In the dusk of the river, the wind gone, the leaves grow still — the beautiful poise of lightness, the heavy world pushing toward it.

– Wendell Berry


# VINEYARD GAZETTE

Island of Martha's Vineyard, seven miles off southeast coast of Massachusetts. Winter population, 20,530; in summer, 94,650. Twenty miles from city of New Bedford, 80 miles from Boston and 150 miles from New York.

Devoted to the interest of the six towns on the Island of Martha's Vineyard, viz.: Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, Tisbury (Vineyard Haven), West Tisbury, Chilmark and Aquinnah. These, with Gosnold, constitute Dukes County.

Volume 181, Number 18. Established 1846. ©2026 Vineyard Gazette LLC. VINEYARD GAZETTE, MARTHA'S VINEYARD, MASS., FRIDAY, SEPTREMBER 4, 2026 Fourteen Pages. $1 a Copy.


## Moving Man




*Randi Baird*

**Trip Barnes.**

# Vineyard Says Goodbye to a True Original

By BILL EVILLE

Clarence A. (Trip) Barnes 3rd, the Vineyard's famed raconteur whose life resembled a tall tale that stretched from growing up on Park avenue in New York City to decades running Clarence A. Barnes Moving and Storage, died on Sept. 1 at the age of 83.

He died peacefully at his home in West Tisbury, his son Mike Barnes confirmed.

On an Island of characters, Trip, as everyone called him, towered above them all, literally and figuratively. He was a big man with a big personality and perhaps an even bigger heart. At one point during summers there was hardly a fundraiser he didn't host, using his skills as an auctioneer with boundless energy -- and no boundaries — to raise money for any number of essential Island causes, many of which he started himself.

"We have Trip to thank for quietly taking care of so many Vineyarders who might have been down on their luck," said Emily Bramhall, during the 2018 ceremony for Mr. Barnes' Creative Living Award. "We have Trip to thank for the ice arena, for Vineyard House. Wherever you look, chances are very good that Trip has been behind the scenes getting the important work done."

At that same event, Chris Scott, former president of the Vineyard Preservation Trust, told the story about how Mr. Barnes decided to sell well-known painter Ray Ellis's tie at the end of an auction.

"Ray would take his clothes off," Mr. Scott said. "And the crowd would go nuts as Trip sold them. Trip had him down to his skivvies, all sweaty and naked, and the crowd was packing up, but then Trip said we should auction his tie. So he started the bidding at $25, and then $50, and then a guy in the back says, 'I'll give you 150. Thousand.' So Trip says, 'We've got $150,000 for the tie. Do I hear $160,000?'"

The legend of Trip Barnes begins on Manhattan's Upper East Side, where he grew up attending fancy prep schools, until he became a teenager and decided a Vineyard life suited him better.

In a 2015 interview with the Vineyard Gazette, Mr. Barnes recalled wanting to drop out of the Trinity School, a private preparatory high school in Manhattan, telling his father he hated it.

"Trip, don't tell your mom I said this, but do what you want to do, but try to

*To Page Seven*



*Ray Ewing*

**Guiding the light into September.**

# New School Year, New Faces

*Leadership Changes Bring New Look at the Top For Schools and Superintendent's Office*

By ETHAN GENTER

The pencils are sharpened, the buses are ready to roll and teachers returned to their classrooms this week to prepare for the arrival of the new school year.

Across the Island, the five elementary schools, regional high school and public charter school will all welcome back students on Tuesday. When they arrive, they will be greeted by new staff, new infrastructure and new strategies for keeping students educated.

Jaime Curley is one of the new faces. Ms. Curley, the former assistant superintendent at the Old Rochester school district in Plymouth County, was hired in February to replace the retiring superintendent Richard Smith.

Ms. Curley started in July, and said in an interview this week that she was ready for the school year to start.

"I was so excited when I got appointed to the position back in February, and then July 1st could not come soon enough," she said at the administrative offices in Vineyard Haven. "I couldn't wait to get in here and meet people and just be a part of the community."

In addition to Ms. Curley, the regional high school ushered in a new principal, Bryan Lombardi, and the Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School hired Christopher Nace to take the reins from former school director Peter Steedman.

All three said they are listening to the community during their first year to understand how the Vineyard approaches education.

"All schools are unique to their communities," said Mr. Lombardi, who came to the Island after serving as the principal of Stoneham High School.

*To Page Seven*

# Possible Shark Bite Rattles Swimmers

By ETHAN GENTER

Swimmers were called out of the water of South Beach this week after a woman suffered injuries that may have been from a shark bite, according to officials.

If confirmed, this would be the first shark bite in Massachusetts since the death of a boogie boarder off Cape Cod in 2018, and the first on the Vineyard since the 1980s.

Edgartown first responders were called to Norton Point at 1:40 p.m. Monday after the woman sustained wounds to her lower leg while she was in the water, the town said in a statement.

No sharks or other marine animals were observed in the area or confirmed in connection with the incident. However, the lacerations were consistent with a shark bite, according to the town.

Rescuers brought the woman, who is in her late 20s, to the hospital for treatment. Her injuries were not considered life-threatening, and did not involve the loss of a limb.

After the incident, the town shut down swimming along South Beach for several hours, before reopening the beach.

The state's top shark expert is hoping to learn more about the incident from any witnesses, responders or the victim herself.

*To Page Seven*



*Ray Ewing*

**Potential shark bite occured off Norton Point.**




*Ray Ewing*

**Seastreak ran a winter ferry service in the past and hopes to bring it back.**

# Steamship Considers Seastreak Options

By LOUISA HUFSTADER

The Steamship Authority is fielding a pair of requests from marine transportation companies to expand their services to Martha's Vineyard.

General manager Alex Kryska said the Seastreak ferry line has asked to resume year-round passenger trips between New Bedford and Vineyard Haven, while New Bedford-based Offshore Tug Transportation wants to add a Vineyard route to its existing Nantucket service.

The Steamship Authority previously licensed Seastreak to operate year-round in 2023, but after drawing only about 30 to 40 commuters a day, the company opted not to continue in 2024 and 2025.

"They think it's worth pursuing now, with the [commuter] train coming all the way to New Bedford," Mr. Kryska told the port council Tuesday morning.

Mr. Kryska said he's asked Seastreak management to consider adding a Woods Hole stop, for workers who are currently commuting to the village by road.

"We know that WHOI [Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution] has people coming from New Bedford. We know that Falmouth Academy has people coming from New Bedford. So it's definitely something worth discussing and seeing how it can work out," Mr. Kryska said.

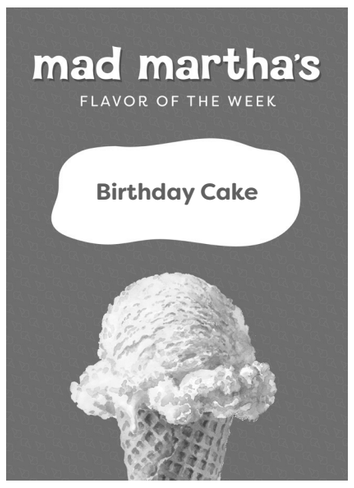
Seastreak's initial request in 2023 was based on the expected completion of a rail link from Boston, which wound up being delayed.

Commuter rail finally reached New Bedford in late March of 2025, making it possible to travel overland between Boston and the Vineyard without enduring Cape Cod bridge traffic.

Mr. Kryska said Seastreak is taking steps to cut potential operating losses from winter ferry service.

"They're looking at getting some grant funding, to cover the lack of revenue they will receive in the off season," he said.

*To Page Seven*


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# Galibois Wins Primary Over Challenger

By ETHAN GENTER

Sitting Cape and Islands district attorney Robert Galibois won Tuesday's Democratic primary with widespread support from Vineyard voters.

Facing off against challenger Michael Giardino, Mr. Galibois garnered the backing of the Island, with an unofficial tally of 2,081 to 847. Aquinnah voted 63-33; Chilmark 240-97; West Tisbury 415-69; Tisbury 463-200; Oak Bluffs 460-234; and Edgartown 440-214.

In a statement Tuesday evening, Mr. Galibois thanked the Vineyard community for putting its trust in his office to raise the bar for public safety.

"We will continue to address the root causes of crime in order to both reduce recidivism and prevent crime," he said. "My office will continue to build the relationships with our law enforcement partners and community stakeholders to bring a comprehensive approach to public safety."

Mr. Giardino conceded the race shortly after 10 p.m., with Mr. Galibois securing Barnstable, the largest town on Cape Cod by a wide margin.

"Tonight is not what we had hoped for but despite the loss, I am proud of this campaign," Mr. Giardino said in a statement to the press.

Mr. Galibois, who is the first Democrat elected in five decades as the region's top prosecutor, won his first term in 2022, and told the Gazette in the lead up to the election that he wanted to continue bolstering services on the Cape and Islands.

A focus on elder fraud, opening a special court for veterans and protecting immigrants who are victims of crimes were all top priorities.




Ray Ewing

**Voting is a family affair in Chilmark.**

Mr. Galibois, a longtime defense attorney before becoming district attorney, has no apparent competitor in the general election in November. There were no candidates for district attorney in the Republican primary.

Mr. Giardino is a former member of the Cape and Islands District Attorney's Office but left in recent years to take a job in the Plymouth County office. During the campaign he routinely criticized the current administration's running of the office, saying it has neglected victim services and the community.

He pointed to several people leaving the office due to what he called mismanagement.

"What I saw, and a lot of the staff started to see when we were there, was excessive turnover of employees," he told the Gazette previously. "As a result, we started to see a negative effect on victim services."

Mr. Galibois claimed that when he took office in 2022, a sense of complacency had settled in among many staffers who had worked with former district attorney Michael O'Keefe, resulting in a shuffle of employees.

In other Democratic races, the Vineyard backed Ed Markey over Seth Moulton for the U.S Senate seat, and Bill Keating over Craig Swallow for the U.S. House of Representatives seat.

State Sen. Julian Cyr and state Rep. Thomas Moakley had no primary challengers and there were no candidates in the Republican primary.

Island Republicans backed Michael Minogue over Brian Shortsleeve. The winner of that race will face off against Maura Healey in November.

Tristan Israel, Christine Todd and Richard (Peter) Wharton all ran for seats on the Dukes County Commission. There were a total of seven spots available on the ballot, and clerks were still tallying up write-in votes Tuesday.

Emma Kilbride, Charles Leitner, Haley Sandlow and Louisa Hufstader contributed to this article.

# Father Detained By ICE Is Back in Brazil

By ETHAN GENTER

The Brazilian man who was detained by federal immigration officials while fishing off the Vineyard earlier this year left the U.S. this past weekend after a court signed off on his removal order.

Rogerio da Silva Lima flew back to Brazil this past weekend, according to his attorney Amelia Ritenour. Mr. da Silva Lima's case drew national attention and spurred protests after he and his teenage son were taken into custody while they were in a boat fishing off Menemsha in May.

Mr. da Silva Lima had hoped to stay in the U.S. with his son, Nycolas Al Varenga Lima, but he left on a flight to comply with the removal order, Ms. Ritenour said.

"He got to leave on his own terms, not in shackles, not on a deportation flight," his attorney told the Gazette Tuesday. "It's a win, not a great win or the one people would have wanted, but he got to leave with his dignity and that's the best we can ask for in this horrible situation."

The father and son had been living on the Vineyard, with Mr. da Silva Lima working in the trades and the son, 15, attending the regional high school. They were fishing with a friend in a boat off Menemsha on May 18, when the U.S. Coast Guard approached them.

The Coast Guard said that the agency had received a report of a vessel in distress and had motored over from the Chilmark station to check in on the boaters. When the Coast Guard arrived, officers found the fishermen were doing fine, but the boat lacked the required state registration number.

Without a registration sticker, the Coast Guard checked to see if anyone on the boat had warrants out for their arrest. Mr. da Silva Lima had a warrant for inadmissibility, and Coast Guard detained him and transferred him to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) custody in Woods Hole.

Instead of separating the father and son, the Coast Guard decided to bring Nycolas with them and transfer him over to ICE as well, officers told the Gazette.

Many Islanders, including Mr. da Silva Lima's boss, and the Martha's Vineyard chapter of LUCE, an immigration rights organization, rallied around the father and son and helped them secure Ms. Ritenour to represent the family in court.

After a private donor covered the fees to file a habeas corpus petition in U.S. District Court in Boston, a judge granted the petition, allowing the family to temporarily stay in Massachusetts.

Both Mr. da Silva Lima and Nycolas were later released from ICE custody, but Mr. da Silva Lima was aware that he likely would not be able to stay in the U.S. due to his past removal order.

Mr. da Silva Lima's brush with immigration officials started soon after he arrived in the U.S. from Brazil in 2021. At the time, he was released by the government while he appealed for asylum. That request was rejected by the board of immigration appeals in 2024, which should have kicked off a 90-day statutory removal process where he could have been detained.

But the federal government, led by the Biden administration, never carried out that process, leaving his case in a legally gray area.

At a hearing in May, a federal judge ruled that because the government did not follow its own procedures, officials were not allowed to arrest him and hold him in custody.

"DHS didn't do what they were supposed to do and put the person in custody in [2024]," Judge Indira Talwani said at the time. "So to say, well, now we get to do it and put them in custody ignores what Congress says [how] it's all supposed to work."

But the judge also made it clear that Mr. da Silva Lima would not be able to stay for the long term.

"This is not an open invitation for Mr. da Silva Lima to get to stay here," Judge Talwani said. "Whatever is happening between now and when he is removed, it's not being spent in detention if there's no need - at taxpayers' expense - to do that."

In late July, the U.S. Attorney's Office asked to remove Mr. da Silva Lima, potentially on a flight in August. On August 21, the court allowed the process to proceed and he was booked on an available flight to Brazil.

Alexis Moreis, a tribal council member of the Wampanoag Tribe of Chappaquiddick and friend of the family, said she has watched Rogerio spend every day of his time back on the Island providing for and preparing for Nycolas to be separated.

"Nycolas will continue to be educated here," Ms. Moreis told the Gazette. "Myself and the Wampanoag community are grateful to everyone who helped Rogerio and Nycolas and hope we keep taking care of all [in the] Island community."

Ms. Moreis criticized the Trump administration for the way it has carried out deportations.

"The current administration is cruel and targeting families, not criminals," she said. "The Island is now one amongst thousands of communities devastated by this country's systemic abuses against immigrants' rights under the constitution."

Ms. Ritenour said Mr. da Silva Lima would like to move back to the U.S. at some point, but it will likely not be in the near future.

"It's not impossible, but it's not super likely," she said. "We knew this was never going to be about keeping him in the United States for the long-term. It's the outcome we expected and at least save [the family] some of the trauma."

Mr. da Silva Lima and his son's cases are rarities for immigration attorneys, but Ms. Ritenour said she believed more and more cases like them would appear before judges in the coming years because of the change in priorities between the Biden and Trump administrations.

ICE was more lax on enforcement in previous years, meaning many people who had removal orders were never taken out of the country, she said. While those immigrants are supposed to be put under supervision while they remain in the U.S., the Department of Homeland Security often opted to not do that.

Under the Trump administration, which has been aggressive in its immigration enforcement, ICE has arrested those people who had been awaiting action from the federal government. ICE has detained them despite that being against the stated procedures, according to Ms. Ritenour.

"I think they are a good example of what we expect to see a lot of in the future -- people with years-old orders being grabbed and trying to be removed," she said.

## Land Bank Revenues

The Martha's Vineyard Land Bank reported revenues of $915,111.32 for the business week ending on Friday, August 28, 2026. The land bank receives its funds from a two per cent fee charged on many Vineyard real estate transactions.

Much of the land bank revenue last week came from the town of Edgartown, where five transactions resulted in $726,085.32. Two transactions in Chilmark earned $172,000, and four transactions on Tisbury resulted in $17,026. No eligible transactions were recorded in Aquinnah or Chilmark.

The land bank uses its revenues to purchase and manage land for purposes of conservation, preservation and passive recreation. To date the agency has participated in the purchase of more than 4,242 acres of Vineyard land.




Ray Ewing

**Boneyard has been a surf staple.**

# Edgartown Surf Shop to Close At the End of the Season

By CHARLES LEITNER

After 25 years as one of Martha's Vineyard's only dedicated surf shops, Boneyard Surf Co., located on Main street in Edgartown, is scheduled to close in the coming weeks.

Owners Jaime Keirsted and Annette Luna announced the decision this past weekend, and said they were sad to see this chapter close. The couple do plan to continue operating in the space, moving their menswear store Dune from Winter street to the Main street storefront.

"We're looking forward to our next creative opportunity, which is Dune, and we're really excited about that," said Mr. Kiersted, who founded Boneyard back in 2002. "We just really felt spread thin between the two."

Boneyard has had a long history on Martha's Vineyard. Originally, tucked into the corner of the space where the Great Harbor Convenience Store and Gas Station now resides, Boneyard later relocated twice before finally settling into the current space along Main street, where it remained for the next 15 years.

"With a small business, you're never thinking one day at a time," said Ms. Luna. "You have to be thinking about the full extent of your lease, you have to be thinking five years down the road."

"We're evolving and growing, and we're happy and excited to put our passion into this new thing," said Mr. Kiersted.

Mr. Kiersted and Ms. Luna will keep Boneyard surf shop open until most of the products have sold. Shoppers can expect to find items that are anywhere from 50 per cent to 70 per cent off on the shop's retail floor.

"We're happy to keep giving people deals that have shopped with us for so long and give them a nice little discount on what's left," said Ms. Luna.

While there are a number of surf spots located along the south shore of the Island, surf shops have often struggled to stay afloat on Martha's Vineyard.

"I hope that no one feels like we let them down or anything like that," said Mr. Kiersted. "We carried the torch nobly and we really wanted to do it for the community."

# Public Safety Drill to Close Part of Land Bank Property

By HALEY SANDLOW

Law enforcement officials will close part of Waskosim's Rock Reservation in Chilmark on Sept. 10 to conduct emergency response drills.

The Dukes County Sheriff's Office received the sign off on Monday from the Martha's Vineyard Land Bank, which owns the conservation property, to hold the drill from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"On the staff level, we are totally a go for this..." said Harrison Kisiel, superintendent of the Martha's Vineyard Land Bank.

The drill, which is part of yearly training for Island police, EMS and other law enforcement officers, aims to simulate a high-risk manhunt operation in the forest and brush on the Vineyard, according to Greg Arpin, the assistant superintendent and chief of deputies at the sheriff's office.

Another drill on the same day will simulate a search and rescue operation using several drones to locate people and test local radio infrastructure.

About 20 local public safety, tactical EMS and crisis negotiator officers will participate in the drill, according to Mr. Arpin.

This is the first time such a drill will take place on a Land Bank property.

Mr. Kisiel said the drill will not shut down the entire property. Interior trails throughout the property will close, while the northernmost hiking loop, accessible from the parking lot off of North Road, and the universal access parking lot off of Mill Brook Road, will remain open. The loop brings visitors from the main trailhead to the interior field and back.

Officers and signs will be stationed at each of the property's five public entrances, said Mr. Kisiel. The drill will not make any use of vehicles beyond the parking lots.

Mr. Kisiel said the training stemmed from an incident in May 2024, when a man stabbed another man in the face, prompting an hour-long search through the woods in West Tisbury, the "Gazette previously reported".

"The tactical team's understanding is...this is what it might be like if someone is in the brush in the woods of this Island, and we have to try and coordinate all these efforts and get access," said Mr. Kisiel.

In high-risk situations, like a manhunt for a fugitive armed with a weapon, state responders often take hours to arrive on the Island, requiring Vineyard officials to carry out initial responses, said Mr. Arpin.

"The Island needs to be prepared for an initial responsethat will take us to the next few hours of any incident," he said.

# Oak Bluffs Calls for Hike on Ferry Embarkation Fees

By EMMA KILBRIDE

Oak Bluffs is urging the state to quadruple the Steamship Authority's embarkation fee and let the town retain fees from diverted ferries to help fund town infrastructure and services.

Last week, the select board voted to send a letter to state Sen. Julian Cyr and state Rep. Thomas Moakley, asking them to advocate on Beacon Hill for an increase in the current flat fee for a one-way trip from $0.50 to $2.00. The board also requested yearly adjustments to the fee to keep pace with inflation and asked for the ability to collect fees from boats diverted to Vineyard Haven.

The embarkation fee, which has applied to full-fare Steamship Authority tickets and remained unchanged since 2004, helps Oak Bluffs and Vineyard Haven pay for services related to ferry use, such as dredging, harbor maintenance and traffic control. The Massachusetts Legislature established the fee and would need to approve any changes.

Oak Bluffs and Tisbury jointly floated increasing the embarkation fee to $1.50 in 2022.

At the meeting on August 25, select board chair Dion Alley said raising the embarkation fee, both immediately and in future years, is necessary to help the town support the infrastructure and public services that allow visitors and residents to enjoy the Island.

"We need to address this now, because if we don't, then we've got to figure out how we make up the difference in the funding come next year, because we still have to provide these services," Mr. Alley said.

The letter states that seasonal passenger ridership into Oak Bluffs has increased by approximately 8 per cent per year between 2004 and 2025, excluding the pandemic. The board argues that the influx of visitors is burdening town infrastructure in a way that cannot currently be absorbed by year-round taxpayers.

Additionally, the letter argues that the many tax-exempt institutions in Oak Bluffs, including the hospital, the high school, Martha's Vineyard Community Services and the YMCA, both strain the town's tax base and increase its infrastructural needs.

"We're just asking for the people who are going to come and use those services to actually pay for them," Mr. Alley said.

The town hopes to use the Consumer Price Index, which calculates changes in consumers' purchasing power from year to year due to factors like inflation, to decide how much the fee should increase each year.

The letter also asks the state to ensure that the town receives embarkation fees for boats that are scheduled to dock in Oak Bluffs but are diverted to Vineyard Haven due to inclement weather. The select board has previously expressed concern about the economic impact of boats frequently diverting to the town's sister port.

"Upgrading the baseline to $2.00 to correct for years of localized hyper-inflation, indexing future increases predictably via [the Consumer Price Index], and closing the 'diversion loop' will provide the long-term stability our community desperately needs," the letter reads.

Currently, a bill sponsored by Senator Cyr to raise the embarkation fee from $0.50 to $1.00 is under review by a senate committee. A version of the bill died in committee during the previous legislative session.

Representative Moakley told the Gazette that the idea of raising embarkation fees is worth considering.

"Obviously, we don't want the ticket prices to be going so high that it's compounding the already significant cost of living crisis that we have," Representative Moakley said. "But if we're talking about a matter of cents or dollars [and] if it's actually going to be helping the towns, then I think it's absolutely a worthy conversation."

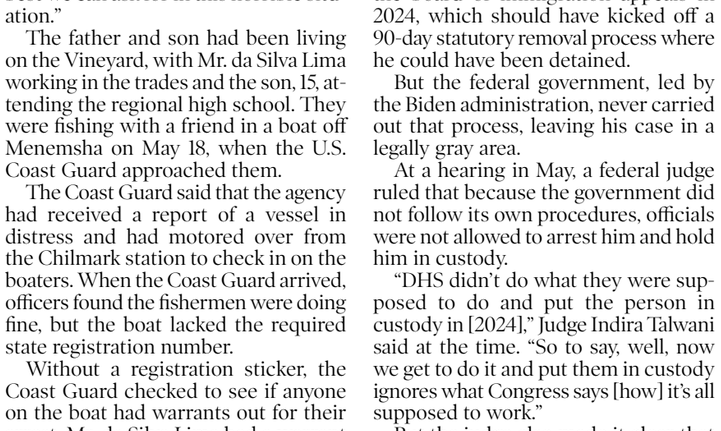
Select board vice chair Sean DeBettencourt expressed his support for the measure.

"I'm really hopeful that this year, this moves forward," he said.



Ray Ewing

**Select board wants the fee to rise to $2.**

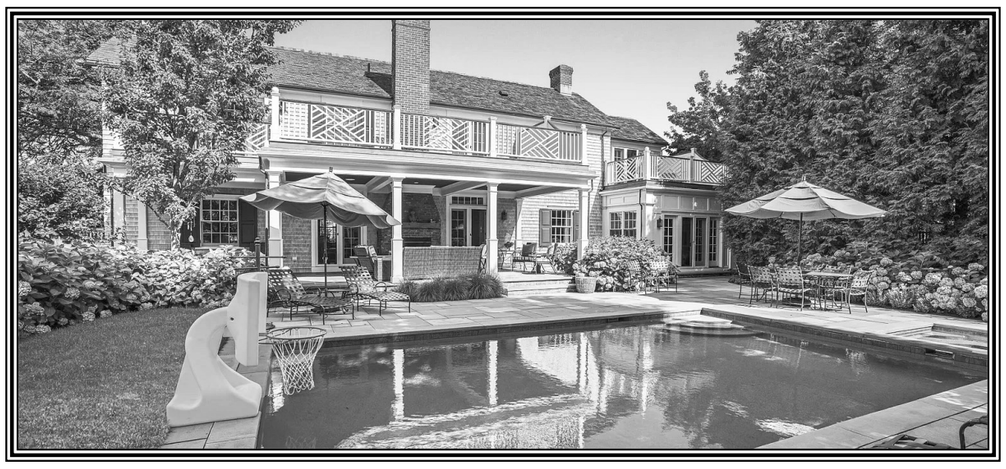

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*Jeanna Shepard*

**Phil Hale has helped keep boats on the water for decades.**

# Phil Hale Wins Walter Cronkite Award

By LOUISA HUFSTADER

For Phil Hale, winning the Walter Cronkite Award from SailMV this summer was an honor that came with extra meaning.

The longtime owner of Martha's Vineyard Shipyard, Mr. Hale was personally acquainted with the late broadcast journalist, a devoted sailor who summered in Edgartown for three decades before "his death in 2009".

"I knew Walter Cronkite more than just as a newscaster or a customer at the boatyard. He was a pretty good guy," Mr. Hale told the Gazette last week, during a waterfront interview at the shipyard on Vineyard Haven harbor.

No matter how busy Mr. Cronkite might be in New York City, Mr. Hale recalled, he always took calls from the shipyard about his yawl, Wyntje.

Mr. Cronkite also was a constant and generous donor to Island nonprofits, from animal welfare to community services.

He was honorary chairman of SailMV, which was founded 35 years ago to teach Island children how to sail and race.

It became one of Mr. Cronkite's favorite causes, Mr. Hale said, citing a conversation the two men had in 2006 that he still marvels at today.

"He said to me, 'Phil, my involvement with SailMV is one of the most important things I've done in my life.' True story," Mr. Hale told the Gazette.

"This [was] Walter Cronkite, who's reported on history for 50 years, from the Second World War, Jack Kennedy, the moon landing. Think about that," Mr. Hale said.

The annual award from SailMV honors the late Mr. Cronkite by recognizing someone on the Island who has continued his legacy of conservation and maritime tradition.

Mr. Hale considers his award a family affair, and said so in his acceptance speech at the SailMV banquet in July.

"It really isn't about me. It's about the fact that the Hale family has been working on the waterfront for 65 years," said Mr. Hale, who bought the shipyard from his father Thomas in 1986 and is now vice-president to his son James.

"Three generations have run the business now, and it's about our great staff and the community that supported us for all these years," he said.

It was 1961 when Thomas Hale moved his young family to the Island and bought Martha's Vineyard Shipyard, which had had multiple names and owners over the previous century.

Phil Hale grew up doing odd jobs around the shipyard, learning the business from his father.

"[I did] everything from picking up trash, painting bottoms, rigging boats, checking on wooden boats that might have sunk overnight," he recalled.

"After college, I ran the boat building program for seven or eight years, and then I bought the boatyard from my dad," Mr. Hale said.

Martha's Vineyard Shipyard stopped building sailboats in the late 1980s, outcompeted on labor costs by skilled shipyards in Maine.

"Rather than fight it, we said 'Well, let's fix boats,'" Mr. Hale said.

The company also handles boat storage, as well as a winterizing service for boat owners who have their own storage.

The plastic wrap used to protect the boats is recycled after it comes off, Mr. Hale said.

Over the past few years, the Hales have now installed heating in all their boat sheds so repairs and maintenance can continue 12 months of the year.

"We now have between 28 and 30 year-round [employees]," Mr. Hale said.

As a result, he said, the shipyard only hires two or three extra workers in the summer.

"It's really changed our workflow," Mr. Hale said.

Another thing that's changed, he said, is the mix of boats that come in for repairs.

Sailboats have gone from 60 per cent to 40 per cent of the shipyard's business, with powerboats zooming from 40 per cent to 60 per cent, Mr. Hale said.

"One member of the household loves the boat, the other person wants to get to the destination," he said.

Mr. Hale himself is a lifelong sailor, an active member of the Holmes Hole Sailing Association and an avid small-boat racer -- whether or not there's a competition under way.

"If there are two boats on the water, somebody's racing," he said with a smile.

He's particularly fond of sailing upwind because it calls for the most skill, Mr. Hale said.

"Sailing is my thing. When I'm doing it, that's what I'm thinking about. Nothing else seems as important," he said.

"With all the complexities in the world, it's nice to have that space," Mr. Hale said.

Walter Cronkite, he said, would have agreed.

## Please Adopt Us

We are happy to report that tabby kitten, Emerald, has found her forever home and didn't have to spend a single night alone. Congratulations to Emerald and her new family!

Does anyone want to meet Miley Cyrus? Then come on down to the shelter where you can meet the sweetest Guinea pig ever. Miley Cyrus is black and white and one of the friendliest piggies we've ever met. Since she was found outside, we're not sure of her age, but she adores being held, and loves lettuce, cucumbers kale and tangerines. Where are our Guinea piggy lovers? Come get this girl!

We are taking a hiatus from the nail clinic for a while. However, the Council on Aging in Oak Bluffs hosts a nail clinic twice a month by appointment only. Call 508-693-4509, ext. 3 and ask for Rose Cogliano.

The Animal Shelter of Martha's Vineyard is here for our community. We're always available and our door is always open should your adoption not be a perfect fit. Also, if anyone is in need of cat food, dog food or a crate, we have plenty and are happy to share. The Island Food Pantry also has pet food for those in need. Just give us a call during regular shelter hours: 508-627-8662.

Hours are: Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Thursday; 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 9:30 to 5 p.m.



**Miley Cyrus.**

# A Ghostly Presence Gives Gift of Creativity

By LOUISA HUFSTADER

This is a different kind of Martha's Vineyard ghost story, with a traveling spirit and a supernatural creative partnership.

Few people today recall the composer and music publisher Marshall Rutgers Kernochan, a gregarious summer Islander who helped found the Edgartown Golf Club and was one of the earliest members of the Edgartown Reading Room men's club.

His Academy Award-winning granddaughter, however, says that some 19 years after Mr. Kernochan died in 1955, his ghost returned to become an abiding presence in both her personal life and her multifaceted career in the arts.

"Thus began a relationship between a family phantom and myself, which has endured, off and on, until the present," Sarah Kernochan writes in At Home With a Ghost, an online memoir of her life, her work and her sometimes bruising experiences in the entertainment world.

A two-time Oscar winner for documentary filmmaking, Ms. Kernochan also has written and directed feature films, recorded three albums as a singer-songwriter and written two published novels.

She is currently writing the libretto for a new musical titled Nancy Drew and the Mystery at Spotlight Manor, to be directed by her husband, the Broadway eminence James Lapine.

The couple and their daughter Phoebe Lapine are longtime seasonal residents of Edgartown on waterfront property that once belonged to Ms. Kernochan's grandfather.

"It's a lovely bit of beach and an incredible view, and I thank him every day," she told the Gazette, during a wide-ranging interview last month.

Unlike other generational summer Islanders, Ms. Kernochan didn't start vacationing here until she was an adult. She hadn't even seen her grandfather's house since the summer he died, when she was eight, and assumed in later years that it had been sold.

It was her grandfather who led her back here, Ms. Kernochan told the Gazette, after making his ghostly presence known when she was 27 and staying with her parents at their house in Connecticut in a room filled with old family furniture.

One of the sensations, she said, was of a hand stroking her hair.

"I did not know who it was, but I knew that something was trying to contact me," Ms. Kernochan said.

A New York city psychic advised her that the spirit was male, known to her and protective, she said.

"And then he said, 'There's a house for you in the Cape Cod area, and a ring,'" Ms. Kernochan recalled.

Her father confirmed that the Edgartown house was still in the family, being rented out to vacationers.

"I asked if I could go there to write, because I had my first book contract, and that was the first time I'd seen it since I was a little kid," she said.

At the house, Ms. Kernochan said, she found her grandfather's ring and has worn it ever since. As time went by, she also learned to listen for his guidance, although he never physically materialized for her.

"He was seen... by renters when I was managing the house after my folks died, which made me jealous," Ms. Kernochan said. "I never saw him — I probably don't have that ability — but I could hear, and he seemed mainly there to give me music, because he was a composer, and he left some stuff unfinished."

The music would arrive while she was sleeping, Ms. Kernochan said, and linger into her waking moments, enabling her to continue the composition herself.



*Jeanna Shepard*

**Sarah Kernochan has a long family history in Edgartown.**

"He was funneling something to me that I was supposed to write, and I was very resistant and very determined to take the suggestion and then make it my own," she said.

Ms. Kernochan wound up turning that piece, and others, into Sleep-around Town, a musical revue about puberty that had a 1978 production at the New York Public Theatre — where her future husband, Mr. Lapine, was working on another show.

"That is the piece of music that led me to meet James," said Ms. Kernochan, who noted that her grandfather's ghost appeared to approve of Mr. Lapine from the start. With other men, she said, things like ashtrays would sometimes smash for no reason, signaling the late Mr. Kernochan's disregard.

The same year, Mr. Lapine won his first Obie Award for off-Broadway directing. Ms. Kernochan had previously won an Academy Award and then recorded two albums for a major record label. Her first Oscar came in 1972, for co-directing and co-producing Marjoe, an engaging and startling documentary portrait of a former child preacher who became an evangelical con man. The award looked at first like Ms. Kernochan's springboard to a film career, but Hollywood presented her with sexist stumbling blocks instead.

"Because I made Marjoe with a partner, it was assumed that I was just a cute little girlfriend," Ms. Kernochan recalled.

"I wound up with a very powerful agent that I hoped was going to get me some traction, but that turned out to be a kind of Me Too situation," Ms. Kernochan said, citing the name and slogan of the worldwide campaign against sexual harassment founded in 2006.

"That's what got me out of the business, which was fine because then I wrote a book, and that's all I had ever wanted," she said.

Her debut novel, Dry Hustle, was based on Ms. Kernochan's adventures with a pair of con women she had befriended in New York City.

"I traveled with them and learned to do what they did, and then based the novel on that," she said. "It was extremely raunchy."

The book did well, she said, but everything fell apart with her second novel. Her editor at the publishing house was replaced by someone who cancelled her contract, rendering the book untouchable.

"It was considered tainted," she said. "Suddenly, I had no career. It was really weird. That's why I turned to screenwriting."

Ms. Kernochan's first screenwriting credit was for the film 9 1/2 weeks, starring Mickey Rourke and Kim Basinger.

"I have one of those careers that is full of spit takes: 'She what?'" she said, smiling.

One screenwriting gig begat another, until Ms. Kernochan was able to write and direct a movie of her own: the very funny, but widely overlooked 1998 romp known variously as The Hairy Bird (her original title), All I Wanna Do, AIWD and Strike!

Ms. Kernochan's second Academy Award, 30 years after the first, came in 2002 with Thoth, her short documentary about a musician and composer who created his own language and mythology. She later commissioned an opera from his duo Tribal Baroque, which was performed at Union Chapel in Oak Bluffs.

Ms. Kernochan finally saw her second novel, the supernatural thriller Jane Was Here, published in 2011, the same year Dry Hustle was released electronically.

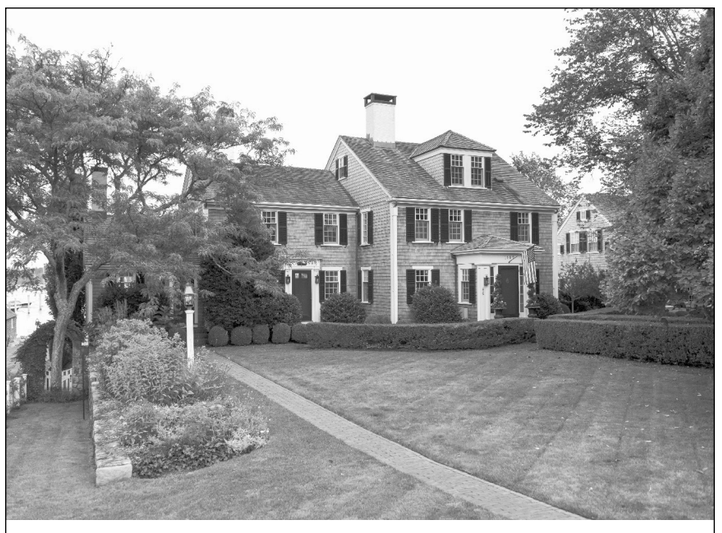
Origin of a Kiss, which she's now rewriting, is more of a literary read, Ms. Kernochan said. It owes its structure and much of its richness to the skills she mastered in the movie trade.

"Screenwriting definitely makes the dialogue come very easily, [and] I became very much more of a daring plotter," Ms. Kernochan said.

Her grandfather's ghost is also still very much a part of her life and her work. Her memoir-in-progress, entitled At Home With a Ghost, is posted at sarahkernochan.blogspot.com.












Jaxon White

**Marty Nadler died on August 26 at the age of 80.**

# A Life of Humor and Kindness

By HALEY SANDLOW

Martin Nadler, acclaimed comedy writer, producer and actor who made the Vineyard laugh for decades, died at his home in Florida on August 26 of myasthenia gravis. He was 80 years old.

Marty to his friends and family, "the mayor of Oak Bluffs" to the Vineyard and "tourist man" to the set of Pretty Woman, Mr. Nadler's jokes delighted on both coasts. He worked as a producer and writer for Laverne & Shirley, Happy Days and The Odd Couple, and wrote jokes for half a dozen movies as a script doctor including Runaway Bride and The Princess Diaries, where he had bit parts.

On the Vineyard he was known for his kindness and his unexpected and hilarious way of looking at things.

"He was show business personified," said Larry Mollin, film producer and writer, and Mr. Nadler's longtime friend. "He knew how to entertain."

Mr. Nadler was born in the Bronx in 1945 and spent 14 summers at a summer camp in Monticello, N.Y., where he began to develop his comical sensibilities.

"My dad would tell these funny stories about how the rich kids would try to one up each other by saying how many bedrooms are in their house," his son Charlie Nadler said. "They'd say, 'I have five bedrooms in my house,' and the next kid would say, 'I have eight bedrooms in my house,' and then they'd say, 'Marty, what about you?'"

"And he'd be like, 'Well, it's an apartment building. There's 1,500 units. We've got like 3,000 rooms in there,'" Charlie said.

Ever the class clown, Mr. Nadler discovered theatre early on, participating in school plays. At eight years old, he decided he wanted to go into showbiz. He began his standup at high school talent shows, repeating Woody Allen's material onstage while he was finding his own voice. When playfully accused of the theft, he would pretend to be offended, his son said.

Mr. Nadler attended Ithaca College, where he studied drama and met Jeffrey Kramer, who played Deputy Hendricks in Jaws and was a member of the Cronig family. In 1966 and 1967, along with Mr. Mollin and others, the young men came to the Vineyard as the Vineyard Players, a summer stock theatre. They rented a house and bunked together, grabbing Giordano's slices for 10 cents and getting into trouble.

"That first summer was the best summer of my life. I never looked back," Mr. Nadler told the Gazette in 2018. "The Vineyard holds a special place in my heart."

After college, Mr. Nadler moved to New York City and performed at The Improvisation in Hell's Kitchen.

"It was a very classic time for comedy," said Charlie Nadler. Marty "famously" sold all of his jokes to his friends to make a living, and began to transition to writing.

When Gary Marshall read a sample script of Mr. Nadler's, the two began to collaborate, with Mr. Nadler writing and producing on many of Mr. Marshall's sitcoms.

"He was the bravest one to go to the West Coast. It was unheard of, really. We were New York people, you know?" said Mr. Mollin, who soon followed Mr. Nadler to L.A. to start a career in show business. "I never would have done that if Marty hadn't been there. He blazed the path for all of us."

In 1976, an eager young screenwriter met with Mr. Nadler to pitch him story ideas for Laverne & Shirley. Mr. Nadler listened to her 45 pitches (a typical meeting covers four), then gave her an assignment and a month to write the script.

It was only after she turned in the script that Mr. Nadler asked her out, and soon afterwards, Holly and Marty Nadler were married on the banks of Seth's Pond. The couple purchased a house on East Chop and raised their son on the Vineyard.

On the Island, he worked at the Old Stone Bakery, now Backdoor Donuts, the Chilmark General Store, and as a substitute teacher at the Oak Bluffs school. He also continued to work on films into the 2010s, and moved to Florida full time in 2011. He missed the Vineyard, he told the Gazette in 2018, but not the winters.

"Living on the Vineyard is a piece of cake until New Year's Day," he said at the time. "After New Year's Day the government should send helicopters to get everyone off for their mental health."

In his later years, Mr. Nadler wrote short stories, plays and memoirs, and continued to do summer stand-up shows on the Island. Charlie and Marty began sharing the stage a few years ago, bundling jokes, riffing off of each other, and writing together about their generational differences. Their upcoming special, A Boomer and a Millennial Walk into a Special, was filmed in L.A. last October, and will be released on audio streaming platforms in early 2027, according to Charlie Nadler. It was the last time the pair performed together.

"He was the kind of dad where he couldn't change a tire on a car, but he could tell me how to structure a joke," Charlie said.

Holly and Marty Nadler remained close friends after their divorce in 2002. He was sweet and supportive right up until he died, said Holly Nadler.

"People talk about in the same breath, not just how funny he was, but how kind he was," she said.

The Nadler family is planning a memorial service at the Hebrew Center in October.

## Carol Whitmarsh Served Her Community

Carol Potter Whitmarsh died on August 8. She was 76.

Carol was born on January 21, 1950 in New York City, and lived most of her life dedicated to raising her family on Martha's Vineyard.

She was surrounded by and cared for by her family throughout her last days. She was very alert and aware of those around her until the very end. The gift she gave her loved ones was the opportunity to tell her how much they loved her and to thank her for all she had done for each of them.

She was the matriarch of her family: her husband, her sons, a niece more like a daughter to her, her granddaughters, and her daughters-in-laws; she loved them all unconditionally.

During her final days, those close to her came to an understanding best described by Viktor Frankl: "Love goes very far beyond the physical person of the beloved. It finds its deepest meaning in its spiritual being, one's inner self. Whether or not one is actually present, whether or not one is still alive at all, ceases somehow to be of importance."

Carol's life was full of extraordinary accomplishments as a wife, a mother, a grandmother, a friend and a community activist. Most would agree she was a keen observer of human nature. She was a great judge of character, and if she were fond of you and respected you, she would give endlessly of herself to you.



**Carol Whitmarsh**

She served her community for many years. She loved her work with teenagers at Martha's Vineyard Regional High School, who would go out of their way to greet her with broad smiles and affection whenever they saw her in the community. Her colleagues often sought out advice and counsel from her. She served on the Edgartown personnel board for several years and on committees in Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard Regional High School and the all-Island school committee for nine years.

She was an avid bridge player and is loved and dearly missed by the bridge community on the Island. She had many years of camaraderie and enjoyment with her many bridge friends. She liked to use her highly intelligent mind to compete at bridge, and she also loved to watch Jeopardy with her husband, often dazzling him with her extensive knowledge about so many things.

Most importantly, she will always be remembered for the depth of her character, her infectious laugh and the love of her family, friends and our community. Her spirit will carry on in the heart of the love of her life, her husband, and within her children, grandchildren, the rest of her extended family, and many friends.

She leaves behind her husband, Tom Bennett; her sons, Kane, Jason and Theodore; her niece-daughter, Jade and her family; her granddaughters, Dalila, Lily, Ayla and Alyssa; her daughters-in-law and past and present partners, Jennifer, Pam and Kissyla; her sisters, Linda and Dorothy and their husbands Howard and Bill; her nieces, Katherine and Dorothy and Dorothy's family; her dear and cherished cousins and many friends.

The family wants to thank Martha's Vineyard Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Hospice of Martha's Vineyard for their very caring, professional and comforting services throughout her illness. In lieu of flowers, gifts can be made to Hospice of Martha's Vineyard.

There will be a graveside memorial service at the New West Side Cemetery in Edgartown on Nov. 7 at 11 a.m.



**Carol Christopher**

## Carol Christopher Embraced Adventure

Carol Christopher died on August 4 at Martha's Vineyard Hospital. She was 67.

Carol led an adventurous life full of travel, photography, kayaking, sports, family, creativity and so much more.

She was born in Oak Bluffs and graduated from the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School in 1977. She sought adventure through photography after inheriting her father's camera. She described her discovery and love of photography in her own words:

"Martha's Vineyard is unique, for it is blessed with a community that prides itself on the conservation of the land. For a nature photographer, it is a gold mine in that it holds several conservation groups: Martha's Vineyard Land Bank, Sheriff's Meadow Properties and Trustees of Reservations. There was never a time where I found myself without a photographic opportunity or new location to discover.

"I began my serious interest in photography long ago when my father passed away from a brain tumor. I inherited his 35mm Minolta, and although I never really did much with it at first, I took some mediocre shots. I enjoyed using it. I brought it to Fenway Park with me one day and found it was too old to do the things I wanted to do with it, so I purchased a new camera: an Olympus SP550UZ digital camera."

Carol's photographs were once used by the Maine office of tourism, and her "An Island Christmas" holiday greeting cards were sold on the Island during the winters. She was also the longtime official team photographer of the Martha's Vineyard Sharks baseball team.

She spent her good days kayaking in Lake Tashmoo and the Lagoon, often spending hours on Saturdays in the sun, escaping the chaos of the summer season and bobbing on the water.

During the winter months, she expressed her creativity indoors through jewelry making, sewing and crafts. In recent years, she created handmade mala meditation necklaces and bracelets. She thoughtfully selected gemstones that hold meaningful beliefs: sea sediment to protect against harmful things and to ease emotional stress and anxiety; rose quartz for its belief of embodying physical and emotional healing qualities; black obsidian for its belief of keeping negativity away. A small local business known as Vineyard Treasures, she often sold her creations at artisan shows on the Island.

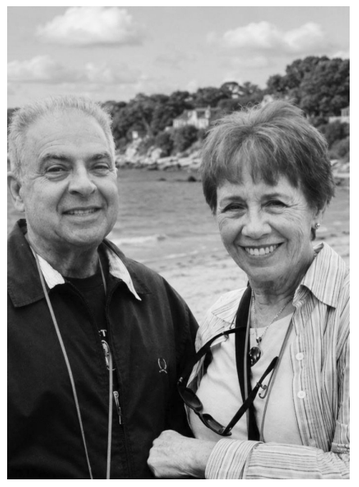
Her friends and family will also recall her love of sewing and gnomes. Throughout the year, but especially during the winter holiday season, Carol created handmade gnomes and would gift them to loved ones. She handpicked fabric, then used patterns to sew the bodies, legs, arms and other features together. These creations were designed to sit on mantels, tables and counters. Identifiable by their oversized felt holiday hats and long beards, every gnome was customized for each person. Each creation took hours, and she often made dozens each holiday season.

Her life was full of sports. From relaxing on the weekends with a Patriots game on the TV to spending vacation time watching the MLB spring training in Clearwater, Fla, sports put her at ease. While she didn't attend a Bruins hockey game, she always tuned into the games. She loved the Red Sox so much that she had the logo tattooed on her wrist. Through her love of photography, she began photographing the Martha's Vineyard Sharks baseball games, sharing photographs with the players' families. She did this every season until eventually becoming the team's official photographer.

While her metastatic breast cancer affected her body for many years, Carol didn't let this bring her down. She always found a way to feel happy and spread this happiness to those around her. Her care for her family and friends is proof that, despite the pain one might have, love provides us with strength. Love endures.

Carol is survived by her mother, Evelyn Christopher; daughter, Caitlyn Clark and her husband, Garrett Box; and her sisters Sharon Mello, Jackie Fullin and Sue Christopher.

A celebration of life is on Saturday, Sept. 5 at 11 a.m. at Sacred Heart Cemetery in Oak Bluffs.



**Beverly Espuga**

## Beverly Espuga Led a Life of Grace and Love

Beverly Lilian James Espuga died on August 21. She was 85.

Beverly was a remarkable woman whose life was defined by love, determination, faith, service and devotion to family. She met life's challenges with strength, optimism, and grace.

Beverly was the eldest of four children, born on May 26, 1941 in Jersey City, N.J. to Lilian Emily and George James. She learned the value of hard work early, put herself through college, and attended Orange Memorial Hospital School of Nursing. She worked as a caring and compassionate nurse for about 10 years.

As her children grew, she became active in church, teaching nursery and Sunday school. Her love of children led her back to school, where she earned a teaching degree and a master's degree in special education from Kean University. She later taught preschool children with disabilities and took great pride in helping them learn, grow and feel loved.

At 16, Beverly met Anthony (Tony) Richard Espuga on a blind date. They married in 1961 and shared 55 years together until Tony's death in 2017. Together they built a loving family and created cherished memories. They camped throughout the East Coast, beginning in tents and eventually graduating to a camper. That tradition became part of a family legacy with all the sons and grandkids as avid campers.

She treasured family gatherings, especially holiday meals for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. She was happiest when everyone was together sharing food, conversation, laughter and stories. She also loved gardening, composting, bicycling around Vineyard Haven and walking.

Her Methodist faith shaped her life. She prayed daily, volunteered at community suppers, visited people who were homebound or hospitalized, and found deep meaning in helping others.

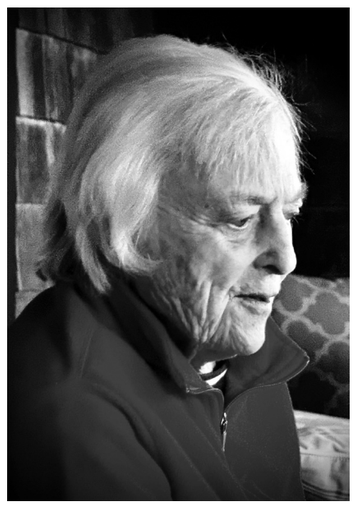
Above all, she was a wonderful mother. She taught her sons to cook and, by example, to work hard, stay positive, care for others and appreciate family. Even as illness progressed, she continued to find joy in her deck, good food, family visits and hearing about her grandchildren's lives.

Beverly is survived by her sister, Janice Ragonese (Lester); her sons, Richard (Jackie), David (Michele), and Robert (Kerrie); her grandchildren, Nicole, Kyle, Nick, Danny, Alyssa, Ryan, and Ashley (Jason); and her great-grandson, Cole.

Her legacy is one of love, strength, faith, kindness, gratitude and a life well lived. Her family will remember her generous spirit, steady encouragement, resilience, warm hospitality and enduring ability to make people feel welcome, supported and loved. The many lives she touched will carry her example forward.

Services on Martha's Vineyard will be held on September 19 with a burial - Oak Grove Cemetery, Vineyard Haven at 10am and then at 11 am a Church Service at the Trinity United Methodist Church of Martha's Vineyard 40 Trinity Park in the campgrounds in Oak Bluffs. Immediately following will be a luncheon in the fellowship hall building.

A celebration of life will be held on Oct. 4 at 1 p.m. at Costa's Restaurant, 120 Chestnut St. Roselle Park, N.J.



**Mary Everett**

## Mary Everett Was a Beloved Teacher

Mary Augusta Gifford Everett, of East Haddam, Conn. and Harthaven, died at the family cottage on Martha's Vineyard on August 12. She was 93.

Mary was born on May 23, 1933 in Schenectady, N.Y. to Katherine Davis Peck Gifford and Walter Sheldon Gifford. She graduated high school from The Albany Academy for Girls, Albany, N.Y., and with a bachelor's in early childhood education from Wheelock College, Boston, in 1956.

She married her life-long love Richard Warren Everett, now 95, in 1957.

She was an enthusiastic trooper for the quirky, offbeat, unconventional, strange, charming, creative and interesting life her husband and she set out to lead, beginning by purchasing an old house that soon was down to three walls. She and her husband spent their married life restoring this National Register of Historic Houses circa 1704 home, in East Haddam, Conn.

Her husband became a blacksmith, creating museum quality reproduction Colonial American hardware, kitchen and lighting devices to refit it and similar structures in the eastern corridor. She ran the business end and he became the master craftsman in a brick shop he built in their back yard. She was the home financier and homemaker.

Mary was also a beloved kindergarten teacher. Early on in her career, her students would excitedly await her arrival in "the popcorn car" a Model-T Ford with gravity fed fuel that had to go up the steep Connecticut valley hills in reverse.

Later, she studied how to properly research the family genealogy and traced the lineage through extensive libraries, filling volumes of notebooks. She took up early American style crewelwork and wool rug braiding.

She loved to sail, swim, ski, bicycle, sing, play softball, and was a Red Sox fan.

She is survived by her loving family: daughters, Jennifer Lee Everett Benefit, Rebecca Swift Everett and Katrina Everett Ballek (George F. Ballek); granddaughters, Allison Ballek Scully (Daniel Raymond Scully), Hillary Anne Ballek and Michaela Wacome Benefit; great granddaughters, Elouise Anita Scully and Maeve Lynn Scully.

She was predeceased by her parents, and siblings Virginia Peck Gifford (Icke), Walter Sheldon Gifford II and Folger Peck Gifford. She was the baby of her loving family.

Mary was kind, generous and had a tremendous sense of humor right to the end. The depth of her love for her husband, children and entire extended family was boundless.

Interment in the Old Burying Ground, Warren, Conn., and celebrations of life in East Haddam, Conn. and Harthaven, dates will be announced in the near future.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Middlesex Health Hospice and/or Hospice and Palliative Care of Martha's Vineyard.



**Pamela Pease**

## Pamela Pease Brought Fun to All Tasks

Pamela Burke Pease, aged 83 though only admitting to 39, died at her home in Concord after a prolonged journey through Alzheimer's, nearly all of which was done with a smile.

Pam was born in Bronxville, N.Y. on Sept. 25, 1942 to parents B James Burke and Elizabeth I Burke and was raised in Weston, Conn. She was raised in a home filled with love, laughter, music, fun, animals and a built in desire to help others, She attended local schools and then the Graham-Eckes School in Palm Beach, Bradford Junior College and the University of Grenoble.

In her early years, she worked in the travel industry in New York City putting her foreign language skills to good use. Before moving to Concord in 1984, Pam and family lived in Alexandria, Va. where she made life long friends as she did everywhere she went. She was a proficient swimmer spent many very happy summers on the beach with her family at their home in Chilmark.

After moving to Concord with her family, Pam enjoyed working in the Concord Museum shop and raising a family.

Her house was filled with song and laughter and nearly everyone who she encountered, particularly if younger, was referred to as dearie. Sometimes a stickler for correct grammar she had a love for language and always kept a dictionary handy.

She brought fun to everything her family did and will be sorely missed.

She leaves a loving family and a family who she loved dearly. She is survived by her husband, Colin, sons Andrew and Grafton, daughters in law Laura and Julia, grandchildren Anthony, Adeline, Emmett and Oliver, her sister Diana and husband Grafton Reeves, and many cousins nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will gather to honor and remember Pam for her memorial service on Saturday, Sept. 12 at 2 p.m. in the Trinity Episcopal Church, 81 Elm Street, Concord. Burial in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery will be private.

Donations in her memory may be made to: Alzheimer's Association, 320 Nevada St., #201, Newton, MA 02460.

# VINEYARD GAZETTE WEEKLY SUDOKU AND CROSSWORD – September 4, 2026

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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 the numbers from one to nine.

Difficulty this week: EASY PEASY!

*Answers to the puzzles can be found on page Twelve of this week's Gazette.*

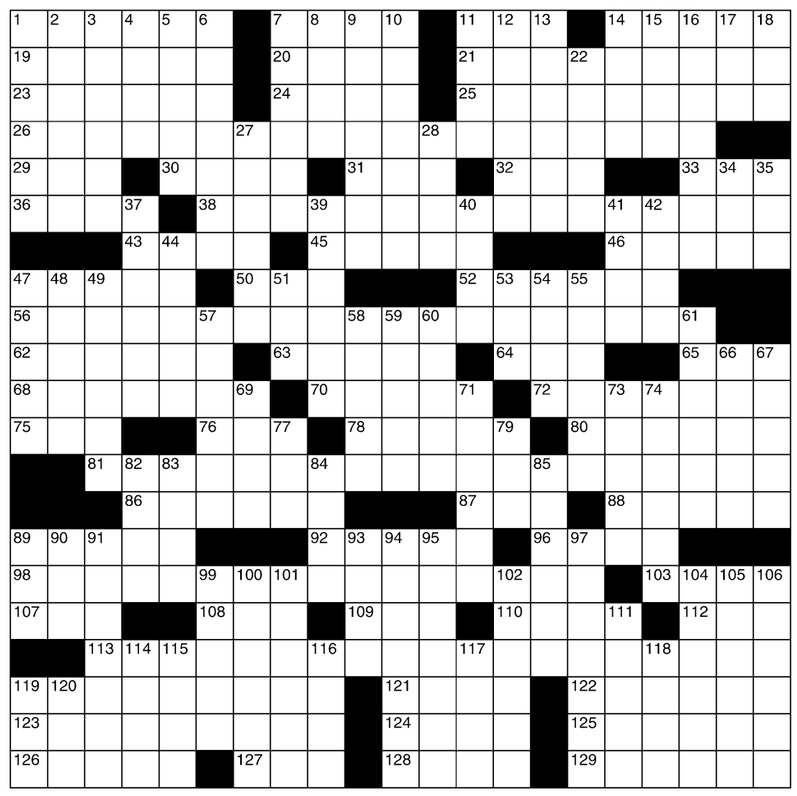
**ACROSS**

1 Lie down in rest
7 Pedometer unit
11 Trial fig.
14 Pig in a kids' series
19 A bit coarse, as humor
20 — sapiens
21 Informal talks
23 Personae non — (unwelcome sorts)
24 At the summit
25 Nielsens, e.g.
26 Start of a riddle
29 Granola bit
30 Goose of Hawaii
31 Many a craft brew, in brief
32 — center (play area)
33 Thu. follower
36 "That's — blow!"
38 Riddle, part 2
43 Suffix with billion
45 High-IQ crew
46 Harp relatives
47 Uncouth sorts
50 Ortiz of "Ugly Betty"
52 City near Seattle
56 Riddle, part 3
62 Hat for Indiana Jones
63 Esther of "Good Times"
64 China's Chou En- —
65 Uncertainties
68 Very last part
70 Opus
72 Freaks out
75 Gore, Roker and Pacino
76 Relative of .edu or .org
78 Base for head hair
80 Like many Coast Guard rescues
81 Riddle, part 4
86 Feature of the word "jot"
87 Execs' mag
88 Idea sources
89 Skylit lobbies
92 Project deets
96 James of "Alien Nation"
98 End of the riddle
103 Pirate's drink
107 Bunch
108 "Deck the Halls" contraction
109 Mined stuff
110 Egyptian canal
112 Year, in Brazil
113 Riddle's answer
119 Like the work of insurance risk calculators
121 "Bye-bye!"
122 Walk really quietly
123 Lambastes
124 Pre-'91 empire
125 "7 Rings" singer Grande
126 Applesauce brand
127 "Fancy that!"
128 Chinese dog, in brief
129 Became taut

**DOWN**

1 Singer Belle or Spektor
2 Lengthy reprimand
3 Beseech reverently
4 Preminger of film
5 Former teen idol Cassidy
6 Glasses and contacts
7 Unselfish sort
8 Carry around
9 Like theatrical behavior
10 Appear like a jack-in-the-box
11 Last part of some plays
12 Saloon
13 Castle tower
14 Org. against leather
15 Estrada of "CHiPs"
16 Miss terribly
17 Tent stake
18 Hoofed beast
22 Nickname for Louis Armstrong
27 Make beloved
28 Sculling tools
34 Comic Issa
35 SSNs, e.g.
37 Artist Andy
39 Iconic "Dragnet" line
40 Granola bits
41 Often-tickled Muppet
42 With 48-Down, "Barry Lyndon" star
44 French river or department
47 U.K.'s counterpart to an Oscar
48 See 42-Down
49 A bit strange
51 Neither's partner
53 Ocean east of Ga.
54 Mined stuff
55 Columbus citizen
57 Mexican general Villa
58 Donovan of "Clueless"
59 Decide (to)
60 Decompose
61 "— Cousins" (Elvis Presley film)
66 Grazing area
67 Doesn't leave
69 Mail slot spot
71 Plaza Hotel girl
73 Rho follower
74 Botching it up
77 "Rocky III" co-star
79 Wordplay bit
82 "That so?"
83 Persian ruler
84 Like a snoop
85 Build up, as interest
89 Piercing tool
90 Even if, in brief
91 Snare drum sound
93 Inadequate
94 Annual basketball contest on the Continent
95 Silk nightdress
97 Proficient in
99 Pong maker
100 Clamping down on
101 Lordly home
102 Beachward
104 Believers in Jah, informally
105 Common soccer score
106 Conk out, as a machine
111 Old name of the Congo
114 "Hooper" star Reynolds
115 Junior miss
116 Big ice mass
117 Bit of work
118 Revolve
119 It's pressed for cash
120 Co. big shot

TOOTIN' MAD



# After Extended Walkabout, Snowdrop the Pig Is Found

By HALEY SANDLOW

On Wednesday morning, after a month on the lam, Snowdrop the pig returned safely home.

Snowdrop is one of three pigs raised by Katrina Nevin, a Falmouth resident who uses them to clear invasive plants in her yard. In July, she brought the pigs to her parents' Edgartown house to complete the same task.

That is when Snowdrop escaped, and for a few days was spotted wandering through nearby yards before disappearing for several weeks.

On Tuesday, Ms. Nevin received word from Kaitlin Dore, the animal control officer of potential pig activity: hoof prints, digging and trenching at the Lily Pond water station.

Local hunter Clinton Fisher arrived on the scene with grain, corn husks and belly scratches for Snowdrop. Then Mr. Fisher roped the pig, who kept trying to escape, according to Ms. Nevin.

Ms. Nevin's sister brought more grain for Snowdrop, and Julie and Laine Scott of Slough Farm showed up with a trailer. The team hogtied the 250-pound pig and pulled him into the trailer.

At 9 p.m., the impromptu team had completed their rescue mission and Snowdrop was safely in the trailer, where he spent the night parked at Slough Farm.

When he arrived home the next morning, he ran straight into his pen, said Ms. Nevin.

Snowdrop was dehydrated, tired and covered in ticks, but otherwise okay, she said. The real trouble began when he returned his pen, and his brothers chased him around, nicking him with a tusk — it got Shakespearean, she said.

"He did not receive a hero's welcome from his brothers, they were really horribly mean to him," said Ms. Nevin. "But they're all sleeping now, and everything's calmed down. A happy return and an amazing joint effort."

Ms. Nevin said she thinks Snowdrop was hanging out all August in the marshes and streams of Caroline Tuthill Preserve near Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road.

"All of these people on Facebook are saying stuff like, 'I would go off the grid in August too! Smart pig, running away to the woods,'" she said.



*Katrina Nevin*

**Pig on the lam no more.**

# Chilmark Preschool Opens Its Doors

By HALEY SANDLOW

The Chilmark community got its first glimpse of the new Chilmark Preschool last week ahead of the start of the school year.

The school staff invited donors, government officials and community members to join them in a ribbon-cutting ceremony on August 27 to celebrate the $4.6 million building project's completion. This is the first time the school has had its own dedicated building.

The extra space will allow the school to have up to 38 children, including, for the first time, toddlers. There are 18 toddlers enrolled for the upcoming year, and the preschool is welcoming five new teachers as well, according to school officials.

The preschool program began in 2005 with the goal of providing affordable childcare and boosting enrollment at the Chilmark School. The nonprofit ran for 20 years out of a leased classroom at the elementary school.

The student populations at both the preschool and Chilmark School soared, and the organization began to work with the town to lease a space for its own building.

Chilmark voters approved the construction of a new preschool on town land at the annual town meeting in 2023. In June 2025, the new preschool broke ground.

"The preschool now has its own home, giving the last classroom back so the elementary school can meet the needs of its own growing population, and generations of Island children have had access to a magical essential education at the Chilmark Preschool," Rebekah Thomson, a member of the Board of Friends of the Chilmark Preschool, said at the ceremony.

Deirdre Bohan, CEO of South Mountain Company, which constructed the building, reflected on what preschool is to children and their parents.

"Preschools are a world of their own" she said. "It's a vulnerable time for a parent, and it's such a relief to have somebody who's seen everything before, knows what's important, knows what you can let go, and they're even there to disentangle you in the mornings from your child. In our house, we used to call that the octopus moment."

"That's extra special to have that moment where you are creating for the next generation," she continued. "We're proud of our part in it."

The cedar shingle building has two classrooms on opposite ends, as well as a kitchen and an office. The school has developmentally appropriate bathrooms and is all ready for its students with rugs, toys, whiteboards and tiny tables and chairs.

The first day of preschool is Sept. 8. There are 35 children currently enrolled.



*Ray Ewing*

**Ribbon-cutting ceremony took place on August 27.**

# Short-Term Rental Bylaw Heads To Oak Bluffs Town Meeting

By EMMA KILBRIDE

Oak Bluffs is once again considering a new bylaw to allow and regulate short-term rentals in town.

At a meeting last week, the Oak Bluffs select board voted to bring a short-term rental bylaw to a special town meeting in December. The draft bylaw names short-term rentals as a permitted property use, requires registration of the rentals with both the state and the town, and allows the town to implement a registration fee if it chooses.

Short-term rentals, hosted on platforms such as Airbnb and Vrbo, are not currently prohibited by any Oak Bluffs bylaw, but they are also not explicitly allowed — an omission that can cause legal snags if not addressed. That's what happened on Nantucket, where both the town and property owners ended up in court after short-term rentals showed up without a bylaw backing them as a legal property use. Nantucket voted last year to approve short-term rentals, a decision the Attorney General upheld in May.

Over the past several months, Oak Bluffs officials have been convening a short-term rental working group to hammer out the proposed regulations. Other provisions include a maximum overnight occupancy, a ban on renting multiple rooms in a house on a short-term basis unless the owner is present, and a way for the town to address health and safety violations at rentals.

"The committee's goal for the bylaw was to present a clear set of guardrails to protect the landlord, the tenant, and the town," said select board and short-term rental committee member Bill Cleary.

Mr. Cleary said the committee wanted to give the town the flexibility to introduce a registration fee in the future, but decided not to require fees or inspections, given the state's increasing involvement in short-term rental regulations. The state began requiring registration in 2019; some towns have included their own municipal registration as well.

The town planned to propose a short-term rental bylaw at town meeting in April but made a last-minute decision to pull it from the warrant, stating that it wasn't yet ready for public consideration.

The previous version of the bylaw required owners to reside in their properties for at least 30 days a year and banned a single owner from operating more than one short-term rental at a time to block corporations from buying up properties. Those provisions are absent from the version the board approved for town meeting last week.

On Tuesday, Mr. Clearey said the definition of "owner" included in the bylaw currently being considered is designed to cut out corporations from renting.

"It has to be a natural person, not a corporation," he said.

The bylaw also limits rental occupancy to two people per bedroom, plus two additional people.

Other Island towns have taken up the issue of regulating short-term rentals. In 2024, West Tisbury implemented a bylaw requiring that owners register their rentals, occupy them for part of the year and only operate one at a time. Chilmark, like Oak Bluffs, tabled a bylaw allowing short-term rentals at town meeting in April.

Oak Bluffs special town meeting takes place on Dec. 1.

# IN VINEYARD SKIES

| | Sunrise | Sunset |
|---|---|---|
| Fri., Sept. 4 | 6:10 | 7:10 |
| Sat., Sept. 5 | 6:11 | 7:08 |
| Sun., Sept. 6 | 6:12 | 7:07 |
| Mon., Sept. 7 | 6:13 | 7:05 |
| Tues., Sept. 9 | 6:14 | 7:03 |
| Wed., Sept. 10 | 6:15 | 7:02 |
| Thurs., Sept. 11 | 6:16 | 7:00 |
| Fri., Sept. 12 | 6:17 | 6:58 |

**Moon, Mars and Jupiter**

If you are up really early in the morning, you've got a chance to see two bright planets in the eastern sky. Both the planets Mars and Jupiter are in the zodiacal constellation Gemini right now. On Monday, well after 1 a.m. you will be able to see the waning crescent moon nearest the bright Mars, a red planet. The moon is enroute to visiting with the even brighter planet Jupiter and that can be seen on Tuesday morning.

The time to look on both mornings is at least by 4 a.m. Gemini is a constellation we associate with the coldest period of the year, winter. Right now you can see it well before sunrise. It rises in the East with the old favorite constellation Orion, another winter constellation.

Just for comparison. If you look at these two constellations at 4 a.m. in the morning, you'll get an advance view of what they will look like at 8 p.m. around Christmas time.

**Last Quarter Sept. 4**

**First Quarter Sept. 18**

**New Moon Sept. 10**

**Full Moon Sept. 26**

**Temperature:**

| Day | Max. Fº | Min. Fº | Precip. Inches. |
|---|---|---|---|
| August 28 | 81 | 68 | 0.00 |
| August 29 | 83 | 66 | 0.00 |
| August 30 | 75 | 58 | 0.00 |
| August 31 | 81 | 65 | 0.00 |
| Sept. 1 | 77 | 64 | T |
| Sept. 2 | 71 | 59 | 0.22 |
| Sept. 3 | 75 | 62 | 0.64 |

Water temperature in Edgartown harbor: 70º

## Record of Cases Heard in Edgartown District Court

**August 27**

Jaimeson Rushlow, 28, of Pawtucket, RI, was arraigned on August 26 charges in Oak Bluffs of operating under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license and speeding. His bail was set at $500 and he has a pretrial hearing on Oct. 2.

**August 28**

Chesley A. Wiseman, 36, of Oak Bluffs, was arraigned on August 28 charges in Oak Bluffs of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and possession of an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle. She was released on personal recognizance and has a pretrial hearing on Sept. 28.

Maria T. Rodriguez, 49, of Boston, was arraigned on an August 25 charge in Tisbury of assault and battery on a family or household member. Her bail was set at $500 and she has a pretrial hearing on Oct. 2.

Jordan Phillips, 28, of Canton, was arraigned on August 28 charges in Edgartown of assault and battery on a family or household member, and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. She was released on personal recognizance and has a pretrial hearing on Oct. 30.

**Carry In Carry Out**

Remember to keep Island beaches clean. Leave only footprints behind.

## Recent Island Real Estate Transactions

**Chilmark**

Kristen C. Castree and Timothy P. Castree purchased 300 North Road and 18 Belhaven Way in Chilmark from 300 Shanthi Road Trust and Jeffrey S. Cooper Trust for $2,800,000 on August 27.

Ridge Hill Properties MV LLC. Purchased 9 Ridge Hill Road in Chilmark from James T. Curtis Individual & Trust and RHR Five Realty Trust for $5,800,000 on August 27.

Edgartown

Elizabeth Lind Danziger purchased 12 Plantingfield Way in Edgartown from Bryan M. McDonald and Anne K. McDonald for $3,600,000 on August 24.

Karen D. Burke Trust and 61 Butlers Cove Road Realty Trust purchased 61 Butlers Cove Road in Edgartown from Beach Farm LLC. and Cynthia G. Wansiewicz Trust for $27,000,000 on August 27.

Lawrence F. DePaulis and Debra D. DePaulis purchased 62 North Summer street in Edgartown from Sharon Rosenfeld Scott for $5,700,000 on August 27.

**Vineyard Haven**

Nicole M. Absar purchased 200 Sandpiper Lane, Unit 12 in Vineyard Haven from Judith G. Barron Revocable Trust of July 26 2007, Judith G. Barron Trust and Howard Barron Trust for $850,000 on

## Welcome Dahlia

Velemira and Robert Stajbl, of Edgartown, announce the birth of a daughter, Dahlia Joy Stajbl, born on August 31 at the Martha's Vineyard Hospital. Dahlia weighed 8 pounds, 3.2 ounces at birth.

## Oscar Arrives

Valentina Globa and Keith Reynolds, of West Tisbury, announce the birth of a son, Oscar Keith Reynolds, born on August 26 at the Martha's Vineyard Hospital. Oscar weighed 8 pounds, 9 ounces at birth.


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| Departure Dates | Depart Falmouth | Depart Oak Bluffs |
|---|---|---|
| Mon - Fri | 4:00 a.m. | 4:30 a.m. |
| Mon - Fri | 5:45 a.m. | 6:15 a.m. |
| Mon - Fri | 7:15 a.m. | 7:45 a.m. |
| Mon - Fri | 8:45 a.m. | 9:15 a.m. |
| Mon - Fri | 10:30 a.m. | 11:15 a.m. |
| Mon - Fri | 1:30 p.m | 2:00 p.m. |
| Mon - Fri | 3:00 p.m. | 3:30 p.m. |
| Mon - Fri | 4:30 p.m. | 5:00 p.m. |

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RATES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Residential** | July 2026 - January 2027 | 16.580 cents/kWh |
| | January 2026 - July 2026 | 14.064 cents/kWh |
| **Commercial** | July 2026 - January 2027 | 16.466 cents/kWh |
| | January 2026 - July 2026 | 14.185 cents/kWh |
| **Industrial** | October 2026 - January 2027 | 20.464 cents/kWh |
| | July 2026 - October 2026 | 11.548 cents/kWh |

**Renewable Energy Content (% of total):**
Required: 69%
Voluntary Class I: 1%
Voluntary National Wind/Solar: 30%
Total: 100%

If your electric bill lists NextEra Energy Services next to supplier, you are participating in Cape Light Compact's power supply program along with over 70% of Cape and Vineyard electric customers. **Customers may enroll or opt-out of the Compact's supply without penalty by calling 1-800-381-9192.**

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Recycling Now

Editors, Vineyard Gazette;

We all know that our Island is very fragile, so I wonder why there aren't recycling bins all over the Island. Those of us who live here are careful about what we throw away, recycle, and return. Plastic bags are no longer used by grocery stores, but I've gone to the Oak Bluffs post office many times and the trash barrels in front are overflowing with plastic bottles, etc.

Can it be so hard to put out recycling bins? It would help save our Island from so much plastic going into landfills.

Jessica L. Andrews
Oak Bluffs, Tucson, AZ

### Summer Reading

Editors, Vineyard Gazette;

This summer, 464 children signed up for the Edgartown Public Library's summer reading program, collectively reading thousands of books and spending countless hours immersed in stories. Since its inception many decades ago, the program has aimed to foster a lifelong love of reading. We're incredibly grateful to the Friends of the Edgartown Public Library and to three local businesses — Edgartown Pizza, Edgartown Meat & Fish, and Great Harbor Market and Depot Corner — for supporting the program this year.

In addition to receiving a summer reading T-shirt featuring this year's theme Unearth a Story, participants had the opportunity to redeem coupons for treats at these local businesses. These rewards brought so much excitement to our young readers while recognizing their dedication to reading throughout the summer. The generosity of local small businesses makes programs like this possible, and we're deeply grateful for their support.

Rachel Schubert,
Children and teens librarian, Edgartown Public Library

### SSA Burdens

Editors, Vineyard Gazette;

Like most Island residents, we are deeply concerned by the recent proposal to increase fares. While the Steamship Authority argues that these increases are necessary to subsidize excursion fares, it is impossible to ignore a pattern of costly mismanagement that has placed an unnecessary burden on those who rely on the SSA most.

Consider just three major projects from recent years:

The Woods Hole terminal building project has ballooned to more than $39 million, with an additional $9.8 million anticipated before completion.

The three Offshore Supply Vessels (OSVs), originally budgeted at $47.6 million, ultimately cost $87.5 million and are already requiring expensive repairs.

The failed website project, highlighted in the Inspector General's report released last December, consumed significant resources before being abandoned. We are currently reviewing the costs associated with the replacement reservation system and fear that project may follow a similar pattern of overruns.

These are not isolated incidents. They represent tens of millions of dollars in overruns, poor planning and questionable decision-making. While some grant funding has offset a portion of these costs, the reality is that the majority ultimately falls on the backs of SSA customers through higher fares and fees.

Why should Islanders believe things will be different this time? The port council, whose responsibility includes financial oversight, has consistently failed to ask the difficult questions or demand accountability when projects veer dramatically off course. Meanwhile, members of the board continue to defend decisions that have clearly failed the ferry users. Without meaningful change in the composition and culture of both the port council and the board, there is little reason to expect different results.

In March, the board publicly committed to conducting "hot wash" reviews to examine what went wrong with these projects and identify lessons learned. Yet, months later, there has been no visible progress, no public reckoning and no evidence that meaningful reforms are underway. The "hot wash" reviews are not scheduled.

There are reasons for cautious optimism. New general manager Alex Kryska and Martha's Vineyard's newest board representative, Ted Gavin, bring fresh perspectives and the potential for positive change. But real reform will require more than new faces. It will require an honest acknowledgment of the serious fiscal mistakes made in recent years and a commitment to transparency, accountability, and better stewardship of public resources.

Islanders deserve a Steamship Authority that manages its finances as carefully as the families and businesses that depend on it every day.

The Steering Committee of the Steamship Authority Citizens' Action Group: Amy Cody, Margaret Hannemann, Alysha Norbury, Beth O'Connor, Nat Trumbull



*Tim Johnson*


## VINEYARD GAZETTE

*Martha's Vineyard's Newspaper for 179 Years*

*Established in 1846 A Journal of Island Life*

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Richard Reston and Mary Jo Reston
*Publishers 1988-2010*

Sally Fulton Reston and James Reston
*Publishers 1968-1988*

Elizabeth Bowie Hough and Henry Beetle Hough
*Publishers 1920-1965*


## *Networking*



*"Funny. The Vineyard is where I network, too!"*

# *The Loud Echo of the Empty Nest*

By BILL EVILLE

While making dinner, I reach for the salad bowl, the one we've been using for 22 years. It sits on the kitchen table where it always does — sometimes empty, sometimes filled with fruit or onions, garlic and other assorted vegetables.

The salad bowl is made of a dark wood, nothing fancy, but a part of our lives nearly every night at dinner, resting at the center of activity until reached for to finish the meal.

I turn to my wife, Cathlin.

"I don't think this thing works anymore. It's too big," I say.

Cathlin nods and hands me a much smaller bowl, one fit for two people.

Dinner is a quiet affair, our first after dropping our daughter off at college. There is both too much to say and nothing at all to say. Even the dog seems at a loss for words, looking at us from his spot on the couch, then turning to gaze out the window.

Four years ago we dropped our son off at college, and the return home felt odd and wrong, as if we had forgotten something but couldn't put our finger on it. But the house was still loud, our daughter and her friends saw to that, and there was always so much to do as parents of a high schooler. There is a different finality, however, to the empty nest, a term I have quickly come to dislike, as the nest is not empty. Cathlin and I are still here, along with the dog. And yet the house does feel empty, but it also feels crowded — with memories, with worries, with too much quiet and too much free time.

I wander from room to room, feeling sad but also guilty about my sadness. After all, this is an achievement, launching a child to the next step of her life. Then I begin to see a glimpse of the larger issue. I have not only said goodbye to our daughter, I am saying goodbye to the dad I once was — a fellow I had grown to like quite a lot.

He was not perfect by any measure but he was the best version of myself I have ever known. Being a parent made me want to be better, not simply to do better as if it were a stretch of skill sets to acquire. No, I wanted to be a better person, and when I failed, I simply tried again because there was no other choice. And eventually I realized it was okay, this one step forward, two steps back existence, starting when our son was born, arriving into this world red faced and screaming, fingers outstretched like jazz hands. His sister's hello was the opposite, a serene look around, a deep breath, and then back to sleep.

Their goodbyes were flipped, our son running off to the next chapter with barely a backward glance, our daughter holding on to me as tightly as I held on to her.

So what comes next I wonder while wandering about the house, the dog following so closely that his wet nose keeps grazing my calf. The next morning I tell Cathlin I'm thinking of embracing a midlife crisis. She glances nervously at the liquor cabinet and I say, no, not some catastrophic version of myself.

"I want to become 10 years old again," I announce with a firmness that suggests this is actually possible. "I was content then, hardly needed a thing, and loved waking up each day."

"I often think I was the smartest I ever was at 10 years old," Cathlin responds, affirming this new potential portal we might try out together.

Then I notice our daughter's car keys and decide to add on a few more years so that I can at least drive. I head outside, walking past my car to my daughter's ride, an old junker we rescued from a near death in Aquinnah, abandoned by a seasonal owner but given new life by my daughter. I turn the key and am reminded of my own teenage car, a Pontiac Tempest with a V8 engine, and already I feel better, the dread of being a parent from afar shifting to one of excitement, speed and youth. The dog climbs in my lap and leans half his body out the window, his paws resting atop the side-view mirror. We pick up speed and his ears fly back in the wind and his nose quivers with a smorgasbord of smells the world is delivering to him.

Yes, I think, while putting in one of my daughter's CDs (Led Zeppelin) and pressing down on the accelerator, we are on to something, no more sad-sack dad to see here. But soon the dog announces he needs to pee and begin his morning walk. We park and I gather the leash and poop bags, my phone and reading glasses, feel a twinge in my knee and my lower back, and suddenly I feel ancient and sad again.

I try to stand up without grimacing and notice one of my daughter's friends waving at me. He is working his summer job, wearing the flourescent vest of a Menemsha parking attendent.

"I saw her car and I thought it might be her," he says.

"No, we dropped her off at college," I say. "I'm just driving her car because, well, because of a lot of things."

"Yours broke down?" he asks.

I pause and almost confess to this teenager how driving my daughter's car and listening to her music makes me miss her both less and more, which somehow feels right, but decide against it and just nod.

"Yeah, mine's a total mess," I say. "I think I'll have to drive her car for a long time."

When I get back home, I see there are several texts from my daughter.

"Dad," she writes. "I hear you are driving my car. What gives?"

I am about to call her to try and explain everything I am thinking and feeling. But instead, I reach for a pad and pencil and write her this essay.

# *A Mecca for Creating a Beloved Community*

By BRENDA M. GREENE, PhD

As I reflect on the experiences I have had on Martha's Vineyard this summer, I am reminded of Dr. Martin Luther King's statement that we need to create a "Beloved Community." The Vineyard is doing just that. It is home to generations of Black families who have built communities and safe spaces for their families and loved ones, and who have accumulated the resources needed to create this "Beloved Community."

The Vineyard has become a mecca for Black educators, civic officials, lawyers, doctors, entrepreneurs, artists, writers and elected officials. My summer was highlighted by attending and participating in numerous talks and educational forums by these leaders, from a discussion of the documentary Belonging Beyond Brown produced by the Morehouse Center for Excellence in Education, to the Charles Ogletree Forum: Truth Under Fire, Defending Black Woman Journalists, and Freedom of the Press, and many more.

I also helped organize a forum called Liberation through Literacy, presented by the Committee for Literacy & the Friends of Black Literature, Research, Culture & the Arts, Inc.

Dr. Nina Gilbert, the executive director of the Morehouse Center for Excellence in Education, is the co-director of the Belonging Beyond Brown documentary, which I feel should be viewed by all those involved with educating Black youth. Through emotional and stirring interviews with students, teachers and community leaders, it explores the origins, impact and results of the Brown vs. Board of Education 1954 Supreme Court decision.

Although the decision declared racial segregation in public schools unconstitutional and overturned the separate but equal document, Brown vs. the Board of Education did not end segregation, underfunded schools and inequity in education. In fact, it eliminated the jobs of many Black teachers and deprived students of having role models in their classrooms, and teachers who valued and uplifted them. Viewers will come away from this documentary understanding the need to create environments that provide young people with their history, role models and strategies for developing and exercising leadership skills in a society constructed by race.

Truth Under Fire was one of the most riveting forums I attended. Rehema Ellis moderated a discussion with Joy-Ann Reid, April Ryan, Errin Haines and Christina Greer that shed light on the scrutiny, threats and attacks faced by Black women journalists. The speakers underscored the lack of integrity that has surfaced as a result of the current presidential administration's coordinated war against the press. Journalists are concerned for this country, and in their view the media and newsrooms have been complicit in the administration's silencing of voices and normalization of attacks on Black journalists.

In this year's Hutchins Forum, professor Melissa Murray unpacked the immediate impact of the Louisiana vs. Callais Supreme Court decision that eviscerated Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. Republican controlled states immediately led efforts in partisan gerrymandering, and Republican lawmakers and the Trump administration have attempted to suppress the vote. The fight against this erosion of our democracy is ongoing.


*Hailey McLaughlin*
**Charles Ogletree forum events were held at Union Chapel this summer.**

As part of the Call-to-Action literacy forum, I moderated a conversation with Professor Kimberlé Crenshaw and NAACP NY state president L. Joy Williams. They shared their origin stories and how they had been raised in environments that emphasized the importance and value of being change agents and servant leaders in their communities and public spaces. Their parents, church communities and schools had emphasized this.

Distinguished Princeton University professor of African American studies Eddie S. Glaude Jr. reminds us in his book, We Are the Leaders We Have Been Looking For, that the time is now for the people to take action in creating a more just and democratic community. Martha's Vineyard continues to be a natural space for embracing this belief and practice.

*Brenda M. Greene, PhD, is an author, professor emerita, and founder and executive director emerita of the Center for Black Literature at Medgar Evers College, CUNY.*

## THE GAZETTE CHRONICLE

### School Bell

From the September 3, 1929 edition of the Vineyard Gazette:

The opening of schools, now at hand, is quite different from the opening of schools on the Vineyard half a century ago. Just how different schools used to be is difficult for one of the present generation to realize, even though he may have listened to the reminiscences of real old timers about their school days. In addition to these reminiscences, we have some bits of documentary evidence to show what was thought and done about schools years ago. Such a piece of evidence is an old report of the Tisbury school committee for the year 1859-60 which has chanced to be preserved by an Island resident.

The report starts with a statistical table, giving the names of teachers and their salaries. One discovers that J. B. Everitt taught 47 pupils for a term of 5 months for a remuneration of $280. This salary, however, was the highest paid by the town, Mr. Everitt being the principal of the Holmes Hole South school. Other teachers at the school were A. Judson Gray, 89 pupils, $205; Miss Alice B. Merry, 89 pupils, $100; Miss Lydia Weeks, 65 pupils, $90; and Serene Daggett, 65 pupils, $90. F. W. Wing taught 35 pupils in the Holmes Hole North school for $220. Other schools were taken as follows: Northeast, Horatio Norton, 10 pupils, $105; Lambert's Cove, Miss R. H. Nickerson, 47 pupils, $123; Northwest, Thurston W. Tilton, 53 pupils, $190. Miss R. H. Nickerson and Miss Eleanor Allen taught the South school for 2 and 3 months, respectively for $75 and $50. There were some 40 odd pupils. The Southeast school was taught by Miss Mary M. Athearn who had 9 pupils and received $62.

The total amount of money raised by the town for the support of schools was $1,500, to which was added the sum of $83.37 received from the state.

All this information out of the way on a single page of the report, the school committee launched at once into an earnest and at times highly oratorical discussion of Reading, Pronunciation, Spelling and education in general. The earnestness with which the committeemen tackle these matters leaves no doubt of what seemed to them to have paramount importance.

The section of the report devoted to Reading begins with general definitions, rather involved. Then there is this passage, a fair sample of the whole:

"One great fault that the committee have noticed is the manner which usually prevails in teaching children to read. Good reading is to be regarded as the most important branch of education. It is, indeed, a great accomplishment, and youth is the time and the common school is the place for acquiring it...The teacher should not permit a single sentence to be passed over till each scholar is able to read it correctly — observing every pause, emphatic word, and inflection aright; and the correct pronunciation of the words."

One gathers that the committee had strict ideas and would not permit anything to be easy. On the subject of Spelling we read:

"The main reason why some scholars do not learn to spell correctly is that the consequences are about the same to them whether they spell right or wrong. Now, this is a wide departure from all the laws of Nature, which invariably attach some inconvenience or suffering to error. If the lesson assigned be appropriate to the scholar's' capacity; then the erroneous spelling of a word betrays a neglect in the studying of it on the part of the scholar, and this neglect should be followed by some substantial inconvenience. Let him write the missed words upon the blackboard, or enter them in a book and carry it in his pocket, so he may have the correct spelling somewhere about him, till he secure a place for it in his head, and expunge them as fast as he finds a place for them in his mind."

Clearly, here is an able exposition of the pedagogical theory of our grandparents.

But the climax of the school report is a flight of language so grandiose and lofty that one cannot fail to be affected by it.

"As a plentiful supply of pure water is valuable to a community, infinitely more so is the instruction of the common school; for it is the fountain at which the mind drinks, is refreshed and strengthened by its career of future usefulness. The immortal, imperial mind beards no mark of high or low, rich or poor. It heeds not the bound of time or place, or rank or circumstance. It requires but freedom and light. Weakness does not enfeeble it; nor poverty repress it. Antagonism does but stimulate its vigor, and the poor tallow chandler's son, that sits up all night to read the book which an apprentice lends him, shall stand and rest with kings; shall add new provinces to the domain of science; shall bind the lightning with a hempen cord and bring it harmless from the clouds."

The school committee which raised this glorious standard for the young of Tisbury in the year 1859 had as members M. P. Butler, Edmund Cottle and D. A. Cleaveland.

*Compiled by Hilary Wallcox*
*library@vineyardgazette.com*

# Seastreak Ponders Year-Round Service Again

*From Page One*

Seastreak service to the Vineyard is currently scheduled to end Oct. 12.

Offshore Tug Transportation, which has two former Steamship Authority freight boats in its fleet, already holds an authority license to ship to and from Nantucket and recently inquired about expanding to the Vineyard.

"We're going to be looking at the actual need for that because we already have 41 North and there's also Packer," Mr. Kryska said, naming the two marine transportation firms currently serving the Island.

"Obviously, we want to make sure that we protect [41 North Offshore and R.M. Packer], but we definitely have to take a serious look at that licensing for OTT," he said.

The Steamship Authority governing board is expected to take up both licensing requests at its Sept. 15 meeting in Nantucket.

Also on Tuesday, Oak Bluffs port council member Joe Sollitto questioned Steamship Authority staff on why 50 arrivals and 50 departures were diverted from Oak Bluffs to Vineyard Haven in July, a month in which no trips were cancelled due to weather.

"Why, if the weather wasn't that bad, was it worse three miles over in Oak Bluffs than it was in Vineyard Haven?" asked Mr. Sollitto, who has spoken out more than once on the financial cost to Oak Bluffs merchants when ferries are diverted.

Chief operating officer Mark Amundsen said ferry captains make the decision to divert when sea conditions threaten a dangerous landing.

"When we have swells coming from a specific direction, it is unsafe to discharge at the transfer bridge," Mr. Amundsen said.




*Ray Ewing*

**Off-season Seastreak service did not see much demand previously.**

A powerful current from the wrong angle can lift a ferry by the stern and create potentially catastrophic instability, he said.

"The vessel will actually be going up and down at the transfer bridge. And if that breaks away, then we could have a serious incident," he said.

All of the Steamship Authority ferries are equally affected by the problem, Mr. Amundsen said.

The authority is preparing to add additional bollards at the landing slip to provide more tie-in points for docking and undocking, he said.

"It's going to give more confidence to the crew that they're able to be stable inside the transfer bridge," Mr. Amundsen said.

Mr. Sollitto also called for the Steamship Authority to restore its standby service for same-day travelers, saying the Blue Line for Island drivers hasn't been a success.

Mr. Kryska was willing to consider the suggestion.

"There are challenges with that, but I think your suggestion is warranted for us to look at, possibly doing it Tuesday through Thursday [or] Monday through Thursday," he said.

The next round of public sessions on the Steamship Authority's new reservations system is coming up, Mr. Amundsen said.

On Sept. 17 at the Martha's Vineyard Film Center in Vineyard Haven, the authority will hold a meeting for shippers from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., followed by a meeting for the general public from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The new system's testing phase is taking longer than expected, Mr. Amundsen said, and the program now is expected to roll out early next year instead of in 2026.

The Steamship Authority and its contractors are focusing their resources on getting it done, he said.

"It's all hands on deck," Mr. Amundsen said.

That includes pulling in managers and staff from other departments, Mr. Kryska said, to make sure the testing and training is as rigorous as possible.

"We're definitely adding more and more people, and hiring former employees to come and help as well," he said.

# School Year Begins With New Leaders

*From Page One*

"My job is to come in and learn about that."

Each of the seven Vineyard schools are expecting changes at the start of the new year, whether it be from fluctuating enrollment to new programs.

In Tisbury, principal John Custer said he has one of the largest kindergarten classes in recent memory with 40 students. That has forced the school to increase the number of kindergarten classrooms, a rarity during Mr. Custer's nearly two decades as principal.

"We will have three kindergarten homerooms," he said. "This is only the second time we've had to carve out a third section for any grade level."

After years of teaching students in trailers, the Tisbury school staff has started to get comfortable in their new school building, which was totally redone and reopened in 2024.

"We are going into our third year with this beautiful building," Mr. Custer said. "It feels really good to be settled."

Infrastructure improvements is a common thread across many schools.

The Chilmark School staff are ready to move back to their well water after PFAS was discovered in the water in 2025. The school had been running on bottled water ever since, but had a new filtration system installed over the summer that was inspected by the state last week. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection still needs a final sign off, but it should be ready for the beginning of the year, said principal Kate Squire.

The Chilmark Preschool also opened its new school, which has freed up space within the elementary school.

The Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School has added a new project room, a 224-square foot space, and new offices to deal with a space crunch at the West Tisbury campus.

One potential use for the project room could be as a practice area for the strings music program, which currently rehearses outside.

"They will give us more flexibility to do the things we know we need to do," said Mr. Nace.

In Oak Bluffs, principal Jeremy Light was celebrating the installation of a new boiler. While that may not sound exciting, Mr. Light said getting the essentials of a building right helps education overall.

"One room would be 60 degrees and the other would be 80," he said.

Mr. Light was also eager to welcome the school's first ever resource officer, Julia Levesque. A police officer with Oak Bluffs, Ms. Levesque will be in the school full-time. Mr. Light credited the addition to Oak Bluffs police Chief Jonathan Searle.

Ms. Levesque will be at the school for safety in the building, as well as educating students, according to Mr. Light.

"I plan to have her in the classrooms to talk bike safety and pedestrian safety," he said. "Having her here to educate them, that's something that I really hope helps our community."

Other principals also highlighted new hires. Sarah Karlinsky is starting out as the new librarian at the West Tisbury School, and is bringing a redesign to the library there. Scott Golden is the Edgartown School's first director of student success. In the new position, Mr. Golden will support teachers and students to ensure students excel in school, whether it be academically or socially.

"It supports students to be their best selves," said principal Kate Campbell.

Several of the educators who spoke with the Gazette said that programming changes are also on the horizon.

Chilmark, for instance, is moving away from its traditional multi-grade classrooms this year — a decision which caused some concern from some members of the community.

Only kindergarten and 5th grade were single grade classrooms in recent years, but that practice is now extending to all grades with educational standards becoming stricter and enrollment up. Students would often have to shuffle around for English and math class, leaving students unsettled during the day.

"We are really going to be able to focus on extending time on learning," Ms. Squire said. "It was becoming performative and that didn't feel like it was right for the kids."

The Chilmark School is also bringing Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) education department director Brad Lopes to help integrate Indigenous history into the curriculum there.

Schools are also rethinking how they deploy technology in the classroom. Educators said that the use of computers and other devices during the school day has become so ubiquitous that many are considering ways to dial it back.

The regional high school is continuing its "Away for the Day" policy where students' phones are secured in locked pouches. At the West Tisbury School, teachers have stopped giving students their own computers for classes, and the school is adding more programs that allow students to choose what they do during down times during the day.

"We have been really focusing on how to look at more opportunities to share things they want to do and do that in the school day," said principal Donna Lowell-Bettencourt.



*Pictures by Ray Ewing*

**Superintendent Jaime Curley.**

The idea is that students will be more likely to interact with each other, and less with screens.

"One of the things we are going to do is move away from screens as much as we can," Ms. Lowell-Bettencourt said. "It's really an attempt to get back to more face to face, pen and pencil."

The elementary schools are also all now using the same English curriculum, with students in all the towns reading the same materials. This was enacted last year, according to Superintendent Curley, in an effort to standardize and help students who move from school to school.

"We're excited to carry that forward into year two," she said.

The biggest change for any of the schools is one that won't be felt this year, but will be in the planning stages.

Officials are working on nailing down the plans for an overhaul of the regional high school building after voters approved $333.5 million in June.

Bryan Lombardi, who went through the school building process when he was at Stoneham, said that construction could start in the spring of 2027. He said he was determined to help students thrive, even as the building is being torn down and then rebuilt around them.

"They are laying out the phases and what they are trying to do is be as least disruptive to our environment as possible," Mr. Lombardi said.




**A movement for less screen time is in the works.**

# Mysterious Bite Thought to Be From a Shark

*From Page One*

"Normally, in these cases we try to talk to anyone involved," said Greg Skomal, a renowned state marine biologist.

He has put out several inquiries, but hasn't heard much back.

"We are very much interested," he said. "It would be great if they reached out to us."

Sharks are regularly found around the Cape and Islands, including sandbar sharks, sand tiger sharks and great whites, though great whites are more often spotted off Cape Cod than the Vineyard.

Mike Creato, the pilot who takes sightseers up in his signature red biplane out of the Katama Airfield, regularly flies over the area where the woman was swimming. The most common shark he sees are sandbar sharks, which are also known as brown sharks.

Sandbar sharks generally aren't considered dangerous to humans, though they could bite someone if they are threatened.

"They aren't huge," Mr. Creato said. "If they do bite someone, it's an accident."

The only other bite on the Vineyard that Mr. Skomal could recall was in the late 1980s, when he was called to the hospital by a doctor for a sandbar shark bite. In that instance, the shark had been caught by an angler, and his friend grabbed the shark by the tail. The shark then whipped around and bit him in the calf.

"That does happen," Mr. Skomal said.

White sharks typically move through Vineyard waters in the early summer and fall as they migrate to and from the Cape, where there are large colonies of seals.

Mr. Creato said it is rare for him to see great whites around the Island.

"A lot of the time we are able to see, and most of the time we don't see anything there," he said. "This year I saw one, for sure, great white, probably 150 feet away from the beach."

If he does see them off the Vineyard, the sharks are two to three miles from shore at a sandy area off Wasque where there are seals.

"I think everyone has the idea that they are marauding right off shore," he said.

There have been no documented shark bites since Arthur Medici was fatally bitten eight years ago while boogie boarding off Newcomb Hollow Beach, a stretch of sand on the Atlantic Ocean side of Wellfleet. With the growing shark population in New England, Mr. Skomal said that is evidence that bites don't happen very often.

"That's a testament that these animals make mistakes very rarely," he said, implying that humans are not their desired prey.

Without seeing pictures of the wound, or knowing the water depth, turbidity, conditions and exact location, it's hard for the biologist to guess what happened. Based on the information he has now, it likely was a bottom swimming shark that perhaps was bumped into by a swimmer.

"They don't have hands and they can't feel so they use their mouths to test," he said.

Beach managers have shut down swimming in other parts of the Island this season.

Chilmark closed Lucy Vincent and Squibnocket beach earlier in August after a large congregation of animals was spotted off the beach. Beach superintendent Martina Mastromonaco said the town received reports of sharks, but she couldn't tell for sure what lifeguards were seeing.

"My guards did see a lot of things out in the water swimming," she told the Gazette earlier this month. "It could have been a bunch of dolphins."

Though the bite from Monday could make swimmers think twice, Mr. Creato said he's still ready to go in the water. "I still swim," he said. "I admit, I might think about it."

# Trip Barnes Moved Hearts, Minds and Islanders

*From Page One*

be the best at it," he recalled his father saying. "If you want to be a milkman, be the very best one you can be. Be the best truck driver you can be."

He took his father's words to heart and moved to the Vineyard, where his family had roots in Oak Bluffs and Chappaquiddick going back to the mid-1800s. He got a job at a dairy farm and then for Carroll's Trucking.

Driving trucks, it turned out, suited him well and he made it is life's work. For many Vineyarders, Clarence A. Barnes Moving and Storage became an integral part of their introduction to the Vineyard, as Trip helped pack up their lives from all over the country so they too could set down roots on the Island.

"I've moved everything and everyone, groceries to the Island, art across the country, fish to New Bedford," he said in the 2015 interview. "What can I say? I like going places, moving people."

And he always did it his way, not necessarily conforming to the rules, or even the rule of law.

"One family needed to get a piano out of their apartment on Fifth avenue, but had renovated the apartment since their piano had been moved in," he remembered in the 2015 interview. "We had to lower it out of a third story window, me sitting on the piano on the way down to make sure that it didn't smash a window or crash into the brick walls. The police were very nice and looked the other way on that one. Looking back, I think they just wanted me out of the city."

Mr. Barnes gave up drinking in 1989.

"I drank like a fish when I was seventeen," he said in a 2017 interview with the Martha's Vineyard Magazine. He went to Edgehill, an alcohol treatment center in Rhode Island at that time. "It worked. I went to ninety-six A.A. meetings in ninety days. I did everything you're supposed to do. I really overdid it when I got started - but I got started."

Then, in typical Trip style, he reached back to help others in the same situation.

"There'd been something called the Captain Silver House that had been a sober house, but it was long gone," he recalled in the Martha's Vineyard Magazine interview. "I knew the Island really needed one, so I started one over my office. Then one day I had a call about someone who was willing to put money into an Island sober house because her son was an alcoholic who needed help and she had money that could provide the help. We ended up getting $300,000 for a house in Eastville in the early '90s. I got together a couple of alcoholics to help clean up the place. We had 10 rooms and we decided to call it Vineyard House."



*Mark Alan Lovewell*

**Raising money with Chris Scott at Taste of the Vineyard.**

In addition to starting Vineyard House and continuing to raise money for the organization throughout his life, Mr. Barnes was a longtime member of the Martha's Vineyard Commission, and a key figure in the Vineyard Preservation Trust, Hospice of Martha's Vineyard, the ice arena, among many other essential Island institutions. He also took over auctioneering duties for the Martha's Vineyard Community Services' Possible Dreams fundraiser after Art Buchwald stepped down.

"I'm just passing on something I learned from someone else," he said in a 2002 interview with the Gazette. "I have no formal education. But I've read a lot and learned from other people. If you're nice to people, they learn to be nice back."

He also was instrumental in the Martha's Vineyard Agricultural Society, and when giving out scholarships to Vineyard high school students during class night at the Tabernacle, he often brought a live pig with him to the podium, in part to remind everyone of the Island's agrarian roots, and because it was a lot of fun.

"I never wanted to live anywhere else," he said of his Vineyard life. "I've been to every state in the Union except Hawaii probably five times and maybe more, and they're all fun to visit, and I've even wanted to go back to one or two of them, but this is where I live and I love the people here and I love the Island."

Mr. Barnes is survived by his partner Joan, sister Susan, daughter Elizabeth and sons Mike and Clarence the 4th, and grandchildren Harrison, Henry and Ian.

Services and a celebration of life are planned for sometime in October.




*Wayne Smith*

**Trip in his Vineyard Haven headquarters.**

# High School Project Timeline Takes Shape

By LOUISA HUFSTADER

The $333.5 million Martha's Vineyard Regional High School renovation and addition will begin next June and finish in the spring of 2030, according to a timeline presented by project management firm W.T. Rich at a meeting of the high school building committee Tuesday night.

As soon as classes are done for the year in 2027, contractors will begin stockpiling and staging their materials on campus for the first phase of construction, W.T. Rich manager Evan Moore said as he outlined the project schedule.

Safety fencing and emergency gates also will be installed to safeguard the project, which will see a new, two-story classroom building go up in front of the Martha's Vineyard Performing Arts Center.

"Our goal here, while we're constructing that new addition, is to minimize the impact to the entire school community," Mr. Moore said.

The theatre can remain open for part of next summer, he said, but the parking lot will be gone to make way for the new classroom wing and a two-story lobby connecting to the performing arts center.

The Island's largest indoor auditorium by hundreds of seats, the performing arts center is busy all year long and has become the summer home of the Martha's Vineyard African American Film Festival.

The high school committee will discuss whether it can accommodate the 2027 film festival at a public meeting on Sept. 14, committee member Amy Houghton said.

Mr. Moore cautioned that Oak Bluffs officials would also need to approve permits for the festival, if it goes ahead during the construction project.

When school resumes next fall, student parking will be on the east side of Sanderson Road and staff parking will be at the rear of the main campus on the west side of Sanderson.

Visitor parking will remain in front of the school until the final phase of the project in 2029-2030.

Mr. Moore said he will meet with principal Bryan Lombardi and other high school administrators to work out new bus and car routes for student drop-offs and pick-ups during construction.

Once the classroom building is completed, including its central courtyard and the two-story lobby linking it to the performing arts center, classes will move to the new wing in the fall of 2029, Mr. Moore said.



*Rendering Courtesy MVRHS*

**Building renovation is scheduled to begin in June 2027.**

Contractors then will demolish the oldest parts of the school and renovate the rest, bringing it up to current educational and building codes.

A new grass playing field will be installed at the western corner of Sanderson and Edgartown-Vineyard Haven roads, with a visitor parking lot behind it.

The sports field will have access to restrooms inside the school as well as a concession window, served from the culinary department's new kitchen.

The future school's final design is still being developed by Tappé Architects of Boston, whose other Island projects include the Tisbury School renovation and the Edgartown Public Library.

Based on schematic plans approved by the building committee last year, the Massachusetts School Building Authority has agreed to reimburse more than $71 million of the $333.5 million project cost.

In June, at an all-towns election that was the first of its kind on Martha's Vineyard, Islanders voted overwhelmingly to borrow the rest by raising property taxes for the next 30 years.

Lead architect Chris Sharkey told the building committee Tuesday that his design team, which includes fire safety and plumbing specialists, has been mapping the school's existing infrastructure.

"We're trying to focus in making sure that we're understanding and capturing all of the pieces that we need to know," Mr. Sharkey said.

The next step, he said, will be meetings with high school teachers.

"That's a two-day kind of blitz where we get to meet all the departments to understand some of the storage needs and all of that type of stuff that ends up in their classrooms," he said.

Mr. Lombardi, who was principal of Stoneham High School during its MSBA renovation and addition in 2022, 2023 and 2024, said he is planning a presentation for staffers to prepare them for the Tappé visit.

The school building committee meets next on Sept. 29. Plans and other information are posted at mvrhsbuildingproject.info.

# CALENDAR

Upcoming Vineyard Events
For the Week Ahead –
calendar.vineyardgazette.com

## Friday, Sept. 4

**Jaws at 50: An Island Story**, exhibit spotlighting Islanders whose work and creativity brought Jaws alive, Martha's Vineyard Museum, 151 Lagoon Pond Road, Vineyard Haven, daily, free, mvmuseum.org, 508-627-4441.

**Kayak and Paddle Board Quest**, a self-guided tour, Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary of Mass Audubon, 100 Felix Neck Drive, Edgartown, weekdays, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., massaudubon.org, 508-627-4850.

**Family Fishing**, equipment and supplies provided, Oak Bluffs Fishing Pier, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., oakbluffslibrary.org, 508-693-9433.

**First Friday Vineyard Haven**, an all-day event celebrating local art and food, Vineyard Haven Harbor Cultural District, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., free, firstfridayvh.com.

**Leo Convery: A Lifetime of Carvings**, wooden sculptures of striped bass, tuna, shorebirds and other familiar creatures of the Vineyard, The Carnegie, 58 North Water street, Edgartown, daily, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., free, vineyardtrust.org, 774-549-9107.

**Polly Hill Arboretum Staff-Led Botanical Spotlight Tour**, learn more about PHA on tour led by staff, The Polly Hill Arboretum, 795 State Road, West Tisbury, 10 to 11 a.m., free, pollyhillarboretum.org, 508-693-9426.

**Seashore Discovery**, Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary of Mass Audubon, 10 to 11:30 a.m., massaudubon.org, 508-627-4850.

**Alpaca Walk and Talk**, Island Alpaca 1 Head of the Pond Road, Oak Bluffs, daily, 10:30 to 11 a.m. and 2:30 to 3 p.m., $20 to $30, islandalpaca.com, 508-693-5554.

**Bubbles and Beyond: Outdoor Sensory Play**, bubble stations, water tables, kinetic sand and more, Edgartown Public Library, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., edgartownlibrary.assabetinteractive.com, 508-627-4221.

**Friday Kids Crafting**, for kids ages 3 and up, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Kids' Music Class, for ages 0 to 5, West Tisbury Public Library, 1042 State Road, West Tisbury, 10:30 to 11 a.m., free, westtisburylibrary.org, 508-693-3366.

**Seasonal Crafting**, for ages 3 to 11, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 56R School street, Oak Bluffs, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., free, oakbluffslibrary.org, 508-693-9433.

**Fault Lines**, group exhibition, Knowhere Art Gallery, 91 Dukes County avenue, Oak Bluffs, daily except for Monday and Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., knowhereart.com, 917-960-9344.

**Loïs Mailou Jones: Sphere of Influence**, group exhibition, Center of Knowhere, 73 Circuit avenue, Oak Bluffs, daily except Monday and Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., knowhereart.com, 917-960-9344.

**Maintaining Our Sovereignty**, a public history project that centers contemporary Aquinnah Wampanoag struggles for sovereignty in traditional territories, Aquinnah Cultural Center, 35 Aquinnah Circle, Aquinnah, daily except Monday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., aquinnah.org, 508-645-7900.

**Texture: Created and Found**, Art Exhibition, Martha's Vineyard Playhouse, 24 Church street, Vineyard Haven, daily except Sunday and Monday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., free, circuitarts.org.

**Toddler Time**, stories and songs, Chilmark Free Public Library, 522 South Road, Chilmark, 11 to 11:30 a.m., 508-645-3360.

**Friday Game Time at the Museum**, afternoon of board and card games in the museum's First Light Café, Martha's Vineyard Museum, 1 to 4 p.m., free, mvmuseum.org.

**The Bee's Knees**, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 2 to 3 p.m.

**Preventing Osteoporosis Through Early Diagnosis and Intervention**, public, interactive talk about bone health, West Tisbury Public Library, 2:30 to 5 p.m.

**Grace Church Lobster Roll Fundraiser**, chowder, hot dogs and pie slices also available. Grace Episcopal Church, 3 to 6 p.m., graceepiscopalmv.org, 508-360-0332.

**Author Talk — Numinosity: A New England Forester's Search for the Ineffable by Bob Perschel**, with Vineyard resident and professional forester Bob Perschel, Vineyard Haven Public Library, 200 Main street, Vineyard Haven, 4 p.m., free, vhpl.blogspot.com, 508-696-4211.

**Vineyard Artisans Labor Day Festival**, Agricultural Hall, 35 Panhandle Road, West Tisbury, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., vineyardartisans.com.

**Partner Dancing Class with Maria and Tad Lawcewicz**, registration is required, Edgartown Public Library, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

**Garden Tour with Patrick Best**, address given after registration, 6 to 7:15 p.m., $0-10, marthasvineyardagriculturalsociety.org, 508-693-9549.

**Magic the Gathering Gaming Group**, all skill levels welcome, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 6 to 9 p.m.

**Martha's Vineyard Jazz and Blues Summerfest**, Union Chapel, 55 Narragansett avenue, Oak Bluffs, 6 to 9 p.m., $50 and up, mvjazzbluessummerfest.com, 914-461-3454.

**Sunset Concert Series**, local artists every Friday, Trinity Park Tabernacle, 80 Trinity Park, Oak Bluffs, 6 to 7:30 p.m., mvcma.org.

**Ghosts, Gossip and Downright Scandal Walking Tours**, Edgartown, 7 to 8:15 p.m., $20, vinehistours.com, 508-627-2529, please text.

**Drive-In Movie: A Fish Called Wanda**, Martha's Vineyard Drive-In, 91 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road, Oak Bluffs, 7:15 p.m., suggested $40 per car, driveinmv.com, 508-696-6300.

## Saturday, Sept. 5

**MVSA Used Tackle Sale**, all proceeds go to MVRHS Scholarships and Martha's Vineyard veterans, MVRHS Parking Lot, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., mvsurfcasters.org, 508-560-3678.

**Foot It for Felix 5K**, scenic 5K trail run and walk fundraiser, Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary of Mass Audubon, 8:45 to 11 a.m.

**Chilmark Flea Market**, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., instagram.com, 508-645-3100.

**West Tisbury Farmers' Market**, rain or shine, Agricultural Hall, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., wtfmarket.org.

**Barnyard Buddies**, FARM Institute, 14 Aero avenue, Edgartown, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., $15 per member pair; $25 per non-member pair, tickets.thetrustees.org, 508-627-7007.

**Misty Meadows Saturday Pony Rides**, each child must be booked into a separate time slot for a ride, Misty Meadows Equine Learning Center, 55 Misty Meadows Lane, West Tisbury, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., $30, mistymeadowsmv.org, 508-338-7198.

**Art Exhibit: Steve London, Brian Kirkpatrick, Victor Pisini, Ed Schulman and MVAA members**, Old Sculpin Gallery, Martha's Vineyard Art Association, daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., oldsculpingallery.org, 508-939-4092.

**Saturday Storytime**, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 10:15 to 10:45 a.m.

**Storytime**, for ages 3 to 6, Chilmark Free Public Library, 11 to 11:30 a.m.

**Juliet Ehrlich's Bas Relief Sculpture Showroom**, painted clay reliefs, 123 Beach Road, Vineyard Haven, Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 6 p.m., julietehrlich.artspan.com.

**All Ages Chess Club**, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 2 to 3:30 p.m.

**Live Music: Chris Knott and Mixt**, West Tisbury Public Library, 2:30 to 4 p.m.

**Model Railroad Group**, West Tisbury Public Library, 3 p.m.

**Back Porch Trio**, harmonica rhythm blues, Bad Martha Farmer's Brewery, 270 Upper Main street, Edgartown, 4 to 6 p.m., free.

**Drive-In Movie: Hamilton**, Martha's Vineyard Drive-In, 7:15 p.m., suggested $40 per car.

**Haunted Edgartown**, spooky stories and ghostly vibes, Edgartown, 7:30 to 9 p.m., $30, hauntededgartown.com, 508-212-3035.

## Sunday, Sept. 6

**Oak Bluffs Open Market**, Washington Park, Chapman avenue, Oak Bluffs, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., free, 508-939-1076.

**Sunday Service Featuring Pastor Kevin Wayne Johnson**, Union Chapel, 10 a.m.

**Vineyard Artisans Festivals**, Grange Hall, 1067 State Road, West Tisbury, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., vineyardartisans.com.

**What is Unitarian Universalism by David Schwartz**, in person or online on Sunday, Unitarian Universalist Society of Martha's Vineyard, 10 a.m.

**Book Signing: And Now, Back to Me by Rita Lussier**, Edgartown Books, 44 Main street, Edgartown, 2 to 4 p.m.

**Sundays In The Park Concerts**, live music, Ocean Park, Ocean avenue, Oak Bluffs, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., free, 508-939-1076.

## Monday, Sept. 7

Afterschool Switch Club, kids 8 and 9 need caregiver in building, West Tisbury Public Library, 3 to 5 p.m.

**Beetlebung Farm Tour**, 410 Middle Road, Chilmark, 4 to 4:30 p.m., $5, beetlebungfarm.org.

**Blue Monday — The Back Porch Trio**, The Inkwell Beach Club, 7 to 9 p.m., free.

## Tuesday, Sept. 8

**Play Kitchen and Store**, for ages 2 to 6, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., free, oakbluffslibrary.org, 508-693-9433.

**Watercolor In Bloom Workshops with Lynn Hoeft**, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 1 to 4 p.m., $60.

**Basics of Metalsmithing with Liam McGorman**, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 3 to 6 p.m., $95.

**Creator Club**, a different hands-on craft each week, Edgartown Public Library, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

**Teen and Tween Drop-In Arts and Crafts Class**, West Tisbury Public Library, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

**Summer Lobster Rolls**, Chilmark Community Church, 9 Menemsha Crossroad, Chilmark, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., 508-645-3100.

**Knitting Group**, West Tisbury Public Library, 5 to 6 p.m.

**Table Tennis,** Tisbury Senior Center, 34 Pine Tree Road, Vineyard Haven, Tuesday and Thursday, 5 p.m.

**Bat and Moth Night**, Tashmoo Spring Building, 400 West Spring street, Vineyard Haven, 7 to 10 p.m., free.

**Virtual Literary Lecture Series: Gender Dramas with Professor Philip Weinstein**, explore themes of yearning and desire in three novels, 7 to 8:30 p.m., free, vhpl.blogspot.com, 508-696-4211.

*To Page Nine*

## Round the World



*Courtesy MVIFF*

### International Film Festival Begins

The Martha's Vineyard International Film Festival opens on Tuesday, Sept. 8, and continues through Sept. 13, offering six days of programming from around the world.

This is the 21st year for the festival, which arrives each September at the Film Center in Vineyard Haven at the end of another busy summer, with cinematic gifts and stories from off the beaten path.

This year's event includes 13 feature length films, and a series of short films.

The festival begins on Tuesday with Reading Lolita in Tehran, the screen adaptation of Azar Nafisi's memoir, and Filipinana, a suspenseful tale from the Philippines.

Wednesday's lineup includes Franz, a biopic of Franz Kafka directed by three-time Academy Award-nominated director Agnieszka Holland, and The Blue Trail from Brazil.

A celebratory party anchors Thursday night, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with food from Goldie's Rotisserie truck, and the film Calle Malaga from Spain screening at 7:30 p.m.

On Friday, the journey continues with Complaint No. 713317 from Egypt, Hanging by a Wire from Pakistan and the short film competition.

Life Is Life from Italy, My Father's Shadow from Nigeria and Sheep in the Box from Japan all screen on Saturday, and the final day's programming includes Colors of Time from France, Unidentified from Saudi Arabia and the Siege of Paradise from Italy, along with a closing party at The Wave.

For tickets and more information, visit mvfilmsociety.com.

-Bill Eville





Island Community Chorus

*Interested in singing with us?*

**Come to a New Member Information Session**

**Wednesday, September 9, 7:00 pm**
First Congregational Church of West Tisbury
1051 State Rd, West Tisbury

**Wednesday, September 16, 7:00 pm**
Edgartown Public Library
26 Edgartown-West Tisbury Rd, Edgartown

https://www.islandcommunitychorus.com
islandcommunitychorusmv@gmail.com

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Ray Ewing

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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| June 21 | Reverend Willie Bodrick II<br>Twelfth Baptist Church - Boston, MA<br>*Special Service in Celebration of Juneteenth Holiday* |
| June 28 | Reverend Joanne Hus<br>United Methodist Church of Martha's Vineyard |
| July 5 | Claire Seguin, DNP, RN<br>Martha's Vineyard Hospital - President & COO |
| July 12 | Reverend Shannon Kershner<br>Central Presbyterian Church - Atlanta, GA |
| July 19 | Reverend Dr. Gina M. Stewart<br>Christ Missionary Baptist Church - Memphis, TN |
| July 26 | Bishop William J. Barber II, DMin.<br>Repairers of the Breach - President & Senior Lecturer |
| August 2 | Reverend Dr. Otis Moss III<br>Trinity United Church of Christ, Chicago, Illinois |
| August 9 | Reverend Dr. Howard-John Wesley<br>Alfred Street Baptist Church - Alexandria, VA |
| August 16 | Reverend Dr. Kevin R. Johnson<br>The Abyssinian Baptist Church - New York, NY |
| August 23 | Reverend Maureen Gerald<br>First Baptist Church of Princeton - Princeton, NJ |
| August 30 | Reverend Jennie Lee Salas<br>Iglesia Presbiteriana en San Sebastián - Puerto Rico |
| ★ **September 6** | **Pastor Kevin Wayne Johnson**<br>**Celebration Church at Columbia - Columbia, MD** |

***Virtual Sermons will be aired on www.unionchapelmv.org***
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## MOVIE LISTINGS
### SEPTEMBER 4-10

**MARTHA'S VINEYARD FILM CENTER**
79 Beach Rd, VH • 508-696-9369

FRIDAY 09/04
**The Invite (R) 7:30 p.m.**
SATURDAY 09/05
**Peter Asher: Everywhere Man (NR) 7:30 p.m.**
SUNDAY 09/06
**The Odyssey (R) 4:00 p.m.**
MONDAY 09/07
**Closed for the Labor Day Holiday**
TUESDAY 09/08
**MVIFF: Reading Lolita in Tehran (Iran) (NR)** 4:00 p.m.
**MVIFF: Filipinana (Philippines) (NR)** 7:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY 09/09
**MVIFF: Franz (Poland/Czech/Germany) (NR)** 4:00 p.m.
**MVIFF: The Blue Trail (Brazil) (NR)** 7:30 p.m.
THURSDAY 09/10
**MVIFF: Opening Night Party and Film: Calle Malaga (Morocco) (NR)** 5:30 p.m.

**EDGARTOWN CINEMAS**
Main St, Edgartown • 508-627-8008

FRIDAY 09/04
**Tony (R)**
1:15 p.m., 4:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.
**Coyote VS. Acme (PG)**
1:30 p.m., 4:15 p.m.
**Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13)** 7:00 p.m.
SATURDAY 09/05
**The Odyssey (R)**
2:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m.
**Coyote VS. Acme (PG)**
1:30 p.m., 4:15 p.m.
**Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13)** 7:00 p.m.
SUNDAY 09/06
**Tony (R) 1:15** p.m., 4:00 p.m.
**Jaws (PG)** 7:15 p.m.
**Coyote VS. Acme (PG)**
1:30 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7:00 p.m.
MONDAY 09/07
**Tony (R) 1:15 p.m., 4:00 p.m.,** 7:00 p.m.
**Coyote VS. Acme (PG)**
1:30 p.m., 4:15 p.m.
**Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13)** 7:00 p.m.
TUESDAY 09/08
**Tony (R)** 4;00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.
**Coyote VS. Acme (PG)** 4:15 p.m.
**The Odyssey (R)** 7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY 09/09
**Tony (R)** 4:00 p.m.
**Jaws (PG)** 7:00 p.m.
**By Any Means (R)** 4:15, 7:00 p.m.
THURSDAY 09/10
**Tony (R)** 4:00 p.m.
**The Odyssey (R)** 7:00 p.m.
**Coyote VS. Acme (PG)** 4:15 p.m.
**Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13)** 7:00 p.m.

*From Page Eight*

**Live Band Karaoke with Agreeable Men**, The Ritz Cafe, 4 Circuit avenue, Oak Bluffs, 9 p.m., theritzmv.com.

## Wednesday, Sept. 9

**EFF'n Move Series with Tuni**, Stillpoint, 20 Stillpoint Meadows Road, West Tisbury, 8 a.m. to 9 a.m., $25, stillpointmv.org.

**Play Reading**, Tisbury Senior Center, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., free, tisburycoa.com.

**Felix Neck Nature Stroll**, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

**Outside Storytime**, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 10:15 to 10:45 a.m.

**Children's Storytime**, recommended for ages 0 to 5 but all are welcome, West Tisbury Public Library, 10:30 to 11 a.m.

**Hello/Hola/Oi! Bilingual Storytime**, a story time in both Spanish and English/una hora del cuento tanto en español como en inglés, Edgartown Public Library, 10:30 to 11 a.m.

**Author Talk: Vineyard Vanguards with Tom Dresser**, West Tisbury Public Library, 1 to 2 p.m.

**Watercolor Wednesdays**, Chilmark Free Public Library, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

**Drop-in Knitting Group with Cindy Bonnell**, all levels welcome, Edgartown Public Library, 3 to 5 p.m.

**Cooking from the Island: What's Fresh and What's Local**, a seasonal farm-to-table cooking experience with chef Jenny Devivo, The FARM Institute, 5:30 to 7 p.m., member: $64; non-member: $80.

**Advanced Improv Classes**, Grange Hall, 6 to 8 p.m., $150, circuitarts.org.

**Homegrown Club Meeting**, monthly meeting of backyard growers, Martha's Vineyard Agricultural Society, 6 to 7 p.m.

**Quilting Circle**, West Tisbury Public Library, 6 to 7 p.m.

**Island Community Chorus New Member Information Session**, First Congregational Church of West Tisbury, 1051 State Road, West Tisbury, 7 to 8 p.m., 516-816-8945.

**Wednesday Night Karaoke**, hosted by Ryan and Douglas from Brew Brother's Trivia, Indigo Martha's, 8 to 10 p.m., free, indigomarthas.com, 917-710-1066.

## Thursday, Sept. 10

**Early Birders**, Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary of Mass Audubon, 8 to 10 a.m.

**Modern Novel Study Group**, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., westtisburylibrary.org.

**Can You Shuck It: Shellfish Shucking with Chris Look**, registration required, Edgartown Public Library, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

**Chair Caning Workshop with Fred Thornbrugh**, to register or for more information, email gwilbur@clamsnet.org, West Tisbury Public Library, 2:30 to 5 p.m.

**Blackout Poetry Party**, Edgartown Public Library, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

**Naptime with David Stanwood**, Stillpoint, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., $10 to $30 sliding scale.

**Ukulele Jam**, West Tisbury Public Library, 3:30 to 5 p.m., westtisburylibrary.org, 508-693-3366.

**The Offseason: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Claymation**, Martha's Vineyard Museum, 5 to 6 p.m., $15 to $25.

**Pasta Making and Dinner with Katie Leaird of Martha's Vineyard Pasta**, The FARM Institute, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., member: $60, non-member: $75.

**Music in the Square: Mike Benjamin and the Keepers**, Eisenhauer Gallery, 38 North Water street, Edgartown, 6 to 8 p.m.

**Sip 'n Stitch**, share needlepoint tips and tricks, Erica Wilson, 6 to 7:30 p.m., free, 774-549-9488.

**The Eric Johnson-Lucas Ostinato Duo at the Vineyard Haven Library**, Vineyard Haven Public Library, 6 p.m.

**Thursday Night Trivia**, Indigo Martha's, 8 to 10 p.m.



*Pictures by Ray Ewing*

Amy Ray enjoys herself on stage.

# Indigo Girls Delight Huge Tabernacle Audience

By EMMA KILBRIDE

Grammy-winning folk rock duo Indigo Girls closed out the Martha's Vineyard Summer Concert Series on Saturday for a crowd of about 2,000 at the Tabernacle in Oak Bluffs.

Amy Ray and Emily Saliers, lifelong friends who have been performing as Indigo Girls since 1985, played a set spanning their entire 40-year musical catalog, including signature hits Galileo, Closer to Fine and Hammer and a Nail.

Joining them onstage were singer-songwriter Lucy Wainwright Roche, violinist Lyris Hung and guitarist Jeff Fielder.

Ms. Ray and Ms. Saliers, heralded by many as queer icons, have spent their careers advocating for the rights of women, LGBTQIA+ people, immigrants and Indigenous communities. They performed Saturday's set in front of a backdrop lampooning Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Department of Homeland Security. A chart stylized like a departure board in an airport counted the number of countries in the world impacted by the Trump administration's travel bans.



Emily Saliers talks to the crowd.

"Everybody ready to vote?" Ms. Saliers asked the audience, prompting loud cheers.

Before playing Sorrow and Joy, a song about Saliers' deceased sister Carrie, the band took a moment to honor Dolly Parton and Tim Curry, two show-business legends who died just days before the show.

"[Sorrow and Joy] is basically about the good and the bad and everything in between, and what people mean to us, even people we don't know, like Dolly and Tim Curry," Ms. Saliers said. "It's a reminder of our preciousness. Here we are, living and breathing."

The concert series is hosted each year by MVY Radio and Innovation Arts and Entertainment. Ziggy Marley, Bruce Hornsby and The Noisemakers and Elvis Costello rounded out this summer's lineups.

Adam Epstein, CEO of Innovation Arts and Entertainment, took the stage briefly to express his gratitude to the crowd.

"We've had the privilege of bringing you hundreds of shows, but only a few have looked like this," he said.



Barney Zeitz

Willy Mason performs at Steere the Course mini golf stage.

# AT THE BRIDGE TABLE

By JIM KAPLAN

Sitting South, with one vulnerable, you hold:

♠ K J 2
♥ Q J 3
♦ A J 5 4 3
♣ A J

Partner opens 1♦, and East passes. What do you bid?

A. Many players would focus on a 5♦ contract, which may make. There's an alternative.

When partner opens in a minor suit and you have no four-card major but 6+ high-card points, it's often a good choice to bid some form of NoTrump.

Here are the ranges:

- 1NT with 6-9 or a flat 10 HCP
- 2NT with 10-12 HCP
- 3NT with 13-15 HCP
- 4NT with16-18 HCP. This is not Blackwood. It's a quantitative bid.
- 5NT with 19-21 HCP
- 6NT with 22+ HCP

Let's try some examples. In each case partner has opened 1♦, and right-hand opponent has passed.

♠ A 5 4
♠ Q 3 2
♦ J 6 5 4
♣ J 10 2

What do you bid?

A. 1NT for your 8 HCP and no four-card major.

♠ A Q 6
♥ A 5 3 2
♦ J 5 4 2
♣ 8 7



What do you bid?

A. With four of them: 1♥. The search for a four-four fit in a major beats 2NT in this case.

♠ A 4 3
♥ A 7
♦ A 9 6 5
♣ J 10 3 2

What do you bid:

A. 3NT. Don't get taken by the "aces and spaces" putdown. Count each ace 1 ½ HCP.

The hand at the top of the column:

♠ K J 2
♥ Q J 3
♦ A J 5 4 3
♣ A J

A. 4NT with 16-18 HCP. Again, it's not Blackwood. This is a simple case of quantitative bidding. In every case, opener can count the two-hand total and decide whether to go on.

Isn't NoTrump bidding fun?

*Jim Kaplan is the Gazette's bridge columnist. He can be reached at jkaplan105@gmail.com*

# Playhouse Exhibit Is Tribute to Color and Creativity

Texture: Created & Found is a new exhibition at the Martha's Vineyard Playhouse artspace, with work by Isaac Hurwitz and Andrew Rice.

Mr. Rice's images document and emphasize found micro-details of everyday surfaces: a weathered building or rusted train car.

Mr. Hurwitz's paintings contain colorful layers created to inspire a tangible rhythm on the canvas.

An opening reception took place on Sept. 2, with the exhibition continuing through Sept. 26. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Visit circuitarts.org.

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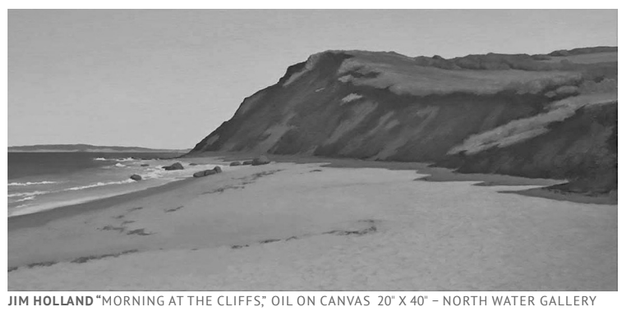
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RACHAEL CASSIANI "KEITH FARM," OIL ON CANVAS 20" X 10" – FIELD GALLERY

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HIGH HOLIDAYS




Join us as we welcome the holiest time of the year in the Jewish calendar with open hearts and open doors. Rooted in Jewish tradition and our Jewish values, with a commitment to justice, inclusion, and spiritual exploration, the Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center High Holiday services are a time to reconnect with each other and with our Jewish heritage.
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED
For additional information and to register, please visit www.mvhebrewcenter.org or 508-693-0745.

# From the Town Columnists

## CHAPPY

PETER WELLS

Trip Barnes died on Tuesday. He was called Trip because he was the third Clarence Alfred Barnes. There will be plenty of details about his life elsewhere in this newspaper and on social media. His many attributes and contributions will be hailed. He assumed a great variety of roles in his community. He wouldn't be shy about being praised for his benevolence and willingness to give of his time. He was proud of his legacy. But I also know that he would want to be remembered as a trouble maker. He loved to give the authorities their comeuppance. He voiced his opinion plainly, though not always politely. In private, he expressed himself with many colorful expletives.

I'm writing this column from on board the Island Home Wednesday morning with a dump truck full of scrap metal. The only reservation available was for Thursday night. But here I am, on the boat after waiting a mere 10 minutes in the middle of the first week of September! Modern day miracle! This reminds me of a Trip story!

Many years ago, Trip moved an Island couple out to western Massachusetts. They loaded the truck up one day, finishing late in the evening. The couple headed out that evening for their new home with Trip's assurance that they would be sleeping in their own bed the next night.

Next morning, bright and early, his guys headed down to the boat with the moving van. His vehicles are easily recognizable with his name emblazoned in three-foot high letters. Trip went about his business that day, confident that all was well. But just after dinner he got a call from the couple inquiring where was their stuff. Trip said that they should have been there by lunchtime. No cell phones in those days, so Trip headed for the last known location of the van. For some reason it hadn't gotten on any of the many ferry runs that entire day. The agent apologized and promised that it would get on the very next boat.

The next day dawned with the van still in Vineyard Haven. Once again Trip was promised that the van would be on the very next boat. Word got back to Trip while he was eating his lunch that his van was still in Vineyard Haven. He raced down there to see the ferry loading a last couple of cars. Not getting anywhere with promises, he hopped in the cab of the tractor trailer emblazoned with his name in three-foot high letters, drove past Steamship employees waving at him frantically to stop. He did stop, with the front tires of the semi midway up the ramp. Trip waited until the various authorities had gathered to assess the situation. Then he explained that the Islander wasn't going anywhere until he was guaranteed that his truck would really truly be on the very next boat. He pointed out that his grandfather, Congressman Clarence A. Barnes, was the author of the legislation that created the Steamship Authority and that the purpose of the Steamship Authority was to serve the citizens of the Islands. He asked the attending dignitaries to look around. Did they see anyone they knew other than themselves? Nope! The van was on the very next boat and the newly relocated western Massachusetts couple slept in their own bed that night.

Long story bearable: Trip went to court on a charge of assault with a motor vehicle with three-foot high letters on the side. The judge decided that he should do 100 hours of community service. Upon being reminded of the many contributions that Trip had already made to his community, the judge gave him 99 hours already served and 1 hour outstanding. Trip did a fundraising auction that evening and went to bed with a clear conscious, having paid his debt to society. That time anyway.

## CHILMARK

KATIE CARROLL

The flip of the calendar page to September brings a shift toward autumn routines, yet the universe still leaves the door cracked for stolen summer moments. The beginning of this month is a repository of beautiful, bittersweet memories. August wrapped up with children giggling at the touch tank late into the evening, most notably over the dogfish brought in by Matt Mayhew on the Lady M and the dozens of pufferfish caught in crab corner. Bennett, Juniper, Clive, Iris, Montgomery, Louisa, Josephine and Florence, thank you for making the last day of August so special.

Even a few raindrops couldn't dampen the style of Emme Carroll's sweet 16 celebration. Though Sept. 1 lacked bright sunshine, the warmth of friends and family took center stage as she marked the milestone. Traditions are important and the day was marked by enjoying a homemade ice cream cake crafted by her dad, Chris, proving that the best celebrations are made from the heart, no matter the weather.

Happy 25th anniversary to Jill and Ted Bernhard. Twenty-five years, 300 months, countless times shuffling daughters from point A to point B, walking dogs and debating over what's for dinner and you two are still smiling. Cheers to a quarter-century of being the ultimate team, and here's to many more years of love, laughter and staying perfectly in sync.

Eldest daughter, Lily, ventured home for the weekend with a few friends from Bowdoin's Class of 2026. The four joined Ted at Sunday softball for this week's theme of spanning the generations, with seven decades represented on the field. Awards were shared at this game and rookie of the year went to eight-year-old Beck Heller. Grandfather Keith was just as proud as Beck with the bestowed honor, who wrapped up the morning by proclaiming, "I'll be back next year!"

Dr. Tim Guiney was far more than a physician; he was a master of the human connection who transformed routine cardiac check-ups into the comforting warmth of having coffee with an old friend. I'd hear his name from many over the years, including old man Lenny Jason, but then experienced firsthand how seamlessly Dr. Guiney could intertwine genuine inquiries about family, children and work with the technical assessments of a heartbeat as a patient for nearly two decades. His long and fascinating life was defined by an unwavering dedication to science, his family and the patients he served with boundless empathy. Though he is no longer with us, his everlasting memory and profound impact on the community will be honored at a celebration of life this Saturday, Sept. 5 at 3 p.m. at the Grange Hall ensuring that his legacy of compassionate care is never forgotten.

Steve McQuiggan fought like heck, snarled at the dying of the light, and kept his trademark curmudgeonly grit right to the final whistle, leaving Chilmark a little quieter and infinitely less interesting. To honor him properly, be sure to click your camera shutter on a Menemsha sunset, check the water temperature at Squibnocket and dig your toes into the sand at Lucy Vincent beach for a two-hour vigil against the cutting wind, letting the mind drift back to the glory days of the Hot Tin Roof when the bass line vibrated through your chest and the music had real teeth. He was cut from that exact same uncompromising, beautifully curmudgeony cloth — completely genuine to the core, gone from the south shore beaches and Menemsha sunset, but never forgotten.

While early morning breezes carry a new, crisp warning of fall, the afternoon sun still burns hot enough to justify bare feet and sunscreen. These golden, unexpected hours feel like a quiet rebellion against the impending cold, urging us to skip chores for a late day beach trip or an ice cream treat on the porch. We cling to these warm afternoons with a fierce gratitude, knowing each sunset brings the true end of the season a little closer. Ultimately, these fleeting days remind us that summer is not just a season on a map, but a stubborn state of mind that refuses to fade without a fight.

## EDGARTOWN

KATHIE CASE

It is September and already the long sleeves came out, the flip flops were changed to sneakers and the fans were turned off along with the AC. I know it won't last, but it is the time of year to keep that sweater nearby.

Happy Birthday to all who celebrated their day this past week. It is the beginning of a new school year, so the birthday list is not available yet. But when it is let's see how long it will take me to go over to the school and get it. In the meantime, I hope you all had a special day.

Like most Island businesses, at Donaroma's we hire summer help to help with the watering, moving plants, loading compost, mulch and whatever heavy things customers buy. A few summers ago we hired this young man who was the son of a good customer. We loved him right away as he fit in like he had been working with us for years. He was cute and charming. We had a lot of fun with him and at the end of the summer we were sad to see him go. He did come back to the nursery to visit on his vacations so we kind of kept in touch.

I found out Tuesday that we are now employed by the same company. Charlie Leitner is a writer for the Gazette, and I had no idea because all my columns are written at home. He came into the nursery this week as he was doing an article on one of our managers, and he stopped by the shed to say hello. Charlie has done a lot in these past few years including serving our country, but he is still the charming, kind man we knew he would be. We were lucky to have him all those years ago.

The Edgartown Library has its September newsletter out. With fall coming they have some great events coming up for all ages. Local photographer Alex Wright will exhibit his art in the library's program room for the month of September. Also, get your CLAMS card to borrow books from the library and you can also connect it to the Libby app on your phone or iPad so you can have access to many books at home or on the road.

Have a wonderful Labor Day weekend. If you are traveling, please travel safe. I wish college students a great year, and if you are staying home, I hope your weekend is all you want it to be.

Have a great week and keep the home candles burning.

## OAK BLUFFS

RICHARD LEWIS TAYLOR

The seemingly unending crowds and lines at C'est La Vie, Union Chapel, Biscuits and other restaurants in Oak Bluffs have abated and given way to a number of manageable Island visitors and cool brisk days and nights. There is still time to visit the art and book signings at Cousens Rose and Mariposa galleries. Many have missed the delicious treats of Murdick's Fudge on Circuit avenue. They have been closed for the entire summer. Hope they can return next season. Back Door Donuts remains a treat no matter how long the wait. One can now even get apple fritters from the front door in the morning these days.

There has been a lot of consternation and concerns about the long lines, entry charges and VIP skip the line cards at Nomans. What was once a wonderful intergenerational happy gathering place with great music has become something else. Let's all hope for a better system next season!

The exhibition, Loïs Mailou Jones: Sphere of Influence, at the Center of Knowhere Gallery is still on view through Sept. 13, on Circuit avenue. This work examines the generational impact of Ms. Jones's teaching and artistic vision that established her legacy as a defining force in 20th and 21st-century American art. Encouraged to draw from the age of three, she had her first solo show on the Vineyard when she was 17 on the family lawn, during a summer vacation in 1915. Throughout her long artistic career, even as she taught at Howard University for decades and traveled to France, Haiti and the African continent, she returned each summer to the Vineyard to paint. Although originally from an Oak Bluffs family, she rented a cottage in Menemsha in the 1950s and 1960s and painted landscapes and seascapes. In 1985, after the death of her husband, she built a studio on long-owned family land in Edgartown, where she continued to paint. Loïs Mailou Jones died in 1998 at the age of 92 and she is buried in the family plot at the Oak Grove Cemetery in Oak Bluffs, not far from her childhood friend Dorothy West. Come out and view some terrific art and pay tribute to an Oak Bluffs and global artistic icon!

The Boston Chapter of the National Association of Guardsmen held a gathering last week to ease a communal grieving process, and to share stories and pray for the future of family members and friends still in pain from the loss of our club member Kevin Foster. Many attended his funeral in Cambridge to hear his two courageous sons deliver a brilliant heartfelt obituary for their beloved father. Many thanks to Kevin and Lynn Bowman for hosting this event, and president Gary Evee for his leadership.

The Polar Bears continued with their 80th Anniversary by hosting a panel discussion on August 13 with three Polar Bears sharing their family histories as Polar Bears. The panelists included Leona Martin (Tyner family), Connie Batty (Wheat family), and Fran Gaskin (Christian/Gaskin family).

Chief Polar Bear Caroline Hunter always thinks "party with a purpose." She announced that Demond Martin, CEO at WellWithAll donated $10,000 to the Food Pantry (IGI) on behalf of the Polar Bears. Mr. Martin is and has been a very generous philanthropist to worthy causes.

Paradise on earth is living the Vineyard experience. Enjoy it as life is fleeting.

Rest in Peace, Randall Edward Taylor.

## VINEYARD HAVEN

NANCY GARDELLA

The big Labor Day weekend is upon us. Will they come or will they go?

Now that I am unable to garden I want a big shout-out thank you to my friend Cody Jephcote who is kindly doing my gardening for me. We have a prolific amount of vegetables and some fruit. He's doing much better than I could do myself.

Chris Baer, the artist, photographer and teacher, recently posted a black and white photo of downtown Vineyard Haven circa 1890. Take a look. Also, Gretchen Baer, his sister, has wound up her annual August visit here which she spends painting. She is returning to Arizona where she teaches art to kids. Sometimes their parents, too.

Ginny Coutinho gives great praise to the En Plein Aire exhibit at Featherstone. It's on until Sept. 20.

Barney Zeitz captured a great sketch of Willy Mason playing at the new stage at the mini golf course in Tisbury. Barney says he has followed Willy since he was in high school and knew there would be a great future there. Willy's talented mother, Jemima James, also joined him on stage.

I enter my new email for this column: ngwriter@ gmail.com. Send news!

With great sadness I must tell you of these two passings. Steve Mack died early this week. Such a friend to the Island. And I learned Clarence (Trip) Barnes has left us. Stories about Trip Barnes could take up several newspapers or books. Another Island legend.

The birthday bandwagon pulled along my friend Shaw Berke on August 27, and on Sept. 1 Shane True Little Eagle Vanderhoop and Carlton Simonin took the cake. Many happy returns.

## WEST TISBURY

EILEEN MALEY

If you have been here a while, you may remember Marty Nadler, who died in Florida on August 26 at age 80.

Marty was a sitcom screenwriter and stand-up comedian who almost couldn't help being funny. He and his then-wife Holly both wrote comedy for television and movies, but chose to live on the Vineyard rather than Hollywood for a number of years, especially when raising their son Charlie. Marty wrote for Happy Days, Laverne and Shirley and The Odd Couple. He acted as well, in the movies Pretty Women and Runaway Bride, but mostly he enjoyed amusing us with stand-up. On the Island, Marty served on boards and otherwise worked to help local theatre groups, as well as performing here from time to time. He moved to Florida in 2011.

Holly still lives on the Island and Charlie is now a writer and stand-up comic with his own schtick. Although Marty and Holly were divorced, they remained close and affectionate friends. Holly frequently visited Marty in Florida. Condolences to all.

As the schools' fall semester begins, many parents have tearfully said farewell to their teenage freshmen offspring who have left to further broaden their knowledge. Penelope Haddad is unpacking in her dorm at Dartmouth, and Eleanor Mone is at Middlebury College. Nova Smith and Zyler Flanders are enrolled at UMass. Isla Solon has flown off to college in Florida and Eirene Eville (aka Pickle) has left for Yale.

Annabelle Brothers, entering her senior year at Yale, was home for a few days after a busy summer working in New Haven. She then finished the long break with a two-week road trip through the national parks in the west.

Annabelle and her friend since kindergarten, Jake Glasgow, flew to Seattle, met up with another friend, Aurelia Cors from Washington, D.C. They rented a car and, with their tent and camping gear on board, and plenty of oatmeal, coffee, rice, beans and sardines, headed south along the coast-hugging Route 101.

Barely out of Seattle, they were struck by the grandeur of the northwest landscape, including Mount Rainier, then again by the breathtaking beaches of Oregon, and the charm of seeing elk on the town's main streets. They then hiked the Redwoods National Park, where they saw pelicans and gigantic ancient conifers. Onward to Yosemite for more majesty, more tenting and hiking, uphill, to heights so lofty that Aurelia developed a nosebleed.

Next was a long drive to Zion in Utah where the landscape changed dramatically, the temperatures rose to over 100, but the three didn't stop hiking and climbing, or dining on sardines. From there they drove to Bryce Canyon and marveled at the hoodoo rock formations. And on to Lake Powell, which was suddenly inundated with people (tourists!) admiring the rocks that look as though they were blown out of spun meringue.

More scenery was appreciated in Antelope Canyon, and finally the Grand Canyon, where they had booked a campsite on the quieter north ridge. Then a flight home from Phoenix. Annabelle says she may visit Acadia National Park in Maine on her next break.

Happy birthday Sept. 8 to George Athearn, and to Heather Goff on Sept. 10. Jack Ryan, Maria McFarland and Ryan Rossi all celebrate on Sept. 11.

Congratulations and happy anniversary to long-time couples Sharon and Manny Estrella on Sept. 6, to Todd Gill and Dana Hollinshead on Sept. 8, to Julia Stunkel and Glenn Stalgren on Sept. 9, and to Ken Abbott and Jen Rand on Sept. 10.





Jeanna Shepard

VINEYARD GAZETTE
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## REAL ESTATE
### Real Estate, For Sale



**SEE WHAT YOU CAN BUILD FOR 33% LESS**

You can afford to build on Martha's Vineyard. Save 1/3 off conventional building methods. New homes and additions. High-end home shells are custom-designed, constructed in a controlled environment, and delivered for about $135/sq.ft.

(Estimated price for finished house:about $550/sq.ft.)

Packages include:Custom design, posts, beams, roof, walls, doors, windows, siding, trim, insulation, floors.

Schedule on-site or video tour.

MVPostAndBeam.com,(508)645-3572,Posner@MVPostAndBeam.com

## REAL ESTATE
### For Rent, Edgartown



**THE CAPTAIN MORSE HOUSE**

Vacations, weddings, retreats, reunions. Open year-round - locals save 10% www.captainmorsehouse.com (508)693-0809

**WINTER HOUSE RENTAL EDGARTOWN (KATAMA)**

10/1/26-5/1/27. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Rent $3,000 per month, plus utilities. If interested, call Peter at (401)789-3127.

## REAL ESTATE
### For Rent, Oak Bluffs

**STUDIO APARTMENT OR PRIVATE ENTRANCE ROOM**

Studio includes electricity. Prices negotiable. Room includes heat, electricity and hot water. Year round $1,350 or winter only $1,200. OakBluffsRental@yahoo.com

**OAK BLUFFS – YEAR-ROUND RENTAL**

Freshly remodeled 2 bedroom, 2 bath home with modern kitchen, updated baths, bright living space and off-street parking. Next to park with easy access to Oak Bluffs center and ferry. One-year lease. First, last, and security required. No smoking or pets. $2,800–$3,000/month. Photos available upon request. Email for details and showings. 102reevesrealty@gmail.com

## REAL ESTATE
### For Rent, Vineyard Haven

**YEAR-ROUND HOUSE SHARE**

Immediately available September 1. One bedroom, $1,000/month plus utilities. Nice residential property near Vineyard Haven with golden retriever and owner in residence. Text Susan. (973)879-9813.

## REAL ESTATE
### For Rent, West Tisbury

**GORGEOUS NONTOXIC BUILDING FOR SALE OR RENT**

In West Tisbury. Mixed use commercial/residential.Three useable floors. $2,490,000, greatly reduced. Huge 2 bedroom, possible 3. AC throughout, laundry. Airbnb, $325/night. Year-round starting fall $4,000/month includes utilities. Text Lisa (310)213-5472.

**WEST TISBURY WINTER/YEAR-ROUND**

Lambert's Cove area. Beautiful one bedroom plus office. One person preferred. Approximately 900 square feet. Utilities included. $3,500/month. Text or call (508)939-1414.

## REAL ESTATE
### For Rent, Commercial



**EDGARTOWN OFFICE SPACE**

225 sq. ft. office space. Perfect Edgartown location. $950, utilities included. September 1 2026 availability. Call (401)633-4104. Staged photo.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE: All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

VINEYARD GAZETTE

## REAL ESTATE
### For Rent, Commercial



**15 CHURCH STREET LANDING**

Attractive 1,300 sq. ft space available immediately, suitable for professional or retail use. Heat and private parking included one block from the ferry. Hardwood floors and wall to wall carpeting, handicap accessible bath, bright interior, $3,750/month.

Call (508)274-0452 for details.

**COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT**

Zoned B1 off Holmes Hole Road in Tisbury. 1,400-2,100 sf available. Overhead door, parking, heat, and bathroom. Call: (508)294-4261.



**EDGARTOWN OFFICE SPACE**

400 sq. ft. Office space. Perfect Edgartown location.$1,000, utilities included. September 1 2026 availability. Call (401)633-4104. Staged photo.

**VINEYARD HAVEN COMMERCIAL SPACE**

Great opportunity to rent near downtown Vineyard Haven. Right on Lagoon Pond Road, 1,260 square feet garage and office, with full bathroom. Office is roughly 300 square feet. Full 10' garage door for garage. $3,800/month. Call Chris (508)889-8524.

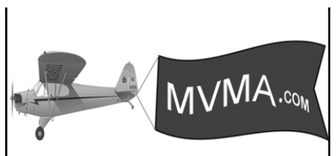
## WANTED TO RENT

**WINTER CAR STORAGE WANTED**

Winter garage storage for Lexus SUV wanted. October 1-May 1.

Contact eelpondmv@gmail.com

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES




**MVMA DOMAINS FOR SALE**

EdgarTown.com, Chappaquiddick.com, GayHead.com, OakBluffs.com, Tisbury.com, EastChop.com, ... jim@ginn.com

## HELP WANTED

**TOWN OF EDGARTOWN ASSISTANT ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER/INSPECTOR ($28.38-$40.39)**

The Town of Edgartown is seeking an Assistant Animal Control Officer / Inspector to assist in operations related to animal control and welfare. This position is scheduled for 16 hours on alternating weeks and involves responding to calls regarding loose or injured animals, conducting barn and livestock inspections, investigating complaints, and enforcing regulations. The ideal candidate will have strong communication skills, the ability to handle animals safely and humanely, and experience working with both domestic animals and wildlife. Certification as an Animal Control Officer and a valid driver's license are required. Training and professional development opportunities are available. Position is open until filled.

Applications and full job description are available at edgartown-ma.us or in the HR Office in Town Hall. Please send completed applications to HR@edgartown-ma.us or P.O. BOX 5130 Attn: HR, Edgartown, MA 02539. The Town of Edgartown is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## HELP WANTED

**TOWN OF EDGARTOWN ASSISTANT BEACH DIRECTOR ($31.22-$44.44)**

The Town of Edgartown is seeking an Assistant Beach Director to assist with the daily management, operation, and maintenance of Town beaches and park facilities. This 40 hour / week position works under the direction of the Beach Director and Parks Commission, and combines hands-on field work, beach safety, regulatory compliance, and facility and equipment maintenance. The role requires public interaction with beach patrons and over-sand vehicle users regarding beach access, assists with installation and removal of OSV corridor fencing, and assists in the supervision of seasonal staff. Applicants should maintain a valid Massachusetts drivers' license, a high school diploma or equivalent, and experience performing hands-on maintenance and vehicle operation.

Applications and full job description are available at edgartown-ma.us or in the HR Office in Town Hall. Please send completed applications to HR@edgartown-ma.us or in the HR Office in Town Hall. Please send completed applications to HR@edgartown-ma.us or P.O. BOX 5130 Attn: HR, Edgartown, MA 02539. The Town of Edgartown is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

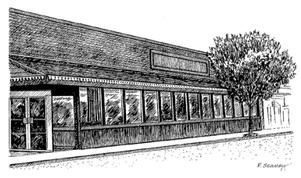
**VINEYARD MONTESSORI SCHOOL IS HIRING**

VMS seeks Early Childhood Assistant Teachers for Infant, Toddler, and Primary classrooms. Full-time and part-time, year-round positions with competitive wages. Full-time includes benefits: paid PTO, health insurance, company-matched 403(b), and more.

Email hiring@vineyardmontessori.com.

**RELIABLE MARKET CASHIERS NEEDED**

Seeking associates in all departments beginning as soon as possible for the fall or winter seasons. Full or part time. Please see Donna in person to apply.



**TOWN OF AQUINNAH CHIEF OF POLICE**

The Town of Aquinnah invites applications from experienced, highly qualified, community-oriented law-enforcement professionals for the position of Chief of Police. Aquinnah is seeking a proven leader who will provide professional, ethical, progressive, and highly visible leadership to the Aquinnah Police Department and who recognizes the distinctive responsibilities of leading a small-community police agency on Martha's Vineyard.

The successful candidate must also satisfy all applicable POST, MPTC, background-investigation, first-aid/CPR, firearms-qualification, licensing, and other legal requirements for appointment and continued service as a Massachusetts municipal law-enforcement officer.

Candidates should possess at least ten years of progressively responsible full-time law-enforcement experience, including substantial supervisory and command experience. At least five years of progressively responsible supervisory, management, or command-level law-enforcement experience is strongly preferred. A bachelor's degree in criminal justice, public administration, management, organizational leadership, public safety, law, or a related discipline is preferred.

The Town may consider an equivalent combination of education, professional training, executive development, and progressively responsible law-enforcement experience demonstrating the knowledge and ability necessary to perform the duties of Chief of Police. Salary Range: $185,000-$195,000.

Applications due by close of business on Friday, September 18, 2026.

Please contact Aquinnah Town Administrator Jeffrey Madison via e-mail at townadministrator@aquinnah-ma.gov for further application instructions.

The Town of Aquinnah is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**CHAPPY FERRY CAPTAIN**

Chappy Ferry is always looking for ferry captains. Minimum 50 ton license. It could be as little as one shift a week but it could be more. If interested please text Peter Wells at (508)627-1577 or email at peterchappyferry@gmail.com

## HELP WANTED

**CIRCULATION COORDINATOR/ LIBRARY ASSOCIATE AQUINNAH PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The Aquinnah Public Library seeks a creative, organized, detail-oriented individual with a commitment to providing excellent customer service. This position is responsible for managing the circulation of library materials within the Integrated Library System, assisting library patrons in using the CLAMS system and digital resources, and acts as local liaison with the network on circulation matters.

Bachelor's Degree in a related field required and library experience preferred; one year's prior relevant work experience; or any equivalent combination of education or work experience will be considered. Computer and database management skills are a must. Year-round, 20.5 hour benefited position requires Saturdays and evenings. $29.97/hour. Job description and application are available at the library or by emailing rparker@clamsnet.org.

Submit cover letter, Town of Aquinnah employment application, and resume to Rosa Parker, Library Director at rparker@clamsnet.org. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled, with preference given to applications received by Friday, September 4, 2026. The Town of Aquinnah is an EOE.

**DRIVERS WANTED**

Bruno's Rolloff, Inc. is currently seeking full-time and part-time CDL and non-CDL drivers for both year-round and seasonal positions. Applicants must be available for seasonal overtime and early morning shifts.

We offer competitive wages, excellent benefits, and yearly bonuses.

Applications can be picked up at our office at 11 East Line Road, Edgartown, or requested by emailing info@brunosmv.com. For further inquiries, please contact us at (508)693-5454.

**FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER SERVICE NAVIGATOR**

($23.07-$27.40 per hour)

Do you love helping families thrive? We're seeking a compassionate and resourceful Service Navigator to support families in identifying resources, solving problems, and building strong community connections. Join a team that values family strengths, diversity, and self-direction across the lifespan. Experience preferred but paid on the job training may be provided. Sign-On Bonus available to employees in good standing! Apply at:

mvcommunityservices.org/employment

**FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER MV FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER**

$23.00-$28.50/hour.

Help connect families with community resources and support services while assisting with parent and youth programming, support groups, family events, and volunteer coordination. Responsibilities include providing referrals, maintaining program data, participating in community outreach, and supporting Family Resource Center activities. Evening and weekend hours required.

Qualifications: Background in social services or a mental health setting preferred. Strong communication, organizational, and teamwork skills required. Ability to maintain confidentiality and work effectively with diverse populations. Valid Massachusetts driver's license and reliable transportation required. Apply at:

mvcommunityservices.org/employment

**GARDENER WANTED**

We're looking for an experienced gardener. Knowledge of organic methods helpful. Must speak fluent English and have valid working papers. Please reply to: info@indigofarm.com

**We are looking to add to our team!**

The following three positions available are:

- Site Supervisor / Experienced Machine Operator – *CDL license a plus*
- Laborer
- CDL Class A or B Truck Driver

These positions are year-round and include excellent benefits!

Please call our office at (508)693-5975 or email us at office@johnkeene.com

## HELP WANTED

**VINEYARD DECORATORS IS HIRING**

**FRONT DESK MANAGER | HOUSING AVAILABLE**

Vineyard Decorators is seeking a highly organized, detail-oriented Front Desk Manager to oversee incoming calls, calendars, replenishment, and general front desk operations. This position will also support our Bookkeeper with daily administrative tasks including scanning, filing, copying, and organization. Proficiency in Microsoft Word, Excel, and Google Workspace required. Must be availbel to work Saturdays. Opportunity to grow into a full-time Operations Assistant role for the right candidate. 401(k), paid vacation, health insurance, and housing available if needed. Email resume to sophia@vineyarddecorators.com

**DESIGN CONSULTANT | HOUSING AVAILABLE**

Start building a career in Interior Design from the ground up. This full-time, year-round position combines furniture showroom sales with interior design and is ideal for someone with a strong eye for color and design and an eagerness to learn. No previous design experience required. After the 27 season, employees have the opportunity to take online Interior Design courses to further develop their skills and career. Competitive compensation package, 401(k), paid vacation, health insurance, and housing available. Email resume to sophia@vineyarddecorators.com

**SENIOR INTERIOR DESIGNER | HOUSING AVAILABLE**

Vineyard Decorators is seeking an experienced Senior Interior Designer to join our growing Interior Design Studio. Qualified candidates should have a bachelor's degree in Interior Design or Architecture and a minimum of 8 years of experience in construction-based interior design. Strong project, time, and client management skills, with the ability to independently lead projects, are required. Must be proficient in AutoCAD. Full-time, year-round position with competitive compensation, benefits, and housing available. Learn more about our company and design team at our website. Email resume to sophia@vineyarddecorators.com

**OPERATIONS COORDINATOR**

The Dukes County Regional Housing Authority (DCRHA) seeks qualified applicants for the Operations Coordinator position. The position is responsible for coordinating the front office at the DCRHA office, managing and overseeing apartments and tenants.

The applicant should have experience in public interaction, strong verbal and written communication skills, office administration experience, and proficiency with Microsoft Office products. Forty hours weekly, a starting pay rate range of $37.64/hour to $38.58/hour with a full-time benefits package. Job description available upon request. Submit cover letter and resume to dcrha@housingauthoritymv.org by 5:00PM September 25, 2026.

**PART-TIME INDEPENDENT SUPPORT SPECIALIST**

Island Autism seeking Independent Support Specialist to provide coaching-based in-home/community support to adult with IDD. Focus on independence, routines, daily living skills (not caretaking). Driver's license required. Must be organized, have strong boundaries, and be kind. Flexible hours w/ predictable schedule. Email lena@islandautism.org.

**WEST TISBURY POLICE DEPARTMENT FULL TIME POLICE OFFICER IMMEDIATE OPENING**

The West Tisbury Police Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Full Time Police Officer. Full time M.P.T.C. Academy trained preferred (not required), and the ability to be certified as a Massachusetts police officer as defined by the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). Applicants must be at least 21 years of age, able to obtain a valid MA driver's license, and able to obtain a license to carry firearms. Applicants must be free of any physical disability that would prevent them from performing all the essential job functions of a police officer. The West Tisbury Police Department is also accepting lateral transfers, education and experience will be considered in determining the starting step on the current wage scale. Present salary range is $87,602.70 - $123,265.79 with a full benefit package including education incentive and shift differential. Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Associates degree or higher is preferred.

Essential Functions: Enforce all Massachusetts laws, local laws and bylaws within the police area of responsibility.

Applications and full job description can be obtained by mail, picked up in person, town website, or by email at wtpd@westtisbury-ma.gov, during business hours Monday-Friday 9:00AM-5:00PM. If you have any questions regarding the application please contact Lieutenant Gebo, (508)693-0020.

The application submission process will remain open until the position is filled.

Police Officer Recruitment
West Tisbury Police Department
PO Box 520
454 State Road
West Tisbury, MA 02575
wtpd@westtisbury-ma.gov
(508)693-0020

The Town of West Tisbury is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**SOLAR INSTALLER**

Join a talented, collaborative team working to strengthen the Vineyard's energy resilience. You'll install solar systems for residential, commercial, nonprofit, affordable housing, and community projects, helping clients reduce their energy costs and environmental impact.

We offer an exceptional, family-friendly compensation package, including medical/dental/vision insurance (SMCo covers the full deductible), profit sharing, 401k, and the potential for ownership.

Learn more about this position, how to apply, our compensation policy, and our culture at https://southmountain.com/meet/

**GREENHOUSE ASSISTANT**

PHA seeks a Greenhouse Assistant to propagate and care for plants, trees and shrubs in our greenhouse and nursery. This is a part-time, seasonal position from March thru November (flexible) and pays $25/hour. Job description and application instructions found at https://www.pollyhillarboretum.org/get-involved/employmentopportunities/.


## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES

(774)549-9711

email: classifieds@vineyardgazette.com

| Up to 15 words | 16-30 words | 31-45 words | per word over 45 words |
|---|---|---|---|
| *One Time:* | | | |
| $18.00 | $22.00 | $30.00 | $0.55 |

*Ads will continue to run until you notify us or specify the number of weeks in the "Additional Instructions" section.*

CUSTOMIZE YOUR AD:

- Add a border: $2 per insertion
- Add a photo: $7 per insertion

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DEADLINE:

Tuesday at 3:00p.m. for the Friday edition

All ads are published on our website at no additional charge.

Place your classified ad online at vineyardgazette.com


## HELP WANTED

**MVPCS SCHOOL ADJUSTMENT COUNSELOR**

The Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School has an opening for a School Adjustment Counselor (LCSW, LICSW or LMHC) for the 2026-2027 school year.

Please email resume, letter of interest, and completed application to Chris Nace, Executive Director, cnace@mvpcs.org. Applications can be found on the school website: mvpcs.org

**SERVICE WRITER / CUSTOMER LIAISON MARTHA'S VINEYARD SHIPYARD**

This is a full-time, year-round position with benefits. We are a growing, family-owned shipyard built on quality craftsmanship, strong customer relationships and a passion for the water. We pride ourselves on creating a workplace where team members are supported, challenged and appreciated. We are currently looking for a Service Writer who thrives in a fast-paced environment and is ready to be the face of our service operations.

WHAT YOU'LL DO

First Contact: Act as the main point of contact for our customers, offering top-tier communication and welcoming service.

Estimates and Planning: Prepare detailed, accurate written estimates for labor, parts and repairs.

Project tracking: follow work closely through every stage to ensure deadlines and high-quality standards are met.

Customer Follow-up: Maintain proactive, timely communication with boat owners regarding updates, approvals and completion timelines.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

Boat Knowledge: Solid understanding of boats, marine systems and terminology required.

Tech-Savvy: Comfortable navigating digital management software, inventory systems and modern communication tools.

Detail-Oriented and organized, adaptable and driven to take on new challenges and adjust as daily shipyard priorities evolve. High level of patience, exceptional customer service skills and a good sense of humor!

What we offer is year-round stability, competitive compensation and benefits package and a supportive, team-oriented, family friendly working environment.

Ready to take on the challenge? Send resume to jhale@mvshipyard.com with subject line "Service Writer Application"

## HELP WANTED

**STAFF GENERALIST AT DAYBREAK CLUBHOUSE**

$23.00 - $27.60 per hour.

Love supporting others as they grow, learn and connect? We're looking for a dynamic team member to provide vocational, educational, and social support to members in our Daybreak Clubhouse. We value lived experience and strongly encourage individuals with personal experience of mental health illness to apply. Apply at: mvcommunityservices.org/employment

**TEMPORARY OFFICE ASSISTANT**

Martha's Vineyard Shipyard is seeking an organized and dependable temporary office assistant to join our team immediately. Your prime focus will be managing employee timecard data to ensure our customers are billed accurately and on time.

Key responsibilities will be to collect and review daily employee timecards for completeness, enter hours and work data into our billing system, verify accuracy and identify and resolve discrepancies quickly and help the office team with other basic admin tasks as needed,

If you have great attention to detail and love keeping things organized, have proven experience in data entry, office admin and strong time-management skills, we can teach you how to do the rest.

Please send your resume and a brief note about your availability to jhale@mvshipyard.com with the subject line "Office Admin".

**ACADEMIC INTERVENTIONIST**

Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School has an opening for a part-time Academic Interventionist to provide direct services to students identified through Response to Intervention or Special Education. Applicants should be familiar with RTI and IEP development and hold a MA license in special education, reading, math, or elementary education. This position is an ideal opportunity for retired educators or those looking to work on a part-time basis with flexible hours in a supportive environment.

Please email resume, letter of interest, and completed application to Christopher Nace, Executive Director cnace@mvpcs.org. Applications can be found on the school website at MVPCS.org

**CNA/HHA**

Assisted living residence is looking to hire. Prefer a CNA or HHA but will train the right person. Our residence is small with a home like environment. If you enjoy caring for elders with a supportive staff call Ellen at (508)627-0131 for more information.

**MVYTF IS HIRING A PART-TIME YOUTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

Our Youth Program Coordinator will play a major role in the development of a novel outreach program based on our tagline: "powered by youth, backed by community". They will interact with the school staff and students at MVRHS, the Charter School, and our 4 combined schools.

Required

- High school diploma or GED, Bachelor's degree preferred.
- Experience working with youth and coordinating programs.
- Valid Massachusetts driver's license and ability to travel locally.

Salary & Benefits:

- Salary is based on experience.
- $20-27 an hour for 25 hours a week September through June with potential for year-round.

Apply by email:
contact@mvyouthtaskforce.org

**DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT VINEYARD CONSERVATION SOCIETY**

VCS seeks an entrepreneurial fundraising leader to build a dynamic development program on Martha's Vineyard. Major gifts, annual giving, grants, events and campaigns. 10+ years' experience required. Full description and application: vineyard-conservation.org/career-opportunities


MARTHA'S VINEYARD BANK

Best of the Vineyard 2026 Martha's Vineyard Magazine

American Banker 2025 Best Banks to Work For

**Join the Martha's Vineyard Bank Team!**

Martha's Vineyard Bank, a local community bank, has some exciting opportunities available. If you are seeking a career with an organization that has a strong commitment to the communities we serve, then we want to hear from you!

Available opportunities:
**Executive Assistant to the President & CEO**
**Financial Advisor**

Please visit www.mvbank.com for detailed information or to apply. We offer an exceptional benefits package including both 401k and pension plan, growth opportunities, and competitive compensation.

Equal Opportunity Employer: Minority/Female/Disability/Veteran.

## Help Wanted

**DUKES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CORRECTIONAL OFFICER I**

$1,000 Monthly Housing Stipend for Full Time Island Residents

Looking to kick-start a rewarding career while serving the Island community?
Correctional Officers at the Dukes County Jail & House of Correction are responsible for the care, custody, control of inmates, as well as other assigned duties.
Must be at least 19 years of age with a valid MA Driver's License, have effective oral and written communications skills, flexibility and willingness to adapt to changing environment and priorities; positive attitude, integrity, and excellent judgment. Work schedule includes assignments to the day, evening and night, weekend, and holiday shifts. Paid Correction Academy training (may be hosted on or off-island) with a strong commitment to supporting employees' ongoing professional growth.
Full-time position with a generous benefit package, including paid leave, insurance, state pension and deferred compensation matching. Full time pay range is $65,516.88- $70,933.46 annually, plus $1,000 monthly housing stipend. Candidates must pass interview, background check, and post-conditional-offer medical evaluations and meet the physical fitness testing requirements.
Apply today! Download applications and job descriptions at:
dukescountysheriff.com/careers

## Help Wanted

**DUKES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE TELECOMMUNICATOR-IN-TRAINING**

$500 Monthly Housing Stipend for Full Time Island Residents

Looking to kick-start a rewarding career while serving the Island community?
Duties include, but not limited to receiving, processing, and dispatching emergency and non-emergency calls for police, fire, emergency medical, and other public safety services.
Requires effective oral and written communications skills, high integrity, positive attitude, sound judgement, and the ability to handle confidential material and adapt to changing environments and priorities. Essential functions include rotating assignment to the day, evening and night, weekend, and holiday shifts. Paid on-site training, plus off-island Academy training.
Full-time position with a generous benefit package including paid leave, insurance, state pension and deferred compensation matching. Full time Telecommunicator-In-Training pay range is $73,986.64-$81,687.06 annually, plus $500 monthly stipend. Candidates must pass skills-based aptitude testing, interview, background check, and post-conditional-offer medical and audiology evaluations.
Apply today. Download applications and job descriptions at:
dukescountysheriff.com/careers

**DIRECTOR OF FILM PROGRAMMING**
Circuit Arts seeks a Director of Film Programming to lead the Martha's Vineyard Film Festival and year-round film programming. This leadership role combines curatorial vision with filmmaker relations and community engagement. Learn more and apply: circuitarts.org/jobs.

**ROSEWATER MARKET IS HIRING**
Come join our amazing team. Rosewater Market & Takeaway in Edgartown is accepting applications for a full-time year-round front-of-house position.
For consideration, please e-mail jared@rosewatermv.com with a resumé and availability.

**MARTHA'S VINEYARD GLASSWORKS**
Martha's Vineyard Glassworks is looking for a Gallery Assistant to help with sales and customer interaction from 2026 Labor Day to New Years. Retail experience preferred. Competitive retail wages, work with a great team and a fun environment. Please contact info@mvglassworks.com for more information.

**PREPAREDNESS PROJECT COORDINATOR**
The Martha's Vineyard Commission seeks a full-time MVP 2.0 Coordinator for a 10-month project to build the Community Preparedness Network. Apply with a cover letter, resume, and three professional references to isomichi@mvcommission.org. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.
Learn more:
https://thevineyardway.org/island-mvp-2-0-coordinator/.



**ISLAND ALPACA ENTHUSIASTS WANTED**
For our retail store. Tell us about yourself. Email us: info@islandalpaca.com.

**JOIN OUR LOCAL MARTHA'S VINEYARD TREE CARE DIVISION**
We are seeking PHC technicians, Ground Persons and Climbers who prefer to work in a safe and professional environment.
We offer full benefits, including 401K, paid holidays, vacation, and uniforms. Wages starting at $30 to $38 based on experience and incremental wage increases based on performance.
Contact us at (508)693-4846.

## Home Services

**WALLPAPER, PAINTING FINISHING TOUCHES**
Wallpaper and painting. High quality and professional. Great results and advice please call (508)680-6379 and leave message or text.

## Articles Wanted to Buy

**SHIP MODELS AND OLD NAUTICAL ITEMS**
Paying cash for ship models and old nautical items. (202)812-1144.

**TOP $$$ PAID**
For antiques, jewelry, silver, Oriental carpets, fine art, Chinese works of art, etc. From one item to entire estates. References available. Island property owner. (617)803-5145

**WANTED ANTIQUES, GOLD JEWELRY, STERLING, APPRAISALS**
Highest prices paid for fine antiques, gold jewelry, sterling silver. Call for safe appointment, 28 years serving MV. Ed Tessier. Call (508)939-0556.
Americana-auction.com

## Goodies & Giveaways

**THE GAZETTE'S GOODIES AND GIVEAWAYS CATEGORY**

The Goodies and Giveaways category is for free items or items for sale under $100. Each Item must include a price. Ads will be published free of charge for 4 consecutive editions. Commercial businesses may list free items only. Deadline for Goodies and Giveaways is 3:00PM, Tuesdays. 25 words or less, please. One ad per customer.
Email - classifieds@vineyardgazette.com

**APPLIANCES**
For sale: electric range, electric dryer, refrigerator, washing machine, dishwasher. All used seasonally, being replaced by new remodeling job. $99 each appliance or all five for $400. Please call Janice at (860)883-6400 or email jap6352@aol.com.

**CANNING EQUIPMENT**
It's canning time. 33 quart enamelware canner with rack. Brand new in box. Paid $87, selling for $50. Text (774)563-8391 if interested.

**FREE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS**
Holidays are not far away. Three boxes of tree ornaments and other stuff. Dodgers Hole, Edgartown. Text Al at (401)219-0231. Free.

**FREE FUTON**
Free: Queen futon, good used condition. Pickup in downtown Edgartown. (202)412-7904.

**FREE PAPERBACK BOOKS**
Over 3 dozen on my porch. Pick up whatever you want. Call for directions. (508)627-8438.

**OLD SCHOOL HOUSE DESK**
Painted white with 6 drawers and 2 pull out side desk tops. 60L x 33.5W x 30.5H. $99. Call or text for pics. (774)451-3129

**SUNFISH**
1970s Sunfish, sail, center board, rudder, etc. $99 OBO. Call or text Ken at (917)838-9297.

## Articles for Sale or Swap




**A NEW YORKER BEST BOOK OF 2026**
*While We Were Waiting.* A New Yorker Best Book of 2026 so far. Available at Bunch of Grapes and Edgartown Books.

## Storage

**SUN SELF-STORAGE**
Monthly rentals. Paved, lighted, fenced. On-site management. State Road, behind Cronig's Market. (508)693-1036 and Old Colony Edgartown.

## Auto Sales & Accessories



**1982 JEEP CJ-7**
4.2L engine, automatic, 150,000 miles. accident free, great sound system, hard and soft tops, classic Island ride and daily driver. Recently reduced price $12,800. Text or call (508)221-8593.

**SEEKING GENTLY USED TRUCK**
Ideally, a smaller, 1/2 ton, non-4x4, no cab necessary. Thank you for calling Island Alpaca Company. (508)423-1443

## Boats Sales & Accessories



**DYER29**
Sportfish/cruiser, low hour Caterpillar Diesel, head, galley, v-berths. (774)563-0393 for detailed description. Asking $38,000.



**1922 CLASSIC 6 METRE US #1**
Burgess/Paine Race Design #230, Lawley Shipyard Hull #942, built to defend the British/American Challenge, Converted for limited cruising 1960's. Substantial rebuild 1990's and 2021. Original designs at MIT Nautical Museum. (508)627-1936.



**AQUASPORT DUAL CONSOLE 21.5**
1999 Aquasport 21.5 dual console in good condition, actively in use, with only minor scratches to the decals. Powered by a 2006 Yamaha F225TXR outboard with just 700 hours. A solid, ready-to-run boat for anyone looking to get out on the water without needing to sink money into repairs. $5,000.
phillip.john.fox@gmail.com

**NEW BOAT TRAILERS - IN STOCK**
New Venture boat trailers, in stock, on-Island. sizes for boats up to 27'. Email Chris Scott for pricing. cscott@shmarinas.com

## Lost and Found

**FOUND RING**
Gold and diamond ring found at State Beach on 8/20. Please describe to claim. (615)948-6168.

## Lost and Found

**THE VINEYARD GAZETTE'S LOST & FOUND CATEGORY**

Lost something important? Want to see if someone has found it? ....or....found something of value and want to do the right thing? Let the Gazette help you.

The Lost & Found category is a free service. Deadline for publication is 3:00PM, Tuesdays. 25 words or less, please. Ads will be published for 4 consecutive editions. Email - classifieds@vineyardgazette.com

**LOST GOLF CLUBS AND BAG**
Set of golf clubs and bag left at corner of Chappaquiddick Road and North Neck Road on 8/19. Please call (203)253-1936.

## Announcements

**FRIENDS OF SENGEKONTACKET (FOS) ANNUAL MEETING**
The public is invited to attend either in person at the MV Commission building on New York Avenue in Oak Bluffs or virtually via Zoom on Thursday, September 10 at 9:30. See the FOS website (sengekontacket.org) for agenda and Zoom link a few days before the meeting.

## Aquinnah Legal Notices

**THE AQUINNAH PLANNING BOARD PLAN REVIEW COMMITTEE**
Will hold a Public Hearing at the Aquinnah Town Offices and via Zoom on Wednesday September 16, 2026, at 6:40PM to act upon a request from Leonard of 266 Lighthouse Road Map 5 Lot 31 under sections 3.2-2, 3.9-1, 10.1-4(A), 13.4-1, 13.4-7 of the Aquinnah Zoning Bylaw for the 194sqft expansion of a deck on a lot located within the Coastal DCPC and the Flood Plain Zone where total footprint on the lot exceeds 2,000sqft. Site Visit at 5:20PM.
Join Zoom meeting:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88562746806 - or dial 1 929 205 6099 - Meeting ID: 885 6274 6806 - Passcode: 940514 - Inquiries can be emailed to adminassistant@aquinnah-ma.gov.
aug28,sep4,2-t

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**
The Town of Aquinnah Parks and Recreation Committee invites sealed bids from qualified contractors for the sealcoating and painting of a newly constructed Basketball Court, located behind Town Fire Station at 953 State Road, Aquinnah, MA. This RFP involves providing all labor, materials, equipment and coordination necessary to complete application of acrylic surface system to finished court surface (4800 sq. ft.) Full copy of the RFP may be obtained by contacting townadministrator@aquinnah-ma.gov. Proposals are due no later than Noon on September 18, 2026. Late submissions will not be considered.
sep4,11,2-t

## Chilmark Legal Notices

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
Pursuant to MGL Ch. 44B, Section 5(b) (1), the Chilmark Community Preservation Committee will hold a public hearing at the Chilmark Select Board meeting on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 6:15PM to get community feedback on overall Community Preservation Act needs in town.
The public hearing will be held in person at the Select Board meeting room, Chilmark Town Hall at 401 Middle Road.
Information can be requested and questions can be posed via email to cstoeber@chilmarkma.gov.
aug28,sep4,11,3-t

**CHILMARK ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**
There will be a remote Zoom public hearing on Thursday, September 24, 2026 at 9:05AM to act on a petition to amend a Special Permit under Chilmark's Zoning By-Laws Article 4 Section 4.2A3 and Article 6 Section 6.6 filed by Vineyard Surveying & Engineering Inc. on behalf of Shepherd's Path Nominee Trust. The applicant seeks to remove the 4-ft. pool fencing around a pool that is 23 ft. from the lot line. The project is at the property located at 16 Shepherd's Path; Assessors' Map 24 Lot 1.

Please see
https://www.chilmarkma.gov/zoning-board-appeals or email
akisselgof@chilmarkma.gov for Zoom information.

Administrator
2X 9/4/26, 9/11/26
sep4,11,2-t

**CHILMARK ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**
There will be a remote Zoom public hearing on Thursday, September 24, 2026 at 9:02AM to act on a petition for a Special Permit under Chilmark's Zoning By-Law Article 6 Section 6.6 filed by Vineyard Surveying & Engineering Inc. on behalf of Daniel J. Sudman. The applicant seeks to install a 10.5' x 10.5' sauna in a location that does not meet the required setback. The project is proposed for the property located at 146 Quansoo Road; Assessors' Map 22 Lot 11.

Please see
https://www.chilmarkma.gov/zoning-board-appeals or email
akisselgof@chilmarkma.gov for Zoom information.

Administrator
2X 9/4/26, 9/11/26
sep4,11,2-t

## Edgartown Legal Notices

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EDGARTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION**
On Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at 4:35PM, the Edgartown Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing via Zoom on a Notice of Intent filed by VLSE on behalf of 44 Green Hollow Rd, LLC under the Edgartown Wetlands Protection Bylaw and the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act. The applicant is proposing to dredge 95 cubic yards of sediment surrounding an existing pier at the above-referenced property. Dredging will be completed mechanically, and all spoils will be disposed of offsite at an upland location.

## Weekly Sudoku and Crossword Answers – September 4, 2026

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

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| R | E | P | O | S | E | ■ | S | T | E | P | ■ | A | T | T | ■ | P | E | P | P | A |
| E | A | R | T | H | Y | ■ | H | O | M | O | ■ | C | A | U | S | E | R | I | E | S |
| G | R | A | T | A | E | ■ | A | T | O | P | ■ | T | V | R | A | T | I | N | G | S |
| I | F | Y | O | U | W | E | R | E | T | O | O | V | E | R | T | A | K | E | ■ | ■ |
| N | U | T | ■ | N | E | N | E | ■ | I | P | A | ■ | R | E | C | ■ | ■ | F | R | I |
| A | L | O | W | ■ | A | D | R | I | V | E | R | O | N | T | H | E | R | O | A | D |
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| B | O | O | R | S | ■ | A | N | A | ■ | ■ | ■ | T | A | C | O | M | A | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| A | N | D | H | E | P | R | O | C | E | E | D | S | T | O | H | O | N | K | ■ | ■ |
| F | E | D | O | R | A | ■ | R | O | L | L | E | ■ | L | A | I | ■ | ■ | I | F | S |
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| A | L | S | ■ | ■ | C | O | M | ■ | S | C | A | L | P | ■ | A | I | R | S | E | A |
| ■ | ■ | H | I | S | H | O | R | N | A | T | Y | O | U | A | N | G | R | I | L | Y |
| ■ | ■ | S | H | O | R | T | O | ■ | ■ | ■ | I | N | C | ■ | M | I | N | D | S | ■ |
| A | T | R | I | A | ■ | ■ | ■ | S | P | E | C | S | ■ | C | A | A | N | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| W | H | A | T | H | A | V | E | Y | O | U | H | E | A | R | D | ■ | G | R | O | G |
| L | O | T | ■ | ■ | T | I | S | ■ | O | R | E | ■ | S | U | E | Z | ■ | A | N | O |
| ■ | ■ | A | B | L | A | S | T | F | R | O | M | T | H | E | P | A | S | S | E | D |
| A | C | T | U | A | R | I | A | L | ■ | C | I | A | O | ■ | T | I | P | T | O | E |
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| M | O | T | T | S | ■ | G | E | E | ■ | P | E | K | E | ■ | T | E | N | S | E | D |

## Edgartown Legal Notices

The property is located at 44 Green Hollow Road (AP Map 29, Lot 134).

For a copy of the application(s) or for questions related to participating in the meeting via Zoom, please contact: conservation@edgartown-ma.us
sep4,1-t

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EDGARTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION**
On Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at 4:30PM, the Edgartown Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing via Zoom on a Request for Determination of Applicability filed by VLSE on behalf of Stephen C. Turner under the Edgartown Wetlands Protection Bylaw and the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act. The applicant is seeking permission to construct a new driveway located in the FEMA flood zone (AE 10) and its buffer.

The property is located at 30 Slough Cove Road (AP Map 44, Lot 12.2).

For a copy of the application(s) or for questions related to participating in the meeting via Zoom, please contact: conservation@edgartown-ma.us
sep4,1-t

**EDGARTOWN PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
The Edgartown Planning Board will hold a hybrid public hearing on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 4:30PM on passive recreation access to Swimming Place Path (from Herring Creek Road to Road to the Plains). The Martha's Vineyard Land Bank will present additional project information to abutting landowners and the public before proceeding further.
Site Visit: 10:00 AM, September 15, 2026
Hybrid Public Hearing: 4:30PM
• In person: Town Hall, First Floor Meeting Room
• Via Zoom:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88555865116 (Meeting ID: 885 5586 5116)
Questions or written comments: Brae Eddleston, Administrator, planningboard@edgartown-ma.us
Edgartown Planning Board
aug28,sep4,2-t

**EDGARTOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
On **Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 4:15PM** the Edgartown Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a remote public hearing via ZOOM on the request by **Jeffrey Cehelsky** for a special permit under section 10.1 G of the zoning bylaw to **construct additions to a structure on a non-conforming lot. All additions either conform to setbacks or are not increasing the pre-existing, non-conforming building**. The property is located on a nonconforming .15-acre lot at **30 Pine St** (Assr. Pcl. 20A-132) in the R-5 Residential District. Written comments should be received no later than noon on September 15, 2026. For information on how to use Zoom or to view the plans please contact Brae Eddleston, Administrator: zba@edgartown-ma.us or check the town's website.

To Join Zoom Meeting:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81617181524

Or Join by Phone: 646 558 8656
Meeting ID: 816 1718 1524
aug28,sep4,2-t

**EDGARTOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
On **Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 4:00PM** the Edgartown Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a remote public hearing via ZOOM on the request by **David A Paolino** for a special permit under section 10.1 G of the zoning bylaw to **construct an addition of a garage with office space above to an existing home. This was previously approved by the ZBA as a planned open carport, now changed to an enclosed garage.** The property is located on a pre-existing, nonconforming .25-acre lot at **15 Mercier Way** (Assr. Pcl. 36-74) in the R-20 Residential District. Written comments should be received no later than noon on September 15, 2026. For information on how to use Zoom or to view the plans please contact Brae Eddleston, Administrator: zba@edgartown-ma.us or check the town's website.

To Join Zoom Meeting:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81617181524

Or Join by Phone: 646 558 8656
Meeting ID: 816 1718 1524
aug28,sep4,2-t

## Oak Bluffs Legal Notices

**TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS**

**LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT**

**OAK BLUFFS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FIVE-YEAR ACTION PLAN**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**CONTRACT NO. OB2026-08**

The Town of Oak Bluffs invites proposals from qualified consultants or consulting firms acting through the Oak Bluffs Economic Development Council to prepare a practical, implementable five-year Economic Development Action Plan. The selected consultant will work with the Council, Town officials, local businesses, residents, workers, property owners, regional partners, and community organizations to identify priority actions that strengthen the Oak Bluffs economy year-round.

A complete RFP may be obtained by contacting the Procurement Office at (508)693-3554, ext. 113 or by emailing wbrough@oakbluffsma.gov.

Proposal deadline is: 2:00PM on September 25, 2026

All proposals must be sealed and be CLEARLY marked:

**OAK BLUFFS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL PLANNING**

Proposals must be submitted to:

Wendy Brough
Town Administrator
Town of Oak Bluffs
56 School Street
PO Box 1327
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a price proposal that shall be submitted in a separately sealed envelope within the proposal package and clearly marked with the Firm's name and **"OAK BLUFFS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL PLANNING"** on the outside.

The right is reserved by the Town of Oak Bluffs to waive minor technicalities and reject or accept any or all proposals if it is in the public interest to do so.
sep4,11,2-t

## Tisbury Legal Notices

**TISBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
The Tisbury Conservation Commission will meet to review the Request for Determination of Applicability under M.G.L., C. 131. S.40, the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and Tisbury Wetlands By-law, on September 15th, 2026, at 4:00PM at the Tisbury Town Hall Annex, 66 High Point Lane. The proposed project, submitted by Carlos Teles Filho, involves the installation of approximately 330 linear feet of fencing. Of the total fence length, approximately 120 linear feet are located within the VE Flood Zone, while the remaining 210 linear feet are located within the AE Flood Zone. The project is located at 61 Beach Road (Assessor Parcel 9B18.1). The application and project plans are available for public review at the Tisbury Conservation Office.
sep4,1-t

**TISBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
The Tisbury Conservation Commission will meet to review the Notice of Intent under M.G.L., C. 131. S.40, the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and Tisbury Wetlands By-law, on September 15th, at 4:00PM at the Tisbury Town Hall Annex, 66 High Point Lane. The proposed project is designed for James L. Ferraro for the construction of a house and the installation of a sewage disposal system. The project is located at 741 Main Street (Assessor Parcel 3B6) in the R25 Zoning District. The application and project plans are available for public review at the Tisbury Conservation Office and Sourati Engineering Group LLC.
sep4,1-t

**TISBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
The Tisbury Conservation Commission will meet to review the Notice of Intent under M.G.L., C. 131. S.40, the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and Tisbury Wetlands By-law, on September 15th, at 4:00PM at the Tisbury Town Hall Annex, 66 High Point Lane. The proposed project is designed for R.M. Packer Co. Inc., for an ADA-accessible cement sidewalk and ramp using hard, flat, slip-resistant surfaces from the unpaved parking area to the new customer service office. Cement landings will be provided at the stairs and connected to the accessible walkway. Stormwater runoff will drain through a permeable surface as directed by the Conservation Commission. The project is located at 199 Beach Road (Assessor Parcel 10B1) in the Commercial District. The application and project plans are available for public review at the Tisbury Conservation Office.
sep4,1-t

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT FUNDING**
Apply now - submit an eligibility application for Community Preservation Act funding.
For information on eligibility and applications:
https://www.tisburyma.gov/271/Community-Preservation-Committee
Categories include: Community Housing, Historic Preservation, Recreation, Open Space
Applications for Determination of Eligibility due:
September 25, 2026, 12:00 noon, Tisbury Town Hall (10 hard copies) and a PDF of the Eligibility Application to: tisburycpc@gmail.com
If your project is eligible, you will be notified by the Committee and asked to submit a Final Application.
Final Applications for Funding due:
October 16, 2026, 12:00 noon, Tisbury Town Hall.
Questions? tisburycpc@gmail.com
sep4,11,2-t

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
The Tisbury Community Preservation Committee will hold a PUBLIC HEARING at 5:00PM on Monday, September 14, 2026, to address questions from the community regarding Community Preservation Act funding and this year's funding cycle.
Questions regarding project eligibility will be addressed. All are welcome to attend and take part in the discussion. The meeting will be held at the Tisbury Senior Center, located at 34 Pine Tree Road, Tisbury, MA 02568. This is an in-person meeting.
For information or questions, please contact the Committee at:
tisburycpc@gmail.com
sep4,11,2-t

## General Legal Notices

**NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

7 Katama Drive, Edgartown, MA 02539

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Commercial Mortgage, Security Agreement and Assignment of Leases and Rents from Lewis Real Estate Services, LLC to Velocity Commercial Capital, LLC, dated February 9, 2024, and recorded with the Dukes County Registry of Deeds in Book 01674 at Page 644, which Mortgage was assigned to U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, as Trustee for Velocity Commercial Capital Loan Trust 2024-2, by virtue of an Assignment of Commercial Mortgage, Security Agreement and Assignment of Leases and Rents dated May 8, 2024, and recorded on May 8, 2024, in Book 01680 at Page 656 of the Dukes County Registry of Deeds, of which Mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, will be sold at Public Auction at 3:00 p.m. on September 28, 2026, at 7 Katama Drive, Edgartown, MA 02539, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

A certain parcel of land with the buildings thereon situated in Edgartown, Dukes County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, at a place known as "Katama Acres," more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Lot No. 7 shown upon a plan of "Katama Acres drawn by Hollis A. Smith., M.S., Vineyard Haven, MA., September 1950" filed with Dukes Country Registry of Deeds, October 2, 1950, in Book 218, Page 590.

NORTHERLY by a thirty foot way, one hundred (100) feet;

EASTERLY by Lot 5 two hundred (200) feet;

SOUTHERLY by land of Edwin T. Smith, one hundred (100) feet;

WESTERLY by Lot 9, two hundred (200) feet.

For title, see deed recorded at Dukes Registry of Deeds in Book 1674, Page 642.

TERMS OF SALE

A deposit of TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS ($25,000.00) by wire transfer, certified check, or bank check will be required to be delivered by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance of the purchase price is to be paid by certified or bank check at the offices of Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C., 225 Asylum Street, 20th Floor, Hartford, CT 06103 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at sale.

U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, as Trustee for Velocity Commercial Capital Loan Trust 2024-2 present holder of said mortgage; By its Attorneys: Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C., 225 Asylum Street, 20th Floor, Hartford, CT 06103; Attn: James R. Byrne, Esq., Tel. (860)548-2683
sep4,11,18,3-t

**ADVERTISEMENT TO BID MGL C.149 OVER $150K**
Dukes County Regional Housing Authority seeks sealed electronic bids for building and site improvements in Oak Bluffs, MA. Work includes siding, insulation, windows, kitchens, baths, flooring, a new hot water heater, fixing a structural crack, and site upgrades. Estimated cost: $445,075. Bidders must be DCAMM certified. Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §§26 to 27H inclusive.
View documents and submit bids via biddocs.com by 9/23/2026, 3:00PM EST. No hard copies accepted.
aug28,sep4,2-t

## Oak Bluffs Legal Notices

**TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS**
The Town of Oak Bluffs is seeking new members for several important committees.

- Capital Improvement Committee
- Climate and Energy Committee
- Community Preservation Committee
- Council on Aging - Alternate

Interested residents should send a letter of interest/qualifications to Debra Alley Executive Assistant - Select Board, bosadmin@oakbluffsma.gov
P.O. Box 1327, Oak Bluffs, MA 02557 by September 18, 2026
sep4.1-t

## General Legal Notices

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**
**THE TRIAL COURT**
**PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT**
**DOCKET NO. DU23P0059EA**
**ESTATE OF: MAURICE VICTOR VOSGES, JR.**
**DATE OF DEATH: 03/24/2012**

**CITATION ON PETITION FOR REMOVAL**

To all interested persons:

A petition has been filed by:
Monique S. Vosges-Barnes of Coopersburg, PA
requesting that
Maurice J. Vosges, III of Brooklyn, NY
be removed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 09/22/2026.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. Susan L. Jacobs, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 26, 2026
Daphne DeVries
Register of Probate
Dukes County Probate and Family Court
PO Box 237
81 Main Street
Edgartown, MA 02539
(508)627-4703
sep4,1-t

**LEGAL NOTICE**
**HOUSING ASSISTANCE CORPORATION**
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

Housing Assistance Corporation is advertising for Contractors to work within the federally funded Heating Energy Assistance Retrofit Task Weatherization Assistance Program (HEARTWAP). Clients eligible for HEARTWAP may receive services for oil, gas, and propane heating systems. Wood stoves may be serviced under specific conditions. HEARTWAP requires that Contractors bid on the cost of heating system replacements (oil, gas, propane, wood) and work including, but not limited to CTE (cleaning, tuning, and evaluating), repairs, thermostat replacements and asbestos removal.

A Request for Proposal may be obtained by contacting Melanie Marshall, HEARTWAP Coordinator, Housing Assistance Corporation, 255 Independence Drive, Hyannis, MA 02601 or by calling (508)771-5400 ext. 106. All proposals must be received by Friday, September 18, 2026 at 4:00PM.

This advertisement is subject in all respects to the terms and conditions set forth in the Request for Proposal.

Housing Assistance Corporation is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.
aug28,sep4,11,3-t

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

## General Legal Notices

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**
**THE TRIAL COURT**
**PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT**
**DUKES DIVISION**
**DOCKET NO. DU26P0106EA**
**ESTATE OF: FLORANCE SCOTT CONWAY**
**DATE OF DEATH: 3/24/2026**

**INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of
Petitioner Laura C. Williams of New Orleans, LA
a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Laura C. Williams of New Orleans, LA
has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Dukes County Probate and Family Court
PO Box 237
81 Main Street
Edgartown, MA 02539
(508)627-4703
sep4,1-t

**UP ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**
**REQUEST FOR SERVICES**
**ON-CALL OWNER'S PROJECT MANAGER SERVICES #27-02**

The Up Island Regional School District is seeking Proposals to provide On-Call Owner's Project Manager Services for smaller projects for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 until June 30, 2027. The contract may be extended through FY29 at the discretion of the District(s).

Details regarding specifications, pre-bid conference, as well as required forms, are available in the Central Office by emailing Jocelyn Broadley jbroadley@mvyps.org. Proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to Mark Friedman, Chief Procurement Officer, labeled "UIRSD On-Call OPM #27-02 Proposal", and be received at 4 Pine Street, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568 by Thursday, September 24, 2026 by 4:00PM (Eastern Standard Time). If Bids are being delivered in person, Bids must be placed in secure drop box at front door at 4 Pine Street, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568. The Up Island Regional School District reserve the right to reject any or all Proposals.
aug28,sep4,2-t

**NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

28 Beach Road, Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Commercial Mortgage, Security Agreement and Assignment of Leases and Rents from Lewis Real Estate Services, LLC to Velocity Commercial Capital, LLC, dated February 12, 2026, and recorded with the Dukes County Registry of Deeds in Book 01729 at Page 812, which Mortgage was assigned to U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, as Trustee for Velocity Commercial Capital Loan Trust 2026-2, by virtue of an Assignment of Commercial Mortgage, Security Agreement and Assignment of Leases and Rents dated June 1, 2026, and recorded on June 2, 2026, in Book 01737 at Page 1008 of the Dukes County Registry of Deeds, of which Mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 p.m. on September 28, 2026, at 28 Beach Road, Oak Bluffs, MA 02557, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

A certain parcel of land, with the buildings thereon, situated in Oak Bluffs, County of Dukes, Commonwealth of Massachusetts being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Being Lots numbered sixty-eight (68), sixty-nine (69), seventy (70), seventy-one (71) and seventy-two (72) "Oak Bluffs Beach," Oaks Bluffs, Massachusetts, October 26, 1908. Drawn by William F. Swift and filed with Dukes County Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 5, Page 22.

Easterly by Lot sixty-seventy (67) on said plan;

Southerly by land now or formerly of Leona Savage;

Westerly by Lot seventy-three (73) on said plan; and

Northerly by Beach Street as set forth on said plan.

ALSO a parcel of land in the rear of the above described lots bounded and described as follows:

Beginning as the Southeasterly corner of Lot No. 68 on said plan at the Southwesterly corner of Lot No. 67; thence Southwesterly abut one hundred eighty-six (186) feet in continuation of the Northeasterly side of Lot No. 68 by land now or formerly of Eugene Carpenter to the Northerly side of an unnamed way; thence Southwesterly by the Northerly side of said way to a point which is in a Southeasterly prolongation of the Southwesterly side of Lot No. 72 as shown on said plan; thence Northwesterly on a prolongation of Lot No. 72 to the Southwesterly corner of Lot No. 72; thence Northeasterly by the rear lines of Lots Numbered 72, 71, 70, 69 and 68 to the point of beginning.

SECOND PARCEL

All my right, title and interest in and to land in said Oak Bluffs, being Lot No. 67 "Oak Bluffs Beach" as delineated and set forth upon a plan of "Oak Bluffs Beach," Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts, October 26, 1908. Drawn by William F. Swift and filed with Dukes County Registry of Deeds, in Plan Book 5, Page 22.

For title see Deed recorded with the Dukes County Registry of Deeds in Book 1492, Page 888.

TERMS OF SALE

A deposit of TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS ($25,000.00) by wire transfer, certified check, or bank check will be required to be delivered by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance of the purchase price is to be paid by certified or bank check at the offices of Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C., 225 Asylum Street, 20th Floor, Hartford, CT 06103 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at sale.

U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, as Trustee for Velocity Commercial Capital Loan Trust 2026-2 present holder of said mortgage; By its Attorneys: Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C., 225 Asylum Street, 20th Floor, Hartford, CT 06103; Attn: James R. Byrne, Esq., Tel. (860)548-2683
sep4,11,18,3-t

**NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

Premises: 44 Chase Road, Edgartown, MA 02539

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Robert G. White and Corrine Rogers to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., and now held by **U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust,** said mortgage dated November 21, 2007 and recorded in the Dukes County Registry of Deeds in Book 1136, Page 944, as affected by Default Judgment dated April 27, 2026 and recorded in said Registry in Book 1735, Page 123, as affected by a Loan Modification dated May 1, 2013 and recorded in the Dukes County Registry of Deeds in Book 1316, Page 1065; as affected by a Loan Modification dated April 1, 2017 and recorded in the Dukes County Registry of Deeds in Book 1435, Page 20; said mortgage was assigned from JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association to Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment dated March 20, 2018 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 1463, Page 1053; said mortgage was assigned from Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC to Federal National Mortgage Association by assignment dated January 5, 2022 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 1612, Page 695; said mortgage was assigned from Federal National Mortgage Association to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust by assignment dated February 1, 2022 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 1612, Page 989; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on October 2, 2026 at 04:00PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

Two certain parcels of land with the buildings thereon situated in Edgartown, County of Dukes County and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows: FIRST PARCEL: BEGINNING at a cement bound at the southeasterly corner of the premise to be conveyed at the corner of Chase Road; thence S 76° 52' 23" E by said Chase Road sixty-five and 36/100 (65.36) feet to a cement bound and land of Lawrence and Bertha S. Jeffers; thence N 12° 02' 55" W by land of said Jeffers one hundred thirty-four (134) feet to land now or formerly of Cyprien P. R. Dube; thence ?N 55° 49' 15" E by land now or formerly of said Dube one hundred twenty-three and 05/100 (123.05) feet to a· cement bound and Chase Road; thence S 03° 08' 40" E by Chase Road one hundred eighty-five and 62/100 (185.62) feet to the first mentioned bound and place of BEGINNING. Containing 13,680 square feet of land, more or less. SECOND PARCEL: BEGINNING at a point two hundred five (205) feet southwesterly from a bound at the northerly corner of land now or formerly of Cyprien P. R. Dube at Hendrickson's fence (see Book 229, Page 312) thence running southwesterly by said fence about seventy-four (74) feet to land of Lawrence and Bertha S. Jeffers; thence easterly by said Jeffers land about seventy-six (76) feet to land now or formerly of said Dube; thence

N 55° 49' 15" W by land now or formerly of said Dube to a point two hundred five (205) feet from the northeasterly bound of land of said Dube as recorded in a deed dated October 19, 1955, Book 229, Page 312, Dukes County Deeds; thence S 35° 40' E about sixty (60) feet to the point or place of BEGINNING. For title see deed recorded Joseph A. White and Helen P. White to George E. White and Hilda A. White dated January 12, 1967, recorded with Dukes County Registry of Deeds in Book 265, Page 246.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated January 12, 2004 and recorded in the Dukes County Registry of Deeds in Book 989, Page 705 as affected by Default Judgment dated April 27, 2026 and recorded in said Registry in Book 1735, Page 123.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

FIVE THOUSAND ($5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street 2nd Floor Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
sep4,11,18,3-t

# TIDE AND TIME

| | Saturday, Sep. 5 | | | | Sunday, Sep. 6 | | | | Monday, Sep. 7 | | | | Tuesday, Sep. 8 | | | | Wednesday, Sep. 9 | | | | Thursday, Sep. 10 | | | | Friday, Sep. 11 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | High Water | | Low Water | | High Water | | Low Water | | High Water | | Low Water | | High Water | | Low Water | | High Water | | Low Water | | High Water | | Low Water | | High Water | | Low Water | |
| | a.m. | p.m. | a.m. | p.m. | a.m. | p.m. | a.m. | p.m. | a.m. | p.m. | a.m. | p.m. | a.m. | p.m. | a.m. | p.m. | a.m. | p.m. | a.m. | p.m. | a.m. | p.m. | a.m. | p.m. | a.m. | p.m. | a.m. | p.m. |
| **Cape Pogue** | 6:49 | 7:07 | --:-- | 12:10 | 7:56 | 8:14 | 1:01 | 1:14 | 9:04 | 9:21 | 2:07 | 2:20 | 10:09 | 10:25 | 3:10 | 3:24 | 11:06 | 11:22 | 4:08 | 4:23 | 11:56 | --:-- | 5:00 | 5:17 | 12:15 | 12:43 | 5:47 | 6:07 |
| **Edgartown** | 7:00 | 7:18 | 12:11 | 12:24 | 8:07 | 8:25 | 1:15 | 1:28 | 9:15 | 9:32 | 2:21 | 2:34 | 10:20 | 10:36 | 3:24 | 3:38 | 11:17 | 11:33 | 4:22 | 4:37 | --:-- | 12:07 | 5:14 | 5:31 | 12:26 | 12:54 | 6:01 | 6:21 |
| **Oak Bluffs** | 6:35 | 6:53 | 11:58 | --:-- | 7:42 | 8:00 | 12:49 | 1:02 | 8:50 | 9:07 | 1:55 | 2:08 | 9:55 | 10:11 | 2:58 | 3:12 | 10:52 | 11:08 | 3:56 | 4:11 | 11:42 | --:-- | 4:48 | 5:05 | 12:01 | 12:29 | 5:35 | 5:55 |
| **East Chop** | 6:32 | 6:50 | 11:54 | --:-- | 7:39 | 7:57 | 12:45 | 12:58 | 8:47 | 9:04 | 1:51 | 2:04 | 9:52 | 10:08 | 2:54 | 3:08 | 10:49 | 11:05 | 3:52 | 4:07 | 11:39 | 11:58 | 4:44 | 5:01 | --:-- | 12:26 | 5:31 | 5:51 |
| **Vineyard Haven** | 6:30 | 6:48 | --:-- | 12:07 | 7:37 | 7:55 | 12:58 | 1:11 | 8:45 | 9:02 | 2:04 | 2:17 | 9:50 | 10:06 | 3:07 | 3:21 | 10:47 | 11:03 | 4:05 | 4:20 | 11:37 | 11:56 | 4:57 | 5:14 | --:-- | 12:24 | 5:44 | 6:04 |
| **West Chop** | 6:21 | 6:39 | 11:37 | --:-- | 7:28 | 7:46 | 12:28 | 12:41 | 8:36 | 8:53 | 1:34 | 1:47 | 9:41 | 9:57 | 2:37 | 2:51 | 10:38 | 10:54 | 3:35 | 3:50 | 11:28 | 11:47 | 4:27 | 4:44 | --:-- | 12:15 | 5:14 | 5:34 |
| **Off Lake Tashmoo** | 3:50 | 4:22 | 10:04 | --:-- | 4:56 | 5:33 | 11:31 | --:-- | 6:05 | 6:42 | 1:41 | 12:55 | 7:08 | 7:40 | 2:28 | 2:00 | 8:03 | 8:31 | 3:08 | 2:53 | 8:53 | 9:17 | 3:43 | 3:43 | 9:40 | --:-- | 4:15 | 4:30 |
| **Cedar Tree Neck** | 2:52 | 3:24 | 9:25 | --:-- | 3:58 | 4:35 | 10:52 | --:-- | 5:07 | 5:44 | 1:02 | 12:16 | 6:10 | 6:42 | 1:49 | 1:21 | 7:05 | 7:33 | 2:29 | 2:14 | 7:55 | 8:19 | 3:04 | 3:04 | 8:42 | --:-- | 3:36 | 3:51 |
| **Menemsha Bight** | 2:44 | 3:16 | 8:30 | 11:10 | 3:50 | 4:27 | 9:57 | --:-- | 4:59 | 5:36 | 11:21 | --:-- | 6:02 | 6:34 | 12:54 | 12:26 | 6:57 | 7:25 | 1:34 | 1:19 | 7:47 | 8:11 | 2:09 | 2:09 | 8:34 | --:-- | 2:41 | 2:56 |
| **Gay Head** | 2:36 | 3:08 | 8:38 | 11:18 | 3:42 | 4:19 | 10:05 | --:-- | 4:51 | 5:28 | 11:29 | --:-- | 5:54 | 6:26 | 1:02 | 12:34 | 6:49 | 7:17 | 1:42 | 1:27 | 7:39 | 8:03 | 2:17 | 2:17 | 8:26 | --:-- | 2:49 | 3:04 |
| **Squibnocket Point** | 1:57 | 2:29 | 7:51 | 10:31 | 3:03 | 3:40 | 9:18 | 11:28 | 4:12 | 4:49 | 10:42 | --:-- | 5:15 | 5:47 | 11:47 | --:-- | 6:10 | 6:38 | 12:55 | 12:40 | 7:00 | 7:24 | 1:30 | 1:30 | 7:47 | --:-- | 2:02 | 2:17 |
| **Off Chilmark Pond** | 2:26 | 2:58 | 7:57 | 10:37 | 3:32 | 4:09 | 9:24 | 11:34 | 4:41 | 5:18 | 10:48 | --:-- | 5:44 | 6:16 | 11:53 | --:-- | 6:39 | 7:07 | 1:01 | 12:46 | 7:29 | 7:53 | 1:36 | 1:36 | 8:16 | --:-- | 2:08 | 2:23 |
| **Off Jobs Neck Pond** | 2:43 | 3:15 | 8:15 | 10:55 | 3:49 | 4:26 | 9:42 | 11:52 | 4:58 | 5:35 | 11:06 | --:-- | 6:01 | 6:33 | 12:39 | 12:11 | 6:56 | 7:24 | 1:19 | 1:04 | 7:46 | 8:10 | 1:54 | 1:54 | 8:33 | --:-- | 2:26 | 2:41 |
| **Wasque Point** | 4:44 | 5:16 | 11:13 | --:-- | 5:50 | 6:27 | 1:53 | 12:40 | 6:59 | 7:36 | 2:50 | 2:04 | 8:02 | 8:34 | 3:37 | 3:09 | 8:57 | 9:25 | 4:17 | 4:02 | 9:47 | 10:11 | 4:52 | 4:52 | 10:34 | --:-- | 5:24 | 5:39 |
| **SLACK WATER** | Begin Ebb | | Begin Flood | | Begin Ebb | | Begin Flood | | Begin Ebb | | Begin Flood | | Begin Ebb | | Begin Flood | | Begin Ebb | | Begin Flood | | Begin Ebb | | Begin Flood | | Begin Ebb | | Begin Flood | |
| **Wasque Point (2 mi. SW)** | 4:50 | 5:05 | 10:21 | 10:48 | 6:01 | 6:15 | 11:35 | --:-- | 7:11 | 7:23 | 12:01 | 12:50 | 8:15 | 8:26 | 1:12 | 1:57 | 9:12 | 9:23 | 2:16 | 2:55 | 10:03 | 10:15 | 3:13 | 3:46 | 10:49 | --:-- | 4:04 | 4:32 |
| **Hedge Fence Gong 22** | 6:08 | 6:23 | 11:46 | --:-- | 7:19 | 7:33 | 12:13 | 1:00 | 8:29 | 8:41 | 1:26 | 2:15 | 9:33 | 9:44 | 2:37 | 3:22 | 10:30 | 10:41 | 3:41 | 4:20 | 11:21 | 11:33 | 4:38 | 5:11 | --:-- | 12:07 | 5:29 | 5:57 |
| **East Chop (1 mi. N)** | 6:00 | 6:15 | 11:31 | 11:58 | 7:11 | 7:25 | --:-- | 12:45 | 8:21 | 8:33 | 1:11 | 2:00 | 9:25 | 9:36 | 2:22 | 3:07 | 10:22 | 10:33 | 3:26 | 4:05 | 11:13 | 11:25 | 4:23 | 4:56 | 11:59 | --:-- | 5:14 | 5:42 |
| **Norton Point (.5 mi. N)** | 5:15 | 5:30 | 11:01 | 11:28 | 6:26 | 6:40 | --:-- | 12:15 | 7:36 | 7:48 | 12:41 | 1:30 | 8:40 | 8:51 | 1:52 | 2:37 | 9:37 | 9:48 | 2:56 | 3:35 | 10:28 | 10:40 | 3:53 | 4:26 | 11:14 | --:-- | 4:44 | 5:12 |
| **Gay Head (1.5 mi. NW)** | 4:50 | 5:05 | 10:36 | 11:03 | 6:01 | 6:15 | 11:50 | --:-- | 7:11 | 7:23 | 12:16 | 1:05 | 8:15 | 8:26 | 1:27 | 2:12 | 9:12 | 9:23 | 2:31 | 3:10 | 10:03 | 10:15 | 3:28 | 4:01 | 10:49 | --:-- | 4:19 | 4:47 |

Source: National Ocean Survey and Tidal Current Tables

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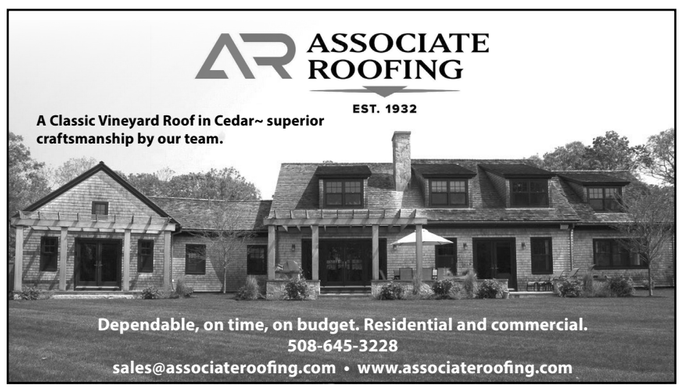

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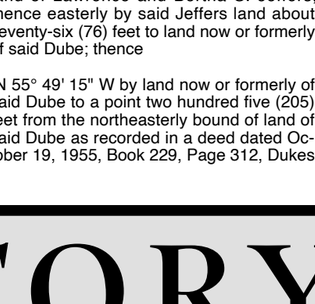

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# All Outdoors

## *Azures in the Air*

By SUZAN BELLINCAMPI

Spring Azure Complex is not a physiological condition listed in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

Then, I must not be crazy to be confused by a delicate frosty gray/blue/white azure butterfly that has been frequenting my flowering mints. Historically, others have also been perplexed, thus the description of that seemingly serious syndrome. The North American Butterfly Association suggest that "all it takes for a spirited argument are two taxonomists and one azure."

Azures are small butterflies that challenge taxonomists and hobbyists alike. Identifying the species in the genus can be difficult, but the one recently observed, I suspect, was Celastrina neglecta, or summer azure. The name, neglecta, fits, since the species was originally assumed to be a member of another Celastrina species, and disregarded as its own species.

Summer azures had a bit of an identity crisis. They were first described as spring azures and, eventually, differentiated from those butterflies by 19th-century coalman William Henry Edwards. Though he made his money in mining, his passion was not buried under the ground, but flying above his mines. His entomological pursuits focused on butterflies and he is remembered for his studies, as well as for publication of Butterflies of North America, three volumes of lepidoptera love.

Edwards was the first in 1875, but not the last, to look closely at the independence of summer azure butterflies. A year later, entomologist Sam Scudder weighed in, then JW Tutt in the early 20th century. Scientists continued the study and debate until a perhaps final designation on the individuality of this species was confirmed at the turn of the 21st century by modern researchers.

Eight different azure butterflies can be observed in eastern North America. Closer to home, we usually see three types — spring, summer and cherry gall azures.

Generally, the early azures are spring azures, often one of the first butterflies seen in late March and early April. Cherry Gall Azures fly in May, and from June through September, summer azures are most likely the azures in the air.

These little loves, with an average one-inch wingspan, have been plentiful in my yard this season. They nectar on many plant species included vetch, yarrow, Queen Anne's lace, wild oregano, mints, Joe Pyeweed, goldenrods and other late summer bloomers. Summer azures can be on the wing into late summer and even early fall.

Herein lies some of the confusion between the spring and summer azures, since there can be some crossover when both spring and summer varieties are on the wing.

Male and female summer azures can be differentiated if you can get your eyes on these fast-flitting and erratic fliers. Males tend to be more iridescent blue on their upper side wings, while females are paler blue. There are a few more differences that eagle-eyed observers and those with magnification or a really good camera lens can discern.

Laying turquoise-white eggs on plant buds and flowers, summer azure eggs hatch into green caterpillars that have a backbone-like pattern. These caterpillars have a symbiotic relationship with ants that consume the caterpillars' honeydew excretions and, in exchange, protect them from predators as body guards of sorts. The caterpillars pupate and overwinter as a brown chrysalis and emerge the next season.

There is still time to observe azures before they wait out winter. If you see them now or at any time, don't go nuts trying to sort out the species. Just use the calendar and common sense and be azured that you will most likely get it right.

*Suzan Bellincampi is director of the Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary in Edgartown, and author of Martha's Vineyard: A Field Guide to Island Nature and The Nature of Martha's Vineyard.*



*Suzan Bellincampi*

**Summer azures.**

# Bird News

## *Still Singing*

By ROBERT CULBERT

How late in the year will birds continue to sing? Eastern wood pewees are still occasionally singing across the Island, with 13 sightings (mostly by ear?) this past week: Felix Neck (early birders, four, August 27), Presbury-Norton Preserve (Helena Firlings, one, August 27), Hoft Farm (Kyleigh Miklos, one, August 23), Polly Hill Arboretum (David Meadows and Emily Diamond, two, August 26), Cedar Tree Neck (me, three, August 29), North Road (David Benvent, one, August 23), Great Rock Bight (Jennifer Slossberg, two, August 23), Middle Line Woods (Jennifer Slossberg, one, August 24), Middle Road Sanctuary (Emily Diamond and David Meadows, one, August 28), Waskosim's Rock Reservation (Helena Firlings, one, August 28, near Lighthouse Road (David Benvent, one, August 25), Squibnocket Pond Reservation South (me, one, August 26), and Aquinnah (Bob Shriber, two, August 26).

Red-eyed vireos are also singing sporadically: Felix Neck (David Benvent, one, August 25, and Steve Allen, one, August 26), Middle Line Woods (Jennifer Slossberg, one, August 24), Polly Hill Arboretum (David Meadows and Emily Diamond, three, August 26), Cedar Tree Neck (me, two, August 29), Middle Road Sanctuary (David Meadows and Emily Diamond, one, August 28), near Lighthouse Road (David Benvent , two, August 25), Clay Pit Road (David Benvent, one, August 25), Squibnocket Pond Reservation South (me, one, August 26), and Aquinnah (Bob Shriber and David Benvent, five, August 26).

I have also noted the scarcity of singing Carolina wrens – their song is loud and easy to hear, usually into December. Are they less common due to the harsh winter snow and cold last winter?

Two firsts for the season were reported this week. David Benvent visited Felix Neck on August 25 and spotted a least flycatcher, and both Bob Shriber and David Benvent discovered one eastern warbling vireo in Aquinnah the next day.

There were 16 early birders at Felix Neck on August 27, and they observed 32 species, including two lesser yellowlegs, four greater yellowlegs, one eastern phoebe and five great-crested flycatchers. Later that day, Fleur Ng'weno and Monica Brady-Myerov found one of those great-cresteds at Felix Neck.

Warblers will take a more prominent role in this column as their southbound migration increases through September. The warbler of the week is the northern waterthrush. David Benvent had multiple sightings, one at Dogfish Bar on August 23, another at Pond Road in West Tisbury on August 24, one at the Gay Head Cliffs on August 25, and three waterthrushes, 17 prairie warblers and three Cape May warblers at the Gay Head Cliffs the next day.



*Lanny McDowell*

**Black skimmer.**

On August 27, John Nelson had a waterthrush in Harthaven. An unusually high number of pine warblers (15) were observed by Steve Allen tally at Felix Neck on August 26.

David Benvent counted 17 purple martins and 85 barn swallows at the Gay Head Cliffs on August 25, but only one martin sped past me at the Gay Head Lighthouse on August 30.

Jennifer Slossberg spotted one scarlet tanager at Middle Line Woods on August 24. David Benvent and Nancy Weaver observed two blue-gray gnatcatchers and 377 cedar waxwings — with many large flocks — at the Gay Head Cliffs on August 26, and Helena Firlings found two brown creepers at the Presbury-Norton Preserve on August 27.

Great blue herons are around. On Aug. 23, David Benvent observed one at Pond Road in West Tisbury, Megan Zambito located one at Eel Pond and David Benvent had one at Crackatuxet Cove. Kristen Kanders saw one at Cove Meadow Preserve on August 24, David Meadows and Emily Diamond spotted one at Felix Neck on August 24, and the early birders counted two at Felix Neck on August 27.

Janet Woodcock and Nancy Weaver observed two black-crowned night-herons and counted 30 great egrets on Edy's Island on August 24, David Benvent found a lingering yellow-crowned night-heron and 14 great egrets at Felix Neck on August 25, and Dahlia Rudavsky and Bob Jampol watched 11 great egrets in the marshes at the Caroline Tuthill Preserve on August 30.

Terns are still around, with common and roseate terns most common, but Warren Woessner and Allan Keith spotted a Forster's tern on Norton Point on August 20, and Philip Edmundson had one along West Tisbury's South Shore on August 26.

Guy and Susan Babineau found one black skimmer on Norton Point on August 23, the same day that Janet Woodcock and Nancy Weaver counted 17 skimmers there. These two intrepid birders also observed four least terns at Menemsha Pond on August 24, and Charles Morano watched one black tern at North Neck on August 27.

A wide variety of shorebirds are still around, sometimes in large numbers. The most unusual sighting is from Charles Morano, who spotted two long-billed dowitchers and one western sandpiper on Cape Pogue on August 27. Dahlia Rudavsky and Bob Jampol counted 52 yellowlegs in the marshes by the Ocean Heights town landing on August 28 — most were greaters, but some were lessers.

Semipalmated plovers and semipalmated sandpipers are widespread. By the way, semipalmated refers to the partial webbing between their toes, which is not a useful field mark unless the bird is in your hand. Norton Point is the best place to find large flocks of both semipalmated species.

On August 23, Guy and Susan Babineau found 100 plovers, Janet Woodcock and Nancy Weaver counted 97 plovers and 11 sandpipers, and David Benvent saw 75 plovers and three sandpipers there on August 24. These two species can be found elsewhere too. David Benvent spotted 25 plovers at Red Beach on August 23, and Janet Woodcock and Nancy Weaver observed 31 plovers and 11 sandpipers on Menemsha Pond on August 24. Smaller numbers were reported from Little Beach, West Tisbury's south shore, Chilmark Pond, Squibnocket Beach, Lobsterville Beach and the Gay Head Cliffs.

One final note, other species that can be found at this time of the year are buff-breasted sandpipers, American golden plovers, common nighthawks and yellow-headed blackbirds. Where are they?

Please email your sightings to birds@vineyardgazette.com.

*Robert Culbert is an ecological consultant living in Vineyard Haven.*

# The Vineyard Gardener



## *September Shift*

By LYNNE IRONS

September 1 took a pleasant turn. It was cold and rainy and I got to spend the day doing whatever I wanted. It was back-to-school weather, like I remember. Of course, growing up in Western Pennsylvania, September 1 was really the end of summer. The crops in local gardens were hit with a killing front within a week or so.

Here, on the other hand, with the surrounding warm ocean, we can still have warm weather crops sometimes past Halloween. In that spirit, I seeded some sugar snap peas and green beans this week. Both can be ready to harvest in a mere 60 days. The same is true for cucumbers and zucchini. I confess I may have had enough of those particular crops. Both produced like crazy this summer.

I love oddities in a garden. For example right now there is a single blossom on the white rhododendron.

While on a job site this week, Violet was deadheading and noticed a fallen Dara plant. It was moving, she pulled at it and it pulled back. A fat vole was on the other end. We had a good laugh and then figured that Dara is a cousin of Queen Anne's Lace. Since they are members of the carrot family, the vole, a vegetarian, found it interesting. Don't quote me, I made that up.

I dug the potatoes. This year, I planted them in fish totes covered with a good amount of hay. It seemed to keep them safe from rodents. My lazy cat refuses to do her job. At any rate, some of the spuds were small — the size of marbles. I usually save them for replanting in the spring, but they were so cute and tempting that I gave a quick scrub and cooked them. With salt and butter, Violet and I ate nothing else for lunch.

At the hospice building on State Road, just out of Vineyard Haven, there is a large pear tree. It has dropped tons of fruit, sadly, all over the road and sidewalk. My jumping out of the truck days are behind me. Years ago, I would have gathered my shirt full, while stalled in traffic. Right up the street there is a house with a tall fence. A lone sunflower is peering over that fence, to the enjoyment of passerbyers.

I heard on NPR that, on average, the American consumer throws away 500 pounds of plastic a year. It took a while for that to sink in, since I am a nutcase about plastic waste. This is leading to a perfect segue concerning the plastic containers of lettuce on sale everywhere (except local farms and markets). That same lettuce has now caused serious health issues. Other foods have now been recalled or are in question — so much for making America healthy again.

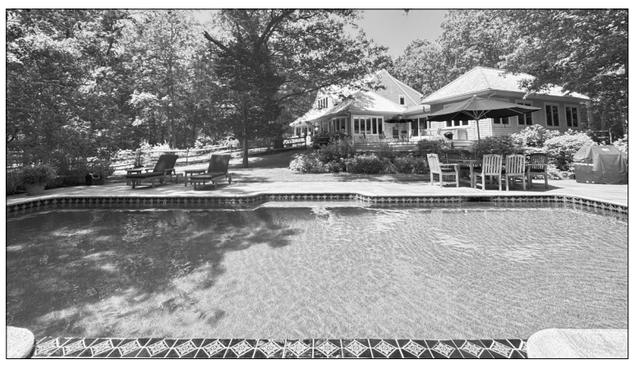
There was a reason for strict federal regulations of our farms and foods. Then, the DOGE boys came in with their anti-regulation playbook and slashed the federal workforce. Space prevents me from going all in here, so I guess I'll close with grow your own or shop local.



*Tim Johnson*

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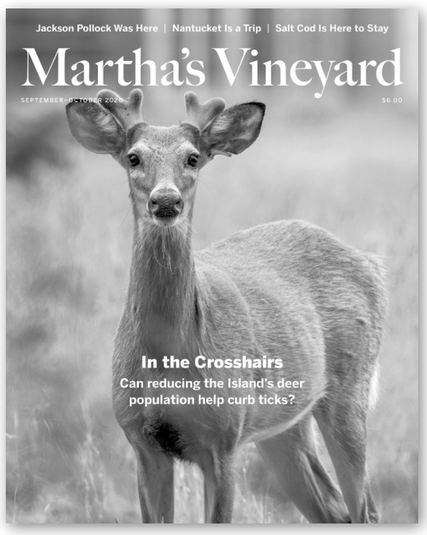
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