paintings sported a bold palette of colors. When Jean was diagnosed with ALS, Earl lovingly cared for her day and night until her death in 2011. Not long afterward, Earl met and fell in love with Mimi O'Leary, and they were married in 2013 while in his 86th year. Over the following decade, they continued to enjoy an active life in Marion during summer and Florida in winter.

Earl was predeceased by his wife Jean E. (Parkinson) Briggs, his second wife Mimi (Petersen, O'Leary) Briggs, and his grandson, Tucker Francis. He is survived by his daughter Jennifer Francis and husband Peter of Marion and their daughter Holly, and by his son Adam Briggs and wife Margaret of Manchester, MA and their sons Benjamin and Timothy. A celebration of life will be held in summer 2027.

In lieu of flowers, donations are encouraged to the Sippican Lands Trust where Earl volunteered for many years: online at <https://sippicanlandstrust.org/> or by mail to P.O. Box 848, Marion MA 02738.

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.



MOVIE REVIEW

Digging a Hole

By Rob Gonsalves
www.robsmovievault.com

Digger. Starring Tom Cruise and John Goodman. Directed by Alejandro González Iñárritu. Running time: 127 minutes. MPAA rating: R. Now playing in theaters.

MAJOR SPOILER ALERT. Tom Cruise as Digger, the anti-hero of the film of the same name, which is about as awful as you've heard, at least brings his most frenetic game. He plays Digger, an oil magnate whose company may have brought about climate apocalypse, as a good ol' boy who sees the world in terms of supply and demand. In an endless speech somewhere around the movie's midsection, Digger rejects culpability and lays it on us. We need oil; he just provides it, at an unsustainable rate. Director Alejandro González Iñárritu (*The Revenant*) and his four co-writers agree with this speech. It's ugly, but it's the truth. We're f.

But wait a minute (and herein lies the spoiler, though it's revealed about twenty-odd minutes in): Cruise also plays Curtis Markson, an actor playing Digger in rehearsals for a play called *Fossil Fools*. So basically any drama we see that isn't backstage stuff is a play. The play isn't meant to be cautionary, either; it's meant to provide catharsis for a beaten-down, gas-mask-wearing audience that's already seeing the impacts of Digger's work. González Iñárritu loves this kind of meta doodle, and here he seems to be saying that even art won't save us. At best it can assuage our rage and depression over the world as it is.

How González Iñárritu got Warner to pony up \$140-180 million to make this inevitable flop is anyone's guess. Maybe he found someone at the studio simpatico with *Digger's* message. Maybe that someone wanted to be able to point to the film and say they did something. Well, they've done nothing. All *Digger* does is squash hope and embrace a compromised life of nihilism. We can't even take pleasure in the overacting. Cruise honks along amusingly, but others like John Goodman (as the President) are stuck doing what in the context of this play-within-a-film reads as play-acting.

We're monitoring John Goodman, and others



in the cast, for consciousness of acting a role, and that never happens, even though most of the play is shown in rehearsals. González Iñárritu makes *Fossil Fools* a play and not a movie, I think, because he wants to show an audience coming together for a live performance. He also wants to create tension when Curtis isn't sure whether a hurricane has taken down a plane his daughter is on, thus showing that the new grim meathook reality of climate change even affects members of the cast. And the cast got to the theater how? Sailboat? Raft? In the play, Digger excoriates the assembled policymakers for arriving to the speech in private jets.

Well ... that's a fair shot. Millionaires and billionaires continue to fly private while we're rebuked for using plastic straws. That's something Digger and González Iñárritu leave out. Each of us use comparatively little resources, but we're told to do better while the likes of Musk and Bezos do whatever they want. But back to *Digger*, an aesthetically ugly, almost punk-rock diatribe that never pulls back the curtain on reality outside its theatrical construct until the very end, a waterlogged dystopia that makes the "future" of *Blade Runner* look chipper.

The film happens to come at a time when flooding is getting worse and worse for those who can't afford living on higher ground. But *Digger* claims moral higher ground while shrugging its shoulders and saying it's too late to do anything. Our appetites have sealed our fate. The most we can do is applaud when a martyr takes the fall for our sins. Can a toxic film be brilliant? Sure, but *Digger* isn't brilliant. It's an artist feeling sorry for himself that he can't impact society more. But boy, does Tom Cruise go routin'-tootin' whole-hog Digger. He almost makes this worth watching, as he goes from premiere to premiere for this film in his private jet.

to lounge on, and some snacks to fully enjoy the movie experience. This event is designed for community members of all ages — no registration required.

Come to an Author Talk with Katie Bernet on **October 24** at 2:00 pm. Katie Bernet is the *New York Times* and international bestselling author of *Beth Is Dead*, the inaugural selection for Reese Witherspoon's Sunnie Reads Book Club and has been translated into more than a dozen languages. Adults and teens will enjoy this mystery-thriller. Copies available at the library for checkout. Registration is optional.

Teen Events at the Mattapoisett Library

Each Wednesday, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm, teens in grades 6-12 can join us in the Student Lounge for snacks, crafts and chill time. Teens and tweens in grades 4-12 can also join us every Friday for T(w)een Friyays in the Student Lounge from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm to play games, read or relax.

Celebrate Banned Books Week with Banned Book Trivia on **October 9** at 12:00 pm. After an early release from school, teens ages 12 and up are welcome to join us for a trivia game to win prizes and see who knows the most about Banned Books — no registration required.

Join us for a Teen Craft Workshop on **October 20** at 3:00 pm. Draw a Halloween still life using oil pastels with librarian guidance. All supplies provided and registration required. It is recommended to wear clothes

that can get dirty (for grades 7-12). Email faguiar@sailsinc.org with questions.

Help us make the library a better place. Teens in grades 7-12 can come to our Library League meeting on **October 22** at 3:00 pm to make decisions about the teen collection, programs and community projects. Earn volunteer hours every time you come to a Library League meeting. No registration is required; just drop in.

As always, our programs and events are free and open to everyone. For more information, please visit us at 7 Barstow Street, online at www.mattapoisettlibrary.org, or call the library at 508-758-4171.

From the Files of the Rochester Historical Society By Connie Eshbach

During the Revolutionary War era, the lines between Wareham and Rochester were very permeable. Thomas Bassett, born and raised in Rochester, put down Wareham on one of his first muster cards because he was temporarily living there during an apprenticeship. William Conant enlisted on July 17, 1775, from Wareham, but was a private in Nathaniel Hammond's Company (a Rochester militia co.). He was stationed at both Wareham and Rochester. He was discharged from this deployment on December 23, 1775.

He once again served in Nathaniel Hammond's Co. and John Dagget's Regiment on an expedition to

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TRI-TOWN POLICE LOGS



MARION

Log highlights Sept 27 – Oct 4

- Beach St – Animal complaint
- County Rd – EMS/medical
- Front St – Suspicious activity
- Field Stone Ln – Gas leak
- Pleasant St – EMS/medical
- Wareham Rd – Officer wanted
- Wareham Rd – General service
- Spring St – Suspicious person
- Pitcher St – EMS/medical
- Spring St – Officer wanted
- Mill St – Identity theft
- Mill St – Officer wanted
- Spring St – General service
- Village Dr - Disturbance
- Wareham Rd – MV collision
- Front St – Waterways complaint
- Mill St – Abandoned property
- South St – Follow up investigation
- Mill St – Health/welfare
- Mill St – Officer wanted
- Briggs Ln – EMS/medical
- Parkway Ln – EMS/medical
- Wareham Rd – General service
- Water St – Officer wanted
- Wareham Rd – MV collision
- Water St – Follow up investigation
- Ichabod Ln – EMS/medical
- Point Rd – Burglar alarm
- Wareham Rd – MV stop/verbal warning

MATTAPOISETT

Log highlights Sept 27 – Oct 4

- Fairhaven Rd – MV violations
- Oliver's Ln – Harassing phone calls
- Crystal Spring Rd – Health/welfare
- Ridge Ave – Restraining order
- Railroad Ave – General service
- Woodbine Rd – Animal control
- Marion Rd – MV violations
- Antassawamock Rd – Medical assist
- Ridge Ave – Officer wanted
- Linhares Ave – Animal control
- Chapel Rd – MV violations
- Holly Ln – 911 call
- Marion Rd – General service
- Nicky's Ln – Suspicious persons
- North St – Officer wanted
- Fairhaven Rd – Medical assist
- County Rd – Animal control
- North St – Health/welfare
- Town Wharf – Harbormaster
- Bethany Ln – General services
- Marion Rd – Juvenile offenses
- Holly Woods Rd – MV crash
- Railroad Ave – Parking violation
- Railroad Ave – Parking violation
- County Rd – MV crash
- Harbor HB Rd- Property found
- Atkinson Way – General service
- Acushnet Rd – Assist citizen
- Marion Rd – MV violations

ROCHESTER

Log highlights Sept 27 – Oct 4

- Perry Ln – Suspicious activity
- Snows Pond Rd – Assist other agency
- North Ave – MV stop/citation
- Bates Rd – MV collision
- Hayley Cir - Fraud
- Gerrish Rd – Assist other agency
- Union Church ter – General services
- Gerrish Rd – 911 call
- Alley Rd – MV collision
- Rounseville Rd – MV stop/citation
- Neck Rd – MV stop/citation
- New Bedford Rd – Animal control
- Marys Pond Rd – MV stop/arrest
- Gerrish Rd – Assist other agency
- County Rd – MV stop/citation
- Ryder R d- Animal control
- Cushman Rd – MV collision
- High St – MV stop/citation
- Boxberry Ln – Vehicle complaint
- Mattapoissett Rd - Medical
- New Bedford Rd – Suspicious activity
- Neck Rd – Detector issue
- New Bedford Rd – MV stop/towed
- Pine St - Disturbance
- Crestwood Cir – Suspicious activity
- Haskell Ridge Rd - Disturbance
- Cranberry Hwy – Assist other agency
- Bradford Ln – Animal control
- Snipatuit Rd – MV stop/citation

For a full PDF of the three towns' police logs from the past week, including arrest reports, visit www.Wanderer.com.



REGIONAL LUNCH MENUS

COASTLINE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM

Monday, Oct 12: No meals served

Tuesday, Oct 13: Chicken & veggie stir fry, white rice, stir fry vegetables, wheat roll, chocolate cookie

Wednesday, Oct 14: Meatloaf w/ gravy, garlic mashed potatoes, diced carrots, wheat bread, banana

Thursday, Oct 15: Herb crusted white fish w/lemon wedge, kale & peppers, wheat bread, Mandarin fruit cup, tartar sauce

Friday, Oct 16: Beef stroganoff, egg noodles, broccoli, whole grain croissant, vanilla pudding

CENTER SCHOOL

Monday, Oct 12: Holiday -No school

Tuesday, Oct 13: Taco nacho platter, brown rice, black bean salad, taco topping bar

Wednesday, Oct 14: Whole grain French toast sticks, maple syrup, tator tots, cheese stick

Thursday, Oct 15: Creamy mac & cheese, steamed carrots, applesauce

Friday, Oct 16: Stuffed crust pizza, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

OLD HAMMONDTOWN

Monday, Oct 12: Holiday -No school

Tuesday, Oct 13: Taco nacho platter, brown rice, black bean salad, taco topping bar

Wednesday, Oct 14: Whole grain French toast sticks, maple syrup, tator tots, cheese stick

Thursday, Oct 15: Creamy mac & cheese, steamed carrots, applesauce

Friday, Oct 16: Stuffed crust pizza, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH

Monday, Oct 12: Holiday -No school

Tuesday, Oct 13: Taco nacho platter, brown rice, black bean

salad, taco topping bar

Wednesday, Oct 14: Whole grain French toast sticks, maple syrup, tator tots, cheese stick

Thursday, Oct 15: Creamy mac & cheese, steamed carrots, applesauce

Friday, Oct 16: Hot buffalo chicken dip served with whole grain tortilla chips, fresh veggie sticks

ROCHESTER MEMORIAL

Monday, Oct 12: Holiday -No school

Tuesday, Oct 13: Taco nacho platter, brown rice, black bean salad, taco topping bar

Wednesday, Oct 14: Whole grain French toast sticks, maple syrup, tator tots, cheese stick

Thursday, Oct 15: Creamy mac & cheese, steamed carrots, applesauce

Friday, Oct 16: Stuffed crust pizza, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

SIPPICAN SCHOOL

Monday, Oct 12: Holiday -No school

Tuesday, Oct 13: Taco nacho platter, brown rice, black bean salad, taco topping bar

Wednesday, Oct 14: Whole grain French toast sticks, maple syrup, tator tots, cheese stick

Thursday, Oct 15: Creamy mac & cheese, steamed carrots, applesauce

Friday, Oct 16: Stuffed crust pizza, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

OLD COLONY REGIONAL

Monday, Oct 12: Holiday – No school

Tuesday, Oct 13: Hot dog, baked beans & fries

Wednesday, Oct 14: Spaghetti & meatballs, green beans & garlic bread

Thursday, Oct 15: Build a baked potato, steamed broccoli

Friday, Oct 16: Assorted pizza & Caesar salad

Rhode Island. This enlistment was from August 28, 1778, until September 1, 1778. Between July 1780 and October 1780, he was detached to support the Continental Army in Rhode Island as a sergeant in John Gibb's Co., John Jacobs Regiment.

His Revolutionary War records show him belonging to a variety of companies and regiments. He was in Barnabus Bradford's Regiment until 1779, when he was "endorsed in Boston" and the Board of War signed that "said Conant and others were to deliver to Lieut. Ephraim Minot, the commanding officer of Corps of Invalids stationed at Boston, the clothing due them as a donation from several towns of the state."

His pay account has him reported in Col. Bradford's Reg. and the 7th Co., from January 1780 to February 1780, but with no service given and this is when he is reported transferred to that same Corps of Invalids.

The Corps of Invalids

MUSTER

William Conant

Appears in a

List of Men Mustered

in *Allyn's* County to serve in

Capt. *Eddy's* Co.

Col. *S. Regt.*

by a return made

Age, *31 years*

Place of residence, *Wareham*

Term of enlistment, *3 years*

Remarks: - *Was given on roll as William Conant*

Not given

Missing from roll

Books: Mustered Men, etc.
Vol. 27, page 140.

was a British concept created in 1688. The units of the Corps were made up of veterans or soldiers who were no longer fit for duty in the field but could still work as protectors of forts and guard prisoners.

On April 21, 1777, the Continental Congress gave the green light to the Board of War for the formation of an eight-company, Corps of Invalids, to use veterans who were unfit to be sent to fight but could do limited service. The program was officially approved on June 20, 1777, and Colonel Lewis Nicola was named as commander. He began recruiting in Philadelphia and in time had detachments in Boston and West Point. In these locations, members of the Corps provided important service by manning the "fortifications" and guarding war supplies.

Shown here is one of Conant's muster cards. Another card (too light to use) has him serving under Col. Nicola. The Corps of Invalids was disbanded between April 1783 and December 1784. While these soldiers served in the Corps, the states held some control over their men who had been assigned to this duty, but it was minimal and, in Conant's case, listed as off the rolls.

Upcoming Events at Rochester Historical Society

October has already been a busy month at the museum and events continue. On **October 17 and 18**, we'll hold our annual yard sale. On Saturday, October 17, we'll be open from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, and on October 18,

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SALOME'S STARS

ACROSS

- 1 "Eat — eaten" (law of the jungle)
5 One prayed to during a drought
12 Laboratory substance
20 Schnitzel meat
21 Redenbacher of popcorn
22 Chevron motor oil brand
23 Manage to avoid the introductory music?
25 Cousin of a musical
26 Cousin of a mouse
27 Look at
28 These fast musical passages, in Spain?
30 Customary actions of a World War II coalition?
34 Agnus — (Mass prayer)
35 Potential picnic pest
36 Potential picnic pest
37 Politician DeSantis
38 Expected
40 Revise copy

- 44 Catch by luring
47 Advancement made by a ferocious female?
53 "Don't panic!"
55 Like a 30-pound cat, say
56 Impel forcibly
57 Former rival of Pan Am
58 With life, musically
60 Divining deck
61 Fill a bishop with joy?
66 Blasting stuff
68 Film director Gus Van —
69 Peru's capital
70 "— that the truth!"
71 Fishnet stuff
72 Previously
73 Let off steam
74 Father
75 Bury Johannes Gutenberg?
79 Homer epic
81 High schoolers, e.g., slangily
83 Long period
84 Apartment sharer, e.g.
86 — Detoo (sci-fi droid)
87 School-related

- 92 Fishing for large shrimps from atop a rooftop shelter?
95 2006 Olympics host in Italia
96 Hershey's toffee bar
97 Mariner's "Mayday!"
98 "Of course!"
100 Potential picnic pest
101 Vardalos of film
104 Poem variety
106 Give novelist Marcel the boot?
109 Goading person who's stranger?
115 Tic-tac-toe win
116 Pekoe, e.g.
117 Marine stuff with a hard, pinkish skeleton
118 The process of deciding how much the frosting should cost?
122 Many a pre-toast tale
123 Band tour follower
124 Allay
125 Emphasized

- 126 Baskers may acquire them
127 Some jeans, familiarly
DOWN
1 Really astonishes
2 Drug reducing muscle strain
3 "Guardians of the Galaxy" co-star Dave
4 Antiquity, archaically
5 Cow catcher
6 Amount of money owed
7 "— had it!"
8 Nothing at all
9 Epoxies, e.g.
10 Car make until '04
11 Bug spray ingredient
12 Selected
13 Less sad
14 At all times
15 "Encore!"
16 Dots in la mer
17 Big town, in Italian
18 Writer Chekhov
19 Minimum
24 Psychic skill
29 Port south of Kiev
31 Nimble

- 32 Motorola tablet introduced in 2011
33 Gerund suffix
38 Alternative to cash or credit
39 "I volunteer to help"
41 ER worker
42 "— Rhythm"
43 Crime of some traitors
45 Entr—
46 Cat's "toe bean," e.g.
48 Novelist Jaffe
49 One stroking a cat, say
50 Off-target
51 Wall bracket for candles
52 "English" or "Irish" dog
54 Cow catcher
58 — rock (music genre)
59 How many freelancers work
61 "Mistress of the Dark" of TV and film
62 Hide out, as a criminal
63 Membrane enclosing an embryo
64 Japanese floor mats
65 Make lovable
67 Part of ENT

- 71 Spanish for "month"
75 Bisected
76 Glowing signs
77 Sci-fi empath Deanna
78 — -Chinese
80 Rinky- —
82 Wiped away
85 Psyche part
87 Matures
88 Therefore
89 Trivial details
90 Kind of
91 Small, simple houses
93 Divide into fair shares
94 Sch. in Manhattan
99 Visit for a bit
101 Dunn and Ephron
102 Birth cert., e.g.
103 Sum finder
105 Meted (out)
106 Stellar hunter
107 Sweat outlets
108 King, in Caen
110 Cicero's "Lo!"
111 Cones' counterparts
112 Cons' counterparts
113 Likes, slangily
114 Light beige
119 Trail mix bit
120 H.S. transcript stat
121 Toon frame

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125									126								127	

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Although practical situations continue to dominate this week, there's time for the Lamb to indulge in the fun things in life -- like maybe taking a special someone out for a great evening!

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) This week favors relationships. Take time to renew old ones and make time to go where new friends can be found. On a more practical note, expect news about a business deal.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You should be seeing some progress on a new workplace situation. Meanwhile, family matters might demand more attention, and you'll want to set aside time to deal with them.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A relationship might suddenly present some challenges that you never expected. After talking things out, you might want to consider taking some time to assess what you've learned.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A disappointing response to a request might dampen the Lion's spirits. But you might want to ask what the reasoning is behind it. What you learn can be of great importance in a future undertaking.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A once-volatile situation should be settled by now, giving you a chance to refocus on a project that you've been planning for. Look for an interested party to rally to your support.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A business matter that unexpectedly turns into a personal situation could create complications. It's best to resolve the matter now before too much harm can be done.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Emotions can run high when they involve personal matters that no one really wants to talk about. But this could be a good time to create the means to a workable outcome.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A positive response to a workplace request could lead the way to other long-sought-out changes. Congratulations! A personal situation also takes a welcome turn.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Patience pays off as a once-overwhelming work situation continues to become easier to handle on a one-by-one basis. Look for positive news from a colleague.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) It might be a good idea to take more time to reassess your next move in working out a complex situation. You could benefit from a new perspective on the matter.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You might want to consider making time to discuss a change of plans with everyone concerned. Be prepared to explain your actions. Also, be prepared to listen to alternatives.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a strong sense of what's right and you try to work from this foundation. Your friends and employers see you as reliable.

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from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

The remaining drop-off date is October 13 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. If you have items but haven't been able to make the drop-off dates, call 617-750-2818.

On October 21, at our monthly 7:00 pm meeting, the topic will be "Highlights of Rochester and the Revolution."

BPAA 4th Annual Alumni Weekend

This coming weekend, the ORR Bulldog Pride Alumni Association (BPAA), for the fourth consecutive year, invites all ORR alumni and friends to Alumni Weekend on Friday, **October 9**, and Saturday, **October 10**.

The program of events is open to all ORRJHS and ORRHS alumni, and friends of ORR, and is an inclusive experience that brings together the common alumni experience spanning over seven decades from the Class of '62 to the Class of '26. There are no entrance fees or tickets required for any BPAA-sponsored event.

On Friday, **October 9**, the ORRHS Homecoming Football Game kick off is at 6:30 pm. Join us at a dedicated alumni area behind the end zone. Gather to learn about the meaningful and consequential work the BPAA is doing for the ORR community. Please note that to enter the grounds, all attendees are required to purchase a ticket. The BPAA is not involved in ticket sales for the game.

"Friday Night Lights Social": For the second year in a row, join us to celebrate the Bulldogs at The Stowaway in Mattapoissett, an alumni-owned business. The event starts immediately following the game. Complimentary light refreshments will be served. Special cocktails will be on the menu, and a portion of those proceeds will be donated to the BPAA. A 50/50 raffle will be held, including a silent auction. There is no entrance fee.

On Saturday, **October 10**, at 7:00 pm, the BPAA 4th Annual Alumni Homecoming Celebration will be held for the first time at alumni-owned River Junction in Marion, featuring a section for ORR alums. Complimentary refreshments will be served. A 50/50 raffle will be held, including a silent auction. The Class of



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Presents

Maritime Chronicles

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

3:00 PM

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AT TABOR ACADEMY**

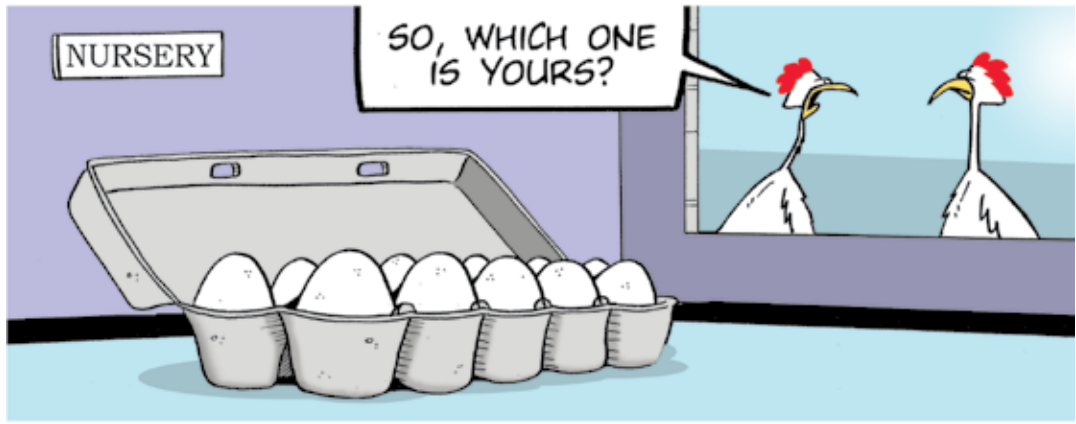
**245 FRONT ST.
MARION, MA**

Tickets:

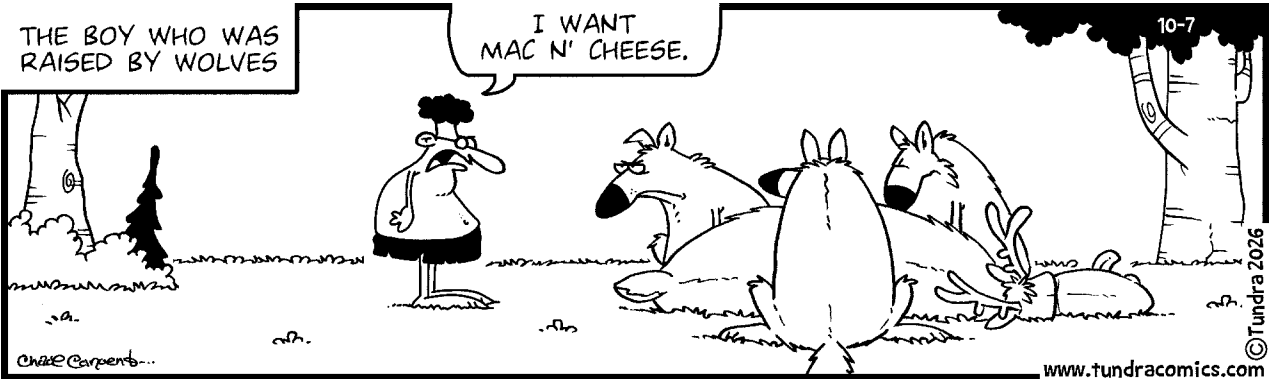
- The Symphony Music Shop, Dartmouth
- Marion General Store in Marion Center
- Mimi's of Marion, corner Front & Cottage streets
- Online at TriCountySymphonicBand.org

Adults \$15 in advance - \$20 at the door
Children aged 12 and under admitted free



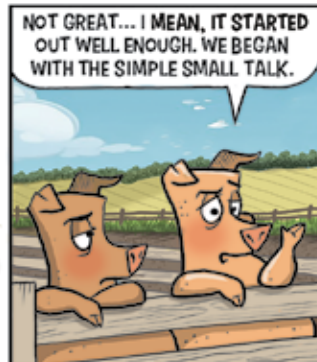


Tundra
by Chad Carpenter



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



1991 will be celebrating their 35th reunion with us. There is no entrance fee.

Local businesses and alumni have contributed to help us in our fundraising efforts to demonstrate our school pride for ORR. For the Class of 2026, the BPAA sponsored three awards, totaling \$5,000, in addition to the launch of the Grants Program, through which four grants were given totaling over \$1,800. For 2026 to 2027, the BPAA is committed to a fundraising goal of \$10,000 to support the BPAA's Mission and Vision 2036, a program dedicated to expanding giving and providing financial awards to underserved student populations. From small and large donations, earned primarily through the fundraising efforts during Alumni Weekend, BPAA can earmark funds to reach the wider ORR community by supporting projects and experiences for students. For more information: givebutter.com/bpaa-fundraising-drive-2026-2027-2aesdg.

Homecoming and Alumni Weekend 2026 are opportunities for past students and graduates of ORRJHS and ORRHS to reconvene in proud support of our schools, and to establish an outlet for alumni and friends to volunteer and contribute resources in service to students, teachers and staff. School pride is the nexus for our efforts, and we know that graduates of ORR are immensely proud of their experience.

The ORR BPAA is a recognized charitable organization in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and operates as a section 501(c)(3) non-profit. Donations to the BPAA are tax-deductible.

For inquiries, reach out to the BPAA at bulldogpridealumassoc@gmail.com. Go Bulldogs.

Fall Nature Drawing & Journaling in New England Rescheduled

The Marion Natural History Museum Fall Nature Drawing & Journaling in New England event has been rescheduled to **October 10** from 10:00 am to 11:30 am.

Join us for nature drawing and journaling the fall in New England. You can bring any media, but we will focus on graphite and colored pencils. Tricia Cassidy will demonstrate how she uses colored pencils in her nature

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TRANSFER STATION REUSE SHED CENTER TO OPEN OCTOBER 18th, 2026

The Transfer Station is pleased to announce the opening of its new Reuse Shed on Sunday, October 18th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Reuse Shed will be open to residents on the **1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

The Reuse Shed is intended to help **reduce waste and lower disposal costs for the Town** by giving usable items a second life rather than sending them for disposal. **Please note the following guidelines:**

- During Reuse Shed hours, residents are permitted to **shop for available items only**.
- Residents wishing to **drop off items for consideration** at the Reuse Shed must do so during the **Transfer Station's normal operating hours**, not during Reuse Shed shopping hours.
- Items brought to the Transfer Station for possible placement in the Reuse Shed will be **reviewed and selected by the Transfer Station Manager**.
- Not every item brought in will be accepted for repurposing.
- Items accepted for the Reuse Shed are **still subject to the applicable disposal fees**, as they would be if the items were being disposed of, regardless of whether the item ultimately is placed in the Reuse Shed/Swap Shop.
- The Transfer Station Manager will determine which items are appropriate for placement in the Reuse Shed.
- Residents must have a valid Transfer Station sticker to visit the Reuse Shed.

Residents are encouraged to participate in this effort to **reduce the amount of waste going into the waste stream, extend the useful life of household items, and help control disposal costs for the Town.**

We look forward to seeing residents at the Reuse Shed beginning **October 18th!**



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LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES
TOWN OF MARION SELECT BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Application for Transfer of All Alcohol, Off-Premises License & Change of Location Magan Corp., d/b/a Marion Wine & Spirits 664 Mill Street, Marion, MA The Marion Select Board, acting as the Local Licensing Authority, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, October 20, 2026 at 6:00 pm in the Marion Town House Conference Room, 2 Spring Street, Marion, on the application of Magan Corp., d/b/a Marion Town Liquors, for the transfer of an all-alcohol off premises license and change of location from MDM Wine5 LLC, d/b/a Vinodivino, 154 Front Street. John W. Hoagland, Chair 10/1, 10/8 TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS Notice is hereby given that the Mattapoisett Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on the following Applications and Petitions. ALL meetings are held at the Mattapoisett Town Hall Conference Room, 16 Main Street (unless otherwise noted). The start time is 6 pm. The meeting will be held in the Town Hall Conference Room on Thursday, October 15, 2026. CASE #1596 Petition of: Andre Rieksts & Lisa Francis, 26 Silver Street, Taunton, MA. 02780. RE: 2 Boardwalk Drive, Mattapoisett, MA 02739. The property is further described as Plot 16, Lot 1. B on the Assessor's Map. Zoning District: R30. Recorded in the Plymouth Registry of Deeds, Book 57313, Page 150. The applicants seek a variance to construct a four (4) car garage that exceeds the maximum square footage. CASE #1597 Petition of Deidre Galway, 18 Sagamore Road, Mattapoisett, MA. 02739. RE: 18 Sagamore Road, Mattapoisett. The property is further described as Plot 15A, Lot 62 on the Assessor's Map. Zoning District: W30. Recorded in the Plymouth Registry of Deeds, Book 54195, Page 12. The applicant seeks a Variance and/or Special Permit to construct a 7.5 x 11-bathroom addition and a 12 x 12 screened-in porch, connected by a circular uncovered deck, at the rear of the house. Complete applications and plans as filed are available for inspection in the Office of the Town Clerk during normal office hours. Sincerely, Susan Akin, Chair Tony Tranfaglia, Colby Rottler, Jordan Rodrigues, Aaron Goldberg 10/1, 10/8 TOWN OF MARION PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING To be held at the Marion Police Department Conference Room 550 Mill Street Also available via Microsoft Teams (Remote Participation Option). For remote access to this meeting please contact Jenna Riewer at jriewer@marionma.gov during regular business hours. The meetings are televised and video recorded by Old Rochester Community Television (ORCTV). The meetings are live streamed on ORCTV. The Marion Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on October 19, at 7:00 pm to consider the request of Toll Brothers, Inc., for an	application for Site Plan Review pursuant to Section 230-9.1A of the Code of the Town of Marion for proposed construction of up to 57 townhomes, 55 as shown on the site drawings. The property is located at Wareham Street (Route 6), Marion, MA 02738 and is further identified on Marion Assessor's Map as Map 7, Lots 28, 28A, & 28B, Zoning District Residence D. The public is invited to attend and comment on this matter and may inspect the full text at the Town House, 2 Spring Street, Office of the Planning Board, or Town Clerk during normal business hours. Sean Sweeney, Chair Ann Morgan, Vice Chair 10/1, 10/8 TOWN OF MARION DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PUBLIC NOTICE The Marion Department of Public Works, through the Contractor CN Corp., will begin to mobilize for the construction of the Island Wharf Water Main project on Thursday October 1, 2026, and start construction on Monday October 5, 2026. The duration of construction (including installation of temporary pavement) is approximately three weeks. Installation of permanent pavement will occur in the spring of 2027. Schedule and completion of all work is subject to change due to weather conditions and unforeseen circumstances. The extents of the project begin at Front Street, through the paved Island Wharf Road parking lot, and end at the entrance to the Harbormaster Building parking lot. Although limited access to the roadway, parking lot, and boat ramp and general area will be maintained, motorists can expect delays while accessing the area. Half of the Island Wharf parking lot will remain open during construction. Please follow all construction signage and safety barriers while accessing the area. Every effort will be made to minimize inconvenience to motorists. Advanced notice of planned water main / water service shutdowns will be provided to residents/businesses in the area. However, unannounced disruptions in water service due to the construction activities may occur. Therefore, it is not uncommon to experience low water pressure or discolored water during construction. If you experience discolored water, please run the cold water tap until it clears. The Water Department will make their best effort to restore water service as soon as possible. Please contact the DPW should you have any questions: (508) 748-3540 Monday – Friday 7:00 am to 3:30 pm. For emergencies outside of the regular DPW office hours, please contact the Police Department and they will relay any concerns to the appropriate Town Department: (508) 748-1212. Your patience and cooperation are greatly appreciated. 10/8 TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT SELECT BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING A public hearing will be held upon the petition of NSTAR dba EVERSOURCE to extend an existing 115-kilovolt (kV) line by 3 miles in the existing right-of-way from before Mendall Road in Acushnet to the Crystal Spring Substation in Mattapoisett. The new line will be installed on new structures within the ROW. Pursuant to MGL Chapter 166 Section	22, because the new transmission will cross public ways, the Company is required to petition the Select Board in writing and request permission to erect, bury or construct across Town of Mattapoisett public ways. The new transmission lines will cross the following public ways: Long Plain Road at a location approximately 55' southerly of its intersection with Beech Wood Lane. Tinkham Lane at a location 486' north eastly of its intersection with Pinewood Way. Crystal Spring Road at a location approximately 2780 'northerly of its intersection with Acushnet Road. The Hearing will be held in the first floor Conference Room on Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 6:50 pm. Board meeting also available via ZOOM. Sign on information is on the town website. Jodi L. Bauer, Chairperson Jordan Collyer, Vice Chair Judith Mooney, Clerk Frances-Feliz Kearns, Nicole Doyon Lynch 10/8 TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Mattapoisett Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, October 28th, 2026, at 6:30 pm at the Old Rochester Regional High School Auditorium on a Notice of Intent submitted by Dennis Mahoney & Sons, Inc. This meeting will be held in person only. There will be no Zoom or remote participation option available due to the location necessary for the expected in person participation. If you are unable to attend in person, residents are encouraged to share their comments or concerns by submitting a letter in advance. Letters may be emailed to mgonzalez@mattapoisett.gov or mailed to: Town of Mattapoisett/ Conservation Commission PO Box 435 Mattapoisett, MA 02739 All written comments are welcome and will be shared with the appropriate officials. The Applicant proposes to demolish seven houses and construct new single-family dwellings in compliance with FEMA and Mass Building Code requirements for construction within a Velocity Zone together with driveway access, parking, utility and stormwater improvements. The proposed work will be performed within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, Flood Zones VE (El. 17) and VE (El. 18) and partially within the 100 ft. Buffer Zone of Salt Marsh and Coastal Bank. The property is known as 1-7 Mahoney's Lane and is further identified as Lot #54 on Assessors Map #10. 10/8 TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Mattapoisett Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 14, 2026 at 6:30 pm in the Town Hall (in person and remotely via Zoom **) on the Request for A Determination of Applicability submitted by Tyler Hathaway/Hathaway Nursery on behalf of Russell Ford, 6 Water Street, Mattapoisett, MA

Continued on page 42

sketchbooks. Bring toned sketch paper if you have it, but Tricia will have some paper as well. We will talk about how the various ecosystems at Washburn Park in Marion change in the fall (besides the obvious leaves changing color). So, let's document the nature around us and get lost in its beauty.

To register, please go to www.marionmuseum.org.

Presentation with the Mattapoissett Woman's Club

Local residents are invited to join the Mattapoissett Woman's Club for an engaging presentation by local author Michelle Cusolito, *Surrounded by Water: Life on a Research Vessel in the Middle of the Atlantic*. The program will take place on Thursday, **October 15**, at 11:30 am at Reynard Hall, inside the Mattapoissett Congregational Church. The event is open to the public.

Cusolito, M.Ed., is an award-winning author whose books have been named Junior Library Guild Selections, received multiple starred reviews, and appeared on numerous "Best Of" lists. During her presentation, Cusolito will take attendees behind the scenes of life aboard a research vessel, sharing stories and photographs from her time at sea with the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

She will offer an insider's look at what it's like to live and work on a research ship — from moving aboard and unpacking equipment to weathering massive storms in the middle of the North Atlantic.

Attendees will also learn about fascinating new technologies being used to study the deep ocean and will have the opportunity to see photographs of deep-sea animals that few people ever encounter in person.

Michelle Cusolito's books will be available for purchase following the presentation.

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club is a civic, social, educational and philanthropic organization dedicated to serving the local community. Membership is open to local women who share an interest in the organization's objectives and mission.

For more information or questions, please contact



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Homeschool Writing Program at the ETL

The Elizabeth Taber Library is excited to announce the expansion of our homeschool programming this fall.

Homeschooling kids who are ages 10 to 14 (4th to 8th grade equivalent) are invited to join us for the Letters About Literature program. Students will write a letter to an author about a book that has impacted them. This seven-week writing workshop will help students develop skills in personal writing, literary analysis, peer reviewing and editing. This program was developed in conjunction with the Massachusetts Center for the Book.

Old Tyme Chimney

Chimneys/Masonry Repaired

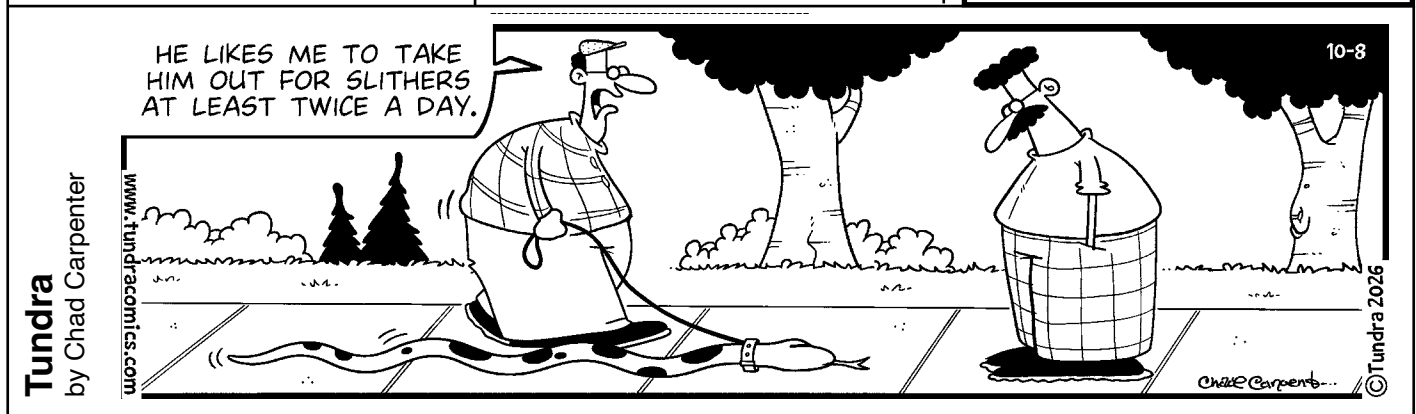


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LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	CLASSIFIED INFORMATION
02739. The proposed project is to replace a brick staircase with Granite/Bluestone, expand footprint from 5'x5' to 5'x10' and create garden beds. The project is located at 6 Water Street and is further identified as Lot 182 on Assessor Map 9. **Contact concomm@mattapoissett.net for the Zoom Meeting Information. 10/8 TOWN OF MARION SELECT BOARD & TREE WARDEN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Marion Select Board and Tree Warden will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, October 20, 2026 at 6:15 pm in the Marion Town House Conference Room, 2 Spring Street, for the removal of a hazardous tree across the street from 4 Park Street. Stephen Gonsalves, Tree Warden John W. Hoagland, Select Board Chair 10/8, 10/15 TOWN OF MARION CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Marion Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 21, at 7:10 pm at the Marion Police Department Conference Room 550 Mill Street, also available via Microsoft Teams (Remote Participation Option), on a Request for Determination of Applicability, submitted by Katherine Cunningham for the proposed construction of a 3-tier cedar split-rail fence and shed at 143 Cross Neck Road. The site is further identified as Lot 38A on Marion Assessors' Map 5. Plans are available at the Town House for review. The site is further identified as Lot 11 on Marion Assessors' Map 10. Plans are available at the Town House for review. Shaun Walsh, Chair *Please contact Jenna Riewer at jriewer@marion-ma.gov for the Microsoft Teams link and for meeting information. The meeting will be live streamed on ORCTV. 10/8 TOWN OF MARION CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Marion Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 21, at 7:15 pm at the Marion Police Department Conference Room 550 Mill Street, also available via Microsoft Teams (Remote Participation Option), on a Notice of Intent, submitted by Benjamin Baptiste for the proposed construction of a single-family dwelling at Point Road. The site is further identified as Lot 11	on Marion Assessors' Map 10. Plans are available at the Town House for review. Shaun Walsh, Chair *Please contact Jenna Riewer at jriewer@marion-ma.gov for the Microsoft Teams link and for meeting information. The meeting will be live streamed on ORCTV. 10/8 TOWN OF MARION CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Marion Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 21, at 7:25 pm at the Marion Police Department Conference Room 550 Mill Street, also available via Microsoft Teams (Remote Participation Option), on a Notice of Intent, submitted by Jon Delli Priscoli for the proposed beach nourishment project. The site is further identified as Lot 15 on Marion Assessors' Map 1. Plans are available at the Town House Annex for review. Shaun Walsh, Chair *Please contact Jenna Riewer at jriewer@marion-ma.gov for the Microsoft Teams link and for meeting information. The meeting will be live streamed on ORCTV. 10/8 TOWN OF MATTAPoisETT SELECT BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING A public hearing will be held upon the petition of EVERSOURCE to construct a line for the transmission of electricity (together with overhead wires) which will cross public ways in the locations listed below. Road Name(s) - Crossing location description(s) 1. Long Plain Road at a location approximately 55 feet southerly of its intersection with Beech Wood Lane. 2. Tinkham Lane at a location approximately 486 feet north easterly of its intersection with Pinewood Way. 3. Crystal Springs Road at a location approximately 2780 feet northerly of its intersection with Acushnet Road. Hearing will be held in the Conference Room at the Town Hall, 16 Main Street, Mattapoisett on Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 6:35 pm. Board meeting is also available via ZOOM. Sign on information is on the town website. Jodi L. Bauer Jordan C. Collyer Judith Mooney Frances-Feliz Kearns Nicole Doyon Lynch 10/8, 10/14	Classified Policy: All Classified Advertisements must be prepaid and can be placed at our office or on line at 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 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 not offer credits or refunds. Legal Advertisements: * Legal Ads are \$1.00 per line, at a minimum of \$25. per ad.



This group will meet on Fridays at 2:00 pm from **October 9 through November 20**. Visit elizabethtaberlibrary.org/events to register. Registration is required for this program series.

Inaugural Fall Gala

The Old Rochester Regional Tri-Town Education Foundation invites the community to attend its inaugural Fall Gala on Thursday, **October 8**, at Century House in Acushnet.

The evening includes a cocktail hour and curated silent auction, featuring unique local experiences, vacation getaways and premium goods donated by regional businesses.

The gala will raise funds to strengthen educational opportunities for students and educators across Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester. Tickets may be purchased at: gofan.co/event/6711869. Early registration is encouraged, as tickets are limited.

Proceeds from the event will directly benefit the Foundation's grant program, which funds innovation, specialized arts and science initiatives and experiential learning projects that enhance curriculum.

"We look forward to seeing our community of educators, families, local businesses and individuals at the inaugural Fall Gala on October 8," said Superintendent Michael S. Nelson. "This evening is a chance not only to support public education, but also to gather with

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Debbi Dyson	October 8
Erica Lynn Murphy	October 8
Madisen Martin	October 8
Mari Daly	October 8
Nolan J. Lombard	October 8
Bob Pacheco	October 9
Cameron Newcomb	October 9
Linda Kelsey	October 9
Nathaniel D. Nicolosi	October 9
Ashley L. Mello	October 10
Henry Ucci	October 10
Jackson Martin	October 10
Jim Finnerty	October 10
Mara Flynn	October 10
Margot Ketchel	October 10
Cameron Norton	October 11
Lynette Duchaine	October 11
Mark Hughes	October 11
Stephen V. Burke	October 11
Roger Silva	October 12
Rosita Coutts	October 12
Aaron Allen-Murdock	October 13
Cameron Garde	October 13
Laurie Nunes	October 13
Lyric Beecher	October 13
Ronald Collins	October 13
Wayne Roland Sweet II	October 13
Alexandre Risko	October 14
Jen Feeney	October 14
Lila O'Connell	October 14
Mark Herman	October 14
Morgan Faye Hawes	October 14
Rowan Talbot	October 14

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. 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.



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friends and family to enjoy a cocktail reception, win silent auction prizes and more. We are grateful for the community's support of our students and educators, and are eager to see them at the gala."

Local businesses and individuals who wish to support the gala can choose to do so in the following ways:

-Sponsorship Packages: Choose one of four different tax-deductible tiers that offer prominent organizational visibility before and during the event.

-Silent Auction Procurement: Donate high-quality items, vacation stays, event tickets or premium gift baskets.

-In-Kind Vendor Support: Collaborate with regional hospitality, floral, printing or entertainment vendors willing to offer discounted or donated services.

For more information about sponsorship and auction details, email Tritowneducationfoundation@oldrochester.org.

"We wish to thank all of the local businesses and individuals who have supported the gala through generous silent auction prizes, sponsorships and vendor support," said Doreen Lopes, Chairperson of the Tri-Town Education Foundation. "Their contributions have been invaluable as we prepare for the gala, and we are excited to see their hard work pay off the night of the event."

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 A safe environment where children of all ages can learn and grow as they spend their time with us. Our curriculum will enhance their minds to problem solve during group play and learn independence as they engage in one on one interactions with their teachers.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:
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bonnie@countysidechildcare.net

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MARION
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BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM AT SIPPICAN ELEMENTARY ROCHESTER MEMORIAL
 508-763-8007
 6:30-9:45 A.M./3-6 P.M.
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GREAT STAFF

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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Fall Clean ups, Yard Maintenance, Gutters, Stump Grinding, Mulching Call Oscar 774-417-3713

HANDYMAN NEEDED: MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

Annie Maxim House, Inc is seeking experienced **Handymen** to participate in our Housing Assistance Program. The program helps older adults with small home repairs so they can remain safely in their home. The handyman works directly with the homeowner and will be hired by the elder and paid by the Housing Assistance Program. Qualifications: Current Liability Insurance, experience with references, reliable, quality workmanship, comfortable and respectful working with older adults.

If you have the skills to make a difference in an older adult's home we'd like to hear from you.
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Mattapoisett - Annual Village Rental with exceptional views of the harbor/Shipyards Park. 1st floor renovated 2bd/2ba with washer/dryer, dishwasher and off street parking. \$2,500 plus utilities. First/last/security. No smoking or pets. Gavin 617-308-0932

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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!

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

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!

Gentle

CAPLID

Flop

ROLES

Worth

EAVUL

Slight

NORMI

TODAY'S WORD



"I hope this catches on — it's something

new — cakes."

Mattapoisett Community Preservation Act

The Mattapoisett Community Preservation Act Committee will be accepting project funding applications for Committee consideration and presentation at the Spring 2027 Annual Town Meeting. The Project Application and guidelines will be available on the Town Website and in paper form at the Select Board's Office on October 5.

Submit completed applications by **November 6** to: Mattapoisett Community Preservation Act Committee, c/o Mattapoisett Select Board Office, PO Box 435, 16 Main Street, Mattapoisett, MA 02739

Each project request must be submitted to the CPA Committee using the Project Application Form. Nine (9) copies of the application package must be provided to the Committee. For information and questions, email cwmccullough@comcast.net.

Fall Free Family Fun Festival

The Mattapoisett Lions will be hosting the 10th anniversary of the Fall Free Family Fun Festival (FFFFF). The event will take place at Shipyard Park in Mattapoisett on Saturday, **October 17**, from noon until 4:00 pm (rain date: Saturday, October 24). To celebrate a decade of fun, we'll have all the usual activities. Yes, that includes hayrides, face painting, pumpkin bowling, and more. This year we also have a Mad Science show from 1:00 to 2:00 pm. Another addition will be an old-school popcorn machine. Bring your young and young-at-heart loved ones for a fun day.

Marion Social Club New England Clamboil

The Marion Social Club, located at 44 Pumping Station Road, is having an authentic New England Clamboil on Sunday, **October 18**. It will include chowder, clams, potatoes, sweet potatoes, sausages, hot dogs, linguica, broth and butter. The price will be \$40 each, and the cutoff date is October 11. Doors will open at noon for socializing. You can reserve tickets by calling Betsy Youngson at 508-295-8253.

Marion Special Town Meeting

The Town of Marion will hold a Special Town Meeting on Monday, **November 9**, at Sippican Elementary School's Multipurpose Room, 16 Spring Street. The meeting will begin at 6:00 pm.

For more information, please visit the Town Clerk's webpage or contact the office at 508-748-3500.

Rochester Cultural Council

The Rochester Cultural Council (RCC) is accepting online applications from organizations, schools and individuals for grants to support community-oriented arts, humanities and science programs.

The RCC is composed of volunteers appointed by the Rochester Select Board. Using funding provided by the Mass Cultural Council, the RCC awards money each

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The Wanderer

The Wanderer is an independently owned and published weekly newspaper that is distributed to the public free of charge throughout Mattapoisett, Marion, Rochester and the surrounding communities.

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Mattapoisett, MA 02739

Office:

55 County Road (Route 6) Mattapoisett

Telephone: 508-758-9055

Web Page: www.wanderer.com

E-mail:

General/Advertising:
office@wanderer.com

News: news@wanderer.com

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(News) Monday at noon
(All Others) Tuesday at 10am

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Tues. 9am - 12 noon

Staff:

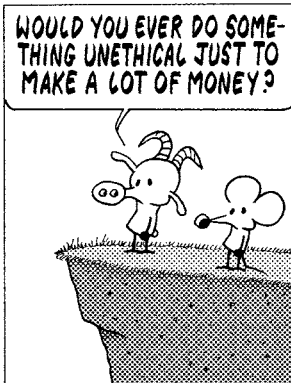
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ISSN 1559-1212

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



year to arts, humanities and sciences projects put forth by local groups to enhance the quality of life in the Rochester community.

Proposals may include programs such as school field trips, afterschool programs, concerts, festivals, lectures, theater, dance, music, film and STEM projects. In 2025, the RCC awarded \$5,800 to 17 organizations, including the Rochester Council on Aging, RMS PTO, Old Colony PTO, Marion Art Center, New England Coastal Wildlife Alliance and the Mattapoissett Historical Society. A full list of 2025 grantees can be found on our MCC page at massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/rochester/.

Quick links to tips for grant writing and the application process can also be found at bit.ly/RCCTips. The online application window will be open through **October 15**.

Finally, the RCC is always looking to welcome new members. To find out more about us, check us out at www.facebook.com/rochestermaculturalcouncil, feel free to attend one of our open meetings or email us directly at rochesterculturalcouncil@gmail.com. We would love to have you join us.

FOML Annual Jewelry & Accessories Sale

The Friends of the Mattapoissett Library (FOML) invite you to the Annual Jewelry & Accessories Sale. It is a wonderful opportunity to do some holiday shopping or treat yourself to a great selection of costume, upscale and vintage jewelry and accessories at very reasonable prices. We will also feature high-end pieces in our silent auction. Bidding will be open for the three days and will end on Saturday at 1:00 pm.

The FOML Members-Only Preview Sale will take place on Thursday, **December 3**, from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm. The General Public Sale is Friday, **December 4**, from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm and Saturday, **December 5**, from 10:00 am to



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2:00 pm, at 7 Barstow Street.

If you are not yet a member, you can join the Friends of the Mattapoissett Library with a \$20 donation. To sign up, visit the library circulation desk or join at the door on the night of the Preview Sale.

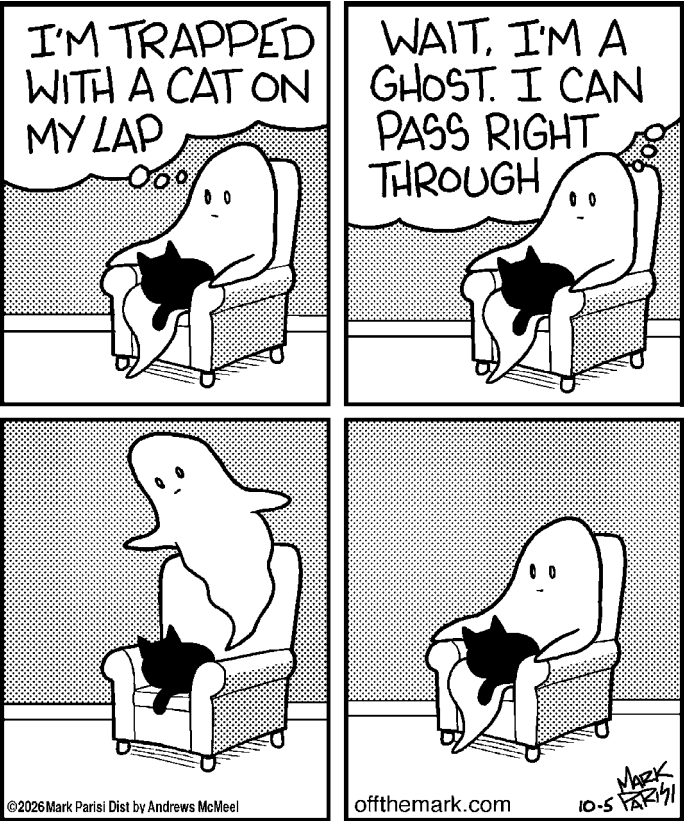
We are also currently accepting donations of gently used jewelry and accessories. Please drop your donations off at the library circulation desk. All FOML fundraising efforts directly support library programs for children, teens and adults, including the purchase of all museum, zoo and park passes.

Thank you for your support of the Friends of the Mattapoissett Library.

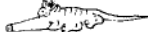
North Rochester Congregational Church

The North Rochester Congregational Church, 247 North Avenue, Rochester, has services at 10:00 am on Sundays. The services are conducted by Rev. Merrily Harris, guest ministers and members of the congregation. Communion is on the first Sunday of each month. Paul Sardinha is the longtime organist. Food and fellowship follow. Everyone is welcome.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS			See past listing on our website: www.wanderer.com		
Buyer(s)	Seller(s)	Address	City	Date	Price
Lussier, Jason Lewis, Dana	Oconnor, Betty L TR Betty, L Oconnor RT -2001	29 Acushnet Rd	Mattapoissett	09/16/2026	520,000.00
635 Mill LLC	Hiller, Jay E Jr TR PNH Realty Trust	635 Mill St Lot 2	Marion	09/16/2026	1,300,000.00
Colbea Enterprises LLC	Rochester Properties LLC	County Rd Pcl A	Rochester	09/17/2026	375,000.00
Simmons, Ann	Crombleholme, Timothy Crombleholme, Peggy	6 Taunton Ave	Marion	09/18/2026	675,000.00
3 Daisey Way LLC	Haggerty, John G TR Three Daisy Way RTt Daisy Way Realty Trust	3 Daisey Way	Mattapoissett	09/18/2026	3,500,000.00
Michael T Smith Living Trust Maria T Smith Living Trust Smith, Michael T TR Smith, Maria T TR	4 Union LLC	4 Union Ave	Mattapoissett	09/18/2026	1,285,000.00
Snow, William L TR Snow, Judith S TR Snow Living Trust	Cyr, Richard L	14 Hathaway Pond Cir	Rochester	09/21/2026	684,000.00
Fernald, Thomas Fernald, Kerrin	Perkins Properties Inc JJJ Properties Inc	521 Marys Pond Rd	Rochester	09/22/2026	475,000.00



Local Tides					
Day	Date	High		Low	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	October 8	6:45	7:10	12:44	12:56
Friday	October 9	7:33	7:55	1:10	1:37
Saturday	October 10	8:17	8:37	1:36	2:16
Sunday	October 11	8:59	9:19	2:06	2:53
Monday	October 12	9:40	10:00	2:40	3:30
Tuesday	October 13	10:21	10:42	3:17	4:07
Wednesday	October 14	11:02	11:25	3:55	4:45
Thursday	October 15	11:46		4:34	5:24
Friday	October 16	12:11	12:34	5:16	6:10
Saturday	October 17	1:01	1:24	6:03	7:12
Sunday	October 18	1:51	2:14	7:03	8:46
Monday	October 19	2:42	3:04	8:24	9:56
Tuesday	October 20	3:35	3:58	9:50	10:40
Wednesday	October 21	4:31	4:53	10:51	11:16
Thursday	October 22	5:24	5:44	11:39	11:48
Friday	October 23	6:11	6:31		12:22
Saturday	October 24	6:55	7:16	12:22	1:04
Sunday	October 25	7:38	8:02	12:57	1:47
Phases of the Moon		New Moon		October 10th	
		First Quarter		October 18th	
		Full Moon		October 26th	
		Last Quarter		November 1st	



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 and Click on *I Found the Aardvark*

In the October 1, 2026 edition the Aardvark was on page 5

PUZZLE ANSWERS

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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

SCRAMBLERS

Solution

1. Placid; 2. Loser
3. Value; 4. Minor

Today's Word
DIVORCE

Sudoku Answer

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





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2.05 oz Select Varieties

David
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16 oz

Daisy
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Pint

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Deli Fresh
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Asian Noodle Salad

\$9.99

Deli Fresh
Friends' Store Packaged
Applesauce

\$7.99

Deli Fresh
Friends' Store Packaged
Loaded Baked Potato Salad

\$9.99

Deli Sliced
Boar's Head
Honey Maple Ham

\$14.99

10 oz Select Varieties
Cedar's
Hummus

\$3.99

6 oz
Boar's Head
Sliced Pepperoni

\$3.99

8 oz
Boar's Head
Imported Gouda Cheese

\$7.99

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!

Check out the Garden
Center for some beautiful
fall selections!

Visit our website!
www.friendsplumbcorner.com

Open Daily: 7am-8pm



Friends'
marketplace

at PLUMB CORNER

FRIENDS' CATERING is the perfect way
to entertain your guests this fall! Check
out our menu and order online at
www.friendsmarketplace.net

565 Rounseville Rd.
Rochester, MA 02770
Phone: 508.763.5333

We reserve the right to limit quantities & correct typographical errors. Illustrations are for design purposes only. Items are while supplies last and no rain checks.
Due to current market conditions, item retails may change, and products may become unavailable unexpectedly.

SALE EFFECTIVE: Friday, October 9 to Thursday, October 15, 2026

BLOCKBUSTER SAVINGS!

Certified Black Angus
Friends'
Premium
Porterhouse
Steak
\$17⁹⁹
lb



6.5 - 7 oz Select Varieties
Tate's
Bake Shop
Cookies
\$3⁹⁸



18 - 19 oz Select Varieties
Progresso
Soup
\$1⁹⁸



Imported
Jumbo
Navel
Oranges
68¢
ea



SPIRITS

**Fall
Sale!**

1.75 Liter
Titos Vodka **\$29⁹⁹**
1.75 Liter
Smirnoff Vodka **\$19⁹⁹**
1.75 Liter
Bacardi Rum **\$24⁹⁹**
750 ml.
Jose Cuervo Silver Tequila **\$24⁹⁹**

32 oz Select Varieties
Gifford's
Ice Cream or
Frozen Yogurt
\$3⁹⁹



QUALITY PRODUCE



Fresh Seedless
Red or Green Grapes **\$2⁹⁹**
lb

12 oz Locally Grown, Cut & Peeled
Butternut Squash **\$2⁹⁹**

Fresh
Zucchini or Summer Squash **\$1⁵⁹**
lb

Fresh
Butternut Squash **99¢**
lb

Tote Bag, Crisp
McIntosh Apples **\$1⁴⁹**
lb



SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!