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November 26, 2020  The Wanderer

Trying Times Heighten Need During Quiet Thanksgiving
By Mick Colageo

The Mattapoisett Council on Aging, with the assistance of local businesses and volunteers, has provided some Thanksgiving meals to those who otherwise would have gone without. According to COA Executive Director Jacqueline Couacci, the Friendly Callers connected with the “friends” with whom they have made wonderful connections over the past months.

“Thanksgiving may be a national holiday, but we at the COA want to always give thanks to the many people who have been so giving to others throughout the year,” says Couacci. “People give to their family, friends, neighbors, strangers, through a friendly call, a visit (when we can), shopping for people, helping with yard work, shoveling, and any other support. Should anyone in the community like to know how they may help others, please contact the Mattapoisett COA at 508-758-4110.”

The coronavirus pandemic has certainly limited how we celebrate Thanksgiving. The state recommends we confine our social distance to our households.

“This year’s Thanksgiving will look different than previous years for many residents, and it is important to remember that COVID-19 has not gone away, and we must still be cautious,” said Marion Public Health Nurse Lori Desmarais in a press release. “We encourage residents to enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday this year with those who live in their household to help limit the spread of the virus. We also urge residents to avoid large gatherings and continue to follow the proper precautions anytime you are in public and around people who do not live in your household.”

The mobs common at the entryways to stores for Black Friday shopping deals will be missing, at least locally this year, and the Town of Marion has canceled its Festival of Trees event initially scheduled for Friday, November 27. Nonetheless, charitable efforts go forth, as Caitlin Collier of Mattapoisett Project 351 RST has announced a Hygiene and Hunger Holiday Food Drive.

“Because of COVID-19, the number of people who are food insecure has almost doubled,” says Collier in a press release, urging residents to help those in need by donating canned goods, cereal, peanut butter, easy-open cans, and any other non-perishables. The needs list is not limited to food items, as soap, shampoo, feminine products, toilet paper, deodorant, laundry detergent, and new, packaged underwear and socks are welcome donations. Donors are invited to drop items into bins in the lobby of Old Rochester Regional High School from November 30 to December 18. Proceeds go to Good Shepherd’s Food Pantry.

On November 20, Marion Town Administrator James McGrail, Council on Aging Director Karen Gregory, and Recreation Director Jody Dickerson hosted a Thanksgiving food distribution event at the Cushing Community Center. Residents under financial strain as a result of COVID-19 were invited to register to receive baskets of food and traditional trimmings for a

On the Cover: Franky Smith of Plymouth says hello to Tilly, a sulcata tortoise, on November 21 at Pine Meadow Alpaca Farm in Mattapoisett where the Lions Club held a popcorn fundraiser during an open-farm day. Many families are seeking outdoor activities during the holiday season, as public and private events are limited by state and local health regulations. See story. Photo by Ryan Feeney

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As we approach the holiday season still in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, we want to make sure it remains possible for residents to celebrate the holiday even amid the hardships they may face due to the pandemic,” said Gregory in the town’s press release.

Rochester’s Town Hall Annex building is closed beginning Thursday, November 26, and it will reopen next week (November 30 to December 4) only for phone calls, including SHINE program health insurance calls. The office will also close for Christmas on December 24 and reopen on January 11. Rochester seniors’ Coffee and Conversation activity has been canceled until Monday, December 7.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), traveling increases one’s potential to be exposed to COVID-19 and potentially spreading it to others. The CDC strongly recommends that people do not travel for the Thanksgiving holiday. Staying home and observing the holidays with those in your household or hosting a virtual celebration are the best ways to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

While giant campus and house parties make the national news, the Marion Board of Health reminds us that small gatherings are also contributing to the recent rise in COVID-19 cases, according to the CDC. Massachusetts regulations limit outdoor residential gatherings to a maximum of 25 people, indoor gatherings to 10 people, and any such gathering is to end by 9:30 pm.

All travelers, including Massachusetts residents who return from other states not classified as lower-risk, are required to complete a travel form and quarantine for 14 days or produce a negative COVID-19 test result from a test taken within 72 hours of their arrival. The closest Stop the Spread testing sites are located in New Bedford.

Any resident with questions or concerns is asked to contact the Marion Board of Health at 508-748-3530, Mattapoisett Health Agent Kayla Davis at 508-758-4100 ext. 213, or Rochester Health Director Karen Walega at 508-763-5421 ext. 201.
Boating Safety Starts Before Boarding
By Marilou Newell

With approximately 75 participants logged in for a recent boat-safety seminar, the Buzzards Bay Coalition could say it was a grand success. But success can only truly be measured by whether or not an objective was achieved, and for that, it comes down to individual responsibility.

That point and many safety-related points were the main features of the Introduction to Basic Boat Safety with Coast Guard Auxiliary member Neil O’Brien, who wasted no time in what he emphasized was a very brief overview of basic boat safety, not a certificate course.

O’Brien started with a story—a true story with an unfortunate ending. He recalled the tragic event of a July summer’s day in 2017 when a sailboat, severely overloaded with 12 people, nine of whom were children, swamped off Hog Island in Wareham, tossing all aboard into the choppy waters of Buzzards Bay.

The boat was only 18 feet long and not designed to handle the changeable currents and late-afternoon
chop, especially when overloaded and captained by an inexperienced pilot. O’Brien said that the current in Buzzards Bay changes four times a day and that experienced boaters know to expect rising choppy waves and strong current flow. On that day, fate was not kind.

When all the passengers were tossed in the water, a mother and father realized their 8-year-old boy was trapped under the overturned boat. The child would not survive the ordeal, despite wearing a life vest.

Moral of the story: Become a certified operator if you plan on boating.

“Know before you go,” O’Brien stated, meaning study the weather forecasts and keep a checklist of the necessary equipment to ensure you have everything you need before setting out on the water. He said that “operator experience” is probably the single most crucial aspect of boating, along with situational awareness—know what’s around you at all times.

While operating a vessel, “Don’t drink alcohol,” he stressed. O’Brien said that 80 percent of fatal boating accidents could be chalked up to an inexperienced pilot, often coupled with alcohol consumption.

Federal law mandates that all children under the age of 13 must wear a personal floatation jacket. Still, the USCG suggests all passengers wear them, “in spite of the discomfort,” said O’Brien.

From there, O’Brien moved on to aids to navigation, aka ATONs. He explained that channel markers are directives on which way to enter and leave a channel. For example, red markers shaped like nun’s hats on the right side indicate “red-right-returning” and bear an even-numbered sequence. On the left side for heading out of a channel, “cans” with flat tops are green with an odd-numbered sequence. Mid-channel markers show white and red.

The ship itself has vernacular relating to the front (bow), back (stern), right side (starboard), and left (port).

Before delving into navigational rules, O’Brien said that any boat over 40 feet long is required to keep a complete set of NAVRULES onboard, which govern the actions of captains and pilots. He then moved on to rules of action, or which boat has the right-of-way.

“You are at all times required to avoid a collision,” O’Brien began. There is a “Hierarchy of Maneuverability” to help ensure that is the case. The number one class of boat that must give way first—that is, move out of the way of an oncoming boat—are power-driven vessels. Because they are engine-propelled, it stands to reason that these vessels would be better equipped to maneuver out of the way versus a sailboat, for instance.

A sailing vessel underway falls to second place in removing itself from harm’s way before creating a hazardous situation. Next would be any vessel engaged in fishing activities, followed by any vessels with restricted maneuverability, such as commercial craft or tugboats engaged in pulling or pushing activities. Last on the list seems obvious, but when it comes to safety, nothing should be left to chance; that is a vessel not under command, or no one is operating the craft.

O’Brien said the rules associated with the Hierarchy of Maneuverability are essential in our part of the coastline due to the amount of commercial activity taking place in Buzzards Bay. With this in mind, he talked about the type of lights displayed by working vessels such as tugboats. If a tug is pulling something, it will have three white lights above the cabin; if pushing, it will show two white lights, and there will also be sidelights and stern lights.

Moving on to what can be one of the most dangerous aspects of owning and or operating a boat, O’Brien talked about fueling a vessel. Before embarking on this most important topic, however, he shared another
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O’Brien said he had witnessed a dockside gasoline explosion. He observed several noticeably intoxicated men on the fueling dock. The ignition of the gasoline fumes somehow happened, blowing the horribly injured boaters into the water, thus illustrating the importance of following all the fueling rules.

The rules are: Close all doors and hatches before fueling and have all.

Massasoit and the First Thanksgiving

By George B. Emmons

It is now over 400 years since the Mayflower, with 101 men, women, and children reached land after 66 days of grueling passage at sea. However, they had gone off course from their planned destination at the mouth of the Hudson River. After exploring Cape Cod for a month, a storm blew them off course again into Plymouth Harbor. The harbor was so perfect for settlement that they decided to build there beginning on
Christmas day in 1620. They said their praises to God for bringing them to such a welcoming destination, almost waiting for their arrival.

Actually, the site had been a thriving Wampanoag village known as Patuxet, abandoned the year before when a plague brought by European explorers swept the coast of Indians who had no immunity to its disease. There weren’t even enough survivors to bury the dead, and they left behind corn storage pits, beads, baskets, and pots, all abandoned.

When the Pilgrims began to build, Wampanoag Chief Massasoit, the chief of the coastline villages and tribes that had been decimated, came to visit Governor John Carver to question their intentions and managed
to negotiate a peace pact beneficial for both settlers and natives.

Since Massasoit’s tribes were so badly decimated, the chief hoped that, by treaty with the Pilgrims, he would be strong enough to thwart an invasion by the Narragansetts that lived far enough inland not to be touched by the plague. This agreement served both parties throughout the rest of Massasoit’s life. In his old age, the English King James sent Massasoit a solid silver smoking pipe as a gift for having saved his most recent vulnerable colony in the new world. However, half of the colonists died from hunger and disease in the first winter, but in spring, Wampanoags told the rest how to plant crops and live off the land.

Massasoit and his men kept a close watch on the new colony, including Squanto, who spoke English and moved near the village to act as a translator. The Wampanoags were known as the “people of the dawn.” They were the first to see the sunrise out of the sea, where they gathered an abundance of food, including mussels, clams, and quahogs whose shells were made into wampum beads of a currency.

The Pilgrims farmed so well during the fall of 1621 that they decided to celebrate a successful and bountiful harvest with the first Thanksgiving. Long before that, the Wampanoags had always had autumn festivals. One was the strawberry festival and another the green corn thanksgiving, both celebrated with song and dance.
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Massasoit was invited and came with no less than 100 men. It was not a religious ceremony, but one that lasted all of three days of feasting together and joining in games and other activities of mutual celebration.

The Pilgrims had sailed across the sea to practice an ideology of freedom of religion, but the Massachusetts Bay colony in Boston ejected Roger Williams for heresy in the Puritan doctrine of commandment, for preaching that all the land belonged to the Indians, who should be paid for its use or ownership. He escaped extradition by going to the lodge of Massasoit to spend the winter and bought land from him to establish the Providence Plantations, the truly first harbor for religious freedom in the new world.

The native spiritual respect for the land—considering every living thing is sacred, even the smallest blade of grass—is worthy of our thoughts when we bow our heads to give thanks at our own gathering for Thanksgiving.

A quote of poetic license, please: “Thank you for the land so sweet, thank you for its food we eat, thank you for the birds that sing, thank you, God, for everything.”

The Bike That Won a Popularity Contest
Schvitz’n with Norm
By Norm Meltzer
Once upon a time, there was a vapid cookie-cutter gym, the kind I hate, featuring long rows of matching equipment. Within the far-flung line of bikes was a barely
noticeable exception among its cohorts. This subtle outlier was the same make and model as its neighboring teammates, but something was a little off. It wasn’t broken or damaged; it was fully operational, but for some reason it had a different feel. It was conspicuously easier to use than its fellow bikes down the line. Level 3 on this bike was an easier workout than Level 3 on the other bikes, and so on and so forth.

Just like a highly addictive drug, one workout on this bike, and you were hooked. People would wait in line for this one bike, and, on occasion, there would be some pushing and shoving for the privilege of riding it. Some would even wait for this bike to open up when there were other bikes available to use. The workout may not have been the best, but it really boosted your self-esteem as you deluded yourself into thinking you were working at Level 7.

This begs the question: If Level 5 on the credible bike is too tough, why not drop down a level? And if Level 5 on the scam bike is too easy, why not go up a level? The old adage perception is reality does not apply to exercise. Perceived exertion is less valuable than actual exertion, and erroneous machine-displayed exertion is total crap.

And so why do we do it? Why do we cheat, and why do we choose to believe things that we know are not true?

I’m no stranger to foolish and irrational behavior. I, like so many other simplminded unpunctual types, tried setting my clock ahead of the actual time. This, of course, never works. It just invites a little extra math into your life, and there’s nothing like having to figure out the real time when you’re running late. I eventually came to my senses and once again used timepieces in a proper manner. I was late, but rational.

We seem to be fixated on numbers in many areas of our lives. Everybody is looking for specific guidelines, round numbers, black and white details, and courses of action. The Ten Commandments are a tough act to follow, and they set a tricky precedent. Had Moses presented the people with the ten loose suggestions, we’d probably be a little bit less reliant on precise quantitative specifications.
“I need to lose ten pounds,” not nine or eleven; ten is the magic number for ideal beauty and optimal fitness.

The caloric-expenditure display on exercise equipment is the scourge of the modern-day fitness center. Even the illustrious Peloton had a minor scandal on its hands a few years ago when the brand’s riders noticed that they began unexpectedly burning fewer calories during a typical workout. One day out of nowhere, the monitor’s readout shaved a pretty good chunk of calories from the usual tally for many people. Technically speaking, they burned the same number of calories as always during comparable rides, but the backlit electronic display showed otherwise.

Despair was afoot, and much discouragement was validated on the group page, wondering how similar work bouts could result in such a devaluation of calories burned, just like that. Apparently, Peloton’s regulatory commission had updated the way the company calculated calories burned by newly taking into account age, weight, height, gender, and heart rate, and for lots of people, their new measurements were less generous. Many of the up-in-arms sweaty loyalists never got the memo.

To Peloton’s credit, the company presumably corrected a miscalculation. Most companies would probably over-inflate caloric expenditure to appease their customers rather than go in the other direction and risk alienating their users with the harsh truth.

At worst, those calorie gauges are deceptive chicanery, and at best, they’re approximations based on averages. They could come from research lab calorimetry or from less reliable data points. The bottom line is that these numbers are nothing to live or die by. Elite-level athletes are tested under very exacting conditions, and these measurables are very important to assess status and/or capacity. But recreational exercise enthusiasts don’t usually have the same benefit of reliable metrics, so the numbers are more to establish general baselines.

You don’t need a high-precision scale as long as you can tell if you’re losing or gaining weight. If you have a good workout, don’t let some abstract stats convince you otherwise.

Numbers can be useful to track progress and regulate a workout’s parameters, but don’t be a slave to the numbers, especially those that aren’t necessarily reliable. We tend to chase numbers; sometimes they’re sensible goals, and other times they’re arbitrary values pulled out of thin air with no rhyme or reason. Obsessive-compulsive number watching has a way of having us lose sight of the initial purpose of the task at hand. Being overly concerned with numbers promotes cheating, as we so often see in the person not going low enough in the squat, arching the back during a heavy bench attempt, or swinging arms during dumbbell curls.

I once met with a prospective client who prided himself on doing his age in pushups on his birthday each year. If you counted the ones done properly, he would be only seven years old. My coach used to always tell me, “I’d rather see you miss a lift, doing it the right way than make it without proper technique.” That doesn’t apply to Olympic trials, but it’s spot-on for everyday training and general fitness. It’s better to walk four quality miles than to limp your way to five.

There’s nothing wrong with setting the goal of 10,000 steps a day; just realize that your body doesn’t know the difference between that and 9,999. These suggested benchmarks are often put out there in the spirit of general guidelines and ranges that presume an element of percent error, not to be carved in stone.

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Certified strength and conditioning coach Norman Meltzer, the owner/operator of MW Strength and Conditioning in New Bedford, was known during his competitive weight-lifting career as “the Muscleless Wonder” for his lean, mean physique lacking in the traditional bulk associated with strength training. Meltzer’s experience and knowledge have helped pro, college, and high school athletes and teams, and even regular people improve their strength and performance.

**Bowlmor Demolition Planned for Early 2021**

*By Mick Colageo*

The February 2017 blizzard that buckled and closed Bowlmor Lanes in Mattapoisett will find another level of closure when the 22 County Road structure is leveled this winter. A conference call was held on November 21, during which public- and private-sector stakeholders articulated concerns with the logistics of the building’s impending demolition.

Assured by Ying Dynasty’s representation that the restaurant is perfectly willing to close for a day, Andy Bobola expressed gratitude on behalf of everyone else involved.

“That to me is really willing to step up to the plate,” said Bobola, Mattapoisett’s director of inspectional services who moderated Monday’s conference call. “Ying Dynasty is a seven-day-a-week business.... We need to limit the possibility of anything going wrong and having a business running through lunch and well after dark.”

Bowlmor, a regional hub for the sport since 1945, was condemned by the Town of Mattapoisett following a roof collapse that the owners attributed to heavy snow. “The trusses actually snapped,” recalled Bobola.

The sunken roof bowed out the sides of the building. Despite attempts to repair it, the building was still considered unsafe. Consideration was given to a rehabilitation project so that the business could reopen, but that ultimately did not happen.

Susan Penta represented the owner on the conference call. SMC Trust owns the building, and she is...
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one of three trustees, along with Michael Penta and the late Angelo “Chick” Paolini. Ying Dynasty leases its space from SMC Trust.

Bowlmor Lanes currently sits in an empty parking lot, barricaded on three sides by chain-link fencing and on one side by Ying Dynasty. The conjoined buildings are painted lime green with brown trim. One day in 2021, no later than the February school vacation week, it is expected that Ying Dynasty will stand alone in that lot.

Logistics and safety are the main topics of concern, and there are many aspects to consider with a building demolition.

Bowlmor’s physical connection to Ying Dynasty rules out an implosion in favor of what Costello
Dismantling Project Manager Hal Monsini described as a hydraulic excavator accompanied by a man in a lift operating a chainsaw or similar equipment separating loose ends as needed.

“The demolition will be discussed with the safest route possible exiting the site,” said Monsini, planning his entries and exits exclusively to Route 6. We shouldn’t have any mitigating dust in the neighborhoods or going over the streets. Once the building is down, said Monsini, there won’t be five or six trucks leaving the site, rather more like one or two trucks exiting every hour.

Mattapoisett Fire Chief Andrew Murray sought information on “whatever hot work is going to be done in there.” Murray asked about safety controls at the connection between Bowlmor and Ying Dynasty, along with the potential for flammable liquids and other “igniters” including but not limited to electricity. He was told that gas does not exist in the Bowlmor building, though it does exist in Ying Dynasty.

Jim Sullivan, Mattapoisett’s gas inspector, recalled a prior kitchen demolition where Ying Dynasty now stands and that the gas meter had not been shut off. After being told there is no gas in the Bowlmor building, Sullivan requested a walk-through “just to secure that thought.”

Sullivan also shared his concern about the vibration caused by heavy equipment, referencing Ying Dynasty’s “old gas service” and questioning if the activity next door could cause a leak. He suggested a test before the restaurant reopens and to have a plumber on-site to verify “everything OK in that section.”

Bobola offered a final walk-through, and several other stakeholders indicated an interest in participating before demolition.

Mattapoisett Police Captain Jason King said safety detail would be necessary along Route 6 and on Barstow Street. “Traffic flow and overall safety would be our concern,” said King. Monsini explained that the demolition work could extend into a second day where it concerns cutting away where Bowlmor ends, and Ying Dynasty begins. If the work extends to a second day, it will require an additional one-officer detail.
Sharing the traffic concern was Center School Associate Principal Kevin Tavares, who estimated 8:00-8:45 am and 2:30-3:00 pm as the arrival and dismissal times, causing the most activity in and out of the school.

Mattapoisett Health Agent Kayla Davis asked about pest control, including rats and mice, noting that they tend to scatter. Monsini said Costello Dismantling usually takes preventative measures and indicated that rodent prevention is the property owner’s domain and resultant issues are the town’s concern.

To regulate dust during the demolition, Monsini said Costello uses one or two machines to distribute a mist, saying the number of parts of water “per million (of air) exceeds anything we need as far as dust control.”
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City projects involving high-rise buildings are often brought down by means similar to Costello’s plans for Bowlmor. Boston Garden, separated by only 9 inches from its successor, was clawed down in the late 1990s by heavy equipment only a few years after the FleetCenter (now TD Garden) was erected.

Bowlmor is a much smaller building, especially in height, but shares a similar charm as a cultural sports relic with 10 lanes, all duckpin, and a signature smell that was not considered unpleasant to its patrons. It will become the latest in a purge of old-time bowling in the region, joining Midtown Bowl on Route 6 in Dartmouth, Bowlers Country Club in Fairhaven where Stop & Shop now sits, and Playdium in New Bedford.

Monsini said there was a break-in a few months before the asbestos was removed. “Someone broke in and made a little bit of a mess,” he said. Bobola told call participants that bowling shoes and pins were still inside the building and that Paolini, before his October 5 passing, generously allowed representatives from the Tri-Town to help themselves to items.

Dr. Jeff Miller, director of the Mattapoisett Museum, told The Wanderer that he and the owner had been in conversation about some materials being gifted to the museum, primarily a bench that the museum had to decline for lack of space. While the museum is interested in acquiring smaller items, nothing had been decided as of November 23.

Marion Gains One More Osprey Pole
Marion Conservation Commission
By Jean Perry

Thanks to the Town of Marion’s generosity and the benevolence of the Conservation Commission, one less osprey family will be forced to live talon-to-beak and homeless on the streets of Marion. Personifying the plight of the osprey is perhaps a tad overly dramatic, but the raptors’ rebound from nearly threatened to now thriving is something the ConCom members appreciate.

The commission on November 18 gave final approval for an osprey pole with perch for the northwest corner of the town-owned Boat Works Lane property.

Conservation Commission member Jeff Doubrava put his name on the Request for Determination of Applicability application on behalf of the Town of Marion and recused himself from the decision-making process that started November 4 and concluded that night.
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Being a simple wooden platform held vertical by a wood pole, the project is pretty self-explanatory, said ConCom Chairman Shaun Walsh. The commission had already performed a site visit to survey the pole location off Briggs Cove ahead of the last meeting. Walsh said the pole would “increase habitat for the lovely osprey that we have in our area.

“We are fortunate to have an abundance of osprey in our area,” said Walsh. “I don’t have any other questions.”

The commission reflected on the headline from the November 4 meeting coverage in the prior edition of The Wanderer that likened Doubrava’s shift from ConCom member to applicant as a jump over the proverbial fence. The commission laughed at the vision of Doubrava as a literal “fence jumper” of sorts, with Walsh commenting that it would be “impressive for a man of his… (brief pause) … age.”

“Will you be becoming a pole dancer as well as a fence jumper in this project?” asked ConCom member Cindy Callow.

“I’m not going to touch that one,” said Walsh before shifting gears. “Thank you, Jeff. Great project.”

In other business, the commission approved and issued an Order of Conditions for the Notice of Intent filed by Island Associates of Marion, Inc. Again, Doubrava recused himself from participation in the discussion as a member of the association and resident of the neighborhood.

The approval will allow for storm drainage improvements inside an 18-foot by 30-foot area at Planting Island Road, and engineer David Davignon designed the project.

Davignon presented an improved plan that underwent significant changes since the November 4 meeting, changes the commission agreed ultimately made for the best possible plan to address the ConCom’s prior concerns.

Planting Island Cove is a productive shellfish habitat, and the commission had hoped Davignon could alter the trajectory of the planned spillway to discharge away from the salt marsh. Although that could not entirely be done due to the natural contours of the land and the proximity of abutting private property, Davignon could include a perforated recast concrete basin into the design.

“My concerns, I think, have been allayed because you’ve instituted this … basin into the design, which is a new component,” said Walsh. “The first flush (of stormwater) ends up in that basin, and you’re not going to have an overland flow.” Furthermore, the spillway would be a more rectangular shape and farther from the salt marsh. “The farther away we can get it, the better,” said Walsh. “I’m good with this design. I don’t think that there’s a way that you can accomplish what you’re trying to accomplish … without a significant disturbance of that area and recontouring the natural grade out there.” He called this the “least impactful design.”

The commission could envision a positive outcome for the flow of stormwater due to the recharge basin without any detriment to the salt marsh.

As part of the Order of Conditions, the basin will have to be inspected annually for effectiveness.

The commission also approved and issued an Order of Conditions for an NOI filed by Lance and Kathleen Scott for site redevelopment, eradicating phragmites and invasive vegetation, constructing a formal stone rip-rap slope, and beach nourishment on a lot across from 18 Wianno Road.

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September 23, it was apparent that the project was more complicated as it developed over the two months, resulting in multiple plan revisions before the plan the commission approved that night.

A proposed fire pit had to be shifted out of the way of the natural vegetation line, and the commission preferred this plan’s more uniform beachgrass planting design.

“It’s a tremendous improvement, I think,” said Davignon, and the commission agreed.

Joseph and Caroline Sheehan, 17 Nokomis Road, withdrew their Request for Certificate of Compliance without prejudice after learning that the commission would have required the Sheehans to apply for an NOI for work done outside of the plan that was initially approved.

The commission approved a Request for Extension Permit, 11 Hiller Street, giving the applicant more time to seek a Waterways Permit for proposed stone steps to the water.

The commission issued a Certificate of Compliance to Louis Secatore (William and Jennifer Fulton), 5 Island Court, for a beach-nourishment project originally approved 23 years ago.

At the applicant’s request, the commission continued the Kittansett Club’s public hearing for an NOI for the expansion of an overflow parking area in the southern part of the property at 11 Point Road until January 13.

The next meeting of the Marion Conservation Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, December 9, at 7:00 pm.

Tabor’s Proposed Campus Center Brings Congestion to Surface

Marion Planning Board
By Mick Colageo

The Marion Planning Board held a pre-submission conference for a site plan review for Tabor Academy’s new proposed campus center. The Hayden Library presently sits turned away from the facility itself and onto Spring Street, a nagging problem that Planning Board members believe could be helped should Tabor use
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its project in part to expand on-campus parking.

Planning Board Chairman Will Saltonstall was in the odd position of not being able to comment because he is the architect of the project. As a professional involved with the project, Saltonstall recused himself from the November 16 discussion, while members of the board, including Chris Collings and Andrew Daniel, addressed Spring Street’s long-standing congestion.

Daniel called Spring Street “a disaster to traverse” and “impossible” for large vehicles. He blames the narrow passageway to Tabor parking and barrels in the crosswalks.

“Is this an opportunity lost to expand on parking and get people off the street?” Daniel asked. “The building is getting larger, so are we losing even more parking? That road’s a disaster right now, it’s amazing that it’s been allowed. I’ve gotten out of school events where you couldn’t get down that road.”

Representing Tabor Academy, Robert Field of Field Engineering said the new parking lot configuration would add two spaces, raising the number from 48 to 50 while improving traffic flow in and out.

Daniel said he would not be in favor of waiving the traffic impact study, one of two waiver requests, the other being an environmental assessment for building out of a coastal flood zone. The building itself is outside the flood zone, according to Field, but incidental grading that will touch the coastal flood zone.

The basis for the waiver request for the traffic impact study is no significant change in traffic impact. “We are not expanding the size of our school or our student population, rather we’re just reworking the program spaces into new, more exciting, and functional spaces for our students and our faculty,” said Interim Head of School Julie Salit.

Board member Chris Collings called Tabor’s traffic patterns fragmented and wondered aloud if this project presents another opportunity to improve the school’s traffic flow.

“You either enter or leave on Front Street, or you enter or leave on Spring Street,” he said. “I’ve always felt that there’s a missed opportunity here to simplify and decrease impact on town streets, if there was a functional crossover that would enable your traffic pattern to come in on one street and exit on the other, allowing for your guests to disembark while on a crossover street.

“I’m wondering with this significant redesign of your campus facility, which is a marvelous design, I think – I look forward to seeing it – is this the time to think about sort of up improvement of the traffic flow for the campus in a way that I’ve described?” Collings continued. “It doesn’t make sense to ask for a crossover that you guys can utilize to take your traffic flow off of our streets when you’re doing your transfer, drop-off, and so on.”

Field said his team could certainly look at it. Tristan DeBarrows, also representing the project, added...
that Holmes Lane crosses through, but most of the traffic in question is Tabor traffic and that the existing perpendicular road that does not connect Front and Green Streets is not a publicly known way.

“I’m not talking about a town road, I’m talking about developing a traffic flow for your patrons, guests, and students that you could use that in a more formalized way... I just think it’s an opportunity to simplify things for the town,” said Collings.

“We’ll certainly take a look at it, Chris,” said Salit.

The proposed Campus Center itself, a 22,750 square-foot facility, was lauded with compliments.

Salit described the project as “truly a community center, house library, and academic student support center through which Holmes Lane crosses through, but most of the traffic in question is Tabor traffic and that the existing perpendicular road that does not connect Front and Green Streets is not a publicly known way.

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this project is moving forward, so we don’t want to assign too high of an amount.”

Saltonstall, who presided over the Benson Brook discussion after handing the floor to Marum to monitor the Tabor discussion, said that the next step in the Benson Brook case is for the applicant to apply for the full minor site plan review application, if and when they’re ready. Once that application is formally filed, there is a 60-day deadline, but an extension can be requested while awaiting a response from Eversource.

“Depending on the cost of power upgrades, it determines the amount of income the town receives. That will determine the final lease price,” explained Hilario. “The Eversource connection application will determine...
the final lease payment to the town, and I think that’s why we can decide whether or not it’s good to move forward or not.”

A motion to approve the value of $3,000 to be included in the application for an engineering consultant review unanimously carried.

The Planning Board unanimously voted to accept the Fiscal Year 2022 budget as prepared by Hills. The budget will be submitted to Town Administrator Jay McGrail. Marum publicly thanked Hills for his work on the budget.

This month, Kristen Saint Don-Campbell resigned from the Planning Board. Saltonstall publicly thanked her for her service, calling her “one of the hardest working people I know.” Saltonstall said the Board of Selectmen had posted an advertisement for a replacement for her seat on the Planning Board.

The board also voted to hold 2021 meetings at 7:00 pm.

The next meeting of the Marion Planning Board is scheduled for December 7 at 7:00 pm.

**Bike Path Planning Continues to Roll Along**

*Mattapoisett Conservation Commission*

*By Marilou Newell*

On November 23, the Mattapoisett Conservation Commission received details on Phases 2a and 2b of the Mattapoisett Bike and Pedestrian Path proposed along Industrial Drive.

Representing the applicant, the Town of Mattapoisett, was Jake Carmody of TEC. Carmody’s presentation included parts of the recreational pathway yet to be funded and parts that have received funding from a grant as well as donations.

Carmody gave an overview of the entire roadway improvements planned to bring the bike path from the west side of North Street at the Park-n-Ride to the east side, entering into the Industrial Park area terminating at the Marion town line. However, the purpose of this Notice of Intent filing dealt with the path from the intersection at Bay Club Drive to the Marion Town line. It is this portion that is currently funded.

Representing the Friends of the Mattapoisett Bike and Recreational Path was Robin Lepore, who said that the Friends had raised $95,000. That, along with grant monies, will fund the section of the path being discussed. Lepore noted that there would be phased construction for other segments of the pathway as the project secures further funding.

Regarding the project in its entirety, Carmody explained that drainage systems along the existing roadway would be improved and that wetlands replication plans were in place. He said that 2,663 square feet of bordering vegetated wetlands would be permanently impacted, 207 square feet temporarily impacted, and that 5,326 square feet would constitute the wetlands replication area on town-owned property near Route 195.

Chairman Mike King asked whether the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program had commented on the project. Carmody replied that they require a turtle protection plan before construction begins. Carmody also said that an existing turtle culvert would remain in place.

Of the pedestrian crossings planned for North Street at Industrial Drive and Boat Rock Road and Industrial Drive, Carmody said that high-visibility, rapid-flashing crossing lights will be installed.

The hearing was continued until December 14. Also continued until December 14, as noted by
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King, would be any additional discussion regarding the Seabreeze Lane Enforcement Order issued to Daniel Craig. Letters received from the Mattapoisett Board of Selectmen and the Buzzards Bay Coalition were noted but not read into the minutes.

Another continued application (to December 14) was a Notice of Intent filed by Sheelagh Beaulieu for Luna III LLC, 2 Beach Street, to demolish an existing structure once pilings have been constructed for a new single-family home meeting the FEMA elevation requirement. Representing the property owners was Rich Rheaueme of Prime Engineering, who said when questioned by Deborah Lezama, president of the Crescent Beach Association, that a path to the beach would not be affected.

Previously opened and conditioned on this night was a Notice of Intent filed by Donna Downey, Trustee, 16 Water Street, to construct a 74-foot by 14-foot expansion.

Two Requests for Determination of Applicability received negative determinations, allowing them to move forward without an NOI filing required. Those applications were Aaron Bates, 9 West Hill Road, for the construction of a porch, and Jark Dlugosinski, 11 Crystal Springs Road, for a septic upgrade.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Conservation Commission is scheduled for December 14 at 6:30 pm.

**ZBA Denies North Street Variance**

*Mattapoisett Zoning Board of Appeals*

*By Marilou Newell*

Applicants Deborah Smiley and Sam Ogle, 13 North Street, pled their case before the Mattapoisett Zoning Board of Appeals for a Variance to reconfigure an existing driveway for safety reasons. The strongest argument they made during the ZBA’s November 19 meeting was that they wish to age in place and can no longer easily and safely navigate backing out of their driveway onto busy North Street.

Several times throughout his presentation of the proposed project, which included changes to the driveway and a new garage only 15 feet from the rear setback, architect Steve Kelleher noted his clients’ ages as the primary reason changes were necessary. He said the garage’s second floor would be a studio and that the plan includes a first-floor master bedroom suite. But the fly in the ointment through the 45-minute hearing was the location of the garage that one ZBA member said was a self-induced hardship.

Board members questioned why the applicant didn’t merely change the driveway configuration, which is possible without a Variance or Special Permit. That point brought the discussion back to the garage. Kelleher said that, too, was necessary due to the age of the applicants.

Chairman Sue Akin commented, “To me, this
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isn’t a hardship.” ZBA member Mary Anne Brogan said, “They can drive around the home,” and further, “Building a garage, asking for a Variance, this isn’t a hardship.” Another member, Tony Tranfaglia, noted that backing onto North Street and the busy traffic experienced during the summer season were “an inherent part of living in the village.”

Speaking for himself and his wife, Ogle said, “The hardship is because we are growing old and can’t back out of the driveway.” He said that safety should be a compelling reason to grant the Variance.

ZBA member Colby Rottler approved of the project as presented, saying, “It makes sense, and it fits in the neighborhood.”

In the end, the ZBA denied the Variance application, with Rottler voting to approve it. During a follow-up, Director of Inspectional Services Andy Bobola said the applicant would have to substantially change the plans and go before the Planning Board, where a favorable site plan review might be achieved.

A proposal to construct a new home on an existing foundation in a flood zone posed more questions than answers when the Special Permit application filed by Stephen Goulston for property located at 27 Nashawena Road was opened.

Representing the applicant was Danial Perry, who briefly explained the scope of the project, which included a finished home that would require bringing in fill to ensure the foundation height meets FEMA regulations.

Representing several abutters was David Davignon of Schneider, Davignon, & Leone. He stated that, while the neighbors favored having the lot developed, they also wanted to ensure it meets all the construction requirements for a flood zone. Davignon noted two significant areas of concern. First was a concern about stormwater runoff, given that the area roadways already flood during heavy rain and that drainage is basically non-existent in the beach community. He said a simple solution of diverting roof runoff underground would be needed. Davignon said the second concern was whether the calculations for the elevated home’s finished height would meet the 35-foot bylaw requirement. He told the board, “There isn’t enough detail here for you to make a decision tonight.”

The hearing was continued until the January meeting of the ZBA to give Davignon and the applicant’s engineer sufficient time to review the engineering.

In other business, John and Tricia O’Reilly, 6 Pearl Street, received a Special Permit for renovation and additions to an existing home.

Kathleen and William Sylvia, 41 Cove Street, also received a Special Permit to demolish the existing home and build a FEMA-compliant, single-family dwelling, which included accepting an overall building height of 38 feet.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Zoning Board of Appeals will be scheduled for January, the date and time TBA.
Togetherness Inspires Confidence for Tri-Town Stakeholders

Marion Capital Improvement Planning Committee

By Mick Colageo

A meeting of the Marion’s Capital Improvement Planning Committee became a breakthrough event, as representatives from Mattapoisett, Rochester, and the Old Rochester Regional School District participated in a report meant to open new doors between Tri-Town officials.

The rubber met the road as Howie Barber, ORR’s assistant superintendent of finance and operations, discussed ORR’s and Sippican Elementary School’s Fiscal Year 2022 capital requests and shared financial information pertaining not only to the district in general but specifically to Sippican School.

Along with Marion CIPC members, Finance Committee Member John Menzel, and Town Administrator Jay McGrail, sitting in on the November 19 Zoom meeting were Dave Arancio from the Rochester Finance Committee, Mattapoisett CPC Chairman Chuck McCullough and member Ellen Driscoll, ORR School Committee member Heather Burke of Marion, ORR Superintendent of Schools Mike Nelson, ORR Facilities Director Gene Jones, and Jill Henesey, ORR’s director of food services.

“This gathering is great. This is what we’ve needed for some time,” said McCullough. “The view from Mattapoisett has been, if you’re not serious about it, we..."
can’t take it seriously.”

As Chairman Paul Naiman explained at the joint meeting, the Marion CIPC was formed to identify capital projects for the coming fiscal year, prioritize them, and act as an advisory group to the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen. The CIPC also formats its recommendations according to a 10-year program. Naiman said the CIPC ranks capital projects based on an objective format.

“We really try to take our subjectivity out of the effort,” said Naiman, inviting dialogue and sharing of information and practices with representatives from Mattapoissett and Rochester and the ORR School District.

Arancio, who chairs Rochester’s Zoning Board of Appeals, was pleased to hear another town’s capital projects being discussed openly. “I’m in safety and risk management, so I deal with [COVID-19] every day. But I’m trying to be positive that someday this will be behind us, and all of [these projects] will be in front of us again. We’re looking at a fire station (in Rochester), [and] Old Colony has needs,” said Arancio.

Naiman said Marion residents like to see a plan with contingencies should things change. “We know it’s coming; we may not know when it’s coming, so we create a placeholder,” he said.

“It only works if all three towns move forward together, so we have to think about how we maintain ORR a little more holistically,” said Burke. She stressed that although town meeting warrants seldom include ORR-related articles, “It has to be understood these are capital costs, not part of the school budget. Teachers’ salaries don’t go down because there’s a new track.”

The repair/upgrade to the high school track was one of several highlighted capital projects discussed by Barber and Jones. Barber is a new member of ORR’s Central Office, while Jones has institutional knowledge dating back decades.

Other ORR-related capital projects affecting FY22 include a track rehab project with a full resurfacing totaling $360,000. Jones says Lanes 1 and 2 of the track are one year away from becoming a safety hazard, which he says would require an immediate shutdown of the facility. To be done in stages from 2022 to 2025 are asphalt repairs for the parking lot at the cost of $20,000.

Sippican Elementary School is facing several capital needs for FY22.

New food-service coolers would cost $16,000; since the school is currently renting coolers, it would save $200 per month by buying a replacement that would last 10-19 years.

The entire community uses Sippican’s playground, and among the upgrades being sought are wheelchair accessibilities that would put the facility in code and a synthetic surface requiring $36,000 appropriation for 10-20 years of life. Jones told the meeting that he made a similar upgrade at Old Hammondton School and recommended towns look into such upgrades for their playgrounds.

Jones said there are no known grant opportunities to fund the playground upgrade. Nelson added that ORR applied for a matching grant for a similar need but was not selected. “We do chase every dollar available, including competitive and matching grants,” said Nelson.

Sippican needs to replace the remaining old floor that is over 20 years old and starting to curl at the edges, and Jones sees an eight-year plan to replace it in stages. “It’s like painting a bridge. We started at one end,” he said.

The school’s window seals are failing, affecting the HVAC system. Jones said the windows are functional, but the nitrogen seal has failed, giving them a case of cloudy glass. “I’d rather fix them now, and then we don’t have to replace the window,” he said. “Resealing all the windows will save money on heating and air conditioning.”

Sippican’s food-service equipment is estimated to be 21-22 years old, and the age of some equipment acquired from another school is unknown and needs replacement. Some of the ovens are starting to fail now, and there has been no new furniture bought into the school since 2001. The school’s four tennis courts are also in need of rehab.

Barber said ORR has tried to maintain a value of around $40,000 to $50,000 to provide some consistency in the annual assessment to each of the Tri-Towns.

Ten-year plans were also outlined for ORR and
Sippican.

Naiman said he was happy to be a conduit and hopes the three towns “can continue with this kind of collaboration.” McCullough suggested meetings every few or couple of months. Nelson stated his goal to improve communications and committed “to meet as regularly as needed.”

McGrail called the gathering “fantastic” and “ideal,” and Marion Selectman John Waterman, also a member of the CIPC, said it’s also good that Marion officials now know some of their Tri-Town counterparts. “Beyond this meeting, we can reach out and discuss things, be on the same page.”

The next meeting of the Marion CIPC is scheduled for Wednesday, December 9.

Former Aquaculture Site Bottoms Out
Marion Marine Resources Commission
By Matthew Donato

During the Marion Marine Resources Commission’s meeting held on November 23, Deputy Harbormaster and Shellfish Officer Adam Murphy came before the members to discuss his ongoing work relating to the cleanup of the site where Shea Doonan had operated with an aquaculture license since revoked. Reported mismanagement of the equipment on the site led the Town of Marion to begin cleanup of the area to restore the site for future applicants.

Murphy told commission members that he had been working alongside Marion Harbormaster Isaac Perry to remove abandoned oyster collection bags and oyster cages that litter the site. Murphy assembled a team to detect the oyster cages and remove them from the water. The removal of these cages took Murphy and his team over 40 hours to complete.

The work to clean the harbor of old shellfishing equipment involved the removal of over 200 oyster bags. The equipment had been rotting on the floor of the harbor, trapping oysters inside without any future for the product trapped inside.

There has been increasing tension surrounding the project’s cleanup, as Murphy estimated that the total cost to complete the cleanup now stands at over $10,000 and is likely to increase as the work continues. Murphy and Perry had been willing to consider Doonan’s position as grant owner and minimize the cost he would have to bear from the project. Reporting a lack of cooperation on the project from Doonan, Murphy and Perry told the commission they no longer consider his position and instead are racing towards completion of the work.

Murphy, the town’s shellfish officer, also noted that many of the faulty equipment problems were caused by the improper methods employed by Doonan when securing the equipment. Murphy explained that, while some of the equipment had been properly secured, it was clear that others were tied in such a way that explained the inability to effectively retrieve them from the bottom of the oyster farm.

Ultimately, if the project’s cost is not resolved by Doonan, it will become an expense for the town. Marine Resources Commission Chairman Vincent Malkoski recommended that a letter be sent to the Board of Selectman to bill the cost of the cleanup project to Doonan. The commission voted to send the letter and await the final invoice for the project from Murphy.

Perry moved to present a report on the recent oil spill training that took place on October 22. The training was sponsored by the Department of Environmental Protection and featured participation from the local community.
Perry explained that this kind of training is usually conducted every three years to continually promote the necessary procedures to combat these types of spills. The training scenarios involved use experiences from past oil spills that have affected the Town of Marion to inform the proper steps to take in future spills.

Unfortunately, amid the coronavirus crisis, the training seminar could not take place with participation from the surrounding towns as usual. Perry explained that the lack of participation from other towns did allow for many more members from the local community to get involved in the oil spill training.

Perry gave a final report to the commission related to the planned construction of a new...

For about an hour, I was mystified by my response to The Stand In. Was this not supposed to be a wacky identity-swap comedy? Instead I could feel my stress level rising, and the movie certainly doesn’t look like a comedy — as lithe by cinematographer Eric Moynier, it has the burgundy tone of a somber legal drama. But then the movie’s scheme clicked into place. Please don’t go by the trailer or the poster: Despite some funny bits, The Stand In is more of a drama about those who make comedies, somewhat like Judd Apatow’s Funny People. If you go into it knowing this, it’ll take you far less time to plug into it. And it boasts two terrific performances by Drew Barrymore, as shambolic low-comedy movie star Candy Black and as Candy’s stand-in Paula.

Candy is a dumpster fire of a person who screams at everyone, and Paula is a sweet wallflower who loves being close to the star’s light and heat. So for a long time, our identification shifts to poor Paula, and when she switches places with Candy we expect her to blossom under the new attention. But that would be the typical Drew Barrymore rom-com, and that’s not what we have here. Five years after an on-set meltdown that cost a co-star (Ellie Kemper) her eye, Candy is being forced to go into rehab. Her plan is to get Paula to take her place in rehab so she can stay home, drink herself to sleep, and maybe pursue her true passion of woodworking. So Paula takes over, and ends up being a better Candy than Candy herself— Candy without the drugs, attitude and decibel level.

Candy is awful and Paula is one of us, so it’s jarring at first when we sense that their trading places goes deeper and somewhat darker. Paula, an aspiring actress, doesn’t just want Candy’s fame — she wants her life, and that extends to Steve (Michael Zegen), who’s into making Shaker furniture and who has struck up an online relationship with Candy. When we realize that Paula is about to help herself to Steve, she starts heading into areas where we really can’t follow her any more; once she drugs Candy’s smoothie so she can invite Steve over to Candy’s (now Paula’s) mansion, our allegiance, too, has changed places. This all is a good deal more interesting than the taffy-flavored comedy I was expecting, where gauche Paula has the storybook ending, while rotten Candy gets her comeuppance.

As Candy, who hasn’t bothered to get her hair done in a while, Barrymore has her own features and a sloppy red mane that recalls Susan Sarandon. As Paula, Barrymore sports a fake nose that makes her look more like Wendi McLendon-Covey’s stand-in. Candy’s puffier, vulnerable face draws us closer, while Paula’s sharper profile, done up with Hollywood makeup, comes to seem a bit hawk-like. Candy, with Barrymore’s considerable help, becomes a real and complex woman who goes by her given name Cathy Tyler; she seems visibly relieved not to have to deal with publicity any more (these days, camera phones make everyone paparazzi), and she throws herself gratefully into building bureaus from scratch. Paula, who has only ever wanted what Candy/Cathy has rejected, grows dislikable in a different style from Candy. Paula has false values, which Barrymore highlights by establishing that Paula gets less compassionate the farther along “Candy’s” apology tour she goes.

So the Barrymore we don’t expect to get the patented Barrymore rom-com happy ending gets it. That’s fair, and it gives us more to chew on. Barrymore, whose shingle Flower Films produced the movie — Jamie Babbit (But I’m a Cheerleader) directed — seems to be telling us that we wouldn’t want to be the media’s idea of Drew Barrymore. (Although I doubt she’s also telling us her true love is building ladderback chairs.) Candy is presented to us as almost a female Adam Sandler in Funny People, headlining terrible stoner comedies (Pippi Bongstocking) in which she falls face-first into cow flop and delivers her catch-phrase into the camera: “Hit me where it hurts!” That’s the life Paula wants until she gets it. If you can ignore the brief irritation of T.J. Miller as Candy’s agent and Lena Dunham as more or less herself (though her character’s name is Lisa, ha-ha), The Stand In is more biting about what Hollywood and its consumers want from women than it’ll probably get credit for.
Harbormaster building. Although there have been no official plans presented by an architect yet, there have already been concerns related to the project’s cost. Perry responded to these concerns by eliminating the planned public screening area and public restrooms. Instead, existing restrooms will be renovated to reduce projected costs.

Perry advised that little discussion will occur on the project until he receives actual plans from an architect. Without the official plans, Perry fears that the project will be picked apart before anyone actually knows what is going to be done.

The next Marion Marine Resource Commission meeting will be held on January 11.

**MCAS an Unwelcome Guest in ORR’s Curriculum**

*Joint Meeting of the ORR School Committee and Superintendency Union #55*

*By Mick Colageo*

As the November 19 joint meeting of the Old Rochester Regional School Committee and Massachusetts School Superintendency Union #55 proved, an agreement is hard to come by where it concerns the reopening of district schools, namely whether the students should be back on campuses on a full-time basis. But what administration and committee members seem to agree on is that this is not an appropriate year for Massachusetts
Setsuko (Nishihara) Mendes, age 79, of Rochester, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, November 17, in Marion. She was predeceased by her husband, Nicholas “Nick” Mendes and her parents, Toshimasa and Uto Nishihara.

She is survived by sister in law Natalie Mendes of West Hartford, CT; niece Karen Christmas and her husband Sharrief of Middleboro, nephews Michael Mendes of Wareham and Christopher Mendes and his wife Adriana of Merrimac, NH, as well as grandnieces, grandnephews, and a host of other family members who will cherish her memory.

Setsuko was born in Okinawa, Japan on December 22, 1941. She married Master Gunnery Sergeant Nick Mendes USMC in Okinawa on March 9, 1967, and migrated to the United States with her husband in May, 1970. As the wife of a Marine Corps serviceman, she spent her first years in the states in various Marine stations including California and North Carolina, before settling in Massachusetts and finally making her home on the Mendes family homestead in Rochester.

Setsuko was an accomplished seamstress and tailor, specializing in men’s clothing and designs, a skill for which her husband was the happy recipient. She enjoyed quiet times, gardening, sharing her artistic flair and creativity in her floral designs, cooking and baking, and sharing what she had with others. A kind, generous, and caring person, Setsuko lived a life of service to others. She was happiest when she made others happy. She spent the last 3 years in the caring hands of the staff at Sippican Healthcare in Marion.

Setsuko’s memory will be honored and cherished by the family and friends she leaves behind.

Due to COVID 19 restrictions, the service will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Setsuko’s memory to the Agnes T. Mendes Memorial Scholarship Fund, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth Foundation Inc., 285 Old Westport Road, Westport, MA 02747.

Arrangements are by Chapman, Cole & Gleason Funeral Home, 2599 Cranberry Hwy., Wareham. To share a memory or leave a message of condolence, visit: www.ccgfuneralhome.com.

Mary S. (Machnicki) Scott, 93, of Mattapoisett passed away Sunday November 15, 2020 at Sippican Healthcare Center. She was the wife of the late Earle W. Scott for 54 years.

Born in Dartmouth, she was the daughter of the late Francis and Katherine (Grzyb) Machnicki. She was a communicant of St. Anthony’s Church in Mattapoisett. Mary and her husband lived in Mattapoisett for 52 years until the time of her death.

Mary worked for the Continental Screw Company for 36 years leaving as the financial officer of its credit union. She then served as a manager and Vice President of Bridgewater Credit Union for nine years. She had also served on the Board of Directors of St. Anne’s Credit Union for ten years. Upon her retirement, she worked part time at the Mattapoisett Town Hall.

Mary was a member of the Polish Women’s Business Professional Club for 50 years. She was a board member of the Mattapoisett Friends of the Elderly and a member of the Sippican Senior Group, as well as being involved in several charitable organizations. She was very involved in her community and was always there to help or contribute to local fundraisers and charity events. She traveled throughout her life both domestically and worldwide with ocean and river cruises as a favorite. She especially enjoyed taking trips with her lifelong best friend Merrill Fisher and her husband. She is now with Merrill who just recently passed. Mary’s family was special to her and she enjoyed hosting dinners and get-togethers for them, not just on holidays. She was a wonderful caring person.

She is survived by her niece, Charlotte Kasap and husband Fred of Dartmouth, her nephews, Martin Kawa and wife Janet of Dartmouth, Chet J. Kawa and wife Fon of Georgia, Steven Kawa and wife Brenda of Nevada, David Kawa and wife Susan of Florida, and Paul Kawa and wife Karen of Mansfield, her late nephew’s wife, Carol Kawa, and several grandnieces and grandnephews.

She was the sister of the late Morris Kawa and wife Pauline, Chet Kawa and wife Doris, and Karol Kawa and wife Elsie, and aunt of the late Kenneth Kawa.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated on Saturday December 5, 2020 at 10 am at St. Anthony’s Church, Mattapoisett, followed by a private family burial service at St. Anthony’s Cemetery. A celebration of her life will be held at a later date due to the current pandemic. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to Coastline Elderly Services, 1646 Purchase St., New Bedford, MA 02740 or Mattapoisett Council on Aging (formerly Friends of the Elderly), P.O. Box 116, Mattapoisett, MA 02739. Arrangements are by the Saunders-Dwyer Mattapoisett Home for Funerals, 50 County Rd., Mattapoisett. For online condolence book, please visit www.
Superintendent Mike Nelson announced that the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is planning for the continuation of the MCAS, resulting in ORR having begun preparation for exams later in the winter. His relay of the information was not met with enthusiasm.

“Frankly, I would say I feel the test will be useless. You won’t be able to compare it year over year ... and that’s the main purpose of an MCAS,” said ORR School Committee member Heather Burke. “At the high school, it’s for a graduation requirement, but also it’s to compare how the school is doing versus previous years in meeting educational goals. But with all the special circumstances this year, it’s always going to have an asterisk. You’re not really going to be able to compare.”

Together with Dr. Colin Everett, the Old Rochester Professional Educators Association president, and with the collaboration of Rochester School Committee member Tina Rood, Burke drafted a letter to send to state government representatives. Everett got approval from his union to co-sign with Burke and Rood on the letter, and Burke requested “that the committee also vote for us to send this letter.”

ORR School Committee member Margaret McSweeny offered her full support in the pushback against MCAS testing.

“I understand that, some of the students, it was MCAS that they were supposed to take last year, and that would be something that I’d be willing to discuss a bit more. But as far as gauging some of their abilities this year and the gaps that they’ve had, I agree that it’s just not

Thelma “Cissy” Vanstone, 80, has died, November 2, 2020, in Boca Raton, FL from complications of Covid 19 which she contracted while in rehabilitation following surgery to repair a broken left hip. She was born and raised in Marion, MA, and graduated from Fisher Junior College in Boston, MA where she spent several years, followed by 30 years in Mattapoisett, Ma, 18 years in Fort Lauderdale, FL, and the remainder in Port St. Lucie, FL.

She is survived by her husband of 58 years, Bob, two daughters, Gail Vanstone of Fort Lauderdale, FL, and Marianne Vanstone of Delray Beach, FL, two grand children, Samuel Rourke of Fort Lauderdale and Abigail Cline of Chicago, IL, a sister, Betsy Dunn of Marion, MA and a sister and brother-in-law, Eleanor and Robert Mower of Rochester, MA plus numerous nephews and nieces. She also leaves a large number of friends, including many at the airport in Fort Pierce, all of whom she considered part of her family and would want acknowledged.

While having several secretarial, executive assistant and estate management jobs, her passion in life was her private flying career. Starting at age 50 she became an instrument rated pilot, successively owning three airplanes and specializing in cross country flying until retiring in 2018.

Following her express wishes there will be no formal services but a “really great” cocktail party will be held in her memory as soon as social gatherings become safe and generally acceptable.

For those wanting to honor her life in a material way, contributions to favorite charities are suggested. She would prefer animal rescue operations, her current favorite being Jim Keefer’s All God’s Creatures, 2760 Blair Street, Montoursville, PA 17754, where her last airplane is now being used to ferry dogs to locations where specialized medical treatments are available.

Arrangements are being handled by the Millennium Cremation Service of Port St. Lucie.
COASTLINE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM

Monday, Nov 30: Pot roast, garlic mashed potato, green beans, whole wheat roll, apple
Tuesday, Dec 1: Macaroni & cheese, tomato
Florentine, whole wheat roll, Mandarin orange 
Wednesday, Dec 2: California chicken salad, potato salad, cole slaw, sub roll, mixed fruit
Thursday, Dec 3: Hot dog, mustard & relish, baked beans, broccoli, hot dog roll, buns
Friday, Dec 4: Potato pollock, taro sauce, roasted potatoes, tvp, green beans, oatmeal bread, pineapple

CENTRE SCHOOL

Monday, Nov 30: Taco nacho platter, chicken Caesar wrap, Bulldog breakfast sandwich, snack pack pretzel, assorted fruit, assorted vegetables, 1% milk 
Tuesday, Dec 1: Cohort A: Cheeseburger, OR Chicken Caesar wrap, snack size Cape Cod chips, baby carrots, ranch dressing, assorted fruit, 1% milk 
Wednesday, Dec 2: Cohort B: Cheeseburger, OR Chicken Caesar wrap, snack size Cape Cod chips, baby carrots, ranch dressing, assorted fruit, 1% milk
Thursday, Dec 3: Cohort A: Pizza cruncher, marinara sauce, fresh broccoli trees, OR Chicken Caesar wrap, snack size Cape Cod chips, assorted fruit, 1% milk
Friday, Dec 4: Cohort B: Pizza cruncher, marinara sauce, fresh broccoli trees, OR Chicken Caesar wrap, snack size Cape Cod chips, assorted fruit, 1% milk

OLD HAMMONDTOWN

Monday, Nov 30: Taco nacho platter, chicken Caesar wrap, Bulldog breakfast sandwich, snack pack pretzel, assorted fruit, assorted vegetables, 1% milk
Tuesday, Dec 1: Cohort A: Cheeseburger, OR Chicken Caesar wrap, snack size Cape Cod chips, baby carrots, ranch dressing, assorted fruit, 1% milk
Wednesday, Dec 2: Cohort B: Cheeseburger, OR Chicken Caesar wrap, snack size Cape Cod chips, baby carrots, ranch dressing, assorted fruit, 1% milk
Thursday, Dec 3: Cohort A: Pizza cruncher, marinara sauce, fresh broccoli trees, OR Chicken Caesar wrap, snack size Cape Cod chips, assorted fruit, 1% milk
Friday, Dec 4: Cohort B: Pizza cruncher, marinara sauce, fresh broccoli trees, OR Chicken Caesar wrap, snack size Cape Cod chips, assorted fruit, 1% milk

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH

Monday, Nov 30: Taco nacho platter, chicken Caesar wrap, Bulldog breakfast sandwich, snack pack pretzel, assorted fruit, assorted vegetables, 1% milk
Tuesday, Dec 1: Cohort A: Cheeseburger, OR Chicken Caesar wrap, snack size Cape Cod chips, baby carrots, ranch dressing, assorted fruit, 1% milk
Wednesday, Dec 2: Cohort B: Cheeseburger, OR Chicken Caesar wrap, snack size Cape Cod chips, baby carrots, ranch dressing, assorted fruit, 1% milk
Thursday, Dec 3: Cohort A: Pizza cruncher, marinara sauce, fresh broccoli trees, OR Chicken Caesar wrap, snack size Cape Cod chips, assorted fruit, 1% milk
Friday, Dec 4: Cohort B: Pizza cruncher, marinara sauce, fresh broccoli trees, OR Chicken Caesar wrap, snack size Cape Cod chips, assorted fruit, 1% milk
going to be a decent way to gauge the learning,” she said, adding that she welcomes the viewpoint of the district’s principals.

“In years outside of a pandemic, we love an MCAS. We get so excited to test our kids,” said ORR High School Principal Mike Devoll. “There are some positives for sure in a normal year, sure, but if we’re held to a graduation standard, we can’t leave anybody behind (including juniors and sophomores)…. We play by the rules. But I have read the letter ... and I feel comfortable that it represents the high school’s stance.”

ORR Junior High Principal Silas Coellner sees MCAS as taking too big a bite out of the curriculum designed to help students with limited interaction due to the hybrid learning model.

“One of the things I keyed on, especially with the social-emotional piece both with staff and students and with the kids’ face-to-face time being so reduced, it’s just precious,” he said. “And MCAS is also a time-consuming endeavor. I definitely agree with the letter, and I think it captures the thoughts of my staff as well.”

ORR School Committee Chairman Cary Humphrey said, “It’s important that we’re all on the same page with this.”

Both the ORR and union sides were on the same page, voting in favor of sending the letter.

Meanwhile, a lack of confidence in the administration’s transparency concerning a plan for reopening schools on a full-time basis manifested in the comments from the public and union-side Chairman Shannon Finning.

Finning thanked the administration at the start of the meeting for its October 30 delivery of the addendum posting details on a potential plan for a full, in-person return to school. After, Finning stated for the record her intention to ask for immediate knowledge on “how students, families, and how other constituents will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the plan as promised on the first page of the document.”

During the open comment segment of the meeting, Stephanie Clark would later say, “I’m troubled that we’re being stonewalled at every turn,” referencing
SALOME’S STARS

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) This year, instead of jumping into the whole holiday prep scene, move in a little at a time. You’ll appreciate the sense of control you’re more likely to enjoy.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) The separation between the Bovine’s head and heart is never as far apart as it seems. Both senses work best when they come out of logic and honesty.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) The best way to keep those pre-holiday pressures under control is to just say no to taking on new tasks while you’re still trying to work with a heap of others.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Old friends and new have one thing in common: Both your longtime and newly minted pals have much wisdom to impart.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) With time running out, this is a good time for you to show ‘em all what those Virgo super-organizational skills can do.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Librans and holidays are made for each other, especially if children and animals are going to be part of your joyous season.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Time is getting too short to allow a spat to taint the holiday season. Restart your relationship and reschedule holiday fun times.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Continuing to assess changes works toward your getting your new project up and ready. Trusted colleagues remain ready to help.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) That new situation needs a lot of attention, but it’s worth it. This is a very good time for you to involve the arts in what you do.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) It might be a good idea to slow your hectic holiday pace so that you don’t rush past what -- or who -- you’re hoping to rush toward.

BORN THIS WEEK: Others pick up on your confidence in yourself, which inspires them to believe in you and your special gifts.

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“the lack of transparency and communication by the administration and in each town. We’re still not getting complete answers.”

Clark asked why the respective school committees didn’t have the addendum before October 30. “Why does ORR not follow [DESE]?” Clark asserted that Plymouth and Bridgewater use 3 feet as a safe-distancing standard (as opposed to ORR’s 6-foot standard), suggesting that, based on ORR’s own feasibility study, 4½ feet would suffice.

Finning asked if Nelson or committee members would like to respond to Clark. Nelson said that he delivered on the feasibility report what was requested and received “no feedback that I was out of compliance in any measure.

“I did hear the feedback from school committee members and parents. The addendum included things we learned since the start of school,” Nelson continued, adding that ORR has taken the close-contact definition as it currently stands.

Clark reiterated her concerns, saying that as the data has changed, it has not been possible to initiate meetings to discuss how the new information might affect how the schools should plan. While efforts by Nichole Daniel and Carly Lavin to engage Clark had limited success, Nelson said he was willing to attend any meeting to further communication.

Led by Jim Muse, several committee members voiced their support for Nelson’s work on the reopening.

Committee member Frances Kearns said, “We would be remiss if we don’t accept that COVID-19 affects communities of color at a greater rate,” adding that science takes time to understand such factors and that the Center for Disease Control has revised its guidance. Kearns said it’s important to keep an open mind and be aware of the data.

Humphrey told the committee that he has a high school daughter he believes needs to be back in school full time, but he accepts that cannot be the case at this time. He discussed the concerns of Tri-Town parents who want their children back in school and teachers and staff who fear the conditions they work under right now, much less
The Mattapoisett Lions Club held a fundraiser on November 21 at Pine Meadow Alpaca Farm. Donations of $8 were rewarded with bags of kettle popcorn, and children enjoyed visiting with alpacas and other animals including an African tortoise during an open-farm day. Photos by Ryan Feeney

Photos by Jen Shepely

These photos and more are available online at www.wanderer.com
with students back full time.

“As school-committee members, we’re caught directly in the middle. We’re not all going to agree. None of us signed up for a COVID school committee,” said Humphrey. “I don’t know if I speak for everybody, but I do believe Mike’s done a good job with this. My time on the Region School Committee, the times I’ve worked with Mr. Nelson since this started, I have to give him high grades, I really do. None of us want our kids to be out of school.”

Nelson said he feels the same way about his children and that it remains the district’s desire to bring them back full time when it is considered safe to do so.

“We all interpret information differently,” said committee member Joe Pires. “We were going to the full extent of what was allowed. At the end of the day, I believe we have to side with safety.”

In his report, Nelson noted that, of the 21 positive cases of COVID-19 among students or staff this academic year, the cases have been isolated in nature with seven at Sippican Elementary School, three at Center School, none at Rochester Memorial, four at Old Hammondtown, two at ORR Junior High, and five at the high school.

Among elementary school students in Mattapoisett, 408 are in the hybrid learning model, and 30 are fully remote. At Rochester, 420 are hybrid and 30 fully remote; in Marion, 331 are hybrid and 62 fully remote. At the junior high, 357 are hybrid and 57 fully remote; at the

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high school, 643 are hybrid and 74 fully remote.

Nelson reported to the committee on his two-year goals that he considers flexible and fluid.

Noting the new Central Office team, Nelson’s new role, and the coronavirus pandemic, Muse said he appreciated “all the hard work that’s gone on, especially the superintendent and everyone in his office.”

Kearns thanked Nelson for his ongoing commitment to making ORR an anti-racist school.

Asked about student-outcome benchmarks, Nelson said he has discussed the subject with his coach and Whitman-Hanson Superintendent Dr. Ruth Gilbert-Whitner and envisions the inclusion of student benchmarks going forward. Committee member Sharon Hartley said student progress is in the goals. The region and union sides voted unanimously to approve Nelson’s goals as presented.

A discussion about how the academic year will be affected by snow days led committee member Margaret McSweeny to suggest faculty input before making any decision. The committee did vote to authorize Nelson to designate snow days as hybrid ‘out’ days, so students do not lose ground due to weather.

Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Howie Barber gave his report and discussed his meeting with Tri-Town officials hosted by the Marion Capital Improvement Planning Committee.

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Jannell Pearson-Campbell lost her father the week before the meeting and was not able to attend. Nelson expressed sympathy on behalf of the district, saying, “It was clear the day we met her in her interview how important her family is to her, and we’re here to support her,” he said.

The next meeting of the Joint School Committee is scheduled for March 11.

Cranberries! with the MNHM

The Marion Natural History Museum invites you to Cranberries! with bog owner Dawn Gates-Allen of the Cape Cod Cranberry Association on December 9 from
**TOWN OF MATTAPoisSETT**

**PLANNING BOARD**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Mattapoisett Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, December 7, 2020 at 7:00 pm remotely only via Zoom concerning the Application For Modification of a Definitive Plan submitted by Eric Medeiros for a proposed modification to the roadway known as Selha Way and shown as Map 23 Lots 105B, 147, 148 and 149. Complete plans are on file in the office of the Town Clerk and may be inspected by any interested party during the hours of 10 am to 2 pm Monday through Friday or online at www.mattapoissett.net.

Join Zoom Meeting
https://zoom.us/j/97933128677
Meeting ID: 979 3312 8677
Dial by your location +1 646 876 9923 US (New York) 11/19, 11/26

**TOWN OF MARION**

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CASE #781**

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89416401269?pwd=RX-ZXSVNnS1ppSTRTS1p1OCsyUk5mdz09
Meeting ID: 894 1640 1269
Passcode: 687879

The Marion Zoning Board of Appeals will hold an online public hearing at 6:45 pm on Thursday, December 10, 2020 on the application of Kevin Walsh for a Special Permit under section 230-6.1C of the zoning by-law to allow the addition of twenty-five 7.875kw solar panels on the roof of the building. This will add 6’ to the height of the roof but not exceed the panel. The property owner of record is Rochester Golf Club, 323 Rounseville Road, Rochester, MA 02770.

The application and associated submittal documents are available for review at the Planning Board Office at the Marion Town Hall Annex, 37 Marion Road, Marion, MA. Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84772757079
Meeting ID: 847 7275 7079
Or Call: 1 646 876 9923
Arnold Johnson, Chairman 11/19, 11/26

TOWN OF MARION CONSERVATION COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Marion Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 7:00 pm at the Marion Police Station (via Zoom and closed to the public*), for a Request for Determination of Applicability (File # 41D-1770), submitted by Town of Marion – Dept. of Public Works, to complete maintenance work of two bio-retention basins located at Island Wharf.

The site is further identified as Lot 76 on Marion Assessors’ Map 14. Plans are available at the Town House for review. Shaun Walsh, Chair
*Please contact Donna Hemphill at 508-748-3515 or dhemphill@marionma.gov for the Zoom link and for information on public participation via phone call. The phone number will be provided upon request. The meeting will be live streamed on ORCTV and participants can call in any questions or comments. 11/26

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**TOWN OF ROCHESTER**

**PLANNING BOARD**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Rochester Planning Board will conduct a public hearing on December 8, 2020 at 7:00 pm at Rochester Memorial School, 16 Pine Street, Rochester, MA 02770, regarding a Site Plan Review Application for a Solar Installation, filed by Paul Eaton of Trinity Solar, 20 Patterson Brook Road, Unit 1, West Wareham, MA 02576, for property located at 323 Rounseville Road, Rochester, MA 02770, designated as Lot 6A on Assessor’s Map 34.

The applicant proposes to install twenty-five 7.875kw solar panels on the roof of the building. This will add 6’ to the height of the roof but not exceed the panel. The property owner of record is Trinity Solar, 20 Patterson Brook Road, Unit 1, West Wareham, MA 02576 for a Solar Installation, filed by Paul Eaton of Trinity Solar, 20 Patterson Brook Road, Unit 1, West Wareham, MA 02576, for property located at 323 Rounseville Road, Rochester, MA 02770, designated as Lot 6A on Assessor’s Map 34.

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**TOWN OF ROCHESTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION & TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE**

**NOTICE OF REMOTE PUBLIC HEARING**

An Open Hearing of the Rochester Conservation Commission will be held on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 7:00 pm regarding a Notice of Intent filed by Featherbed Lane South Solar, LLC, Beals and Thomas, Inc., 144 Turnpike Road, Southborough, MA 01772, for property located at 0 Featherbed Lane, designated as Lot 24 on Rochester Assessors Map 46. This Open Hearing is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker’s Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of COVID-19.

The applicant proposes to install an approximate 2.5 MW DC ground-mounted photovoltaic solar array on an estimated 59-acre property at 0 Featherbed Lane. The project involves work within the 100 Foot Buffer Zone to a bordering vegetated wetland and is located within the Estimated and Priority Habitat for Rare and Endangered Species. The proposed work includes converting a tract of forested upland to install the array, access road, equipment pad, and stormwater management features.

The applicant’s representative is Eric Las of Beals and Thomas, Inc., 144 Turnpike Road, Southborough, MA 01772. The property owner of record is Judith DuPont, 123 Rounseville Road, Rochester, MA 02770.

This meeting is being held under the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act, MGL Ch. 131, Section 40 and the Town of Rochester Wetland Protection By-Law.

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8970233901
Meeting ID: 897 0233 3901
Or Call: 1 646 876 9923
Michael Conway, Chairman 11/26
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Join Zoom Meeting:
us02web.zoom.us/j/81645890924?pwd=ZURTeExOOWLaNmVUdIBEXFBYjkldz09
Meeting ID: 816 4589 0924
Passcode: 269805
One tap mobile
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+19292056099,,81645890924#,,,,0#,,269805# US (New York)

Join us for a virtual tour around a cranberry bog with bog owner Dawn Gates-Allen. We will drive along with Dawn on her tractor as we get a tour of her cranberry bogs. While driving, Dawn will be answering our questions about cranberries and what it’s like to live on a working bog.

Dawn will show us how to tell a healthy berry from an unhealthy one, which animals might live nearby the bogs, and what types of equipment are used to harvest these delicious little berries.

We hope you will join us for this program on Zoom.

Hygiene and Hunger Holiday Food Drive
Because of COVID-19, the number of people who are food insecure has almost doubled. Help those in need from our community by donating canned goods, cereal, peanut butter, cans that don’t require a can opener, and any other non-perishables. Please also consider donating hygiene items such as bar soap, shampoo, feminine products, toilet paper, deodorant, laundry detergent, and new, packaged underwear and socks. Please bring your donations to the bins in the lobby of Old Rochester High School from November 30 to December 18. All proceeds will go to Good Shepherd’s Food Pantry! Every contribution matters! Thank you, and Happy Holidays!

Rochester Items for Sale by Rochester Historical Society
Contrary to what you may have been reading, it has always been possible to buy Rochester items in Rochester. While the Historical Society has been less visible this year due to the pandemic, we still have our many items for sale at the Museum at 355 County Road. As always, we have books on Rochester history, small wooden Rochester boxes, Rochester themed Tic-Tac-Toes, and t-shirts. Perfect for winter is our hooded pullover and hooded full zip sweatshirts. A new item is a ¼ zip sweatshirt. All of our sweatshirts and baseball caps have our embroidered Rochester logo, shown below. Another new item that is selling off the shelf is our Rochester mask with the town seal, also shown below. All items are available at the Museum. To make arrangements to purchase or order any item, contact Connie Eshbach at 508 763 4932 or eshbach2@aol.com, or Sue La Fleur at 508-295-8908 or sasha@comcast.net. If we don’t have your size or color choice, we do special orders. At the museum, we mask and social distance. All the money that we make from our sales goes to the support of the Rochester Historical Museum and to preserve Rochester’s history.

SLT Annual Post-Thanksgiving Dog Walk
Join Sippican Lands Trust for our annual Post-Thanksgiving Dog Walk on Sunday, November 29 at 1:00 pm at our White Eagle property (part of Aucoot Woods). This year’s Post-Thanksgiving Dog Walk will be

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEGAL NOTICES</th>
<th>LEGAL NOTICES</th>
<th>CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOWN OF ROCHESTER</td>
<td>TAX BILLS</td>
<td>WINSOME PAINTING COMPANY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBLIC NOTICE</td>
<td>INTERIOR-EXTERIOR</td>
<td>RESIDENTIAL-COMMERCIAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2021 Real Estate &amp; Personal Property Tax Bills were mailed on November 25, 2020 due on December 30, 2020</td>
<td>ONLINE BILL PAY: townofrochestermass.com click on Town of Rochester-online payment center There is a lock box located at the bottom right side of the front stairs for your convenience checks only please.</td>
<td>POWER WASHING &amp; LIGHT CARPENTRY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If paying by personal online banking allow sufficient time for the bank to generate a check and mail it to the Town. Please supply sufficient information on the check identifying which bill should be credited. ONLINE BILL PAY: townofrochestermass.com click on Town of Rochester-online payment center There is a lock box located at the bottom left side of the front stairs for your convenience checks only please.</td>
<td>You must call ahead and make an appointment with the Tax Collector at 5087633871 ext.1 If you have not received your tax bill in the mail, please contact the Collector’s Office at 508-763-3871 ext. 1. If you have questions regarding property values and abatements, please contact the Assessor’s office at 508-763-5250. Due to COVID-19, the Town of Rochester Town Hall is closed to the public until further notice. I will be in the tax office daily at 11 am to process the daily mail and answer all E-mails and phone messages. If I do not answer the phone, leave a message and I’ll get back to you as soon as possible. Thank You for your patience. Beatrice Renaud 11/26, 12/3</td>
<td><a href="http://www.winsomepaintingcompany.com">www.winsomepaintingcompany.com</a> 774-510-2779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASH PAYMENTS are being discouraged at this time due to COVID-19 but if you must pay by cash</td>
<td></td>
<td>Woodacre Law Group Dispute Resolution/Mediation Family, Divorce, Elder, Business 781-237-6020 Mattapoisett Wharf <a href="mailto:lorrriwoodacre@gmail.com">lorrriwoodacre@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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www.wanderer.com November 26, 2020 The Wanderer 53
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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!

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Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦
• Moderate •• Challenging ••• HOO BOY!

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limited to 10 participants and their canine companions to accommodate social distancing requirements. Registration is required for this year’s Post-Thanksgiving Dog Walk, and please send an email to info@sippicanlandstrust.org to register for this walk.

Walk participants must wear face coverings, and dogs must be leashed and under the owner’s control at all times. Your canine companion(s) and you can walk off some of those extra treats from Thanksgiving and enjoy a late fall walk at SLT’s 248-acre White Eagle property.

White Eagle is located off of Route 6 in Marion. Turn onto Parlowsalt Road across from the town cemetery and follow the road until you reach the cul-de-sac. Veer left onto the dirt road and follow it along past an abandoned cranberry bog on your right. The dirt road is bumpy, so please use caution when driving. Parking is available directly past the bog and along the dirt roadside. The kiosk is a short walk beyond.

The walk is free, but registration is required, and you must send an email to info@sippicanlandstrust.org to register for this walk on Sunday, **November 29** starting at 1:00 pm. Please dress appropriately for the day’s weather, and please bring water for your canine companion(s) and you. Only the worst weather will cancel an SLT walk. If a walk is canceled, then the information will be posted to SLT’s website and Facebook page. For directions or further information, visit www.sippicanlandstrust.org or call Sippican Lands Trust at 508-748-3080.

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**Sippican Woman’s Club**

The Sippican Woman’s Club has had a Holiday House Tour since 1984. The House Tour is the primary source of revenue for the yearly scholarships given to Marion students. However, this year due to the pandemic, there will be no House Tour. We thought we could celebrate Christmas and our past club members by sharing their Christmas Cookie recipes every week until Christmas.

Our second installment remembers Nancy Wickenden, who became a member in the 1940s and was active in the club in many roles, including president, until her death in 2012 at the age of 97. Nancy was the wife of James Wickenden, the long-serving Headmaster of Tabor
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Brenda J. Gomes November 26 Holly Linhares November 26
Nolan Hathaway November 26 Kyle Hedblom November 27
Chris Gerrior November 28 Devin Sprague November 28
Jennifer Nunes November 28 Lisa MacKenzie November 28
Ryan Coppola November 28 Cory Travers November 29
Danielle Caron November 28 Jayce Jeffrey November 29
Glenn LeBlanc November 30 Meghan Galarzza November 30
Kate Day Taylor December 1 Lynn Marie Bliss December 1
Sandy Robinson December 2 Joanne Collyer December 2
Lisa Maclean December 2

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.
Academy.

NANCY’S NUGGETS:
1 cup flour
2 eggs
2 tsp baking powder
2 tsp vanilla
1 tsp salt
½ cup chopped walnuts
2 cups brown sugar
1 cup chocolate bits
½ cup plus 2 Tbsp vegetable oil

Sift flour, and then sift again with baking powder and salt. Mix in brown sugar. Stir in vegetable oil, eggs, vanilla. Add nuts and chocolate bits. Bake in a 9x13 pan at 350 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes, or until toothpick comes out clean.

Sippican Historical Society
Marion (Old Rochester) is one of the oldest towns in the United States, and the Sippican Historical Society maintains an extensive collection of documentation on its historic buildings. In 1998, the Sippican Historical Society commissioned an architectural survey of Marion’s historic homes and buildings. Over 100 were cataloged and photographed. SHS will feature one building a week so that the residents of Marion can understand more about its unique historical architecture.

The house at 34 Hermitage Road is situated where
### Classified Advertisements

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

**Classified Rates:**
Classified Advertisements are $5.00 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.

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*Blank lines cannot be used in Classified Advertisements.*
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**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 $20. per ad.*

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**PEARLS BEFORE SWINE**
by Stephen Pastis

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**The Wanderer**
November 26, 2020

www.wanderer.com
the Sippican Native Americans resided under the leadership of Chief Massasoit of the Wampanoag tribe. Nearby at Minister’s Rock was the first settlement in Marion (then called Sippican), established when 29 families of Pilgrims left Plymouth in 1678. This Cape Cod cottage dates from the mid-late 18th century and maybe that of Walter Turner, as shown on the 1855 Marion map. By the late 19th century, George Delano owned this house, and he named it the Hermitage. By 1903, it was owned by C.L. Delano. During the first visit of President and Mrs. Cleveland to Marion in 1887, George Delano offered the first family the use of his beach because of its privacy and splendid views of Sippican Harbor.

From the Files of the Rochester Historical Society

By Connie Eshbach

As we celebrate a Thanksgiving unlike any in most of our lifetimes, we can take a break from 2020 and go back in time to 1974. That year, Rochester’s First Congregational Church had a special pre-Thanksgiving service. The service, a pageant portraying the first Thanksgiving between the Pilgrims and their Wampanoag neighbors, was planned by the church’s minister, Rev. Edward White. Sadly, Rev. White passed away on November 17 before the service. However, the church continued with the program.

Many members of the congregation, both young and old, dressed either as Pilgrims or Wampanoags. Children from the Church School presented canned and dry goods to be given out to needy families.

The man at the altar who spoke on that day and eulogized Rev. White was Chief Setting Sun. In full tribal costume, he talked about Rev. White, a modest man, but one who could relate to people and their problems. His death had Chief Setting Sun giving himself a new mission to correct the image that many had of all Native Americans. The rest of the pastor’s worship service was carried out by the Board of Deacons for about 350 congregants.

As we all know, 46 years have changed many of our views of the first Thanksgiving but reading about this romanticized version of the actual history. Even with the sadness of White’s death, we get a brief respite from all the worries and disappointments of our 2020 holiday.

Mattapoisett Land Trust Story Walks

Just in Time for you, your family, and friends to explore during the Holidays! The Mattapoisett Land Trust Education Committee, in collaboration with the Mattapoisett Library and the ORRHS Community Service Learning students, teachers, and parents, has installed two new, very stimulating story walks.

You will find them on the Dunseith Property off Route 6 by “Salty the Seahorse” and the Munn Preserve Property off Mattapoisett Neck Road, just before the entrance pillars of Antassawamock, to your right.

Not only are the walks exciting and fun, but there is also an emphasis on nature and scientific matter. Wendy Copps, MLT board director and Education Committee member, said, “The Munn Property Story Walk, A Green Day by Antoinette Portis, is a poetic conversation with nature and allows the reader to meander down the beautiful path to the conclusion at the beach on Brandt Island Cove.”

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Mary Cabral, MLT director and Education Committee member said, “A great partnership has been established with ORRHS Community Service Learning Students and Karen Browning, Math teacher and advisor.” Mary said, “It is nice to be surrounded by positive and energetic young people while working on the beautiful Land Trust Properties.” The students worked on two separate Saturdays, October 24 and November 21.

Karen Browning said that she has lived in Mattapoisett for 25 years and never explored the Munn property. It has been because of Karen’s continued support of the MLT Education programs that we are most grateful for, as she spends hours and days helping to organize our events for the students, said Ellen P. Flynn, board director and chair of education. “Karen’s dedication to our organization is phenomenal.”

Our education mission is to enhance students’ environmental awareness through hands-on learning experiences in our community, and we believe their exposure to nature is essential for growth and development for a healthier life.

Wendy Copps also explains the Story Walk at Dunseith Property, the book entitled Rosie: Stronger than Steel by Lindsay Ward, is about a tractor, inspired by the women who acted with courage and strength in the American factories and British farms during World War II. “This story allows the reader to explore the forested area near a brook,” Wendy says.

Mike Huguenin, MLT president, said, “The Land Trust hopes these new story walks will encourage families to enjoy the outdoors and the MLT’s beautiful properties throughout the cooler months to come.” Mike believes we all need to focus and explore a taste for the use of our natural resources.

Please visit our website mattlandtrust.org for more photos, trails, events, and our podcast.

**A Holiday Greens Sale Pop-Up Event**

The Mattapoisett Woman’s Club presents “A Holiday Greens Sale” Pop-Up Event on Saturday, **December 5**, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Bowlmor Lanes parking lot, 22 County Road, Route 6, Mattapoisett. The Pop – Up Sale features a variety of decorated fresh wreaths, swags, and holiday centerpieces, as well as bunches of holly and evergreens created by Club Members. Limited edition notecards will also be available for purchase. Cash, checks, and credit cards will be accepted.

Bundle up, put on your mask, and join us outside for this special holiday event. Proceeds will support the Mattapoisett Woman’s Club Scholarship Fund and other community projects. The rain date is Sunday, December 6, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm.

### Real Estate Transactions

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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 online 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 November 19, 2020 edition the Aardvark was on page 52!
SALE EFFECTIVE:
Friday, November 27 – Thursday, December 3, 2020

565 Rounseville Road • Rochester, MA 02770
Phone: 508.763.5333
Open Daily: 7am–8pm

Grocery, Dairy, Frozen & Bakery

General Mills 8.9-10.8 oz. Original or Honey Nut Cheerios 2/$6
1 Liter Bottle Selected Poland Spring Sparkling Water............ $0.99
Half Pint Bottles, 12 Pack Poland Spring Water........... $2.99
16 oz. Selected B&M Baked Beans.................. 2/$3
15-15.25 oz. Selected Del Monte Fruit.................. 2/$4
12 oz. Original Kellogg’s Rice Krispies...... 2/$6
5.5 oz. Selected Food Should Taste Good Tortilla Chips........... 2/$5

4-6 oz. Selected Yoplait Yogurt........................ 59¢
10.38-12.5 oz. Selected Stouffer’s French Bread Pizza........ 2/$6

Fresh Baked 24 oz. Pkg.
Strawberry Rhubarb Pie $4.99

Quality Meats, Deli & Prepared Foods

Friends’ Premium Certified Black Angus
Porterhouse Steak $11.99 lb.

Friends’ Premium Certified Black Angus Boneless, New York
Top Sirloin Steak....$6.99 lb.
Perri Hot or Sweet Italian
Pork Sausage ........... $5.99 lb.
SugarCane 16 oz. Pkg. All Varieties
Bacon........................ $4.99

Allen’s Rotisserie Chicken $8.99 lb.

HOLIDAY OFFER!

5.5 lb. Gift Box, Carve & Serve
Boar’s Head Turkey Breast .... $34.99

5.5 lb. Gift Box, with Ham Glaze
Boar’s Head Sweet Slice Ham... $39.99

Wine & Beer

750 ml California Chardonnay $13.99
Bread & Butter Wine .................. $13.99
750 ml California Pinot Noir
Mark West Wine ...................... $9.99

12 oz. Cans
4 Pack Selected Artifact...... $13.30-$15.50
12 oz. Bottles
12 Pack Selected
Sam Adams ...................... $16.99

We have over 75 varieties of wine (and more coming) that are only $15 or $15.
Mix & Match wines from California, France, Italy, Argentina, Chile, & Australia!

Please “Like” and “Follow”... Friends Marketplace–Plumb Corner
Please email your order with your phone number to Plumb@FriendsMarketplace.net for Curbside Pickup
We are here for you and are honored to serve you during this unprecedented time.

~ The Friends’ Marketplace at Plumb Corner Team

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!
SALE EFFECTIVE: Friday, November 27 - Thursday, December 3, 2020

Blockbuster Savings!

Friends' Premium Certified Black Angus Porterhouse Steak $11.99 lb.

Delicious Store Made Cranberry Chicken Salad $9.99 lb.

Progresso 19 oz. Selected (Excludes Fava) Beans 99¢

48 oz. Selected Breyers $4.99


La Vieille Ferme 1.5 Liter; France Rosé Wine $14.99

Superior Quality Produce

- Fresh Honeycrisp Apples $1.69 lb.
- Pint Blueberries $3.99
- Crisp Broccoli Crowns $1.69 lb.
- Zesty Red Onions 99¢ lb.
- Cusier Tomatoes $2.49 lb.
- Summer or Zucchini Squash $1.49

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!