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Fill-A-Cruiser Toy Drive Filled Hearts, Too

Christmas came early for the volunteers who organized Sunday’s Fill-A-Cruiser toy drive at Sippican Elementary School, as they looked upon one another flabbergasted by waves upon waves of the generosity shown by townspeople dropping off bags of clothes, bicycles, footballs, basketballs, and a great variety of boxed and wrapped toys.

“It was our honor in the [Volunteers at Sippican Elementary] (VASE) organization at Sippican School to have collaborated with the Police Department this year, in order to help make this event come to fruition during these challenging times. We were overwhelmed at the generosity that was shown from those within our community who wanted to help fulfill wishes and needs of children while spreading some much-needed holiday cheer,” said VASE President April Rios, who managed the collection with Marion Police officer/school resource liaison and event organizer Alisha Crosby.

In collaboration with the Marion Police Department, and led by retiring Chief of Police John Garcia (Santa), Sippican School Resource Officer Matt McGraw, the Marion Police Brotherhood, Crosby, Rios, Barbara Moody, and volunteers welcomed a parade of cars and pickup trucks that pulled into the school’s bus loop in a steady stream that began at 10:00 am and ran until noon.

Sippican Principal Marla Sirois reports that the support of community partners in the Christmas season is a continuation of support the school received at Thanksgiving when The Loft School and collaboration between Marion’s Council on Aging and the Recreation Department resulted in Thanksgiving baskets and gift cards to 24 Sippican students and their families.

According to Sirois, a total of 40 children from 17 families connected to Sippican are receiving support for the Christmas/winter holidays. The First Congregational Church of Marion and its Missions Team provided gifts to over 25 students and extended support to some families within just two weeks. Susan Smith, chair of the Missions Team, Alice Shire, Missions member, and Pastor Mary Ann Purtill from the First Congregational Church of Marion were especially helpful in supporting

Sippican families. Sippican staff members and Marion Police Department are sponsoring the remaining 15 students.

‘Comfort and Joy’ Remembered

This Mattapoisett Life

By Marilou Newell

Here we are, folks; it’s the Christmas holiday season, a time to remember past celebrations and renew old traditions.

In thinking about the joy this time of year can represent, I thought it might be fun to ask around and find out what other folks remember from their childhoods or what traditions they continue to preserve with their families today. I’d venture to say that during those brief moments of reflection, joy was experienced once again. I weave those submissions here with my own, like a giant patchwork quilt sewn together by a common thread of thought, “Peace on Earth.” Thus, I give you “comfort and joy” by way of memory.

ML: Plum pudding with hard sauce, spices wafting from the kitchen stove where Ma stood warming the special holiday treat. That tickle in my throat as the warm syrup slid slowly from my mouth. Later, snuggling up to Ma’s arm as I stared at the empty Christmas stocking and wondered if that exotic orange and delicious apple would

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www.wanderer.com December 10, 2020 The Wanderer
“When I was little, we had to go to my aunt’s house every Christmas,” J said, “but we didn’t have a car. We lived in the city. We walked everywhere, even in the freezing cold! It was awful.” She said that years later, when her own children were able to travel, Christmases were always spent somewhere warm, never in New England, and she confirmed her children had great memories of Christmases spent in tropical climates.

ML: Christmas gifts were often an opportunity for Ma to give us things we actually needed, practical things like new underwear, socks, pajamas, or boots. We always got a few toys, depending on how the year had gone for Dad’s TV repair business. I recall years with a Shirley Temple doll, a Barbie, a toy kitchen, paper dolls…

“We were always sent to bed after a light dinner, then the grown-ups would wake us up as they came into my parent’s house after midnight mass,” P said. “My mother always put out a big meal. I remember two tables pulled together to make one long banquet-sized table the length of the double parlor. We’d open all our gifts together; there must have been 30 people squeezed into our two-family home. My aunt, my mother’s sister, lived on the first floor, and we lived on the second. My sister would play the piano, and everyone would sing. One year all I wanted was a new bike. But when I got up, I didn’t see one, so I sulked until I finally saw it hiding behind a piece of furniture. I was spoiled rotten, but they never bought me a pony.”

ML: The scent of talcum powder called “Heavenly” that came in a pink Bakelite container with a big pink powder puff was an annual gift fit for a young girl aged 5 to 15, and I was always the happy recipient. Taking a bath and putting on new pajamas after dusting myself with powder made me feel safe and so comfortable…

G was surely smiling when she wrote, “There are so many memories! Hard to choose just one. I remember, as a kid, leaving the Tinkham Chapel service on Christmas Eve and going to my aunt and uncle’s place in New Bedford, scanning the skies to see if we could see Santa’s sleigh and Rudolph’s red nose. Later, my dad learned about the NORAD Santa tracking, so he’d tune in to the radio so we could hear where Santa was in his travels. I’m still a NORAD Santa-tracker nerd.”

ML: In school, in the ’50s, Christmas was a high point of winter. School windows would be decorated with our artwork of snowflakes and Santa heads. The day before school closed for the holiday, we’d once again miraculously appear in the dead of winter, making the stocking, once in rotation in Dad’s bureau drawer, like a giant swollen pea pod…
“I grew up moving often and spent most of my childhood in Southeast Asia,” began JM. “Every Christmas Eve, at my mother’s insistence, we listened to Dylan Thomas’s ‘A Child’s Christmas in Wales.’ She owned an old recording of the book read by Thomas himself. The sound was muffled, the record was scratched, Thomas had a Welsh accent. Moreover, we were in Hong Kong, Malaysia, and the Philippines – no snow, no cozy fires, no candy cigarettes. For many years I do not think I even listened – just sat with my own thoughts. When my children were born, my mother began giving us new, illustrated editions of ‘A Child’s Christmas in Wales.’ At the beginning of this tradition, I read aloud to my children. I essentially forced this on them. Christmas Eve is my birthday, and I can be bossy. Now every Christmas Eve, we gather all our copies and the five of us take turns reading. I believe we all enjoy it, but I never ask.

ML: Decades later, there was that Christmas when I gave my son new summer clothes. I planned a February school vacation trip to Disney World, our first. But the look on his face as he opened boxes containing summer clothes, well, his fake smile would have broken any...
mother’s heart. As he stood up surrounded by new summer clothing he tried to be grateful for, I told him why the clothes would be needed.

“My childhood, we had more than one Christmas. We had Christmas at home, Christmas at my grandparent’s house, which included aunts and cousins, and we had Christmas in Maine with my great-grandmother and other relatives. It seemed to last for weeks. It was wonderful,” wrote E.

ML: This last entry seemed to sum up not just the good times but the longing not to forget, to hold onto joyful memories, for in the end, those are the real gifts we give one another…

C wrote, “I grew up on North Street on the second floor with my family. My Aunt was on the third and my Grandparents on the first. On Christmas Eve, the family, all ten of them with spouses and children, would gather in my grandparent’s home.

“One of the first Christmases that I remember, the children were all on the floor in the two front rooms waiting for Santa. Suddenly there was a rattling noise, bells, and sounds of footsteps coming from the attic. Santa was arriving. Anticipation and excitement took my breath away!

“Down the front stairs came Santa, all in red and ‘Ho-Ho-Ho-ing.’ There was a sack filled with gifts and a moment of pure joy. This was a miracle to see. Then a voice from an older cousin said, “That’s Grandpa.” It couldn’t be; I refused to believe it wasn’t the real Santa, although his eyeglasses did look vaguely familiar.”

“Presents were passed out, and Santa climbed back up the stairs. Later, of course, the realization that Santa was Grandpa sunk in. Grandpa had dragged chains across the attic floor, rang bells, and stomped his feet like reindeer. It didn’t matter; I still love the wonder of that moment. Santa always visits my home, fills my stockings, eats my cookies, and leaves a gift unwrapped at the foot of the tree. If only Grandpa could come back and once more sing ‘Christians Awake’ at the bottom of the stairs on Christmas morning, then all would be truly perfect.”

Cartwheeling Bald Eagle in Dangerous, Glorious Descent
By George B. Emmons
The bald eagle that is our national bird has become well known to avid bird watchers for performing a spectacular aerial acrobatic called a cartwheeling, as illustrated.

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two eagles in competition for a mate or nesting site, along the coastline of Buzzards Bay, joust around each other in circles and then lock on to the other’s talons to twirl downward, plummeting out of control for thousands of feet. Many adult eagles fly so high during the mating season that they are barely visible from the ground, then make a lasting impression as they come tumbling down toward the ground.

The bald eagle’s sight is seven times as powerful as that of a human’s. Each eye is protected by a face bone over the eye socket to shield its vision from the glint of the sun from high in the clouds where the air is thin and the light is very bright.

As a high-performance predator for fish, the bald eagle comes down to the earth in spring when the anadromous herring come in from the ocean to spawn in fresh water at Halfway Pond, source of the Agawam River, to become easy prey for a gathering of eagles classified as a convocation in birdwatching terminology. Soon after the herring arrive, aggressive incidents of eagles fighting over territories and mates...
bring on a cartwheeling exhibition for all to see.

Last year a local landowner reported witnessing two males locked in deadly combat, having rolled over each other by lifting their talons in defense and then grabbing each other and beginning to plummet below the horizon out of sight. They were soon located where they landed in shock on the deck of a beach cottage, still holding on until covered with a blanket to rapidly take off on their own.

We are indeed very fortunate along our coastline, which attracts the fish-eating bald eagle, all too often stealing prey of our local ospreys. However, all of this provides an afternoon’s entertainment for Jan and me on the back porch of our Fairhaven seaside residence on Little Bay, a wonderful place to experience and share nature in my article and illustration in *The Wanderer*.

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**Selectman Asks: Why are BOH Meetings not Recorded?**

Mattapoisett Board of Selectmen

By Marilou Newell

An unrelenting theme of COVID-19 has been the necessity of strict adherence to safety precautions.

At the local level, no town board is more involved with the pandemic than the Board of Health.

Media coverage and minutes of the BOH December 2 meeting memorialize that the BOH tabled a request made in a letter dated November 16 from the Board of Selectmen asking them to consider a graduated fine structure for people not in compliance with wearing face masks in public.
Board of Health members Ken Dawicki and Russell Bailey, during the board’s December 2 meeting, agreed that fining people is not the way to handle non-compliance of Governor Baker’s updated executive orders, saying more education is needed instead. Emily Field and Amanda Stone, the two public health nurses, while understanding that being prepared with a fine structure was prudent, also thought education was the better way to handle transgressors.

Selectman Paul Silva reported that the request had been tabled by the BOH and, “Anyone who wants to know about their meetings can now attend, they are available.” He made that statement in the belief that the BOH meetings, much like other boards, aired via a remote public platform and recorded for posterity. Silva was surprised to learn that is not the case.

The town’s videographer and webmaster, Dan White, replied when asked why the meetings weren’t recorded. “They don’t like us recording their meetings.” He also said that since the meetings were being held in a room at the Council on Aging, his equipment could not record the remote meeting. White said he would, however, check with BOH Agent Kayla Davis to learn whether or not the meeting had been recorded on Zoom.

Silva remarked of the lack of taped coverage: “That’s a real shame.”

In a follow-up to the December 2 BOH meeting, Field wrote on December 8: “On behalf of the Board of Health, I commend the Board of Selectmen for their efforts to safeguard the Mattapoisett community from the pandemic. As a community, we all need to address this complex task of persuading naysayers that wearing a face-covering is in
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Town Administrator Mike Lorenco commented on Baker’s latest restrictions to roll back opening businesses and other public venues and return to Phase 3-1, saying, “These come with a lot of stipulations, but the public should be aware.” The restrictions will be implemented on Sunday, December 13.

In other related matters, the selectmen approved a 25-percent reduction in permit costs to some establishments, “inns and clubs,” and those serving only wine and malt products. Silva thanked businesses for their efforts in following the state’s COVID-19 guidelines, saying, “Maybe this will help them through these tough times.” Earlier in the meeting, the selectmen voted on all licenses and permits for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Lorenco reported that the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has recognized the Mattapoisett River Valley Water District for its top water-quality compliance scores. In a letter received by Henri Renauld, superintendent of the Mattapoisett Water Department and also a member of the MRV committee, it was noted, “Your system has achieved one of the top compliance scores in the Consecutive System category of the 2020 Public Water System Awards Program.” The MRV Water District covers the towns of Marion, Mattapoisett, Fairhaven, and Rochester.
The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Board of Selectmen is scheduled for December 22 at 6:30 pm.

**Rochester Has Disposal Deal with Marion**

*Rochester Board of Selectmen*  
*By Mick Colageo*

The Rochester Board of Selectmen agreed to sign off on the inter-municipal agreement with the Town of Marion to use its Benson Brook Transfer Station during the former’s December 7 Zoom meeting.

As Selectman Brad Morse explained, with Marion having left the disbanding Carver-Marion-Wareham Regional Refuse Disposal District, Marion invited Rochester to use its facility off of Route 6. Morse said stickers would cost Rochester residents
$70, and seniors will get them for $60. Rochester residents will be able to pick up stickers at Rochester Town Hall, most likely by January 1, 2021.

“We are also working on the possibility of using the Route 28 facility,” Morse told the board. Morse noted that, although the Route 28 facility will be run by Wareham, Rochester is still negotiating for a rate for Rochester residents preferring to use that facility.

Selectman Woody Hartley sought and got clarification on a couple of details for the residents’ sake, noting that Rochester residents will pay a little more than Marion residents to use the Benson Brook facility and also that Marion’s senior-discount classification starts at age 70 and also includes veterans.

Rochester residents will follow the same age and military classification standards as Marion has set forth to its residents, but the former can go to Rochester Town Hall starting January 1, pending the arrival of stickers.

In concert with Town Administrator Suzanne Szyndlar, the selectmen voted unanimously to schedule the next Town Meeting for Monday, May 24, 2021, with the Town Election set for Wednesday, May 26. Memorial Day is May 31.

In her Town Administrator’s Report, Szyndlar told the selectmen that the 2021 real estate tax bills are out and are due on December 31. FY22 budget requests are also out to department heads.

To date, Szyndlar said Rochester had submitted $165,000 in invoices to Plymouth County, which is administering the distribution of reimbursements for non-budgeted, COVID-related expenditures via the CARES Act. Rochester has received slightly over $33,000, according to Szyndlar.

This is only a fraction of what has been spent and will presumably be reimbursed to the town for 2020. Szyndlar said she has finished the paperwork for a $270,000 submission scheduled to go out this week, followed by approximate amounts of $150,000 and $160,000 as the town expects $740,000 to be reimbursed via the CARES Act.

The new phone/intercom system inside Town Hall has been completed, and Szyndlar told the board that the town is finalizing its switch to a new internet provider.

Green Communities has finished all of the town’s lighting projects, and there will be a final walkthrough with the company, paving the way for a look at a second year of Green Communities projects.

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The selectmen voted not to exercise the town’s Chapter 61 Right of First Refusal for Lots 8 and 8A on Map 12 and Lots 6, 12, and 13 on Map 13. Morse recused himself from that discussion and vote.

The board accepted a SEMASS $337,837 PILOT payment for October 20.

The board began with a 12-minute executive session to discuss town vendor contract negotiations and strategy to prepare for negotiations with non-union personnel. The session yielded no action in the public portion of the meeting.

Chairman Paul Ciaburri reported attending a Plymouth County Advisory Committee meeting, and Hartley reported attending a SRPEDD meeting.

Ciaburri praised Eversource for the utility company’s job during the weekend storm that threatened power outages amidst heavy rain and high winds. “I got calls every six hours; they’ve been fabulous the last two storms,” he said, adding that Eversource did “a great job” on the tree trimming.

A public hearing scheduled for 6:05 pm regarding a street name change was continued to 6:10 pm on December 21, at the board’s next meeting.

Hilario’s Efforts Taking Marion into Changing World

Marion Planning Board

By Mick Colageo

Marion Planning Board member Andrew Daniel poked fun at the blemish on Gil Hilario’s 2020 record-seeking grant funding, but he did so in the context of a huge compliment during the board’s Zoom meeting on Monday night.
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“It would have been nice to go five for five,” said Daniel, calling Hilario’s appointment to a full-time role as town planner, “an investment I was in favor of making,” and one that he said has been rewarding for the town.

Planning Board member Eileen Marum was equally gracious, thanking Hilario “for having the foresight” in grant applications that make Marion more compatible with climate change. “I think a lot of changes will be coming,” she said.

Referencing climate change on a regional basis, Planning Board member Norm Hills told the board members about a sea-level-rise study for Woods Hole that forecasts impact in the years 2030, 2050, and 2070.

Under Hilario’s guidance, the Town of Marion applied for five grants in 2020 and was awarded four, totaling $177,739. Marion was awarded $120,238 from the Green Communities Program, $27,750 for its Hazard Mitigation Plan, $14,751 for its work with the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Self-Evaluation Plan, and $15,000 for its Community Compact Human Resources Review of Policies.

Although Marion did not receive the $10,000 it sought in grant funding for a net-zero feasibility study for the new Department of Public Works facility (being designed by Planning Board Chairman Will Saltonstall), Hilario said it was still a good decision to apply.

“It shows we’ve been active,” Hilario told the Planning Board. “They encouraged us to apply next year, and they’re really confident that we will get the grant next year.” Hilario anticipates the net-zero feasibility study to take place in the spring of 2021.

The ADA Self-Evaluation Plan is underway, as the Institute of Human Center of Design has surveyed a few buildings, according to Hilario, and mostly outdoor venues such as Silvershell Beach, the bandstand, Bicentennial Park, the grounds of Sippican Elementary School, Washburn Park, and the harbormaster’s building. Hilario said a questionnaire has been circulated to all departments and that responses are being tabulated.

“I’d say they are about halfway done. They plan to survey buildings next year,” said Hilario, who will work with a subcommittee on the self-evaluation.

Asked for comment by the Zoning Board of Appeals on two matters, the Planning Board opted to make no recommendations in either case.

Attorney Robert L. Perry had brought an Approval Not
Required (ANR) application before the Planning Board several weeks ago on behalf of the Botelho and Allard Trust, owners of the lots at 61 and 63 Oakdale Avenue. They wish to divide the lot into separate properties.

Given a few different options to proceed, Perry applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

“In my opinion, it makes intuitive sense to allow them to split the ANR. They just want to draw this property line,” said Saltonstall of the Planning Board’s part.

Noting that she took a drive to the property and found it to be set back, Marum asked the board how a property division might impact the neighbors, namely, would it affect the neighbors’ property values?

Hills thinks a division will result in two more valuable lots.
Saltonstall said the result would be two non-conforming lots, but a new situation would allow the owners to sell the houses.

“The applicant will have to prove that they met the criteria for a special permit,” said Saltonstall. “Once they get over the zoning issue, there is legal precedence in the state for them to apply for an ANR. I don’t think we can stop them.” A Marion bylaw, said Saltonstall, could pose complications.

The Planning Board had intended to consult with Town Counsel Jon Witten, but Perry’s decision to apply to the ZBA rendered such an expense moot. “We may still want a town counsel interpretation when [Perry] comes back to us,” said Saltonstall. “We didn’t want to waste money with town counsel until [Perry] comes back to us.”

According to Saltonstall, the Planning Board has to sign off on an ANR. The board voted to make no recommendations to the ZBA.

In the other case, Kevin Walsh proposed a small residential deck slightly outside the setback at 12 Richardson Road.

Hills, also a selectman, who serves on the Bylaw Codification Subcommittee, reviewed Form 4B with Hilario and Administrative Assistant Terri Santos. “I tried to make this say what the bylaw says,” said Hills. “They’re our forms; we can make them the way we want them.”

Marum thanked Hills for his work, and the board voted to adopt the form as amended.

Among the final items on the December 7 agenda was a Budget Report for November 24. Daniel asked if the budget will include an increase in wages, adding that Hilario “didn’t get the fifth grant, but he’s earned his keep.”

The next meeting of the Marion Planning Board is scheduled for December 21 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

**Selha Way Subdivision Modification Continued**
Mattapoisett Planning Board
By Marilou Newell

Eric Medeiros, property owner of four lots located along the private way known as Selha Way, and Steve Gioiosa, vice president of SITEC Engineering, came before the Mattapoisett Planning Board on December 7 with what they believed was a simple request to modify a Form C subdivision.

Gioiosa explained that the request was merely to make improvements to the existing gravel roadway that serves the structures already in place and future buildings – nothing more, nothing less.

However, board members voiced concerns that further subdivisions might be proposed in the future and, therefore, more development leading to more roadway use. Such additional traffic, they believed, could find the town with yet another rutted private way. Board member Janice Robbins
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Shrimp & Scallops Nantucket ... $14
Baked Haddock ............................ $10
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All Soups & Chowder .................. $3
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www.wanderer.com December 10, 2020 The Wanderer 21
asked, “If this is a modification, shouldn’t we be receiving full plans?” She thought the submitted documents were insufficient for the request.

Gioiosa explained that the town lacks a category that more clearly aligns with the proposal of roadway improvements, and thus the filing noted a subdivision change when, in fact, that was not the case. “It’s not really a subdivision; it’s really a road improvement plan. There’ll be no changes to lot lines,” he stated. Gioiosa went on to say that the roadway had been a legal access for three existing residences.

Robbins pressed on, saying that there was the potential for further subdivision in the absence of the original site plan approval. “Without the full lot information, I don’t know what we are talking about.”

Gioiosa said the roadway had previously been approved by the Fire Department and that future subdivisions would not be economically feasible, given the wetlands in the area. Robbins held firm that, given the condition of other gravel roadways in town and the resulting problems, more information is needed. “If we amend the subdivision, we aren’t following our own requirements.”

Medeiros spoke, saying that he was simply following the guidance he had previously received from the Planning Board during informal discussions. He expressed frustration that after following what he had been told to do, the rules were changing.

In the end, it was determined that Medeiros would supply the needed missing pieces, including a letter from the Police Department concerning the roadway, and that if the amendment was approved, it would include that the private roadway will never become the responsibility of the town.

The matter was continued until December 21.

Also continued until the December 21 meeting was the site plan review for a solar array located off Randall Lane. On this night, the board moved to hire peer review consultants BETA Engineering after a review of several proposals. The board also acknowledged receiving a copy of the letter given to Randall Lane, LLC by the Mattapoisett River Valley Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee, in which the agency confirmed there would be no detrimental impact to the freshwater supply by the solar array construction.

The Planning Board also agreed to engage SITEC Engineering for peer review of the Park Lane subdivision after Gioisa, who was still in the virtual meeting room, agreed to remove language that Robbins said held the town as the client...
### Pasta Dishes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Party Size</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>48.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetable Lasagna</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baked Ziti Casserole</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicken, Broccoli &amp; Ziti</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eggplant Parmesan</td>
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<tr>
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### Party Sandwiches

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<td>Tuna Salad Sandwiches (48)</td>
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### Salads

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<tr>
<td>Pesto Pasta</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salad</td>
<td>32.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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- **Antipasto**: Serves 8-10

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**The Wanderer**  
**23**
The board members also discussed a draft for a new bylaw governing the construction of solar arrays in the community. Chairman Tom Tucker stated that it was nearing the deadline for scheduling public hearings on the matter, given that the board planned to have the new bylaw on the Spring Town Meeting Warrant. Robbins has taken the lead on writing the text for the new bylaw that the board concurred was a massive undertaking and a well-done effort on her part.

Mary Crain, Planning Board administrator, said that the first Master Plan subcommittee meeting would be held on Wednesday, December 9, at 7:00 pm. Interested parties should go to the town’s website to register for inclusion in the meeting.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Planning Board is scheduled for December 21 at 7:00 pm.

40R Development Anticipates Green Light

Rochester Planning Board
By Matthew Donato

After approving multiple vouchers relating to the peer review of plan sets for ongoing projects, the Rochester Planning Board continued the discussion on the public hearing relating to the Cranberry Highway development.

In the meeting held on December 8, Phil Cordeiro of Allen and Major explained to board members that the review process with Field Engineering has come to a close. After responding to the fourth review letter sent by Field Engineering, Cordeiro presented a plan that addresses and resolves all concerns surrounding the project.

The new plans include additional landscape screening on the external parts of the site and the addition of a complete copy of the bus plan that will run through the site. Cordeiro also notified board members of his ongoing discussions with Field Engineering to ensure that all Rochester Fire Department regulations for the site and buildings thereon have been met.

Cordeiro also presented a complete architectural plan for the site so that board members could gain a thorough understanding of how the completed site will look. In addition, the architectural plan has been altered to reduce the number of sidewalk connections on the site.

Planning Board Chairman Arnold Johnson raised some minor concerns on the plans relating to lighting fixtures on certain roads on the exterior of the site and requested an additional stop sign to promote the safety of exiting vehicles.
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With all of the outstanding concerns relating to the project resolved, Cordeiro expressed his hope for a vote to close the public hearing so that a draft decision could be submitted for the project. Before that could occur, the Planning Board had to approve several required waivers for the site, including a request to waive all vegetative screen requirements on the site’s interior.

The Planning Board voted to approve the waiver requests based on the insight provided by Field Engineering, which demonstrated its support for the project and all waiver requests in a letter to the board. With that, the board voted to approve all requested waivers and close the public hearing on the proposal. The draft decision for the project will be voted on in the next Rochester Planning Board meeting.

The Planning Board transitioned to an Approval Not Required (ANR) application for a plan of land submitted by Shawn McCombe. Bob Rogers of G.A.F. Engineering came before the board to discuss a proposal for a new building lot. “We would ask the board to endorse this as an ANR plan,” Rogers told board members.

According to Rogers, the site has more than the required frontage on all of the surrounding roads, and all of the requested information was provided in his plans. Johnson explained that Rochester bylaws require the addition of nearby well locations on the plan set. Johnson recommended that the board vote to approve the ANR on the condition that Rogers provide that additional information before the next meeting. Rogers agreed, and the Planning Board voted to grant the ANR for the project.

In the board’s final hearing, Jason Patry of Trinity Solar came before the board representing a new solar project application submitted by Paul Eaton. The proposal would see the addition of rooftop solar panels to the Rochester Golf Club. Patry explained that the new panels would adhere to the town’s black-on-black regulation to keep the panels concealed. The orientation of the panels would also effectively shield them from view from the road. Patry told board members that the roughly 200 feet of wooded area blocks the rooftop panels from view from the road.

“This is a limited site-plan review because of the simplicity of the proposed system,” Johnson explained to the board members. Overall, the Planning Board showed support for the project, but due to a lack of a written request for all required waivers, the proposal could not be approved in this meeting. Patry explained that he would work with Town Planner Steve Starrett to submit the necessary waivers so that the plan can be approved in a future meeting.

The next Rochester Planning Board meeting will be held on January 12 with in-person attendance at the Rochester Memorial School and remote access via Zoom.

**Fines for Mask Mandate Violators Discussed**

**Mattapoisett Board of Health**

By Marilou Newell

Governor Baker’s expanded executive orders have been in place since September 15, orders that mandate the wearing of masks whenever someone is out in public, including taking a walk in one’s neighborhood. The Governor’s updated mandate, viewable at mass.gov, requires that masks be worn at all times...
when people are not in their homes, regardless of the ability to maintain 6 feet of separation. Yet how to achieve compliance is an issue that is plaguing cities and towns throughout the Commonwealth, including Mattapoisett. The issue was discussed during the December 2 Mattapoisett Board of Health meeting.

The Board of Selectman had sent a letter dated November 16 to the BOH requesting the establishment of a fine structure for repeat offenders who are found to be in “blatant disregard” of the facing-covering order. The letter reads in part: “The stricter measures are in response to rising coronavirus case counts and hospitalizations statewide…. The Town’s confirmed case count as of November 15 was 91 cases, which represents a 98-percent increase when compared to the 46 confirmed cases
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reported just two months ago on September 15.”

The letter explains that exemptions to the mandate remain in place, such as for persons unable to wear a face-covering “due to a medical or disabling condition.” It also grants an exemption to people who need to communicate with a person with a hearing disability.

The BOS does not have the governing authority to impose fines. However, in matters such as these, the BOH does. Thus, the selectmen sought to “work collaboratively … as we progress through this unprecedented pandemic,” they wrote. The selectmen suggested that first offenders receive a fine of $50, graduated up to $150 for second offenses, and $300 for a third offense. The letter explains that “the board’s goal is not to burden average law-abiding citizens, but rather to penalize repeat offenders or others who have a blatant disregard for the face-covering order and consequently present a health risk to the residents and visitors within Mattapoisett.”

Public Health Nurses Amanda Stone and Emily Field believed that it was good to be prepared with a fine structure, but that educating the public was, at this time, the better course of action. “What more could we be doing?” queried Stone. She also asked, “Who would get the money” generated from fines collected and who would keep track of the offenders? Stone said, “We (the public health nurses) can’t be involved in any of these administrative tasks.” Kayla Davis, Board of Health agent, said that the Police Department would be responsible for enforcement, but that her office should be contacted if residents had concerns of non-compliance to report.

BOH member Ken Dawicki said he disagreed with establishing fines at this point, saying, “This comes close to a police state.... We can re-educate people.”

Agreeing with Dawicki was board member Russell Bailey, who angrily responded, “We should not be grabbing people off the street making a mountain out of a molehill. Let’s be positive.” Bailey also questioned the science behind masking at all times.

In a follow-up Bailey said, “I’m 110 percent for wearing masks, but I’d rather have a conversation with someone than fine them.” He said that guidelines are changing quickly and that residents need to be informed.

Town Administrator Mike Lorenco, speaking on behalf of the selectmen, said that the fining process could be handled similarly to actions taken against non-compliant businesses. “We
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wanted to spark a discussion with the Board of Health to make everyone accountable,” he explained.

The mass.gov website states: “Even if you are outside in a private setting, wear a mask if you might be closer than 6 feet, and always wear a mask in public settings regardless of distance from others (it’s required).” Also: “Wear a mask anytime you are indoors and around other people. Masks are required to be worn in all spaces open to the public, indoors or outdoors.” Field confirmed that her own children are wearing masks when playing outside in their own yard.

In the end, the BOH voted to table the matter until its January 2021 meeting.

In other COVID-19-related matters, Field and Stone discussed the fast pace of spread, with Field noting the amount
Field said that most transmissions are being identified as generating from family members and small group gatherings. When asked how groups of juveniles not wearing masks would be handled, Nicolosi said it is difficult to find out where these children live and that parents need to be part of the solution. He also said that anyone with concerns should contact the BOH office.

On the matter of what constitutes a “close contact,” Field said, even with a mask on, if one is indoors for more than 15 minutes and less than 6 feet apart, the transmission is possible. She said the more informed people, the better, and that “slowing the spread” is the goal. Complete guidance is available at CDC.gov.

Rounding out the COVID-19 discussion was when and how vaccine distribution would take place in Mattapoisett. Many uncertainties remain according to the nurses regarding when the general population would have access to a vaccine and issues with the specialized refrigeration it will require. But they said systems would be in place once the two-dose inoculations begin. The team also stated that the most vulnerable people with health problems or age-related status and essential healthcare workers would be the first to receive the vaccine.

In other BOH business matters, Davis reported that she had inspected a local motel and found “multiple violations.” She noted smoking in rooms, pets, and lack of trash removal as primary issues. Davis said that the property owner felt at a loss to bring renters into compliance with rules and asked for assistance in doing so. Davis said that she requested the owner draft a document for the residents and that the BOH would assist in addressing problems.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Board of Health is scheduled for January 13.

MRV Anticipates Q&A with Koch Reps on Water-Treatment Plant

MRV Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee/District Commission

By Mick Colageo

Given the last couple of years’ turnover in the memberships of the Mattapoisett River Valley Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee and District Commission, the commission thought it best to ask Koch representatives to reboot its presentation on the water treatment plant project when they visit the committee/commission on Tuesday, January 12.

Addressing the commission at its December 8 meeting, Tata & Howard Associate Jon Gregory spoke about Koch Membrane Systems’ Puron technology.

“It’s a new technology in Massachusetts, but a similar installation where they replaced two old Targus stages in a
facility in Texas in 2018,” said Gregory, noting that things at the Texas facility are going well as it works in a series with two Puron stages.

With more questions on the new Puron system, Gregory wants to send questions to Koch by January 7 at the latest.

“They’re available and in favor of providing any additional information that we would like,” said Gregory, who will try to set up what will amount to a subcommittee call with Koch before Christmas.

Paul Howard, co-founder and senior vice president at Tata & Howard, told the commission that there are no reserve pumps with the Puron system, calling it a “totally different technology,” offering annual savings in the $70,000 to $80,000 range.

The commission is still discussing materials with an eye on tweaking some of the costs and, at the same time, trying to be sure that pipes are durable as well. Howard said stainless steel is no longer the industry standard but a requested upgrade.

Member Paul Silva asked Gregory if he has asked Koch if another community is at the same stage that Koch is with the MRV District. “I’m very hesitant to get involved with something we don’t have enough background on. I’d just like to have a lot more comfort than I do right now,” said Silva.

Gregory said he had not had that specific discussion.

Howard said Koch, based in Wilmington, has applied a membrane technology from treating juices. “I believe this technology is superior to what we have now. I don’t think you should be that concerned,” he said, noting that Littleton is home to the first membrane-ozone plant in the country.

Megan Davis of Marion gave the commission’s Treasurer’s Report with $77,212.86 in invoice totals. That included total chemicals at $7,257.74. Eversource, she explained, had its last billing period in September that the commission paid in full, so the current period covers October and November with two bills totaling $51,592.54. The commission only paid $30,311.04 of that.

“We’re not behind by any means; we’re up to what we’ve used,” said Davis.

Other figures reported included a $17,945.39 ECA credit, $7,657 in maintenance and repairs to Station No. 6 and Koch tech services, and $10,494.70 for Tata & Howard’s combination of FY21 operations and RO8 project.

The commission voted to accept the Treasurer’s Report and pay the invoices; the commission also voted to accept the FY22 Budget.
The committee’s Treasurer’s Report included an ending balance on December 1 at $190,990.32. Deposits totaled $19,279.37, including Mattapoisett’s assessment of $19,267.50. Invoices totaled $4,380.05, the lion’s share an invoice from the Tata & Howard engineering firm.

Water-level monitoring in the Mattapoisett River has proven to be costly. Alluding to questions Silva had asked on the matter of the monthly $5,000 expense for the collection of data, member Laurell Farinon noted in the committee portion of Tuesday’s meeting that the MRV Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee is all about collecting data on the Mattapoisett River, whereas the MRV Water District’s Commission’s concerns are the water treatment plant and the water-quality side. Meantime on the reporting side, Tata & Howard is working to reduce all of the data.

“It’s really most necessary for the district,” said Farinon, defending the $5,000 figure for data collection and presentation. “I think that the monthly monitoring and the graphing is something this committee would do anyway, but it really comes down to the annual reporting, not just for this committee but for the district. If it’s five or six grand ... I’m just defending what the annual charge is.”

“We could argue that it is being split evenly, they’re paying ($5,000), and we’re paying ($10,000),” said Chairman Vinnie Furtado, in this instance speaking on behalf of the committee as opposed to the commission that he also chairs.

Farinon said it is something the committee wants to continue with, especially the monthly monitoring.

The next meeting of the MRV Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee and MRV Water District Commission is scheduled for January 12.

Families Accept Hybrid, Aim at Full Return

Marion School Committee
By Mick Colageo

In his Reopening Update to the Marion School Committee’s December 2 Zoom meeting, Old Rochester Regional Superintendent of Schools Mike Nelson said, “I cannot believe we’re in the first week of December already.”

Nelson reported that, as of the December 2 meeting, Sippican Elementary School had 326 students in the hybrid learning model and 65 in full remote, with 21 others who are home-schooled.

Nelson was happy to report that the ORR School District has yet to see the transmission of the coronavirus from someone inside the school to another. All 29 confirmed cases among six district schools are isolated and coming from the outside, he said.

The case breakdown is as follows: Sippican School has had eight cases, one of which was in isolation and three others in quarantine at the time of the meeting. Some are awaiting test results.

Preliminary findings of a November 20 survey from feedback received in 228 responses from Sippican School parents indicate that most families agree or strongly agree that communication from the ORR district has been adequate.

The questions were answered on a five-point scale. In the case of the hybrid learning model (i.e., is it helpful?), the majority of respondents categorized the model as “somewhat helpful” or “helpful,” with lesser numbers categorizing it as “adequate,” “not helpful,” or “very helpful.”

Hybrid-In was considered by far to be the “most favorable” learning time. Student workload on Hybrid-Out days was deemed adequate by 68 percent of respondents, while 21 percent said hybrid-out days require too little of the students.

Most agree that their children are enjoying the hybrid model and that it contains an appropriate amount of instruction, but there was a significant amount of disagreement on the amount of instruction.

Asked if they favor maintaining the school calendar, including February vacation, 54 percent of respondents said they favor maintaining the current school calendar. The alternative is to cancel the February vacation and subtract those days off at the
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GOTTA HAVE IT! GOTTA HAVE IT! GOTTA HAVE IT!
Members April Rios, Jody Dickerson, Nichole Daniel, and
The Marion School Committee, including Smith and
(reference transference of the coronavirus).”
“Hopefully, the trend continues at school where there is
commitment to continuing to look at options.
referred his end-October “Back to School Addendum” and its
talking about what can we do to improve our model.” Nelson
he said. “But we don’t want to be complacent; we’re constantly
From the start in August, we knew the plan would be fluid,”
state and that safety remains the number one priority.
Nelson said the district continues to rely on updates
to do so?”
Nelson said the district continues to rely on updates
from the state and that safety remains the number one priority.
“From the start in August, we knew the plan would be fluid,”
he said. “But we don’t want to be complacent; we’re constantly
talking about what can we do to improve our model.” Nelson
referenced his end-October “Back to School Addendum” and its
committment to continuing to look at options.
“It would be great to have everybody in (school),” said
Smith. “Hopefully, the trend continues at school where there is
(no transference of the coronavirus).”
The Marion School Committee, including Smith and
members April Rios, Jody Dickerson, Nichole Daniel, and
Mary Beauregard, voted to approve a Tech Replacement Fee
as presented by Assistant Superintendent of Finance and
Operations Howie Barber.
While the district has received supplemental funding via
the CARES Act, the investment in additional Chromebooks and
iPads was met with a delay in receiving that has since ended
in the delivery of that equipment. Now the emphasis is on how to
maintain the equipment.
“The problem is sustaining them,” said Barber.
Inside policy, Barber indicated, ORR can charge for certain
costs. “There is a matter of trying to ensure we have fees beyond
the normal operating budget,” he said, referencing the minimal
cost of Chromebooks, screens, cords, iPads, adapters, and repair
work. “We can’t forecast what’s going to break. There are some
fees relating to these costs.” Barber hopes that fees will motivate
students and families to “be a little bit more accountable.”
He recommended a rates and fees schedule.
Smith asked if an insurance plan would be cheaper.
Barber said ORR could tackle the problem one of three
ways: do nothing and rely on general funds; charge an annual
fee such as $40, $60, or $80, thereby sustaining a hypothetical
revolving fee that can act as insurance and cover costs; or
as items need fixing, charge a replacement cost. Not all Old
Rochester Regional High School students have the same
Chromebook, and Barber felt that it was more reasonable to
look at a replacement plan that falls in line with what it already
referenced in the Student Handbook.
Smith discussed her concern about families that cannot
afford the costs should something happens to their student’s
Chromebook, be it a single mother, for example. “If it broke,”
said Smith hypothetically, “where am I going to get that money?
Screens break and computers break. My A doesn’t work on my
computer, and I don’t know why.”
Committee member April Rios said that, as families and
parents, Marion residents were thrust into the present situation.
“I agree with Michelle that we’re putting a lot back on families
and expecting a lot of families at this time. I wish there was
another way we could do it.”
Smith said she did not want her child to take a
Chromebook “because I didn’t want him to be responsible for
it.”
“I get both sides of it,” said Rios. “What do we do when a
family looks at us and says, ‘I can’t pay that?’”
Committee member Mary Beauregard suggested a
contingency plan. Nelson said that Barber had referenced
working with families from a hardship standpoint.
“The one hard part about this,” said Barber, “is that if we
did have that minimum fee every year, some of those fees, even
though it is a warranty, we’re already collecting more from
everybody. So far from the amount of damages, we haven’t
had to replace a whole Chromebook. We can reduce the $40
minimum fee from 2,600 students. That’s why we’re trying to go
this method. I understand everyone’s perspectives.”
The Tech Replacement Fee proposal circulated last week
to all three towns’ school committees and became effective with
those school committee’s approvals.
Daniel asked if children will be going home with cases and
screen protectors or if parents need to buy them. Barber said

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the iPads have cases and shields that cover the entire device, “a little bit more (protection) than we would have had on the Chromebook.”

Nelson reported to the local committee that the ORR Joint School Committee had voted to authorize him to use his discretion to shift snow dates to remote-learning days. Nelson qualified that news with the caveat of significant power outages that would make such a day off altogether.

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Dr. Janell Pearson-Campbell reported on a district-wide professional development event held November 3 during which faculty were reminded to engage the student, what lies under the tip of their “iceberg” and to look beyond the surface and toward the future.

In her update, Sippican Elementary School Principal Marla Sirois reported on a fun Halloween with teachers and Hybrid-In students dressed for the occasion and 1970s-style class pictures.

Sirois reported on a 2021 plan to better connect parents, staff, and students, a Marion School Committee donation that brought an interactive system to kindergarten children, a local clothing drive, the teachers’ completion of a “pivot to remote” plan, and a Crayon Project that Tri-Town Against Racism organized with a local company providing free crayons. Led by Tangi Thomas and Jess Barrett, Tri-Town Against Racism also donated books to Sippican Library. The School Council, said Sirois, is focused on social-emotional learning, global citizenship, and 21st-century learning.

“We’re definitely in a groove,” Sirois said. “The children have sort of embraced where we are.” Sirois explained how the children have learned to play no-touch tag by chasing and catching each other’s shadows. Noting Sippican is a quieter building under the hybrid learning plan, Sirois reminded parents to dress their children for cold weather because we will be going outside if possible. We’re trying to get the kids out.”

Director of Student Services Craig Davidson reported on individual service plans tailored for the hybrid learning model, crediting Pearson-Campbell and Sirois with building the plans.

Barber reported a slight increase in meals being served from the first month into the second month.

Smith credited Jill Henesey, ORR’s Food Service director. “Jill and her staff, they are still doing an incredible job,” said Smith, noting the adjusted times from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm. “They’re out there in the rain and waiting, happy to greet every family and guardian that comes through. And they’re doing it on their own time. I can’t thank them enough for what they’re doing.”

Smith reminded the community that ages 0-21, with no questions asked, are welcome to fill out a form and pick up food.

The ORR Policy Subcommittee is scheduled to meet on December 14.

ORR’s Anti-Racism Subcommittee met on December 2, and grant funding is being sought for professional-development training sessions focused on hate and social-emotional education. The subcommittees are considering a split into two groups to better mobilize and get more done. A potential name change was also discussed, as some, according to Nelson, think Anti-Racism strikes a sour chord.

The next meeting of the Marion School Committee is scheduled for January 13, and the next meeting of the ORR Joint
Hartley Pushes to Accelerate Full Return for Youngest Learners
Rochester School Committee
By Mick Colageo

Old Rochester Regional Superintendent of Schools Mike Nelson and Craig Davidson, the district’s director of Student Services, reported to the Rochester School Committee during its December 3 Zoom meeting on preliminary findings of a survey of questions to parents and guardians geared toward helping Central Office take what Nelson called “an important first step in moving forward with the (learning) model.”

Nelson said with COVID, “every day is a new day,” and considered the survey responses a good first step.

Upon all the information shared and at the end of a question-and-comment session, Chairperson Sharon Hartley stated her anticipation of a planned or unplanned meeting of a subcommittee as necessary to take the next step in mobilizing toward getting the town’s youngest learners back in the classroom on a full-time basis.

“I know you have to be cautious about the continuing COVID-19 (pandemic), and I appreciate that very much, but I also know that our children, in order to become the learners that we want them to be and the readers that we want them to be, will benefit from our teachers face to face. And we want them back in school as fast as we can,” said Hartley, asking Nelson what the school committee can do as a next step.

Nelson acknowledged the survey result in which 78 percent of respondents confirmed their ability to transport their children to school on what are now Hybrid-Out days. Still, he said, “The guidance is the guidance,” and stopped short of considering a full return imminent.

“We’re going to put down a plan that we can articulate to the School Committee and, if we have it done prior to when our next meeting is scheduled, as I mentioned, I will not hesitate to reach out to ... call a meeting and move it up because we agree with you that the sooner we can create more opportunities, that’s our plan,” said Nelson, stressing that this scenario was always in the works since August and aligns with the guidance from the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

Several questions were asked with graphs and charts illustrating percentage and hard-number breakdowns among Rochester’s 292 survey respondents (there are 1,200 district-wide). Parent/guardians were generally agreeable to the level of communication coming from the Central Office regarding the reopening plan.

On a five-point grading system, Synchronous and Live (Hybrid-Out) sessions were considered by 76 parents/guardians as “adequate” with “helpful,” “very helpful,” and “somewhat helpful,” divvying up most of the rest of the responses. “Not helpful” drew 22 responses.

“My child enjoys Hybrid-In days” drew a 198-voice confirmation. The Hybrid-Out workload was confirmed with the agreement of 75 percent of responses, the other 62 nearly evenly (32-30) divided between “too much” and “too little.”

With a small percentage of dissent, most parents/guardians confirmed that their children have “enough connection throughout the day” with teachers.

Only two out of 34 respondents said they disagree with the survey statement that their children are enjoying the remote learning model, and 28 of 34 considered their child’s remote-learning day workload to be adequate. Furthermore, parents/guardians confirmed in the vast majority that they agree that child has an appropriate amount of instruction and an appropriate amount of interaction with their teachers.

Based on the current metrics of COVID-19, 53.2 percent of Rochester Memorial School parents/guardians responded negatively to skipping February vacation week in favor of four remote-learning days. A change in the current school calendar would subtract those days at the end of the school year.

Almost 63 percent of Rochester Memorial School students confirmed their ability to transport their children to school on what are now Hybrid-Out days. Still, he said, “The guidance is the guidance,” and stopped short of considering a full return imminent.

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Almost 63 percent of Rochester Memorial School
parents/guardians are in favor of increased in-person learning opportunities, provided the school building maintain at least 3 feet of social distance. The district is currently using a 6-foot minimum. Although the most positive response was also returned to the question of increased in-person opportunities, albeit without the same homeroom/classroom teacher, that number was 48 percent, while 33.6 percent were against it and 18.4 percent were undecided.

Rochester responded favorably to the transportation question, with 78.1 percent of respondents confirming the ability to transport their children to school on what are now Hybrid-Out days for the sake of more in-person learning opportunities. Nelson said ORR schools could safely fit 24 to 25 students on each of its 77-passenger buses, but state updates are anticipated.

As of December 3, Rochester Memorial School had 442 students enrolled in the hybrid learning model, 60 on full remote, and 26 others who are being home-schooled.

ORR has had 29 COVID-19 situations relating to its school buildings, but Rochester Memorial has not had a confirmed case in its building since the September 16 opening. There are four people in quarantine and some others awaiting tests after displaying COVID-like symptoms.

Nelson reported that there had been no in-school transmission in the district and noted his weekly COVID-19 dashboard is continuously updated. Despite rising rates, finding substitute teachers remains difficult, said Nelson.

Rochester Memorial School Principal Derek Medeiros credited custodial workers and other staff with getting Rochester Memorial School off to a strong start. He said parents have been cooperative in dropoff and pickup, making things run smoothly in and out of school.

In other business, the Rochester School Committee voted to approve a Tech Replacement Fee as presented by Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Howie Barber. A distribution of iPads will be accompanied by a return of a signed waiver.

Barber and Facilities Director Gene Jones were at the meeting, also to discuss the revival of a solar project for Rochester Memorial School. The concept has shifted from a roof solar array to a carport solar array. The committee was asked for and agreed to submit a letter of intent authorizing Barber to seek the interconnection from Eversource.

There would be no monetary obligation on the part of the town or the school. “It’s a win-win all around,” said Jones, pointing out that the carport would be lighted and include charging stations for vehicles, aligning the project with the Green Communities initiative while at the same time lessening snow removal. Barber estimated that, while year-one savings would approximate $2,300, the project could reach up to $400,000 in savings.

The next meeting of the Rochester School Committee is scheduled for January 7.

Mattapoisett to Reopen Full-Time to Grades K-2
Mattapoisett School Committee
By Mick Colageo
The Mattapoisett School Committee voted on Monday night to approve a full, in-person return of school children in

25% OFF TOYS!
December 12 - 19

HOLIDAY HOURS
Sunday Dec. 13 & 20
11:00-4:00
Monday, Dec. 21 -
Wednesday Dec. 23
10:00-5:00
Christmas Eve Dec. 24
10-3:00
CLOSED
Christmas Day & Dec. 26

EURO
at Phoenix Hall
24 Center Street, Corner of Main Street, Fairhaven
508-992-1714 • Check us out on Facebook
Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

December 10, 2020
The Wanderer
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Grades K-2 effective at a date to be determined in January, 2021. The proposal and approval came late in a lengthy meeting of the committee that included heated public comments by frustrated parents.

“The concern about literacy started for our children who were in kindergarten and first grade in the spring, and they are presently our Grade 1 and Grade 2 students,” said Mattapoisett Schools Principal Rose Bowman, who together with Assistant Principal Kevin Tavares introduced a plan that identifies three large rooms in two Mattapoisett elementary schools.

Grade 1, as Bowman explained, can return to full, in-person learning while maintaining 6 feet of social distancing by using Center School’s Music Room, Library and Art Room. Grade 2 can do the same by using the large spaces in Old Hammondtown’s Instrumental Music Room, General Music Room and Library. A Powerpoint presentation detailed plans for each grade under the categories Facilities Impact, Staffing Impact, Associated Costs, and Impacts on school community.

In order to do this ... all of these decisions that have been brought forward maintaining the staff we presently have working. The costs that I have brought that would be additional are mainly tech,” said Bowman, the exception being a paraprofessional that would need to be brought aboard to support the schools.

A full-remote option will remain in place for parents of K-2 students, but Bowman said the hybrid model will no longer remain an option for those grades.

Old Rochester Regional Superintendent of Schools Mike Nelson reasserted that the 6 foot social distance is a part of that equation. Nelson said the close-contact definition will continue to influence district plans vis-a-vis the learning model. “This will be a big task for our facilities,” he said. “We’ll also need time to look at the food-service needs.”

Students in quarantine situations are also affected so preparation in all areas of school support systems makes waiting until mid-January necessary, said Nelson.

OBITUARIES

A beautiful and talented young lady passed away in sleep at the Alden Court Nursing Home in Fairhaven, Nov. 4th, 2020.

Elizabeth St. Pierre was born in Danvers, MA, July 4, 1927. She had lived with her husband, Robert St. Pierre for the last 71 years. They moved to the South Coast in 1951 and lived in Mattapoisett since 1984. Both were teachers, Liz in Marblehead, MA and in St James Elementary School in New Bedford. Robert in Salem, Fairhaven, and Westport.

Survivors are 3 children, Robert Jr. and his spouse Susan in E. Bridgewater, James and his spouse, Kim in Mattapoisett, and Sally Goldrick in New Bedford. Also grandchildren, Christopher and spouse, Jaime and spouse, Sarah and spouse, Susan and spouse. Also great grandchildren, Max, Forest, Eva, Isabel, Mia, Jake and Sean. Also 5 more in Florida and one great great granddaughter due in March 2021.

Liz enjoyed gardening, sewing, and all kinds of art. She was an accomplished sewer, making all kinds of clothing. She earned accolades for seeing costumes for stage shows at St. James Parish in New Bedford. She also worked on stage sets and scenery.

But, most enjoyable for Liz and Bob was BASEBALL. Both rabid fans, they traveled to many ballparks of all levels of the game, from Little League, High School, College and all levels of professional baseball. They were closely involved with the Cape Cod League and travelled to see the Wareham Gatemen winning many championships and having many players making it to the big leagues earning many awards and Hall of Fame awards.

Liz will be missed by many but is now in a much better place to enjoy the game with a nice cold Pabst Blue Ribbon by her side.


Born in Acushnet, a daughter of Donald Boucher of Acushnet and the late Marlene (St. Amand) Boucher she was a lifelong area resident and a communicant of St. Francis Xavier Parish.

Donna graduated from the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical High School and Stonehill College. She worked as a manager of Quality Assurance for Shields MRI where she was employed for 30 years. Donna was a devoted daughter, mother, grandma and best friend. She was the heart and soul of her family. Her love of the family farm in Rochester touched the hearts of countless people by sharing her love and experiences with her little “fur babies”. In addition to her father, she is survived by three sons, Ryan Motta of Rochester, Christopher Motta of Acushnet, Casey Motta and his wife Holly of Marion; her sister, Sheila Boucher of FL; her brother, Gary Boucher and his wife Lori of Prospect, CT; her beloved grandchildren, Miah, Lana, Lilly, and Beau; nieces and nephews, Matt, Sean, Erin, Gary, Jr., Nick, and Kelly.

Her memorial visitation was held on Saturday in the Rock Funeral Home, 1285 Ashley Blvd., New Bedford. All other services were private. For online tribute/directions www.rock-funeralhome.com.

If you have a notice you would like to have included in the Obituaries section, please contact our office at: 508 758-9055, or by email at office@wanderer.com.
Member Shannon Finning told the meeting that she has received offers from parents to volunteer their services to offset budgetary impacts.

Early in the meeting, public comment began with a push in the direction that the meeting would ultimately go, albeit without the vitriol that entered in as the comments piled up.

Juliet Xifares, a nurse not working very much because she is spending her time as a hybrid-out teacher to her twin first-grade sons, began the discussion on reopening during the early stages of open comment.

“I would like to support the push to get our earliest learners back into school five days a week,” she said, adding that all four members of her family have tested positive for COVID-19 and that her seven-year-old Thomas had made two emergency-room visits and a trip to Boston Children’s Hospital.

“I still feel really strongly that our children should be in school five days a week. I don’t regret choosing the hybrid model (two in-days per week). I know that school really is one of the safest places for children. I know that my child did not get COVID-19 at school,” said Xifares. “I feel that it’s important because, as somebody who experienced this on a more significant level, I still feel strongly that our children deserve to be in school five days a week and that the benefits outweigh the risks in my opinion.”

Xifares believes that parents should decide which level of risk they want to take.

Alison Costa spoke, alluding to a request she emailed to the committee and to Nelson that the committee meet twice per week in an effort to accelerate an full in-person plan for the youngest school children. Costa cited Acushnet, Fairhaven and Westport as towns that have brought back their youngest learners. A local nurse practitioner said she recently received 55 calls from parents who had been referred to her practice because their children were suicidal, depressed and anxious.

Other parents offered harsher criticisms, one accusing the committee of representing the teacher’s union rather than the community. Chairman Jim Muse asked both Kearny Klein and Michael Kwoka to avoid personal attacks.

Sara Jacobson, a teacher at Old Hammondtown School, told the meeting attendees for clarification that Acushnet residents had just received a letter saying the town would return to full remote learning due to COVID-19. “We don’t have a community around us that has a perfect answer,” she said.

Stephanie Clarke said it’s very difficult to pose meaningful questions and said it’s been a month since Governor Baker changed regulations. “I’d like to think that we’ll come away from this meeting with an actionable plan,” she said.

Bowman commended all the children, their families and school staffs for their dedication and effort. “The collaboration amongst the teachers to provide grade-level opportunities has been strong,” she said.

Muse said the Mattapoisett School Committee received a complaint that was made by Stephanie Clark to the state’s attorney general about a violation of Open Meeting Law. “We will be responding within 14 days in writing as is mandated by the law,” said Muse, who said he shared the complaint with the committee as soon as he received notice. Member Shannon Finning asked when the 14 days expire. Muse said the 14th business day will have been marked on Tuesday, December 8.

Clarke said the response was due on Monday, December 7. She continued to assert that Muse was sharing “bad information” and was muted because she had not been recognized in concert with the rules of public comment at the meeting.

Bowman said all Mattapoisett school students will break beginning December 24 and return on January 4, 2021. Bowman further indicated that a virtual open house is likely for the third week of January.

In other business, the Mattapoisett School Committee voted to approve a Tech Replacement fee schedule as proposed by Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Howie Barber.

The committee also appoint Wareham Pediatrics as
Mattapoisett’s official school physician for the 2020-21 school year. Dr. Reynolds and Dr. Mendes, co-owners of Wareham Pediatrics, attended the meeting via Zoom. Both are Marion residents.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett School Committee was not scheduled at the time of the meeting.

Letters to the Editor

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

To the Editor;

As a longtime resident of Mattapoisett, I am extremely disappointed to read that members of our Board of Health feel that enforcing graduated fines for repeated failure to wear masks that are intended to keep us all safe will “hurt our community” and create a “police state.”

Rather than damaging our community, these mandates should act as a binding force enabling us all to protect one another from possible exposure to infection.

And “police state”? Should we abolish seatbelts, smoking in public, and speed limits, too?

All are attempts to protect us and encourage safety—
Sunday’s Fill-A-Cruiser toy drive at Sippican Elementary School was a success! Volunteers representing the Marion Police Department, Police Brotherhood, and Sippican School (VASE) welcomed a parade of vehicles of families dropping off a variety of Christmas gifts for cookies and cupcakes. Marion Police Chief John Garcia donned the Santa suit and took pictures with kids in school resource officer Matt McGraw’s 1924 Ford Model-T. Photos by Mick Colageo
things I should hope our Board of Health members would embrace.
Sharon Schneider, Mattapoisett

To the Editor;
As I write this during the holiday season, I have so much to be thankful for.

The last few months have had their peaks and valleys, but October 3 will long live in the hearts of the Hathaway family. That is the day I finally completed my 32-year, 24,901-mile “hike around the world.”

The Mattapoisett Land Trust organized a fundraising celebration of that final mile. I thank all of those members who made it a day to remember.

I thank the more than 100 donors, some of them anonymous, who contributed $9,254 to the Trust to help protect land in the Old Aucoot District, where I walked most of those miles.

Thank you to the selectmen for their framed citation of appreciation, those who walked with me or greeted me along the way, the sign makers—many of them children, those who sent cards or made telephone calls, the local, regional, national, and worldwide press (including TV in the United Kingdom, Spain, Australia, and India), the First Citizens Federal Credit Union for its support, and the bagpiper who joined the line of march at Harbor Beach.

Thank you all. My family and I will be forever grateful.
Brad Hathaway and family

Marion Police Chief to Retire
Following over three decades of service, Chief John B. Garcia officially retires in January 2021.

“It has been an honor to serve this community alongside the men and women of the Marion Police Department,” Chief Garcia said. “We have endured many weather-related events, a pandemic, and more, and it has been through their continuous cooperation and support that we have been able to get through all that we have to this point. I hope that they will continue to believe in the goodness of the profession we have all chosen and take pride in what they do each day within the community.”

Chief Garcia holds an associate’s degree from Bristol Community College and a bachelor’s degree from Bridgewater State College (University). He began his career at the Chatham
Hollow Man

By Rob Gonsalves
www.robsmovievault.com


David Fincher’s Mank is a real Christmas-tree ball — shiny as hell and just as empty. The most human thing about it is that it derives from a screenplay by Fincher’s late father Jack, although the son may have inadvertently shown up the father by mounting on a large scale a story that has been written to fit in a shot glass. And like a shot, the script is clear, bitter and numbing. It’s talky and weaves politics into its portrait of ’30s-’40s Hollywood; it’s acrid and unsentimental, and could have made a fine comedy. But it doesn’t warrant the treatment it gets from Fincher, who, it seems, knows only one way to deal with a given story: throw tons of technique and grim-faced style at it. Sometimes it has worked, but in a story about a stumble-drunk screenwriter?

Gary Oldman has rumpled humor to spare as Herman “Mank” Mankiewicz, best remembered for co-writing (or writing solo, some say) Orson Welles’ directorial debut Citizen Kane. Oldman waddles into a scene, drawls some drunken bitter nonsense, and takes his swaying leave, sometimes not by choice. It’s a plum part, and Oldman relaxes into it, never asked to express much besides affable cynicism. He gives an entertaining, person-scaled performance in an enormous vacuum. Fincher frames this as a deathless Hollywood tragedy; the gleaming black-and-white compositions by Erik Messerschmidt create nothing so much as a coffee-table book of images of actors immaculately framed and lighted.

And for what? Even a scene between Mank and a suicidal friend who has Parkinson’s is curiously cold, as if directed by an android who had to extrapolate the emotional tone the scene was supposed to have. (The scene is contrived and false anyway, loosely based on a man who actually outlived Mank by over a decade.) At least Mank doesn’t look like a sickly green latrine, like Fincher’s last feature Gone Girl six years ago, but both films left me in a terrible mood. Fincher has in the past directed films I’ve enjoyed (Se7en, Zodiac), but I don’t trust him or his motives, and I wouldn’t trust him around anyone I care about. His work has become shifty and sleazy, and he tries to win us over not by appealing to our common humanity but by frigid razzle-dazzle. I had hoped that Mank was far enough outside his shadowy-thriller wheelhouse that it might surprise me, but as it is, Fincher does film-monk stuff like the cigarette burns that used to appear in the corner of the theater screen to signal a reel change, or sound design that even in exterior scenes makes everyone seem recorded on a soundstage.

The movie’s jumpy time scheme, of course, is a tip of the hat to the famously nonlinear Citizen Kane, which has a small amount of cool calculation in it, but also tremendous passion. This supposed hatchet job on William Randolph Hearst actually spends almost every second trying to understand him and humanize him. Charles Foster Kane’s great man of mystery is peeled layer by layer. But Mank is a different sort of movie, one that shows you a man and says that’s all there is to him. Mank drinks and occasionally writes (and engages in the writer cliché of lying amidst a clutter of crumpled script pages), and gets into mildly witty badinage with whoever he finds standing next to him, and that’s all. He has no shadows, no depths. Everyone else can read him better than he can read them.

Fincher’s deepest sin against the gods of cinema here: he actually shows us the girl with the white parasol. Yes, there’s a bit when Mank has his assistant (Lily Collins) read aloud Mr. Bernstein’s story, one of the great achievements in writing for the screen, in no small part because, like William Carlos Williams’ “The Red Wheelbarrow,” it invites you — no, compels you — to see it in your mind’s eye. Welles knew that no actual girl in a white dress with a white parasol that he could film would carry half as much imagistic weight as your own personal vision of that girl, that symbol of the things of this world that snag our attention and stay in our memory forever. And along comes David Fincher to kill the butterfly and pin it to a board, giving us a banal pretty image of that girl. Who asked him?
Police Department in 1984. He left Chatham Police in 1986 and started as a police officer with the Marion Police Department shortly after.

He was promoted to the rank of sergeant in 2000 and was appointed as the first lieutenant in the history of the department in 2004. He took over as the department’s chief on January 1, 2018.

Chief Garcia was a certified diver. After one of the highway murder victims was found along Route 195 in Marion in the late 1980s, he completed an evidence dive in a drainage ditch. His picture from that search has been included in two books, Shallow Graves by Maureen Boyle and Killing Season by Carlton Smith.

He was also part of the formation of the Southeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (SEMLEC) Search and Rescue Team and served as the unit commander for 12 years.

“The search and rescue team provided me with some of the most meaningful and satisfying moments of my career,” Chief Garcia said. “The overwhelming sense of accomplishment and satisfaction can’t be described after finding someone who was lost in the woods and would not have survived if they hadn’t been found by the team. There were also several cases where firearms were recovered due to the efforts of the search team. The recovery of items like this is important to provide evidence as well as to ensure they don’t end up in the wrong hands.”

As part of the team, he also had the opportunity to attend and present at the National Association of Search and Rescue (NASAR) Conference, which is held in various locations across the country.

Chief Garcia served as the initial Accreditation Manager for the department and was responsible for attaining the initial Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission (MPAC) State Certification for the department in June 2014 and its full State Accreditation in June 2015. The department was successfully reaccredited in 2018 and completed the assessment process for its 2021 reaccreditation this week.

As chief, he also serves on the Plymouth County Outreach Advisory Board.

“I am proud to have been part of such a worthwhile organization made up of so many caring and dedicated individuals who work tirelessly to assist those in our communities with substance use disorders, along with their families. The work of this group has become ever so important in the unique times we have faced in 2020,” Chief Garcia said.
**Tri-town Police Logs**

**Marion**

Log highlights Nov 29-Dec 5
- County Rd – Larceny/past
- Vine St – EMS/medical
- Brigg’s Ter – 911 abandoned
- Wareham Rd – Found property
- Mill St – Suspicious person
- Blackmore Pond – Assist other dept
- Spring St – Suspicious activity
- Village Dr – EMS/medical
- Mill St – Officer wanted
- Quail’s Crossing Rd - Fraud
- Delano Rd – Disorderly person
- Wareham Rd – MV collision
- Converse Rd – EMS/medical
- Wareham Rd – Suspicious activity
- Dexter Rd – Identity theft
- Rt 195 East – MV fire
- Point Rd – Paper service
- Village Dr – Health/welfare
- Wareham Rd – MV collision
- Crapo St – EMS/medical
- Village Dr – Animal complaint
- Wareham Rd – MV collision
- Village Dr – Noise complaint
- Cové’s End Rd – Officer wanted
- Wareham Rd – MV collision
- Village Dr - Fraud
- Delano Rd – Follow up investigation
- Delano Rd – EMS/medical
- Mill St - Fraud

**Mattiapoissett**

Log highlights Nov 29-Dec 5
- County Rd – Larceny/forgery/fraud
- Prince Snow Cir – 911 call
- Acouct Rd - Complaint
- Baptist St - Vandalism
- Marion Rd – Follow up investigation
- Avenue A – MV violations
- Church St – Medical assist
- County Rd – Reported scam
- Acouct Rd – Ambulance request
- North St – Assist citizen
- Wolf Island Rd – MV crash
- North St – Parking complaint
- Fairhaven Rd – MV violations
- Euclid Ave – Animal control
- Hammond St – MV crash
- North St – Larceny/forgery/fraud
- Hamlin Rd – 911 call
- Industrial Dr – Suspicious MV
- County Rd – Property returned
- Avenue B - Vandalism
- Winter Hill Rd – Open door
- Acushnet Rd – Animal control
- County Rd – Transport prisoner
- North St – MV violations
- Seabreeze Ln – MV crash
- Neds Point Rd – Domestic disturbance
- North St – Health/welfare
- North St – Suspicious person

**Rochester**

Log highlights Nov 29-Dec 5
- Marys Pond Rd – MV collision
- Wolf Island Rd – Suspicious activity
- Walnut Plain Rd – Panic alarm
- Cole Dr – Well being check
- Mayflower Ln – 911 call
- Snipatuit Rd – MV collision
- Martin Cir - Threats
- North Ave - Fraud
- Bowens Ln – 911 call
- Cushman Rd – Road hazard
- North Ave – MV stop/citation
- Marion Rd - Fraud
- Marys Pond Rd - Vandalism
- Forbes Rd – Suspicious activity
- County Rd – Assist other agency
- North Ave – Suspicious activity
- Dexter Ln – Firearms licensing
- Negus Way – Suspicious activity
- North Ave – MV collision
- New Bedford Rd – Investigation
- Snipatuit Rd - Medical
- County Rd - Vandalism
- North Ave – Suspicious activity
- North Ave – Suspicious MV
- Alley Rd – 911 call
- North Ave – MV stop/citation
- Parlowtown Rd – House lockout
- Constitution Way – Suspicious activity
- Cranberry Hwy – MV stop/citation

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

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**Regional Lunch Menus**

**Coastline Elderly Nutrition Program**

Monday, Dec 14: BBQ pork rib, baked beans, cabbage & carrots, hamburger roll, applesauce
Tuesday, Dec 15: Beef & broccoli, Asian rice, oatmeal roll, mixed fruit
Wednesday, Dec 16: Grilled chicken, penne & peas, multigrain bread, Mandarin oranges
Thursday, Dec 17: Roast turkey w/ gravy, cranberry sauce (2). parsley mashed potatoes, winter squash, oatmeal bread, pumpkin pie, diet sugar free pudding.
Friday, Dec 18: “Catch of the Day”, lemon dill sauce, whipped sweet potato, spring/summer blend, rye bread, peaches

**Center School**

Monday, Dec 14: Remote meals
Tuesday, Dec 15: Cohort A: Taco nacho platter, roasted chickpeas, OR: PB&J fun lunch, assorted fruit, 1% milk.
Wednesday, Dec 16: Cohort B: Taco nacho platter, roasted chickpeas, OR: PB&J fun lunch, assorted fruit, 1% milk.
Thursday, Dec 17: Cohort A: Crispy whole grain chicken nuggets, roasted potato wedges, OR: PB&J fun lunch, assorted fruit, 1% milk.

**Old Hammondtown**

Monday, Dec 14: Remote meals
Tuesday, Dec 15: Cohort A: Taco nacho platter, roasted chickpeas, OR: PB&J fun lunch, assorted fruit, 1% milk.
Wednesday, Dec 16: Cohort B: Taco nacho platter, roasted chickpeas, OR: PB&J fun lunch, assorted fruit, 1% milk.
Thursday, Dec 17: Cohort A: Crispy whole grain chicken nuggets, roasted potato wedges, OR: PB&J fun lunch, assorted fruit, 1% milk.

**Old Rochester Regional Junior & Senior High**

Monday, Dec 14: Remote meals
Tuesday, Dec 15: Cohort A: Taco nacho platter, roasted chickpeas, OR: PB&J fun lunch, assorted fruit, 1% milk.

**Sippican School**

Monday, Dec 14: Remote meals
Tuesday, Dec 15: Cohort A: Taco nacho platter, roasted chickpeas, OR: PB&J fun lunch, assorted fruit, 1% milk.

**Old Colony Regional**

Monday, Dec 14: Crispy chicken bowl w/mashed potato, corn, gravy & dinner roll.
Tuesday, Dec 15: Chicken nuggets, fries, bread & steamed carrots.
Wednesday, Dec 16: Early release: In school students will have opportunity to bring home pizza or PB&J meal.
Thursday, Dec 17: Sloppy Joe & fries
Friday, Dec 18: Assorted pizza & Caesar salad

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**For a full PDF of the three towns’ police logs from the past week, including arrest reports, visit www.Wanderer.com.**
Under Chief Garcia’s leadership, the Marion Police Department also adopted the “Handle With Care” program promoted by the Plymouth County District Attorney’s Office. According to the program, a national survey of the prevalence of children’s exposure to violence and trauma revealed that 60 percent of American children had been exposed to some form of violence, crime, or abuse, and 40 percent were direct victims of two or more violent acts. Prolonged exposure to violence and trauma can seriously undermine children’s ability to focus, behave appropriately, and learn. It often leads to school failure, truancy, suspension or expulsion, dropping out, or involvement in the juvenile justice system.

Through the Handle With Care model, when Marion Police officers respond to an incident where a school-aged child may have been a victim or a witness, they notify the school of the child’s name and advise the school to “handle with care.” No further information is given to school officials. Teachers and staff are notified so that they can monitor the affected child and prepare to offer additional support or referrals for other services as needed.

Overall, the Handle With Care initiative aims to prevent children’s exposure to trauma and violence, mitigate the negative effects children experience as a result of exposure to trauma, and increase knowledge and awareness.

“Chief Garcia has been a tremendous leader for the department, and we thank him for his work as chief, as well as his service during his previous 30-plus years as a member of the department,” Marion Town Administrator James McGrail said. “The advancement and growth of the department under his leadership have helped to ensure that the Marion Police Department is a modern agency that is ready and able to meet the needs of its community. We wish him all the best and hope that he enjoys a healthy and happy retirement.”

“I would like to thank my family for being behind me during my entire career. They have had to deal with my absence...
SALOME’S STARS

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You might feel that you have all the answers right now. But it might be wise to listen to other ideas before you decide to close the lid on other possibilities.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Bovines give and expect loyalty, so it might not be easy to reconcile with someone you feel let you down. Why not ask a neutral party to set up a clear-the-air meeting?

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Anticipating the holidays with family and friends fuels your must-do Gemini energies. But try to pace yourself so you’ll be up for whatever comes along later.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) More background information might come through regarding a decision you expect to make. Be sure to check the source carefully before you move.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) The strong, nurturing nature of the Lion comes through this week as you reach out to family and friends in need of your warm and loving support.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A relationship that has almost totally unraveled could be close to being restored with more effort on your part to be more patient and less judgmental.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your sense of fair play is strong this week, which can cause a problem with a longtime relationship. But in the end, you’ll know what decision to make.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You might not know all the facts behind an unwelcome development, so keep that Scorpion temper in check and resist lashing out at anyone.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) This is a good time to reinforce relationships -- family, friends, colleagues -- that might have been overlooked in recent years.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Family situations continue to thrive. Business associations also improve. Some holiday plans might have to be shifted. Be flexible.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Avoid any influence of negative energy in this week’s aspect by not allowing small problems to grow into large ones. Work them out immediately.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A friend might need advice on how to deal with a challenge to his or her moral values. And who better than you to give the honest answer? Good luck.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a sense of adventure that inspires others to follow your lead.
at many family events, holidays, and other functions over the years,” Chief Garcia said. “I would also like to thank all of
the town departments and their employees for working with
and supporting the Police Department. I am grateful to the
Selectmen for appointing me as chief three years ago, and I’d
like to thank my fellow Plymouth County Chiefs of Police,
Southeastern Massachusetts Chiefs of Police, and Massachusetts
Chiefs of Police for their continued support and collaboration
throughout the years.”

Chief Garcia’s last active shift as chief will be Friday,
December 11. Lieutenant Richard Nighelli, who was selected
to be the new chief in May, will serve as Acting Chief until he
officially takes over duties as chief on January 3.

Academic Achievements
The University of Kentucky College of Arts and Sciences
recognized John Breault of Mattapoisett during the virtual
ceremony for earning a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology.

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 shingle-style home at 1 Water Street was built in
the early 1890s as a summer residence for George P. Hamlin. Together with his brother, Edward Hamlin, who built a summer residence at 23 Water Street, they owned the Metropolitan Coal Company in Boston. They were cousins of Abraham Lincoln’s vice president, Hannibal Hamlin, of Bangor, Maine. This waterfront home was designed by the Boston architect William Gibbons Preston. Preston also designed the Museum of Natural History on Berkeley Street in Boston, the first Massachusetts Institute of Technology building (later demolished), and the Hotel Vendome in Boston. He also designed the home at 75 Water Street, along with commissions for Tabor Academy, the Music Hall, and the Congregational Church.

**Toy and Canned Goods Drive**

The Mattapoisett Lions Club is holding a Toy and Canned Goods drive to benefit local families on Saturday, December 12, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the BowlMor parking lot, Route 6, Mattapoisett. Please consider donating non-perishable food items and new unwrapped toys.

The Mattapoisett Fire Department will distribute the toys, and the food items will be delivered to a local food pantry.

**Museum Holiday Pop-Up Shop**

On Saturday, December 12, from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm, the Mattapoisett Museum will hold its final Pop-Up shop for the holiday season at the Carriage House entrance on Baptist Street.

The museum’s newest publication, “Memory Lane: Walks & Stories Around the Village of Mattapoisett,” will be available for purchase. The publication is a self-guided walking tour featuring stories told by Francis Rowland from his original guided tours.

Other publications for sale include Picture Postcard Memories of Mattapoisett, Voyages of the Wanderer, Mattapoisett and Old Rochester (a reprint of the original 1907 history of Mattapoisett), and several others.

In addition to books, there will be posters of Mattapoisett’s harbor, doorways, maps, and more.

For more information, visit www.mattapoisettmuseum.org/events.

**Marion Stickers, Licenses, and Guest Passes**

Marion residents will be able to purchase the 2021 Marion Beach/Parking stickers, Marion Transfer Station stickers, Shellfish Licenses, and Guest Passes beginning Wednesday, December 16.

However, the process to purchase them will be different this year. Stickers, etc., will only be available for purchase via mail.

In order to purchase stickers, etc., you must send copies of all the proper documents along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Marion Town House, 2 Spring Street, Attn:
**TOWN OF MARION**

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Marion Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 23, 2020 at 7:30 pm Marion Police Station (via Zoom and closed to the public*), on a Notice of Intent (File No. SE 041-xxxx) submitted by Richard & Faith P. Morningstar, for the construction of an in-ground swimming pool, associated perimeter patio and a retaining together with the required land clearing, filling and grading at 8 Moorings Road.

The site is further identified as Lot 11A on Marion Assessors’ Map 20. Plans are available at the Town House for review.

Shaun P. 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.

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**TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT**

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

An Open Hearing of the Mattapoisett Conservation Commission will be held on Monday, December 28, 2020 at 6:30 pm regarding a Request for a Determination of Applicability submitted by Charles Howard, III & Jane Howard.

This Open Meeting 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 Applicants propose to upgrade a cesspool to Title 5 compliance with the installation of a new septic tank, pump chamber and leaching field.

A portion of the work will be performed within the 100 ft. Buffer Zone of an offsite Bordering Vegetated Wetland.

The project is located at 10 Third Street which is further identified as Lot #165 on Mattapoisett Assessors Map #2.

Contact Elizabeth Leidhold, Agent of the Conservation Commission by email at ELeidhold@mattapoisett.net for the Zoom Meeting Information.

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**TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT**

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

PUBLIC NOTICE

PRIVATE ROADS THAT NEED TO TAKE CORRECTIVE ACTION PRIOR TO SNOW PLOWING FOR THE 2020/2021 SEASON.

Private Road trimming is the responsibility of the Property Owners of that Private Road. Trees & shrubs must be cut back 2 feet from the edge of the road and 12 feet in height to provide clearance for plows and emergency vehicles.

The Town of Mattapoisett Highway Department does not provide trimming services to private roads.

For snow plowing information please call The Highway Department at (508)-758-4181, Monday thru Friday, 7AM – 3:30PM.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Private Road</th>
<th>Corrective Action</th>
<th>Cost of Material</th>
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<tr>
<td>BAY SHORE DR (HW)</td>
<td>NEEDS GRADING</td>
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<tr>
<td>BEACH ST (CB)</td>
<td>NEEDS GRADING</td>
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<td>CEDARCREST AVE</td>
<td>NEEDS GRADING</td>
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<td>DAVID ST</td>
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<td>DUPONT DR – SOUTH</td>
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<td>DYAR RD</td>
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<td>LAUREL ST</td>
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<td>MARINA DR CENTER</td>
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<td>OLIVER ST – WATER SIDE</td>
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<td>WENDELL ST</td>
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<td>WEST SILVERSHELL AVE</td>
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**PEARLS BEFORE SWINE**

by Stephan Pastis

**GOALS FOR THE NEXT YEAR:**

**BE BETTER THAN THE LAST #6##76A YEAR.**

**I FIGURE THAT'S NOT ASKING FOR MUCH.**
Harbormaster’s Office. You can either mail them or use the Drop Boxes in front of the building on Spring Street. Requests will be completed within two weeks of being received in the office. Please make checks out to the Town of Marion.

The complete policies and sticker requirements can be found at www.marionma.gov on the Harbormaster page.

Please call 508-748-3515 or email dhemphill@marionma.gov with any questions. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

**Great Decisions Program**

The Mattapoisett Woman’s Club “Great Decisions Program” will continue through a collaborative partnership with the Mattapoisett Library and Director Jennifer Jones. Great Decisions is produced by the Foreign Policy Association, and each year a current briefing book is available to support discussion. The goal is to reach informed decisions and opinions about world issues and policy. The Mattapoisett Woman’s Club has sponsored the Great Decisions Program consecutively for over 48 years; this is one of our Civic and Community Service outreach activities. We will offer the 8-week sessions on Wednesdays from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm starting January 20 until March 10 by way of the Library’s Public Zoom system.

The deadline for registration is **December 28**, and we have a maximum of 25 participants.

The Topics are:
1. The role of international organizations in a Global Pandemic
2. Global supply chains and national security
3. China and Africa
4. Korean Peninsula
5. Persian Gulf Security
6. Brexit and the European Union
7. The fight over the melting Arctic
8. The End of Globalization?

The book price is $30 each. The program includes watching the DVD, weekly topic discussions, and outside research.

To register, please send a check, your name, email address, and phone number to Mattapoisett Woman’s Club, P.O. Box 1444, Mattapoisett, MA, 02739, and please write “Great Decisions” on the check. You are welcome to offer to facilitate a topic as we are always grateful for your knowledge, generosity, and your command of the subject. After January 6, the books will be distributed through the library. If you have any questions, please send inquiries to Ellen P. Flynn, Chair, elflynn@vassar.edu.

**From the Files of the Rochester Historical Society**

By Connie Eshbach

Charles Jarvis Holmes was the son of Abraham Holmes, whose memoirs tell us much about Rochester’s history. Charles followed in his father’s footsteps, becoming a lawyer (having studied under his father). He was very involved in the business of running the town. He was on the Board of Selectmen and in 1832 was chosen as one of three to be on the newly created School Committee. Before 1857, he was a Rochester representative to the State Legislature, following his father into the House of Representatives. His law office in Rochester was often visited by leading lawyers from other towns, one of whom was Daniel Webster.

In 1839, he participated in the decisions that resulted in Mattapoisett separating from Rochester. It was Charles Holmes who moved that the following motion be passed “In order that the difficulties respecting the place of holding town meetings in the town of Rochester, and other difficulties growing out of agitation of that subject may be amicably adjusted, we agree that if the town meetings for the year next ensuing, after the close of the present March meeting, including the next annual meeting for the Choice of town officers, be holden at Mattapoisett and that the town meetings for the two following years shall be holden at the town house, and that at the end of three years the town shall be divided upon fair and equitable terms in all respects.” The vote was 65 in favor and 62 opposed, so the motion passed, and the separation of Mattapoisett from Rochester was begun.

In addition to his law and political work, Charles ran a tavern in the house he built at 10 Marion Road, which today houses the Secret Garden. The house is a good example of the Federalist style of architecture. In his later years, his father Abraham lived with him. The tavern became a gathering place for lawyers, debaters, educators, and politicians to

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Turbos CREATE
Signed SIGNS

Today’s Word

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3x3 box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

Moderate  Challenging  HOO BOY!

Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle

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meet to discuss and argue over the day’s issues. Many of the acquaintances of both father and son met there. The list includes John Adams, John Hancock, Thomas Jefferson, and General Wadsworth.

In 1815, the Post Office was located in #10. Holmes’s descendants occupied the house until the early 20th century.

**Plumb Library Fund Raisers**

Order a hand-quilted, 12×16-inch throw pillow decorated with book spines in your favorite color and one book title of your choice. One color and title choice per pillow. The cost is $25 per pillow (cash or check), and all proceeds go to the Friends of Plumb Library. Your pillow will be completed 21 days after ordering. An order form can be found on the Plumb Library website, www.plumblibrary.com. Download it and print it out. You can drop off your order form at the library during business hours or mail it to The Friends of Plumb Library, P.O. Box 69, Rochester, MA, 02770. Thank you to Bev Ciaburri for designing and creating these pillows for us. This offer will continue after Christmas, so plan ahead for birthdays, Valentine’s Day, or Mother’s Day.

Call the library at 508-763-8600 or email info@plumblibrary.com to bid on an Indian Dinner for four. A beef dish, a chicken dish, and a vegetarian dish will be served, along with a variety of side dishes. There will also be a dessert choice.

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President

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Just Like Cats & Dogs
by Dave T. Fippes

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

Bill Calusine December 10
Bruce Delano December 10
Freddy Miller December 10
Hailey James Patnaude December 10
Lori Pare December 10
Tommy Barry December 10
Diane S. Hartley December 11
Elizabeth Foley December 11
Kenyon Rezendes December 11
Paige Sommers December 11
Sandy Hering December 11
Stet Drake December 11
Thomas Silva December 11
Charles Rogers December 12
Derek J. Medeiros December 12
Jessica Collyer December 12
Louie Aiello December 12
Alaina May Franco December 13
Grace Hebert December 13
Jeffrey Despres December 13
Ronnie Morrell December 13
Scott Greany December 13
Stephen J. Burke December 13
Tammie Dianne Moreno December 13
Beth Redman December 14
Jeanette Webb December 14
Meadow Perry December 14
Daneen Eilertsen December 16

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.
dish, a vegetarian dish, and rice will be home-cooked by Rochester resident Halima Tiffany and delivered to your door. Request mild, medium, or spicy. The starting bid is $40. Bidding will close on December 18 at 4:30 pm. All proceeds benefit the Friends of Plumb Library.

Mattapoisett Library Discussion Series
The Mattapoisett Free Public Library invites you to hear from experts and ask questions about helping you and your child manage emotions and anxiety. Family life can be stressful and challenging while also full of joy. It can be challenging to navigate your mental health while also modeling this for your child. The events of this year have made things extra complicated. On Tuesday, December 15 at 6:00 pm, Alyssa Faro, Ph.D.; Ashley Brown, Ph.D.; and Morgan Browning, BA/BS will have a dialogue about “Parenting and COVID-19: Caring for Your Family Through Self-care”, reflecting upon stress and anxiety with strategies for parents to cope and support their children. Information will be presented, and a discussion and opportunities for questions will follow.

Then, on Wednesday, December 16 at 6:30 pm, tune in for “How Sad is too Sad? When to be Concerned About Your Child’s Mental Health” with Rebecca Schneider, Ph.D., and Morgan Browning, BA/BS. This will be a discussion on child and adolescent mood and behavior concerns, how to determine when to seek out a provider, concrete lifestyle changes families can make to maintain mental wellness, and how to make sense of all of this during a pandemic. After the presentation, there will be time for questions and discussion.
Classified Advertisements:

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New Construction - Remodeling - Additions
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View our work at www.DemersCC.com
Give us a call for a free estimate! 774.849.2325

Thank you everyone for entrusting us to work on your homes! It's been a tough year for everyone, so let's support each other to get through these times.

Let's give each other a chance.
Best wishes, Nathan, Tyler, Nate, Landon and Kyle

Electrician Eric Cordeiro for good work & reasonable prices, 24hr service, big & small jobs, will call

Executive Office Desk Set
Desk with Hutch 67"L x 25"W x 22"H
Matching two file drawer credenza 36"L x 22"W
Meridian model by Riverside, Cherry finish
$900
Mike at 413-548-6892

Experienced home cleaning. Affordable rates, top to bottom cleaning and more!
Free estimates and references
Call Deb 7743271106

EXTerior & Interior Home Painting
Powerwashing
Atlantic Property Services LLC 508 287 4338
Many Great Local References!
Free Estimates-Fully Licensed & Insured

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* Premium Anthracite - Pea, Nut, Rice, or Stove
* Pick-up or Delivered * Bulk or Bag
Tony Lopes: 508-990-0011 * Cell: 508-965-6018
Answering Machine Pick-up After Fourth Ring
Now taking orders for immediate delivery

Fall Clean Ups and Snow Removal Quotes
Weekly Lawn Maintenance, Debris Removal, Dump Runs, Quality Work at Reasonable Prices
Towers Landscaping - Dan Towers 774-264-1265

Fence Guy fence repairs and installations all types reliable quality work competitive prices references
Fairhaven free estimates 774 263 6133

DUMP RUNS and MORE Any cleanup, yards, houses, attics, apts, etc. Oil tank and boiler removal call Cliff 508-472-8539

Firewood
1/2 cord seasoned hardwood
$125 Call 508-763-5958

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Quality Work at a Reasonable Price
Kitchen & Bath Remodels, Windows, Siding, Doors & Decking

FOR SALE: Metallic Blue Volvo XC 2007
122k, clean, in great condition
Asking $8500 Marion; 508-207-2255

Grades 7-12 Online Math Tutoring Sessions
Topics explained in ways that make sense to kids
Highly experienced teachers w/practical approach
Local Company - nmeleo@codestemacademy.com

HANDY MARTIN
Interior and exterior carpentry, porches decks, trim repair, roof leaks, siding leaks and replacement, roofing, rubber roof repairs, skylight leaks, bulkhead replacement and rebuilds, odd jobs, got a job no one wants to do give me a call. Pictures and references available. 30 year veteran in the business. Great prices and free estimates. Senior discount. Insured. CALL TYLER 774 327 9929

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Brush & Tree Removal
Reasonable, Reliable with References (ins) 508-971-8248

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!
Contact Flat To Finish for Holiday Design Services
hello@flattofinish.com

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Classified Policy: All Classified Advertisements must be prepaid and can be placed at our office or on line at www.wanderer.com.

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

Classified Rates:
Classified Advertisements are $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.

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

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

Placing Classified Ads On-line: Ads can be placed on line at: www.wanderer.com

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

Payment Policy: All sales final, we do not offer credits or refunds.

Legal Advertisements:
* Legal Ads are $1.00 per line, at a minimum of $20. per ad.
Alyssa Faro, Ph.D., specializes in evidence-based treatments such as acceptance and commitment therapy (ACT), cognitive behavior therapy (CBT), and exposure and response prevention (ERP) therapy for anxiety disorders, depression, and obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) in both children and adults. As a licensed clinical psychologist, Dr. Faro treats children and adolescents at the Child and Adolescent OCD Institute (OCID Jr.) at McLean Hospital and in private practice.

Ashley Brown, Ph.D., is a licensed clinical psychologist specializing in health psychology. Evidence-based treatments, including CBT, ACT, and motivational interviewing (MI), are used to support individuals experiencing depression, anxiety, and adjustment challenges associated with chronic or acute illness.

Rebecca Schneider, Ph.D. is an assistant professor and licensed clinical psychologist at Emory University School of Medicine. Her clinical and research interests focus on ACT and ERP. She is currently developing an intensive outpatient program for children and adolescents with OCD.

Morgan Browning, BA/BS, is a Community Residence Counselor at the Child and Adolescent OCD Institute (OCID Jr.) at McLean Hospital. She is a first-year graduate student in the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth’s Master of Research Psychology program, with interests in OCD, anxiety, ACT, and young adult risk behavior.

Registration is required for you to receive the Zoom meeting information. Zoom information will be sent the day before the presentation. You can register by sending an email to mfpl@sailsinc.org or by completing the registration form on our online calendar of events. Call the library at 508-758-4171 or email mfpl@sailsinc.org if you have questions. This program is supported with funds from the Mattapoisett Library Trust.

Friends of the Mattapoisett Bike Path

The Friends of the Mattapoisett Bike Path are pleased to report that the community has responded enthusiastically to the Friends’ campaign to raise funds to complete the Marion Connector. To date, over 90 households have made contributions or pledges ranging from $5 to $25,000. Although contributions are still coming in and some pledges remain to be collected, the fundraising progress to date has enabled the Friends to issue the $95,000 commitment letter required for the project to be put out to bid in December.

“The generous support for this fundraising effort from so many people demonstrates just how important the completion of the bike path is to our communities,” said Bonne DeSousa, president of the Friends. “We expect the final totals for this campaign will be sufficient to provide some protection against cost overruns in the Marion Connector project, as well as permit the Friends to retain some of its cash on hand for future projects. The broad support for this campaign is encouraging to the Friends Board. It means there is wide backing for the work required to complete the remaining segments of the bike path.”

“The Town of Mattapoisett is very grateful to all those who are contributing to this campaign and making it possible to complete the Marion Connector in the near future,” said Mike Lorenco, Mattapoisett town administrator. “The fact that many contributions are from residents of other towns in the area is...”
### Classified Advertisements

**$ Cash Reward!**

- for your unwanted or junk vehicle
- Free Removal Service
- High Street Auto Salvage
  - Rochester, Mass
  - 508-763-8999
- Serving Plymouth and Bristol Counties

**2010 Subaru Legacy**

- 4 cyl., AWD, sedan well maintained. 167K miles
- New rear brakes and rotors. Recently replaced torque converter, timing belt, muffler and pipe, battery, spark plugs, cabin filter, air filter and oil, and filter changed. Asking $5,750. 774-320-0528

**$810.00 plus utilities, 1 bedroom, w/d, lower level, Private entrance, clean housekeeping required, No smokers/pets. 5089978666**

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**A Powerful Prayer to the Holy Spirit**

Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, who light all roads so I can attain my goals, you who give me the divine gifts to forgive and forget all evil against me, in this short prayer to thank you for all things and confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you, even in spite of all material illusions. I wish to be with you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. The favor requested will be granted. This prayer must be published immediately after the favor is granted. Don't mention the favor. Only your initials shall appear at the bottom. P.L.

---

**A Prayer to the Blessed Virgin**

O Most Beautiful Flower of Mt. Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary conceived without sin pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times). O Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (3 times). Amen. Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish; it will be granted to you. P.L.

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**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Art Lessons:** Fox Run Studio offers Private Instruction in all mediums. Children and adults, coastal watercolors, commissions accepted. 508-758-9240

**Atlantic Property Services, LLC**

- Jeremy Lafferty 508-287-4338
- Whole Home Repair, Seasonal & General Home Maintenance, Carpentry, Property Management, Landscaping, Painting, Powerwashing, Interior & Exterior Work, Kitchen & Bath, Cleanouts, Dumps, Moving and More
- No job too small
- Avail. 24/7 - Servicing All Your Property Needs
- Free Estimates - Fully Licensed & Insured
- Accepting All Major Credit Cards

**Auto Restoration**

- All types, every day driver, antiques, muscle cars or special interestFrom Model A’s to Z/28. Full or partial repairs. Complete body work, fiberglass, frame, paint etc. Mild or wild Call for evaluation 508-763-2199 or 508-998-8725

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**Baldwin Baby Grand piano for sale. Anniv. edition**

- Please call 774-454-4831

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**Bob's Lawn Service**

- 774-263-4002 cell
- 508-997-9259 office
- FALL LAWN CLEAN-UPS pruning - leaves raked - mowing - brush removal new lawns seeded - fertilizing - mulching - edging Loam - FREE ESTIMATES - Planting

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**Chair reseating**

- All types: cane - reed - rush
- Pick up & delivery 508-789-4211

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**Cleaning By Solange**

- Reliable, trustworthy professional with references. My services include: daily, weekly, monthly, or one time cleaning. Please call (774) 360-1975

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**Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

**For Mattapoisett Volunteers Urgently Needed**

- 508-758-4110

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**The Wanderer**

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

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**Mailing Address:**

- P.O. Box 102
- Mattapoisett, MA 02739

**Office:**

- 55 County Road (Route 6) Mattapoisett

**Telephone:** 508-758-9055

**Web Page:** www.wanderer.com

**E-mail:**

- General/Advertising: office@wanderer.com
- News: news@wanderer.com

**Deadlines:**

- (Display Ads) Friday at 3pm
- (News) Monday at noon
- (All Others) Tuesday at 10am

**Office Hours:**

- Mon., Thur. & Fri. 9am-3pm
- Tues. 9am - 12 noon

**Staff:**

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- Mick Colageo, News Editor
- Sharon Costello, Office Manager
- Mary Redman, Advertising Sales
- Denise Mello, Advertising Sales
- Marliou Newell, Correspondent
- Jean Perry, Copy Editor
- Shawn Sweet, Social Media Manager

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ISSN 1559-1212
evidence of the regional importance of the bike path.”

The “Marion Connector” is a half-mile bike and pedestrian path between the eastern end of Industrial Park Drive and the Marion Town line. (At the border, it will connect with a similar shared-use path to be constructed in the future by the Town of Marion.) It provides a trailhead with handicapped-accessible parking and access to the woodland trails of Tinkham Forest and the Aucoot Woods area. When Marion’s Pathway project (which is funded and currently in permit review) is complete, walking, running, and cycling on a paved shared-use path will be available between Point Road in Marion, Route 105 in Marion, and Industrial Drive in Mattapoisett.

The Friends is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization, so contributions to the Friends for the construction of the Marion Connector are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Friends of the Mattapoisett Bike Path, P.O. Box 1336, Mattapoisett, MA, 02739, Contacts: Liz DiCarlo, 508-942-9343, lizdicarlo@comcast.net; or Bill Coquillette, 216-789-2303, william.coquillette@gmail.com.

### Real Estate Transactions

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Buyer(s)</th>
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Tri-County Symphonic Band

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

The Tri-County Symphonic Band, under the direction of Philip Sanborn, celebrates the festive holiday season with a Family Virtual Christmas Concert, Sunday, December 13, 1:30 pm on ORCTV’s Comcast Ch. 9 and Verizon Ch. 36 in Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester. The program will also be live-streamed on the Tri-County Symphonic Band and ORCTV’s Facebook pages. The concert is a wonderful family experience designed for all ages and is free of charge.

The concert will be a collection of archived material from the full band and new, recently recorded offerings from families connected with the band and with Sippican School in Marion. Full band selections, chamber music from brass and clarinet ensembles, vocal soloists, vocal ensembles, jazz groups, and popular settings of traditional favorites.

Visit tricountysymphonicband.org for more information. As the band rounds the corner and jolly Santa's in sight, he wishes peace to all and to all a good night.
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 December 3, 2020 edition the Aardvark was on page 1!
Dear friends & customers,
To stay posted on the latest information about store hours, product availability or to simply receive a cheerful update to brighten your day, we have created a new Facebook page for the store! 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

SALE EFFECTIVE:
Friday, December 11 – Thursday, December 17, 2020

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

***Grocery, Dairy, Frozen & Bakery***

Kraft 7-8 oz. Selected Shredded Cheese 2/$5
7.33 oz. Selected Stacy’s Pita Chips............. 2/$5
25.3 oz. Bottle, Selected Perrier Carbonated Water....... $1.69
32 oz. Selected (Excludes Organic & Bone) Kitchen Basics Stock........ 2/$6
12-16 oz. Selected Prince Pasta.......................... 4/$5
4.5-5.6 oz. Selected Rice or Knorr Pasta Sides............. 4/$5
24 oz. 6 Pack, Selected Mott’s Applesauce............. 2/$5
64 oz. Selected Blue Diamond Almond Breeze............. 2/$6
9-14 oz. Selected Bars, Sorbet or Häagen-Dazs Ice Cream...........

**Fresh Baked**

The Father’s Table
16 oz. Sampler Cheesecake $5.99

**Quality Meats, Deli & Prepared Foods**

Friends’ Premium Certified Black Angus, Boneless Top Sirloin Spoon Roast $6.99 lb.

Bell & Evans Whole Chickens...... $2.99 lb.
Allen’s Chicken Tenders...... $3.49 lb.
Cedar’s 12 oz. Pkg. Cucumber Garlic or Spinach Dip............. $3.99

**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 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

All Beer is Plus Deposit

We have over 75 varieties of wine (& more coming) that are only 3/4 US $5 or $5
Mix & Match wines from California, France, Italy, Argentina, Chile, & Australia!

**SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!**
SALE EFFECTIVE: Friday, December 11 – Thursday, December 17, 2020

Blockbuster Savings!

**Triple M**
9 lb. Avg. Bone-In Half Spiral or Budaball Ham
$3.49 lb.

**Friends’**
Store Baked, Deli-Sliced Turkey Breast
$7.99 lb.

**Dunkin’**
12 oz. Bag, Selected Ground Coffee
$6.99

**Cabot**
16 oz. Salted or Unsalted Butter Quarters
$3.99

**Stormalong**
12 oz. Cans 4 Pack
$12.50

**La Vieille Ferme**
1.5 Liter, France Rose Wine
$14.99

Superior Quality Produce

- 3 lb. Bag Clementines
  - $4.99
- 16 oz. Pkg. Strawberries or Blueberries
  - $3.99
- Seedless Red Grapes
  - $2.99 lb.
- Fresh Asparagus
  - $3.49 lb.
- Crisp Brussels Sprouts
  - $2.49 lb.
- Half Gallon, Premium Carlson’s Apple Cider
  - $2.99

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!