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Riptides Shine in New England By Mick Colageo

Amidst the dripping-wet maze of young swimmers moving about while hidden under caps, goggles, and towels in between their many events at last weekend's YMCA New England Championship at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, there was no chance that Noella Michaud or her Gleason YMCA Riptides teammates would get lost.

"We have like a color, and we were bright, neon pink with a cap and a shirt that has our names. We know who our friends and coaches were," said Michaud a day after a weekend performance that saw the Riptides finish 19th overall among more than 50 teams competing in the

On the Cover: From front to back, Ava Gagliardi, Molly Beson, and Isabella Duran practice the breaststroke on March 12 at the Gleason Family YMCA in Wareham. With a roster heavily populated by swimmers from the tri-towns, the Riptides swim team has provided a competitive experience for area boys and girls ages 6 to 18. The Riptides finished eighth overall out of 50 teams at last weekend's New England Swim Championship in Worcester. Photo by Mick Colageo.



Plumb Library Director Kristen Cardoso and Trustee Shauna Makuch attended the Southeastern Massachusetts Libraries *Legislative Breakfast on March 7 at the Norfolk Public Library. The event gave participants a platform to discuss how libraries* are working to build a stronger commonwealth. Photo by David Sok.

culminating event of the winter season.

Noella, a 10-year-old, fifth-grade student at Rochester Memorial School, finished second among Age 9-10 swimmers in the 100 Butterfly and third in the 50 Butterfly. After spending four times per week in the water and battling a common cold, she admitted to some fatigue but would not have missed this opportunity for the world.

"I got sick; I could have gotten worse, but I did really well," she said.

Noella said she needs approximately 15 minutes in the water for warm-up before competing for keeps. A big meet like the New England Championship requires a swimmer to recover quickly but, at the same time, could involve a long wait.

"It can be right after, but you can wait like 20 minutes or 25 minutes," she said. "You get really cold; you have to stay warm to keep your muscles ready and stuff."

Ava Gagliardi showed her readiness with an individual, sixth-place finish in the 50 Backstroke, and the eight-year-old, third-grader at Rochester Memorial School swam the first leg for the Wareham-based YMCA's 8 &

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Under Girls Medley Relay team including Emelie Michaud (Rochester), Molly Beson (Rochester) and Isabella Duran (Carver) that finished fifth.

"I've been swimming since I was six months old. I remember maybe when I was four-ish," said Ava, who specializes in the backstroke.

"That's my favorite one. You have to swim a lot and have fun doing it and go as fast as you can," she said. "Last year, I wasn't like, into it? Then it just went into a whole different perspective for me this year."

When Ava was done swimming her backstroke leg, she joined teammates and coaches on the other side of the pool and followed the rest of the relay. "We were all cheering, and it was really fun. And they were really fast, too."

Camaraderie is evident at a Riptides practice, where the coaching team of Russ Anderson, Niko Duarte, and Brooke Michaud has cultivated a culture of enthusiasm, positivity and discipline essential to water safety.

Having warmed up for practice, the swimmers listen intently to Duarte's outdoor voice booming out specific instructions for the execution of repetitions that the swimmers need to follow, according to the digital time clock on the wall. They react as if every repetition will translate into the next big competition.

The New England Championship became that showcase for these efforts.

In the Age 9-10 session, Charlie Hall, a nine-yearold, third grader from Mattapoisett, finished fourth in the 100 Freestyle, eighth in the 50 Freestyle, and fourth in the 50 Breaststroke. Charlie was recently champion in the 100 Freestyle at the SENECY league meet.

In the Age 13-14 competition, Jason Anderson, a 13-year-old, seventh-grader from Wareham who attends Old Rochester Regional Junior High School, finished eighth in the 200 Individual Medley and placed sixth in the 200 Backstroke, breaking the Gleason YMCA team record. Chris Glover (Plymouth) broke two Riptides records, finishing fifth in the 200 Freestyle and eighth in the 100 Freestyle. He also took sixth in the 50 Freestyle.

The Riptides' 8 & Under squad had an exceptional performance as a group, the boys placing fifth, the girls seventh and the age-group overall placing fourth.

The Riptides' 8 & Under Boys Freestyle and Medley Relay teams of Sam Reece (Rochester), Peter Voci (Marion), Oliver Hancock (Plymouth) and Henrik Obrebski (Rochester) both took third place, and the Riptides' 15 & Over boys' relay team of Liam McGee (Marion), Zach Travis (Wareham), Riley Karo (Marion), and Jake Iappini (Marion) broke the Gleason YMCA's 200 Medley and the 400 Freestyle records.

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The winter season may have officially concluded, but some members of the Riptides will keep swimming while transitioning to spring sports.

"We will be talking about maybe doing spring swim. I do have a pool so that can help me, too, but maybe," said Ava Gagliardi, who plays tennis, pickleball and basketball and participates in Krav Maga classes at South Coast Self Defense in New Bedford.

Noella Michaud is still building upon a year that has seen her take first place in the SENECY League 50-yard Butterfly.

"There's this record I want to get before this season's over and before you turn 11," she said, referencing her May 9 birthday and the Gleason YMCA's record for the 500-yard Freestyle. "There's a certain time you need to get. ... It goes on this board at the Y. This year I got two (records)."

Noella admits chasing the club's 500 record "gets really tiring." The race consists of 20 laps up and down the 25-yard-long pool. "It's hard to count so they have these things called counters. If it's a red one, it's the last 25," Noella explained. "I'm six seconds away from the record."



ORR Students Perform at SMMEA Junior District Festival

Old Rochester Regional (ORR) School District and MA Superintendency Union #55 Superintendent Michael S. Nelson, High School Principal Michael Devoll, and Junior High Principal Silas Coellner are proud to congratulate eight ORR instrumentalists and vocalists who performed at the Southeastern Massachusetts Music Educators Association (MMEA) Junior District Festival.

The following students took the stage at Hingham Middle School on March 7-8: John Eilertsen, French Horn (Grade 7) Sophia Meleo, Trombone (Grade 7) Bridget Lee, Soprano (Grade 7)

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Sophie Zhou, Trombone (Grade 8) Mia DeRossi-Goldberg, Soprano (Grade 8) Mara Donnelly, Flute (Grade 9) Joshua Marcolini, Tenor Saxophone (Grade 9) Rebecca Schaefer, Trumpet (Grade 9)

"Seeing our eight students shine among such talented peers was truly inspiring," said JHS Music Teacher Richard Laprise. "They performed beautifully and demonstrated the hard work and passion that we value in our Old Rochester musicians."

The eight musicians from Old Rochester auditioned and earned a place to participate in two days of intensive music rehearsals in either a choir, orchestra, or band.

"The culminating concert on March 8 demonstrated the tangible results of our students' hard work and dedication and highlights the value of quality music education in our community," Laprise said.

"We are all extremely proud of our students who participated in the festival," Principal Devoll said. "This is a labor of love that requires significant time spent outside the classroom, and we're thrilled to see that their hard work has paid off."

MMEA has approximately 1,500 members, and provides leadership in professional development, advocacy, student assessment, opportunities for students, and providing comprehensive, quality music for all students.

"This festival provides a tremendous opportunity for young musicians to excel," said JHS Principal Coellner. "This experience pushes them beyond their regular school curriculum, fostering significant growth in their skills and confidence."

MMEA is divided into five districts with a chair and an executive board for each district. Each of the districts organizes honor ensemble festivals and general music events. A percentage of students who participate in district festivals are eligible to audition for All-State honors ensembles.

"Congratulations to John, Sophia, Bridget, Sophie, Mia, Mara, Joshua, and Rebecca," said Superintendent Nelson. "We are immensely proud of their achievements and proud to have these students represent Old Rochester."

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Rochester's First Congressional Church Renovations By Sam Bishop

Rochester's First Congressional Church located on 11 Constitution Way has announced its 3-year capital campaign to renovate the exterior of the property. The plan is to restore the church's Sanctuary and Vestry buildings as both buildings were built during the early-1800s. The current proposal is exclusively an exterior renovation in order to preserve the historic site. Church member Chuck Kantner said in a statement, "The intent is to mirror as much as possible the original appearance, replacing wood with high-quality composite materials and the old windows with new in the original style."

The church sits between Town Hall and the Joseph H. Plumb Library, with the church itself being established in the location in 1703, about 17 years after the town of Rochester was incorporated. The project is currently in the fundraising stage with total estimates for completion being around \$450,000, per Kantner. Currently, fundraising has mostly taken place within the church's own congregation.

What Price for "Miracles," and Who Pays for Them?

What Does The Doctor Say? By Dr. Edward Hoffer

There are now five drugs on the market to treat genetic disorders that are each priced at over \$2 million.



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They have been approved by the FDA to treat illnesses that had no curative therapy. Some, such as spinal muscular atrophy, were fatal while others such as hemophilia and sickle cell anemia led to repeated crises and frequent hospitalizations.

Are these astronomical prices justified? The pharmaceutical companies justify the prices by citing two factors: the high cost of drug development and the longterm financial benefits.

The problem with using research costs as a justification for the prices is that much of the basic research is funded by NIH grants or academia rather than by industry.

In the case of Zolgensma, Novartis' \$2.1 million drug for spinal muscular atrophy, the bulk of the early funding came from a private charity founded by parents whose child had the disease. ProPublica documented how their efforts, both financial and emotional, were ignored when the commercial potential of the drug began to become apparent. They hoped for a cure for their daughter and others similarly afflicted, not a windfall for the executives of the start-up they helped fund. See: www.propublica. org/article/zolgensma-sma-novartis-drug-prices-genetherapy-avexis

Research published in JAMA provided details of the sponsorship and funding of 341 trials of gene therapy. Fewer than half were industry-funded. Academic hospitals, universities and the NIH were more often the funders, and yet the financial rewards almost all go to the





pharmaceutical industry.

One could make a case that the sky-high one-time cost of gene therapy pays for itself by preventing the numerous emergency room visits and hospitalizations that it will eliminate. The estimated lifetime cost of hemophilia is \$20 million! This makes the one-time \$3.5 million cost of Hemgenix seem a bargain.

The big if is that the only data we have is that the benefits last 3 years – hopeful, but only a short span in a life-long disease. If the benefits fade after 4-5 years will CSL Behring refund the cost?

Will health insurance companies be willing to pay for a drug that may benefit the patient for 50 years or more when they know that their average subscriber is probably going to change insurers in a few years?

We need a different way to pay for these "miracle" drugs. One option is to have them paid for on an annual basis, spreading the cost over the patient's estimated lifespan, with payment to stop if the drug stops working. A plan must devised soon, or scientific advances plus pharmaceutical greed will exceed society's ability to pay.

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

Gifford Park Renovation Expansion

Rochester Select Board By Michael J. DeCicco Rochester's Select Board Monday learned the details of a proposal to turn the plan for a new playground at



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The world is no longer spinning for a man who had vertigo, and he is happy to be back at work.

A woman who was told she would need carpal tunnel surgery had her hand pain disappear in two weeks.

A retired nurse with years of low back pain found relief.

A breech baby turned just in time for his mother to have the natural childbirth she wanted.

Families stayed healthy through the winter with regular chiropractic care.

An older woman with chronic back and shoulder pain has returned to playing pickleball.

A toddler who was chronically uncomfortable from constipation now has no problems.

A runner who felt her stride was "off" and creating low back pain is pain free and training for her next marathon.

A baby with multiple ear infections is now off all antibiotics and hasn't had one in months.

An older man with low back pain, who had been told he would just have to "live with it" "because that's part of getting old" is now gardening again and pain free.

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Gifford Park into a larger renovation that expands space for travel lanes, pedestrians, and parking at the ball field.

The 3,649 square-foot playground will be placed in the park's northeast corner. Displaying a concept sketch of his ideas for the western border, resident Nate Reece said Monday that the car lane along the area of the ball field is a single path ending in a choke hold at Mary's Pond Road. With land from abutting Wildlands Trust property, he suggested that lane could be expanded by 30 feet for safer passage of cars and pedestrians and expanded parking.

This renovation would add handicapped accessible parking for the entrance to nearby Wildlands Trust trails, he said. He noted he has already had conversations with the Wildlands Trust, which agrees a deed transfer or land swap could make this plan happen. That cooperative effort would be the next step of this plan, he said.

He explained this renovation would improve safety and accessibility for park and trail users. The widened access road would allow for two-way traffic flow and better distance between baseball game spectators and moving vehicles (current access is single lane, in close proximity to bleachers). There would be 50 additional parking spaces, which would remove the need for cars to park along the road, as they do now during the busy baseball season.

He said he has spoken to Dave Hughes of the Park Commission, and that board would be willing to take the design plan 'under advisement'. This, Reece said, "is what my goal was from the start, to provide something



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for the town, Park Commission, Wildlands Trust, and residents to use as they see fit. The focus of the plan is on what could change beyond the current scope of changes at Gifford Park, primarily collaborating with the abutters, the Wildlands Trust."

Town Administrator Cameron Durant agreed to start that initial conversation with the trust. Select Board Member Adam Murphy praised Reece for the approach he was taking of consulting the interested parties on his own. "The transparency and buy-in present here is huge," he said.

In other action, Durant reported an update on the review of the FY2026 budget. Though the budget planning is still in process, at present, he said, the town is seeing a

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\$740,000 deficit. Current plans to reduce this deficit include removing full-time from the Finance Director's position, reducing hours for the new town planner, and removing a full-timer's weekend coverage of the fire department.

Durant reported the State Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance's request to area towns for 8,000-13,000 square feet of warehouse space. He said interested parties in town should answer the invitation to bid.

Durant announced the SEMASS Pilot payment for February 2025 of \$380,000.

The board approved the Buzzards Bay Coalition 19th Annual Watershed Ride's route through town on October 5, 2025.



The board signed a new three-year contract with Building Commissioner Paul Boucher.

The board approved Memorial Day Parade road closures. The roads will be closed at Dexter Lane, Town Hall, and Mary's Pond Road, and Gifford Park. The parade will be on May 25 from 11:30 am and go until 1:00 pm.

The next meeting of the Rochester Select Board is scheduled for Monday, March 31 at 6:00 pm at 1 Constitution Way.

Budget, Capital Needs, Debt Mattapoisett Select Board

By Marilou Newell

The March 17 meeting of the Mattapoisett Select Board was a continuation of meetings with department heads to review all things budget. On this night, they met with Highway Superintendent Garrett Bauer, Health Agent Gail Joseph and Fire Chief Andrew Murray.

Joseph reported that the public health nurse was requesting administrative assistance due to the avalanche of paperwork and reports she is required to manage. Joseph wondered if a senior tax work-off resident with appropriate skills might be possible to fill the request. The board took that under advisement.

The line item for recyclable material pick-up is \$315,000 and SEMAS is \$346,057. There is an overall increase of 1.80-percent Joseph reported. Joseph also noted that cardboard is recyclable as are water bottles (most plastics are not acceptable for recycling.) Rubbish pick-up





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Regarding stickers for use at the Transfer Station, there was a discussion about updating that process now with a possible link up with stickers used for beach and parking purposes. Further exploration was generally agreed.

Murray's operating budget is \$974,560. He said that gear containing PFAS (known carcinogens) must be replaced in the coming months. He is requesting \$18,000 for several sets and plans to seek grants for other purchases.

Bauer said his capital requests include \$350,000 from free cash for annual roadway repairs, \$1,300,000 for Oakland Street upgrades to be financed via a bond, \$75,000 for a roadside mower from free cash, \$3,200,000 upgrades to Highway Department Building via debt, and a flatbed aluminum pickup truck bed \$25,000.

In a follow-up with Lorenco he provided the following update. Debt is rolling off in FY27 and FY28.

Water Department Water Well #2 Refurb \$168,100 annually, Village Water Main Replacement \$42,025 annually (FY28) Water Tank Rehab \$103,200 annually.

Sewer Department, Sewer Brant Beach \$176,146 annually, Sewer Matt River Basin \$6,200, annually, Sewer Treatment Plan (UV System) \$7,725 annually.

In FY28 several other large expenses will roll off including Fairhaven water improvement at \$11,500 annually.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Select Board was not announced upon adjournment.

The First Public Review of the Town Meeting Warrant Draft

Marion Select Board **By Sam Bishop** The Marion Select Board met Tuesday, March 18 to go





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over ten action items and some various correspondences. Less than twenty minutes into the meeting, 9-out-of-10 of the action items had been discussed and the board moved on to number 10, discussing the draft of the Town Meeting Warrant.

Before we get to that, the board's first actions were to approve the minutes of five separate meetings: January 30, February 19, a different special meeting February 19, February 25, and finally a public hearing on March 4. All were approved unanimously without question. Next was the approval of a change of officers at Kittansett Club for Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC).

The board then discussed an anonymous \$800,000 donation from the Marion Library Association doing

business with the Elizabeth Tabor Library. The donations are for renovations to the latter. "I'm not going to question an \$800,000 donation. I appreciate it very much" Select Board Clerk Randy L. Parker stated with laughter from the room.

In discussions on the Waterways Regulations, it was reiterated by Chair Norman A. Hills that there will be "no billing changes from last year." Statements from Harbormaster Adam Murphy were read, where he said regarding discourse around the proposed changes: "I would also like to ensure that residents understand that we will continue to make decisions in a transparent and public manner, ensuring we use public input to inform the decision-making process. With that said, I also want to make it crystal-clear that no public, personal attack of my staff, no matter the role or level of responsibility, is ever appropriate." He continued, "Personal attacks only enflame this discourse, escalate our emotion, and cloud our ability to make long term and strategic decisions for the town."

The next item was the approval of the nominations for the Inspectors of Animals, where Adam Murphy and Susan Connor were confirmed and approved. A few road closures were then approved, including the annual Memorial Day procession Monday, May 27, the annual Independence Day parade on Friday, July 4 and a request for the Marion Art Center to use Bicentennial Park and road closures for "Arts in the Park" on Saturday, July 5.

The board then approved a \$866.03 for a water/sewer commitment for final readings from March 14. Finally, was the presentation and discussion on the draft of the Town Meeting Warrant. During the sorting out of minor but recurring technical difficulties, Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator Donna Hemphill said the Marion Town Party was moved to July 26, though all other party plans remain the same.

The Town Administrator, Geoffrey Gorman, having sorted out the technical issues, then began the presentation of the 59-page draft. All articles currently in the draft are not placed in their final location, Gorman explained, so all are labeled "Article X" until they can be sorted. The draft begins with an outline of the FY26 budget, but as the budget is not yet complete, a placeholder of FY25's budget was used. It was also stated the water and sewer



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enterprises had yet to be finalized, though, Gorman said they would be completed this week to be presented to the Select Board at their next meeting. One article discussed was for the town's finance department and its payroll system, which Gorman said were manual and through the Munis system. \$40,000 is requested to update timekeeping software. The Town Administrator said, "we di timekeeping and payroll manually. Surprisingly enough, the timesheets are paper and are filled out manually and are presented to the payroll benefits person who then has to put it into a spreadsheet and upload it to Munis."

Next was the discussion on work throughout Holmes Woods, which saw disagreement within the board. \$60,000 is requested to draft plans for the work. Vice-Chair Burr



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stated, regarding the town's resources to maintain all current trails, "we are spread thin." Parker later said, "we should have public meetings on Holmes Woods."

On roadwork, Gorman affirmed all monies to cover roadwork comes from Chapter 90, with no local taxes going to the endeavor. He said if the town continues this practice, "our roads will continue to decline." The Department of Public Works (DPW) seeks \$300,000 on top of the existing Chapter 90 funds to improve roadways and sidewalks. The Select Board requested a list-of-importance of roadways in need of renovation and maintenance to be presented at their next meeting.

\$2.2 million in debt service is requested to upgrade the Town House with a fire suppression system, Gorman





says the building does not possess, ADA compliance additions like a ramp, doorknobs, brail, and wheelchair accessible bends, and to have the outside stairs be codecomplaint, which they currently are not. An HVAC system is also requested.

At this point in the meeting, Chair Hills emphasized they are not open to questions at this point, but a public hearing will be available at the next meeting. The Town Administrator also said the current draft is not available online, but the final one will be.

The Historic District Bylaw and the Short-Term Rental Bylaw final drafts were briefly discussed, both of which are currently available to the public. Regarding the Short-Term Rentals Bylaw, Chair hills stated, "I have severe concerns about this whole thing, but we can keep going."

The next meeting of the Marion Select Board will take place on Monday, March 24 and will involve further discussions on Town Meeting with the floor open to questions. The annual Town Meeting will be on Monday, May 12.

Short-Term Rental Bylaw Discussions Continue

Marion Planning Board **By Sam Bishop**

The Marion Planning Board met Monday, March 17, for two continued hearings including further discussion on short-term rentals (STRs) and the proposed bylaw in reference to them. The meeting began with comments on community outreach, with Vice-Chair Alanna Nelson mentioning comments and complaints she has received regarding the new Harbormaster Maritime Center and its stairs and lift system.

At certain times of day, Nelson noted, some have complained the bottom step leading up to the offices is hidden by shade, thus making it difficult to descend the steps safely. Regarding this, Chair Andrew Daniel said he would reach out, on behalf of the Planning Board, to Harbormaster Adam Murphy to discuss solutions to this possible hazard. Other complaints regarding the elevator/ lift system of the new office. "It's not an elevator, it's a lift" Daniel clarified. The Chair suggested signage on how to operate the lift may be helpful, as it does not function the same as a traditional elevator. This will also be included in the Board's discussions with the Harbormaster.



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The public hearing on a Special Permit for FSJ Marion Realty, LLC 207-215 Wareham Street was again continued, this time to April 7, 7:10 pm per request of FSJ.

The continued discussion on the proposed section of the Zoning Bylaw, a part of the Town General Bylaw, regarding short-term rentals was then raised. "We made a lot of edits" Chair Andrew Daniel stated. Following sending the draft to Town Council, the Planning Board received the draft back with "pretty minimal changes" Daniel stated. Town Council polished some terminology and grammar, as well as adding existing general law and bylaw citations where needed, including with regard to the certificate of registration.

The board unanimously agreed to remove a section regarding exceptions, primarily regarding the number of days rented. Andrew Daniel stressed the need to stop a runaway effect whereupon more and more "dwellings become rental properties" and the fear of someone receiving housing payment assistance while also renting out part of or the whole property. Various other changes and tweaks were discussed, many grammatical or done to trim up the draft.

A letter from a resident and Airbnb owner regarding benefits short-term rentals offer was then read. One of the primary positives was stating they "allow residents to rent out unused space." The note also added "there is a small group vilifying short-term rentals." Economic and business advantages were also listed.

The public hearing was then closed, followed by the unanimous acceptance and approval of the proposed changes from Town Council and the Planning Board's work during this meeting.



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The next meeting of the Marion Planning Board is scheduled for Monday, April 7 at the Marion Police Station.

Route 6 Density Zoning May Change

Mattapoisett Planning Board By Marilou Newell

During the March 17 meeting of the Mattapoisett Planning Board the members put forth ideas for bylaw changes that could, in the near future, expand the use of properties along the Route 6 corridor.

Members William Winnerburg, a property developer, and John Mathieu, an attorney, have forwarded the idea of looking at the Route 6 corridor in an effort to expand the number of buildable lots primarily for housing.

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The board has long grappled with the lack of housing affordable or otherwise in Mattapoisett. Now they are stepping up that work in advance of a fall Town Meeting. They have acknowledged the need for "affordable" housing units for both young families and seniors looking to stay in Mattapoisett to settle there. They have also acknowledged that given the spiraling real estate market and low inventory those hopes are often abandoned. The members believe a change in the density along Route 6, could benefit those seeking local housing.

Mathieu explained that the draft he has been working on would cover any property that fronts on Route 6. His draft envisions townhouse type condominiums on an acre of land. Each unit would have a maximum of two bedrooms and adequate parking for the residents and guests. All setback requirements and lot coverage must be maintained, and the units connected to the municipal sewer system. Much of the construction would need Special Permits he noted.

Wennerburg agrees that with innovated planning and explicit architectural designs "...people will like the opportunity – this is very doable."

Mathieu and Wennerburg will work collaboratively to develop a draft for review and consideration at the board's next meeting.

Earlier in the meeting the board discussed various aspects of the new state regulations for the construction of additional dwelling units (ADUs).

Some confusion still exists regarding just how and which types of state, and or, local controls can be or should be put in place. Local businessman David McIntire asked the board, "... which way are you leaning..." accepting the state's regulations or asking the voters to install a local ADU known as a Protected Use ADU. Chairman Tom Tucker clarified that the board will accept the state's regulations saying, "...we have no choice."



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A Protected Use ADU shields these units from unreasonable zoning restrictions. The Massachusetts Affordable Housing Act went into effect on February 2, 2025, and allows for by-right home construction in singlefamily zoning districts with a maximum of 900 square feet or half the primary dwelling gross floor area.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Planning Board is scheduled for April 7.

A Short Continuance

Marion Zoning Board of Appeals **By Sam Bishop** The Marion Zoning Board of Appeals met briefly on Thursday, March 13 for a continuance for a request of the



owners of 6 Cole Road for a Special Permit. The permit request, if granted, would allow for the demolition and subsequent reconstruction of a non-conforming singlefamily dwelling. The new construction would not increase non-conformity but would increase the dwelling's overall volume and area.

Robert Grillo, Building Commissioner, apologized for being absent at the last meeting and explained the unique issues and clarified some confusion regarding the property and two lots at 6 Cole Road. Through looking at old zoning maps, one from 1974 and one from 1999, Grillo explained the residence zoning had been changed from A to C and that both lots are conforming and "met all criteria." It was also stated the Special Permit request is for only the front



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setback and not the sides. The Special Permit request, following Grillo's explanation, was approved unanimously as presented.

A request for comment from the Planning Board was also brought up for 63 Oakdale Avenue with a hearing to be held on April 7. Will Tifft explained "nobody in the immediate area has any concerns." Following those comments, the meeting was concluded.

The next meeting of the Marion Zoning Board of Appeals was not discussed at adjournment.

Pier Repair, Tree Removal, and A New Home

Marion Conservation Commission By Sam Bishop



The Marion Conservation Commission met Wednesday, March 12 for various public hearings on Requests for Determination and Notices of Intent.

The first hearing was for a Request for Determination of Applicability for the construction of an addition at 882 Point Road made by Mathew Scaria. There would be two additions, one to the kitchen/dining area and the other to the bathroom of the bedroom. A short discussion on flood zones and foundations emerged, though the hearing was closed quickly without many other questions or public comments.

The next hearing was for the upgrade of septic systems at 80 Delano Road to meet Title V standards, filed by Marion LLC. The representative from Marion LLC stated the work would be done to have as little of an effect as possible on the surrounding area. The hearing was closed with no public comments.

The third hearing was for 22 River View Lane and the removal of trees, limb pruning, stump grinding, and renewal of invasive plant remediation filed by Fred Trezise. Trezise explained "this is the third time over the course of eight to ten years that we've come before the Conservation Commission for essentially the exact same reason, which is tree removal." The property sits on the Sippican River. Whether it be diseased or shallow rooted, Trezise explained, the owners have tried to keep up with the property's vegetation and its disease. The owner was seeking consultation and recommendations for the proper course of action. The hearing was closed with no signs of opposition.

Kevin Medeiros of 0 Cross Neck Road had a hearing for a Notice of Intent for the construction of a new single-family dwelling. Since the lot is wooded and vacant, the applicant explained, it is still registered as "0" Cross Neck Road without an assigned street number. Mark from Marion LLC was identified as having flagged wetland areas and other notable vegetations of the site. It was discussed whether the property would be tied into available town water and sewer due to its availability and proximity. Medeiros stated they would not, and that he merely purchased the site for development and to sell the home upon its completion. The proposed house will have four bedrooms. No public comments were made, and the hearing was continued to later.



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The final hearing was for Albert Fox of 173 Front Street and the Notice of Intent for the repair of stone foundations of the property's pier. The existing foundations were said to be loose, with work being done to replace these foundations with concrete. The land is very muddy and soft, meaning workers would put stones and grout to shore up the area. It was stated work will be done by hand, including the mixing of concrete. Similar to the previous hearing, this was also concluded to the next Conservation Commission meeting.

The next meeting of the Marion Conservation Commission will take place Wednesday, March 26 at 7:00 pm in the Marion Police Department Conference Room.

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Capital Improvement Priority Grading Marion Finance Committee By Sam Bishop

The Marion Finance Committee met March 12 to continue ongoing discussions regarding the town's FY26 budget plans and to look over ORR and Sippican School budgetary info, capital improvements, and the draft of the annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles.

The board approved minutes from their previous meeting, March 5, and began a discussion on schools. The board initially stated they were unable to meet with the school departments to go over budgets, but they hope and believe they will be able to at their next meeting the following week. "Hopefully they will be ready next week,



and I think their intent is to engage the towns over the coming weeks" a board member said.

David Janik, Chair of the Capital Improvement Plan Committee (CIPC), then gave a presentation on his methods for coming to prioritizations of capital projects. "Our primary role is to review the capital project requests from the town department heads and then objectively, the best we can, rank them using a rubric we developed over the years." A capital project is defined as any project costing over \$10,000 and typically having at least a 5-year lifespan. Janik stated the committee looks at a 10-year plan to try and gauge the longevity of projects and to look "down the road at capital needs."

In an effort to continue preparations for the draft of Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) budget, the Finance Committee continues to meet with other town departments or school

OBITUARIES



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved brother, **Bruce A. Bowman**, who died unexpectedly at home on January 29, 2025. He was 64 years old. He was predeceased by his late father John C. Bowman and his beloved brother John C. Bowman Jr.

Bruce was born on July 20, 1960 and grew up in Mattapoisett, Ma.

Bruce was a hardworking and dedicated person who excelled in his career as a master marine mechanic at Brownell Boat Yard, now called Triad Boatworks, Inc in Mattapoisett, Ma. He was known for his exceptional skills and professionalism, and he was respected by his colleagues and clients alike.

Despite his busy schedule, Bruce always made time for his family and friends. He was a loving and caring brother who was always there for his siblings whenever they needed him. He had a wicked sense of humor and always knew how to put a smile on everyone's face.

In his free time, Bruce enjoyed working on vintage cars, going to swap meets with his best friends Raymond and Brent, going to Seekonk Speedway with his son Bruce Jr. and granddaughter Danielle, as well as spending time with his beautiful great grandchildren. He was always eager to jumpscare his mom and sisters as well.

Bruce is survived by his mother, Doreen Y. (Chieppa) Bowman, his siblings Kathleen, Karen, Katherine and Kimberly, his estranged wife Lori A. Medeiros, and his children Nicole, Bruce Jr and Thomas. Bruce is survived by many nieces and nephews, eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

A Celebration of his life will be held in the spring, date forthcoming.

Rest in peace, our dearest brother. You will always be in our hearts and memories forever.



Edward W. Dexter, 71, of Mattapoisett died February 28, 2025 peacefully at home. Born in Charleston, SC, son of the late Edward L. Dexter and Florence M. (Parusa) Drago, he lived in Mattapoisett most of his life. He was formerly employed as a

landscaper and carpenter.

Mr. Dexter served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War.

He enjoyed fishing, quahogging, tending to aquariums and gardening.

Survivors include his son, Eddie; his brother Bob and his wife Sylvia; and friends.

His funeral service will be private. Arrangements are with the Saunders-Dwyer Mattapoisett Home for Funerals, 50 County Rd. (Rt. 6), Mattapoisett. For online guestbook, visit www.saundersdwyer.com.



David Besse Holmes of East Falmouth passed away suddenly March 16, 2025. He was born in Boston August 1, 1955; he grew up in Wellesley and spent summers in Marion. He was predeceased by his parents, Evelyn C. Waters and Edwin B. Holmes, II and his step-brother, Greg

Waters. He is survived by his loving wife, Rene, his sisters, Nathaline C. (Lindy) Williamson (Elwin), Anne T. Converse, and E. Bradford Holmes (Jeanie), all of Marion, and by nieces and nephews, great-nieces and nephews, mother-in-law (Mary E. Burnes), sisters- and brothers-in law, cousins, and extended family. He leaves numerous friends, always loyal and compassionate to them. David attended the Fessenden School and graduated from Lawrence Academy in 1974. He had 42 years of combined experience wholesale sales and management. David was part of the supplier team that launched Oyster Bay wine in the United States, a career highlight for him. He started a career with the Martignetti Companies in 2008 as District Sales Manager for the South Shore, Cape and Islands. He played an integral role in the expansion of the Connoisseur Division. He was happiest on his boat with Rene and family and friends. He enjoyed fishing, skiing, restoring classic cars, and tinkering with engines. He was an avid golfer until back injuries halted his career. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to the American Heart Association (heart.org) or the National Scleroderma Foundation, PO Box 411533, Boston, MA 02241-1533.

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.

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departments. When completed, the FY26 budget will be incorporated into the beginning of the Town Meeting Warrant Article draft.

The next meeting of the Marion Finance Committee will be Wednesday, March 19 at 6:00 pm in the Marion Town House Conference Room. It will include discussions regarding ORR and Sippican School, with the committee hoping they will be present for discussions if not before, then during the meeting.

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PUBLIC ACCESS

Comcast Channel 9 Verizon Channel 36 Thursday March 20, 2025 7:00 AM Seniorcize 7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape 8:00 AM Cape Conversations 8:30 AM For Your Health 9:00 AM Marion Harbormaster **Building Open House** 9:30 AM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre 10:00 AM The Curious Giraffe Show 10:30 AM Two Grannies on the Road 11:00 AM Tri-Town Holiday Events 11:30 AM Sidewalks Entertainment 12:00 PM Tri-Town TV 12:30 PM What's Linda Cooking? 1:00 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline 1:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show 2:00 PM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - Anne Webb 3:00 PM Sippican Historical Society -Marion Golf Club 4:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Shift 4:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow and Today 5:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Furone 5:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Global US 6:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx 6:30 PM Tri-Town TV 7:00 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show 7:30 PM Four Deep Sports Talk Show 8:30 PM The Beacon Hill Report 9:00 PM Lamb of God Christian Church 10:00 PM Tri-County Symphonic Band - Sousa Spectacular 11:00 PM Sippican Historical Society - Hurricane Friday March 21, 2025 7:00 AM Seniorcize 7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape 8:00 AM The World Fusion Show 8:30 AM Living & Learning with Disabilities 9:30 AM Mattapoisett Land Trust

10:00 AM The Curious Giraffe Show 10:30 AM Mike Paige Doodle Club 11:00 AM A Conversation With .. 11:30 AM Cape Conversations 12:00 PM Tri-Town TV 12:30 PM What's Linda Cooking? 1:00 PM Cooking Healthy with

Coastline 1:30 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre 2:00 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience 2:30 PM Two Grannies on the Road 3:00 PM Fur, Fins and Feathers 3:30 PM This is America and the World 4:00 PM Paltrocast with Darren Paltowitz 4:30 PM Beacon Hill Report 5:00 PM Volunteering - Gifts to Give 6:00 PM Tri-Town TV 6:30 PM Accessory Dwelling Units in MA and the Affordable Homes Act 8:00 PM ORR Boys Basketball vs St. Marvs 9:00 PM ORR Boys Basketball MIAA State Finals vs Norwell 10:30 PM Gay USA 11:00 PM Sippican Historical Society Speaker Series - Celebrating the Archive Saturday March 22, 2025 6:00 AM Saturday Morning Cartoon Festival

9:30 AM Two Grannies on the Road 10:00 AM A Conversation With 10:30 AM Cape Conversations 11:00 AM Science 360 11:30 AM Health Source 12:00 PM Mid-Day Movie 1:30 PM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - Anne Webb 2:30 PM Four Deep Sports Talk Show 3:30 PM South Coast Matters 4:00 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience 4:30 PM Rochester Historical Society - Revolutionary War Veterans Ceremony 5:30 PM Accessory Dwelling Units in MA and the Affordable Homes Act 6:00 PM Tri-Town TV 6:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow and Today 7:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe 7:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Global 3000 8:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx 8:30 PM Mattapoisett Land Trust 9:00 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show 10:00 PM Beacon Hill Report 10:30 PM Let's Talk Business 11:00 PM Classic Movies

Sunday March 23, 2025 6:00 AM Health Source

7:00 AM Lamb of God Christian Church 8:00 AM Mattapoisett Congregational Church 9:00 AM First Congregational Church of Rochester 10:00 AM MAC Arts in the Park 11:00 AM Tri-Town Holiday Events 11:30 AM Tri-Town TV 12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking? 12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline 1:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre 1:30 PM Four Deep Sports Talk Show 2:30 PM Miss New Bedford Insider 3:00 PM Bulldog Sports Show 3:30 PM Paltrocast with Darren Paltrowitz 4:00 PM Fur, Fins and Feathers 4:30 PM The World Fusion Show 5:00 PM Sippican Historical Society Speaker Series: Mehetabel Chandler Colt 6:00 PM Tri-Town TV 6:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow and Today 7:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe 7:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Global 3000 8:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx 8:30 PM Marion Natural History Museum - Native American Archaeological 10:00 PM Volunteering - Gifts to Give 10:30 PM Let's Talk Business 11:00 PM Beacon Hill Report 11:30 PM Classic Movies Monday March 24, 2025 7:00 AM Seniorcize

7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape 8:00 AM For Your Health 9:00 AM Reeing: The Movie Review Show 9:30 AM The Curious Giraffe Show 10:00 AM Tri-Town Holiday Events 10:30 AM Cape Conversations 11:00 AM Two Grannies on the Road 11:30 AM Tri-Town TV 12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking? 12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline 1:00 PM In the Toy Box 1:30 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre 2:00 PM Southcoast Matters 2:30 PM The Collective Chat

3:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow and Today 3:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe 4:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Global 3000 4:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Shift 5:00 PM Sippican Historical Society -Dr. Michael Moore 6:00 PM Tri-Town TV 6:30 PM ORR Boys Basketball vs St. Marvs 7:45 PM ORR Boys Basketball MIAA State Finals vs Norwell 9:00 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show 9:30 PM Building the Future 10:00 PM Gay USA 11:00 PM Classic Movie Tuesday March 25, 2025 7:00 AM Seniorcize 7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape 8:00 AM For Your Health: Nicotine Pouches 8:30 AM Reeling: The Movie Review Show 9:00 AM Sidewalks Entertainment 9:30 AM The Collective Chat 10:00 AM The Curious Giraffe 10:30 AM Mike Paige Doodle Club 11:00 AM Saturday Morning Cartooning 11:30 AM In the Toy Box 12:00 PM Tri-Town TV 12:30 PM What's Linda Cooking? 1:00 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline 1:30 PM Miss New Bedford Insider 2:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre 2:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow and Today

3:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx 3:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Global US 4:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus On Europe 4:30 PM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape 5:00 PM Tri-Town Holiday Events 5:30 PM Tri-Town TV 6:00 PM Rochester Historical Society - Mary's Pond with Peter Balzarini 8:00 PM The Beacon Hill Report 9:00 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show 10:00 PM Gay USA

11:00 PM Classic Movie

Wednesday March 26, 2025 7:00 AM Seniorcize

7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape 8:00 AM Cape Conversations 8:30 AM For Your Health 9.00 AM Two Grannies on the Road 9:30 AM Reeling: The Movie Review Show 10:00 AM The Curious Giraffe Show 10:30 AM Sidewalks Entertainment 11:00 AM Mattapoisett Congregational Church 12:00 PM Tri-Town TV 12:30 PM What's Linda Cooking? 1:00 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline 1:30 PM Southcoast Matters TV 2:00 PM Pine Meadow Alpaca Farms Animal Education 2:30 PM Money Talk Tuesday 3:00 PM A Conversation With. 3:30 PM ORR Boys Basketball vs St. Marvs 4:30 PM ORR Boys Basketball MIAA State Finals vs Norwell 5:30 PM Beacon Hill Report 6:00 PM Tri-Town TV 6:30 PM The World Fusion Show 7:00 PM Let's Talk Business 7:30 PM Sippican Historical Speaker Series - Notre Dame 8:30 PM Tri-County Annual Children's Concert 9:30 PM ORR/Fairhaven Boys Hockey vs Monomoy 11:00 PM ORR Girls Basketball vs Bourne MARION GOVERNMENT **Comcast Channel 26** Verizon Channel 39 **Daily Schedule** 7:00 AM Marion Board of Selectmen 8:30 AM Marion Conservation Commission 10:30 AM Marion Planning Board 1:30 PM Marion Zoning Board of Appeals 2:00 PM Marion School Committee

3:00 PM Marion Open Space

3:30 PM Marion Finance Committee

7:00 PM Marion Affordable Housing

8:00 PM Marion Marine Resources

11:00 PM Marion Board of Selectmen

5:30 PM Marion Board of Health

Acquisition Commission

Trust

Commission

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Comcast Channel 26 Verizon Channel 40 **Daily Schedule**

7:00 AM Rochester Board of Selectmen 8:00 AM Rochester Conservation Commission 10:30 AM Rochester Planning Board 11:30 AM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals 12:00 PM Rochester School Committee 1:30 PM ORR School Committee 3:00 PM ORR Joint School Committee 6:00 PM Rochester Board of Selectmen 7:00 PM Rochester Conservation Commission 9:30 PM Rochester Planning Board 10:30 PM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals 11:00 PM Rochester School Committee

ORCTV Schedule for the EDUCATION CHANNEL **Comcast Channel 8** Verizon Channel 37 **Daily Schedule** 7:00 AM Bulldog Weekly 8:00 AM ORR Joint School Committee 11:00 AM Old Colony Graduation 12:00 PM Bulldog Weekly 1:00 PM Old Colony Senior Awards Niaht 2:30 PM Old Colony Vision for the Future 3:00 PM Old Colony TV 3:30 PM ORR Volleyball vs Cardinal Spellman 4:30 PM ORR Homecoming Football vs DR 6:00 PM Bulldog Weekly 6:30 PM Bulldog Weekly 7:00 PM ORR Pep Rally 8:00 PM ORR Field Hockey vs **Bishop Stang** 9:30 PM. ORR Boys Soccer vs Fairhaven 11:00 PM ORR Football vs Medfield

MATTAPOISETT GOVERNMENT **Comcast Channel 26** Verizon Channel 38



The Wanderer

March 20, 2025



Rochester's Conservation Commission Tuesday approved Notices of Intent allowing the construction of four single-family dwellings on two-acre lots on High Street close to A.D. Makepeace cranberry bogs.

These are lots that, since early November, have drawn the attention of abutters who have raised concerns about its possible effect on flooding and natural resources in their neighborhood. Abutters Tuesday night again voiced worries that the housing constructions are too close to the bogs and their properties and will flood adjacent house lots.

The commissioners, three of whom had inspected the site in person the previous Tuesday, responded by adding to the Order of Conditions for each stating that



all measures shall be taken by the applicant to avoid the flooding of neighboring properties when it occurs. "They have to stop it," Commission chair Christopher Gerrior assured the abutters in attendance. "They have to fix it."

The commission also added to all four NOIs the condition that workers onsite shall conduct visual sweeps for endangered turtle species before any construction work starts each day and whenever equipment is to be moved. At first, commission member Ben Bailey said he was not a fan of imposing this requirement in this case. Abutter Eileen Sheehy disagreed. "I see them all the time," she said. "It's a big turtle area. You could sweep just the area in between us and them."

Gerrior motioned to add these sweeps to the



TRITOWN HAPPENINGS

Tri-town athletes dominate the roster of the Gleason Family YMCA Riptides swim team that captured eighth place overall out of some 50 squads at last weekend's New England Swim Championship held in Worcester. Individual medalists included Jason Anderson, Chris Glover, Ava Gagliardi, Charlie Hall, and Noella Michaud. Photos by Mick Colageo and courtesy Riptides.









(Right) Ruth A. Griffin photo of the bay from Crescent Beach on a sunny March day.

(Left) Jennifer Shepley shared this photo of the Full Moon over Mattapoisett



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

March 20, 2025

conditions after agreeing with Sheehy, saying 'little' sweeps at certain times would be worthwhile and not be onerous.

Prior to this vote, the commission canceled the Notice of Intent application for the plan to convert a wetlands swamp at 224 North Avenue into a wildlife and aquatic habitat, agricultural drainage area and fire emergency pond. Previously, the applicant, farmer Cody Wood, argued he does not need an NOI or a conservation plan because of the way regulations read on the matter and an opinion from the DEP. On Tuesday, Gerrior reported that Wood has notified the board he plans to work on and submit a Farm Plan that would show his exact proposal for the location. Submitting one had been the commission's request at the start of the discussion. The board approved withdrawing the application and refund the application fee money.

In other action, the commission approved reappointing Christopher Gerrior and Michael Gifford as 2025 members.

The next Conservation Commission meeting will be April 1 at 7:00 pm, at Town Hall, 1 Constitution Way.

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



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Movie Review

Duck Amuck

By Rob Gonsalves www.robsmovievault.com

The Day the Earth Blew Up: A Looney Tunes Movie. With the voices of Eric Bauza and Candi Milo. Directed by Pete Browngardt. Running time: 91 minutes. MPAA rating: PG. Now playing in theaters.

If you're one of the few (judging by the film's opening-weekend turnout) going to see The *Day the Earth Blew Up,* you might want to arrive late - about twenty minutes or so. The movie, the first fully animated and wholly original feature involving Looney Tunes characters, offers as its main conflict an intergalactic Invader who apparently plans to enslave Earth by having everyone chew gum that turns them into zombies. Before that, though, we go through set-up in which Porky Pig and Daffy Duck are raised by the kindly Farmer Jim, who dies, or fades away, or something, leaving Porky and Daffy heartbroken. Then a home inspector rejects their dilapidated house — whose roof has been damaged by some of the Invader's goo — and, trying to raise money to fix the roof in ten days, the pig and the duck get fired from one job after another.

None of this will rouse so much as a chuckle from the parents in the audience, many of whom are worried homeowners also scared of losing their jobs right about now. It's terrible timing for a movie like this to be front-loaded with real-world concerns. And none of the classic Looney Tunes shorts ever had any of that. Start with Daffy and Porky realizing there's a threat to Earth and devising, with Porky's new friend Petunia Pig, a way to save the planet. You don't need any of the other crap. You never did. Just get to the funny stuff. That's what the old greats — Clampett, Freleng, Avery, Chuck Jones, Mel Blanc — focused on.

Once it settles into its plot, *The Day the Earth Blew Up* is sporadically funny at best. Some of it, care of director Pete Browngardt, is affectionate tribute. The animation sometimes achieves the kind of imaginative elasticity we look for in these increasingly rare examples of hand-drawn, 2D cartooning. (Sometimes it doesn't; occasionally it bears the noxious influence of disgraced *Ren & Stimpy* creator John Kricfalusi. The movie has more than its fair share of fart jokes and humor involving massive, jiggling butts.) I was glad to hear the soundtrack sneaking in Raymond



Scott's composition "Powerhouse," usually heard in vintage Looney Tunes when there were frantic machinery or conveyor belts, and bowing here during a surreal montage that suggests *Modern Times* if Robert McKimson had drawn it. I wasn't as glad to hear REM (go ahead, guess what song — I dig it, but not in this obvious context) and especially Bryan Adams' "Love Theme from *Robin Hood*" or whatever the hell it's called, which I'd hoped we'd left back in 1991.

Back to the plot, which gets convoluted enough eventually to cancel itself out. Daffy, Porky and Petunia just about exhaust themselves trying to break the gum's mental spell, then deal with *another* threat to Earth, an errant asteroid, which leads to the movie briefly becoming an *Armageddon* spoof. Now, the old Looney Tunes shorts were loaded with then-current pop-culture references and caricatures of movie stars, and some of them could use annotation today. (Tex Avery's 1941 "Hollywood Steps Out," which baffled even us kids who caught it in the '70s, is a prime example of this.) But some of this film's references are pretty stale. At one point Porky and Petunia pose with weapons like J and K in *Men in Black*. Are there really a lot of 10-year-olds watching that 28-year-old movie?

Eventually everything that pulled us up short in that twenty-minute set-up is more or less handwaved away. It took eleven credited writers, including the bad-boy indie comix artist Johnny Ryan, to come up with a plot so dense yet so thin. It should be said that Eric Bauza, voicing his best Daffy and Porky (as he did in the *Space Jam* sequel), does Mel Blanc proud, and Peter MacNicol is welcome as the voice of the Invader. (I imagine having Marvin the Martian as the antagonist might've been a little on the nose.) *The Day the Earth Blew Up* will look all right a couple months from now as background wallpaper on Max, but I don't blame folks whose instinct was that it isn't worth making a special trip out. anonymous, unsigned or unconfirmed submissions. The Wanderer reserves the right to edit, condense and otherwise alter submissions for purposes of clarity and/or spacing considerations. The Wanderer may choose to not run letters that thank businesses, and The Wanderer has the right to edit letters to omit business names. The Wanderer also reserves the right to deny publication of any submitted correspondence. All letters must be typed and submitted directly to: news@ wanderer.com.

To the Residents of Marion:

Although the village still looks much the same as it did when I first arrived 53 years ago in 1972, many people, including myself, feel that a plan to protect our beautiful and historic architecture is needed.

We also need a proposal that offers thoughtful guidelines to future construction so that neighboring property owners do not have to get directly involved in often heated debates about the architectural merits and scale of a new house. The current proposal of the Historic District Study Committee, as presented at the recent February 18th open meeting, is a fair one to achieve these goals.

At that meeting, I listened to the legitimate concerns of a number of residents who expressed opposition to the Study Committee plan. I know most of these friends and neighbors very well. Some are involved in real estate investment and construction and own property within the proposed district. Their concerns with the creation of a new oversight commission to limit their property rights is not the main problem.





TRI-TOWN POLICE _OGS

MARION

Log highlights March 9 - March 15

- Wareham Rd Health/welfare
- · Bullivant Farm Rd Brush fire
- Pumping Station Rd Road hazard
- Wareham Rd Smoke investigation Moorings Rd Vandalism/past
- Rezendes Ter EMS/medical
- Point Rd MV collision
- Mill St Animal complaint
- Village Dr Missing person
- Water St Officer wanted
- · Spring St General service
- Converse Rd Officer wanted
- Riverview Ln Wildlife services
- Mill St MV collision
- Delano Rd Animal complaint
- Wareham Rd Fraud
- · Point Rd Follow up investigation
- Mill St Found property
- Front St Paper service
- Spring St General offense
- County Rd UAS deployment
- Fieldstone Ln EMS/medical
- Point Rd General service
- Pleasant St Suspicious activity
- Bayberry Ln Animal complaint
- Cottage St EMS/medical
- Vine St EMS/medical
- · 195 West Road hazard
- Delano Rd General service

MATTAPOISETT

Log highlights March 9 - March 15

- Brandt Island Rd 911 call
- Fairhaven Rd MV violations
- Ocean Dr Suspicious persons
- Mechanic St Medical assist
- Wildwood Ter Medical assist
- Reservation Rd Disturbance
- Bridle Path General service
- Oaklawn Ave 911 call
- County Rd Larceny/forgery/fraud
- Lynfield Ln Animal control
- Fairhaven Rd Suspicious persons
- Crystal Spring Rd Animal control
- Fairhaven Rd Brush fire
- Bay Rd Medical alarm
- Wildwood Ter Medical assist
- Acushnet Rd Assist citizen
- County Rd Assist citizen
- Acushnet Rd Health/welfare
- Acushnet Rd General service
- Wildwood Ter Medical assist
- North St - Follow up investigation
- Prospect Rd Complaint ٠
- Chapel Rd Trespassing
- North St Disturbance
- Wildwood Ter Ambulance request
- River Rd Disturbance
- Water St MV violations
- Acushnet Rd Officer wanted
- Fairhaven Rd Disturbance

salad

toppings bar, brown rice, black bean

Wednesday, March 26: Warm ham,

egg & cheese breakfast sandwich,

hashbrown patty, orange smiles

creamy chicken penne, steamed

meatballs, onion rings, breaded

mozzarella sticks served w/warm

Friday, March 28: Appetizer basket:

Monday, March 24: Kayem hot dog

Tuesday, March 25: Taco Tuesday:

toppings bar, brown rice, black bean

Wednesday, March 26: Warm ham,

egg & cheese breakfast sandwich,

hashbrown patty, orange smiles

creamy chicken penne, steamed

Friday, March 28: Stuffed crust

pizza, roasted chic peas, garden

salad, assorted salad dressing

Thursday, March 27: Baked

broccoli, garlic breadstick

on whole grain bun, oven baked

French fries, BBQ baked beans

taco w/crunchy taco shell, taco

Thursday, March 27: Baked

broccoli, garlic breadstick

ROCHESTER MEMORIAL

marinara sauce

salad

- Log highlights March 9 March 15 Marys Pond Rd – MV collision Perrys Ln – Outside fire
- Burgess Ave 911 call

ROCHESTER

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- Pine St 911 call Pine St Animal control
- North Ave General services
- Marion Rd MV stop/citation
- Marys Pond Rd 911 call
- New Bedford Rd General services
- Marys Pond Rd MV stop/citation
- New Bedford Rd Medical alarm
- Allev Rd Outside investigation
- New Bedford Rd General services
- Bates Rd Animal control
- Walnut Plain Rd Suspicious activity
- Pine St 911 call
- Marvs Pond Rd MV stop/citation
- Walnut Plain Rd Suspicious activity
- Cushman Rd Animal control
- Burgess Ave Structure fire
- Cranberry Hwy 911 call
- Dexter Ln Suspicious activity
- Cranbery Hwy MV collision
- Marys Pond Rd Erratic MV/arrest

ENUS

Monday, March 24: Kayem hot dog

Tuesday, March 25: Taco Tuesday:

toppings bar, brown rice, black bean

Wednesday, March 26: Warm ham,

egg & cheese breakfast sandwich,

hashbrown patty, orange smiles

creamy chicken penne, steamed

Friday, March 28: Stuffed crust

pizza, roasted chic peas, garden

Monday, March 24: General Tso's

Tuesday, March 25: Mozzarella

sticks, marinara sauce & fries

Wednesday, March 26: Home-

made chicken guesadilla, salsa &

Thursday, March 27: Meatball sub

Friday, March 28: Assorted pizza

www.wanderer.com

salad, assorted salad dressing

OLD COLONY REGIONAL

chicken bowl & dinner roll

sour cream

& fries

Thursday, March 27: Baked

broccoli, garlic breadstick

on whole grain bun, oven baked French fries, BBQ baked beans

taco w/crunchy taco shell, taco

SIPPICAN SCHOOL

- Negus Way Suspicious activity
- Pine St 911 call
- Randall Rd Animal control
- Pine St General services ٠
- · Bishop Rd Water rescue

salad

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

EGIONAL LUNCH

creamy chicken penne, steamed

Friday. March 28: Stuffed crust

pizza, roasted chic peas, garden

Monday, March 24: Kayem hot dog

Tuesday, March 25: Taco Tuesday:

toppings bar, brown rice, black bean

Wednesday, March 26: Warm ham,

egg & cheese breakfast sandwich,

hashbrown patty, orange smiles

creamy chicken penne, steamed

Friday, March 28: Stuffed crust

pizza, roasted chic peas, garden

salad, assorted salad dressing

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL

on whole grain bun, oven baked

French fries, BBQ baked beans

taco w/crunchy taco shell, taco

Monday, March 24: Kayem hot dog

Tuesday, March 25: Taco Tuesday:

March 20, 2025

JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH

Thursday, March 27: Baked

broccoli, garlic breadstick

on whole grain bun, oven baked

French fries, BBQ baked beans

taco w/crunchy taco shell, taco

salad, assorted salad dressing

broccoli, garlic breadstick

OLD HAMMONDTOWN

salad

COASTLINE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM

Monday, March 24: Pork chop w/apple chutney, orzo, butternut squash, Hawaiian roll, applesauce Tuesday, March 25: Rosemary garlic chicken, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, wheat roll, pound cake, diet: fruit

Wednesday, March 26: Teriyaki salmon, white rice, garlic spinach, dinner roll, banana

Thursday, March 27: Hot dog, baked beans, carrots, hot dog bun, orange, ketchup Friday, March 28: Cheese lasagna

w/Bolognese, broccoli, wheat roll,

Monday, March 24: Kayem hot dog

Tuesday, March 25: Taco Tuesday:

toppings bar, brown rice, black bean

Wednesday, March 26: Warm ham,

The Wanderer

egg & cheese breakfast sandwich,

hashbrown patty, orange smiles

Thursday, March 27: Baked

on whole grain bun, oven baked

French fries, BBQ baked beans

taco w/crunchv taco shell. taco

chocolate chip cookie

CENTER SCHOOL

salad

30

The greater concern is that, with the high desirability of living and owning property in Marion Village, there is increasing pressure to demolish smaller, historically valuable houses, or to purchase vacant lots or non-historic properties and maximize the profit potential of new construction without consideration for the overall effect the new structure will have on the immediate neighborhood.

This situation is already ongoing in Marion. As long as the builders and the new property owners stay within existing laws and zoning regulations, there is nothing the Historical Commission can do to prevent the approved construction of a new or enlarged building. We also cannot stop the demolition of a house, no matter how important it may be architecturally or historically, if the owner wants to remove it.

Therefore, for the greater good of all of us who love our surroundings, and who also cherish our individual freedoms, I think that the current proposal for the establishment of an Historic Village District with a very limited area and clearly defined powers and controls will go a long way towards protecting the beauty of the historic village we all enjoy.

Bryan J. McSweeny, Member Marion Historical Commission

To the Editor.

As long-time owners of property within Marion's proposed historic district, our families hold dear Marion's rich maritime roots, small-town feel, and architectural history. At the January 15 meeting, we thoroughly enjoyed the presentation revealing the evolution of architectural styles in Marion through time. Advances in technology and changes in community land use are all evidenced in the village buildings we enjoy so much today.

However, although well-intentioned, the proposed historical district by-law places an undue burden on homeowners within the district. We imagine this proposed by-law is appealing to many of Marion's residents, but as homeowners in the district, it is clear to us that the potential scheduling delays and financial costs (architectural and site plan revisions, etc.) would be solely incurred by the homeowners and not the town population. Even exterior adjustments, such as window and door placements, as mentioned in the bylaw, would have an



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interior architectural design impact, as well.

With rising sea levels and storm activity creating greater threats to waterfront properties, changes outside those that protect historical integrity will be required. It is clear that the proposed by-law will complicate these efforts as evidenced by the Committee's response to questions at the February 18 meeting.

We respect the intentions of those who reside within the proposed district to modify their properties as needed and desired without requiring them to go through any added oversight. This area that we value so much today has existed without a commission of this sort successfully for generations. We have no reason to think that will not continue.

Lastly, some of us received the survey along with "encouragement" to vote in favor by a member of the committee. This survey felt more like a petition in which the recipient was being given only the perspective of the petitioner.

We urge other owners of property in the proposed district to express their views by responding to the "survey."



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SALOME'S STARS

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Consider moving beyond the usual methods to find a more creative means of handling a difficult on-thejob situation. Avoid confrontation and aim for cooperation instead.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A seasonal change creates a new look for the outdoors. It also inspires Taureans to redo their own environments, so this is a good week to start redoing both your home and workplace. Enjoy! GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A misunderstanding needs to be straightened out so the wrong impression isn't allowed to stand. If necessary, offer to support the use of a third party to act as an impartial arbitrator. CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A career change offering what you want in money and responsibilities could involve moving to a new location. Discuss this with your family members before making a decision.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Feeling miffed over how you believe you were treated is understandable. But before you decide to "set things straight," make sure that the whole thing wasn't just a misinterpretation of the facts. VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Showing you care makes it easier to build trust and gain an advantage in handling a delicate situation. What you learn from this experience will also help you understand yourself better. LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Planning for the future is fine, especially if you include the roles that family members may be asked to play. But don't be surprised if some hidden emotions are revealed in the process. SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Making choices highlights much of the week, and you have a head start here, thanks to your ability to grasp the facts of a situation and interpret them in a clear-cut manner. SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December

21) Carrying a torch can be a two-way situation: It can either keep you tied to the past or help light your way to the future. The choice, as always, has to be yours.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Your watchwords this week are "focus, focus, focus." Don't let yourself be distracted from what you set out to do. There'll be time later to look over other possibilities.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A workplace opportunity might require changes that you're not keen on making. Discuss the plusses and minuses with someone familiar with the situation before you make a decision. PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Love and romance are strong in your aspect this week. If you've already met the right person, expect your relationship to grow. And if you're still looking, odds are, you'll soon be finding what you want!

BORN THIS WEEK: You approach life in a wise and measured manner, which gives you a competitive edge in many areas. (c) 2025 King Features Synd., Inc. Celebration of Life for **Michael G. Thompson** March 29th at 12:30pm People's Christian Church 2240 Acushnet Ave. New Bedford, MA

Brian Keane, Beth Keane, Andy Kendall, Emilie Kendall, and Sarah Mitchell

To the Editor,

I write this from the sands of time and for the many who have washed ashore in the paradise one calls Mattapoisett, "land of rest". Let me say that my job here for many years has included more calls of duty than grains of sand on the beach. Terrible decision back in July of 2001 to place my stake in the dunes? Hardly!!! This has been a labor of love for 24 of my 30 postal years. From a pier in a Moor on a choppy surf to a guiding lighthouse on the peninsula during the dark fog of night, you all have provided my way to safe harbor.

We have been through many ebbs and tides. Some seen and some not so apparent. We have worked as a team to build this oasis enveloped in a landmass of uncertainty. Every Skipper needs a Gilligan to steer around the sandbars. I hope I've performed my duties (professional and personal) to the betterment of our small bay in the middle of an ocean. I've met so many great people in my "luxury cruise" around town. The people and the stories have equaled anyone's travels thru seven seas. But I found treasure here, one that can't be replaced nor pirated.

I'm blessed and always hope to serve (or work at what I lacked) for the many nautical miles in life. I have a crew that absolutely deserves respect, and I would hope you'd greatly support in our postal vessel. Others have performed their tour of duty also. You have, and have

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created, a spiritual compass that needs to be shared and enjoyed with your loved ones and others. There comes a chosen time when a ship's captain needs to lift anchor and chart course among great vast of the horizons. After searching many leagues under the sea, it's time for me to retire from the post office. It's a difficult decommissioning requiring serious introspect. I have my health, trunk of doubloons, and sailor's stories to continue my next port of call (reverend maybe?). I'm keep my dinghy nearby, but like Titanic's "heart", love caries on and on!

God bless and thank you.

Dennis Proulx

PS please take care of Salty the Seahorse and if you see that sea monster, call me.



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To the Editor,

As long term (50 years +) residents of Marion's historic village, we wholeheartedly endorse the proposed historic district to be voted on at the spring Town Meeting. Of the 350 towns in MA, there are over 200 local historic districts including neighboring towns of Rochester, Wareham, Westport, and Dartmouth.

If you carefully review the by-law (available on the town website) you will see that it is very light in what it covers and allows. The intention is to preserve the character and historic nature of the village without being too burdensome on the property owner.

People say that they moved to Marion because of its

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March 20, 2025

LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES				
TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT ORRSD PUBLIC NOTICE The Old Rochester Regional School District, Mattapoisett, Massachusetts invites proposals from Professional Engineering Services firms to design, plan and develop publicly biddable documents including all plans and project specifi- cations for renovations of the athletic fields at the at 135 Marion Road. The Request for Qualification (RFQ) will be advertised and interested firms should submit a detailed scope of work, summary of their qualifications, resumes of key personnel assigned to this project, and a summary of related experiences to be submitted to Howard Barber, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Opera- tions, Old Rochester Regional School District, 135 Marion Road, Mattapoisett, MA. 02739 no later than Wednesday , April 9, 2025 at 10:00 am. 3/20 TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT ORR SCHOOL COMMITTEE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Pursuant to Chapter 71, Section 38N of the Massachusetts General Laws, you are notified that there will be a Public Hearing of the Old Rochester Regional School Committee regarding	the school budget for the 2025-2026 school year at 5:30 pm, on Thursday, March 27, 2025. This hybrid meeting will be held in the Media Room located at the Jr. High School at 133 Marion Road, Mattapoisett, MA 02739. Public is able to attend in person or via zoom. https://oldrochester-org.zoom.us/j/96815845547?p- wd=MIJtRVFXOVIPTWVHaUILcEg3U21IQT09 Meeting ID: 968 1584 5547 Passcode: 146869 Please contact the Superintendent's Office at 508- 758-2772 ext. 1956 with any questions. 3/20 	LEGAL NOTICES wd=MIJtRVFXOVIPTWVHaUILcEg3U211QT09 Meeting ID: 968 1584 5547 Passcode: 146869 Please contact the Superintendent's Office at 508- 758-2772 ext. 1956 with any questions. 3/20 				
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis by Stephan Pastis by Stephan Pastis CV AN L CV AN L CV CV CV CV CV CV CV CV CV CV CV CV CV	I DO. A GIRL SHATTERED TY HEART INTO A THOUSAND PIECES.	FIX-IT GUYS HAVE REAL LIMITATIONS.				


historic seaside New England heritage, which everyone values a great deal. That heritage can be threatened by demolition, new building, and additions not in character or scale with their neighborhood. This is happening already, and the question is how to protect against that.

We own our houses for only a short time in their history and will pass that history on to owners in the future. Let's protect our historic village for many generations to come.

Sincerely, Michael and Margie Baldwin, 3Marion John and Merry Conway, Marion

LWVSC Candidates Forum

Residents of Marion will have the opportunity to hear from candidates on the Marion ballot at the League of Women Voters SouthCoast (LWVSC) Candidates Forum. The event will occur on Tuesday, April 29 at 7:00 pm in the Multipurpose Room of Sippican School, located at 16 Spring Street, Marion.

Mr. Jack Eklund of the LWVSC will serve as moderator.

In contested races, all candidates will be requested to make an introductory statement lasting no more than two minutes. Following this, they will answer questions about local issues and their candidacies posed by the LWVSC.

The public is invited and will have a chance to ask questions of the candidates.

Questions from the public can be submitted in advance to LWVSC Voter Services Coordinator: phgirard508@gmail.com.

Candidates in uncontested races will be invited to deliver a two-minute statement explaining their reasons for running. No questions will be asked of candidates who have no opposition.

The forum will be filmed and shown on Old Rochester Community Television.

Marion Town Party

As you may remember, last year the Marion Town Party was cancelled due to concerns of mosquito-borne diseases in the area. With that in mind, the Committee has decided to move the event to July.





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March 20, 2025

LEGAL NOTICES

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86413649504 Meeting ID: 864 1364 9504 Christopher Gerrior, Chairperson 3/20

TOWN OF ROCHESTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION & TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

A public hearing of the Rochester Conservation Commission will be held on Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall Conference Room regarding a Notice of Intent filed by Ken Josephson, for property located at 57 Gifford Lane, designated as Lot 7 on Assessor's Map 39. The applicant is proposing to install a new private well, construct a rear deck and clear brush and deadwood within the buffer zone.

The applicant's representative is Darren Michaelis, Foresight Engineering, Inc., PO Box 23, Middleboro, MA 02346.

This hearing is being held under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, MGL Ch. 131, Section 40 and the Town of Rochester Wetlands Protection By-Law. Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86413649504 Meeting ID: 864 1364 9504 Christopher Gerrior, Chairperson 3/20

TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Mattapoisett Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 14, 2025 at 6:30 pm in the Mattapoisett Town Hall on a Request for a Determination of Applicability submitted by John Baglini & Deborah Dow-Baglini.

The meeting will also be a hybrid meeting. Please contact the Conservation Commission for the Zoom information.

The Applicants propose to construct a single-family dwelling, in-ground swimming pool, pool house and driveways, to install associated underground utilities and to fill and grade.

A portion of the work will be performed within the 100 ft. Buffer Zone of an off-site Bordering Vegetated Wetland located across the street of Angelica Avenue and a wetland system located off-site westerly.

The property is located on corner of Old Slough Road & Angelica Avenue. The site is known as ANR Lot #F which is a Portion of Lot #159 on Assessors Map #2. 3/20

LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF MARION PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING To be held at the Marion Police Department Conference Room 550 Mill Street

Also Available via Remote Participation Option The Marion Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 7, 2025, at 7:05 pm to consider the request of Derek A. Maksy & Denise Allard for a Special Permit pursuant to the Code of the Town of Marion Section 230-7.4.D of the Marion Zoning By-law to allow an "Association Pier" as an Accessory Use to two single-family dwellings.

The properties are located at 63 & 61 Oakdale Avenue, Marion, MA and is further identified on Marion Assessor's Map as Plat 12, Lots 18B & 18, zoned Residence D.

The public is invited to attend and comment on this matter and may inspect the full text at the Town House, 2 Spring Street, Office of the Planning Board or Town Clerk during normal business hours. Please email Olivia Prior for the remote participation information: oprior@marionma. gov during normal business hours. Andrew Daniel, Chair

Alanna Nelson, Vice-Chair 3/20, 3/27

Just Like Cats & Dogs

DEAR, I LOVE THAT YOU TRIED COOKING FOR ME, BUT REMEMBER, THE SAYING ISN'T "IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED JUST ADD MORE SALT."

by Dave T. Phipps



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

a Happy Birthday!			
Jared Gammell	March 20		
Josh Fardy	March 20		
Marina Stephens	March 20		
Nancy Janousek	March 20		
Nova Lee Delano	March 20		
Ryan Foster	March 20		
Tim Smith	March 20		
Amy Rezendes	March 21		
Braly Hiller	March 21		
David R. Langhoff	March 21		
Mario Luzza	March 21		
Meghan Day	March 21		
Rocky Fleurent	March 21		
Ron Ellis	March 21		
James Dexter Jr.	March 22		
Jill Eklund	March 22		
Tony Alexander	March 22		
Charlie Leahy	March 23		
Donna Pease (Mimi)	March 23		
Maverick Leahy	March 23		
Michael A Days	March 23		
Tara LeBlanc	March 23		
Catherine Day	March 24		
Nicole Adams	March 24		
Nolan Blanchette	March 24		
Denise Mello	March 25		
Hermann Elger	March 25		
Judi Gibbs	March 25		
Emma Levasseur	March 26		
Hannah Cameron	March 26		
Heather Alford	March 26		
Jonathan Wirth	March 26		
If you would like <i>The Wanderer</i> to announce yourself, a friend or family member, please s			
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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.

ONE OF THE MORE SUBTLE BULL MOOSE MATING CALLS

March 20, 2025

Save the date. The Annual Marion Town Party will be held on Saturday, July 26 (rain date is Sunday, July 27) on the grounds of Silvershell Beach, Front Street.

Festivities will begin at 4:00 pm. There will be food and beverages for sale. There will be free activities for the kids, music and dancing and more fun.

More details to follow on how to donate to the event and how to volunteer.

We are looking forward to bringing the party back to Silvershell Beach this summer.

"Touch A Truck" Event

The Old Rochester Regional High School (ORRHS) Early Childhood High School Students are excited to host Touch A Truck-a fun-filled, hands-on event for children and families.

This free event will take place on Saturday, May 17 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at 135 Marion Rd., Mattapoisett. A rain date is scheduled for May 18.

Families will have the opportunity to explore and interact with a variety of vehicles, including police and fire trucks, tractor-trailers, farm equipment, and more. In addition to the exciting vehicle displays, there will be an interactive outdoor family fun experience planned by ORRHS Early Childhood High School students.

All children attending will leave with prizes. For more information, please contact Liz Kennedy at elizabethkennedy@oldrochester.org. Join us for a day of fun, learning, and hands-on exploration.

Mattapoisett Woman's Club Magic Event

The Mattapoisett Woman's Club invites interested local residents to its March 20 monthly meeting featuring magic by Dennis Blanchard from Eventful Magic. This month's program will provide a fun, and unforgettable experience transcending conventional programs. Witnessing incredible mind-bending tricks can inspire thinking outside the box and help individuals approach challenges with a fresh perspective. Magic encourages lateral thinking which can spark innovative ideas and solutions to one's life. Not only is it good for your brain, but it's fun and sure to leave a lasting impression. Visitors are welcome to attend this unique and exciting





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program which will begin at 12:45 pm at the Mattapoisett Congregational Church in Reynard Hall.

The Mattapoisett Woman's Club is a civic, social, educational and philanthropic organization. Membership is always open to local women who are interested in the objectives and mission of the organization. For more information or questions please contact info@ mattapoisettwomansclub.org.

Historic District Survey

The Marion Village Historic District Study Committee met on March 11 to tabulate and report out the results of their recent survey of town residents regarding a proposed local historic district bylaw.



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March 20, 2025

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The Wanderer

March 20, 2025

The survey was conducted at the request of several village property owners at the Study Committee's public meetings in January and February. The primary intent was to assess the level of interest in creating a historic district among those most directly affected by it: property owners in the district.

There are a total of 201 properties in the proposed district. Upon final tally of 101 votes from within the proposed district, the results were 50 in favor, 45 against, 6 maybe.

In addition, out of district ballots were received from 48 people: 42 in favor, 6 against.

The Study Committee has submitted the survey results to the Select Board with a request to move forward by placing the bylaw on the warrant for a Town Meeting vote. The bylaw would require a 2/3 majority vote at Town Meeting to be adopted.

Grace Morrison to Perform at Library Fundraiser

The Friends of the Elizabeth Taber Library in Marion are excited to announce that the star attraction at their 2nd Annual Afternoon Tea fundraiser will be local singersongwriter Grace Morrison. The event will again be held at the Marion Music Hall on Sunday, **April 13**. It will begin at 3:00 pm with a sumptuous tea of assorted tea sandwiches, scones and desserts, with the performance to follow.

Grace Morrison grew up in Wareham and has devoted her life to making music and perfecting her unique style, which she calls Saltwater Country, also the name of her latest album. Audiences around the country have become captivated by her personal and endearing connection with her listeners.

Tickets, which are \$45, are limited and can only be purchased with cash or check at the Elizabeth Taber Library, 8 Spring St., where they will go on sale Monday, March 24 at 2:00 pm and every day that week from 2:00 pm until closing until they are sold out. All proceeds go to benefit the programming and other needs of the library.

Mattapoisett Rabies Clinic

A rabies clinic for cats and dogs will be held on Sunday, **March 23** from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm noon at the Mattapoisett Highway Department, 5 Mendell Road. This



clinic is open to all regardless of residency. Cats must be in carriers and dogs must be leashed. Vaccination fee is \$15. Please bring proof of prior rabies vaccination if a 3-year shot is desired. Dog licensing for Mattapoisett residents will be offered. License fees are \$12 for intact animals and \$9 for those that have been spayed or neutered. Payment by cash or check only will be accepted.

Rochester Friends of Library Book Sale

The Friends of Plumb Library will be holding a 2-day book sale in the library's downstairs program space on Friday, **April 25** from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm, and Saturday, **April 26** from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm.

The Library will begin accepting donations of books, DVDs, puzzles, and CDs for the sale on April 1st. Funds raised from this event help support programming for kids and adults year-round. We hope to see you there.

Rochester Public Meeting

Senator Michael J. Rodrigues, Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, and newly-elected State Representative Mark Sylvia will host a public meeting at the Rochester Council on Aging on Wednesday, **March 26**, at 6:00 pm. Dubbed, "An Evening of Conversation," the public meeting will offer a close up look at the state budget process and its impact on the Town of Rochester. Local town officials have been invited and are expected to be on hand to add to the dialogue on the role Rochester can play in securing essential resources to fund local governmental



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42 The Wanderer		www.wanderer.con

operations and planned capital infrastructure projects.

"I'm delighted to have the opportunity to meet Rochester public officials and the local community to get a better understanding of their most important needs as we prepare the fiscal Year 2026 state budget, said Senator Michael J. Rodrigues, (D-Westport) who also represents Rochester. It is so beneficial to have this open discussion and have Rep. Sylvia and I hear the concerns and the issues that people care most about first-hand."

"I'm thrilled to co-host this community discussion with Senator Rodrigues in Rochester," said Representative Mark Sylvia, (D-Fairhaven), who also represents Rochester. "Engaging directly with our residents helps us better understand their concerns and priorities, and I look forward to continuing this dialogue to address the needs of our community."

This public meeting is of particular importance as soon both the House and Senate will present their respective budget recommendations for the upcoming Fiscal Year, 2026. The House plans to present and debate their budget in April, and the Senate will follow suit in May. This event provides an excellent opportunity for Rochester's public officials, community leaders, and the general public to hear first-hand the state of the Massachusetts economy, the budget process, and how Rochester can maximize its opportunities on Beacon Hill.

From the Files of the Rochester Historical Society By Connie Eshbach

Back to the history of Rochester's schools. By 1859, there were eleven school districts in town. They were spread throughout town with the hope that no child was too far from a schoolhouse. Schools had a summer and a winter term. Generally, the different terms would have different teachers.

Each district was a legal entity and owned its schoolhouse. They elected a Prudential Committee-man to oversee the schools. The Committee men were the ones who interviewed and hired teachers, visited the school to check on progress, paid the bills, saw that repairs were made, provided supplies and examined students at the end of the term.



In the Town Report of 1862 while advocating for the school system stated, " In the constitution of a good school there are three essential elements-good school-houses, good scholars, and here I refer to the moral and social, rather than to the intellectual qualifications, and a good teacher."

The eleven districts were #1. Centre School, #2. Church School, #3. Cushman School, #4. Davis School, #5. Braley School, #6. North Rochester School, #7. Walnut Plain or Bishop School, #8. Pierceville School, #9. Mantur School, #10. Burgess School, #11 Leonard School. In 1868-1869, the district system was abolished by the state legislature and the municipal system was established. In this system, the town owned all school property and would oversee all aspects of the schools.

The number of schools went from eleven to six and the school buildings went through many stages. New schools were built. Old ones burned down, were torn down, merged their students, or like the Centre School, the small building between Town Hall and the Academy (now the church vestry) were moved to a different lot. The Centre School ended up on the corner of Mary's Pond and Walnut Plain Rds. where it was repaired. This was in 1882, and the move cost the town \$30.00 for the lot and \$574.93 for the repairs.

The town went through school overcrowding, school closings, and finally settled on the Waterman School as the town school until Rochester Memorial school was built and the Waterman School morphed into the Rochester Fire Station.

Hello from Plumb Library

Spring has sprung and we've got a lot of great things coming up at the Library.



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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 here 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 secure me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary conceived

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The Wanderer

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March 20, 2025

Join the Writer's Group at 6:30 pm Thursday, **March 20** for writing prompts, sharing, and snacks. This group is open to anyone 18+ and will help you get your creative writing ideas flowing.

Books and Babble Bookclub will be discussing "The Lobster Chronicles" by Linda Greenlaw at 6:30 pm Thursday, **March 27**. New members are always welcome. The complete list of titles for 2025 is available at the desk. We hope you'll join us.

Marty Gitlin will be presenting "The Ultimate Presentation for Red Sox Nation" at 12:30 pm Saturday, **March 29** in celebration of the opening day of baseball season. Marty is a dynamic presenter keeping audiences engaged with history, facts, trivia, video clips, anecdotes, and fun. Registration is required for this program as space is limited. The content of this program is designed for an adult audience, no children please.

Mark your calendars for 12:30 pm Saturday, **April 12**, when the New Bedford Whaling Museum will be at the Library. Docents will present "A Day in the Life of the Lagoda and a Whaling Voyage." This program will bring the history of whaling alive for the audience, providing information about whaling ships and how life aboard would have been during a multi-year voyage. There will also be a harpoon demonstration. Seating is limited and registration is required. This program is designed for adults.

For the kids: A special 5-week session of Storytime with Grandma Gail still has spaces available. This program will be held at 10:30 am Tuesdays March 18 through April



15. This traditional story time will feature books, finger plays, songs, rhymes, a craft, and a snack. Designed for ages 2-5; registration is required. There are also still a couple of Drop-in Storytimes with guest readers on the schedule for Wednesday, March 26 (Cam Durant), Friday, March 28 (Kelley Medeiros), and Wednesday, April 16 (Chief Assad), all at 10:30 am These are designed for kids ages 3-5.

Please note that the Library will be closed on Monday April 21 for Patriot's Day.

Please remember that library cards are required for checkout. If you have lost your card, it can be replaced for a \$2.00 charge. Always have your card with you by loading it into the SAILS Mobile app. It's quick and easy and we're happy to show you how it works.

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Buyer(s)	Seller(s)	Address	City	2.000	Price
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		County Rd			
		Cross Rd			
<u> </u>		Forbes Rd			
Capobianco, James	Duponte, Charles H	Pine Island Rd	Mattapoisett	02/27/2025	250,000.00
	Duponte, Karen	0 Prospect Rd			
Duponte, Charles H	Reed, Eva TR	54 Marion Rd	Mattapoisett	02/27/2025	225,000.00
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Power, Francis R	Miller, Gene I TR	317 Converse Rd	Marion	02/28/2025	650,000.00
Rabbe, Lisa	Merritt, Sharyne TR	a line and a second			
~ ~ ~ ~	Miller & Merritt FT				
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Medina, Isaiah					

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w ?		Friday	March 21	12:59	1:30	6:51	6:44
		Saturday	March 22	1:51	2:24	8:00	7:50
		Sunday	March 23	2:50	3:24	9:41	9:14
		Monday	March 24	3:55	4:30	10:51	10:34
		Tuesday	March 25	5:04	5:34	11:37	11:36
	$m \sim 2$	Wednesday	March 26	6:04	6:30		12:17
		Thursday	March 27	6:56	7:20	12:30	12:55
		Friday	March 28	7:44	8:07	1:21	1:35
	- Vice	Saturday	March 29	8:32	8:55	2:12	2:16
Emple II		Sunday	March 30	9:20	9:43	3:03	2:59
		Monday	March 31	10:10	10:33	3:53	3:42
1/5-3-3	11. 191	Tuesday	April 1	11:02	11:27	4:41	4:26
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THE POT AT THE B	ECHINING	Friday	April 4	1:26	1:56	8:30	7:07
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a veres

I Found the Aardvark!

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

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

To enter visit: www.wanderer.com and Click on *I Found the Aardvark* In the March 13, 2025 edition the Aardvark was on page 17



The Wanderer

March 20, 2025

SALE EFFECTIVE: Friday, March 21st Thru Thursday, March 27th, 2025				
Friends'				
marketplace		nester, MA 02770 508.763.5333		
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Spring .	Gold Medal \$539 All Purpose Flour	Bell & Evans Boneless Chicken Thighs \$5%		
	32 oz.	Fresh, Center Cut Boneless Pork Chops		
24 oz. Selected Variety Classico	Lifeway Blueberry Kefir \$399	Boneless Pork Chops		
Pasta Sauce	16 oz.	Fresh Boneless Pork Roast \$49		
2/\$G	Hood \$2 ¹⁹ Sour Cream	Deli Sliced.		
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March Mania	Deviled Eggs (4 Pack) \$599			
Wine Sale!	Take'n Bake Pizzas Various Styles - Cheese. Pepperoni, Maroherita, etc. \$899 \$1099	Store Packaged Seafood Salad \$10,99		
		Store Packaged Solad \$629		
Mix'n Match	Small Size - \$12.99ea			
6 or more Bottles of Wine & get 20% offu	Chicken Pot Pie Large Size Small Size - \$12.99ea \$1999	12 oz. Pkg. Selected Variety Greek Yogurt Dip		
Wine & get 20% off!!	BAKERY	8 oz. Pkg. \$199		
Excludeds Markdowns,	2.8 oz. 4 Pack Buttermilk Biscuits	8 oz. Pkg. Feta Cheese \$ 4 99		
3/\$18, 3/\$25 and wines	6 oz. 2 Pack Slices. Selected Variety	10 oz. Pkg Selected Variety Cedar's Hommus		
priced ending in .98	The Father's Table Cheesecake			
SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!				

