

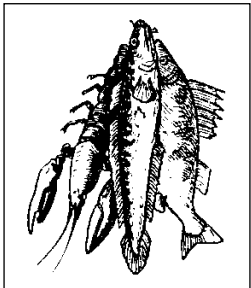
VINEYARD

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.



GAZETTE

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.



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Business and Music Fuel SSA Representative

By LOUISA HUFSTADER

As a business consultant specializing in troubled companies, Ted Gavin has seen organizations at their worst, facing bankruptcy, lost jobs and forced sales. As the Dukes County appointee on the Steamship Authority governing board, Mr. Gavin now is calling for a shift toward more transparency and accountability from the Island's lifeline.

"The biggest change that's needed is a culture change," he said, during a wide-ranging interview at the Gazette offices in Edgartown last month.

Some things already are changing under general manager Alex Kryska, said Mr. Gavin, who was appointed to the board in March by the Dukes County Commission.

Mr. Kryska, who took over in January from former longtime general manager Robert Davis, took a noteworthy step in September by firing an employee who failed to follow Steamship Authority procedures for scheduling ferry inspections and license renewals, Mr. Gavin said.

Two ferries — including the authority's largest, M/V Island Home — were abruptly pulled from the Vineyard route, leaving passengers stranded for hours.

"The fact that somebody who was responsible for a documentary lapse, just a paperwork lapse, was relieved of their position and terminated, is night and day compared to, for example, the Sankaty slipping its mooring and nobody facing disciplinary action," Mr. Gavin said, referring to a 2023 incident in which the improperly-secured freight ferry came loose in Woods Hole and drifted into a private dock nearby.

"I'm happy to see that accountability is becoming part of the culture there, and it's important because ... they need to respect the people that they work

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Shenandoah was towed out to sea early Saturday morning.

Ray Ewing

Marijuana Is On the Ballot

Repeal of Recreational Sales Is Focus of Question Before Voters In Upcoming November Election

By ETHAN GENTER

A ballot question at the Nov. 3 election seeks to roll back the legalization of recreational marijuana stores in Massachusetts and could, in the process, cut off the Island's current access to legal marijuana.

Massachusetts was the first state on the east coast to legalize adult-use marijuana in 2016, but the Coalition for a Healthy Massachusetts, the organization behind the ballot initiative, argued that recreational marijuana has created health concerns and a burden to the taxpayers to mitigate legalization's effects.

"If this was passed, there would be no retail medical marijuana on the Vineyard. You wind up going to the illicit market."

The ballot question would repeal the law that allowed commercial, non-medical stores to sell cannabis products in Massachusetts and also change the legal possession limits.

If passed, currently licensed adult recreational stores would be allowed to apply to become a licensed medical marijuana dispensary and sell their inventory to medical dispensaries.

The proposal was concerning to Geoff Rose, the owner of Island Time, a recreational cannabis store in Vineyard Haven that is the lone legal purveyor of marijuana on the Island.

"We are all about safe and responsible

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Legendary schooner is now docked in Connecticut.

Ray Ewing

Shenandoah Ends Vineyard Chapter and Sails to Mystic

By ETHAN GENTER

The Island's iconic schooner Shenandoah headed out of Vineyard Haven harbor this past weekend as the ship owners and a Connecticut nonprofit consider a transfer of ownership.

While details of a potential deal are still being hammered out, the Martha's Vineyard Ocean Academy on Oct. 3 sailed the group's 63-year-old vessel to Mystic and docked it at the Mystic Nautical Heritage Society for the winter.

Now safely in Connecticut, the nau-

tical heritage society will stabilize the aging topsail schooner and conduct a survey to tally up the needs of the vessel, the Ocean Academy, nautical heritage society and Island supporters said.

That survey will help chart the course for the future of the beloved vessel and determine if work can be done to keep

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When Not Casting, Follow the Fillet

By EMMA KILBRIDE

When a bluefish or bonito crosses the scale at the Martha's Vineyard Striped Bass and Bluefish Derby headquarters in Edgartown, the angler who caught it must answer a question: "Would you like to donate to the fillet program?"

If the angler answers "yes," their catch will be taken outside to the fillet station, a floating raft in the harbor where volunteers will slice it up and pack it in ice. From there, it will embark on a journey — helped along by the derby committee, the Martha's Vineyard Seafood Collaborative, the Island's councils on aging, health officials, Island Grown Initiative and countless volunteers — that lands it on the table of an aging or food insecure Islander.

"To me, [the fillet program] is one of the best parts of the derby that doesn't get enough attention," said derby president John Custer, whose first role with the derby was as a fillet station volunteer in the 1990s.

According to derby committee member Phil Horton, roughly 40 per cent of the total combined weight of bluefish and bonito brought to headquarters constitutes meat that is filleted for distribution. As of Wednesday afternoon, that was 1,456 pounds of bluefish and 873.6 pounds of bonito. Albies are not eligible for the fillet program, but are largely donated to lobstermen to be used as bait along with the scraps from



Ray Ewing

Phil Horton at the weigh-in station. After the tally, many fillets become a key food source for Vineyarders.

the fillet station.

Derby committee member Jonathan Herman oversees the fillet program. He coordinates with everyone involved in the distribution chain, and even delivers fish himself on weekends.

"It's integral to connecting Islanders to the ocean that surrounds us and the people who fish it," Mr. Herman told the Gazette. "You'd be surprised at how many seniors really gush to me about how much they love it and really look forward to it."

The derby committee is serious about food safety. Katie Carroll, vice chairman of the derby committee and

a former member of the Chilmark board of health, keeps the protocols tight and handles communication with the Edgartown board of health.

"We have had protocols in place ever since the fillet program began," Ms. Carroll said. "Each year, we sort of work on [the protocols] a little bit more, just to really streamline things and adhere to standard operating protocols that are administered by the board of health."

Last year, the derby began working with the Martha's Vineyard Seafood Collaborative to distribute the fillets. The Seafood Collaborative has refrigerated trucks and the packaging

equipment in Menemsha to keep the fillets cold throughout the distribution process.

"When the derby reached out to see if we could help integrate and partner with their program, it was kind of a natural collaboration," said Shelley Edmundson, executive director of the Martha's Vineyard Seafood Collaborative and Martha's Vineyard Fisherman's Preservation Trust.

Every weekday morning, Isaac Macy of the Seafood Collaborative and Fisherman's Preservation Trust picks up the previous day's catch at the weigh station

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Cotton Pleads Not Guilty to Murder Charge

By ETHAN GENTER

A Vineyard woman pleaded not guilty in Dukes County Superior Court Thursday to a charge of murder connected to the death of an infant that she was babysitting last year.

Aimee Cotton, 41, also pleaded not guilty to reckless endangerment of a child. Both charges stem from the death of Frank Rodenbaugh, a two-year-old who was under Ms. Cotton's care in March 2025.

Ms. Cotton is accused of leaving Frank and another child in her SUV alone for several hours while she did chores inside her Oak Bluffs home. Ms. Cotton later found Frank unresponsive in the vehicle, and he died after nearly a week in intensive care.

Ms. Cotton was previously charged with manslaughter and the case had been moved to Cape Cod for a trial. A Dukes County grand jury later indicted Ms. Cotton this August on an elevated second degree murder charge.

Thursday's hearing was brief, lasting only a few minutes. Ms. Cotton's lawyer, Matthew Bober, entered her plea with Dukes County Superior Court Judge Peter Krupp, and assistant district attorney Courtney Scalise requested the previous bail set in the manslaughter case be transferred to the murder and reckless endangerment charges.

Ms. Cotton's bail was set at \$23,800, and she is to stay away from the victims, their families and witnesses in the case. She is also not allowed to run a daycare or supervise children under five.

Before the arraignment, Frank's father Matthew Rodenbaugh put out a call out to the community to come to the courthouse to join him and demand justice for the family.

"One year ago this week, she stood in that same courthouse charged with manslaughter," Mr. Rodenbaugh said in a statement. "[My wife] Julie and I have

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PLEASE RECYCLE

Air Traffic Slows After Record Years

By ETHAN GENTER

Summer commercial air traffic at Martha's Vineyard Airport has leveled off for the first time in several years, but still remains close to recent historic peaks.

For the last four years, the number of people flying in and out of the Island airport has steadily climbed, breaking traffic records along the way. But for the first time in five years, the combined passenger totals in June, July and August saw a slight dip, from nearly 67,000 people in 2025 to about 64,000 people in 2026.

The dip wasn't a major concern for airport director Geoff Freeman, and the overall total was still the second highest tally in the last five years.

"Overall, it was fairly steady," said Mr. Freeman.

But the changes could be a sign of changing travel patterns.

The airport did see dips in traffic in July and August of this year when compared to 2025. July, which had 21,805 passengers, dropped by 7.4 per cent and August, with 30,627, fell 5.10 per cent. June was up 6 per cent.

Three major airlines fly into the Vineyard in the summer, along with year-round airline Cape Air and Tradewind, a smaller airline.

JetBlue was running fewer flights this summer, which may have contributed to the dip of a little more than 5,000 passengers. American Airlines did have an uptick, but the company flies smaller planes on the Vineyard, which meant

there wasn't a huge increase. Delta saw slightly more passengers, 4 per cent, in the summer months.

Cape Air had a small drop, and Tradewind saw nearly 900 more passengers this summer.

At the same time, private, military and other non-commercial summer flights reached a peak in the last five years.

These flights are measured differently than commercial, so direct comparisons are difficult. Non-commercial flights are counted by the number of times a plane contacted the air traffic control tower for landings and take offs.

In the summer months this year, non-commercial planes, which include charter flights, private jets, personal planes and military aircraft, called the tower 24,450 times. That was 1,000 more calls than the year prior, which could signal the start of a shift towards more private flights.

"I would say there is a lean toward corporate, private travel charters," said Mr. Freeman.

For Bob Rosenbaum, the chair of the airport commission, the summer travel numbers signaled a healthy year.

"Overall I would say from the commission standpoint, it went extremely well," he said.

Mr. Rosenbaum believed some of the decreases in enplanements were due to weather and other cancellations. Flights to and from the Vineyard are often delayed when there are issues

at major hubs, such as New York and Boston. Steamship Authority travel was also down this summer.

This summer did bring a jump in jet fuel sales. August of this year was the single highest-selling month in the last 10 years, according to data from the airport.

A little more than 438,000 gallons of jet fuel were sold at the airport in August, up from 393,000 gallons in August of the prior fiscal year.

Mr. Freeman said some of the larger corporate jets were going longer distances, prompting them to fuel up here.

As traffic descends from the summer peak, the airport continues its work to renovate the terminal that straddles the Edgartown-West Tisbury town line. The airport received a \$15 million grant from the Federal Aviation Administration in 2024, and started construction in 2025.

When the project wraps up, potentially next year, the airport will be doubled in size, and the departures area will be enclosed. People waiting for their flights to board currently sit under a tent parked alongside the tarmac.

Contractors are in the process of enclosing the roof line on the addition, and will then move to the interior for the winter.

"We will hopefully be up and running and ready for the summer season next year," Mr. Freeman said. "It is going smoothly...There's been nothing other than some weather delays."

Former Tisbury Fire Chief's Lawsuit Dismissed

By ETHAN GENTER

Former Tisbury fire chief Gregory Leland's lawsuit against the town was dismissed in court this week after he failed to show up to the last two hearings.

Mr. Leland sued Tisbury last year and claimed the town did not follow proper procedures when he was terminated over allegations of favoritism and creating an uncomfortable work environment connected to his relationship with the leading paramedic supervisor.

But his case started to crumble earlier this year when there was a breakdown in communication between Mr. Leland and his attorney. In March, Mr. Leland's attorney Katherine Feodoroff asked Dukes County Superior Court Judge Peter Krupp if she could withdraw from the case, and in July said she still hadn't been able to talk to Mr. Leland.

"The situation here was for approximately six to eight months," Ms. Feodoroff said at the time. "I was unable to contact him either by phone, via text, email or regular letter. There was zero contact."

At that point, Judge Krupp ruled that if Mr. Leland did not give a court reason to continue the case by Oct. 5, it would be tossed out with prejudice.

When the case was called again on Monday, Mr. Leland was not in attendance, and the judge ordered it be dismissed. Because the case was dismissed with prejudice, Mr. Leland cannot bring

another lawsuit against the town on the same issue.

After the brief hearing Tuesday, Tisbury's attorney Lane Dubreuil declined to comment on the win. Mr. Leland did not respond to a request for comment.

Tisbury put Mr. Leland on administrative leave in the summer of 2024. An internal investigation conducted by the town's attorney found that town officials had been asking Mr. Leland about rumors of a relationship with a coworker that had been going on for more than a year.

The town report claimed that both parties denied a relationship, but coworkers and staff in other town departments said it was widely known that the two were dating.

One employee said they had heard complaints from fire department staff who felt the chief was allowing the subordinate to make her own schedule and overlooked her coming in late.

In his lawsuit, Mr. Leland argued he and the paramedic supervisor had notified the town of the consensual relationship. He contended there was no indication that the relationship violated town policies.

The select board fired Mr. Leland in October 2025 after the investigation found that morale in the department had sunk.

Mr. Leland was the chief in Tisbury from 2020 until 2024.

Family Sues John Rose Over Alleged Hidden Camera

By ETHAN GENTER

The former Oak Bluffs fire chief who was facing charges connected with a hidden camera in a teenage girl's bedroom is being sued by the girl's family.

The family filed a lawsuit against John Rose in Dukes County Superior Court in August, and is asking the court to award damages for emotional distress and invasion of privacy.

Mr. Rose, who led the Oak Bluffs fire department for seven years, was arrested in 2024 based on allegations that he secretly videotaped a woman while they had sex. Later that year the Cape and Islands District Attorney's Office filed new charges connected to the woman's 14-year-old daughter finding a recording device hidden in her bedroom.

The criminal case never went to trial and Mr. Rose was given 14 months probation in March after he entered a plea of admitting to sufficient facts for a guilty finding for two counts of attempt to commit a crime.

The daughter and mother filed the civil lawsuit with the Edgartown court in August, and asked for \$1 million in damages for emotional distress, loss of privacy, loss of security and humiliation, according to court documents.

The family's attorney, Bruce Bierhans, declined to comment on the case, which has not yet had an initial hearing. Mr. Rose's attorney, Cass Lusklin, also declined to comment.

According to the seven-page complaint, the daughter found a device in her bedroom in 2023, positioned toward the mirror in front of which she regularly changed her clothes. The daughter then brought the device to her mother and Mr. Rose, who were dating at the time.

The family claimed Mr. Rose said he didn't know what the device was, and took it to examine it. But, according to the suit, he removed the device's memory card unbeknownst to the woman and daughter.

The daughter believed the device to be a hidden camera, a fact that prosecutors and law enforcement later confirmed. When the girl raised the suspicion with her mother, the mom took her daughter from the home and brought her to her father's house.

The mom reported the device to

police, but not before Mr. Rose attempted to delay her from handing it over, saying he needed to speak with his attorney, according to the lawsuit.

Police later obtained a search warrant for Mr. Rose's residence and said that the condition of Mr. Rose's property indicated that he removed items from his residence and left in a hurry after learning of the police investigation.

Prosecutors during the criminal case said that it appeared Mr. Rose disposed of potentially incriminating evidence.

"Police searched Mr. Rose's devices but found that many of the files had been deleted," the family's suit claimed. "Police received internet search history concerning methods for permanently deleting files or data from an electronic device."

The civil suit contended that Mr. Rose placed the camera in the daughter's room for the purpose of secretly viewing the daughter while she was changing her clothes.

Since the incident, the daughter has experienced anxiety and fear around her safety and privacy, humiliation arising from the incident becoming known and discussed in the community, and a loss of safety and security in places where she should reasonably expect privacy.

"Mr. Rose's conduct was extreme and outrageous, beyond all possible bounds of decency, and utterly intolerable in a civilized community," the suit read.

Mr. Rose was the Oak Bluffs fire chief from 2013 to 2020. He stepped down after the town settled a sexual harassment and discrimination lawsuit against him. In that suit, a department administrator claimed she was harassed by Mr. Rose.

Gazette Building to Undergo External Renovations

By MONICA BRADY-MYEROV

The Vineyard Gazette office in Edgartown is undergoing external renovations to improve the structure and drainage of the building. The building is owned by the Vineyard Preservation Trust, which is undertaking the renovations with a grant funded by the Edgartown Community Preservation Committee.

"It's the first part of a multi-stage, multi-year process," says Nevette Previd, executive director of the Trust. "We are trying to address some potentially structural issues and fix the threshold, which is the main gateway to the Vineyard Gazette."

The front door will be replaced with a 1938-accurate storm door sourced by matching it to archival images from the Gazette's front door during the time of Henry Beetle Hough, the former owner and publisher of the Gazette from 1920-1968.

The South Summer street and Davis Lane sides of the building will be reshingled with like-kind white cedar shakes. The Trust believes the shingles haven't been removed in over 100 years. Gutters and downspouts will be replaced with historically approved systems.

The original windows will also be restored working with historic artisans. They are also looking into restoring the Vineyard Gazette historic sign.

The Vineyard Gazette purchased the building in 1938 and moved in to run operations in 1939.

The house was built in the early 1760s by Capt. Benjamin Smith, a county sheriff and commander of a militia that helped defend the coast during the American Revolution, according to Vineyard Gazette archives. The house

was later sold to Dennis Ripley and Isaiah Mills and was known for many years as the Mills house. The house has been a single family home, a family tenement known as the Beehive and now the office of the Vineyard Gazette for 87 years (the Gazette dates back much further; first published in 1846).

The house retains many historic features including eight fireplaces and mantels and wainscoting.

In 1938, an addition behind the main building facing South Summer street was added to house the printing press. In 1984, the space above the press was enlarged to include the dormered second floor, where the newsroom is today. The broadsheet continues to be printed weekly in the building.

In 2010, the newspaper and building were sold by publisher and owner Richard Reston to the new owners of the Gazette, Jerome and Nancy Kohlberg. The Kohlbergs created a limited liability corporation to own the paper and made a gift to the Vineyard Preservation Trust, which allowed the nonprofit to purchase the building. The building has been under the stewardship of the Trust ever since.

Work is expected to be completed in the next few months. The renovations will not interrupt the weekly printing of the Gazette newspaper.

The building is closed to the public during construction. Visitors must make an appointment by calling 508-627-4311. Subscribers who pick-up their paper can do so from a newspaper box on Davis Lane.

Man Arrested For Child Porn Possession

By ETHAN GENTER

A West Tisbury man was ordered held on \$25,000 cash bail last month on a possession of child pornography charge.

Andrew Carroll, 30, pleaded not guilty to the charge in Edgartown District Court on Sept. 17 and is awaiting a pretrial hearing on Nov. 12.

State police began investigating Mr. Carroll in June after receiving a tip that Mr. Carroll had shared child sexual abuse material in a Snapchat chat, according to a report from the department.

After subpoenaing phone and internet records, police sought a search warrant at the West Tisbury home where Mr. Carroll was living and executed it on Sept. 16, police wrote.

After arriving, officers with the cybercrime unit interviewed Mr. Carroll. He confirmed that the Snapchat account the officers had received a tip about was his, but told them that he was talking to a woman whom he believed was 20 years old, according to the report.

Police said that Mr. Carroll told them that he had received pictures of children, but recognized them as child sexual assault material and blocked the person on Snapchat. Despite that, police wrote that he had saved the files in a hidden folder.

Police later looked in his phone and found a video of a man raping a prepubescent girl, according to the report.

West Tisbury police arrested Mr. Carroll and at his arraignment Judge Benjamin Barnes ordered he have no unsupervised contact with anyone under 17.

Islanders Ponder Future of Chilmark's Brickyard Chimney

by LILY ECHEVERRIA

The owners of the historic chimney at the Brickyard in Chilmark are considering the future of the 45-foot tall landmark along the town's north shore.

A symbol of the town's brick making past, the chimney is one of the last standing remnants of the Island factory that came to prominence in the 1860s. But now, the brick chimney is on its last legs, and the Trustees of Reservations is evaluating its options.

In the spring of 2025, the Trustees hired several consultants to assess the structural integrity of the chimney and evaluate potential restoration designs. The consultants found interior and exterior deterioration, along with failed mortar joints. They also determined the upper portion of the chimney to be unstable.

Restoration of the chimney would be an expensive endeavor, said Darci Schofield, director of Trustees properties on the Vineyard and Nantucket.

"Based on the age of the infrastructure, any kind of restoration work that would be required would need to have custom-made steel staging, and that would cost \$400,000," Ms. Schofield said. "That's just for the staging. That doesn't include getting it out there...no matter what we choose to do, it would be at minimum a \$400,000 expense."

The Trustees were gifted the 20-acre Brickyard property in 2014 by the descendants of Nathaniel Harris, a Boston banker who owned and operated the brick making facility there in the 1800s.

Workers mined clay from the property and produced as many as 800,000 bricks for the Island and beyond. Bricks from the Brickyard were used for the Dukes County courthouse, mill buildings in New Bedford and Fall River, and apartment buildings in Boston and Providence.

Operations wound down in the late 19th century, and now the Brickyard remains a historic property with walking trails, stone walls and the chimney.

The Chilmark historical commis-

sion met with the Trustees earlier this month to talk about the chimney, and the property came up at the town select board meeting.

Historical commission chair Katie Carroll said that there are plans to hold a public meeting to open up a dialogue with the community regarding the Brickyard's future.

"We plan to advertise our next meeting and perhaps hold it at the community center, in a space that's bigger," Ms. Carroll said. "I think we would have a pretty good turnout."

The Trustees estimate that a full restoration of the chimney could cost more than \$1 million. No one makes bricks that are the same size as the original chimney, so new ones would have to be custom made. Additionally, the renovation would require extensive work to stabilize and reinforce the mortar joints throughout the chimney.

"The cost estimates that we received were between \$825,000 and \$1.2 million," Ms. Schofield said. "Those are estimates we received in the spring of this year, so there's a chance those numbers have increased."

The Trustees and community members alike recognize the Brickyard as an important piece of the Island's identity and hope to find a way forward, Ms. Schofield added.

"This is really an extraordinary place, and it's very near and dear to my heart," she said. "It's near and dear to the Chilmark community's heart, and we want to honor this historic significance in a way that's very meaningful, and in a way that is also achievable financially, and makes sense for the long term."

Bryn Walker Founders Shot Dead in California

By EMMA KILBRIDE

The owners of a luxury women's fashion brand with a storefront location on Martha's Vineyard were reportedly found dead outside their California home last Friday morning.

Bryn Walker founders Michelle Min and Bryan Walker were reportedly found with fatal wounds outside their residence in Oakland, Calif. after the Oakland and Berkeley police departments responded to gunshots near the couple's residence. Oakland police said they found a firearm at the scene.

Police have not ruled out a murder-suicide and are not seeking a suspect at large, the department said at a press conference last week.

Bryn Walker has a location on Main street in Vineyard Haven and has long been an Island staple. A Bryn Walker franchise in Edgartown closed in 2024. Its only two other locations are in

Berkeley, Calif.

The Gazette's attempts to reach representatives from the company and the Vineyard Haven store were unsuccessful. The Tisbury storefront's voicemail greeting states that the store is closed until further notice, and it was closed when the Gazette visited during normal operating hours Monday.

Ms. Min's brother, Paul Min, told the Los Angeles Times he believes Mr. Walker killed Ms. Min before committing suicide. He said Mr. Walker had recently lost millions of dollars through risky investments and alluded to having suicidal ideations. He also said the family was trying to hospitalize Mr. Walker.

The Oakland Police Department declined to provide any details to the Gazette, citing an active investigation.



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FARM NECK FOUNDATION SEEKS 2026 GRANT APPLICATIONS

Island non-profit organizations whose goal is to improve the quality of life in the Martha's Vineyard community are eligible to submit a concise proposal describing their specific project, its potential benefits, budgetary requirements and grant amount requested along with two (2) letters of support from sources outside of the organization.

Proposals must be received by October 30th, 2026.

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Barbecue Maestro Cooks Up a Memoir

By LILY ECHEVERRIA

The title of his most recent book rings true: Steven Raichlen is indeed a Man on Fire, both in his work and on the page.

After writing 34 cookbooks and one novel, Mr. Raichlen decided it was time to tackle a memoir. The longtime seasonal Vineyarder and champion of all things barbecue spent the last two years working on the book about his life's story.

Man on Fire: Of Life, Love, Literature, and Really Good Barbecue will officially hit stores on Oct. 20, and Mr. Raichlen will sign copies of his book at Edgartown Books on Saturday, Oct. 10 from 2 to 4 p.m.

The memoir takes readers along the winding road of Mr. Raichlen's life, from growing up in Baltimore to majoring in French literature in college, from restaurant critic to novelist, to becoming a global grilling authority.

Mr. Raichlen's culinary journey began at Reed College, where wrote his senior thesis on medieval writer Christine de Pizan. The following year, he received a prestigious Watson Fellowship that took him across Europe to research medieval cooking.

The fellowship led him, however indirectly, onto the path of grilling he finds himself today.

"There are interesting parallels between modern barbecue and medieval cooking in the sense that both rely on a lot of spices," Mr. Raichlen said during a recent interview at his home on Chappaquiddick. "The other connection, of course, is that in the Middle Ages, everything was cooked over a wood fire."

Though he doesn't often return to medieval cooking these days, he says his scholarly interest in food remains strong, especially after writing about his time abroad.



Roy Ewing

Steven Raichlen at his Chappaquiddick home.

"I'm still very interested in the history of cooking and the history of food in general," he said. "One of the things that was really satisfying about writing this book was having the opportunity to revisit various periods of my life."

Mr. Raichlen opens his memoir with his childhood, including the death by suicide of his mother.

"The most difficult part was the third chapter, the worst day of my

life, about my mother," he said. "But that was very cathartic to write because I hadn't put it to paper before, so that was a very meaningful chapter."

With decades of experience to draw from, Mr. Raichlen said it was hard to decide which stories belonged on the page.

"I think the biggest challenge was what to leave out, because the temptation is to include everything, and you can't," he said.

Though he knows his audience mostly looks to him for cookbooks, Mr. Raichlen wanted to do something different with this book. He did include 25 recipes in the memoir, but with a twist.

"In a way, each recipe sums up my attitudes, approach and thinking about food at that period of my life," he said. "But I was very adamant that there was no mention of it on the cover because I wanted people to buy it as a memoir, not as a cookbook."

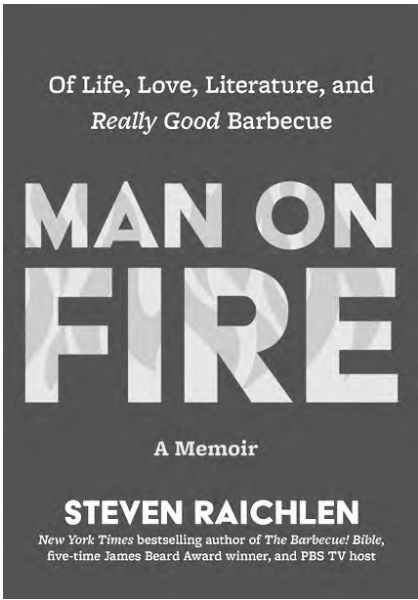
Across the three genres he has written, Mr. Raichlen says his writing process has remained consistent.

"With me, many of my books originate with titles. Once I have the title, they sort of roll out," he said. "As ideas come to me, I write them in a notebook. That process probably took six months for this [memoir]."

Mr. Raichlen and his wife, Barbara Raichlen, have been coming to Martha's Vineyard for 40 years, even before they bought land on Chappaquiddick in the '90s.

"We came here on our anniversary in 1990, and on a lark, we went out with a realtor," he said. "We found this land and we made an offer, never expecting it to go through. And all of a sudden, we had three acres on Chappaquiddick, and we built a house."

He said the couple fell in love with its rural feel, so much so that it in-



spired his first novel, The Hermit of Chappaquiddick, published in 2012.

"We were building our house, and I had this idea of a reclusive guy that would live off the grid in the woods on Chappy, and a New York book editor, because that's kind of the world that I've been with professionally. She would be here recovering from an illness, they would meet and they would connect through food," he said.

The Island has continued to find its way into Mr. Raichlen's work as a source of inspiration. The Vineyard's food, naturally, has made its way onto his grill. These days, one of his favorite Island meals is also one of the simplest.

"Harpoon swordfish from Martha's Vineyard, grilled over a wood fire," he said. "By way of a sauce, capers fried in butter, just poured it over it. The simplest thing you could imagine, but it's so delicious."

Welcome Back Wild Food Challenge

By CHARLES LEITNER

To a trained eye there is an abundance of food ripe for the picking all across Martha's Vineyard.

A patch of onion grass billowing in the wind? That might pair well with a bowl of squirrel meatballs. The natty clump of seaweed that everyone walks by without a second notion? Cook that, chop it up and serve it alongside the day's catch, perhaps a striped, bonito or blue.

This is the philosophy behind the Local Wild Food Challenge, which returns this weekend after a long hiatus.

The event takes place on Monday, Oct. 12 at the Grange Hall in West Tisbury, from noon to 5 p.m. This will be the first wild food challenge since the Covid-19 pandemic.

The idea is both simple and complex. Cook one dish with at least one ingredient harvested or hunted from the wild.

"I'm really pumped we're coming back to Martha's Vineyard," said Billy Manson, the founder of the Local Wild Food Challenge. "It's a celebration of what people want to eat and want to share and give to each other while having fun out in the elements."

The event is hosted in partnership with the Vineyard Preservation Trust and is designed to be both interactive and educational. It will offer a discussion led by Tick Free MV, a musical performance by Johnny Hoy and the Bluefish and various opportunities for the public to learn about sustainable



Roy Ewing

Wild but focused.



Iova Katzmund

Organizer Billy Manson (right) gives out the first prize at previous event.

foraging and harvesting practices.

"I want people to understand their space, their environment, as well as their ingredients," said Mr. Manson.

Mr. Manson, who is originally from New Zealand and has been working as a chef on the Vineyard for 25 years, began hosting wild food challenges in 2009 as a way to connect a community to its surrounding environment. He has since held similar events in five countries.

"I'm a firm believer of getting out into your environment," he said. "The more you're out there, the more you can really understand it."

Meg Athearn has competed in past wild food challenges and will be a judge this year.

"It's an opportunity for creativity and sharing culinary skills and [Billy] just gets a bunch of great prizes from the Island and different vendors and puts packages together," she said.

Drinks, desserts, soups, appetizers and entrees are all on the menu with vegetarian and vegan options as well. Ingredients such as seaweed, onion grass, Concord grapes, Russian olives or hazelnuts are always welcome additions to almost any dish.

"I'm always looking for wild food, like whenever I'm going anywhere," said Ms. Athearn.

Safety is a top priority for the organizers.

"I am pretty watertight on that stuff," said Mr. Manson. "If I can't



Ivy Ashe

The possibilities are endless.

identify it 100 per cent I don't even pick it. I don't put it near my mouth. I just think it's just taking too much risk."

"If you can identify something completely then get into it; when in doubt leave it out," he added.

According to Mr. Manson, the Local Wild Food Challenge is a festival built upon the pillars of learning, protecting and enjoying.

"At the end of that process is our festival," Mr. Manson said. "You become a much better steward for the space. You become enlightened by the other ingredient possibilities."

The event is free for all competitors. Tickets for people looking to attend the event are \$25. Only 250 tickets will be offered to the general public.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit mvlocalwildfood-festival.com/event-details

Please Adopt Us

The adoption news of the week is that all seven kittens were scooped up and adopted in one day. Congratulations to all the babies and their new families.

Our pet of the week is Toosie, a four-year-old, male tuxedo cat with big green eyes. Toosie has been here a while and is beginning to feel sad and lonely so we're hoping he finds his forever family sooner rather than later. However, he is indoor/outdoor, friendly, playful and affectionate. Since he can get over stimulated, we feel he would do best in a home without small children. And he also has a lovely purr. Toosie has been diagnosed with diabetes and will need an owner comfortable with giving his daily injections and managing his special diet. He is also a food lover and will steal some whenever he can. Come meet Toosie to experience how much fun he is and see if he could be the perfect cat for you.

We will be 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 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



Toosie.

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.

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Thaissa Marta
Vineyard Haven
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Fall Sports Hits Midway Mark

By AARON WILSON

We've hit the halfway mark of the high school fall sports season, and while the weather is cooling down, the action is heating up.

The girls soccer team has strung together back-to-back wins, pushing its win total to five on the year. Their latest was a 5-1 thumping of Monomoy on Tuesday.

Iyla Story, Madi Curelli, Leah Thomson, Ava Townes and Laney Light all put points on the board, while goalkeeper Lucy Doyle held it down in net. In their previous game against Falmouth, Doyle earned a shutout against a strong Clippers squad.

"Lucy had a stellar performance in goal," Coach Matt Malowski said.

The sophomore made 13 saves, while Story scored the contest's lone goal off a perfectly executed clearance pass from center back Maple Martone. Story one-touched a shot into the far-right corner of Falmouth's goal to give MV the only lead it would need.

With her goal against the Sharks on Tuesday, Story is now up to five this season.

Coach Malowski said the Vineyard's sophomore class's talent was on full display in the win. The players are composed, make high-IQ plays and step up in the clutch on defense, he said. Specifically, Coach Malowski praised the play of Light, Avery Conley and Alana Rosbeck.

The boys soccer team tied Monomoy, 1-1, on the road Tuesday. With only one loss so far this season, the team currently sits 10th in the playoff power rankings.

Kenny Martinez scored the Vineyard's goal against the Sharks.

Last week, the boys defeated Sandwich, 4-2, on the Cape. Coach Rodrigo Honorato described goals from Anthony DaSilva, Bryan Marcal and Miguel Miranda as "bangers from outside the box." DaSilva then added an insurance header for his second goal of the game.

The boys golf squad is up to six wins this season. The team won four straight to start the year, then stumbled a bit but has righted the ship with wins over Nauset and Cape Cod Academy in its last two matches.



Tim Johnson

Playing aggressive on the pitch.

On Monday, the Vineyarders faced the Seahawks at Wianno Golf Club in Barnstable. Jacoby Light carded a 38, three over par, for the best score of the round. Guston Martone was five over with a 40.

Against Nauset, the Vineyarders ventured from their usual home course at Farm Neck to face the Warriors at the Vineyard Golf Club. MV prevailed by a single stroke, with the match coming down to the seventh score on the card.

Chandler Blau and Shane Harding each shot five over, a 41. Jacoby Light and Peter Williamson each shot six over, while Jake Gatchell and Ben Kokoszka were seven over par. It all came down to Guston Martone's 46, which gave the Purple the edge.

The field hockey team continued its encouraging season with a 6-0 win over Brockton last Monday. Abby Geary scored twice, while Violet Werther, Maddie Huffam, Caroline Cotton and Hailey Smith also found the back of the net. Eliza Belle Carestia earned the shutout in goal.

Coach Liane Dixon said the Vineyarders' offense really shined in the win, and the team received a big boost from midfield



Tim Johnson

Iyla Story with the ball.

play led by Ava Coelho, Alex Royal and Kelly Pacheco.

Most recently, the girls lost a tough one to Monomoy this week. The Sharks are one of the best teams in the Cape and Islands League, and MV played them tough, with the game tied through three quarters. However, Monomoy found its offense in the fourth quarter and pulled away for the win.

Coach Dixon said she is very proud of her girls — they play hard, have fun and improve every week.

The cross-country team is blazing through its season, and the boys are in line for a Cape and Islands League title. So far, they've beaten Nantucket, Barnstable, Nauset and Sandwich.

Leading the squad are Ben Fuller, Robert Riis and Nicholas Gomes. The trio has combined to finish first, second and third in every race so far this year. On the girls team, Nevah Fitzgerald has finished first in all but one race, when she came in second. Coach Joe Schroeder said, "She is a rock star."

This weekend, the team will run in the Bob Glennon Twilight Meet at the Cape Cod Fairgrounds in East Falmouth.

The football team will try for its first win of the season this weekend on the road against Worcester North High School. On Friday, Oct. 16, the team will be home to play the Monomoy-JPII co-op team. Kickoff is scheduled for 6 p.m.



Sydney Goldstein

Maddie Huffman sets the pace.

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Veterans Development Breaks Ground

By CHARLES LEITNER

Last Thursday, over 100 people joined the Island Housing Trust and the Cape and Islands Veterans Outreach Center to celebrate the start of a project to build 12 housing units on Bellevue avenue in Oak Bluffs for veterans.

The units are expected to be completed towards the end of 2027 and there is currently a waiting list of approximately 40 veterans from the Island.

"To be honest, there are simply too many people to thank everybody individually, but I will just say that you know who you are, and how you have contributed," said John Stanwood, real estate director at the Island Housing Trust. "The buildings behind us will soon stand to represent that ultimate thank you."

Planning for the project began over six years ago, and in 2025 the Healey-Driscoll administration gave a boost to the project with a \$2.1 million grant.

"[This] doesn't happen by accident," said Mark Leonard, a U.S. Army veteran and a member of the Oak Bluffs select board. "It requires the entire community moving in the same direction. And today, we need to celebrate the incredible entire Vineyard team as well as the Oak Bluffs team that has laid the groundwork for this project."

Many speakers praised the help of Philippe Jordi, founder and CEO of the Island Housing Trust, who will be retiring in March.

"First of all, I want to say one thing," said Robert Tankard, a U.S. Army veteran who is also a trustee at the Martha's Vineyard Diversity Coalition and a board member for Martha's Vineyard Community Services. "Five, six years ago I made this phone call. I called the gentleman that I thought could handle this program and that was Philippe Jordi. And when I called him, he was quiet on the phone, but when I met him, he had that smile. Philippe is the only one that has that smile."

"None of this happens alone," added Jim Seymour, a U.S. Navy veteran and the executive director of the Cape and Islands Veterans Outreach Center. "Again, [Mr. Jordi], you and your team at IHT have brought a deep Island knowledge, a real development expertise and an unwavering commitment to year-round affordable housing."

After the remarks, members of the Island Housing Trust and the Cape and Islands Veterans Outreach Center ceremonially broke ground at the site.

"When these homes open, veterans will have more than a roof over their heads. They will have security, dignity, neighbors, and support close at hand," said Mr. Seymour.

IN VINEYARD SKIES

	Sunrise	Sunset
Fri., Oct. 9	6:46	6:10
Sat., Oct. 10	6:47	6:09
Sun., Oct. 11	6:48	6:07
Mon., Oct. 12	6:49	6:05
Tues., Oct. 13	6:51	6:04
Wed., Oct. 14	6:52	6:02
Thurs., Oct. 15	6:53	6:01
Fri., Oct. 16	6:54	6:09

Planets Mars and Jupiter

Those able to get out really early in the morning have an opportunity to see two planets appearing in the eastern sky. Jupiter, the brightest, can't be missed as it is the brightest object in the east. Take note, not far away you'll find the dull red planet Mars.

New Moon
Oct. 10

Full Moon
Oct. 26

First Quarter
Oct. 18

Last Quarter
Nov. 1

Temperature:

Day	Max. F°	Min. F°	Precip. Inches.
Oct. 2	75	58	T
Oct. 3	75	60	0.04
Oct. 4	71	56	0.00
Oct. 5	67	55	0.31
Oct. 6	70	48	T
Oct. 7	61	39	0.00
Oct. 8	68	52	0.00

Water temperature in Edgartown harbor: 63°

Recent Island Real Estate Transactions

Chilmark

Elizabeth T. Brandhorst purchased 61 Stonewall road in Chilmark from Julie Jaffe TRS for \$4,550,000 on Oct. 1.

Driftwood MV LLC purchased 11 Greenhouse Lane in Chilmark from Michael R. Walsdorf Jr. and Christine S. Walsdorf for \$3,550,000 on Oct. 2.

Edgartown

Stackareau LLC purchased 38 Pinehurst Road in Edgartown from Pinehurst Associates LLC for \$4,200,000 on Sept. 28.

Benjamin Howe and Janet Howe purchased 4 Wilsons Lane in Edgartown from Deborah B. Norton and Stuart L. Norton for \$1,430,000 on Sept. 29.

Benjamin Howe and Janet Howe purchased 2 Wilsons Lane in Edgartown from John C. Howe Indiv & TRS, Chester M. Howe Revocable Trust and Chester M. Howe Est for \$1,312,500 on Sept. 29.

Richard D. Varnell and Jennifer Manning purchased 42 Martha's Road in Edgartown from Lisa Crissman and Scott Crissman for \$1,900,000 on Sept. 30.

Michael Calheta IV and Tabitha Calheta purchased 4 Fifth Street North in Edgartown from Philip R. Brandon for \$950,000 on Sept. 30.

Michael S. Sophocles and Bettina Lee Chiu purchased 0 Martha's Road in Edgartown from Jeffrey R. Penn and Alana K. Matwychuk for \$1,500,000 on Oct. 1.

Jennifer Kaalund and Sekou Kaalund purchased 8 Woodhaven Drive in Edgartown from Richelle Parham TRS and Parham Family Trust for \$3,225,000 on Oct. 1.

Samuel E. Davis purchased 3 Jacobs Neck Road (a portion of Lot 1) in Edgartown from Randall L. Gibbs and Gail H. Gibbs for \$2,100,000 on Oct. 1.

Oak Bluffs

Marie Flore Guerrier purchased 50 Hidden Cove Road from Davco Real Estate Holdings LLC for \$2,150,000 on Sept. 29.

Rachell Lynn Kalin TRS and 98 Farm

Neck Way Nominee Trust purchased 98 Farm Neck Way in Oak Bluffs from Grant G. Dewey TRS, Robert M. Dewey III TRS and Harriet B. Dewey TRS for \$3,500,000 on Sept. 30.

David Jay Goldstein and Jaqueline Pereira Goldstein purchased 101 Tradewinds Road in Oak Bluffs from Scott P. Dawley and Sandra Dawley for \$1,100,000 on Oct. 1.

Sage Hill Capital LLC purchased 8 Pad-dock Road in Oak Bluffs from Maya Moran for \$5,500,000 on Oct. 2.

Vineyard Haven

Rex Williams TRS and Libby Soo Hoo TRS purchased 124 Skiff Avenue (Units 13 and A-11) in Vineyard Haven from Elizabeth Edwards Harris TRS for \$500,000 on Sept. 30.

David Makol and Erin Kelly-Makol purchased 51 Summer Street in Vineyard Haven from Nora Moroney Dyke for \$1,275,000 on Oct. 2.

Stephen Louis Knipmeyer and Sharon Knipmeyer purchased 100 Connies Way in Vineyard Haven from Judith A. Draper and Randall D. Perrine for \$2,500,000 on Oct. 2.

Sweet Pea Trust, Elizabeth S. Peirce TRS and Robert E. Peirce TRS purchased 81 Le-land Avenue in Vineyard Haven from Fain S. Hackney and Melissa McKee Hackney for \$1,836,000 on Oct. 2.

Clayton Olen Mitchell Jr. and Karen Elaine Mitchell purchased 54 Amelias Crossing in Vineyard Haven from Ransford Whaums-bush and Jacque Whaumbush III for \$2,200,000 on Oct. 2.

West Tisbury

John D. Reese TRS and Jill M. Bailey TRS purchased 20 Edson Forest Road in West Tisbury from David A. Behnke TRS, Paul Doherty TRS and Behnke-Doherty Trust for \$3,800,000 on Sept. 28.

Avery Hazell TRS and 10 Danks Way Nominee Trust purchased 10 Danks Way in West Tisbury from Emma Kiley Bryant and Justin Taylor Bryant for \$1,650,000 on Sept. 30.

Martha's Vineyard Transit Authority purchased 11 Oak Lane in West Tisbury from Robert R. Breth TRS and Jeannette M. Breth TRS and RJB Family Revocable Trust for \$2,185,000 on Oct. 2.

Record of Cases Heard in Edgartown District Court

Sept. 4

Chesley A. Wiseman, 37, of Tisbury, was arraigned on Sept. 4 charges in Chilmark of trespassing, assault and battery on a family or household member, and breaking and entering for a misdemeanor. She was released on personal recognizance and has discovery compliance and jury selection on Nov. 23.

Sept. 14

Anneli C. Mynttinen, 54, of Lexington, was arraigned on a Sept. 14 charge in Edgartown of assault and battery on a family or house-hold member. Her bail was set at \$500 and she has a pretrial hearing on Oct. 30.

William J. Hancock, 33, of Edgartown, was arraigned on Sept. 14 charges in Edgartown of operating under the influence of liquor, marked lanes violation, possession of an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle and negligent operation of a motor vehicle. He was released on personal recognizance and has a pretrial hearing on Nov. 12.

Sept. 18

Salatiel P. Dasilva, 37, of Edgartown, was arraigned on a Sept. 18 charge in Oak Bluffs of possession to distribute cocaine. His bail was set at \$1,500 and he has a pretrial hearing on Nov. 20.

Sept. 28

Brian P. Beasley, 34, of Oak Bluffs, was arraigned on Sept. 28 charges in Tisbury of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, disorderly conduct and shoplifting by asportation. He was released on personal recognizance and has a pretrial hearing on Nov. 30.

Oct. 2

James Perez, 27, of Vineyard Haven, was arraigned on two counts of indecent as-sault and battery on a person 14 or over, two counts of rape, and delivering liquor to a person under 21. The incident allegedly oc-curred on April 16 in Tisbury. He was also arraigned on a May 5 charge in Tisbury of witness intimidation. He was released on personal recognizance and has a probable cause hearing on Nov. 30.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Heartfelt Thank You
My heart is filled with gratitude for the incredible kindness shown to me following the passing of my beloved husband, Donald Lambert.
To my family, friends, tenants, homeowners and the many wonderful people who reached out — thank you for the cards, flowers, calls, prayers and heartfelt thoughts.
During one of the most difficult times of my life, your kindness has brought me comfort and reminded me just how blessed I am to be surrounded by such caring people.
Thank you for remembering Donald and for keeping me and my family in your thoughts and prayers.
From the bottom of my heart, thank you.
With love,
JoJo Lambert
Oak Bluffs

Basics Goodbye
Editors, Vineyard Gazette;
After 46 years on Circuit avenue, Tom and I would like to add a few words to the Gazette's recent story about the closing of Basics as we did not get a chance to comment prior to the article.
We don't think of this as "calling it quits," as the headline read, but rather as retiring after a remarkably long and rewarding run.
Most importantly, we want to deeply thank the generations of Islanders and visitors who have supported us. Their loyalty made those 46 years possible.
And we would especially like to thank our longtime landlords, whose kindness and generosity to us have been extraordinary.
We are also grateful to the many wonderful people who worked alongside us over the years and helped make Basics (and Eastaway) what they became.
We leave Circuit avenue with enormous gratitude for the community that allowed us to spend nearly half a century doing what we loved.
Laurie and Tom Welch
Founding Partners Basics Clothing Co., Eastaway Inc.
Oak Bluffs

County Value
Editors, Vineyard Gazette
Oscar Wilde told us that a cynic knows the "price of everything and the value of nothing." This best captures Nelson Sigelman's comment on the Gazette's 9/29 article "Edgartown Eyes Katama Farmland Purchase" regarding the county property in Katama.
You wouldn't know it from Mr. Sigelman's comments, but the county provides real value to its residents. At their request the county works for all of the towns managing town funds paid to Island-wide social service agencies.
In addition, significant services like the Veteran Services office and the Healthcare Access office, among others, are run by the county. And, directly due to county efforts, all the towns have before them a comprehensive blueprint for implementing Island-wide emergency management preparedness and response which, had it been in place last winter, would have made life easier for everyone. These services support and assist thousands of county residents every year; for each town to take them on individually would add unnecessary expense and burden.
The county is also deeply accountable to the towns on a financial basis. Its budget is approved by the County Advisory Board ("CAB", one select-person from each town). Any excess unrestricted funds the county might have at the end of a fiscal year are, by law, credited back to the towns.
The CAB has advised for years that the commissioners should seek additional revenue sources. The same is true of the Edgartown select board itself. In a 2024 letter to the commissioners, the selectpersons admonished the County "...to address its financial challenges by identifying and implementing additional revenue-generating strategies..."
The county stands by its record of providing valuable services to all county residents. Finding a better home for the lots in Katama isn't a cynical exercise — it is simply good management.
Christine Todd, Randy Milch, Doug Ruskin
Dukes County Commissioners

Shenandoah
October, and the Shenandoah
fantasy of brigantines
sails to windward, grandly
down the real horizon points her prow

And disappears. In Vineyard Haven
we, bereft on docks and lawns,
dream a last voltage, watch her go
taking summer with her, now.

-Rose Styron, 1995



Tim Johnson

VINEYARD GAZETTE
Martha's Vineyard's Newspaper for 179 Years



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A Journal of Island Life

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Tim Johnson

Raising a Toast to Jim's Package Store

By KEN GOLDBERG

A select few Vineyard businesses have stood the test of time. Giordano's, Brickman's, Alley's, Cronig's and daRosa's come to mind. One business that is clearly part of this select group is Jim's Package Store.

In 1946, brothers Arthur and Augustus BenDavid bought the store, then located on Circuit avenue extension. According to the Oct. 4, 1946 issue of the Gazette, "Jim's Package Store is an establishment of considerable age. Established by the father of the late proprietor, (Jim Pratt), it went out of existence during the prohibition era, but was reestablished after the repeal, and has continued ever since."

About 50 years ago, finding myself between careers, (sounds much more professional than being unemployed), good fortune struck twice. Having just passed the post office exam, I was offered a job in Chilmark. At the same time, a friend offered me a job at Jim's Package Store.

The post office offered a terrific career opportunity: steady hours, insurance and benefits, so naturally I took the job at Jim's Package Store. Little did I know, it was an honor to be offered a job at Jim's. As it turned out, working those years was a combination of improv, customer relations, sales, partying and friendship.

The man at the top was owner Arthur BenDavid's son Eddie. Recently I caught up with Eddie. Now 91 years young, he was eager to regale me with stories.

"I started working at Jim's after getting out of the service in 1960," he said.

When I asked how was it working for his father, he replied with a delightful smile, "I couldn't stand it. He was tough and made me work so hard."

"Our store was just a wonderful place," he continued. "We had great customers and a bunch of fun people that worked at the store. I can say that I spent my life helping people."

Known for both kindness and generosity, the BenDavid family remain pillars of our community. Eddie's son also worked there.

"Starting in grade school I bagged ice and filled soda machines," Eddie Jr. recalled. "As I got older, I was involved with the store in so many ways and eventually managed the place. I worked 80 to 90 hours a week. It was truly a family business. The store raised six kids. Looking back, I think about all the great people that worked there. Most of all, the community loved our family — my dad through the store and mom donated time and money to so many Island causes."

It turned out, working at Jim's was the longest running entertainment show on Martha's Vineyard.

Greg Coogan was a manager.

"A lot of us were part timers," he said. "We needed the extra money. I thought the most important quality to work at Jim's was a sense of humor."

Greg was no slouch in the laughter department. He along with Joe McCarren, were known as the "Unknown Liquor Salesmen" wearing paper bags over their heads, serving customers on a Saturday night. They starred in the Island version of the Gong Show. I occasionally filled in while wearing my own paper bag.

"Jim's was a customer-friendly store," Greg said. "People came from all over the Island to get to Jim's. There were other stores so people could go elsewhere. We'd have lines backed up to the door. There was no self-serve beer cooler in those days."

I asked Greg whether he had to know his wines.

He laughed and replied, "I learned to move up from Mad Dog 20 20 and Wild Irish Rose. Most of all, we had a terrific bunch of employees that included Island teachers, selectmen, commissioners, administrators, managers. There were always people looking for a job at Jim's."

Greg summed up his Jim's experience by saying: "Every day was a story, and that's the story."

Joe McCarren, now living in Pennsylvania, recalled certain customers were known by what they drank.

"Two of my favorites were Nips and Whiskey," he said. "Then there was the up-Island 'Wild Bunch' that always showed up 10 minutes before we closed."

Paul Leonard started his career as a part-timer at another store but shifted to the package store.

"Jim's recruited me," he said. "I was thrilled. We had a great bunch of guys. On Fridays we built a special beer cooler to deliver to worksites all over the Island. They always cheered when we showed up. Not only that, I met my future wife at Jim's."

Paul eventually left and became the very popular Oak Bluffs postmaster.

Rebecca Gilbert recalled the old T-shirt, "I remember the Jim's T-shirt that said 'Service with a Smirk.'"

Former Jim's manager Andre Bonnell regaled me with his tales at the store.

"Eddie BenDavid was a wonderful boss," he said. "He put me in charge of wine through a correspondence school. Read the encyclopedia, read the labels, sample the wine. Those labels got harder to read as my sampling increased. A wine distributor called me with a great deal on Beaujolais. Just one dollar a bottle. We put it out for just \$1.99 each. Did not sell. Eddie changed the price to \$5.99. It's an instant sell out. When filling the soda machine, I would randomly insert bottles of beer. Sales increased."

Andre later owned AJ's restaurant in Vineyard Haven and the Amity Deli in Edgartown.

Starting as a fill-in, Cli Robinson worked 46 consecutive years at Jim's.

"I couldn't give up the discount," he said. "George Santos and I started the unique Jim's Wacky Packy Golf Tournament at Mink Meadows. We called George "Dr. Redemption." He worked exclusively on recyclables. He is now Dr. George Santos, optometrist."

I slowly moved up Jim's employment ladder and finally achieved my goal: driving Jim's van making Saturday deliveries. Cruising the Vineyard was a joy. Everyone was always happy to see me. However, one disastrous delivery nearly ended my delivery career.

I was using the old pay telephone booth in front of the old Cornerway (present day Chilmark Restaurant) to get directions to a house. Returning to Jim's, I realized I had left the money bag in the telephone booth. Forty-eight hours of anguish ensued. Monday morning rolled around. I showed up for work and discovered the bag had been turned into the police department. At the time Eddie was on vacation, so his father was watching the store. As it turned out, both Arthur and Eddie knew about the lost bag. Arthur never told Eddie because he was worried that he wasn't paying attention to business and Eddie never told Arthur because he didn't want his father to know what kind of cut-up he had doing deliveries.

The memories kept coming from former co-workers and customers.

Julie Williamson Gakidis was a kid back then. "Every year Eddie BenDavid gave out Christmas corsages to all the ladies," she said. "As a child, I was always so thrilled to get one too. Such a sweet memory of simpler times. God Bless you Eddie."

The customers never knew that 5 p.m. was the daily ritual hour at Jim's. All the employees would start the elbow flex and bend, put a \$1 on the register and get their favorite nip on the nip wall and do a group toast.

The annual employee party at Eddie's home was a highlight. One year he treated everyone to dinner at the Homeport. We all travelled together in Jules BenDavid's tour bus. I drove the bus and gave a tour.

The old crew at Jim's eventually moved on. While the store was later sold and moved to a new location, memories remain. Friendships have endured. Great fun. Much laughter. Jim's Package Store, service with a smirk!

Ken Goldberg is a regular contributor to the Gazette. He lives in Edgartown.

Community Vibes Flow at First Friday

By LILY ECHEVERRIA

Last Friday, Owen Park beach looked a lot like Halloween. One child in a pumpkin dress chased another in a Spider-Man costume, while two men stood nearby sporting matching disco-ball headbands.

Welcome to First Friday in October. Throughout the day there was live music, alongside a free clothing booth put on by MV Clothes to Go. Kids dug through bins searching for early Halloween costumes, while parents and families gathered to mingle on the hill. When the food trucks opened at 5 p.m., a line had already formed in front of Goldie's Rotisserie food truck.

The day's festivities ranged from a daytime art market to live music and an evening silent disco. The schedule doesn't change much from week to week, but organizer Althea Freeman-Miller said the energy felt different this Friday.

"It's the last one of the summer," Ms. Freeman-Miller said. "October is bittersweet and sentimental."

The First Fridays schedule runs from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

"People can come with breakfast and stay all the way through silent disco," said organizer Taylor Stone.

Ms. Stone initially joined First Fridays as an artist participant before becoming an organizer alongside Ms. Freeman-Miller four years ago.

Next year, First Fridays will celebrate its 10th year.

When Ms. Freeman-Miller started the festival in 2017, she said she wanted to form a community space for Islanders to gather.

"I thought it was important to create the community you want to live in," she said. "I also wanted to support artists and musicians."

Supporting local artists and musicians has remained central to the festival. This month's celebration featured a parade and performance from the Upis Land Band. Musicians marched from the Mansion House Inn down Main street to join the party at Owen Park beach.

Though the festival has always been free to attend and enjoy, First Fridays has paid more than \$25,000 to musicians over the years from donations and grants. But this year was the first year that the event received funding from the town of Vineyard Haven.

"It's great to see it grow every year as people trust it and know it more," Ms. Freeman-Miller said. "And the kids get older!"

The festival's growth has also come with an ongoing effort to listen to the community. Ms. Stone said the organization welcomes feedback.

"Everyone who organizes it is very open to feedback and changing what needs to be changed based on what the community wants," she said.

Community members can attend the district's public meetings to learn more about the Vineyard Haven Harbor Cultural District and other local arts and cultural organizations. A meeting took place on Oct. 8 in the Vineyard Haven library.

"We will do an overview of our First Fridays season, upcoming Vineyard Haven Harbor Cultural District projects, have MV Cultural Council talk about their grant applications and Circuit Arts talking about their upcoming call for art," Ms. Stone said.

**THE GAZETTE
CHRONICLE**

Car Talk

From the October 13, 1972 edition of the Vineyard Gazette:

Robert L. Renear will announce next week the closing of the automobile business of which he has been president and treasurer since 1962. A history of 66 years and of a family business which has carried through three generations on the Vineyard will come to an end because of changed conditions in the industry and in the merchandising of cars which, in Mr. Renear's experience, make it impossible to continue in the tradition and with the standards adhered to in the past.

In 1909 the late Walter H. Renear, grandfather of Dixon B. and Robert L. Renear, acquired the agency for Reo automobiles. Who remembers Reo today? The car and name were widely known in those early automotive days, but two years later, in 1911, Mr. Renear took the Ford agency and the history of modern popular motoring on the Island began, to be carried on through all its technical marvels and changes brought about in the life of civilization everywhere and introduced here by him, his son, Leland W. Renear, and his grandsons.

The transition to succeeding eras of automobile development was part of the day to day and year to year experience of the Renear business before and after the introduction of the historic Modal A Ford. The period of Ford jokes, so many of them that they were published in books, added spirit and humor to the introduction of Ford cars, and the founder of the Renear business relished them and recounted the latest one to customers and friends.

In 1906 the property in the rear of Masonic Hall was acquired for the growing automobile business. In 1910 a Gazette correspondent reported as follows:

"Mr. Walter H. Renear has purchased from the Henry W. Coyes the cottage east of Masonic Hall. It is supposed that Mr. Renear intends to considerably enlarge his garage which is in the rear of his house and extends to the new lot."

A time came in the years before World War I when a Ford could be bought for little more than \$300. The Ford had acquired a wholly new kind of universality.

The main Renear garage building facing Church street was built in 1922. In 1960 Leland W. Renear retired, passing along the business to his two sons.

Throughout the years the Renears won many sorts of recognition — for instance a sales record of 23 new cars in a few weeks at the close of 1954, a Distinguished Achievement Award from the Ford Company in 1967, a plaque and commendation in the traffic and highway safety program in 1966. But most of the satisfaction all the while, as Bob Renear made clear this week, has come in dealing with people — with the people of the Vineyard.

Plans that the Renears have for the future will be made public shortly, and it is a good guess that they will involve a relationship with Vineyarders and Vineyard visitors.

The Edgartown Inn, famous for generations for gracious hospitality, is to pass into new ownership next spring. An agreement to sell the 172-year old hoseltry has been reached between Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Chirgwin and Mr. and Mrs. Earle K. Radford Jr., of Kansas City, Mo., and Chappaquidick. The transaction is being handled through the office of John C. Nevin.

Mr. and Mrs. Chirgwin have operated the inn since 1940, and for years after the turn of the century, Mr. Chirgwin's grandmother, Mrs. Anne Chirgwin, conducted it, establishing a fine name of its food as well as its lodging, with her piping hot cream of tartar biscuits and raised buns. In the years since 1800 when it was built as a residence by Capt. Thomas Worth, father of Maj. William Jenkins Worth, a hero of both the War of 1812 and the Mexican War and for whom Fort Worth Texas was named, it has seen many notable visitors. Among them were Daniel Webster, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Sen. Charles Sumner, and John F. Kennedy.

The Worths were only briefly, Edgartown residents, although the major-to-be was christened there in 1804. Then the house became an inn called the Gibbs House, then the Norton House, then the Edgartown Inn. In the early days of this century, it became a private residence again, the home of Capt. William H. Roberts of the Revenue Cutter Service.

Its buyers say they hope to continue to maintain "the high quality of service" that the Chirgwin family has offered.

Mr. Radford, a partner in the Valentine-Radford Advertising Agency, Kansas City's second largest advertising firm, has had his own home on Chappaquidick for the past three years. Although he has never been an innkeeper before, he is looking forward to the prospect. In addition to his advertising work, he is a painter of landscapes and portraits.

Mr. Radford says that he and his wife are planning an antique-hunting excursion into northern New England soon to look for possible additional furnishings for the inn, but, otherwise, they are not expecting to institute changes, unless, eventually, to the barn.

Compiled by Hilary Wallcox
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Question Eight Takes Aim at Pot Sales

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said. Repealing the law would also put Massachusetts out of step with its neighbors, which followed the Bay State's lead on the issue, Mr. Cyr argued.

"Walking this back just seems really out of step with what other states and most other Americans are able to access and enjoy," he said.

Legal marijuana access has been tricky for Martha's Vineyard because it is an Island and marijuana is still illegal at the federal level. Marijuana is not legally allowed on Steamship Authority ferries, which are overseen by the U.S. Coast Guard, or by planes which travel in federal airspace.

For years that meant Island dispensaries needed to sell marijuana that was grown on the Vineyard. Fine Fettle operated a growing facility in West Tisbury, which supplied their store and Mr. Rose's Island Time. But Fine Fettle announced it was closing down in 2024, saying the economics of growing on the Vineyard were too difficult.

With no growers on the Vineyard, stock at Island Time started to dwindle — a situation that drew national attention. Mr. Rose petitioned the state to allow Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket to import marijuana from the mainland, and the state set up special rules for the Islands in 2024.

If the repeal was passed by the voters, the Island could go back to having few options in the legal market.

"There is no operating medical dispensary here on the Vineyard," Mr. Rose said. "If this was passed, there would be no retail medical marijuana on the Vineyard. You wind up going to the illicit market."

Island law enforcement have had safety concerns about marijuana over the years, especially around cannabis use and driving.

Oak Bluffs police Chief Jonathan Searle said that it is difficult to make operating under the influence charges involving marijuana stick in court.

"My biggest concern was Massachusetts legalizing it without putting anything in to enforce operating under the influence of marijuana," he said.

While he can test drunk drivers with

a breathalyzer to check their blood alcohol level, drugged driving arrests rely on much more circumstantial evidence.

"There is no such standard developed for marijuana use and there is no such test for marijuana," Chief Searle said. "I dare you to go find a conviction. It's almost impossible to successfully prosecute."

Because of that difficulty, Tisbury police Chief Chris Habekost said he couldn't tell if there was any uptick since legalization.

"It's hard for us to get those statistics because the prosecution or the investigation of OUI drugs is a very difficult thing to accomplish," he said. But he also noted that there has not been any rise in crime related to the marijuana dispensary.

The rules around possession of marijuana would also be changed should the ballot question pass at the polls. Under the proposed rules, people 21 and older could possess up to an ounce of marijuana. Current limits are up to 10 ounces.

Possession between one and two ounces of marijuana, under the ballot question, could bring a civil penalty of \$100 and a forfeiture of the cannabis.

A repeal would have tax implications at the state and local level. Marijuana establishments in Massachusetts grossed more than \$1.65 billion in sales in 2025, a new annual record for the state, according to data from the Cannabis Control Commission, the state agency that oversees the industry.

Tisbury gets a 3 per cent tax on marijuana sales in town, and received \$114,643.85 in cannabis tax revenue in the last fiscal year, according to the town.

Customers have started to ask Mr. Rose about the ballot question, and he was planning to campaign against it in the weeks leading up to the election.

"We will be doing more public awareness," he said. "I think it's important that this is defeated overwhelmingly. We don't want to let these individuals gain any kind of traction."

paying job on the water in 1979 when he did the dishes on the Shenandoah.

Along with Mr. Jones, a group of Islanders is working to help keep the vessel going, including the Douglas family and Island boatbuilders Gary and Kristi Maynard.

"We call ourselves Save Shenandoah but we don't have an official name," said Mr. Maynard.

Mr. Maynard was a galley boy on the Shenandoah in 1979 and is childhood friends with Mr. Jones. Mr. Maynard would go on to rise through the ranks until he made mate in 1986, and then got involved in carpentry and boat restoration.

These types of stories were a common refrain among the people around the deal, and all said that the boat represents a piece of Island culture.

"Shenandoah is just part of our lives and is beloved," said Ms. Maynard. "We feel that she has some more life in her."

The cost of keeping Shenandoah seaworthy was one of the main reasons the Ocean Academy didn't feel it was feasible to continue operating the vessel. After the nonprofit took ownership of the boat in 2020, the organization put about \$1 million into rebuilding the stern.

But continuing to use it to take kids out on the water would likely have needed a total rebuild, which could have cost upwards of \$10 million, according to Ms. Blum.

The Coast Guard has outlined significant work they would like done, which isn't feasible for Martha's Vineyard Ocean Academy to take on," she said.

Keeping the Shenandoah in Vineyard Haven harbor as the Ocean Academy works to build a new vessel, Shenan-



Shenandoah heads to next chapter; in the foreground is Violet, captained by Gary and Kristi Maynard, who were instrumental in the future plan for Shenandoah.

Wishing Shenandoah a Fare Thee Well

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the Shenandoah in the water.

"We're going to host her at our dock in Mystic," said nautical heritage society president Geoffrey Jones. "And then we've got to figure out what happens next."

Designed and captained by Robert Douglas, the founder of The Black Dog, the Shenandoah was a floating classroom that schooled generations of Island children in the ways of sailing.

In 2020, Captain Douglas handed the vessel over to the Ocean Academy, which carried on the educational mission. Last summer, the organization announced that it planned to retire the Shenandoah, saying it became untenable to continue pouring time and money into the wooden boat while also continuing programming.

After the schooner made its last trip with Chilmark School students last month, one of the biggest looming questions was what would happen to the boat in retirement as the Ocean Academy raises money to build a new boat.

While there still isn't an exact answer to that, Shenandoah co-captain and Ocean Academy co-founder Casey Blum said the move to Mystic helps buy the vessel time.

"I think the hope on both sides is, of course, the preservation of Shenandoah," she said. "Geoff has a long history with the boat and is offering to help give the boat some more time... There's really no downsides to that."

Mr. Jones' organization has helped preserve other historic schooners, including the 100-plus-year-old Roseway and Alvei. This project was also personal for Mr. Jones, who got his first

doah II, was also less than ideal.

"It is expensive to keep it on the mooring in Vineyard Haven and there's cost with keeping insurance," Ms. Blum said.

While in Mystic, the committee to save the Shenandoah and the nautical heritage society will look at repairing the leaky decks, and all the parties hope to have it open and available to the public. Mystic is one of the major wooden boat ports in New England and the vessel will be right alongside the city's maritime museum.

"What's appealing to us is that the boat is going to be fully rigged and dockside in Mystic and the public will have access to it," said Ms. Blum.

While negotiations continue for the ownership transfer, Ms. Maynard said she is reaching out to people who would be potentially interested in stewarding the vessel for the long-term. The nautical heritage society will give the vessel a safe harbor and help with the next steps, but the ultimate goal is to pair her with another owner after that.

"We act kind of like match.com between old wooden boats and people crazy enough to take them on as projects," said Mr. Jones.

Ms. Maynard is hoping to find people who want to see Shenandoah continue on, whether that be as a seaworthy vessel, a floating museum or something else.

"We really don't know yet, but we are open to all possibilities," she said.

Though it was built in 1963, the ship resembles a mid-19th century sailing vessel, and great effort was taken by Captain Douglas, who died in 2025, to keep its historic origins.

It was only the second commercial sailing ship built in the U.S. without an

engine since 1921.

"She's the most beautiful topsail schooner in the world," Ms. Maynard said. "When she is sailing and you see her rounding West Chop your jaw drops."

The boat was pulled by a tug out of Vineyard Haven Saturday morning, before taking advantage of the tide and favorable weather for the 80-mile sail to Mystic, said Ian Ridgeway, who captains the Shenandoah and founded the Ocean Academy with his partner Ms. Blum.

Mr. Ridgeway's crew, Ms. Maynard and others were on the vessel for what may be the Ocean Academy's last sail as owner of the vessel. Looking back on his time at the helm, Mr. Ridgeway said he was proud of the work that went to keeping the vessel afloat and getting it this far.

"Caring for a 63-year-old wooden boat is a serious undertaking and we have been so proud of the six years of stewardship under Martha's Vineyard Ocean Academy," he said.

The descendants of Captain Douglas were grateful to everyone who has played a role in setting up the next chapter of the Shenandoah, even if the future is still unclear.

"I have wonderful memories of visiting Mystic with my father aboard Shenandoah when I was young and I am sure Dad would approve of this new chapter and be very happy to see his Shenandoah in Mystic, Connecticut," said the captain's son Rob Douglas Jr.

Derby Program Helps the Hungry

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and delivers them to one of the Island's councils on aging. This year, fillets are also being donated to the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) for the first time.

"It makes me feel like I'm helping to make sure some of these Island traditions stay alive when they're so under threat," Mr. Macy said.

At the councils on aging, fish distribution days can yield lines of 30 people deep. Such is the case at the Edgartown Council on Aging, said director Lyndsay Famariss, who hands out fish to seniors on every Wednesday morning of the derby.

"It can be very expensive for older adults to have fish in their diet, and maybe they used to go fishing themselves, but they can't anymore," she said. "This is a really great way to have a connection to an Island tradition, and healthy and great fresh fish in their diets as well."

Every person who lines up ahead of the 8:30 a.m. pickup time receives a number. Then, they're called inside to peruse the bluefish and bonito.

"We have, over the years, fine-tuned the distribution, because it gets a little wild," she said.

For people who are homebound, volunteers make home deliveries. Pat Tyra has volunteered at the Edgartown Council on Aging to help with fillet distribution for longer than she can remember.

"There's a couple of people that I've known over the years who can't get down early in the morning for the fish, and I'll deliver it to them," Ms. Tyra said.

On the weekends, the fish is vacuum-sealed, flash-frozen and transported to Island Growth Initiative, usually by Mr.



Bob Lane at the fillet station.

Herman. There, it's stocked at the food pantry and incorporated into pre-made meals.

"Any local protein is such a huge benefit to our community..." said Merrick Carreiro, food equity director at Island Grown. "It's not like we're giving it to people and we don't know if it's being used. People are choosing it."

What happens to the fish when it gets to its final destination — the kitchen — is entirely up to the person preparing it.

Ms. Edmundson said there are great recipes for bluefish and bonito from Island chefs featured in the Martha's Vineyard Fisherman's Preservation Trust cookbook, Sea Table. She mentioned Steven Raichlen's recipe for bluefish, marinated in mustard, maple syrup, brown sugar and mayonnaise and grilled on

a cedar plank. She added that Rachel Vaughn's orange-soy marinade and herby chimichurri pair particularly well with bonito.

Other recipes are heirlooms, passed down for generations. Ms. Tyra's mother's bluefish recipe, which includes coating the fish in a mixture of mayonnaise and sour cream before broiling it, is such a hit that it's printed out and pasted on the wall at the Edgartown Council on Aging.

For Mr. Herman, a fillet of bluefish or bonito can keep Islanders' stomachs full while connecting them to people and memories from the past.

"It's not just free fish," he said. "It's something more than that."



Beka El-Deiry.

New SSA Representative Looks to Bring Business Acumen to the Job

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with, and holding everybody on the team accountable for the same mission is important," he said.

"I know Alex wants to do that, and he has the board's unqualified support in doing that," Mr. Gavin said.

The Steamship Authority also needs to push back its long-awaited new reservations system and website, Mr. Gavin said, restating his argument from the September board meeting.

While much of the new reservations system is close to being ready for the traveling public, he said, freight service has remained a programming challenge for the developer, E-Dea.

"The stuff that's going on in the back end, and in particular with freight, is incredibly complex, and it's what separates us from a lot of other ferry operators," Mr. Gavin told the Gazette.

At the September board meeting, Mr. Gavin called for terminating the Steamship's contract with its current technology project manager, Gibbous LLC, and hiring a larger firm with experience bringing new systems to the public.

It was a serious motion, he told the Gazette, but none of the other four board members, who represent Barnstable, Falmouth, Nantucket and New Bedford, would second it for discussion.

"I was surprised when no one spoke up, but I respect the reason," Mr. Gavin told the Gazette.

"They wanted to read the contract to understand what that would entail [because] who memorizes a contract that was signed three years ago? Nobody," Mr. Gavin said.

Nonetheless, he said, the Steamship Authority would be better off taking a fresh look at the reservations and website project before proceeding.

"Most private aviation accidents with



Ted Gavin.

young pilots, or new pilots, happen because the pilot doesn't do the one thing that they could have done, which is make a 180 degree turn and fly home," Mr. Gavin told the Gazette.

"Get-there-itis,' is what it's called," he said. "The desire to get to the end overrides better thinking and and prudence."

Mr. Gavin, whose firm is called Gavin/Solmonese, has witnessed the aftermath of many wrong business decisions in his consulting work.

"We go in, we figure out why the company is not doing well. We give them a plan to fix it, and ... if they wait too long, more often than not, I become your tour guide through Chapter 11 [bankruptcy]," he said.

Before becoming a businessman, Mr. Gavin told the Gazette, he was on a very different path.

"My first career was in classical music. I was a symphony orchestra con-

ductor," he said.

As a young bassoonist in Philadelphia, Mr. Gavin said, he played in the youth symphony with other up-and-coming musicians such as Christian McBride, now an eminent jazz bassist with 11 Grammy awards.

He majored in music theory at the Philadelphia University of the Arts in Philadelphia and studied conducting with private instructors, until an old hand injury — from a deli-meat slicer blade at a job during his teens — began acting up.

"It got to the point where it really prohibited my continuing on as a conductor, and that was a pretty tough time in my early 20s," Mr. Gavin said.

"I can't really play piano at the level that a conductor needs to play piano, so... I thought it was better for my future if I went to my other love, which was business," he said.

Mr. Gavin worked for a succession of smaller and larger companies over the course of his 20s, and then made his way into information technology and began running IT departments for manufacturing companies.

One of his jobs involved bringing the E-ZPass electronic road toll system to Delaware, where he met his wife Amy through an administrator at the state transportation department.

Twenty-three years later, the Gavins have two adult daughters and a grandson in Philadelphia, where the couple lived until moving to the Vineyard about a decade ago.

They began summering here in 2009, after a first visit to attend a fundraiser for then-Sen. Al Franken of Minnesota, Mr. Gavin said.

For the first few years, their visits were 10-day to two-week affairs at inns and then at rented homes.

"We really got to like being here and dislike leaving," he said.

In 2016, the Vineyard became even more enticing when the Gavins visited in June instead of later in the summer.

"It was a completely different Island and a different mix of people, a different

feel," he said. "We loved it, and we were home by July 4, and I immediately wanted to come back."

The couple returned that August with a mission: to find a rental for the entire summer of 2017. Their new landlords in Chilmark liked the couple well enough to begin renting the house to them year-round and, a few years later, to sell them the property, Mr. Gavin said.

The Vineyard's welcoming music scene was a major draw, he said.

"The reason why my wife and I decided we could actually make a life here was because of the local musician community," said Mr. Gavin, who still plays rhythm guitar.

"I was sitting in with Johnny Hoy and the Bluefish and Rosie Guerin," he said.

Jeremy Berlin, pianist with the Bluefish and one of the Vineyard's most active performers with a variety of bands, said he considers Mr. Gavin a reliable sideman as well as a valued friend.

"He is one of the smartest people I know ... and a good and smart musician," Mr. Berlin said.

The Gavins also are active in Vineyard causes. Ms. Gavin chairs the board of Martha's Vineyard Community Services and they also have served on the boards of the Martha's Vineyard Camp Meeting Association and the Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center. Mr. Gavin said.

The Dukes County Commission appointed him to succeed retired businessman James Malkin, who served two three-year terms on the Steamship Authority board before declining to seek a fourth.

Mr. Malkin's predecessor, Oak Bluffs restaurateur Marc Hanover, served five terms and subsequently retired off-Island.

Both the Vineyard and Nantucket seats on the Steamship Authority board are endowed by law with weighted votes of 35 per cent each, compared to the remaining three members' 10 per cent.

The next Steamship Authority board meeting is scheduled for Oct. 20 at 10 a.m. in the Tisbury emergency services building on Spring street.

Cotton Pleads Not Guilty to Murder

From Page One

said all along that Frankie's case deserves the fullest measure of accountability the law allows, and we have never stopped advocating for that."

More than 70 friends and supporters of the Rodenbaughs packed the Edgartown courthouse benches behind Ms. Cotton and her family, who were sitting in the first row.

After the arraignment, the crowd stood outside waiting for Mr. Rodenbaugh. When he came out of the courthouse, he hugged and shook everyone's hand.

"The support is absolutely awe-inspiring and just means so much to me to have all these people here," Mr. Rodenbaugh told the Gazette. "It's been a long fight to get to here and we really appreciate everybody coming out."

At the outskirts of the crowd, Julia and Samantha Bettencourt stood in support of the Rodenbaughs. Samantha said her mother works at the Oak Bluffs School with Ms. Rodenbaugh, and though they don't know the family well, they wanted to stand in solidarity.

"We just want justice for [Frankie]," Julia said.

During Thursday's hearing, Judge Krupp decided to move the case to Barnstable Superior Court, if the par-



Aimee Cotton in court Thursday.

ties were in favor.

Mr. Rodenbaugh was surprised that the transfer was decided at the arraignment, but said he fully supported the change of venue to Barnstable, which sits more often than the Vineyard superior court.

CALENDAR

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

Friday, October 9

Bass in the Grass, a collection of wooden fish created by local artists in celebration of the Martha's Vineyard Striped Bass & Bluefish Derby, The Carnegie, daily, free, 774-549-9107.

Martha's Vineyard Striped Bass and Bluefish Derby, daily morning and evening weigh-ins on Dock street from 8 to 10 a.m. and 7 to 9 p.m., daily, mvderby.com.

Acrylic Painting with John Holladay, intermediate/advanced, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 30 Featherstone Lane, Oak Bluffs, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., \$50, featherstoneart.app.neoncrm.com, 508-693-1850.

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., mas-saudubon.org, 508-627-4850.

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

MVAA All Members Show, Old Sculpin Gallery, Martha's Vineyard Art Association, 58 Dock street, Edgartown, daily through Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., oldsculptingallery.org, 508-939-4092.

On Exhibit — Margot Datz: Recreator, exhibition highlights the creative process of Island muralist, The Carnegie, daily, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., \$5.

Water — Alida O'Loughlin's Photo Show, Martha's Vineyard Television Center, weekdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Alpaca Walk and Talk, with an alpaca in our pastures, 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, 508-639-5554.

Drop-in Play-Doh Group, Edgartown Public Library, 26 Edgartown-West Tisbury Road, Edgartown, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., edgartownlibrary.assabetinteractive.com, 508-627-4221.

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

Kid's 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.

Knowhere Continues This Fall, Center of Knowhere, 73 Circuit avenue, Oak Bluffs, daily except until 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, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., aquinnah.org, 508-645-7900.

Drop-in Tech Help at the Anchors, monthly at the Edgartown COA during their Friday cafe, The Anchors/Edgartown Council on Aging 10 Daggett street, Edgartown, 12 to 1 p.m., edgartownlibrary.org, 508-627-4221.

Featherstone Board and Instructor Show, Featherstone Center for the Arts, daily except Monday, 12 to 4 p.m., free.

Snacking and Crafting, for school age kids and families, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 56R School street, Oak Bluffs, 1 to 4 p.m., free, oakbluffslibrary.org, 508-693-9433.

Book Signing: The Theory and Practice of Apparent Logic by Peter Steer, Island resident signs copies of his new book, Edgartown Books, 44 Main street, Edgartown, 2 to 4 p.m., free, edgartownbooks.com, 508-627-8463.

Self Care Club, for kids ages 8 and up, West Tisbury Public Library, 3:15 to 4:15 p.m.

Fall Film Showcase: The Incomer, Grange Hall, 1067 State Road, West Tisbury, 7 p.m., pay-what-you-can, circuitarts.thundertix.com, 508-696-6300.

Saturday, October 10

Annual Fall 5k Run and Fun Run, Washington Park, 8:30 a.m., \$30, sites.google.com.

West Tisbury Farmers' Market, rain or shine, Agricultural Hall, 35 Panhandle Road, West Tisbury, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., free, wtfmarket.org.

Martha's Vineyard Dems Monthly Meeting, guest speakers, discussion and outreach for Democratic leaders and issues, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., free, 774-563-0467.

Fall on the Farm, with pumpkins, wagon rides, kid's crafts and more, The FARM Institute, 14 Aero avenue,

Car-B-Q



Jenna Shepard

Revving Up for Classic Car Show

Antique car enthusiasts across the Island are revving their engines for the Vineyard Gazette's Car-B-Q Classic auto show, which takes place Oct. 11 at the Winnetu Oceanside Resort.

From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Winnetu lawn, spectators can check out the vintage cars and enjoy a cookout. The cars will cruise around the grounds at 10 a.m. for a parade.

Winnetu owner and antique car enthusiast Mark Snider said the hotel is proud to support the event, which first took place in 2015.

"It's absolutely breathtakingly beautiful when all the cars are on the lawn," he told the Gazette. "People come and just have a wonderful afternoon."

The Winnetu has two antique cars of its own: a wooden bus from the 1930s and a fire truck from 1946, both of which the hotel uses as shuttles for guests. The Winnetu's antique cars will be on display Sunday, and the Gazette's own 1955 red Chevy pickup truck will also make an appearance.

Mr. Snider said he purchased the Winnetu's first ever antique car, a Ford Model A, 20 years ago. When it came off the ferry, it wouldn't start, and after trying everything, he checked the fuel tank to realize it was empty. He looks back on that day with laughter.

To him, antique cars produce all kinds of fond memories for people of all ages.

"Every child says to their parent, 'Can we go back to that place with the fire truck?'" Mr. Snider said. "It means something."

Car owners can register their vehicles for \$50 and the event is free for visitors. To register, visit: carshowpro.com/events/view/3471

-Emma Kilbride

Edgartown, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., member family: \$15; non-member family: \$25, thetrustees.org, 508-627-7007.

Harvest Festival, cows and sheep to pet, cider press demonstrations, harvest vegetable printing and more, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Vineyard Artisans Fall Festival, weaving, fine furniture, pottery, leather goods, oil paintings and more, Grange Hall, Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., vineyardartisans.com.

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

Drop-In Crafts: DIY Reading Scratchers and Paint by Sticker, for kids of all ages, Aquinnah Public Library, 1 Church street, Aquinnah, 12 to 3 p.m.

Cornhole Tournament, Nomans, 15 Island Inn Road, Oak Bluffs, 12 to 4 p.m., \$50 per team, 508-338-2474.

Learn About Foster Parenting and Adopting from Foster Care, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 12 to 3 p.m.

Mahjong Group, weekly registration required, email gwillbur@clamsnet.org for more information, West Tisbury Public Library, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Live Music: Latin, Salsa, Tango and Classics, for more information, visit westtisburylibrary.org, West Tisbury Public Library, 1 to 2 p.m.

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

Book Signing: Man on Fire by Steven Raichlen, author of The Barbecue Bible launches his new memoir, Edgartown Books, 2 to 4 p.m., free.

Climate Conversation Edgartown: The Island's Energy Transition, panel discussion on energy transition in a changing climate, Edgartown Public Library, 2 to 4 p.m.

All That Jazz: Film Screening and Discussion with Dave Kish, watching the second half of Buddy Rich: Jazz Legend this month, West Tisbury Public Library, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Blues Trio, Bad Martha Farmer's Brewery, 270 Upper Main street, Edgartown, 4 to 6 p.m., free.

Fall Film Showcase: Your Mother Your Mother Your Mother, Grange Hall, 7 p.m., pay-what-you-can, circuitarts.thundertix.com, 508-696-6300.

Haunted Edgartown, spooky stories and ghostly vibes, Edgartown,

7:30 to 9 p.m., \$30, hauntededgartown.com, 508-212-3035.

Sunday, October 11

Fore the Kids, first annual golf tournament presented by Option and Education and MVPCS, Mink Meadows Golf Club, 320 Golf Club Road, Vineyard Haven, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$175, 339-364-1474.

Meditation, group meditation, both in person and online, Bodhi Path Buddhist Center, 21 Laurand Drive, West Tisbury, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Oak Bluffs Open Market, locally grown produce, specialty foods, flowers, designers and more, Washington Park, Chapman avenue, Oak Bluffs, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., free, 508-939-1076.

Car-B-Q Classic Car Show, sponsored by the Vineyard Gazette, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Winnetu Oceanside Resort.

Lichens: Their Beauty and Their Message with Dr. Ursula Goodenough and CUUPS MV, Unitarian Universalist Society of Martha's Vineyard, 11 a.m., free.

Softening Into Stillness, guided meditation, Stillpoint, 20 Stillpoint Meadows Road, West Tisbury, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., \$30 single class, \$125 for five-class pass, stillpoint.thundertix.com.

Create a Food Forest in Your Backyard, Beetlebung Farm, 410 Middle Road, Chilmark, 1 to 2:30 p.m., free, marthasvineyardagriculturalociety.org, 508-693-9549.

Football and Yard Games, Nomans, 1 to 5 p.m.

Open Writing Hours, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 1 to 3 p.m., free.

Book Signing: Lighting the Trail by Elaine Cawley Weintraub, author and Island historian signs the new edition of her book, Edgartown Books, 2 to 4 p.m., free.

Second Sunday Jazz, for more

CHECK OUT OUR

ONLINE
CALENDAR
FOR EVEN
MORE EVENTS!



calendar.vineyardgazette.com

PLANNING AN EVENT?



Ray Ewing



It's **EASY** and **FREE** to enter your event on our online and print calendars!

SCAN HERE to find out how!

The Complete Martha's Vineyard

CALENDAR

VINEYARD GAZETTE

MEDIA GROUP

calendar.vineyardgazette.com

MARTHA'S VINEYARD ART ASSOCIATION

OLD
SCULPIN
GALLERY



MVAA
ALL MEMBER SHOW

Exhibition Dates: September 12 - October 12 / Open Daily

58 Dock Street, Edgartown 508.939.4092 art@oldsculptingallery.org OLDSculpINGALLERY.org
Across from the Chappy Ferry

MARY MAGDALENE COMMUNITY
Catholic Mass at 5 pm at UUSMV, 238 Main St.VH



PRESIDER
Reverend Mary Michael Leahy, MDiv
ROMAN CATHOLIC WOMAN PRIEST
Ordained since November 2021

The Mary Magdalene Community will hold Eucharist Liturgy every other Sunday at 5 pm, starting October 11th, 2026.

All are welcome to this table of Catholic faith. The community is inclusive, welcoming, affirming, and deeply committed to being a people of justice and generosity of spirit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
magdalenespiritualitycenter.com

PENUMBRA PHOTOGRAPHS Vintage Photography



Our 35th Season

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Friday - Monday
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Summer Gallery

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THIS WEEKEND
OCT
9 TO 12
FRI & SAT
9AM-5PM
SUN & MON
10 AM - 2 PM

HONORING
INDIGENOUS
PEOPLES'
DAY

270, UPPER MAIN ST. EDGARTOWN
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508-627-8366
@DONAROMASMV

Oktoberfest at
The Newes from America

THROUGH OCTOBER 15
Open 12pm-10pm, Daily

Schnitzel, soft pretzels, brats
& German beer by the pint.

No reservations required.



23 KELLEY STREET
EDGARTOWN
MA 02539

information, visit westtisburylibrary.org, West Tisbury Public Library, 2 p.m.

A Super Sound Bath with Priscilla Warner and Alison Leipzig, Stillpoint, 4 to 5 p.m., \$30 to \$60, if cost is a barrier, email us.

Between the Oaks Outdoor Church, intergenerational, outdoor worship service followed by a pizza supper, First Congregational Church of West Tisbury, 1051 State Road, West Tisbury, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., fc-cowt.org, 508-693-2842.

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

Fall Film Showcase: The Debut, Grange Hall, 7 p.m., pay-what-you-can, circuitarts.thundertix.com, 508-696-6300.

To Page Eight



MOVIE LISTINGS OCTOBER 9-15

MARTHA'S VINEYARD
FILM CENTER

79 Beach Rd, VH • 508-696-9369

FRIDAY 10/09

The Rivals of Amziah King (R)
4 p.m.

You Had to Be There (NR) 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY 10/10

You Had to Be There (NR) 4 p.m.

American Doctor (NR) 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY 10/11

Artist Reception with
Susan Garrett 1-3 p.m.

You Had to Be There (NR) 4 p.m.

The Rivals of Amziah King (R)
7:30 p.m.

MONDAY 10/12

Closed

TUESDAY 10/13

Closed

WEDNESDAY 10/14

You Had to Be There (NR) 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY 10/15

The Rivals of Amziah King (R)
4 p.m.

Venus Speaks: Women of
Comedy (NR) 7:30 p.m.

EDGARTOWN CINEMAS

Main St, Edgartown • 508-627-8008

FRIDAY 10/09

The Social Reckoning (R) 4 p.m.

Other Mommy (R) 7 p.m.

Heart of the Beast (PG-13) 4 p.m.

Verity (R) 7 p.m.

SATURDAY 10/10

Digger (R) 1 p.m., 4 p.m.

Other Mommy (R) 7:15 p.m.

Forgotten Island (PG)

4 p.m., 7 p.m.

The Social Reckoning (R)

4 p.m., 7 p.m.

SUNDAY 10/11

Forgotten Island (PG) 1 p.m.

Other Mommy (R) 7 p.m.

Verity (R) 1 p.m., 6:45 p.m.

Jaws (PG) 3:45 p.m.

MONDAY 10/12

Digger (R) 1 p.m.

The Social Reckoning (R)

4 p.m., 7 p.m.

Forgotten Island (PG)

1 p.m., 4 p.m.

Heart of the Beast (PG-13)

6:45 p.m.

TUESDAY 10/13

Verity (R) 4 p.m., 6:45 p.m.

The Social Reckoning (R)

4 p.m., 6:45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 10/14

Other Mommy (R)

4:15 p.m., 7 p.m.

Heart of the Beast (PG-13)

4 p.m., 6:45 p.m.

THURSDAY 10/15

Digger (R) 3:45 p.m., 6:45 p.m.

The Social Reckoning (R)

4 p.m., 6:45 p.m.

CIRCUIT ARTS

FALL FILM SHOWCASE

THE GRANGE HALL

1067 State Road, WT • 508-696-6300

FRIDAY 10/09

The Incomer 7 p.m.

SATURDAY 10/10

Your Mother Your Mother

Your Mother (R) 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY 10/11

The Debut (R) 7 p.m.

VINEYARD



GAZETTE



PRESENT...

CAR-B-Q CLASSIC

AUTO SHOW & POWER CRUISE

★ FREE FAMILY FUN! ★



October 11, 2026 ★ 11^{AM} - 2^{PM}

on the lawn of the WINNETU OCEANSIDE RESORT

FOOD

DOZENS OF ANTIQUE CARS

VOTE ON YOUR FAVORITE CAR!

REGISTER YOUR CAR



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Andrew Jacobs and daughter Ayla with a bonito.

Ray Ewing

TIDE AND TIME																												
	Saturday, Oct. 10				Sunday, Oct. 11				Monday, Oct. 12				Tuesday, Oct. 13				Wednesday, Oct. 14				Thursday, Oct. 15				Friday, Oct. 16			
	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.....	12:00	12:19	5:24	5:50	12:46	12:59	6:06	6:34	1:30	1:39	6:47	7:17	2:13	2:19	7:27	7:59	2:56	3:00	8:09	8:43	3:39	3:43	8:51	9:28	4:25	4:30	9:36	--
Edgartown.....	12:11	12:30	5:38	6:04	12:57	1:10	6:20	6:48	1:41	1:50	7:01	7:31	2:24	2:30	7:41	8:13	3:07	3:11	8:23	8:57	3:50	3:54	9:05	9:42	4:36	4:41	9:50	--
Oak Bluffs.....	--	12:05	5:12	5:38	12:32	12:45	5:54	6:22	1:16	1:25	6:35	7:05	1:59	2:05	7:15	7:47	2:42	2:46	7:57	8:31	3:25	3:29	8:39	9:16	4:11	4:16	9:24	--
East Chop.....	--	12:02	5:08	5:34	12:29	12:42	5:50	6:18	1:13	1:22	6:31	7:01	1:56	2:02	7:11	7:43	2:39	2:43	7:53	8:27	3:22	3:26	8:35	9:12	4:08	4:13	9:20	--
Vineyard Haven.....	--	12:00	5:21	5:47	12:27	12:40	6:03	6:31	1:11	1:20	6:44	7:14	1:54	2:00	7:24	7:56	2:37	2:41	8:06	8:40	3:20	3:24	8:48	9:25	4:06	4:11	9:33	--
West Chop.....	11:51	--	4:51	5:17	12:18	12:31	5:33	6:01	1:02	1:11	6:14	6:44	1:45	1:51	6:54	7:26	2:28	2:32	7:36	8:10	3:11	3:15	8:16	8:55	3:57	4:02	9:03	--
Off Lake Tashmoo.....	9:17	9:37	3:32	4:12	9:59	10:19	4:02	4:49	10:40	11:00	4:36	5:26	11:21	11:42	5:13	6:03	--	12:02	5:51	6:41	12:25	12:46	6:30	7:20	1:11	1:34	7:12	8:06
Cedar Tree Neck.....	8:19	8:39	2:53	3:33	9:01	9:21	3:23	4:10	9:42	10:02	3:57	4:47	10:23	10:44	4:34	5:24	11:04	11:27	5:12	6:02	11:48	--	5:51	6:41	12:13	12:36	6:33	7:27
Menemsha Bight.....	8:11	8:31	1:58	2:38	8:53	9:13	2:28	3:15	9:34	9:54	3:02	3:52	10:15	10:36	3:39	4:29	10:56	11:19	4:17	5:07	11:40	--	4:56	5:46	12:05	12:28	6:38	6:32
Gay Head.....	8:03	8:23	2:06	2:46	8:45	9:05	2:36	3:23	9:26	9:46	3:10	4:00	10:07	10:28	3:47	4:37	10:48	11:11	4:25	5:15	11:32	11:57	5:04	5:54	--	12:20	5:46	6:40
Squibnocket Point.....	7:24	7:44	1:19	1:59	8:06	8:26	1:49	2:36	8:47	9:07	2:23	3:13	9:28	9:49	3:00	3:50	10:09	10:32	3:38	4:28	10:53	11:18	4:17	5:07	11:41	--	4:59	5:53
Off Chilmark Pond.....	7:53	8:13	1:25	2:05	8:35	8:55	1:55	2:42	9:16	9:36	2:29	3:19	9:57	10:18	3:06	3:56	10:38	11:01	3:44	4:34	11:22	11:47	4:23	5:13	--	12:10	5:05	5:59
Off Jobs Neck Pond.....	8:10	8:30	1:43	2:23	8:52	9:12	2:13	3:00	9:33	9:53	2:47	3:37	10:14	10:35	3:24	4:14	10:55	11:18	4:02	4:52	11:39	--	4:41	5:31	12:04	12:27	5:23	6:17
Wasque Point.....	10:11	10:31	4:41	5:21	10:53	11:13	5:11	5:58	11:34	11:54	5:45	6:35	--	12:15	6:22	7:12	12:36	12:56	7:00	7:50	1:19	1:40	7:39	8:29	2:05	2:28	8:21	9:15
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	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).....	10:25	10:47	3:49	4:11	11:07	11:31	4:33	4:51	11:47	--	5:15	5:30	12:15	12:26	5:55	6:08	12:59	1:08	6:36	6:49	1:44	1:52	7:20	7:32	2:33	2:41	8:08	8:21
Hedge Fence Gong 22.....	11:43	--	5:14	5:36	12:05	12:25	5:58	6:16	12:49	1:05	6:40	6:55	1:33	1:44	7:20	7:33	2:17	2:26	8:01	8:14	3:02	3:10	8:45	8:57	3:51	3:59	9:33	9:46
East Chop (1 mi. N).....	11:35	11:57	4:59	5:21	--	12:17	5:43	6:01	12:41	12:57	6:25	6:40	1:25	1:36	7:05	7:18	2:09	2:18	7:46	7:59	2:54	3:02	8:30	8:42	3:43	3:51	9:18	9:31
Norton Point (.5 mi. N).....	10:50	11:12	4:29	4:51	11:32	11:56	5:13	5:31	--	12:12	5:55	6:10	12:40	12:51	6:35	6:48	1:24	1:33	7:16	7:29	2:09	2:17	8:00	8:12	2:58	3:06	8:48	9:01
Gay Head (1.5 mi. NW).....	10:25	10:47	4:04	4:26	11:07	11:31	4:48	5:06	11:47	--	5:30	5:45	12:15	12:26	6:10	6:23	12:59	1:08	6:51	7:04	1:44	1:52	7:35	7:47	2:33	2:41	8:23	8:36
Source: National Ocean Survey and Tidal Current Tables																												

The Vineyard Gazette is proud to sponsor a

BASS IN THE GRASS

Jeanne Shepard

Althea Freeman-Miller is a Martha's Vineyard-born artist, printmaker, and creative wellness facilitator selected by the Vineyard Gazette to create fish art for the Bass in the Grass Auction. She used her block-print technique to carve this unique work of art. See the bass on display at the Carnegie Heritage Center in Edgartown

You can bid on this and other artworks on bass in at BASSINTHEGRASSMV.COM

Proceeds support the Derby Scholarship Fund.

VINEYARD GAZETTE
MEDIA GROUP



Fly fishing for the big one.

Tim Johnson



Heading out, hooks filled with hope.

Tim Johnson

Claudia
Edgartown & Vineyard Haven

Charms and pendants

Coop's Bait & Tackle

Voted Best Island Tackle Shop 2024

Good luck Derby fishermen of all ages from the crew at Coop's

Information, Bait, Tackle, Clamming Gear
You'll find what you need at Coop's; check Us Out!

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Wines

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BUSINESS

Don't be caught without a Hopkins®

Ranked as one of the world's top lures in both fresh and salt water. Visit us at www.hopkinslures.com

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www.hopkinslures.com

Made in USA

HOOKED ON GREAT HAIR!

Good luck to all the anglers out there!

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ECO-CHIC RETREAT

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Powering Good Times, One Catch at a Time.

- Martha's Vineyard Preferred Elite+ Generac Emergency Stand-by Generator Dealer
- Family owned, servicing all island towns since 2002
- On-island, 24/7 emergency call service – you call, we respond!
- We offer yearly generator maintenance program with twice a year visits

Contact us!

- Sales & questions – 508-493-2582
- Electrical outage emergencies – 860-759-6086
- Email – vineyardgenerator@comcast.net

JOHN KEENE
EXCAVATION

TOPSOIL, COMPOST, GRAVEL AND MUCH MORE...

508-693-5975
Monday – Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm
Saturday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
25 Old Stage Road, West Tisbury

WE CAN'T TELL YOU WHERE THE FISH ARE, BUT...

CHECK THE TIDES AND WEATHER at vineyardgazette.com/tides-chart
SEE WHO'S ON THE WEEKLY LEADERBOARD in the Vineyard Gazette every Friday

SIGN UP FOR COOK THE VINEYARD Enjoy recipes for the ones that don't get away mvmagazine.com/cook-the-vineyard
SUBSCRIBE TO ISLAND TIME Our free events newsletter at vineyardgazette.com/newsletters

TAG A PICTURE OF YOUR FISHING ADVENTURE @mvgl

VINEYARD GAZETTE
MEDIA GROUP
COVERING THE WATERFRONT SINCE 1866
Subscriptions available at vineyardgazette.com



Peter Bergeron weighing in a bonito.

Ray Ewing



Fishing buddies on the water.

Ray Ewing

CURRENT DERBY LEADERS

ALL TACKLE		
Name	Date	Weight
BOAT BLUEFISH		
Lilly G. Gwin	9/30	18.74 lbs.
SHORE BLUEFISH		
Bruce Dew III	10/4	19.91 lbs.
BOAT BONITO		
David Kadison	9/29	10.98 lbs.
SHORE BONITO		
Cameron J. Maciel	10/6	9.13 lbs.
BOAT FALSE ALBACORE		
Sherry L. Countryman	9/17	19.91 lbs.
SHORE FALSE ALBACORE		
Angela Fisher	9/22	13.70 lbs.

FLYROD		
Name	Date	Weight
BOAT BONITO		
Zachary C. Horrocks	9/17	8.81 lbs.
SHORE BONITO		
Abe Pieciak	9/23	5.70 lbs.
BOAT BLUEFISH		
Robert D. Morrison	9/20	13.26 lbs.
BOAT FALSE ALBACORE		
Thomas J. Rapone	9/16	14.40 lbs.
SHORE FALSE ALBACORE		
Todd A. Godfrey	9/20	7.27 lbs.

JUNIOR		
Name	Date	Weight
BOAT BLUEFISH		
Christian E. Fisher	9/30	16.42 lbs.
SHORE BLUEFISH		
Dylan J. Kaddy	9/19	9.88 lbs.
BOAT BONITO		
Colton Stedman	9/19	7.17 lbs.
SHORE BONITO		
Latham Kurth	9/20	5.82 lbs.
BOAT FALSE ALBACORE		
Scarlett Stedman	9/13	18.73 lbs.
SHORE FALSE ALBACORE		
Sam A. Dublin	9/19	7.00 lbs.

SENIOR		
Name	Date	Weight
BOAT BLUEFISH		
Stephan A. Van Tol	9/29	16.88 lbs.
SHORE BLUEFISH		
Donald R. Sicard	10/4	15.64 lbs.
BOAT BONITO		
David Kadison	9/29	10.98 lbs.
SHORE BONITO		
Aaron Kinne	10/4	7.46 lbs.
BOAT FALSE ALBACORE		
David Kadison	9/19	16.62 lbs.
SHORE FALSE ALBACORE		
Clement Green	9/1	8.34 lbs.

MINI JUNIOR		
Name	Date	Weight
BOAT BLUEFISH		
Calvin Stedman	9/13	13.47 lbs.
SHORE BLUEFISH		
Clifton M. Colby	9/19	9.32 lbs.
BOAT BONITO		
Tucker Schaefer	9/18	5.90 lbs.
SHORE BONITO		
Clifton M. Colby	9/20	4.07 lbs.
BOAT FALSE ALBACORE		
Calvin Stedman	9/13	15.62 lbs.
SHORE FALSE ALBACORE		
Clifton M. Colby	9/19	8.27 lbs.



Ray Ewing

BE ON THE LOOKOUT! 🐢
Report any Sea Turtle sightings at 1-888-Sea-Turt (1-888-732-8878) or visit seaturtlesightings.org



CLASSIFIED SECTION



Real Estate
For Sale/Rent
Help Wanted
Articles for Sale



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2026

VINEYARD GAZETTE, MARTHA'S VINEYARD, MASS.

ELEVEN

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.

FOR RENT, OAK BLUFFS



OAK BLUFFS WINTER RENTAL WATERFRONT LAGOON POND

Three bedroom, three bath, laundry, fully furnished, in excellent shape with amazing views. \$4000.00/per month plus utilities. Max occupancy three; references required. October 1st - May 1st. Call (508)989-8443.

FOR RENT, VINEYARD HAVEN

YEAR ROUND RENTAL OVERLOOKING VINEYARD HAVEN HARBOR

Furnished one-bedroom, 700sf, with water views. \$3,250 per month, with parking space. In-unit laundry and AC/heat. Utilities not included. Steps to ferry. Call (617)413-8681 or email: jfairchildpr@gmail.com.

TWO BED, TWO BATH

Beach access, pets OK. One mile from town. \$2,400/month plus utilities; internet included. November 1st - May 1st. Contact kharcourt.mv@gmail.com.

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.

YEAR ROUND HOUSE SHARE

Immediately available November 1. \$1,000/month plus electricity. Residential, near Vineyard Haven. Owner and two golden retrievers in residence. Text Susan. (873)879-9813.

FOR RENT, WEST TISBURY

YEAR ROUND RENTAL HUGE BEAUTIFUL TWO-BEDROOM APARTMENT, 2ND FLOOR

\$4000 a month which includes all utilities, internet, and garbage removal. First and last month required, and security deposit - totaling \$9000. New dishwasher, dryer, microwave and washing machine. Great high porch and side yard. Great references, professionals preferred. (310)213-5472.

WINTER/YEAR ROUND

Beautiful one-bedroom plus office. One person preferred. Very spacious. Washer, dryer, Wi-Fi and patio. Utilities included. Lambert's Cove area. \$3,000/per month. Text or call (508)939-1414.

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT, COMMERCIAL

COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

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



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.

HELP WANTED



SUPERVISOR/LEAD CARPENTER

Adam T. Inc. is seeking a highly dependable, motivated individual to fill one of the expanding Construction firm's Supervisory/Lead Carpenter positions. A true craftsman with leadership, supervisory experience and a truck is a must. Wage, benefits, profit-share commensurate with skill level and experience. Email resume to: adam@adamtinc.com.

CHAPPY FERRY CAPTAIN

The Chappy Ferry is looking for Ferry Captains. Must hold a 50 ton license and be willing to work outdoors. We have morning and afternoon shifts available. Please contact Brian at: info@chappyferry.com.

CHILMARK

Is seeking registered voters to serve on various town committees. Current vacancies: Alternate on the Zoning Board of

HELP WANTED

Appeals & Alternate on the Historical Commission. Send resume and cover letter to jobs@chilmarkma.gov before October 16th.

HOUSEKEEPER

Private residence requires professional, detail-oriented and proactive housekeeper. Must be a team player with strong written & spoken English. Guaranteed 20 hrs/wk. \$35-\$45/hr, PTO, holidays, 401(k). Please send resume to: jobs@DeepWaterEstateServices.com.

DYNAMIC BUSINESS HIRINGTHE FOLLOWING PART-TIME POSITIONS:

- Content Manager and Creator.
 - Marketing, Newsletter and Website Manager.
 - Office Assistant.
- To apply, visit: <https://www.constancemessmer.com/jobs>

MOBIL/XTRAMART NOW HIRING CASHIERS

Stop by and ask for Joe. (508)693-9316. Five Corners, Vineyard Haven.

ESPRESSO LOVE HIRING YEAR ROUND STAFF

Espresso Love is looking for people to join our team. Must be available through late fall or year-round. Hiring for baristas, supervisors and kitchen staff. Housing available. Email: jobs@espressolove.com to inquire.

FELIX NECK IS HIRING LEAD EDUCATION COORDINATOR & CAMP DIRECTOR

Love nature and want to share it with others? We are seeking an experienced educator who is enthusiastic about working with youth and staff developing and leading nature-based education programs. Full time, year-round. For detailed job descriptions and application: www.massaudubon.org/jobs

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.

INDIGO FARM

Landscape Design • Build • Maintenance

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

intent. clinical

SEEKING THERAPEUTIC COMPANION

\$25.00 - \$35.00 per hour. Daily pay approximately \$600 - \$1000 per day.

Love supporting others through life's toughest moments? We're looking for compassionate companions to provide live-in mental health and daily living support to aging clients in their homes. We value dedication, discretion, and a calm presence in crisis.

Apply at: intentclinical.com/careers or hiring@intentclinical.com.

ISLAND AUTISM IS HIRING!

Join our team supporting individuals with autism and developmental disabilities on Martha's Vineyard.

- Open Positions:
- Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) – Residential & Substitute
 - House Manager & Live-In House Manager
 - Residential Program Coordinator – Housing Available

Competitive pay and benefits. Seeking compassionate, motivated, and dependable applicants. For more information or to apply,

HELP WANTED

please contact lena@islandautism.org.



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



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

MARTHA'S VINEYARD MUSEUM HIRING FINANCE ASSISTANT

Martha's Vineyard Museum seeking a detail-oriented Finance Assistant to join our team on a part-time, year-round basis. This role offers a flexible schedule of 15-20 hours per week, making it ideal for someone looking to balance work with other commitments. Hiring Pay Range \$30-\$32 per hour. See <https://mvvmuseum.org/careers/> for more information and how to apply.

MVPCS TEACHER'S ASSISTANT

The Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School has an opening for a full-time Elementary Teacher's Assistant to start as soon as possible. We are looking for a creative, enthusiastic individual wishing to explore or advance a career in education within our project-based learning curriculum. Competitive salary and full benefits provided. Please email a resume and letter of interest to Chris Nace, Executive Director, at cnace@mvpcs.org and complete an application on our website at www.MVPCS.org.

MVPCS LEARNING FACILITATOR

The Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School has an anticipated opening for a Learning Facilitator in our student services department to start as soon as possible. We are looking for creative, enthusiastic individuals wishing to support students within our project-based learning curriculum. Competitive salary and full benefits provided. Please email a resume and letter of interest to Chris Nace, Executive Director, at cnace@mvpcs.org and complete an application on our website at www.MVPCS.org.

MARTHA'S VINEYARD SHIPYARD IS SEEKING AN ORGANIZED AND DEPENDABLE FULL-TIME OFFICE ASSISTANT TO JOIN OUR TEAM.

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 & review daily employee timecards for completeness: enter hours & work data into our billing system, verify accuracy and identify & resolve discrepancies quickly and help the office team with other basic admin tasks as needed.

If you have great attention to detail & 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. This is a full-time, benefited position. Please send your resume & a brief note about your availability to jhale@mvshipyard.com with the subject line "Office Admin".

MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Seeks a committed individual to join our team in the position of Assistant Cook to assist in all facets of managing a comprehensive school nutrition program.

Culinary experience preferred ServSafe certification preferred

To submit an application visit our website at: www.mvyps.org under Employment; new jobs corresponding Schoolspring Job Id: 5948870

Deadline: Until Position is Filled
Starting November 6, 2026

No person shall be excluded or discriminated against on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability EOE

MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Seeking a dependable and experienced individual for the following open position of **Head Custodian** with experience in general maintenance/grounds. Computer skills desirable. Mornings/afternoon or nights. Competitive pay based on experience: \$67,496-\$100,048. Full benefits including health/dental and retirement

To submit an application visit our website at: www.mvyps.org

Under Employment; new jobs corresponding Schoolspring Job Id: 5949890. Deadline: Until Position is Filled.

Starting November 9, 2026.

No person shall be excluded or discriminated against on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability EOE

MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Seeking applicants for a long term substitute 182 Day Food Service Helper in the cafeteria. *ServSafe Certification preferred.* To submit an application visit our website at: www.mvyps.org under Employment; new jobs. Corresponding Schoolspring Job Id: 5946803. Deadline: Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. *Starting as soon as possible.*

No person shall be excluded or discriminated against on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability EOE



KINSHIP HEALS IS HIRING ADMINISTRATION FOR PROGRAMS

Primary responsibilities include data entry, record keeping, and tracking for finance & program services. Kinship Heals is a substance-free workplace. All staff must be substance free and abide by the Substance Free Workplace Policy. (As a recipient of federal funds, marijuana is considered an illegal substance). Salary is \$82,000.00 upon hire, and \$92,000.00 upon completion of probationary period and Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence trainings. For more information about our organization visit www.kinshipheals.org. For a full job description, or to submit resume, email jada@kinshipheals.org.

DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS

The Deputy Fire Chief is part of the leadership command and assists the Fire Chief with the day-to-day administrative and management operations, supervising of fire and EMS personnel, emergency management planning and fire prevention officer duties.

Candidates must have extensive knowledge on the principles, practices and techniques of fire suppression, fire prevention and hazardous materials; ability to supervise, train, evaluate, and lead the work of others while maintaining a high level of discipline

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JIM



love
the staff

HELP WANTED

and morals. Must be able to communicate and work effectively with subordinates, other Town departments, elected officials and members of the public; ability to react quickly and remain calm when directing firefighters in emergency situations. Position is required to respond to emergencies and be available 24/7, 365 days of the year. Residency on the Island of Martha's Vineyard required.

Salary Range \$109,620 to \$125,280.

For a complete list of certifications, job duties and application process, visit oakbluffsma.gov/jobs or email Human Resources at wbrough@oakbluffsma.gov. **Deadline for applications is 10/20/2026 - 4:00pm. Oak Bluffs is an EOE.**

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR / SKILLED LABORER

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT OAK BLUFFS
Town of Oak Bluffs is seeking qualified applicants for a full-time Skilled Laborer or Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO) position. Applicants who possess a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) are encouraged to apply; however, candidates may be hired without a CDL and will be given the opportunity to obtain one within the first two years of employment. All costs associated with obtaining the CDL will be covered by the Town of Oak Bluffs. In general, this position performs maintenance of municipal grounds, streets, sidewalks, and storm drains; rubbish collection; snow removal; and related work as required. Duties may also include serving as a landfill attendant. As an HEO, the position performs additional skilled work involving the operation and use of various vehicles, heavy equipment, and mechanized equipment on assigned projects. Hourly range is \$31.29 - \$41.80, commensurate with CDL certification and years of experience.

Full-time, Union position with generous benefits including paid leave, retirement and health, dental and eye insurance. Job description and online application available from oakbluffsma.gov/jobs. For all inquiries or to request an application form, email Human Resources at wbrough@oakbluffsma.gov.



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/>.

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.



FULL TIME YEAR ROUND HOUSEKEEPER WANTED

The Charlotte Inn is seeking a reliable, detail-oriented housekeeper to join our team. Duties include cleaning guest rooms, maintaining common areas, and ensuring a high standard of presentation. Experience preferred, but we will train the right candidate. Above competitive pay and a very welcoming work environment. Apply in person at The Charlotte Inn, 27 South Summer Street, Edgartown, or call (508)627-4751.

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. Ten plus years experience required. Full description and application: vineyardconservation.org/career-opportunities

VINEYARD GAZETTE

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Martha's Vineyard Magazine is seeking an associate editor to join our team and play a key role across a range of projects. Responsibilities include copy editing and proofreading, writing and story development, social media, and website management. Familiarity with WordPress and Adobe InDesign/Photoshop is preferred. This is an opportunity to work alongside a creative team and help shape the stories and digital content that connect readers with Martha's Vineyard. For more information, visit vineyardgazette.com/employment.

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Martha's Vineyard Magazine is seeking an experienced graphic designer/art director to join our team in a temporary role. Responsibilities include page design and

HELP WANTED

layout, photography selection and editing, directing freelance photographers and illustrators, and preparing files for print production. Potential for continued graphic design opportunities within the company following the initial term. For more information, visit vineyardgazette.com/employment.

GENERAL ASSIGNMENT REPORTER

The Vineyard Gazette has an immediate opening for a general assignment reporter. We are seeking candidates with excellent writing and editing skills. To apply, please send a resume and not more than three writing samples to Bill Eville at bill@vineyardgazette.com.

OFFICE MANAGER

The Office Manager is responsible for the day-to-day administrative operations of the Vineyard Gazette office, helping ensure that the organization runs efficiently, professionally and smoothly. This position serves as a central point of coordination for office administration, subscribers, employee support, vendors, facilities, supplies, records and internal communications. For more information visit vineyardgazette.com/employment.

The Vineyard Gazette Media Group is an equal opportunity employer committed to inclusion and diversity in the workplace.

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.

CONTRACTORS AND BUILDERS



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

PAINTERS

WALLPAPER, PAINT, FINISHING TOUCHES

Wallpaper and painting. High quality and professional. Great results and advice please call (508) 680-6379 and leave a message or text.

GIVEAWAYS

FREE CRIB AND CRIB MATTRESS

Expecting a child or grandchild, and in need of a new crib and mattress? Call or text (301) 602-1114.

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 PAPERBACK BOOKS

Over 3 dozen on my porch in Edgartown. Mysteries, romance, detective, and more. Pick up whatever you want. Call for directions. (508)627-8438.

FREE FUTON

Queen futon, good used condition. Pickup in downtown Edgartown. (202)412-7904.

FREE. METAL PROPANE FIRE PIT

If you are someone who is willing to fix things, this is for you. In good condition, but won't ignite. If someone can fix it. Call or text (508)230-6068.

ANTIQUES AND COL- LECTIBLES



WANTED

WE'RE HIRING!
ALL POSITIONS!

FRONT
DESK

HARDWARE
ASSISTANT

YARD
HAND

CDL & DELIVERY
DRIVERS

**\$2,500 SIGN ON
BONUS!**

FULL-TIME
YEAR ROUND

WEEKENDS
OFF!!!

HEALTH
INSURANCE

MATCHED
401(k)

PTO &
PAID HOLIDAYS

APPLY TODAY!

Email your application to:
tristanm@eccottle.com

*BUILDING A
STRONGER TOMORROW
TOGETHER*

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.

**Best of the
Vineyard
2026**

**Best Banks
to Work For
2025**

ANTIQUES
AND COLLECTIBLES

**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

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.

SHIP MODELS AND OLD NAUTICAL ITEMS
Paying cash for ship models and old nautical items. (202)812-1144.

TRAILER SALES

TRAILER FOR RENT, WEST TISBURY
Available September 25th-December 1st and March 1st through to summer 2027. \$800/month for one person or \$1,000/month for two people. Contact Lisa (310)213-5472.

YARD SALES

EDGARTOWN FURNITURE & ANTIQUE SALE
Wonderful antique dressers, dining kitchen table and chairs, quality goods, china, kitchenware and garden tools. Quality items at great prices. Some free or pay what you can. October 17 & 18, 10 - 4 PM. 171 Upper Main Street.

YARD SALE WEST TISBURY
Sunday, October 11th, 9 am – 11 am. 291 Great Plains Road, West Tisbury.

FINE EDGARTOWN ESTATE SALE
October, 10th & 11th. 9 am - 3 pm.

A beautifully maintained Edgartown home filled with fine furniture, artwork, decorative pieces, books, mirrors, and quality household furnishings. Everything has been meticulously cared for and is in pristine condition.

Highlights Include:
Furniture by Eldred Wheeler and Ted Box, Brown Jordan outdoor furniture, upholstered chairs and sofas, including pullout couch, wicker furniture, dressers, end tables, side tables and occasional tables, kitchen and dining room tables, twin beds, fine artwork, including Vineyard artists, Claire Murray throw rugs and large area rugs, fine linens, Staffordshire collectibles, fine china including Portmeirion Botanic garden tableware, books, including Vineyard authors, home goods and collectibles, lamps and small appliances Captain's Chest, garden pots and planters, bicycles and golf clubs, the finest duck themed collection, excellent assortment of garage and basement items, and so much more.
A wonderful opportunity to purchase distinctive, high-quality furnishings and accessories from a gracious Vineyard home.

Address will be published on Facebook and Instagram Saturday morning (@deadseriousetatesalesmv) and available by calling (508)645-6952. No early birds please.

ANNUAL COLUMBUS DAY MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE
Jewelry, handbags, name-brand clothing, toys, puzzles, vintage Christmas items, Schwinn bikes, linens, home decor, wall art, handcrafted items, sleeper sofa and chair, small furniture pieces, perfume, and so much more. No junk - everything in like-new condition. Too good to miss.
Saturday, October 10 & Sunday, October 11. 9 AM-4 PM. Rain date: Monday, October 12. 23 Oliver St. Edgartown. Main to Green, left on Oliver.

TENT SALE
SECOND TREASURES MV ANNUAL INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE
Estate items, antiques, vintage collectibles, rugs, jewelry and art. There is something for everyone.
Saturday & Sunday, October 10th & 11th. 10 am - 2 pm. Featherstone Center for the Arts (just off Barnes Rd). (850)293-4345.

BICYCLES
AND FITNESS EQUIPMENT

PELOTON EXERCISE BIKE - \$650 OBO
Original Peloton Bike (3rd Gen), purchased 2023. 21.5" HD touchcreen streams live and on-demand classes. Used but in excellent condition. Compact footprint, quiet magnetic resistance. Custom mat and two pairs of Peloton shoes, sizes 6 and 9 included. Local pickup only. Cash or Venmo. Serious inquiries. Text (617)359-3692.

BOAT SALES
AND ACCESSORIES

NEW BOAT TRAILERS
New Venture boat trailers, in stock and on-Island. Sizes for boats up to 27'. Email Chris Scott for pricing: cscott@shmarinas.com.

LOST AND FOUND

THE VINEYARD GAZETTE'S LOST & FOUND CATEGORY
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. 24 words or less, please. Ads will be published for 4 weeks in print and online. www.vineyardgazette.com/classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENTS



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.

AQUINNAH
LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING:
The Aquinnah Board of Health, at its upcoming meeting in the Aquinnah Town Hall on **Tuesday, October 27, 2026 at 3pm**, will review a draft amendment and annex to its Regulation entitled **THE CONTENT AND APPLICATION OF FERTILIZER FOR TURF ON MARTHA'S VINEYARD** adopted by a vote of Town Meeting on 5/13/2014, as well as draft amendments to its Sewage Disposal and Septic Systems regulations.
oct9,16,2t

AQUINNAH CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

On **October 20, 2026 at 4:15 PM** a public hearing will be held in the Aquinnah town offices under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Aquinnah Wetlands Water Resource Bylaw to act on a Notice of Intent filed by the Northeast Native Network of Kinship and Healing for the construction of a mixed-use multi purpose facility including four residences, a food distribution Hub, and a healing center along with associated utilities and site work within the buffer zone of a BVW.

Location: 759, 761, & 765 State Rd. Parcels 9-150, 9-149, 9-148
Site Visit: October 20, 2026 @ 3:40 PM
oct9,1t

CHILMARK
LEGAL NOTICES

CHILMARK SELECT BOARD:
will hold a public hearing on amendments to the **Town Hunting Policy at 6:15 PM** during their regular board meeting **November 17th 2026** in the Select Board Meeting Room, Town Hall. Copies of the amended Hunting Policy are available for examination at the Town Hall during office hours or online at www.chilmarkma.gov
oct9,1t

CHILMARK ZONING BOARD OF
APPEALS

There will be a remote Zoom public hearing on **Thursday, October 22, 2026 at 9:10 AM** to act on a petition for a Special Permit under Chilmark's Zoning By-Law Article 6 Section 6.11 filed by Sullivan + Associates Architects on behalf of Jill Greenwood/Augustus I. duPont Revocable Trusts. The applicant seeks to demolish an existing main dwelling and build a new structure that would require extra total living area. The project is proposed for the property located at 30 Huntington Way; Assessors' Map 16 Lot 16.1.

Please see: https://www.chilmarkma.gov/zoning-board-a ppeals or email akisselgof@chilmarkma.gov for Zoom information.
oct2,9,2t

CHILMARK ZONING BOARD OF
APPEALS

There will be a remote Zoom public hearing on **Thursday, October 22, 2026 at 9:05 AM** to act on a petition for a Special Permit under Chilmark's Zoning By-Law Article 6 Section 6.6 filed by Schofield, Barbini & Hoehn Inc. on behalf of Stephen L. Kass & Joan S. Kass, Trustees. The applicant seeks to construct an exterior stairway for second floor egress that will not meet required setbacks. The project is proposed for the property located at 90 Hammett Road; Assessors' Map 9 Lot 11.

Please see: https://www.chilmarkma.gov/zoning-board-a

CHILMARK
LEGAL NOTICES

ppeals or email akisselgof@chilmarkma.gov for Zoom information.
oct2,9,2t

CHILMARK ZONING BOARD OF
APPEALS

There will be a remote Zoom public hearing on **Thursday, October 22, 2026 at 9:02 AM** to act on a petition for a Special Permit under Chilmark's Zoning By-Law Article 4 Section 4.2A3 filed by Schofield, Barbini & Hoehn Inc. on behalf of Alecue Trust. The applicant seeks to construct a 16'x32' in-ground swimming pool that will meet required setbacks. The project is proposed for the property located at 2 Young's Way; Assessors' Map 25 Lot 137.

Please see: https://www.chilmarkma.gov/zoning-board-a ppeals or email akisselgof@chilmarkma.gov for Zoom information.
oct2,9,2t

EDGARTOWN
LEGAL NOTICES

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY
FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
AGENCY

Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations for the Town of Edgartown, Dukes County, Massachusetts, Case No. 26-01-0350P. The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) solicits technical information or comments on proposed flood hazard determinations for the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), and where applicable, the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for your community. These flood hazard determinations may include the addition or modification of Base Flood Elevations, base flood depths, Special Flood Hazard Area boundaries or zone designations, or the regulatory floodway. The FIRM and, if applicable, the FIS report have been revised to reflect these flood hazard determinations through issuance of a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR), in accordance with Title 44, Part 65 of the Code of Federal Regulations. These determinations are the basis for the floodplain management measures that your community is required to adopt or show evidence of having in effect to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. For more information on the proposed flood hazard determinations and information on the statutory 90-day period provided for appeals, please visit FEMA's website at https://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/BFE_S_citations/bfe_main.asp , or call the FEMA Mapping and Insurance eXchange (FMIX) toll free at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877)336-2627.
oct9,16,2t

TOWN OF EDGARTOWN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 87, Section 3 of the Massachusetts General Laws and amendments thereto, that Donaroma's Nursery & Landscape Services Inc., agent for John and Mary Reilly has requested permission to remove the following public shade trees. The trees are (A) English Elm, (B) American Beech, and (C) Honey Locust with 16" to 18" inch DBH and 40' to 45' foot height. In addition, request permission to trim (D) English Oak with 26" inch DBH and 45' foot height. The trees are located at 9 & 13 Pierce Lane. Assessors map 20D, parcel 79 & 78.

A public hearing will be held upon said request at 4:00 PM on Monday October 19, 2026 in the Fred B. Morgan meeting room of the Town Hall, 70 Main Street, Edgartown, Massachusetts.

Select Board / Tree Warden
oct2,1t

INVITATION FOR BIDS:
JULY 4TH FIREWORKS DISPLAY
REF: SEL-27-03

The Town of Edgartown is seeking bids from qualified and experienced contractors for the **JULY 4TH FIREWORKS DISPLAY** contract for the Town of Edgartown. Bid documents are available electronically at https://www.edgartown-ma.us/departments/p rocurement-office or in hard copy. Questions regarding access to the bid documents may be directed to the Procurement Office at 774-310-5106 or hmclaughlin@edgartown-ma.us. Bids must be submitted to the Edgartown Procurement Office at Town Hall, 70 Main St., Edgartown, MA 02539 in a sealed package plainly marked "BID FOR JULY 4TH FIREWORKS DISPLAY, Ref. SEL-27-03" on or before **10:00 AM, Wednesday, October 28, 2026**. No bids submitted after that time will be accepted. The Town of Edgartown reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to extend any deadlines in this IFB, to terminate or amend this IFB, and to waive any informality in the bids received whenever such action is in the Town's best interest. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30B. The Town of Edgartown complies with all federal, state, and local equal opportunity and non-discrimination laws and actively solicits bids from MBE/WBE businesses.
oct9,1t

EDGARTOWN ZONING BOARD OF
APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On **Wednesday, October 28, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.** the Edgartown Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a remote public hearing via ZOOM on the request by **Edgartown Cove Housing LLC** for a comprehensive permit under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40B, Section 21 to **construct forty (40) home-ownership units on approximately 2 acres of land. 10 of the 40 units will be affordable to households earning up to 80% of Area Median Income (AMI) in accordance with state requirements for low to moderate-income housing.** The property is located on a 2-acre lot at **501 West Tisbury Rd** (Assr. Pcl. 22-2.1) in the R-60 Residential District. Written comments should be received no later than noon on October 27, 2026. For information on how to use Zoom or to view the plans please contact Brae Eddieleston, Administrator:

EDGARTOWN
LEGAL NOTICES

zba@edgartown-ma.us or check the town's website.

To Join Zoom Meeting:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87953560496

Or Join by Phone: 646 558 8656
Meeting ID: 879 5356 0496
oct9,16,2t

OAK BLUFFS
LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Oak Bluffs Select Board will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday October 27, 2027, at 4:00 pm.**
Fiscal Year 2027 Property Tax Allocation and Classification Hearing
In accordance with the requirements of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 56, the Select Board will hold a Fiscal 2027 Property Tax Classification Hearing. The purpose of the public hearing is to decide the percentage of the FY2027 tax levy to be borne by each class of taxable real and personal property and to consider adopting residential and small commercial exemptions.
oct9,1t

TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 138, Section 12 the Oak Bluffs Select Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.** at Oak Bluffs Town Hall lower-level meeting hall 56 School Street. This hearing is regarding a change of class from annual to seasonal all alcohol license for Sweet Loretta LLC dba Sweet Life Café located at 63 Circuit Avenue, Oak Bluffs, MA.

This application is on file in the Select Board Office for review Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
oct9,1t

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 **October 20th, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.** at the Tisbury Town Hall Annex, 66 High Point Lane. The proposed project, submitted by Dennis Dimitri, is to remove a brick walkway and excavate for a new frost wall and footing to support an 8'x8' addition. The project includes removing existing 4'x4 and 6'x12' concrete stoops and replacing them with new wood decks of similar size on piers. The project is located at 232 Lagoon Pond Road (Assessor Parcel 11A4). The application and project plans are available for public review at the Tisbury Conservation Office.
oct9,1t

WEST TISBURY
LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC HEARING
Martha's Vineyard Commission

The public is invited to a public hearing concerning the following Development of Regional Impact **#778 Hoft Barn Demolition** Applicant: The Nature Conservancy; Rebekah Myers.

Location: 74 Lambert's Cove Road, West Tisbury. Map 3, Lot 44-0 and Tisbury Map 64-A, Lot 4 (approximately 58 acres). Proposal: Demolition of a barn listed in MACRIS with no replacement structure proposed.

Date & Time: **Thursday, October 15, 2026 at 6:35 p.m.**
Place: Hybrid Meeting **MVC Office - 1st Floor**, 33 New York Ave, Oak Bluffs, MA and Zoom Meeting ID: **831 5537 2107; Password: 103121**

The application and plans are available on the MVC website. Written testimony may be submitted prior to or during the hearing. Check for updates on the online calendar.
oct2,9,2t

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
WEST TISBURY CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

The West Tisbury Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing under the requirements of G.L. Ch.131 § 40, as amended, and West Tisbury Wetlands Protection Bylaw and regulations to consider a Notice of Intent filed by Vineyard Land Surveying & Engineering, Inc., on behalf of 160 Plum Bush Point Road, LLC for a project located at 160 Plum Bush Point Road, Assessors Map 35 Lot 615, to trim, cut and prune vegetation to improve view channels on the above-referenced property. Significant trees will remain with minor limbing/pruning, and the understorey vegetation will be maintained at 48 inches. The public hearing will be held on **Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 5:10 PM** in the Select Board's meeting room at the West Tisbury Town Hall and via remote participation (Zoom). The procedure to join the meeting is provided on the Conservation Commission meeting agenda posted on the Town website (www.westtisbury-ma.gov). For information contact the Commission office at 508-696-6404 or by email at concomm@westtisbury-ma.gov.
oct9,1t

GENERAL
LEGAL NOTICES

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
0 Tower Lane, Chilmark, MA 02535

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by TOWER LANE COLLABORATIVE LLC, Jeffrey B. DuBard to LAURENCE S. CLANCY and KATHLEEN M. TILTON said mortgage being dated January 14, 2026 and recorded with the Dukes County Registry of

WEEKLY SUDOKU AND CROSSWORD ANSWERS – October 9, 2026

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

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GENERAL
LEGAL NOTICES

Deeds on January 14, 2026 at Book 1727, Page 996, of which mortgage the undersigned, LAURENCE S. CLANCY and KATHLEEN M. TILTON are the holders, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, will be sold at Public Auction at **12:00 O'clock noon on November 10, 2026**, on the premises known as 0 Tower Lane, Chilmark, MA 02535, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage to wit:

The land with the buildings and improvements thereon situated at 0 Tower Lane, Chilmark, Dukes County, Massachusetts, and being more particularly described as follows: "Conservation Lot B" on a plan entitled "A Plan of Land in Chilmark, Mass. prepared for Araldo A. Cossutta Scale: 1" = 100' September 7, 1988" by Smith & Dowling, which plan is recorded with the Registry as Chilmark Case File No. 237, together with all rights and easements appurtenant thereto (the "Premises" or "said premises"). For mortgagor's title see Book 1646, Page 814.

The premises shall be sold subject to and together with all rights, easements, restrictions, and reservations of record insofar as the same are in force and applicable. The above premises will be sold subject as above and subject to and/or with the benefit of any and all outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, association dues, liens, restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record created superior to the aforesaid mortgage. The premises are to be sold subject to all laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances, if any.

Terms of Sale: Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) will be required to be paid by certified check by the purchaser at the time and place of sale as earnest money, a further deposit to bring the deposit to ten percent of the amount bid will be due one week from the auction date and the final balance is to be paid by certified check or wire transfer actually received on or before December 10, 2026 by 10:00 A.M., at the office of Jeffrey Johnson, Esquire, time being of the essence of this sale. The successful bidder shall be required to sign a Memorandum of Terms of Sale in a form to be prepared by the Mortgage Holder containing the above terms and any others announced at the sale, said memorandum to be executed at the Auction sale. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of sale.

LAURENCE S. CLANCY and KATHLEEN M. TILTON, Holders of Said Mortgage By their Attorney, Jeffrey Johnson, Esquire, 67 School Street, Hyannis, MA 02601
oct9,16,23,t

NOTICE TO MINORITY AND WOMEN'S
BUSINESSES

Landmark Structures is seeking qualified disadvantaged businesses for the proposed **WATER STORAGE TANK REPLACEMENT** in **VINEYARD HAVEN, MA** for subcontracting and supplier opportunities in the following areas: Utility & Earthwork Contractors, Electrical Contractors, Erosion Control, Fence Contractors, Paving Contractors, Equipment Rentals, Crane Rentals, Ready Mix Concrete Supply, Aggregate Supply, Pipe & Valve Supply, Material Testing Services, Site Surveyor, Site Sanitation Services, Steel & Re-Bar Supply, Project Sign, Doors & Hardware, Overhead Coiling Door.

All interested parties should note their scope of works and contact Landmark Staff to discuss opportunities.

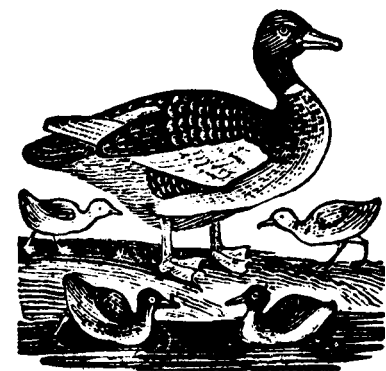
Bid date is **October 22, 2026 at 10:00 am**. Please have all pricing in by October 21, 2026 at 4:00 pm.

Phone: (817) 391-9904, Fax: (817) 230-2070, Email: estimating@teamlandmark.com

Plans and specifications may be viewed at the following locations: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1AS82p-SyWip08t1auSqM9Zp1Lc-R4ix?usp=driv e_link

Potential subcontractors must be able to demonstrate applicable experience.
oct16,1t

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL



All Outdoors

Loving Linnaeus

by SUZAN BELLINCAMPI

Englishman John Edward Smith was a groupie of sorts.

It wasn't a band, athlete or actress that held his interest. It was quite a different time in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, when he was fervently following the object of his desire.

Obsessed with Swedish naturalist and creator of classification Carl Linnaeus, Smith borrowed money from his father to purchase the entire compendium of Linnaeus's work, a collection that included books, manuscripts, and specimens. The loan was 1,000 British pounds, which in today's dollars would be almost \$200,000.

Smith went on to create the Linnaean Society to honor his hero, and was president of the organization from its establishment through Smith's death in 1829. His wife, Pleasance, might have made a tidy profit on the sale of the collection after her husband's death, when those resources were sold for three times their purchase price to the Linnean Society. The money was likely needed, since Pleasance, a writer, editor and success in her own right, lived to over 100 years old.

Of course, Smith also collected, studied and named species before his death. Over 140 unique organisms were purportedly named by him; one remains something of a unicorn.

The Unicorn Prominent is a common insect found throughout North America. Smith originally named this moth Schizura unicornis but, more recently in 2021, research concluded that it actually belonged in the Coelodasys genus, though it retained the unicorn epithet.

Unicorn describes not its rarity, but its horns, one of a few on the caterpillar's undulating body. The largest of the horns functions much like Spiderman's wrist shooters, but in the caterpillar's case, it is formic acid (not a web) that is shot out of the horn. This acid serves as protection, harming any predators coming its way.

People can be affected by this substance, which reportedly causes blistering on human skin that is accompanied by burning and stinging of the affected area. Perhaps not the friendly unicorn

you may have been imagining, but necessary for species survival.

These caterpillars also protect themselves through their coloring. Their bodies are mostly speckly brown, with a bright green segment. This shading mimics leaves browning in the fall, and the green blends in with leaves during the growing season. The shape of the caterpillar is as effective as its camouflage, because the creature resembles a curled-up leaf edge.

While you may not notice these prevalent prominents, they make their presence known through their appetites. Feasting on a variety of species that include apple, hawthorn, elm, aspen, hickory, birch and willows, damage to the foliage of these species can be observed. In large numbers, these caterpillars can do some damage and even kill those affected trees.

The caterpillar I observed on the concrete deck outside my office was on the ground and not bothering any flora. It was likely preparing to overwinter, which it will do in a white, flimsy cocoon beneath the leaf litter. As many insects instinctively know, a pile of leaves provides a safe winter home until spring, when it can emerge in its next form. So, to overzealous yard tenders, I say please leave the leaves for all of those overwintering organisms.

The moth that will emerge come spring is quite nondescript. Not fancy or overly noteworthy (except to John Edward Smith), it may just fly away and live out its short life, focusing mainly on finding a mate and reproducing for the next generation.

Perhaps it will serve important functions as a nectar-drinking pollinator. Or maybe it will become a meal for a bird or other hungry creature — fulfilling its own niche in the cycle of life, and embodying the truism that, if unicorns don't exist, they probably should.

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

Unicorn Prominent.

Bird News

Warbler Bonanza

By ROBERT CULBERT

Wow, a remarkable 26 different warbler species were reported this week, out of approximately 35 warbler species that can be seen here. There were 10 sightings of both black-and-white warblers and American redstarts, eight sightings of both pine and blackpoll warblers, six reports of palm warblers (including one western palm warbler), five sightings of common yellowthroats, northern parulas and Cape May warblers, three sightings of yellow-rumped warblers, two sightings of prairie, blackburnian, northern yellow, blue-winged, Nashville, black-throated blue, black-throated green, magnolia warblers and northern waterthrushes, and one report for Wilson's, Connecticut, orange-crowned, mourning, chestnut-sided, yellow-throated warblers and yellow-breasted chat.

Peak migration seems to be getting later, as I recall that Labor Day was always a big weekend and that peak migration was mid-September — not an unexpected change as the seasons warm due to climate change.

At Wasque Reservation on Sept. 29, Shea Fee spotted one blue-winged, one black-and-white, one pine, one yellow-rumped, one Wilson's, one Nashville, one Cape May, three palms, a yellow-breasted chat and a redstart.

Charles Morano birded multiple locations. On Sept. 27 he saw one black-and-white, one mourning , one yellowthroat, five redstarts, two chestnut-sideds, three blackpolls, one pine and two prairies at Wasque Reservation. On Sept. 30, he saw one blue-winged, two black-and-whites, one Nashville, five yellowthroats, one redstart, one Cape May, one northern parula, one magnolia, two western palms one yellow palm, one pine, and one black-throated green at Wasque Reservation, and three black-and-whites, three parulas, one blackburnian, four blackpolls, one black-throated blue, and one black-throated green along Donaldbin Close.

The next day, at the same location, there were one black-and-white, one parula, one blackburnian, and two blackpolls. On Oct. 3, he watched one Connecticut, four yellowthroat, one parula and three blackpolls near northern Lake Tashmoo.

Bob Shriber also had multiple days of sightings: one blackburnian at Eel Pond on Sept. 27, one parula and one yellow along East Chop Drive on Sept. 28, two northern waterthrushes, five black-and-whites, two yellowthroats, one redstart, one yellow, three blackpolls, one black-throated blue, one pine and one prairie in Aquinnah on Sept. 30, one northern waterthrush, one black and white, three yellowthroats, one redstart, three blackpolls and two yellow-rumpeds in Aquinnah on Oct. 1, and along Old South Road Oct. 2 one black-and-white, one redstart, one northern parula, one magnolia and two blackpolls.



Lanny McDowell

Great cormorant.

Other sightings include Nancy Weaver and Shea Fee watched four pines and one yellow-throated at Felix Neck on Sept. 27, Nancy Weaver and Janet Woodcock spotted one pine there the next day.

On Sept. 30, David Stanwood observed six to eight redstarts along Lambert's Cove Road, Mary Makepeace saw one Cape May at Wasque Reservation, and Nancy Weaver had one redstart at the pumping station.

On Oct. 1 Adam Balick identified one yellowthroat at Squibnocket Pond Reservation South, and a yellow two pines at Pond View Farm, Pamela Tunnell located a redstart at Sheriff's Meadow Sanctuary.

On Oct. 3, the MV Bird Club recorded one yellowthroat, two redstarts and four yellow-rumped at the Aquinnah Headlands, Caroline Heald spotted one Cape May, one palm, one pine and two yellow-rumped at Chappaquonsett, Nancy Nordin saw two black-and-whites, one orange-crowned, four redstarts, one Cape May and one palm at Pancake Hollow in Aquinnah. Chris Scott observed two palms at Katama Farm, and finally Lisa Maxfield found one yellowthroat and one palm at Squibnocket Beach.

Warblers are not the only southbound migrant songbirds on the move. All six eastern species of vireos were reported.

Nancy Weaver spotted one red-eyed vireo along Blue Barque Road on Sept. 23, Charles Morano saw one yellow-throated and three red-eyeds at Wasque Reservation on Sept. 27. And on Sept. 30, he saw one blue-headed and one red-eyed along Donaldbin Close and one blue-headed and two red-eyed at Wasque Reservation. He saw one blue-headed vireo along Donaldbin Close on Oct. 1, and two red-eyeds at Lake Tashmoo on Oct. 3.

Bob Shriber located one red-eyed along East Chop Drive on Sept. 28, one white-eyed, four blue-headeds and seven red-eyeds in Aquinnah on Sept. 30, and one eastern warbling vireo and one red-eyed along Old South Road on Oct. 2.

Helena Firlings observed one blue-headed at Ice House Pond on Sept. 29, Shea Fee found one Philadelphia and two red-eyeds at Wasque Reservation on Sept. 29, the MV Bird Club watched a red-eyed at the Aquinnah Headlands on Oct. 3, and

Nancy Nordin found one blue-headed at Pancake Hollow on Oct. 3.

We have yet to see flocks of thousands of tree swallows; these used to come in August and September. Bob Shriber found the largest flock, 350 on Sept. 30 and 150 on Oct. 1, both in Aquinnah, while the MV Bird Club spotted 200 at the Aquinnah Headlands on Oct. 3.

More typical this fall, Caroline Heald saw five at Chappaquonsett on Sept. 20, Janet Woodcock and Nancy Weaver found 10 at the left fork on Sept. 29 and Nancy Weaver observed one at Felix Neck on Oct. 1.

Finches (seed eaters) are beginning to show up. Bob Shriber had two rose-breasted grosbeaks in Aquinnah on Sept. 29, Merrill Eppedio located two white-throated sparrows near northern Lagoon Pond on both Sept. 29 and 30, Charles Morano identified one clay-colored sparrow at Wasque Reservation on Sept. 30, and the MV Bird Club discovered two white-crowned sparrows and one indigo bunting at the Aquinnah Headlands on Oct. 3.

Other miscellaneous sightings include Charles Morano spotting one Swainson's thrush along Donaldbin Close on Oct. 1, and Mary Makepeace found two pine siskins along Cummings Way in Edgartown. Caroline Heald saw one chimney swift at Chappaquonsett on Oct. 2 and I observed two of them at Cedar Tree Neck on Oct. 3, and the MV Bird Club counted 75 cedar waxwings at the Aquinnah Headlands that day.

Perhaps the most amazing finding is Jon Laird hearing a whip-poor-will calling on Rustic avenue, next to Circuit avenue in Oak Bluffs on Sept. 30 and again on Oct. 1; the first time for his family in 58 years there.

To conclude with the only waterbirds for this column, Bob Shriber spotted a northern gannet and six great cormorants in Aquinnah on Sept. 29; both species will soon be seen more frequently.

Please email your sightings to birds@vineyardgazette.com.

Robert Culbert is an ecological consultant living in Vineyard Haven.

The Vineyard Gardener



Sweet October

by LYNNE IRONS

Let me begin with one of my favorite quotes. It's straight out of Anne of Green Gables. Lucy Maud Montgomery in one of her finest said, "I'm so glad I live in a world where there are October-ers."

My sugar maple is putting on its best show. There is a lovely stand of honey locusts in front of down Island Cronig's. The yellow leaves are eye-catching even when driving by.

I'm not so fond of the house chestnuts this time of year. I made the mistake of parking under one recently. It's a wonder that the falling nuts did not break the car window. Plus, walking was treacherous. There were many ankle breakers underfoot.

I had a job cleaning up a spent vegetable garden for summer residents. It was bordered by sad looking marigolds. As I was pulling them, much to my delight, I found many tiny seedlings. Some were even blooming at an inch tall. I guess they are trying to get their reproduction done quickly, what with winter approaching.

Now that goldenrod is finishing its cheerful bloom, the fields are full of tiny light blue asters. There are some along the stone wall at the entrance to Seven Gates on North Road.

In my own vegetable garden, I've been doing some serious harvesting. Finally the new growth on the collards is free of bug damage. I cut all the chewed leaves and tossed them into the chicken



Ray Ewing

Seedlings on the move.

KAREN M. OVERTOOM

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