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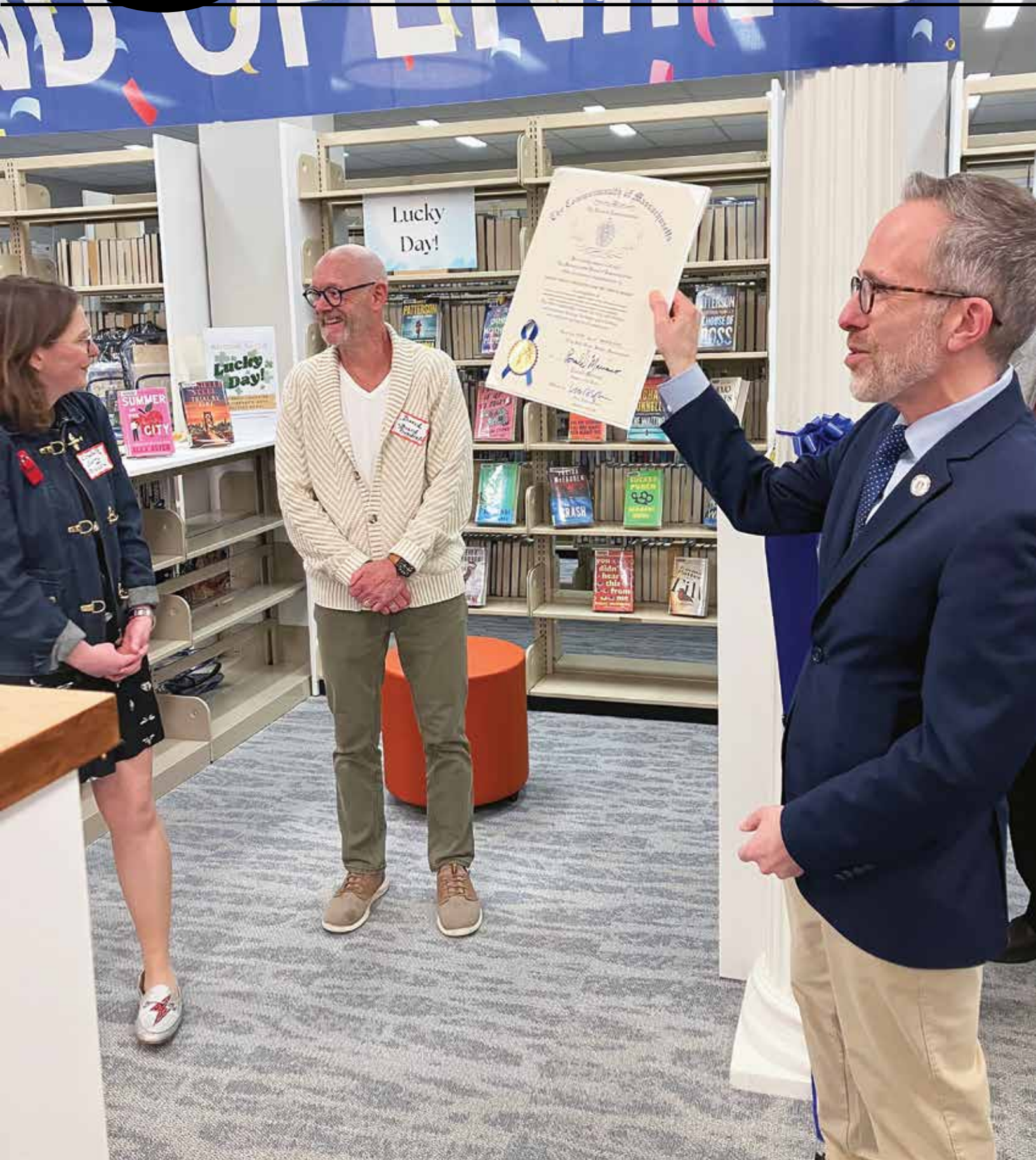


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## Taber Library Renovations Complete

Elizabeth Taber Library

By Marilou Newell

Entering the Elizabeth Taber Library on March 24 for the grand reopening upon the completion of renovations, one was first struck by the gleaming appearance of the newly renovated space – shining bright like a diamond. The 15-week renovation project was funded by a local benefactor who had remained anonymous until now.

Executive Board member Lucia Jaccaci stated, “we thank Nancy Braitmayer, without whom none of this would have been possible. ... Nancy’s love for our town and her passion for the library are both inspirational and transformational. Her generosity, dedication, and vision were instrumental in every aspect of this renovation.” Speaking directly to Braitmayer, Jaccaci said, “Nancy, from the bottom of our hearts – thank you for making this dream become a reality.”

Other comments included were from Executive Board member and Chair of the Building Committee Kyle Pardo, who thanked all for their attendance and support, then introduced Board of Trustees Association President David Finn-Clarke.

Finn-Clarke said that, for generations, the library has been a cherished gathering space. He spoke of the numerous programs and learning opportunities the library has offered over the decades, and now is ready for continuing its service to the community.

“While the heart of the library had remained strong, the time had come for much needed renovations to ensure it continues to serve our community,” Finn-Clarke said, calling it “an exciting new chapter.”

Finn-Clarke went on to say there was a clear vision, which was to honor the library’s rich history while creating a fresh, inviting and functional space. He said they had worked hard to preserve its classic architectural charm while adding modern updates for the comfort and accessibility of the spaces. He also gave special

thanks and acknowledgement of board members Kyle Parso and Lucia Jaccaci of the renovation committee for the spearheading of the renovations and coordinating a myriad of details.

Library staff members were thanked by Finn-Clarke for their flexibility, patience and dedication throughout the two moving processes required to keep library services operational while the main building was under construction. Those employees are Macy Davis, Marie Yang, Lynda Schneider, Emily Newell and Library Director Liz Sherry.

Pardo’s additional comments and words of gratitude were for the town’s administration including the Select Board, town administrator, and the town’s Facilities Department managed by Shaun Cormier.

The project architect was David King, project manager John Sabbag, and constructors Stukel Contractors.

In attendance was State Representative Mark Sylvia, who gave the library an official congratulatory citation.

## In This Issue

Birthdays .....	46
Classified Advertisements .....	44
Crossword & Horoscope .....	40
Happenings.....	28 & 36
Legal Advertising.....	42
Local Tide Listings .....	50
Marion Select Board.....	9
Mattapoisett Select Board .....	16
Movies & Entertainment .....	32
Obituaries .....	30
ORCTV Schedule .....	26
Police Log .....	34
Real Estate Transactions .....	49
Regional Lunch Menus .....	34
Rochester Select Board .....	14
Sports .....	23

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**On the Cover:** From the re-opening of Marion’s Elizabeth Taber Library on Monday, March 24. State Representative Mark Silva (D-10) pictured giving a congratulatory state citation. Pictured from left to right: Director Elizabeth Sherry, Board of Trustees Association President David Finn-Clark, and Representative Mark Silva. Photo by Jayson Newell.

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

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Please send photos and story ideas to [news@wanderer.com](mailto:news@wanderer.com)

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Deadline is Tuesday at 10am

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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## 65-Car Pinewood Derby

By Michael J. DeCicco

For 72 years, the Pinewood Derby has challenged cub scouts to compete in races with their own miniature, hand-crafted wooden race cars. For six years, the Narragansett Council of Scouting America, which represents all the scout packs in Southern New England, has held its Southeastern regional competition for these races at Rochester Memorial School.


The March 22, 2025 Pinewood Derby attracted a record crowd there. Rochester Pack 30 Cub Scoutmaster Kevin Thompson noted as the ceremonies began that the largest crowd ever was attending, prompting scout leaders to set up more tables in the RMS cafetorium and order more food (hot dogs, pizzas, donuts). He thanked the "almost 200 strangers" for filling the room that day.

His pack, which includes Cub Pack 31, served as the event's hosts. A total of 65 cars were registered to race, all winners of local competitions within the Narragansett Council's Southeastern Massachusetts and Southern Rhode Island District (New Bedford, Acushnet, Fairhaven, Dartmouth, Marion, Mattapoisett, Rochester, Wareham, Fall River, Somerset, Westport, Swansea, Seekonk, Portsmouth, Middletown, Newport, Tiverton, Little Compton, East Providence, Bristol, Warren, and Barrington). Their builder/owners ranged in age from kindergarten to fifth grade and included both boys and girls. All cars had to be hand-constructed of (guess what?) pinewood and had to weigh in at five ounces or less. Four race lanes were set up sloping down from the cafetorium stage to a mini-'Finish Line' sign. Each car raced eight times, getting that number of chances to clock in as first, second, third, or fourth place finishers. The 20 tops scorers at the end of the day earned the chance to compete at the Council Championship later this spring (date and place yet to be determined), for council member packs stretching as far as Connecticut.

The young contestants and their parents who were participating revealed that while all the scouts designed the cars themselves many had the help of their scoutmasters in the construction phase during workshops at scout meetings. An example of this help comes from Brian, age 10 of Pack 30, Rochester, who has attended the competitions for four years. His father Brandon said his den leader is a shop teacher at Old Colony Regional Vocational-Technical High School who took the scouts as a group to his shop classes. "They used the tools there, the band saws, the drills, the sanding, and would go over the safety stuff," Brandon said.

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Dan Jr., age eight, and Liam, age nine, are members of pack 51, Acushnet. Dan Jr. is attending the competition for a second year. Both their fathers, Dan Sr. and Joseph, said they helped their sons by cutting the wood with their workshop saw. Then Dan Jr. did the rest, Dan Sr. said, sanding his vehicle and applying enamel paint and the decorative pieces that turned it into his own creation, a Sponge Bob race car.

Asked why he likes competing in the derby, Dan Jr. said simply, "I like racing. It's fun."

Dan Sr. added, "And the dad likes to win." He noted he too participated in the Derby when he himself was a cub scout years ago.

### White House Easter Egg Roll

*Thoughts on...*

**By Dick Morgado**

Easter is approaching and if you haven't yet got your tickets for the annual Easter Egg Roll on the White House lawn, sorry, you're too late. The tickets were free and were available through an online lottery which, alas,

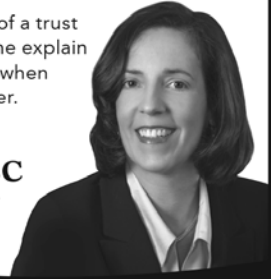
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closed in early March. All you had to do was to go to recreation.gov and create an account, choose a password, and hope you were one of the lucky ones.

By the way recreation.gov is the official government agency and reservation system for all your trip planning needs. If you are planning a vacation to a national park or other cultural venues across the country, it is your go-to source for reservations, ticket permits, etc. As far as I know, the President's Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) has not yet... well let's not go there.

Speaking of the White House Easter Egg Roll (which is officially, in typical government jargon, referred to as WHEER) you may have heard that the White House is, for the first time, soliciting sponsors for the event.

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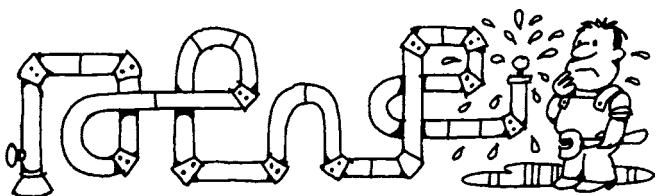
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The WHEEL has been around since President (POTUS) Rutherford B. Hayes let a bunch of kids enter the White House grounds after President Ulysses S. Grant had previously signed a bill banning the "rolling of eggs" on Capitol grounds. It has been an annual tradition ever since.

It is the intention of the current administration to make this Egg Roll the "greatest ever." It is soliciting corporate sponsors to help fund the event. Maybe, for just \$75,000, Eggland's Best Eggs can have their logo on the little plastic eggs (They haven't used real eggs in years. Which is a good thing because real eggs are very expensive these days).

For \$200,000, sponsors can have a booth set up around the South Lawn along with other companies. Hershey Corporation could hawk chocolate bunnies, beverages, and other snacks. Families could even win a tour of the White House and have brunch with the First Lady (FLOTUS) sponsored by Tripadvisor or Expedia. The solicitation guidebook suggests that sponsors could be "a part of history" and gain "valuable brand visibility and national recognition."

As you may have guessed, I have a couple of ideas to enhance the Egg Roll and make it an even greater experience. First, they could expand the event to include an easter egg hunt. Any kid who finds an egg with the presidential seal printed on it gets a ride in the presidential limousine. Better yet, a corporate executive of a sponsor could, say for \$1,000,000 donation, drive the "Beast" around the White House driveway, but only once. Disney could sponsor golf cart rides for the kiddies. Tesla could raffle off a used one of their cool stainless-steel trucks. So many ideas, so little time.

Imagine a giant electronic score board over the South Lawn with high-definition screens to catch every detail of the exciting roll to the finish line. It is a good bet Ceasars Palace would agree to cough up tons of money to get that sponsorship. Netflix could, for a tidy sum, stream the event live across the world.

Some people don't agree with this sponsorship idea. One former White House big whig (who has requested anonymity for fear of retribution) suggested that the

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White House is not a sports arena “with logos plastered all over the place for a price.”

Come on man, lighten up. This could be the greatest egg roll ever.

*Mattapoissett resident Dick Morgado is an artist and happily retired writer. His newspaper columns appeared for many years in daily newspapers around Boston.*

### Oh, My Aching Back Part 1 - Acute Back Pain

*What Does The Doctor Say?*

**By Dr. Edward Hoffer**

Most of us have (or will have) experienced an acute lower back pain. Sometimes the cause is obvious – you unloaded six bags of loam from the trunk of your car – while other times “I just bent over to pick up a pencil.” Our back muscles extend over a long distance and stretching them just the wrong way may be all it takes.

Whatever the cause, it can make for a very uncomfortable time. What should you do?

First, what you should not do is go to the emergency room. Unless you have one of the “red flags” I list below, you do not need X-rays or CT scans. What you need is pain relief and a short period of rest.

Pain relief for acute onset back pain takes many forms, no one of which works for everybody. Getting flat with your knees bent and some pillows under your knees may be all you need. Both heat and cold can be very

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helpful. For acute pain, I tend to start with ice rather than heat, but if you have found a heating pad works, stick with it.

Note that you should only spend an hour or two lying down. After that, gentle movement such as walking is fine.

Get some over-the-counter pain relievers: acetaminophen, ibuprofen or naproxen are equally likely to help but each of us has a favorite. If one anti-inflammatory does not work, try a different one.

When might you need an imaging test? If the pain extends down the back of one leg towards the ankle you might have a ruptured disk, a condition that can be suspected based on clinical exam and confirmed with a CT scan. If you have known osteoporosis or cancer, or have been on long-term cortisone-type medication or the pain comes after a serious fall, you may be dealing with a fracture of one or more vertebra. This can be proven with a plain X-ray.

Cancer, an unexplained fever, IV drug use or a depressed immune system raise worry about an infection near the spine and suggest you seek early medical attention.

Assuming none of these uncommon situations fits, your pain should subside within a day or two with rest, pain relievers and ice or heat. Don't try to ignore it and push through or the pain will last longer.

Next week: what about back pain that does not go

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away?

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

### **Town Meeting: 57 Articles and 3 Questions**

*Marion Select Board*

**By Sam Bishop**

The Marion Select Board met on Monday for a special meeting to continue discussions on the FY26 Draft Budget and the Draft Town Meeting Warrant. The Select Board and town administrator seek to have the Draft Town Meeting Warrant finalized as soon as possible, so they began with discussions on the contained articles.

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As the warrant is still a draft, the articles and dollar amounts are still subject to change. Article 1, dealing with various boards year over year, was approved with no further comment. Article 2 is the FY26 budget itself, and the General Fund Operating Budget. Finance Director Heather O'Brien stated, "we're still working on closing that to zero, but we're getting very close." She added there is nothing to vote on for this article yet. Articles 3 and 4, which deal with Water and Sewer respectively, were approved without question.

Addressing Article 5, the Board of Accessors overlay and was also agreed upon without question. Article 6 is in reference to the allocation of \$50,000 of Free Cash for the funding of accrued benefits for retiring employees, which is to be amended to add the current grand total of available funds. Article 7, covering Free Cash allotment to maintenance, will also be amended to include this. Article 8 is the proposed update to the town's finance system and time-keeping software. The cost needs to be added to the article, as it currently contains a placeholder. Article 9 is the transfer of Free Cash to the Building Commissioner for emergency demolition services.

Article 10 deals with tax foreclosure procedures on delinquent real estate parcels in town. Articles 11 and 12 were both added recently from requests from the Marion School Committee. Article 11 covers out-of-district placement costs, with Article 12 written for the purchase of new math curriculum. Article 13 is for the transfer

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of \$300,000 in Free Cash to DPW for road and sidewalk maintenance. Article 14 proposes the allocation of \$150,000 in Free Cash for funding and salary adjustments for non-union personnel.

Article 15 proposes \$100,000 for the funding of student officers' training for the Police Department. Article 16 is for the large-scale monetary transfer for the town's Capital Improvement Plan. Article 17 covers renovations to the Marion Town House for ADA compliance, fire suppression, building-code compliance, and HVAC additions. Article 18 is for the payment of \$12,000,000 in debt for Old Rochester Regional School District capital improvements. Article 19 sees \$100,000 transferred to the Other Post-Employment Benefit

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Liability Trust Fund (OPEB).

Article 20 is an annual article to spend \$2,000 of the Chester A. Vose Fund for the reduction of taxes. Article 21 is a Town Bylaw change, altering Section 7-16 (Duties) of Article IV (Community Preservation Committee) of Chapter 7 (Boards, Commission and Committees) of the Code Of Marion for the slight modification of text and grammar in the bylaw. Article 22 uses a placeholder dollar amount and is for the return of unobligated Community Preservation Act (CPA) project-allocated funds back to the town's Community Preservation Act fund. Article 23 is an annual article that covers some administrative costs for the Community Preservation Committee. Article 24, as Town Administrator Geoffrey Gorman said, "is an administrative article to move monies around."

Article 25 is for the restoration of the Marion Congressional Church's historic clock. Article 26 sees the standardization of signage for various open spaces and recreational areas. Article 27 sees \$536,547 of previously approved CPA funds reallocated for Townhouse sprinklers and ADA compliance. Article 28 is for \$33,000 of CPA funds to be allocated to the assessment and preservation of Native American artifacts at the Marion Natural History Museum. Article 29 sees the funding for the Marion Shared Use Path Easement Appraisals, originally approved in May 2022, be automatically moved back to the Community Preservation Fund after June 30, 2026.

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Article 30 extends the deadline for the Marion Shared Use Path Easements approved in May 2024, to be automatically moved back to the Community Preservation Fund after June 30, 2027. Article 31 extends the funding period for the Boatyard Park Survey and Signage Project. Article 32 deletes Chapter 120 (Stretch Energy Code) from the Code of Marion. Article 33 amends Article VII (Oaths) of Chapter 7 (Boards, Commissions and Committees) of the Code of Marion by changing grammar, the article's title, and its layout. Article 34 amends Article II (Water Use Restrictions) of Chapter 218 (Water) of the Code of Marion by altering grammar and bolding/underlining text.


Article 35 is for the adoption of a historic district and the addition of Chapter XXX (Marion Village Historic District) to the Code of Marion. Article 36 is for the addition of Chapter 193 (Stormwater management) to the Code of Marion. Article 36 was struck from the Warrant and removed by a vote from Select Board members Toby Burr and Randy Parker until more discussion takes place. Article 37 amends Section 230-8.14 (Reserved) of Chapter 230 (Zoning) of the Code of Marion with the addition of a section on "Protected Use Accessory Dwelling Units." Article 38 updates zoning definitions and floor-area information in the Code of Marion. Article 39 removes Section 8.6 (Accessory Apartments) of Article VIII (Special Provisions) from the Code of Marion.

Article 40 adds Section 8.15 (Short-Term Rentals) of

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Chapter 203 (Zoning) to the Code of Marion. Article 41 changes the principle-use table to reflect the previously discussed, proposed bylaw additions. Article 42 is the acceptance of a local, short-term-rental occupancy tax. Article 43 refers to the Heroes Act and increases the amount of veterans' exemption allowed. Article 44 authorizes the Select Board to accept to convey grants of easement for streets, water, drainage, sewer, and utility.

Articles 45 and 46 are for revolving funds, 45 Recreation and 46 Public Health. The next few are annual, with Articles 47-51 authorizing the Select Board to carry out its usual duties.

Article 52 sees if the town will consider reports from town officers and committees. Article 53 approves the ballot for all necessary town officials for the Town Election on May 16.

The final articles are citizens petitions. Article 54 withdraws from the Green Communities program. Article 56 removes the Harbormaster and the office of from within the Police Department. Article 57 regards the maintenance of roads and sidewalks.

The three questions on the ballot cover authorization of debt exclusion for Town House renovations, debt exclusion for ORR School District, and debt exclusion for the citizens petition regarding road/sidewalks maintenance. A final, special article, Article S1, transfers \$25,000 for supplement snow and ice.

Changes to the Town Meeting Warrant will conclude

on Tuesday, April 1, with the warrant being posted April 2. The Annual Town Meeting is to be held on Monday, May 12.

The next regular meeting of the Marion Select Board will take place Tuesday, April 1, at 6:00 pm in the Marion Town House's conference room.

## **Gifford Park Plaque Finalized**

*Rochester Select Board & Rochester Park Commission*

**By Michael J. DeCicco**

Monday was a busy evening in the town office building meeting room. First, Rochester's Select Board met briefly to refer to the Planning Board a proposed zoning change to the 40R residential/mixed use project at Cranberry Highway and County Road, one that would expand the plan onto an adjacent parcel.

Town Administrator Cameron Durant explained before the vote that the developer had asked for this change to open up financing opportunities for the project. The advantage to the town, he added, is that when the project is built Rochester would reach the state-mandated goal of having 10-percent of its housing stock affordable. The vote was needed now so the measure can be on the warrant for the May 19 annual town meeting, he said. The vote means the Planning Board will hold its public hearing on the proposal at its April 22 meeting.

He noted that under this change, the number of units the project is proposing, 208, will remain the same but the developer will simply utilize an additional parcel to accomplish the total plan. The two selectmen present, Adam Murphy and Paul Ciaburri, approved referring the proposals to the Planning panel without further comment.

Next, the Select Board approved a new two-year contract for Financial Director Suzanne Szyndlar after learning that Szyndlar has delayed her recently-announced plans to retire. Szyndlar, who at one time had served as the town administrator, had originally planned to retire as Finance Director on June 30.

"She will be staying on," Durant was happy to announce. "She has agreed to stay on for an additional two years."

On a personal note, Durant added, "It means a lot to me to still be able to have coffee with the former town administrator and get her input."

Murphy said, reading from his letter on the subject, "Suzanne's decision to extend her commitment is truly invaluable to the town. Suzanne's unwavering commitment and deep understanding of municipal finance makes her an irreplaceable asset to Rochester. We are incredibly fortunate to have her guiding our financial future."

When the Select Board adjourned, the Park Commission opened a meeting that approved the plaque for the new Gifford Park Playground. Commission chair David Hughes announced the plaque will read "Dedicated to All Children... funding provided by Town of Rochester and the Tri-Town for Protecting Children." He also

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announced the new playground will likely open in May.

The move ends months of pushback from town residents who believed that "Tri-Town for Protecting Children" is a divisive, politically-motivated group and should not have been the lone group to donate money for such a park. The 3,649 square-foot playground's full cost is \$81,724.68. While half of that cost is being borne by the local non-profit "Tri-



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Town For Protecting Children”, the other half is being paid for with the town’s ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds.

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

The Park Commission did not set its next meeting before adjourning.

## Mattapoissett Select Board Completes FY26 Review

*Mattapoissett Select Board*

**By Marilou Newell**

They have been diligently scrolling through spreadsheets and discussing cuts here, increases there,



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and reviewing copious amounts of data through the winter months. Now with the Spring Town Meeting right around the corner, the Mattapoissett Select Board has rounded the final corner on all things financial. With a budget topping out at \$35,083,626, that's no small task.

On March 25, the board met with Harbormaster Isaac Perry, Police Chief Jason King, and Town Administrator Mike Lorenzo to finish one-on-one budget talks.

Before diving into those agenda items, the board met with Garrett Bauer. The discussion was regarding the nearly 50-percent increase in construction estimates for the Highway Department renovations. The estimate now rests at \$4,000,000 which is several years old. Newer estimates raise the earlier number.

Discussions centered around funding and how best to address possible voter pushbacks at the Spring Town Meeting. Lorenzo was confident that a substantial sum could be raised from stability finds and free cash. The free cash figure which has been certified is \$2,700,000. When asked Lorenzo confirmed that a bulk of financing will come from borrowing.

The Police Department's budget held no surprises with increases being in line with higher costs overall. The department's operating budget \$2,711,928 and the ambulance budget is \$560,612.

Of the body cameras which have been in use for over a year, King said that the officers find them beneficial. He said that his capital needs list includes on new cruiser,

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and that he is developing a fee structure for cruiser deployment to commercial and other non-municipal related details. Monies earned would go towards vehicle maintenance.

Perry, talking about the Waterfront Enterprise fund, said that the motor for the pump out boat was currently under repair and that materials for floating dock construction were in hand. The board also noted that the transition of the shellfish proration program will be transitioning to the Waterfront Enterprise in the future, no longer under the direction of the department of natural resources. The fund's budget is up 1.73-percent.

The Town Hall budget was not extensively reviewed and was up a modest 1.27-percent. Lorenzo said he



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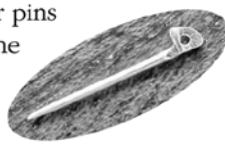
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anticipates the warrant will include 29 articles.

In other business, the board met with Disabilities Commission Chairman Joanna Ingham. Inram said the commission was seeking Select Board approval to apply for a grant to make improvements to several public locations to accommodate people with disabilities. In a letter submitted by the commission it reads, "The Mattapoisett Disability Commission has agreed on selected items for ADA accessibility at Shipyard Park for the proposed project for the Massachusetts Office on Disability Municipal ADA Improvement Grant for FY26.

Six areas were identified by the commission as needing modifications. They chose Shipyard Park with accessibility to the gazebo. The modifications sought include route to the gazebo stairs, path to the wayside, ramp to the gazebo, correct handrail, accessible route to accessible picnic table, and accessible route to a bench. The commission was thanked for their work and granted permission to pursue grant funding.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Select. Board was noted at adjournment.

## Smooth Evening for Conservation

*Mattapoisett Conservation Commission*

**By Marilou Newell**

The Mattapoisett Conservation Commission met on March 24 with an agenda that was straightforward.

Three Requests for Certificates of Compliance were swiftly dispatched, two were approved for Patrick and Jean Breault, 6 Old Mattapoisett Neck Road, and another for James Stowe, 5 Seamarsh Way.

A Request for an Amended Order of Conditions was approved for a Notice of Intent filed by The Myatt Family Trust for the conversion of an existing deck into a sunroom.

Earlier in the proceedings, a Request for Determination of Applicability filed by 12 Highland Avenue Trust to remove and replace a ground level deck and to add a multi-level deck addition received a negative two decision.

A Continued Notice of Intent filing from Alexandra Ablon, 4 Island View Avenue, for the construction of an accessory garage (possible accessory dwelling unit) and the removal of invasive vegetation with wetlands restoration plan was conditioned. Conditions note that storm water drainage is to flow to foundation drainage system. David Davignon of Schneider Davignon and Leone stated that the project is scheduled to be heard for a Special Permit by the Zoning Board of Appeals soon.

A Continued Notice of Intent filed by Richard Waterhouse, 0 Bay View Avenue for removal and management of phragmites and other invasive species removal was conditioned with a mandate for professional licensed technician performing the task. Member David Nicolosi advocated for licensed application of herbicides close to shellfish beds. The Commission members were in agreement.

The next meeting of the Mattapoissett Conservation Commission is scheduled for April 14.

## Superintendent Discusses FY26 Budget

*Marion Finance Committee*

**By Sam Bishop**

The Marion Finance Committee met Wednesday, March 19 for further talks on the FY26 budget as well as trying to nail down the budgets of local schools; them being ORR and Sippican School. Following the approval of the minutes of previous meetings, March 5 and March 12, the committee introduced Superintendent Mike Nelson and Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Howard Barber to the meeting. Chair of the Marion School Committee April Nye was also in attendance.

The Superintendent began by discussing changes in this year's budget versus the last. "The school department recognizes the financial climate and stretched revenue streams that we're all facing. Not only here in Marion, but statewide" he began. He then noted this year's budget development has been one of the more difficult during his tenure (2020-present), noting the continuing increase in expenses. He also cited the district receiving minimal state funds due to "Hold Harmless" status, "we are receiving the minimal per-pupil increases from Chapter 70 funding in year of." He also stated the department is not requesting new programs nor additional hiring to go

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Town Administrator spoke of the Town Meeting Warrant Draft and a special meeting with the Select Board Monday, March 24 to go over estimations and streamline budgetary information.

The next meeting of the Marion Financial Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 26 in the Marion Town House Conference Room at 7:00 pm.

above "level-service budgeting" to minimize budget rises.

He then mentioned the biggest contribution to the budget's rise, that being student services including special education and transportation. Nelson said the cost for tuition and transportation for an out-of-district is "pretty dramatic" saying the cost could range between \$150,000 to \$200,000.

He also spoke on curriculum and the Department of Education stating the district's math curriculum is not "considered high quality status." After an extensive review, the Superintendent said that the purchasing of a 3-year math program made the most sense financially. This would be a one-time, non-recurring cost of \$70,000.

Assistant Superintendent Howard Barber presented the school's desire to better meet student IEPs (individualized education programs). These needs do generally increase costs, though it was cited the desire is to expand school capability instead of outsourcing.

In order to limit the budget further, later in the meeting, Superintendent Nelson said, "we could, which we have done, every department will be reduced in some capacity in terms of staffing. He then touched on the "apparent elimination" of the Department of Education, saying, "there is no direct impact on us right now" but did mention later worry of free school breakfast/lunch, which come from federal grants.

Following the departure of the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations,

## Eversource and Bio-Hydrological Fluids

*Rochester Planning Board*

**By Michael J. DeCicco**

The Rochester Planning Board met briefly Tuesday to approve the Groundwater Protection District Special Permit and Site Plan Review Permit for the proposed Eversource Substation at 214 Rounsville Road.

The final endorsement of the large project, upgrades necessary to interconnect distributed generation facilities in town, came with the addition of a waiver important to Eversource officials. Company Representative Heather Sykes had asked for a change in the draft language. She had said the company will have to use heavy lift crane equipment for a portion of the work and that it would be difficult to find such machinery that uses bio-hydrological fluids. These are fluids that don't contaminate soil and groundwater. That is why their use is a Planning Board requirement for machinery at such work sites.

On Tuesday, Board Chair Arnold Johnson said an exemption allowing the use of crane equipment not containing bio-hydrological fluids will be included in the two Eversource permits after all. Specifically, he said, this equipment will be allowed on-site because it will only be used briefly to move heavy materials. The exemption decrees that this equipment will be at the site for no more than a week. The resulting approval vote for both permits was unanimous.

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In other action, the board signed the permit for the Definitive Subdivision plan at 386 Snipatuit Road after an update from the applicant's engineering consultant Rick Charron. He said he has finally heard from the Natural Heritage Foundation regarding endangered species. He reported that the property owners will do a turtle assessment of the property and then do whatever that assessment concludes needs to be done. The plan here is to divide 24 acres into one lot containing an existing home and outhouse on two acres and two other lots with frontage on a new roadway to be named Peter Crapo Cartway.

The Rochester Planning Board's next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 8 at 7:00 pm at Town Hall, 1

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### Shed Must Maintain Set Back

*Mattapoisett Zoning Board of Appeals*

**By Marilou Newell**

The Mattapoisett Zoning Board of Appeals met on March 20 hearing four cases, one of which was a Special Permit sought by Elizabeth Turowski Revocable Trust for 28 Pearl Street. The petitioner plans to rebuild portions of a porch and stairs within the existing footprint. The application also states that a new shed is part of the renovation work placed in the "same general location" of an existing shed.

From an abutter came questions regarding if the

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Special Permit would require the applicant to maintain a 5-foot set back. The applicant was represented by Mat Leone of Schneider Davignon and Leone, Inc. Leone said that the new shed would be a two-story structure 14-feet by 16-feet used exclusively for storage with no water or other utilities.

The board, along with the abutter and Leone discussed at length whether it was necessary to have the noted setback given that plans indicate the shed will be in the same general area as the new one. Ultimately, the board moved to grant the Special Permit with the 5-foot set back documented.

Other Special Permits heard were Shane Mills for the construction of a new home at 57 Church Street the location of a large glacial stone. The applicant had previously received a Special Permit for the same location, but that permit had expired.

The single-family home will include site work, the construction of a retaining wall and storm water systems. The Special Permit was granted.

A Special Permit was granted to Kim and Jennifer Randall, 3 and 5 Mechanic Street for the redefining of lot lines. The two homes on the properties are owned by sisters who sought the Special Permit in an effort to straighten lot lines. The filing was approved. The property owners now must file an Approval Not Required request with the Mattapoisett Planning Board stated Bob Field of Field Engineering their representative.

A fourth Special Permit was granted to Highland Avenue Trust, 12 Highland Avenue for the construction of a two-story deck on the easterly side of the existing home.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Zoning Board of Appeals was not announced.

## Talking On The Next Harbor Plan

*Marion Marine Resource Commission*

**By Sam Bishop**

The Marion Marine Resource Commission (MRC) met on Wednesday, March 19 and following the correction of a formatting error on the minutes from their last meeting, February 24, the commission began discussions on harbor management, capital projects, and the FY26 budget.

The group began by talking about the citizens' petition to remove the Harbormaster from the Police Department, though the Marine Resource Commission stated they were unaware of the exact reasoning for this petition. Said petition made it by the deadline and will therefore appear on the Town Meeting Warrant. Chair Vincent J. Malkoski, Jr. spoke on the history of this, saying, "the decision was made to move the harbormaster onto the police department because they are acting as police officers, and they're armed. So, the decision was made to consolidate all the folks carrying weapons under one department." He mentioned the possibility of the two departments re-separating, though he did state the harbormaster would lose some of their enforcement abilities, saying "nobody's gonna pay attention to them." Malkoski also said should the warrant pass, a large-scale restructuring would be necessary.

Next to be discussed was the proposed dingy fees and harbor fee changes. Said proposed changes were withdrawn, though the commission will still circle back and discuss possible changes to be presented at a later date, as specified at the original time of withdrawal. In term of the new Harbor Plan, the chair said, in tandem with fees, the commission must "roll everything into the plan and look at everything." He stated more analysis and research must be done, but the process for a new Harbor Plan is "a public one." Meaning MRC will make



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the recommendation for the public to comment on and for the Select Board to decide.

Shell fishing and the degradation of the harbor and possible over-collection of resources was also cited as a concern for the Harbor Plan, with the chair saying, "It's a public process. I don't know how far we're going to get, but these are the things that need to be looked at. It's a finite resource and that's what everybody has to understand."

The last topic for discussion was the upcoming MRC elections, where Vincent j. Malkoski, Jr. was recommended to run again, with current member Cheryl Souza looking into running as Vice Chair. Member Michael Moore was nominated as Secretary, or "scribe." The slate of officers was approved unanimously by the commission.

The next meeting of the Marion Marine Resource Commission is currently scheduled for Wednesday, April 16 in the Marion Marine Center Conference Room.

## **Bulldogs Showed Character in Run to Second Straight State Final**

*Old Rochester Boys Basketball*

**By Aiden Comorosky**

The Old Rochester Regional High School boys' basketball team played Norwell in the MIAA Division 3 state championship on March 14 and lost, 64-61, in overtime at the Tsongas Arena in Lowell. Norwell guard

Ronan Coffey hit a game-tying 3-pointer to send the game into overtime, where Norwell ended up winning.

However, only the ending was negative for ORR.

Coming into the 2024-25 season, the Bulldogs were without three of their starters from last year's team that had also reached the state final. Senior guard Zack Mourao and junior center Brendan Spenard were injured and were ruled out. In order for Old Rochester to match last year's accomplishments, the Bulldogs needed some players to step up, and that most certainly happened.

"I think a lot of different kids stepped up. I knew Gavin Martin was going to do what he did, but Noah Thorell, Brody Hiles, Hunter Horsey, and certainly Grady Oliveira. Grady really had a tremendous year. Senior Finn Kavanagh was probably our most electric shooter out there, so it was really a great thing. They all stepped up," said ORR Head Coach Steve Carvalho.

Through injuries and a 3-3 start, the Bulldogs rallied to finish 11-9, heading into the MIAA Division 3 state tournament as the 20th seed.

"I felt we were playing our best basketball in February, but we were going to have a very tough schedule coming up, including the first game out in central Massachusetts, beating (13th seeded) Tantasqua," said Carvalho.

Through it all, the Bulldogs ended up making it all the way to the finals, nearly winning the championship.

"We had just knocked off the number-one seed St.

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Mary's, which was one of the most tremendous victories in this program's history, and took the number-two seed within a second (of victory in regulation time). So, I just thank them again for their tremendous efforts and for shaking up the Massachusetts basketball world. As much as (falling short) hurt in that locker room up in Lowell, down the road they're really going to see what they accomplished, which is awesome," said Carvalho.

The Bulldogs have four seniors whose 2025 graduations will end their high school basketball careers, including Gavin Martin, Zack Mourao, Finn Kavanagh, and Ayden Monteiro.

"I want to thank Ayden Monteiro and Finn Kavanagh, and certainly my two captains. Especially what Zack went through. But how much love of the game they have, how they show a lot of enthusiasm, they are hard working. I can't wish enough for their bright futures," said Carvalho. "They were a resilient, hard-working, and some may say an overachieving group. We were 8-9 a few weeks back before the tournament. What a resilient group who believed, 'why not us?' I cannot thank them again for wearing that Bulldog jersey with a lot of pride and effort."

Senior guard Gavin Martin has been named a South Coast Conference All-Star, and Grady Oliveira and Finn Kavanagh earned SCC Honorable Mention status.

### Success of March FORM Concerts

Old Rochester Regional (ORR) School District and

MA Superintendency Union #55 Superintendent Michael S. Nelson, High School Principal Michael Devoll, Junior High Principal Silas Coellner, Rochester Memorial School Principal Heidi Letendre, Sippican School Principal Lynn Desset, and Old Hammondtown School Principal Stephanie Wells are proud to celebrate the success of two March concerts presented by the nonprofit FORM.

FORM, which stands for Friends of Old Rochester Music, welcomed the community for two nights of extraordinary student performances as part of the 2024-25 Concert Series, including the FORM Choral Concert held on March 11 and the FORM Instrumental Concert on March 18. These two concerts, which raise money for FORM music scholarships, featured chorus and band performances by students from Old Hammondtown School, Rochester Memorial School, Sippican Elementary School, Old Rochester Regional Junior High School, and Old Rochester Regional High School.

"FORM Scholarship Concerts are a wonderful reminder of the many talents of our students and staff members across the district," said Old Rochester Regional High School Principal Michael Devoll. "I love being able to see the progression from our youngest musicians to our oldest musicians. Providing students with scholarship opportunities is a wonderful way to send off our graduating senior musicians."

These two recent FORM Scholarship Concerts aren't the end for the 2024-25 Concert Series. "A Night of Jazz" is taking place at Old Rochester Regional High School on April 15 at 6:30 pm and the Spring Concert is being held on May 14 at 6:30 pm. After that, Old Rochester Regional Junior High School is holding its Spring Concert on May 21 at 6:30 pm.

These events are held with the help of donations to FORM, which is now celebrating 42 years of scholarship awards for graduating seniors. Using private fundraisers to support special events, programming, transportation, and musical instrument purchases, FORM is able to provide additional opportunities for young musicians beyond the regular school district budget.

FORM is also now launching a local Music Hall of Fame, recognizing talented musicians who have

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graduated from ORR since the 1960s.

Inaugural inductees to the Music Hall of Fame, selected by a FORM committee, will be announced at the "A Night of Jazz" concert.

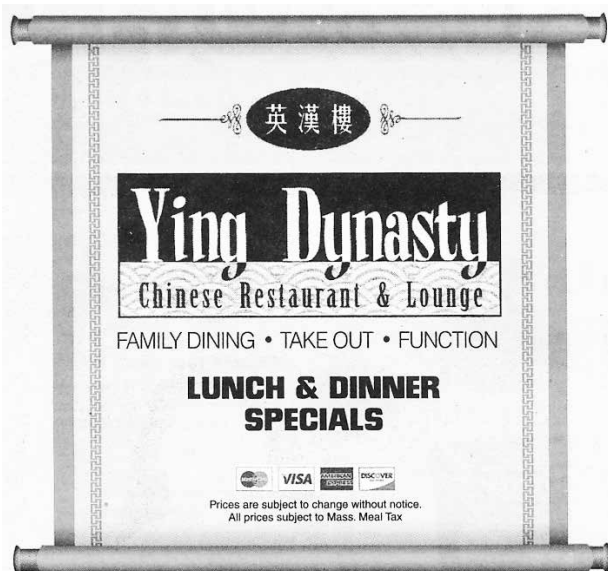
"Your participation truly matters to our success," said FORM, in a message welcoming the community to this year's concert series. "We invite you to contact us about becoming involved. Warm thanks to our sponsors, donors and ticket buyers whose generosity ensures our students have the resources they need to flourish and continue to enrich our community with music."

Another ticketed event will be held on May 17 at the Marion Music Hall to celebrate the launch of the Music Hall of Fame, its inaugural inductees and all of the

nominees.

Donations for FORM can be made by mail, with checks sent to P.O. Box 1143, Mattapoisett, MA 02739. To learn more, email [FORM@OldRochester.org](mailto:FORM@OldRochester.org) or go online to [FriendsOfOldRochesterMusic.org](http://FriendsOfOldRochesterMusic.org).

The FORM Choral Concert on March 11 also provided an occasion to celebrate the career of Old Rochester Regional Junior High School's longtime chorus director and music teacher, Angie Vaughn, who has dedicated 27 years to inspiring young voices and fostering a love of music. Vaughn, who holds a master's degree in music education from Illinois State University, is retiring at the end of this current school year, after beginning her career at Old Rochester Regional Junior High School in



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# LOCAL CABLE PROGRAMMING

Check [www.orctv.org](http://www.orctv.org) for the latest updates to the schedule.



## PUBLIC ACCESS

**Comcast Channel 9**

**Verizon Channel 36**

**Thursday March 27, 2025**

7:00 AM Seniorize  
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape  
8:00 AM Cape Conversations  
8:30 AM For Your Health  
9:00 AM 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 Converse  
3:00 PM Sippican Historical Society - Beau Port  
4:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Shift  
4:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow and Today  
5:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe  
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 - Marconia RCA

**Friday March 28, 2025**

7:00 AM Seniorize  
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 Paltrocass 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. Marys  
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 29, 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 Converse  
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 30, 2025**

6:00 AM Health Source  
6:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape  
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 Paltrocass with Darren Paltowitz  
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 31, 2025**

7:00 AM Seniorize  
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape  
8:00 AM For Your Health  
9:00 AM Reeling: 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. Marys  
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 April 1, 2025**

7:00 AM Seniorize  
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 April 2, 2025**

7:00 AM Seniorize  
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape  
8:00 AM Cape Conversations  
8:30 AM For Your Health  
9:00 AM Two Grannies on the Road  
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. Marys  
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 Society 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 Acquisition Commission  
3:30 PM Marion Finance Committee  
5:30 PM Marion Board of Health  
7:00 PM Marion Affordable Housing Trust  
8:00 PM Marion Marine Resources Commission  
11:00 PM Marion Board of Selectmen

## ROCHESTER

### GOVERNMENT

**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

## 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 Night  
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 Slang  
9:30 PM ORR Boys Soccer vs Fairhaven  
11:00 PM ORR Football vs Medfield

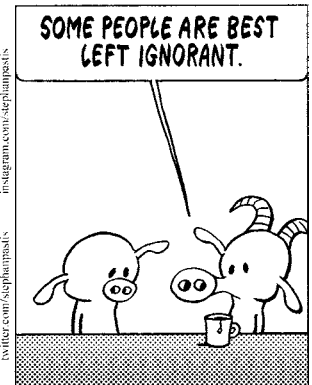
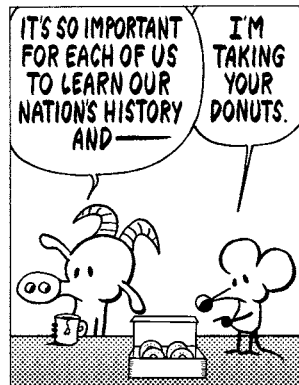
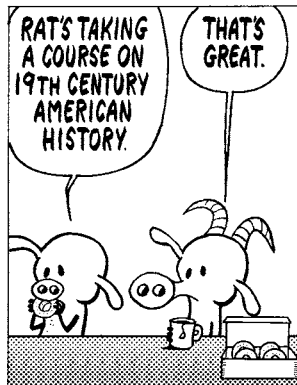
## MATTAPOISETT

### GOVERNMENT

**Comcast Channel 26**

**Verizon Channel 38**

## PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



1998.

"Mrs. Vaughn's passion, dedication, and impact will resonate for years to come," said Old Rochester Regional Junior High School Principal Silas Coellner. "We thank her for her unwavering commitment, and we all wish her a happy retirement. Nevertheless, Mrs. Vaughn's legacy of music and teaching will always sing on in the hearts of all her students, colleagues and members of the Old Rochester community."

"We are always so impressed by the incredible skills and abilities of our musicians and vocalists," said Assistant Superintendent of Student Services Jaime Curley. "Not only do they possess amazing individual talents, but they work so well together in harmony. Bravo to our music teachers for preparing and orchestrating these amazing FORM concerts that we look forward to every year. Thank you to FORM for all of its work to equip our students and provide scholarships, helping them to reach their musical potential."

"It was a pleasure to be in attendance for these wonderful performances by our students presented by FORM," said Shari Fedorowicz, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning. "To see how our teachers have worked to develop the talents of our student musicians is phenomenal. Thank you to FORM for all of its work to assist with the cause. FORM is such a worthy cause that is making a remarkable impact on the lives and future of our students."

"I congratulate all of our vocalists and instrumentalists for honing their talents and sharing their amazing abilities with all of us during our incredible FORM concerts each year," said Superintendent Michael S. Nelson. "These incredible ensembles are an inspiration for everyone, including the younger generations of musicians in our community. I'd like to recognize Mrs. Vaughn for a remarkable career in music education, enriching the lives of our ORR students for so many years. All of our music teachers have done incredible work preparing these students for these performances. We look forward to seeing our musicians and vocalists continue to perform in ORR concert stages and beyond."

## Update on Stretch Code Changes

Town Administrator Geoffrey Gorman and Energy Management Committee Chair Alanna Nelson are pleased to share new information about the recently updated state building code regarding energy efficiency standards for new construction, building alterations, and additions.

The Stretch Energy Code first became effective in 2009 and was adopted by Marion when the Town joined the Massachusetts Green Communities program in 2018. The first major revision to the Code was effective in 2023, with a second revision effective on February 14, 2025, in response to stakeholder input.

To introduce and explain the recent Stretch Energy Code update to residents, Energy Management Committee Chair Nelson and Building Inspector Bob Grillo hosted a presentation on March 11 at Marion Music Hall with speakers Lisa Sullivan, regional coordinator for Green Communities, and Mike Rossi, an energy code specialist for PSD Consulting.

The key changes for residential renovations focus on which portions of the home would need to meet Home Energy Rating System (HERS) index score requirements. In this latest version of the Stretch Energy Code, a basement or attic addition that does not alter the footprint or roofline does not trigger new HERS Rating requirements.

For major alterations, however, the maximum HERS index score was eased from a rating of 52 to 65 for a mixed-fuel building; from 55 to 70 for a building with solar electric generation; from 55 to 70 for an all-electric building; and from 58 to 75 for a solar electric and all-electric building.

Additionally, the code now provides guidance for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). The update states that a maximum HERS index score for an ADU is 52 for a mixed-fuel building; 55 for solar electric generation; 55 for an all-electric building; and 58 for a solar electric and all-electric building.

The update to the code also removes a requirement that a building's thermal envelope shall be greater than or equal to the levels of efficiency of the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code.



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# TriTOWN HAPPENINGS



Music and vocals teacher Susan Audette leads the chorus from the Rochester Memorial School. Photo Courtesy Old Rochester Regional School District and MA Superintendency Union #55.



Hannah Moore, instrumental teacher at Sippican School, leads her student musicians in a performance at the FORM Choral Instrumental Concert held on March 18. Photo Courtesy Old Rochester Regional School District and MA Superintendency Union #55.

The Marion Natural History Museum wishes to thank board member and President of the Nasketucket bird club Justin Barrett for his presentation on the birds of Panama. The birds were beautifully colored and with beaks well designed for eating fruit, their primary food source. Along with the magnificent bird specimens we also saw several monkeys and other exotic animals from Justin's trip. The museum wishes to thank Justin for sharing his amazing birding adventure with us on a dark and dreary winter morning. Photo courtesy Elizabeth Liedhold



The Marion Natural History Museum wishes to thank Joe Dwelly, the "butterfly man" for sharing his considerable experience with our native butterflies. We spoke about how different species spend the winter, issues with migrating populations while out of this country, food sources, and which native plantings would most benefit them. Joe also shared some of his funny stories about how he was able to get some of his amazing butterfly photos. Photo courtesy Elizabeth Liedhold

The Marion Natural History Museum's community group learned to identify all types of frogs that can be found in Massachusetts. We also heard the different calls of the frogs from the Wood frogs "quack" to the Green frogs banjo "twang". To register for frog watch training you may contact the Roger Williams Park and Zoo. Thank you to Maggie for her terrific program. Photo courtesy Elizabeth Liedhold. To view register for some of our upcoming programs please go to the museum's website: [www.marionmuseum.org](http://www.marionmuseum.org).



Many thanks to soil scientist Maggie Payne for her fun and fascinating program about composting with worms. We had a close up look at Red Wiggler worms and they definitely lived up to their name by jumping about during the program. We had a chance to inspect them using magnifying glasses and microscopes trying to determine which end was which. We then created a habitat for them with shredded paper and left over vegetables. Each student had a chance to bring their worm farm home. Photo courtesy Elizabeth Liedhold

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

And the update provides an exception for “historic buildings,” which may opt out for alterations, additions and change of use.

The updates apply retroactively to any building permit filed as of January 1, 2023.

When the Stretch Energy Code was revised in 2023, anyone constructing home additions larger than 1,000 square feet would have to show that the entire house met the HERS Score rating requirements. For additions to older homes, this could mean a whole lot of extra work.

However, the 2025 update to the code is retroactive, providing relief to property owners undergoing renovation projects in the past two years who would otherwise be subject to meeting the HERS Score rating requirements.

“Marion has overall a fairly old building stock. So, the changes and the fact that this is retroactive is very helpful for residential projects,” said Energy Management Committee Chair Nelson.

For a more detailed explanation of the Stretch Energy Code and how the 2025 updates are being applied, Marion residents can go online to [www.marionma.gov/857/Stretch-Code-Green-Communities-Information](http://www.marionma.gov/857/Stretch-Code-Green-Communities-Information) to view a slideshow presentation and a flyer.

In-person training and live webinars are also being facilitated by Mass Save, a collaborative of Massachusetts’ electric and natural gas utilities: [www.massave.com/en/trade-partners/events-and-trainings-calendar?page=1](http://www.massave.com/en/trade-partners/events-and-trainings-calendar?page=1).



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# OBITUARIES



**Catherine A. (Reed) Hartley**, 84, of West Wareham, passed away on March 20, 2025, at Tobey Hospital. She was the wife of Robert G. Hartley and the daughter of the late George and Evelyn (Howland) Reed.

She was born in Rochester and lived in Addison and Norway, Maine before moving to West Wareham in 2021.

She graduated from New Bedford High School.

Mrs. Hartley was an excellent homemaker and the Matriarch of her family. She loved gardening.

Survivors include her husband, Robert G. Hartley of West Wareham; 2 sons, Brent Hartley and his partner, Sam Castonguay of Acushnet and Timothy Hartley of New Bedford; her brother, Glen Reed and his wife, Verna of Lakeville; 3 grandchildren, Curtis Hartley of ME, Lindsey Hartley of New Bedford and Tommy Hartley of Falmouth; 5 grandchildren, Ryleigh, Ryan, Logan, Camille and Caleb. She was the sister of the late Bruce Reed.

A celebration of her life will be held at a later date.

Arrangements are by Chapman Funerals & Cremations – Wareham, 2599 Cranberry Hwy., Wareham. To share a memory or leave a message of condolence, visit: [www.chapmanfuneral.com](http://www.chapmanfuneral.com).



**Alexis Dawn Zutaut** otherwise known as Lexy Lulu, died peacefully on March 16, 2025, at 18 years of age in Boston Children's Hospital surrounded by the love and comfort from her family. Born in Plymouth, daughter of Jason A. and Nicole E. (Casciano) Zutaut, she lived in Rochester all of her life.

Lexy enjoyed spending time with her family and friends giving the biggest smile and love to anyone that shared a moment with her. She had a pure genuine heart and a big, beautiful smile. Lexy was an inspiration to others with her strength and courage shown throughout her life. Anyone that got the opportunity to spend a minute of their time with her would feel her power of her love. She enjoyed going on family vacations to Cape Cod on Wequaquet lake where she could sit outside and feel the warm breezes passing by her face. She enjoyed sitting by the pool, on the deck in her blow-up air mattress we would create the perfect princess bed for her to relax in. Her facial expressions could light up a room when especially when her big brother would read stories to her. She loved the feeling of being held closely and squeezed tightly by her family and loved ones. But most importantly one thing to know about Lexy is she enjoyed the simple things in life love, compassion and companionship. Being together as a family, cuddling on the couch watching family movies. She loved her family spa time with her mom and dad. Even though Lexy had

never had the chance to speak she shared so many thoughts, expressions and emotions. Her facial expressions represented a million words, and that was our language with her.

Family includes her parents, Jason and Nicole; a brother, Zachary Zutaut of Rochester; a sister, Paige Zutaut of Rochester; her grandmothers, Nancy Casciano and Jeanne Cote; her aunts and uncles, Chris and Newie Casciano, Dawn and Erik Christensen, Tony and Stephanie Casciano, Jannine Haggerty, Bob and Stephanie Zutaut, Sherie and Phill Noblin. Along with many beloved cousins. She was the granddaughter of the late Carmine Casciano and Robert Zutaut.

Alexis's Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, April 5th at 10 am in St. Anthony's Church, 26 Hammond St. Mattapoisett. Her family will receive guests from 9 am to 10 am at St. Anthony's Church prior to her Mass. Arrangements are with the Saunders-Dwyer Mattapoisett Home for Funerals, 50 County Rd. (Rt. 6), Mattapoisett. For online guestbook, visit [www.saundersdwyer.com](http://www.saundersdwyer.com).



**Danielle Lucille Laurent Francis** passed away peacefully on March 10, 2025, at the age of 94. Born on September 6, 1930, in Paris, France, she was the beloved daughter of Madame and Monsieur Laurent. During World War II, she immigrated to Canada with her mother and brother, later settling in Marion, Massachusetts, where she made a lasting impact on her community.

Danielle had a deep love for animals, especially dogs. She was known for her compassion, often offering dog houses to families who kept their pets tied up outside, ensuring every animal had a warm and safe place to rest.

A graduate of the Emma Willard School in Troy, NY, Danielle continued her education at the prestigious Sorbonne in Paris. She was a vibrant member of the Marion community, enjoying her time at the Sippican Tennis Club, the Beverly Yacht Club, the Marion Art Center and the Marion Mallot Club. An avid traveler, she spent time in Tahiti visiting her brother and exploring the world with a spirit of adventure.

Danielle was a gracious and generous host, best known for her lively New Year's Eve parties, where she brought friends and family together in joyful celebration. She also had a successful bed and breakfast for years in Marion, The Landing, where she hosted many interesting people.

She was predeceased by her beloved brother, Jean Jacques Laurent. She leaves behind her three nieces, Danielle Laurent, Yvette Clavier, and Marie Therese McClintic, who will cherish her memory and continue her legacy of kindness and love.

A celebration of Danielle's life will be held on Thursday, April 3rd at 11 AM at St. Gabriel's Chapel 124 Front St. Marion. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in

As of late 2024, 297 cities and towns in Massachusetts have been designated by the state as Green Communities. Of those, 253 municipalities have adopted the Stretch Energy Code.

Through its participation in the Green Communities Program, Marion has received more than \$750,000 in grant funding for energy efficiency projects and improvements that have reduced town's electricity consumption by 24% since 2018.

"It was good to hear the questions and input at the meeting. Everyone who couldn't come can find the presentation slides on the Energy Management Committee page of the Town website," said Energy Management Committee Chair Nelson. "We want new buildings to be energy efficient and cost effective in the long run. It reduces utility costs for those who live in these homes and fits with the Commonwealth's shift away from fossil fuels."

### Correction

In the Marion Planning Board article in the March 20 edition, it was reported that Member Nelson made the comments about the Harbormaster building when in fact, it was Member Marum.

### Letters to the Editor

*The views expressed in the "Letters to the Editor" column are not necessarily those of The Wanderer, its staff or advertisers. The Wanderer will gladly accept any and all correspondence relating to timely and pertinent issues in the great Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester area, provided they include the author's name, address and phone number for verification. We cannot publish anonymous, unsigned or unconfirmed submissions. The Wanderer reserves the*

*right to edit, condense and otherwise alter submissions for purposes of clarity and/or spacing considerations. The Wanderer may choose to not run letters that thank businesses, and The Wanderer has the right to edit letters to omit business names. The Wanderer also reserves the right to deny publication of any submitted correspondence. All letters must be typed and submitted directly to: [news@wanderer.com](mailto:news@wanderer.com).*

### To the Editor

I would like to express my opinion on expanding the Mattapoisett Select Board from 3 to 5 persons. I have lived in Mattapoisett full time for 27 years. I have seen many changes in those 27 years. However, having a select board that consists of only 3 people makes the select person's position very difficult.

If a select person is absent from a meeting or must recuse themselves from participation in a specific matter or meeting due to a potential conflict of interest or bias. It narrows the input of the decision. A 5-member board allows for a broader input of information and aids in the decision-making process. It also eases the possible violation of open meeting law and improve better decision making.

A 5-member board allows for 2 Select Board members to discuss issues and views to help in the decision process. I am in support of the Citizen's Petition proposing a Warrant Article at Town Meeting on May 12, 2025, voting to expand our Select Board from 3 to 5 members.

It will improve the decision-making process for the Town of Mattapoisett and help Mattapoisett to stay as beautiful as it is and grow into the future.  
Diana Harlfinger, Mattapoisett

## OBITUARIES

her memory to St. Gabriel's Church or a local animal shelter, reflecting her lifelong dedication to the well-being of animals.

May she rest in peace, remembered for her generosity, warmth, and adventurous spirit.

Arrangements are with the Saunders-Dwyer Mattapoisett Home for Funerals, 50 County Rd. (Rt. 6), Mattapoisett. For online guestbook, visit [www.saundersdwyer.com](http://www.saundersdwyer.com).



**Gregory Q. Burke**, 57, of Marion, passed away unexpectedly on March 21, 2025, at Tobey Hospital, Wareham. He was the husband of Kathleen R. (Brown) Burke and the son of Joseph J. Burke, Jr. and the late Geraldine A. (Boland) Burke.

He was born in Wareham and lived in Marion all his life. He attended Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical High

School.

Mr. Burke worked as an electrician along-side his brother and son in the family business, Oceanside Electric. He was proud of his son following in his footsteps and excel as a

Master Electrician.

He enjoyed listening to music, campfires, admiring his wife's gardens, traveling and getaways, trips to the casino and grilling in the summertime. He loved his family and he and Kathleen were inseparable.

Survivors include his wife, Kathleen R. (Brown) Burke of Marion; a son, Jeremy Burke of Marion; his father, Joseph J. Burke, Jr. of Marion; 2 sisters, Kathleen Burke-Edmonds of Rochester and Maureen Couto of Middleboro; 2 brothers, Kevin Burke of Marion and Joseph J. Burke, III of Plymouth; several nephews and nieces.

Visiting hours are from 4 to 7 pm on Monday, March 31, 2025 at Chapman Funerals & Cremations – Wareham, 2599 Cranberry Hwy., Wareham.

For more information or to leave a message of condolence, visit: [www.chapmanfuneral.com](http://www.chapmanfuneral.com).

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



# MOVIE REVIEW

## Killing Joke

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

***The Monkey.* Starring Theo James and Colin O'Brien. Directed by Osgood Perkins. Running time: 98 minutes. MPAA rating: R. Now playing in theaters; coming to streaming services April 4.**

Surprises abound in this job. After sitting through Osgood Perkins' lamely plotted, tonally noncommittal previous movie *Longlegs*, I wasn't left with much esteem for him as a writer-director; I expected his new film, *The Monkey*, to be more of the same, but it's a zesty pitch-black comedy taking full advantage of the ratings system's current lenience with excessive gore. Perkins has based the movie glancingly on Stephen King's short story, yet it may shake out as more personal than Perkins' other projects. Perkins lost both parents in highly media-visible deaths, and *The Monkey* plays with the idea of random freak deaths and whether life has meaning if it can end so meaninglessly.

We begin in 1999, when twin teenage brothers Hal and Bill Shelburn deal with the fallout from a mysterious toy monkey, which, when its key is turned, plays its drum and causes someone to die. (It's established early on that it can't be weaponized against a specific target.) Hal, the more sensitive and bullied of the twins, and Bill, who's kind of a jerk, figure out what the monkey is and does, and toss it down a well. Twenty-five years later, Hal (Theo James) is a deadbeat dad just like his own father (absentee dads are definitely in the movie's bag of tropes), living in motels and spending a last week with son Petey (Colin O'Brien) before the kid is adopted by Hal's ex-wife's new husband.

Hal has been avoiding Petey because he's afraid the monkey will get his son, and his fear is not unfounded. Somewhere out there, the monkey still exists and is still killing people. The monkey is about as terrifying-looking as we pictured it when reading King's story, and Perkins has taken, as he's said, considerable liberties with the text while staying true to King's *tone*. This is probably the best King adaptation since *Doctor Sleep*. Perkins even drops several Easter eggs for King fans and also horror fans



in general. He has clearly designed this to be a good-time Saturday-night horror flick, where the audience goes "whoa" and laughs — after a while, when Perkins cuts to yet another funeral, it comes off as a punchline.

It'd be unfair to give away most of the last act. I will say that Rohan Campbell, so sullenly off-putting in *Halloween Ends*, scores here as a doofus who seems to share some DNA with Crispin Glover's Layne in *River's Edge*, though only in style, not deed. He gets the movie's most cartoonish fate, and eventually Hal is reduced to blurting shocked expletives whenever someone bloodily checks out right in front of him. Perkins suggests that being frequently close to death comes with perhaps necessary callousness. In this movie, the bereaved don't sob with grief; they respond like people robbed of any human response to death by their intimacy with it.

Hal is far from perfect, but his instinct to make himself a hermit and even let fatherhood go so that the monkey can't claim anyone else makes him this story's closest thing to a hero. The monkey has also left sizable scars in his brother Bill's psyche, and we get to see that. *The Monkey* clocks in at 98 whiplash minutes, and Perkins doesn't let the plot's twists and turns get in the way of the fun. At the same time, he remembers that there need to be genuine scares, and he conjures an ominous mood. This may be his version of *Final Destination* and any number of other "curse" movies, but it's *his*. The characterization adds to the theme, too — people are always saying things like "That sucks" or "Everyone dies," things that are as meaningless in the face of life's misfortunes as the comparable bromides. Even a young minister at the first of the funerals can't work up any words equal to the omnipresence of death. Lest this make *The Monkey* sound depressing, the film also contains a horse-trampling victim described as looking like "a drop-kicked cherry pie." And by God, he does.

## Academic Achievements

Kathleen Dunn of Mattapoisett has been named to the 2024 fall semester dean's list at Simmons University in Boston.

## Earth Day Cleanup

This Earth Day, the residents of Mattapoisett are coming together for a community-wide cleanup that promises to create a lasting impact on the beauty and health of our town. Organized by the Mattapoisett Sustainability Committee, local volunteers, and supported by town officials, everyone is invited to roll up their sleeves and make a difference. The event will occur on Saturday, **April 19** at 9:00 am at the Mattapoisett Library.

The cleanup will focus on public spaces, including parks, streets, and waterfront areas. Volunteers will remove litter to restore the natural beauty of Mattapoisett's beloved spots and inspire long-term environmental stewardship.

"Earth Day is the perfect occasion to take care of our community by taking care of our environment," said Kathleen LeClair, one of the event's coordinators. "By working together, we can create change, encouraging others to keep our town clean and beautiful year-round for all to enjoy."

Participants will also be encouraged to share their experiences and photos on social media using the hashtag #KeepMattapoisettBeautiful, inspiring others to join

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# TRI-TOWN POLICE LOGS



## MARION

Log highlights March 16 - March 22

- Edgewater Ln – Officer wanted
- Point Rd – MV collision
- Point Rd – Suspicious activity
- Converse Rd – Health/welfare
- Village Dr – Follow up investigation
- Pine Grove Ln – EMS/medical
- East Ave – General service
- Main St – Suspicious MV
- Pinewood Dr - Fraud
- Village Dr - Disturbance
- Wareham Rd – Found property
- Point Rd – Animal complaint
- Point Rd – MV stop/citation
- Delano Rd – Suspicious person
- Mill St – MV collision
- County Rd – Vandalism/past
- Ryders Ln – EMS/medical
- Mill St – Animal complaint
- Olde Knoll Rd – Health/welfare
- Cottage St – Follow up investigation
- Creek Rd – MV collision
- Pine Grove Ln – Health/welfare
- 195 East – MV collision
- Wareham Rd – MV collision
- Point Rd – Officer wanted
- Cross Neck Rd – Suspicious MV
- Tucker Ln – Animal control
- Cranberry Way - Fraud
- Sherman's Way – Noise complaint

## MATTAPOISETT

Log highlights March 16 - March 22

- Lebaron Way – Medical assist
- Fairhaven Rd - Threats
- County Rd – Health/welfare
- Mattapoisett Neck Rd – Animal control
- Meadowbrook Ln - Complaint
- Tinkham Ln – Suspicious MV
- Marion Rd - Notification
- Aucoot Rd – MV lockout
- Hammond St – Unattended death
- County Rd – MV crash
- Angelica Ave – MV violations
- Fairhaven Rd – Ambulance request
- Beach Rd – 911 call
- Marion Rd – MV violations
- North St – 911 call
- Church St Ext – MV violations
- Fairhaven Rd – MV violations
- Mendell Rd – MV violations
- Fieldstone Dr – 911 call
- County Rd – MV crash
- County Rd - Disturbance
- Lebaron Way - Disturbance
- County Rd - Trespassing
- County Rd – MV crash
- Railroad Ave – Parking violation
- Acushnet Rd – Ambulance request
- Angelica Ave – MV violations
- Chapel Rd – General service
- Tinkham Ln - Complaint

## ROCHESTER

Log highlights March 16 - March 22

- Hartley Rd – MV collision
- Snipatuit Rd – Follow up
- Negus Way – Suspicious activity
- New Bedford Rd – Well-being check
- Clapp Rd – Suspicious activity
- Bishop Rd – General services
- Morse Ct – Suspicious activity
- Pine St – 911 call
- Bennett Rd - Medical
- Jasons Ln – Animal control
- Marys Pond Rd – MV stop/citation
- Cushman Rd – MV stop/citation
- County Rd – General services
- County Rd – Well-being check
- North Ave – General services
- North Ave – MV collision
- Marion Rd – Suspicious activity
- Snipatuit Rd – Animal control
- North Ave – MV collision
- Benson Rd – Animal control
- New Bedford Rd - Threats
- North Ave - Disturbance
- Hiller Rd – MV collision
- Garbie Dr - Harassment
- Morse Ct – MV stop/towed
- Negus Way – Suspicious activity
- Clapp Rd – MV stop/citation
- Burgess Ave – Noise complaint
- Haskell Ridge Rd – MV collision

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



## REGIONAL LUNCH MENUS

### COASTLINE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM

**Monday, March 31:** Beef stew, green beans w/red peppers, cornbread, cinnamon apples  
**Tuesday, April 1:** Salisbury steak w/gravy, roasted potatoes, mixed root vegetables, cornbread loaf, pear  
**Wednesday, April 2:** Minestrone soup, creamy balsamic chicken, rice pilaf, mixed vegetables, dinner roll, chocolate chip cookie  
**Thursday, April 3:** Roast turkey w/gravy, mashed potatoes, broccoli, oatmeal roll, pudding, diet: fruit  
**Friday, April 4:** Potato pollock, sweet potato wedges, vegetable medley, wheat roll, Mandarin oranges, tartar sauce

### CENTER SCHOOL

**Monday, March 31:** Crispy chicken sandwich, oven baked French fries, steamed carrots  
**Tuesday, April 1:** Loaded tator tot nachos served with warm pretzel  
**Wednesday, April 2:** Pancakes, scrambled eggs, hashbrown patty,

maple syrup  
**Thursday, April 3:** American chop suey, savory green beans, garlic breadstick  
**Friday, April 4:** Pizza crunchers, marinara sauce, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

### OLD HAMMONDTOWN

**Monday, March 31:** Crispy chicken sandwich, oven baked French fries, steamed carrots  
**Tuesday, April 1:** Loaded tator tot nachos served with warm pretzel  
**Wednesday, April 2:** Pancakes, scrambled eggs, hashbrown patty, maple syrup  
**Thursday, April 3:** American chop suey, savory green beans, garlic breadstick  
**Friday, April 4:** Pizza crunchers, marinara sauce, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

### OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH

**Monday, March 31:** Crispy chicken sandwich, oven baked

French fries, steamed carrots  
**Tuesday, April 1:** Loaded tator tot nachos served with warm pretzel  
**Wednesday, April 2:** Pancakes, scrambled eggs, hashbrown patty, maple syrup  
**Thursday, April 3:** American chop suey, savory green beans, garlic breadstick  
**Friday, April 4:** Pizza crunchers, marinara sauce, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

### ROCHESTER MEMORIAL

**Monday, March 31:** Crispy chicken sandwich, oven baked French fries, steamed carrots  
**Tuesday, April 1:** Loaded tator tot nachos served with warm pretzel  
**Wednesday, April 2:** Pancakes, scrambled eggs, hashbrown patty, maple syrup  
**Thursday, April 3:** American chop suey, savory green beans, garlic breadstick  
**Friday, April 4:** Pizza crunchers, marinara sauce, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

### SIPPICAN SCHOOL

**Monday, March 31:** Crispy chicken sandwich, oven baked French fries, steamed carrots  
**Tuesday, April 1:** Loaded tator tot nachos served with warm pretzel  
**Wednesday, April 2:** Pancakes, scrambled eggs, hashbrown patty, maple syrup  
**Thursday, April 3:** American chop suey, savory green beans, garlic breadstick  
**Friday, April 4:** Pizza crunchers, marinara sauce, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

### OLD COLONY REGIONAL

**Monday, March 31:** Crispy chicken bowl w/mashed potato, corn, gravy & dinner roll OR shepherd's pie & dinner roll  
**Tuesday, April 1:** Chicken nuggets & fries  
**Wednesday, April 2:** Cheese lasagna & garlic bread  
**Thursday, April 3:** Loaded buffalo chicken tater tots  
**Friday, April 4:** Assorted pizza



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the movement. The Earth Day cleanup extends beyond Mattapoisett—it is a message of hope and collaboration for future generations.

We will meet at the canopy on the Mattapoisett Library lawn. Please bring gloves; all other supplies will be provided to participants. The Sustainability Partnership thanks all volunteers for their efforts.

For more information and to register please visit the Mattapoisett Library website.

### MAC Exhibits The Pastel Paintings of Janet Schwartz & Dave Kaphammer

The Marion Art Center is pleased to present its newest exhibition, the Pastel Paintings of Janet Schwartz & Dave Kaphammer, which features two artists working in pastels. The exhibit runs April 5 through May 16 with an artists' reception on Saturday, **April 5** from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the MAC, located at 80 Pleasant Street, Marion.

Although trained as an art teacher, Janet Schwartz initially put off her artistic interests to pursue a corporate career. During her lengthy work commutes, she was inspired by the energy and chaos of highway lights and reflections and began painting in earnest in her free time. In 2021, she traded in her corporate career for a full life of painting and teaching painting - and she hasn't turned back.

Schwartz is a pastel artist but also enjoys working in oils and charcoal drawings. She is a Master Circle Member of the International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS), a Copley Artist with the Copley Society of Art, a juried member of the Rockport Art Association and the North Shore Art Association; a Signature Member of the Pastel Society of America (PSA) and Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod (PPSCC) where she has actively served on the board for six years. Her work is represented

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at the Sidoti Gallery of Fine Art in Rockport, MA and she exhibits at the Copley Society of Art, the Concord Art Association, Rockport Art Association and Museum, the North Shore Art Association, the Salmagundi Club in NY and other New England locations

Strong light and cast shadows can make the most ordinary scenes appear magical in the works of Dave Kaphammer. He is inspired by late afternoon light breaking through trees, reflecting off water, or falling across an old tractor, casting interesting shadow shapes. Recently his interest has expanded to the old New England architecture in his neighborhood.

Kaphammer has been painting in pastel for about 20 years - starting from taking weekly classes, then setting



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# TriTOWN HAPPENINGS



The Old Rochester Regional High School boys' basketball team not only made the MIAA Division 3 Final Four for the second consecutive year, the 20th-seeded Bulldogs battled their way to four postseason victories, earning a trip back to the state final where they came within a single second of capturing the title ultimately won by second-seeded Norwell. ORR's bittersweet brush with the banner was only the ending of an amazing story of the Bulldogs' battle level through a challenging 2024-25 schedule and their subsequent tournament run that leaves a legacy of determination and a standard of excellence for future area teams to aspire. Photo courtesy ORR Athletics.



Dr. Naomi Slipp was the latest Sippican Historical Society Speaker at the Music Hall on March 18. The Crock Curator at the New Bedford Whaling Museum lectured on the current exhibit, "Lighting the Way: South Coast Women's Lives, Labors, Loves." Photo courtesy Alanna Nelson.



The Old Colony Regional Vocational-Technical High School boys basketball team developed a starting five that made the most of their senior year, going 18-2 through the regular-season schedule, capturing the State Small School Vocational title and advancing in the MIAA Division 5 state tournament before bowing to top-seeded, undefeated and eventual state champion Pioneer Valley. Rochester residents Landon Hunter (12) and Nick Fringuelli (23) were named 2025 Mayflower League All-Stars, along with team captain Max Finney of Lakeville. Rochester residents Max and Wyatt Smiley of Rochester completed the Cougars' all-senior starting five. Photos by Nic Giokas.



Ruth Griffin took this photo while walking on The Mattapoisett Bike Path.

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



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up a home studio and painting several times a week, and eventually teaching regular classes and workshops for over seven years. He also works full time as an engineer for Bose. Dave Says "Exercising my artistic passion makes the engineering be more creative, while time spent working and commuting definitely fuels my hunger for making art."

Kaphammer is a signature member of the Pastel Society





## RESTORATION

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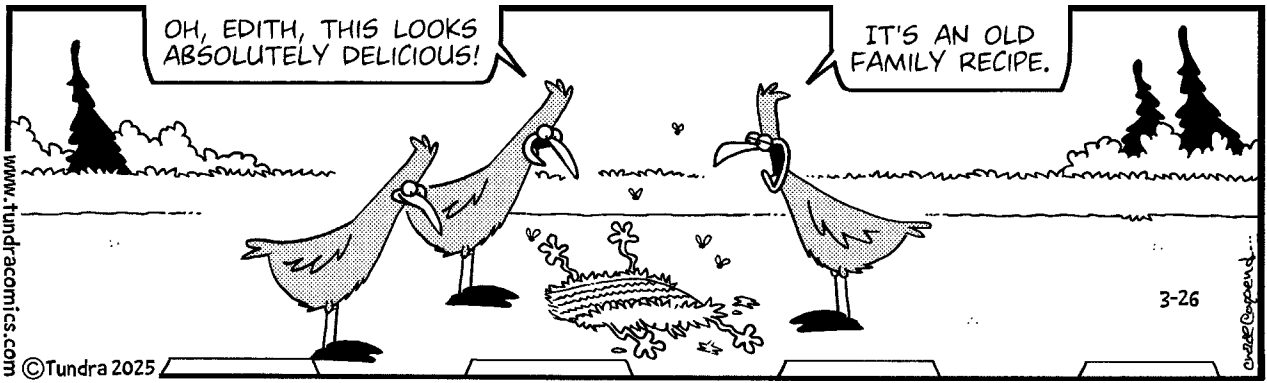


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## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Celebration of Life for  
**Michael G. Thompson**  
 March 29th at 12:30pm  
 People's Christian Church  
 2240 Acushnet Ave. New Bedford, MA

of America and the Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod (PPSCC), a Master Circle member of the International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS), and an Artist member of the Copley Society of Art, the Rockport Art Association, and the North Shore Art Association. He has won numerous awards in national and international juried shows.

More information on the exhibit can be found at [marionartcenter.org/on-exhibit](http://marionartcenter.org/on-exhibit).

### ORCTV Board of Directors Meeting

There will be an ORCTV Board of Directors meeting on Thursday, March 27 at 5:00 pm Via Zoom meeting and in person at the ORCTV Studio 135 Marion Road, Mattapoisett.

The link for the Zoom meeting is: [us02web.zoom.us/j/9377728445?pwd=U2hNdU90ZEZzbVYwMmFnbnFpOE9TQT09&omn=81699895463](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9377728445?pwd=U2hNdU90ZEZzbVYwMmFnbnFpOE9TQT09&omn=81699895463) Meeting ID - 937 772 8445 - Pass Code - 1uGsze.

### St. Anthony-St. Rita Mother's Day Garden Party

Join us on Saturday **May 10**, 10:00 am until 1:00 pm outside at the front of St. Anthony's Parish in Mattapoisett, 22 Barstow Street. Come and find a gift for a special Mom. We will offer an array of baked goods to enjoy with coffee and tea, floral arrangements, and vendors selling jewelry, hand-poured candles, pottery, Nantucket basket bags, musicians playing live music, and more. We hope to see you there.

### Rochester Republican Town Committee

The Rochester Republican Town Committee invites the public to a pizza & movie night at the Ponderosa Sportsman Club, in Acushnet, on Monday, **March 31**, at 6:00 pm. The movie is, "Am I Racist?" by Matt Walsh.



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Come, and invite a friend.

### History of the Sippican Woman's Club

On Friday, **April 11** from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm The Sippican Woman's Club's dedicated Historian, Jeanne Bruen, will give an oral and visual overview of the club's history. Jeanne has been a member of the club since 2007. A nurse by profession, Jeanne has dedicated much of her artistic talents and enthusiasm by sharing her own abundance of holiday décor and leading members in decorating our clubhouse for our annual fundraiser the Holiday House Tour. Many new members have found by participating in the annual Tavern Holiday decorating they have enjoyed the opportunity to bond with new friends. She has led a table scape design submission for



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# Super Crossword

CROSS WORDS

## ACROSS

- 1 Swing by  
12 Sop up  
16 Fez or beret  
15 General — chicken  
19 Preface  
20 "Hello" singer  
21 Santa — winds  
22 Eight, in Berlin  
23 Alternative to potstickers  
26 Trevi  
27 Golf prop  
28 Requiring lots of attention  
29 L-P linkup  
30 "— Up My Heart" (1997 "NSYNC song)  
32 Call before the court  
35 Touchy topic  
37 Skit-filled NBC show, in brief  
38 Texas-Louisiana border river  
41 Three, in Paris  
42 H.G. Wells' Doctor Moreau, e.g.  
46 Penetrating

- 47 Get older  
50 Give off  
51 Shaggy's nickname for his dog  
52 Pollen lover  
53 Actress Perlman  
54 "Life Is Good" rapper  
55 Letter after pi  
56 212 degrees Fahrenheit, for water  
61 "Yup"  
63 Big Apple sch.  
66 Alpha Sig, e.g.  
67 Speaks from a soapbox  
68 Right after being baked  
72 Fake: Prefix  
75 Stalagmite site  
76 Camera type, in brief  
77 Acting award  
81 Brand of hard cider  
84 Google Play download  
86 Tokyo sash  
87 Prefix with byte or ton  
88 Suffix with Euclid

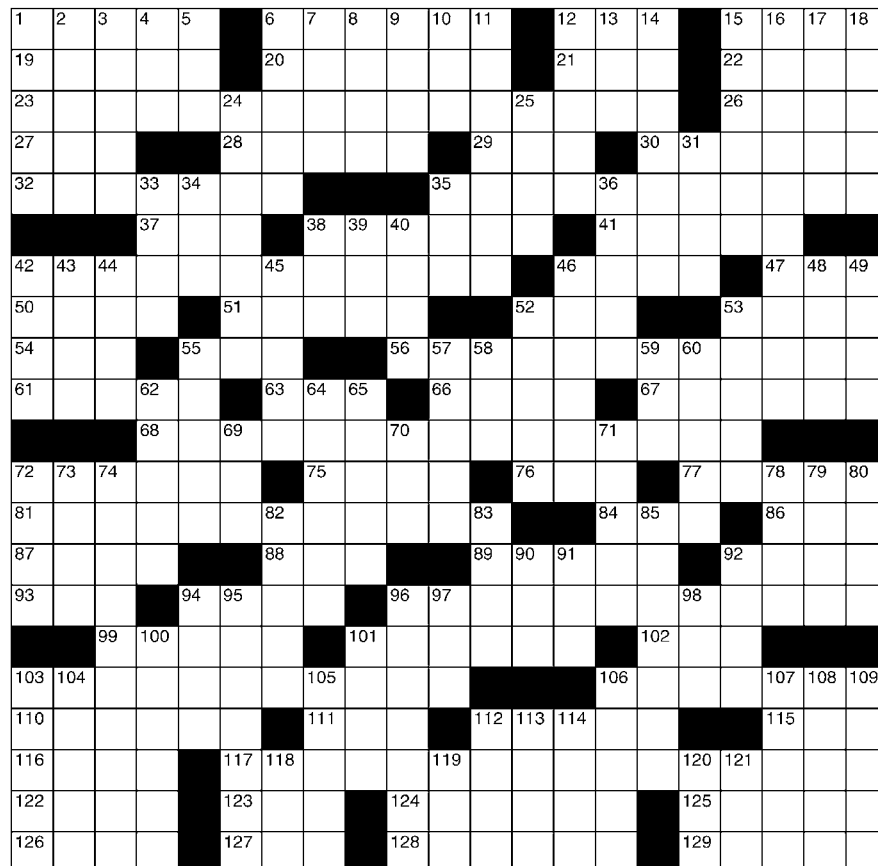
- 89 An ex-Trump  
92 Fix typos, say  
93 Plus more: Abbr.  
94 \$5 bills, in slang  
96 Intense controversy  
99 "That doesn't ring —"  
101 Regressed  
102 — -la-la  
103 Group of warriors in "Kung Fu Panda"  
106 Church part for the clergy  
110 Chant  
111 Boxing great  
112 Flummoxed  
115 Suffix with Motor  
116 British prep school  
117 Oxidizer in liquid rocket propellants  
122 Swedish soprano Jenny  
123 '50s prez  
124 — Mae (HUD corp.)  
125 Yo-yo part  
126 Lucy's guy  
127 Toon Flanders  
128 Villains' looks

## DOWN

- 1 Panorama  
2 Entomb  
3 Navigate  
4 A Gershwin brother  
5 Male tabby  
6 Eve of old TV  
7 — one's time  
8 Missile in the Gulf War  
9 "Heavens!"  
10 Shred  
11 — Stakes (horse race)  
12 Kayak cousin  
13 "Gemini Man" director Lee  
14 Grazing land  
15 "Proud Mary" star — P. Henson  
16 Makes the Billboard Top 40, e.g.  
17 Of a resistance unit  
18 Artery insert  
24 Like Brits  
25 Pertaining to  
31 Black, to Poe  
33 Aide: Abbr.  
34 U.S. "Ltd."  
35 Female sib

- 36 Dutch artist Jan  
38 — -Cat  
39 From — Z  
40 Lettuce type  
42 Option list  
43 East Asian nanny  
44 Platter  
45 — Lodge (motel chain)  
46 Actor Harvey  
48 Heredity unit  
49 Wolfs down  
52 Malaise, with "the"  
53 Horse colors  
55 Little — (the Ocean State)  
57 Proposal  
58 Original NYC subway line  
59 State exec.  
60 Before surgery, in brief  
62 "Star Trek" lieutenant  
64 Agave plants  
65 Salt Lake City native  
69 Additionally  
70 Fertilizable gametes  
71 Chimp's kin  
72 Book division  
73 Vexed state  
74 Dairy case containers

- 78 Musical finale  
79 Somewhat  
80 Act of liturgy  
82 Film units  
83 Uses a trowel  
85 Noodles in peanut sauce  
90 Battle (for)  
91 Additionally  
92 Israel's Abba  
94 Vast stretch  
95 Large tuna  
96 Wild rants  
97 Gorilla, e.g.  
98 Historic time  
100 Olympic swimmer  
101 Actress Taylor  
103 Grazing land  
104 De-knot  
105 Renowned  
106 Asteroid found in 1801  
107 Chocolate drink  
108 T-man Ness  
109 Big dipper  
112 Comic Meara  
113 Rake prong  
114 Mix, as paint  
118 Luau guitar, for short  
119 Martini liquor  
120 Longtime CBS series  
121 30-day mo.



# SALOME'S STARS

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) The week promises a calmer aspect. Although there might be some lingering effects from a recent job problem, things should continue to ease up. Also expect a change in a home-based situation.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) If you feel uneasy about a colleague's suggestion, it might be that your wise inner Taurean guide is alerting you to a potential problem. Stepping away could turn out to be the right thing to do.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) A family get-together opens up new opportunities for renewing ties. It can be especially effective in dealing with disagreements that should have been resolved but never fully were.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) You might be surprised at the response you get to a recent decision. You might be even more surprised by the reasons behind it. In any event, you'll learn something important.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Your aspects favor resolving any tensions left over from a recent incident. You might want to consider having a "clear the air" talk as soon as you can. A call can lead to a change of plans.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Avoid repeating yourself. If your first few efforts fail to connect, maybe it's because you haven't found the right way to get your message across. Try changing your approach.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Good intentions plus a strong resolve to succeed can take you where you want to go. Don't give up just because someone suggests you might be pursuing an impossible cause.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) An unexpected setback can be a blessing in disguise. Use it to recheck your facts and how you've presented them. Meanwhile, look for ways to expand your contacts.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) You should finally be seeing a positive change in a recent personal situation. However, an on-the-job matter might need more attention than you realized. Stay with it!

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) While you should be close to completing an important matter, you still need to maintain your focus. Things will ease up in time for weekend fun with family and friends.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) A certain matter might take an unexpected turn. Don't simply accept it; ask for an explanation. What you learn might be helpful in shifting the situation around to your benefit.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Projecting a positive attitude helps restore calm, even when you're confronting some pretty stormy situations. Stay the course! The outcome will be well worth your efforts.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** While you enjoy tradition and stability, you also appreciate the good things that change can bring. You know how to achieve a great balance within this area of your life.

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the holidays sponsored by the Rotch Jones Duff House in New Bedford and recently decorated our club's holiday tree for the Friends of Marion COA's Holiday fundraiser. Her talents have included designing and marketing a Handy's Tavern plate as a fundraiser. Never idle, Jeanne has throughout her years as a Club member has culled our numerous scrap books, organized piles of photos, clippings, etc. The program will be culmination of Jeannie's interest in sharing her efforts to catalogue and organize much of the club's history.

The club has a long history:

-SWC was established in 1904 when 2 Marion ladies groups combined efforts.

-One, a discussion group founded in the late 1890's by Mrs. John Allen; The other organized in 1904 by Mrs. E.O. Rundell for "social and intellectual improvement".

-By 1914, the Club was holding fairs and rummage sales to benefit public health and a nursing association. The Tavern housed a clinic & living quarters for the town nurse.

-On June 24 and 25, 1915 the Sippican Woman's Club hosted the State Federation of Women's Clubs for their annual meeting and to vote on women's suffrage. Over 400 women, from around the state gathered in Marion for two days staying at the Sippican Hotel. This annual meeting added their voice to the suffrage movement. It took 5 more years for Women's Right to Vote to pass in 1920.

-In 1923 the women purchased Handy's Tavern. Apartments were then rented to the town nurse and schoolteachers. During WWII, the Red Cross utilized the Tavern to support the war effort. Today there are 2 small residential units above the meeting room and an adjacent commercial unit.

-In 1947 the Club began and continue to award scholarships to deserving high school graduating Marion residents. The Club also supports other community needs.

-Scholarship funds are raised through annual Club events i.e. the annual Holiday

-House Tour. During COVID, in 2020 Dollars for Scholars was supported by our membership and

community and in 2021 and 2022 Illuminate to Educate were very successful fundraisers supported by the community.

Our **April 11** meeting will start with finger-food luncheon at 12:30 pm followed by a business meeting and Club's History Program from 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm.

Our meetings are open to guests. Membership is open to any woman whose primary interests are in the Town of Marion. We traditionally meet on the second Friday of the month during the months of September through April at 12:30 pm for social time, accompanied by finger foods, followed by a business meeting at 1:00 pm. The speaker/program generally starts at 1:30/1:45pm. Parking is available in parking lot in front of the bandstand off Island Wharf Road across from the Music Hall. For club information: see our website: [www.sippicanwomensclub.org](http://www.sippicanwomensclub.org).

### Rochester Women's Club Earth Day

The annual Earth Day town wide clean up sponsored by the Rochester Women's Club will be held on Saturday, **April 19** from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The Women's Club will be open during those hours for you to stop by, grab your street cleaning supplies and a cup of coffee. There will be a dumpster on site. Details will be published in March with explicit detail concerning the trash that can go into the dumpster. Call to sign up early for the street you prefer to clean. Call Marsha at 508-322-0998.

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## 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](mailto:oprior@marionma.gov) during normal business hours.

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

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

The Marion Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, April 9, at 7:05 pm at the Marion Police Department Conference Room 550 Mill Street, also available via Microsoft Teams (Remote Participation Option), on a Request for Determination of Applicability, submitted by Brian Engstrom, for the construction of a screened porch at 50 Holly Road.

The site is further identified as Lot 128 on Marion Assessors' Map 2. Plans are available at the Town House for review.

Matthew Shultz, Chair

\*Please contact Olivia Prior at [oprior@marionma.gov](mailto:oprior@marionma.gov) for the Microsoft Teams link and for meeting information. The meeting will be live streamed on ORCTV. 3/27

## LEGAL NOTICES

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

The Marion Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, April 9, at 7:10 pm at the Marion Police Department Conference Room 550 Mill Street, also available via Microsoft Teams (Remote Participation Option), on a Notice of Intent, submitted by Robert Luchetti for the repair of a pier at 548 Point Road.

The site is further identified as Lot 37 on Marion Assessors' Map 6. Plans are available at the Town House for review.

Matthew Shultz, Chair

\*Please contact Olivia Prior at [oprior@marionma.gov](mailto:oprior@marionma.gov) for the Microsoft Teams link and for meeting information. The meeting will be live streamed on ORCTV. 3/27

### 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 Town Hall (in person and remotely via Zoom \*\*) on a Notice of Intent submitted by the Mattapoisett Housing Authority, 1 Acushnet Road, Mattapoisett, MA 02739. The proposed project is to install an emergency egress path around rear of building as required by the Fire Marshall. Remove an undraining low point in the vehicle accessway and associated drainage improvements. The project is located at 1 Acushnet Road, and is further identified as Lot 91.0 on Assessor Map 16.0.

\*\*Contact [concomm@mattapoisett.net](mailto:concomm@mattapoisett.net) for the Zoom Meeting Information. 3/27

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## Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## SCRAMBLERS

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

Spring

PALE

Deride

CORNS

Degree

TEXTEN

Answer

LOVES

**TODAY'S WORD**



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The Rochester Women's Club has been sponsoring this town wide clean-up for over 25 years. We are as always very grateful to our enthusiastic members, the Boy Scouts and their leaders, Jeff Eldridge and his staff at the Rochester Highway Department and the wonderful, caring members of our community who show up and support our efforts to keep our beautiful Rochester clean and shiny as we can.

### Taste of Italy

Marion Social Club is cordially inviting you to our "Taste of Italy" on **April 13** at 1:00 pm. The menu will be antipasto, lasagna, chicken parmigiana, and chicken alfredo and dessert for \$15.00 per person. Doors open at noon for socializing. For ticket information, please call Ann Cowell at 508-758-8411. Cutoff date is April 3. Hope to see you there.

### Richard I. and Helen A. Arthur Scholarship

The Sippican Lands Trust seeks applicants for its Richard I. and Helen A. Arthur Scholarship. The applicant for this \$2,000 award must be a Marion resident in their last year of high school or enrolled as a freshman or sophomore in college elsewhere. This award may be given to the same recipient at a maximum of two (2) times. The following schools will be notified: Bishop Stang High School, Old Rochester Regional High School, Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School,

Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical High School, Bristol County Agricultural High School, and Tabor Academy. A preference will be given to applicants who are majoring in or plan to major in environmental studies or a related field.

The scholarship is made available through the Sippican Lands Trust Scholarship Fund. This award was created and named after Richard I. "Dick" (1933-2018) and Helen Adams Arthur (1940-2008), who were beloved residents of Marion and long-time volunteers for the organization. Dick and Helen held a deep interest in the preservation of the beautiful open spaces in Marion.

SLT's Scholarship Committee will review all completed applications and will award the scholarship

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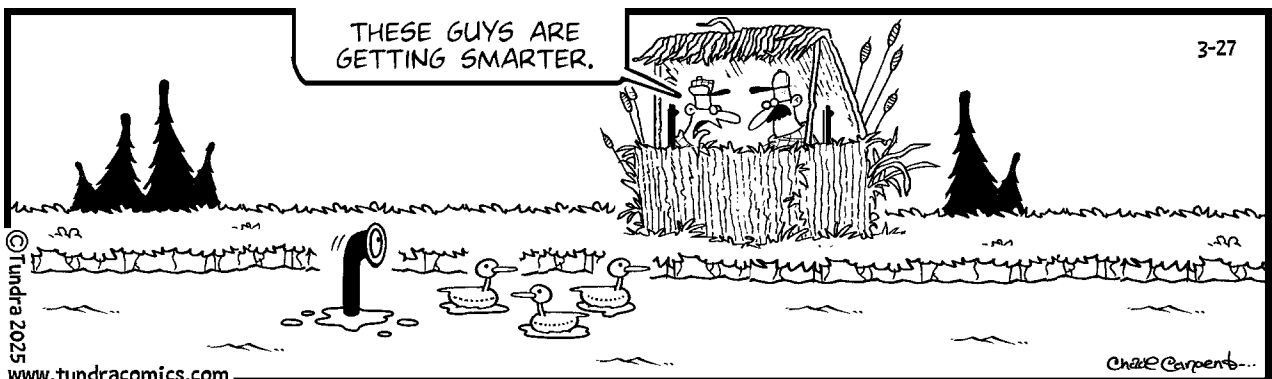
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**Tundra**  
by Chad Carpenter



to the student(s) whose pursuits most closely reflect Dick and Helen's wishes, as mirrored by the mission of Sippican Lands Trust: to acquire, preserve, and provide access to open space throughout Marion for the benefit of the public today and for future generations.

Requirements for the application include:

-A completed Richard I. and Helen A. Arthur Scholarship information sheet

-A personal statement highlighting the applicant's educational goals and interests. Please include information about environmental course(s) taken, community service completed, volunteer involvement, or jobs held, as applicable.

-Two letters of reference with contact information (examples: teacher, guidance counselor, coach, employer, Scout leader, community leader, etc.).

All forms will be available in guidance offices and on the SLT website at [www.sippicanlandstrust.org/scholarship](http://www.sippicanlandstrust.org/scholarship).

Completed applications should be postmarked by **May 1** to be considered. Please mail to: Sippican Lands Trust, Attn: Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 848, Marion, MA 02738

All applicants will be notified of their status by email by June 1, 2025.

For more information, contact the Sippican Lands Trust at 508-748-3080 or [info@sippicanlandstrust.org](mailto:info@sippicanlandstrust.org). Please note that volunteer opportunities are available at the Sippican Lands Trust.

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

As has certainly been mentioned in previous articles, the town of Rochester, incorporated in 1789, included both Sippican (now Marion) and Mattapoissett until the mid 1800's. Some newspaper clippings found in the Museum tell about the desire of certain sections of town to separate into two new towns.

Mattapoissett led the charge by pressing for separation as early as 1837. Because of their prosperous shipbuilding industry and the fact that their section



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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Allyson Alford	March 27
Beth Hodges	March 27
Bruce B Pires	March 27
Manuel Anacleto IV	March 27
Ann Williams	March 28
Dana Tripp	March 28
David Mee	March 28
David Ribeiro	March 28
Kara LeBlanc	March 28
Margie Souza	March 28
Mark Hall	March 28
Christian Nadeau	March 29
Corey Cruz	March 29
Gail Roberts	March 29
Jayne Gagnon	March 29
Kevin O'Gara	March 29
Shawn Houlihan	March 29
Abby Dyson	March 30
Brendon Cooney	March 30
Chris Farrell	March 30
Doreen Hill	March 30
Gabriella Berg	March 30
Kyle Medeiros	March 30
Liam Patrick Murray	March 30
Rhonda Criscuolo	March 30
Tom Figueiredo	March 30
Colin Surdam	March 31
Lauren MacLean Fontaine	March 31
Michael A. Cahillane	March 31
Robert R. Bolduc	March 31
Zoë Motta	March 31
Amanda Eldridge	April 1
Mildred Souza	April 1
Hazel Kakley	April 2
Kim Dunn	April 2
Mary Duff	April 2
Rebecca Longworth	April 2
Sam Dorothy	April 2
Timothy Dunn	April 2



had the largest population, they felt that the 8-10 miles to Rochester Center was too long a distance to travel to conduct town business or attend church.

According to historians, this created a period of "agitation" amongst the various sections of town. Sippican sided with Rochester which created jealousy between Sippican and Mattapoisett with Mattapoisett boasting that it had the best harbor with some claiming that Sippican Harbor was so shallow you "could almost wade across". A piece of doggerel making the rounds at this time was started in Mattapoisett:

"Agawam and Sippican  
Are neither fit for dog or man  
In Agawam the cattle die  
In Sippican the people lie."

Mattapoisett's first attempt to separate was reported in the Barnstable Gazette. A petition was put before the Massachusetts legislature to allow Mattapoisett to separate from Rochester and incorporate as the town of "Fenelon". At about the same time the residents of North Rochester threatened to separate and create their own town called "Clarion". Neither movement succeeded.

However, in the end, it was Sippican that first received legislative approval in 1852 to incorporate as Marion. Mattapoisett received its approval in 1857. By the 1860's census, there were 1,483 residents in Mattapoisett, 1,232 in Rochester and 918 in Marion. With the advent of a railroad line from West Wareham to Fairhaven that served both Marion and Mattapoisett, but excluded Rochester, the two coastal towns experienced rapid growth. Eventually, Marion had the highest population of the three towns.

### Machacam Club

The next meeting of the Machacam Club is scheduled for Wednesday, **April 2**. We meet at the American Legion Hall on Depot Street. Social time begins at 5:00 pm followed by dinner at 6:00 pm. Our speaker will be introduced at 6:40 pm. Chef Colby is planning another satisfying meal. Callers, please send your counts by 9:00 pm Monday, March 31. Please submit inquiries to cwmccullough@comcast.net.

### Hello from Plumb Library

Everyone knows that libraries are full of books and movies and magazines and audiobooks, but did you know there's a lot more that we offer to our users?

The Library has computers with color printers, as well as an open wi-fi network and wireless printing available to anyone. We also have copy and FAX services for a small fee, and we are able to scan documents to a personal flash drive. We also offer free notary public services by appointment. Please call ahead if you need notary services, this ensures that the correct staff are available to you.

In addition to the physical collection, Plumb Library hosts a robust digital collection available via our website or through app-based platforms including Libby and Hoopla. If you're looking for ebooks, e-audio, magazines, music, movies, comics, and more download the app, log in with your library card, and open up a whole new collection of

titles.

For even more online content, head over to [www.plumblibrary.com](http://www.plumblibrary.com) and check out the available databases. Through the Library's website you have access to World Book Encyclopedia, Freegal Music, Tumble Books, Universal Class, Educate Station for Homeschoolers, Practice Tests from the MA DMV, and NoveList (this is a great resource to figure out what you want to read next.). For an even deeper dive, click the link to the Statewide Databases from our website and see what's available from the Massachusetts Library Association. Transparent Language, Pebble Go, The Boston Globe, Encyclopedia Britannica, Peterson's Test Prep, Heritage Quest, and Gale in Context are just some of the free offerings from MLA.

If you'd like to know more about any of these services, or need help getting started, don't hesitate to ask us for a demonstration.

The Library needs Trustees and Friends. If you're interested in the inner workings of your Library, please contact Kristen Cardoso, Director, for more information about possible openings on both boards. Trustee candidates will need to take out nomination papers from Town Hall to get on the spring Town Election ballot.

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.

Library hours are: Mondays/Thursdays 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm; Tuesdays/Wednesdays 10:00 am to 6:00 pm; Fridays 10:00 am to 5:00 pm; Saturdays 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. We are closed on Sundays and Holidays. The Library can be contacted by phone at 508-763-8600 or email at [info@plumblibrary.com](mailto:info@plumblibrary.com). Check our Facebook and Instagram pages for information, upcoming events, and more.

### Mattapoisett Free Public Library

Visit the Mattapoisett Library at 7 Barstow Street this month.

The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meeting scheduled for Tuesday, **April 1**, at 6:00 pm has been postponed.

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55 County Road (Route 6) Mattapoisett

Telephone: 508-758-9055

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

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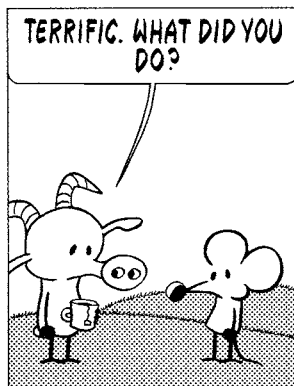
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 ISSN 1559-1212

## PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



However, interested teens can contact Amanda Lawrence at [alawrence@sailsinc.org](mailto:alawrence@sailsinc.org) for information on future meetings. TAB is intended for students between 12 and 18 who seek a leadership role in the library. New members are welcome.

Longtime New England singer/songwriter Matt York will perform songs and tell stories about the great Willie Nelson on Saturday, **April 5**, at 2:00 pm. York's program will focus on Willie's long and illustrious music career, which has spanned over seven decades. All ages are welcome. No registration is needed. This event is funded by a grant from the Mattapoisett Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

We're celebrating "Financial Literacy Month" on Tuesday, **April 8** at 1:00 pm. We're hosting an Economic Empowerment Hour with various resources and tips designed to help patrons aged 18 to 25 take control of their financial futures. No registration needed. Let's make financial literacy a priority - together. Pizza to follow.

The next meeting of the Friends of the Mattapoisett Library is Wednesday, **April 9**, at 6:00 pm. All are welcome to attend. A Zoom link to the meeting is available upon request. If you have any questions, please contact the library at [mfpl@sailsinc.org](mailto:mfpl@sailsinc.org). We can pass along your message to the Friends.

The Friends of the Mattapoisett Library are hosting their next book sale on Saturday, **April 12**, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm in the library's meeting room. All proceeds from the event benefit library programs and activities, so please stop by and check it out. Book sale donations can be dropped off at the library on Thursday, April 10, and Friday, April 11, from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm.

Spend a relaxing and thoughtful hour in the library's Reading Rooms with Seaglass Theatre Company and the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra as they present a concert of music for string quartet and voice on Saturday, **April 12** at 2:00 pm. The concert is free, and all are welcome. No reservations are necessary, but seating is limited.

The Sunday Book Club meets on **April 13** at 2:00 pm to discuss Alice Hoffman's *Blackbird House*. Copies of the book are available at the library. This club is intended for adults. If you have questions, contact Librarian Robbin Smith at [rsmith@sailsinc.org](mailto:rsmith@sailsinc.org).

Our next Cookbook Club meeting, scheduled for



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Tuesday, **April 15**, at 6:30 pm, has been postponed. Interested patrons can contact Amanda Lawrence at [alawrence@sailsinc.org](mailto:alawrence@sailsinc.org) with any questions.

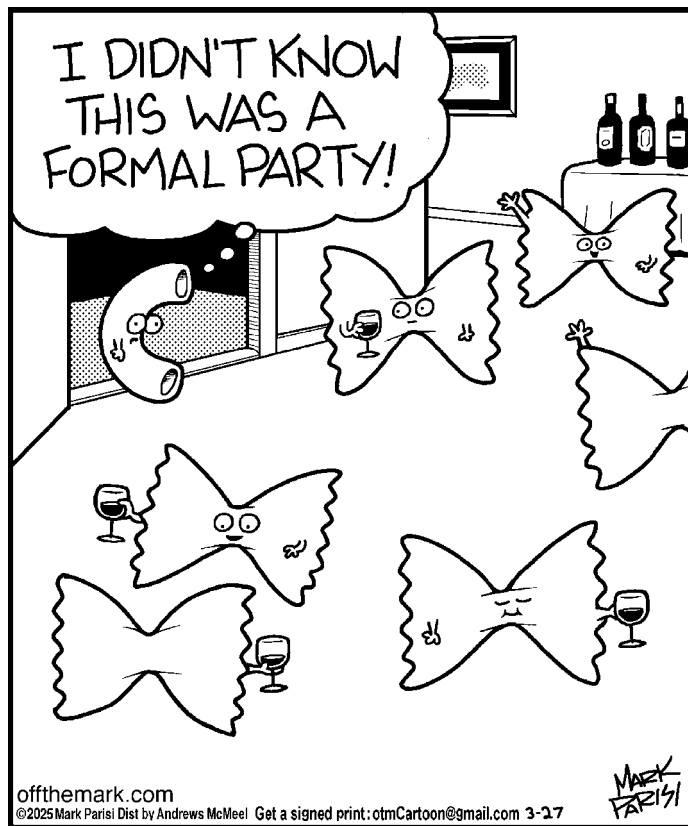
Well-Read Wednesday meets on Wednesday, **April 23**, at 6:30 pm in the Marine room. The club will discuss *The People's Hospital: Hope and Peril in American Medicine* by Ricardo Nuila. Copies of the book are available for pickup at the library. New members welcome.

Join the New Bedford Arts and Cultural Emporium on Sunday, **April 27**, at 1:30 pm for an Artistic Accordion Book Workshop. In the two-hour workshop, participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of the accordion book form as they explore its potential for storytelling, visual narrative, and conceptual expression. Recommended for patrons aged 18 and up. Space is limited, and registration is required.

The Friends of the Mattapoisett Library are accepting jewelry donations until further notice. If you have gently used or unworn jewelry or accessories you'd like to donate, The Friends would love to take them off your hands. Please drop these items off at the circulation desk. Thank you. Your contributions are appreciated and will help support future library events.

Friendly reminder that library cards must be present at checkout. If your card is missing, it can be replaced. Avoid losing it again by downloading the SAILS mobile app. It's an excellent alternative to carrying your physical library card. Please see a librarian if you need help or have questions. Your privacy is important to us. Let's keep it safe together.

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Bernardo, Manuel David Bernardo, Cindy Jennifer	Long Built Homes Inc	4 Shagbark Cir Lot 63	Mattapoisett	03/07/2025	1,220,000.00
Hathaway, Matthew Hathaway, Erica	St, Pierre Robert J By Atty St, Pierre Robert J Jr Atty	3 Barlow Ln 13 Homestead Ct	Mattapoisett	03/07/2025	475,000.00



## Local Tides

Day	Date	High		Low	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	March 27	6:56	7:20	12:30	12:55
Friday	March 28	7:44	8:07	1:21	1:35
Saturday	March 29	8:32	8:55	2:12	2:16
Sunday	March 30	9:20	9:43	3:03	2:59
Monday	March 31	10:10	10:33	3:53	3:42
Tuesday	April 1	11:02	11:27	4:41	4:26
Wednesday	April 2	11:57		5:31	5:12
Thursday	April 3	12:24	12:56	6:31	6:03
Friday	April 4	1:26	1:56	8:30	7:07
Saturday	April 5	2:29	2:59	10:00	9:02
Sunday	April 6	3:36	4:04	11:02	10:56
Monday	April 7	4:45	5:09	11:49	11:49
Tuesday	April 8	5:46	6:06		12:24
Wednesday	April 9	6:36	6:54	12:26	12:47
Thursday	April 10	7:18	7:35	12:56	1:06
Friday	April 11	7:56	8:12	1:28	1:28
Saturday	April 12	8:31	8:47	2:02	1:57
Sunday	April 13	9:05	9:20	2:39	2:30

Phases	New Moon	March 29th
of the	First Quarter	April 4th
Moon	Full Moon	April 12th
	Last Quarter	April 20th

**I Found the Aardvark!**

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

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

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

In the March 20, 2025 edition the Aardvark was on page 45

## PUZZLE ANSWERS

### CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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

## SCRAMBLERS

### solution

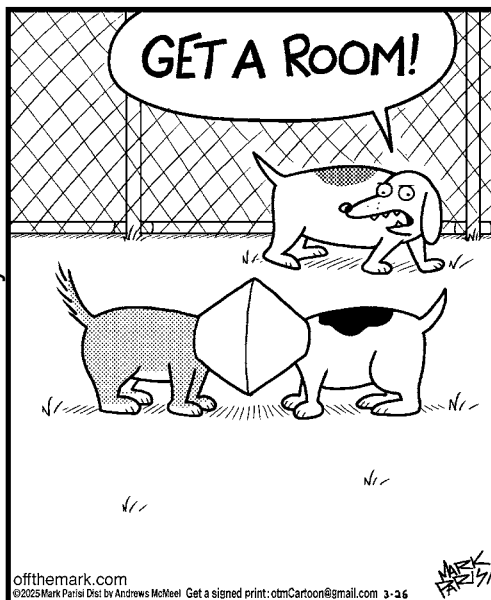
1. Leap
2. Scorn;
3. Extent;
4. Solve

## Today's Word TAXES

### Sudoku Answer

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

by Mark Parisi  
off the mark



# Friends'

marketplace



at PLUMB CORNER

**SALE EFFECTIVE:**  
Friday, March 28th Thru Thursday, April 3rd, 2025

565 Rounseville Road • Rochester, MA 02770 508.763.5333

Open Daily: 7am-8pm

## GROCERY, DAIRY & FROZEN

12.6 oz.  
Cap'n Crunch  
Cereal  
**\$2<sup>48</sup>**

**BLOCKBUSTER  
SAVINGS**



28 Pack Half Liter Bottles  
Pure Life  
Purified Water  
**\$5<sup>99</sup>**



9-12 oz. Selected Variety  
New England Coffee  
Ground Coffee  
**\$6<sup>99</sup>**



13 oz. Selected Variety  
Quaker  
Life Cereal  
**\$3<sup>99</sup>**



9 oz. Selected Variety  
Ken's Steak House  
Dressing **\$2<sup>19</sup>**

16 oz. Selected Variety  
Teddie  
Peanut Butter **\$3<sup>99</sup>**

11-12 oz. Selected Variety  
Bear Naked  
Granola **\$4<sup>59</sup>**

6.7-7.33 oz. Selected Variety  
Stacy's  
Bagel or Pita Chips **\$3<sup>49</sup>**

10 oz. Selected Variety  
Stonyfield Organic  
Smoothies **\$1<sup>79</sup>**

## MEAT, DELI, PREPARED FOODS & CHEESE

Certified Angus Beef®  
Premium  
Boneless  
Top Sirloin  
Steaks  
**\$9<sup>99</sup><sub>lb</sub>**



16 oz. Pkg. Selected Variety  
Hormel  
Sliced Bacon **\$8<sup>99</sup>**

6 oz. Pkg.  
Boar's Head  
Charcuterie Trio **\$8<sup>99</sup>**

Deli Sliced  
Boar's Head  
Blazin' Buffalo Chicken Breast **\$11<sup>99</sup><sub>lb</sub>**

10 oz. Selected Variety  
Boar's Head  
Hummus **2/\$7**

Store Made  
Tuna Salad **\$12<sup>49</sup><sub>lb</sub>**

Store Packaged  
4 Bean Salad **\$5<sup>99</sup><sub>lb</sub>**

6.6 oz. Pkg.  
Ford Farm  
Truffler Cheese **\$6<sup>99</sup>**

8 oz. Pkg.  
Feta Cheese **\$4<sup>99</sup>**

12 oz. Pkg. Selected Variety  
Greek Yogurt Dip **2/\$8**

## WINE

It's time for our  
March Mania  
Wine Sale!

Mix'n Match  
6 or more Bottles of  
Wine & get 20% off!!

Excludes Markdowns,  
3/\$18, 3/\$25 and wines  
priced ending in .98

## CHEF PREPARED

Spicy Peanut Noodles  
or Game Day Wings **\$10<sup>99</sup><sub>lb</sub>**

Deviled Eggs (4 Pack) **\$5<sup>99</sup>**

Take'n Bake Pizzas  
Various Styles - Cheese,  
Pepperoni, Margherita, etc. **\$8<sup>99</sup> \$10<sup>99</sup>**

Shepherd's Pie Large Size **\$18<sup>99</sup><sub>ea</sub>**  
Small Size - \$12.99ea

Chicken Pot Pie Large Size **\$19<sup>99</sup><sub>ea</sub>**  
Small Size - \$12.99ea

## BAKERY

4-5.75 oz. Selected Variety  
Our Specialty Treat Shop Parfaits **2/\$6**

24 oz. 8 Inch. Fresh Baked  
Strawberry Rhubarb Pie **\$5<sup>99</sup>**

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!



**ChowNow**

Why wait in line when you  
can order ahead online!  
Download the Chow  
Now app, order and pay  
online, and skip the line!

Visit our website!  
[www.friendsplumbcorner.com](http://www.friendsplumbcorner.com)



**Friends'**  
marketplace

**GARDEN CENTER IS OPEN!!**

Great Selection!!

Colors Vary  
Pansies

**\$2<sup>99</sup>** **\$19<sup>99</sup>**  
EACH OR Flats

565 Rounseville Rd.  
Rochester, MA 02770  
Phone: 508.763.5333

Open Daily: 7am-8pm

at PLUMB CORNER

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

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## BLOCKBUSTER SAVINGS!

Deli Sliced  
Store Roasted  
Turkey  
Breast  
**\$9<sup>99</sup>**  
lb



20 oz. Easy Squeeze  
Heinz  
Tomato  
Ketchup  
**\$1<sup>98</sup>**

**BLOCKBUSTER  
SAVINGS**



33.8 oz. Selected Variety  
Poland Spring  
Sparkling  
Water  
**\$1<sup>19</sup>**  
+Dep



Fresh  
Baby Back  
Pork Ribs  
**\$4<sup>99</sup>**  
lb



8 oz. Selected Variety  
Bars or Shredded  
Food Club  
Cheese  
**2/\$5**



48 oz. Selected Variety  
Friendly's  
Ice Cream  
**\$4<sup>99</sup>**



## QUALITY PRODUCE



Fresh  
Red Seedless Grapes **\$2<sup>49</sup>**  
lb



Fresh, Florida  
Corn on the Cob **3/\$2**



Fresh  
Seedless Cucumbers **2/\$3**



3 lb. Pkg.  
Peelz Minneola **\$5<sup>99</sup>**



Fresh  
Cucumbers **79¢**



Fresh  
Green Peppers **\$2<sup>99</sup>**  
lb

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