



Real Estate Agents Report Rise in Waterfront Rentals

By BEN GARDNER JR.

It looks like real estate agents on Amity will have reason to smile again this summer: For the fifth straight year, rental bookings are up.

Data submitted by Amity's real



Memory still lingers.

Boat Line Managers Cut Staff, Ferry Service

By SUSAN WILCOX

Ferry Authority managers announced Tuesday that 15 positions will be eliminated effective Monday. Workers will receive severance packages based on their tenure with the public boat line.

Authority managers also announced that the schedule of summer ferry service between Amity and the mainland will only increase by two trips a day over the winter schedule. With the change, the number of summer daily round-trips will be at its lowest in 30 years.

While the move by the Authority is but the latest in a series of staff and service cutbacks, the Amity Airport continues to see a rise in commercial aircraft service to the Island. Last week airport manager John French announced a \$5 million project to build an addition to the terminal along with an additional hanger to house six small jets.

"This is a huge step for the airport," Mr. French said. "We will now be able to offer flights on and off the Island to more than 30 locations throughout the summer and to 14 locations during the winter."

Since the unfortunate incidents beginning in 1975 visitors have been

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estate agents shows that rentals for July and August are on pace to top last year's total of 16 — the highest in almost 30 years.

And unlike previous summers, rental activity is moving away from the dense communities in the middle of the Island and out toward Amity's beaches and ponds.

"The high-end sector is shifting back to the coastal properties, and that's good to see," Amity Chamber of Commerce president Lenny Hendricks said. "It's really the biggest indicator of a turnaround. If those rebound, things will really start to look healthy again."

The recovery comes after more than two decades of stagnation and decline. Vacationers are returning in the greatest numbers since the mid-1970s, when two series of shark attacks crippled the market and changed the Island forever.

"But still, nothing has been the same since those days," Jamison Jennings of Sea Coast Realty said. "We all woke up one morning and wondered, 'Where is everybody?' It was like Oklahoma in the 1930s.

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Of Editorial Lessons and Legacies

Few men are privileged to realize that the whole of their life's work will be remembered for the making of one mistake. Today, as I retire from the editorship of the Amity Gazette after a lifetime of service to this paper and to this Island, it is abundantly clear to me that I shall be one of those men.

Francis P. Church is revered around the world for Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus, and Edward R. Murrow for This . . . is London. It is plain to me that I, Harry Meadows, will be recalled in journalism classes as the weekly newspaper editor who, having learned of the killing of a woman swimmer off a town beach a week before the start of the summer season, told the chief of police: "There won't be any story about the attack in the Gazette."

What debate there was over the wisdom of this decision early in the summer of 1975 lost the last grace notes of civility after the bodies (what were left of them) began to pile up — not only that summer but, astoundingly, three summers later, and then, like something out of the Book of Revelations, nine winters after that.

It was convenient to blame the

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Woman Injured Off South Beach; Hospital Cites Boating Accident

By REX DARKWATER

Reported sightings of Portuguese man-o-war off the Amity south shore continued last weekend when an off-Island woman came out of the water on South

Beach with what she described as "stinging lesions" on her arms and legs.

The official report from Amity Hospital, however, ascribes the injuries sustained by Boston resident Linda Brownhouse to "nothing more than a minor boating accident."

The disparity echoes the incident 30 years ago when a boating accident was listed as the cause of death for a young woman who in fact was the victim of a shark attack.

"I believe the hospital's willingness to blame 'boating accidents' for these attacks by sea life is indicative of an extreme and unfounded boating prejudice within Amity's town government," said Jack Lurk, president of LAWS, the League Against Watercraft Segregation. "It's just not fair."

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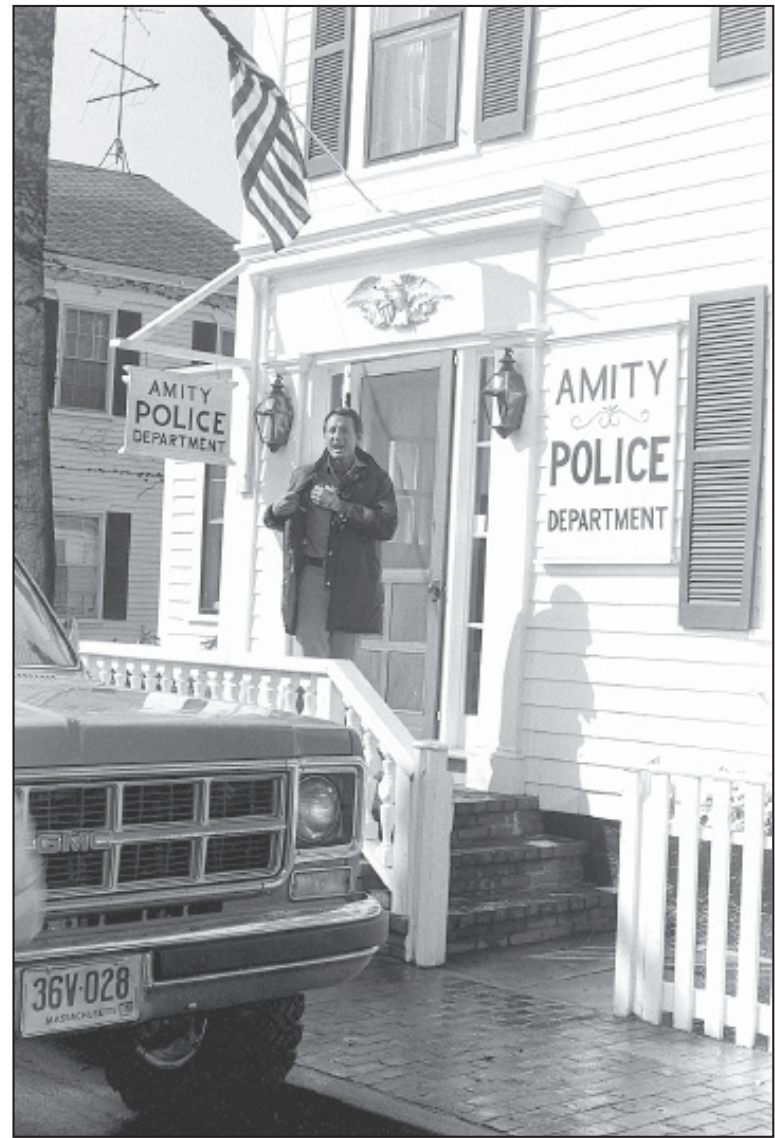
Marine Biologist Recalls Loss and Life Changes

By SEAN M. KINTNER

When Dr. Matt Hooper last saw Amity, it was from the deck of the ferry as it sailed toward the mainland. As he remembers it, the day was cloudy and unusually cold for late July, with a strong breeze kicking up from the east. As the ship left port and headed out to sea, the Island looked peaceful, possessing a certain tranquility under a darkening sky.

And that is just how he wants to remember it.

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Edith Blake

Police chief Martin Brody acted as true Amity sentinel.

Selectmen Tax White Shark Merchandise

By SUSAN WILCOX

Amity selectmen announced Thursday a new tax will be imposed on all paraphernalia bearing the image The White Shark. Beginning July 1, all merchants will be required to pay an additional 2 per cent to the town for all items sold with the shark.

"This is a way to ensure that everything sold with the shark logo will benefit the residents of Amity," said mayor Larry Vaughn Jr. "All the money received from the tax will go directly to building a new shark aquarium."

Mr. Vaughn said the town is projecting \$3.5 million in revenue from the tax.

While the selectmen are embracing the shark image as a way to keep

the town from faltering and boost the economy, many residents are appalled at the new tax.

John Hendrix, 76, has lived on the Island his entire life. He remembers a time when the mention of a shark brought fear and sadness to anyone walking the streets of Amity. As this money making scheme has emerged over the years Hendrix has watched in disgust.

"Mrs. Kintner is rolling over in her grave," Mr. Hendrix said. "She lost her son to that shark and now people are making money off of it. Just looking at one of those T-shirts makes me so mad. You know I lost some neighbors to those sharks. I'd

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-Martin Brody
Police Chief

"I always read the Gazette's fish page first-- their tide chart is amazingly accurate and I never leave port without reading The Seasons column."

-Matt Hooper
Marine Biologist

"Anything else is just a !@#!%!!! fishwrapper!"*

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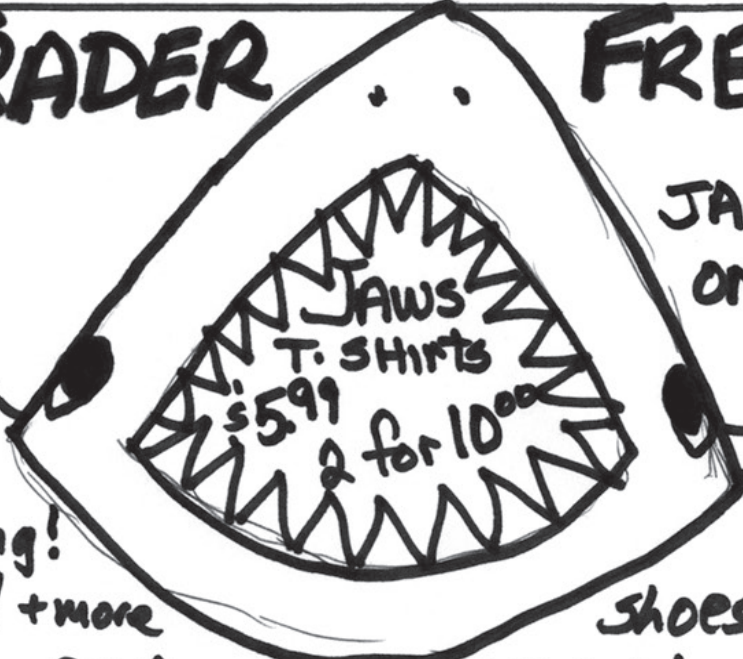
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Jaws Fest Events Held Across Island

Jaws Fest begins today as visitors are greeted at the airport and ferry terminals with signs welcoming them to Amity Island. The Martha's Vineyard Chamber of Commerce will launch the shark infested weekend with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Memorial Wharf in Edgartown today at 10 a.m. The opening ceremony will include a brass band and special guests Peter Benchley, Carl Gottlieb, Joe Alves, Jeffrey Kramer and others.

Free events during the Jaws Fest weekend include the ribbon cutting ceremony, Joe Alves animatics presentation, Carl Gottlieb and VIP autograph signings, Peter Benchley's presentation at the Tabernacle and a screening of Jaws on the big screen at Owen Park in Vineyard Haven.

Visitors are encouraged to stop by the visitor's center booth at the ferry terminal in Vineyard Haven, where the chamber of commerce will supply information about weekend events, Amity Island maps featuring many film locations and sell event tickets.

Gold passes are still available for \$495 and includes one ticket each to the Amity Island Ball, all four workshop series sessions, the Behind the Screams exhibit at the Grange Hall, the Jaws Feast clambake and the Friday night VIP cocktail party. The gold pass also includes an autographed collectors book, Jaws Fest map, trivia hunt card, schedule of events, and a certificate for Universal's 30th anniversary Jaws DVD.

Tickets to individual events may be purchased at the visitor's booth and the chamber recommends you purchase them in advance for the workshop series at Union Chapel, the Amity Island Ball and the Jaws Feast clambake to ensure access to these events. Admission to Jaws Behind the Screams at the Grange Hall in West Tisbury is \$10 for

adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Tickets for this event are available at the door only.

In addition to the visitor's booth, the chamber of commerce in Vineyard Haven is the official headquarters for Jaws Fest and is located a block up from the ferry terminal. All Jaws Fest information is available at this location.

Many items will be sold this weekend including Jaws Behind the Screams passes, trivia hunt cards, Jaws Fest map, collectors book, fan pack and thanks to Universal Studios, the launch of the 30th anniversary Jaws DVD.

Friday, June 3

Opening Ribbon Cutting Ceremony begins at 10 a.m. at Memorial Wharf in Edgartown when the Vineyard officially reverts back to Amity Island. A brass band will play and special guests include author Peter Benchley, Carl Gottlieb, Joe Alves, Jeffrey Kramer and many others.

Jaws Fest Trivia Hunt begins Islandwide. Don't forget to pick up your trivia cards at the visitor's booth or at the chamber of commerce in Vineyard Haven.

Carl Gottlieb and Bill Gilmore Sign Autographs starting at 10:30 a.m. at the Harborside Inn in Edgartown on South Water street.

Joe Alves Animatics Presentation begins at 10:30 a.m. at the Old Whaling Church in Edgartown on Main street. Production designer for Jaws will host discussion of how the Jaws special effects were created. Free admission.

Jaws Behind the Screams opens at the Grange Hall in West Tisbury from 1 to 5 p.m. Come take a peek at the largest display of authentic Jaws memorabilia. On display will be costumes, props and behind-the-scenes photos from Jaws along with documentary films about Jaws. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Tickets

available at the door only.

Peter Benchley Presents at the Tabernacle in Oak Bluffs at 1:30 p.m. Come join the Jaws author as he reveals his experiences writing the book and its transition to film. Free admission.

Jaws Screening at Owen Park starts at 7:30 p.m. Martha's Vineyard Chamber of Commerce and Universal Studios present this outdoor screening which includes a special message from Stephen Spielberg via DVD. Michael Hayden will play music from the opening scene of Jaws, as he played it 30 years ago for the film, while a bonfire burns on the beach. Get there early. Free admission. Rain location is the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Performing Arts Center located on Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road in Oak Bluffs.

VIP Reception to be held for gold pass holders and by invitation only.

Saturday, June 4

Jaws From the Inside Out Workshop Series from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Union Chapel in Oak Bluffs. A series of educational forums and discussions will be presented by cast VIPS and experts including:

Sharks, Great Whites and the Waters Around Amity Island by shark experts and marine biologists Greg Skomal and Aidan Martin from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Tickets are \$10.

Jaws Place in Film History discussion with Carl Gottlieb, Stephen Prince, Joe Fordham and Bill Gilmore from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

Mechanical Shark, Floating Faces and Other Special Effects discussion about technical challenges faced during the filming of Jaws with Joe Alves, Greg Nicotero, Roy Arbogast from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

Locals, More Than Just Extras



Edith Blake

Film crews flooded Vineyard in 1975.

discussion about what it was like becoming a part of Jaws with casting director Shari Rhodes, Jeff Voorhes (Alex Kintner), Jay Mello (Sean Brody), Bob Carroll (selectman); and Jeffrey Kramer (Hendricks) from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

Jaws Behind the Screams continues at the Grange Hall in West Tisbury from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and includes documentary screenings. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Tickets are available at the door only.

Autographs at Amity (Edgartown) Town Hall from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Come visit the back meeting room used in the film to meet Jaws VIPS including Joe Alves, Carl Gottlieb, Susan Backlinie, Jeffrey Kramer, Jay Mello, Greg Nicotero, Marc Gilpin, Bill Gilmore, Lee Fierro, Bob Carroll, Jonathan Searle, Steven Searle, Jeff Voorhes, Kristy Kingsbury Henshaw, Edith Blake, Shari Rhodes, Roy Arbogast. Please note that Peter Benchley will not be signing autographs at this event.

Islandwide Jaws Fest Trivia Hunt continues. If you don't already have them, get your trivia hunt cards at the chamber of commerce in Vineyard Haven or at any official event location.

Amity Island Ball at the Hot Tin Roof starts at 7:30 p.m. and local band Entrain will perform at 9:30 p.m. Evening includes food, desserts, silent auction and photo opportunities with 26 VIPs and cast members. Hot Tin Roof is located in West Tisbury by the airport. Tickets are \$75 per person.

Sunday, June 5

Jaws Behind the Screams continues at the Grange Hall in West Tisbury from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Ticket are available at the door only.

Jaws Fest Trivia Hunt entries must be turned in to the chamber of commerce or to the Gange Hall at noon in order to qualify for prize drawings. Prizes will be awarded at the Jaws Feast Clambake (presence is not required to win).

Jaws Feast Clambake at the Union street parking lot in Vineyard Haven from 1 to 3 p.m. The last official event includes lobster, steamers, chowder and more. Dine with fans and VIPs as Jaws Fest draws to a close. Event is non-alcoholic. Tickets are \$75 for adults and \$25 for children ages six to 12. Children under five are free.

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Double Waterfront on Chappy



Spectacular six-plus-acre waterfront estate features sandy beaches on Nantucket Sound and Cape Pogue Bay, perfect for swimming, kayaking and small-craft sailing. The 5,600-SF post-and-beam house, designed by British architect Roderick James, is built in grand proportions of imported English green oak. It includes six bedrooms and 4.5 luxury baths in the main house, one bedroom and full bath in the guest house. Ten-stall stables and pad-dock. All in pristine condition with many amenities.

Exclusively offered at \$7 million.

Great Lighthouse Views



Full of old-fashioned charm, this classic cottage is tucked away on quiet Cummings Way off South Water Street, perched high on a hill overlooking Edgartown Lighthouse and harbor. Built in 1918, this rustic family summer house has five bedrooms and two full baths, with a spacious open dining area and living room highlighted by a brick fireplace and hardwood floors. A guest cottage includes an open bunk room and adjoining full bath. Tremendous potential!

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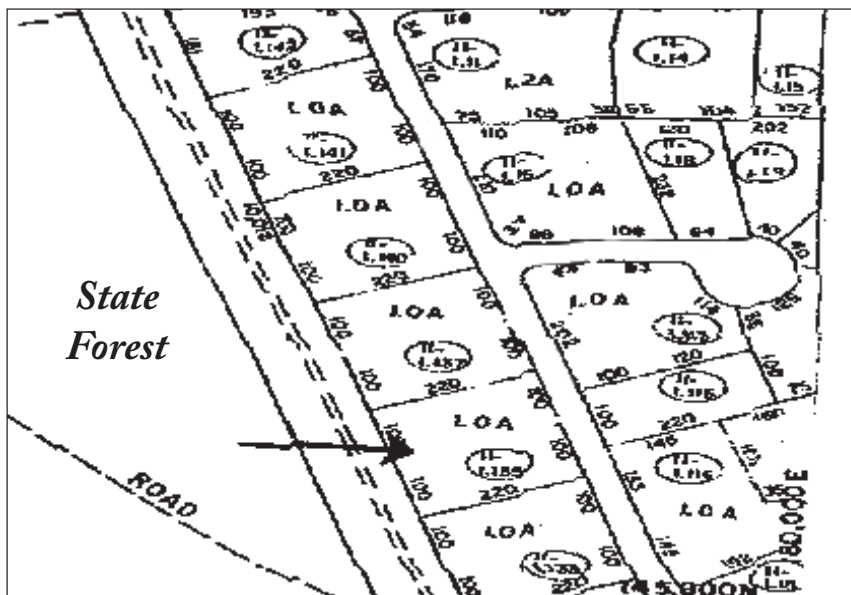
In-Town Family Compound



This spacious 3,500-SF restored farmhouse at the top of Edgartown's Main Street has room for everyone, with four bedrooms and 2.5 baths in the main house, and one-bedroom, one-bath guest quarters with full kitchen and living room over the carriage house. Custom features throughout, with three fireplaces, hardwood floors and hand-painted murals. With an exceptionally large in-town lot, there's room for a pool and much more. Great as is, with potential for expansion.

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Awaiting your dream home is the last unbuilt lot in the Island Oaks subdivision of Edgartown, adjacent to the State Forest with its many miles of walking and biking paths. Conveniently located only a short distance to the Vineyard Golf Club, Edgartown Village, and the sandy South Shore beaches, this cleared one-acre lot has a three-bedroom septic installed, along with a poured foundation.

\$625,000

For the Record: An Editor Reflects

From Page One

Gazette — and me — for this carnage. For awhile I tried to protest that the roll-call of death that followed the Watkins killing could not possibly be my fault alone. But finally I acceded to the advice of both my counsel and my analyst: At each anniversary of the death of the Watkins woman, I took full personal and editorial responsibility for the subsequent deaths of the Kintner boy, the Labrador retriever Pippet, the fisherman Ben Gardner, the sailing instructor with the unplaceable accent and Quint. When the awful business began again in 1978, I took responsibility for the deaths of the two divers, the water-skier and boat driver, Eddie the makeout artist, Marge the Lightning skipper, and the helicopter pilot. And at Christmas of 1987, I took on the blame for the killing of Deputy Sean Brody.

But in this, my last editorial, I feel compelled to ask a question that seems never to have occurred to any of my critics: In these rounds of massacre could we not find just a little evidence of the hand (or teeth) of God? In some sense, could we not perhaps ascribe this trans-generational roundelay with ichthyological mayhem to the realm of the metaphysical? Rather than just — well — to me?

Fine. It's all my fault.

Of all the killings, I am personally most saddened by the loss of young Sean Brody, who took up the badge of his martyred father Chief Martin Brody, only to be lost in a Yuletide attack at the harbor entrance, his screams drowned out by high school carolers at the town dock. In the tragic latter-day history of our town, this happened during a winter when we naively thought the most unusual off-season thing we'd ever seen was the heavy snowfall.

For the record, I did not refuse to print the story of the Watkins masti-



Universal Studios

Publication discussion took place on this ride.

cation because I received phone calls from six advertisers all suggesting that "Amity would best be served by letting the whole thing fade quietly away." Nor was it because Mr. Coleman, the publisher in New York, told me not to print it. I chose not to publish the story for the reason most weekly newspaper editors choose not to publish stories: By the time the paper comes out, everyone in town already knows the news, and the paper runs the risk of looking foolish by getting it all wrong.

I sometimes reflect on what would have happened had Miss Watkins been attacked in June of 2005. Can anyone doubt that the world media would have embedded itself here before the shark finished picking its teeth? Our hotels would have been filled for the rest of the year, every house rented, every restaurant booked. But I know you citizens of Amity, confronting such an assault by the global press — honorable as you are — would have done everything in your power to safeguard your way of life, and your futures: You'd have posted lookouts at all the beaches, strung netting all around the Island, done whatever it took to make sure the shark never left. Why, some of you would have gotten the idea to start chumming off Toddler Beach. But Fox News would have

beaten you to it.

A final thought: I was just as amused as the rest of the world by the late chief's description of me in his best-selling memoir: "Harry Meadows was an immense man, for whom the act of drawing breath was exertion enough to cause perspiration to dot his forehead. He was in his late forties, ate too much, chain-smoked cheap cigars, drank bonded Bourbon, and was, in the words of his doctor, the Western world's leading candidate for a huge coronary infarction."

Among you remaining Gazette readers, my friends will know that in 1988, I took a yearlong sabbatical themed on broad principles of abnegation and punishment — monasteries, gut stapling, decaf, the whole bit. Now I run marathons and this morning retire from the editorial chair at eighty with a second wife who won't reach half that age for another fifteen years. I walk away knowing that the heroic Chief Brody has been moldering in his grave for five years longer than that, dead of hypertension at fifty-one, and I think to myself, not for the first time: Heroism can kill you. But guilt can set you free.

— Harry Meadows,
Editor

Weekend Calendar of

Donaroma's Nursery and Landscaping on Upper Main street in Edgartown will be available all weekend for shark garden photo opportunity.

The Eisenhower Gallery will showcase premiere marine artist Paul McPhee's paintings. Call 508-627-7003 for more information. Gallery is located on North Water street adjacent to the Colonial Inn.

Jaws Fest Island Discount Card allows you to save 20 per cent at 80 participating merchants and services around the Island. Cards are valid until June 5 and cost \$10.

Martha's Vineyard Sightseeing offers two tours daily on Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Tours leave from Church street in Edgartown. Adult tickets cost \$19 and children's tickets \$5. Call 508-693-1555.

Heath Hen Yarn and Quilt Shop: Stop by to see winners of the Jaws theme contest at the Tisbury Market Place on Beach Road in Vineyard Haven.

Friday, June 3

Edgartown National Bank hosts free photo opportunities in front of the original Amity Bank sign. Bank is located at the corner of Main and South Water streets in Edgartown.

Martha's Vineyard Community Television (MVTV) will air the Peter Benchley presentation live on channel 13. Stay tuned for Jaws Fest coverage and interviews.

Hot Tin Roof features The Rebirth Brass Band: Pure New Orleans. Performance to follow screening of Jaws. Doors open at 9 p.m. and band begins at 10:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20.

Saturday, June 4

Shark in the Pond! Shark in the Pond! family event featuring shark hunt for kids ages five to 10 takes place at Sengekontacket Pond at the Jaws Bridge on Beach Road from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Food served

and prizes awarded.

Edgartown Books, on Main street in Edgartown, hosts Carl Gottlieb for book signing at 4 p.m.

Bunch of Grapes Bookstore hosts Meet the Jaws/Shark Authors from 2 to 5 p.m. outside on the sidewalk, Main street, Vineyard Haven. Authors include Edith Blake with On Location . . . On Martha's Vineyard, the Making of the Movie Jaws; Kristy Kingsbury Henshaw's Craig Kingsbury Talkin': The Salty Model for Quint Speaks Out; and Susan Casey with The Devil's Teeth.

Vineyard Nursing Association is hosting Jaws Fest Fashion Fest at the Lambert's Cove Inn from 3 to 6 p.m. Inn is off Lambert's Cove Road in West Tisbury. For information or to reserve tickets, call 508-693-6184, extension 31.

Sunset Boat Tour with the Skipper runs from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Boat leaves from Oak Bluffs harbor and takes Jaws-themed tour of filming locations. Price is \$45 for adults and \$30 for children. Price includes food and beverage. For information and to make reservations call 508-693-1238.

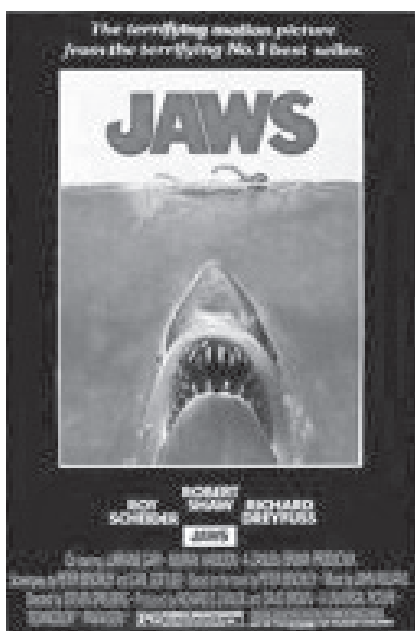
Sunday, June 5

Breakfast Tour with Skipper from 9 to 11 a.m. Wake up to Jaws on the water. Price is \$45 for adults and \$35 for children. Cost includes juice, doughnuts and mimosas. Call 508-693-1238.

Jaws Brunch with comedy writer Marty Nadler (Laverne & Shirley, Happy Days) is held at 9:30 a.m. at Zephyrus Restaurant in Vineyard Haven. Join Marty with friends Jeff Kramer and Carl Gottlieb. Cost is \$19. Call 508-693-2200.

Bunch of Grapes Bookstore will offer book signings at the Jaws Fest Clambake from 1 to 3 p.m. Authors include Edith Blake, Carl Gottlieb, Kristy Kingsbury Henshaw and Susan Casey. (See official Jaws Fest event listing for more information on clambake.)

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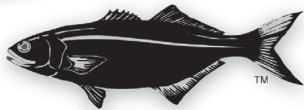
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Kintner Memorial Marks Anniversary of Shark Attack

From Page One

Beaches Open

The Amity Gazette is pleased to report that the town beaches will open as scheduled this weekend, regardless of the trajectory of Hurricane Chaz. Island residents are encouraged to go swimming.



Universal Studios

Souvenirs Pose Health Risk

Three souvenir shops have been temporarily closed, as state inspectors conduct safety evaluations in the wake of several accidents involving shark-related merchandise.

Among the products cited as potentially dangerous is the Shark-Bee, a Frisbee with authentic shark's teeth attached to its outer edge. Complaints of children tearing their palms open while attempting to catch the Shark-Bee have sparked outrage among consumer advocate groups.

Recalls have been issued on similar products in recent years. The Shark Atakk X-Treme, a 20-inch motorized shark jaw that snaps shut and reopens at random intervals, was pulled from the shelves two years ago. Parents complained that the toy was not only dangerous, but also absolutely terrifying.

80th Annual Amity Regatta

Due to demands made by the growing number of young sailors entering the contest, steel-plated hulls are not required this year.

However, racers will no longer be allowed to carry weapons, as the privilege has been abused in recent years. The regatta is scheduled for July 4.

Memorial Unveiled

The unveiling of the new memorial sponsored by the Shark Attack Awareness Coalition is scheduled to coincide with the 30th anniversary of the death of Alex Kintner.

The statue, located on Amity Town Beach, features a cast iron replica of the inflatable raft owned by Alex, which family members say symbolizes hope.

Population Trends

The latest census data shows that Amity has become something of a retirement hot spot for deep sea fishermen and shark hunters.

George Benson, a former commercial fisherman, moved to Amity from Key Largo, Fla., only two years ago. "I was tired of being the kooky old guy, you know? I just wanted to spend the last few years of my life in a community that understands me, a place where I could fit in."

Mr. Benson was drawn by Amity's growing reputation as a haven for folks obsessed with killing sharks. "Here, I can sit out on my porch and tell my shark stories, and no one is going to think me a nut because there's six other guys on my street doing the exact same thing," he said.

Biologist Recalls Loss, Life Changes

From Page One

"To be honest, I try not to think about it," Mr. Hooper said last week from his home in Indiana. "I haven't been back, and I am not ready to go yet. I may never be ready. But seeing the Island calm, quiet and with some sense of hope is how I am choosing to remember it."

That was 30 years ago, in the summer of 1975, and memories of that terrifying time still linger for Mr. Hooper. Forever remembered on the Island as one of "the Big Three" (along with Captain Quint and former Amity chief of police Martin Brody, who killed the great white shark that terrorized the community that summer), the former marine biologist is now living a quiet, land-locked life as a farmer in the Midwest. In his first interview since that summer, Mr. Hooper told the Gazette of his decision to pursue a life off the water.

"My life hasn't been the same, that is for sure," he said. "When I think of it, I think of Quint, and how he seemed almost destined to die in that shark's jaws. One of us — if not all of us — was going to end up at the bottom of the ocean, and for the longest time I couldn't escape

thinking it should have been me.

"The great white shark, carcharodon carcharias, is a perfect eating machine," he continued. "What Martin and Quint and I went up against was a magnification of that. Sometimes I wake up and wonder why I am still alive."

Indeed, for Mr. Hooper, who is now 56, life hasn't been the same. Suffering from what he describes as survivor's guilt, Mr. Hooper spent several more years on the ocean, bouncing around the globe on various research vessels. But the realities of that summer on Amity eventually caught up to him.

"Some things you can't hide from no matter how much you try to face them," he said.

Mr. Hooper retreated to his cousin's farm in Indiana, and soon began working the fields and learning about soy bean cultivation. When his cousin died in 1986, he and his wife, Elizabeth, took over the 300-acre farm. He has been working the land ever since.

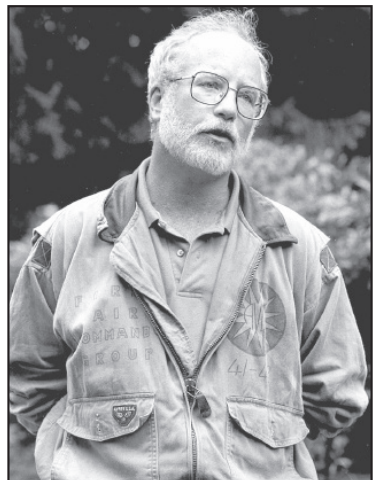
"I didn't run, and I didn't hide, and I couldn't get away from it. So I came here," he said, adding: "Soy beans don't bite."

Mr. Hooper said one of his big-

gest regrets is not reaching out to the Brody family, which was terrorized by sharks into the late eighties. He said he lost touch with the Brodys about 15 years ago.

And as for his tense relationship with Captain Quint?

"Quint didn't let anyone in, certainly not some college boy, as I think he called me," he says with a



Alison Shaw

Matt Hooper.

curt laugh. "He was fighting his own demons all the time, and in the end, his demons won."

Despite his absence, Mr. Hooper's legacy on Amity remains. The Hooper Institute of Marine Wildlife, a nonprofit organization named in his honor, teaches children about the mysteries of the ocean; it is going into its 26th year.

"That's a nice honor, but I hope they are also teaching those kids how dangerous going into the water really can be," he said. "I certainly don't feel safe going back into the ocean."

Mr. Hooper said he plans to live out the rest of his life on his farm, and would consider revisiting this small Atlantic outpost on only one condition:

"I'll come when they build a bridge," he said.

Selectmen Decide to Open Beach June 4

Almost 30 years after Amity Island was forever changed by a series of fatal shark attacks, the board of selectmen set the date for the opening of town beaches at an emotional meeting Tuesday night.

Town beaches will open this Saturday, June 4, at 9 a.m.

The board set the date after pausing for a moment of silence in remembrance of the victims of the attacks. Board chairman Bart Gladpeck then read off the names of the deceased in a somber ceremony. Many of the remaining members of the victims' families were in the

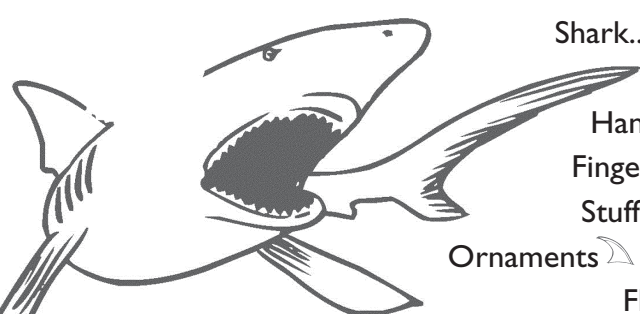
audience. The bell in the old church rang five times, once for each victim.

"Let us remember those awful events, but instead of dwelling on tragedy, let us move on with resolve, and be better prepared for the obstacles ahead," Mr. Gladpeck said.

Protective nets will be set up next week. Mr. Gladpeck also noted that these nets will be constructed of a stronger carbon-fiber material than previous models. Last year, several seals chewed large holes in two of the nets, allowing dolphins to penetrate the swimming area.

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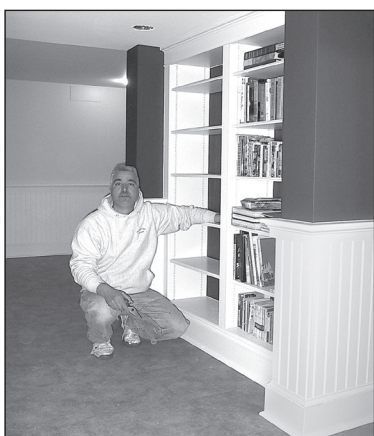
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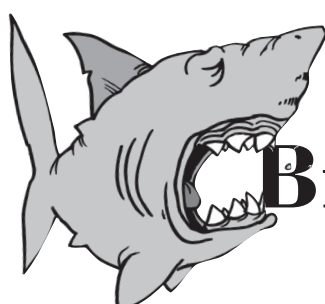
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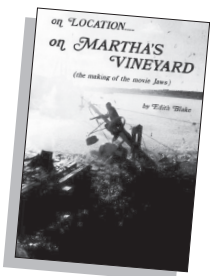
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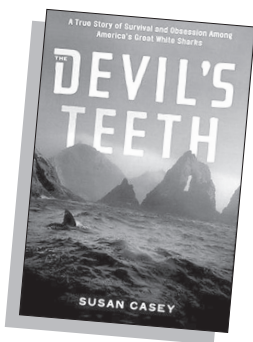
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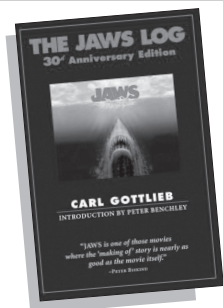
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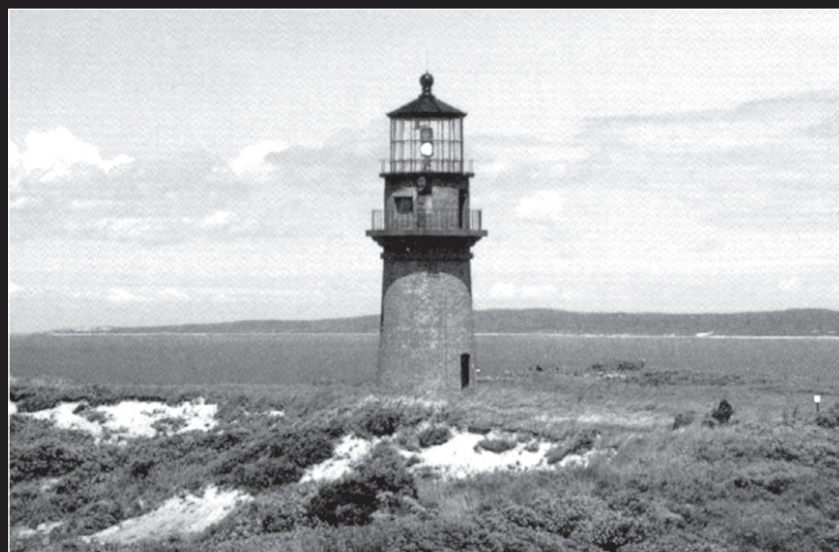
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Edith Blake

Ferry traffic continues 30-year pattern of decline.

Authority Cuts Staff Positions, Service

From Page One

hesitant to travel to the Island by boat — no matter how large. Charter boats were the first to be affected, though after reports of the sharks' size reached the national media even the ferry began to see a decline in passengers.

This has had a direct impact on those who have made their living on the water. Several of the employees who were recently laid off by the Authority said this was the only job they have known for 30 years.

"I've been working the ferry since I was 18," said Patrick Keisel. "I don't care about those sharks. No one's seen one that big since the eighties and it's 2005. And why would one of them want to attack the ferry?"

While the ferry has seen a decrease in passengers over the years, the number of cars on the Island has not changed.

Islanders who once ran charter boat services and sailing expeditions have turned in their boats to purchase cars. Car rentals last summer were at an all time high, forcing the Amity Conservation Commission to limit the places where car rental agencies may locate a business.

Currently the rental agencies have set up roadside stands along the Inland Interstate, stretching over a mile in each direction. These stands are interspersed with bicycle rentals and shops selling shark paraphernalia.

"Everyone gets off the plane and goes to rent a car. They are stacked up on the road by the airport like candy in a vending machine, one right after the other," conservation commission member Leila Quinton said at Monday's meeting. "We've got to get them somewhere else."

While the commission is attempting to regulate the rental cars, the Authority is looking for a way to increase revenue. Ideas include starting a new bus service and changing the ferry route to avoid the waters that many visitors consider dangerous. The route change would increase the 45-minute ride to almost 90 minutes.

"We're doing everything we can to try to keep people in jobs," boat line general manager Andrew Bradley said. "We have served this Island for almost a century through the good and the bad. This company won't give up now."

Selectmen Impose Tax on White Shark Products

From Page One

rather be dead than wearing something from The White Shark."

Many other Islanders feel the marketing of the shark image has gone overboard in the last several years. Maggie Harb, 53, still remembers the outrage she felt when the bakery next to her gift shop began selling a black shirt with a white shark printed on it.

But three years later, when the summer season ended and her sales had once again declined, she noticed Brett Knots, the bakery owner, had purchased a new BMW.

"There he was driving around in a new car and I could barely pay my rent," Mrs. Harb said. "I asked him about it, and he said it was the shark."

The business proved to be lucrative for Mr. Knots. He sold more shark T-shirts than anything else in his bakery. After five years he changed the store's name to The White Shark Bakery. His sales have seen a steady increase over the years and the com-

pany is now the largest on the Island.

"I'm not trying to hurt anyone," Mr. Knots said. "I never thought it would take off like this, but it did. Now the town can make some money, too."

At The White Shark tourists can buy anything from rubber sharks and authentic shark teeth to T-shirts, baseball caps and coffee mugs. With a retail branch on every corner as well as a restaurant, bakery and coffee shop, The White Shark has turned the devastating events into a way to make money.

"I like to think of it as a tribute to those who died at the mouth of the great white shark," Mr. Knots said.

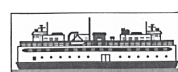
Mr. Vaughn said the selectmen's decision to impose the tax is not intended to disgrace those who lost their lives.

"The Island has been in such a decline since the unfortunate events, we hope that this will be a way to support all who have been affected and begin a new chapter in Amity," Mr. Vaughn said.



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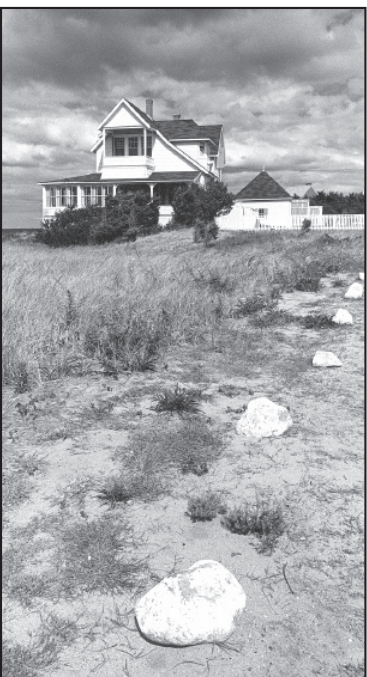


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CREATIVE REUSE: Sites now used for affordable housing.

Amity Rental Market Revives; Interest Returns to Waterfront

From Page One

It was devastating.” The decline and fall of Amity’s reign as a summer destination all started in the summer of 1975, when a great white shark killed five people and a dog in Amity waters. In August of that year the market for summer homes collapsed, especially along the waterfront. Summer residents began selling off their homes — some at rock bottom prices — to developer Len Peterson who, in speculating that the attacks would have only a short-term effect on tourism, turned most of the homes into beachfront condominiums and hotels.

In the first year, Mr. Peterson was right. Most of those new condominiums sold in the Island’s biggest

land rush since the fifties. But just when speculators thought it was safe to get back into the real estate market, another great white staked its claim to the Island’s waters in 1978.

That proved to be too much for some residents and visitors, who fled Mr. Peterson’s new developments in a massive exodus.

In the aftermath, most of the condominiums were converted to affordable rental units for year-round Amity residents.

“We haven’t had an incident here in over 15 years,” Mr. Peterson said yesterday. “There aren’t any more sharks, the waters are safe, and the beaches are lovely. It’s time to move on, for goodness sake.”

The town’s leaders are also optimistic.



Pictures by Alison Shaw

CONSTRUCTION is most dense in middle of Island.

“We haven’t had much to celebrate in the last few decades, so this trend is encouraging,” Mayor Lawrence (Larry) Vaughn Jr. said. “But as everyone can see, the beaches are now open and this year will be the best Fourth of July ever.”



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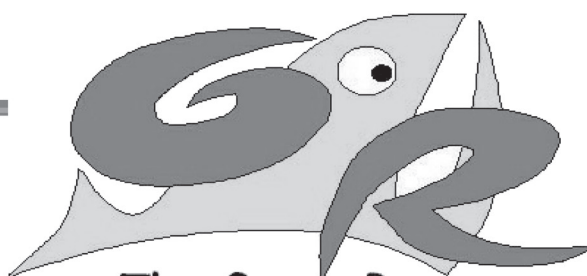
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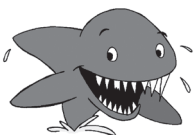
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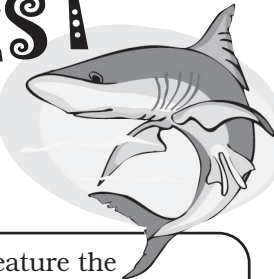
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VINEYARD HAVEN IN-TOWN CLASSIC \$1,900,000

Look no further for that perfect in-town location. This home has many wonderful features including 6 bedrooms, 5.5 bathrooms, spacious living room, TV room, dining room and kitchen on the first level. There is a separate apartment with a kitchen, bath, living room and bedroom. In addition, there is a professional space with a private entrance. Five fireplaces and antique touches complete this home.



MEADOWGATE FARM IN WEST TISBURY \$3,995,000

Old Martha's Vineyard Charm on 13 acres of equestrian property in a unique setting offering complete privacy while being a stones throw away from the heart of WT. The farm consists of open field, paddocks and riding ring. The main house, annex and dollhouse with connecting picket fences form a lovely courtyard with gardens. Main house features five bedrooms, three baths, and was built to duplicate an early island home. Immaculate, well maintained, exquisite property.



EXPANSIVE VIEWS OF QUISTA POND AND STONEWALL BEACH \$6,250,000

Recently completed by a well respected island craftsman, this wonderful home encompasses 4,000 square feet of interesting living space. Perched high on a knoll, it offers expansive views of Quista Pond and Stonewall Beach. The stone lighthouse design adds a unique element to the property. Enjoy the open living spaces, extensive decks, waterviews from most windows and exquisite stone walls and fireplace. Keen attention to details. Access to private Stonewall Beach and boating.



MANICURED AND MARVELOUS \$849,000

There are many special features to this well-maintained Cape. To start, the home is nestled on 1.38 acres of beautifully manicured lawn and landscaped yard. This 3 bedroom/2 bath home has a nice, open feel to it. There is a wood burning stove for those chilly Vineyard nights and a screened in porch for the warm summer evenings. Farmer's porch, partially finished basement, shed, in-ground sprinkler, close to the bike path in a nice neighborhood.



VINEYARD HILLS HOME \$699,000

This lovely Cape has an open living, dining and kitchen area. There are hardwood floors throughout the first floor. Master bedroom has a private bath and plenty of closet space. Upstairs there are two large bedrooms with carpet and an additional bathroom with tiles floor. There is a large walk-out basement with endless possibilities. Home has central air. Large, private lot.



SECLUDED BUT CLOSE TO TOWN/EDGARTOWN \$760,000

Secluded and private location. Home features an oversized living room, kitchen, hallway and first floor den/office. There are tile floors in the mudroom and the dining room, with radiant heat. Dining room has a spectacular fireplace with French doors leading out to a patio and established perennial garden. Two bedrooms on the second level that share a bath with a jacuzzi.

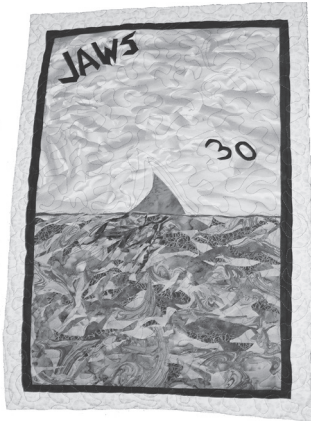


BEAUTIFUL HOME IN OAK BLUFFS \$589,000

Bright, beautiful Cape located one mile from town. Home has 4 bedroom/2 full baths and is in immaculate condition. The first floor has an open living, dining and kitchen area with hardwood floors. Kitchen has tile counters. First floor also has 2 bedrooms and a full bath. Upstairs has two bedrooms with ample closets and a second full bath. Three bonus rooms in basement. Yard is thoughtfully landscaped.

In honor of the 30th anniversary of the making of Jaws, Heath Hen Quilt Shop ran a contest this past week. Awards were given to the best depiction of Jaws, using yarn, or fabric. There was also a category for those under twelve.

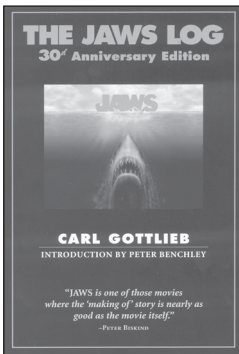
The winners produced a quilted shark with an open mouth and an embroidered map of Martha's Vineyard.



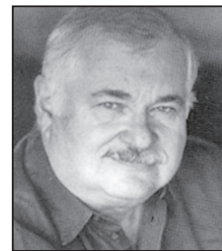
A knitted pillow with Jaws head and in the under 12 group an embroidered pillow explaining what Jaws had meant to a 12 year old took top honors.

See all these creations and more at the Heath Hen Quilt Shop.

Tisbury Marketplace, Vineyard Haven • 508-693-6730



Saturday, June 4 at 4:00 pm
 Carl Gottlieb
 Signs his 30th Anniversary Edition of **The Jaws Log**, the acclaimed insider's 'making of' account of an extraordinary filming adventure.



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Oak Bluffs

Affordable, 3 BR, 1 BA, plus Laundry. Updated and very clean. Great location, just a few blocks to downtown Oak Bluffs, public beach and elementary school. This property offers a spacious yard and presents an ideal opportunity for a family or investor. **\$410,000.**



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Katama / Edgartown

Bike to Edgartown or to fabulous South Beach. Architecturally designed 3,200 sq. ft. home abutting 12 acres of conservation land. There are 3 master bedroom suites, all with private tiled baths, Jacuzzi, walk-in closets, sitting areas, vaulted ceilings and a fireplace. The great room has a stunning beach stone fireplace, soaring ceilings and access to a mahogany deck with a brick BBQ and views over conservation land. The eat-in kitchen is a gourmet's delight with top of the line appliances and granite counters. All floors are wide random width oak. Total of 8 rooms, 3.5 baths, a 2-car heated garage, finished basement, irrigation system, dining room and media room. **Priced at \$2,200,000.**

Vineyard Haven Historic District



In the heart of the Vineyard Haven Historic District, a short walk to the town center and ferries, is this spacious antique colonial style home featuring 4500 sf of living space. Home could be used as a 4+ bedroom, 3.5 bath residence with a separate 1 bedroom/1 bath apartment, and a professional office suite with its own entrance. Or it could be utilized for a large family with plenty of room for everyone. Other features are a two-car garage, mature landscaping, 5 fireplaces and a history that dates back to the naming of William Street, circa 1839. **\$1,900,000.**

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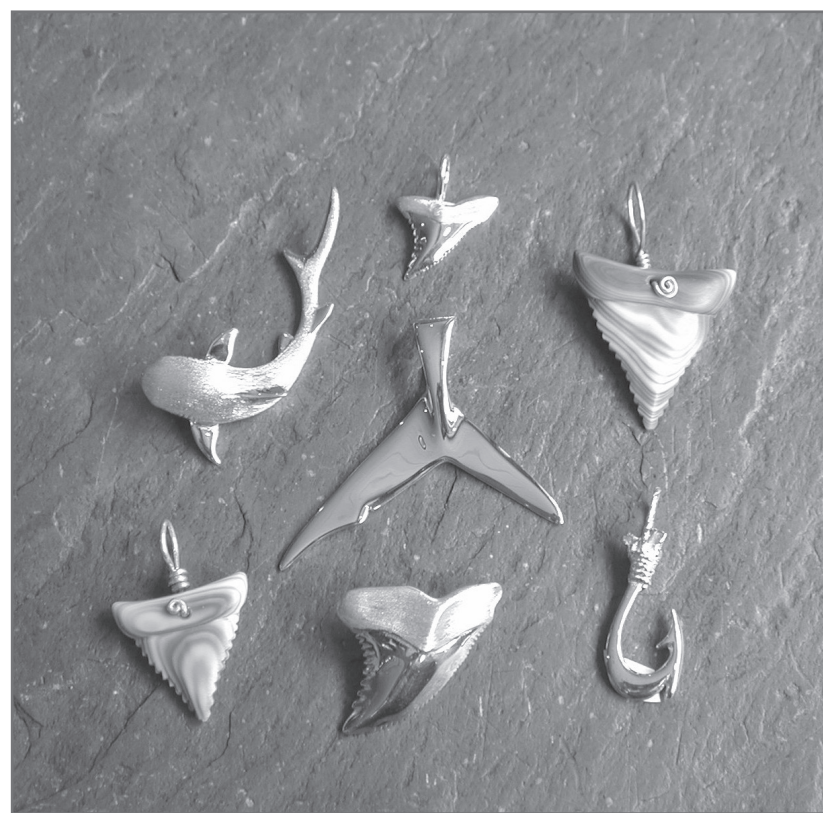


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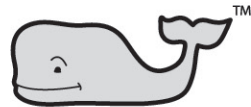
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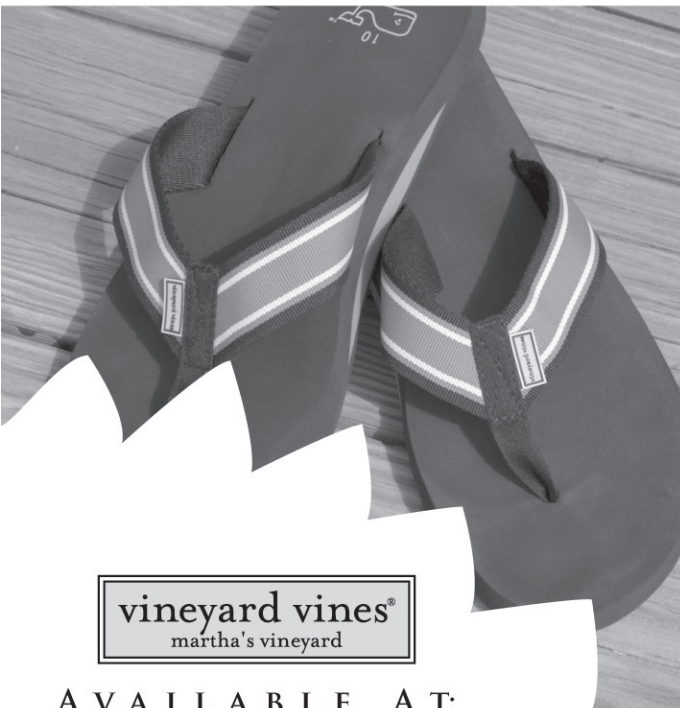
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