



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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Horse show took place Sunday on the Agricultural Society grounds.

Tim Johnson

Commission Denies Katama Meadows Proposal

By LOUISA HUFSTADER

The Martha's Vineyard Commission voted last Thursday night to deny the Katama Meadows subdivision in Edgartown, dealing the Utah-based land owners their latest defeat in nearly a decade of efforts to develop the 54-acre property they purchased for \$6.6 million in 2017.

The late-night, 10-3-1 decision followed more than two hours of debate, at the end of a 19-month public hearing and review process that saw major alterations to the mixed-income proposal located off the Edgartown-West Tisbury Road.

Commissioners voted in July to reduce the number of market-rate housing lots in the subdivision from 26 to 19, in order to preserve more open space and reduce nitrogen pollution. They also banned swimming pools and lawn fertilizers and imposed solar energy requirements, with the developers contributing to the cost of adding solar generation for homes on the 26 income-restricted lots.

During the meeting, commissioner Douglas Sederholm argued in favor of approving the subdivision, saying these changes made it the best development plan the commission was likely to see for the location.

"This is not a proposal to develop 54 acres of land. It's a proposal basically to develop 22 acres of land and preserve forever 32 acres of land," he said.

The Island's land conservation agencies have declined to purchase the property, Mr. Sederholm said, and there are several older subdivisions nearby.

"This land is going to be developed. There's no doubt about that," he said, warning that a denial could lead to a larger, denser and less affordable project in the future.

"I'm really concerned that the next iteration will not be good," said Mr. Sederholm, who voted with the minor-

ity on two motions.

On the first motion, to approve Katama Meadows with the commissioners' conditions, Mr. Sederholm was joined by Daniel McGinn, Ernest Thomas and Michael Kim.

Other commissioners remained unswayed.

"When is enough enough? Even our own housing planner has said we cannot build our way out of the housing crisis," said Brian Smith of Oak Bluffs.

"Sooner or later, we have to come to that realization and look at other paths to help people get into housing that doesn't destroy the environment," Mr. Smith said.

"Proposals of any scale, but especially one as large as Katama Meadows, must be weighed heavily against community needs and the sharp reality of these land use limits."

Willa Kuh of Chilmark struck a similar note.

"Even though this appears to support our housing policy, I don't feel in my soul that it's workable," she said.

Joan Malkin of Chilmark, Ben Robinson of Tisbury and Linda Sibley of West Tisbury expressed concern for native wildlife and nitrogen pollution.

They also criticized the subdivision's layout, which segregates the income-restricted and market-rate lots in separate areas.

After the motion to approve failed 10-4, Mr. Thomas abstained from the vote to deny Katama Meadows, with *To Page Seven*

New Nature Fund Is on the Ballot

By ETHAN GENTER

A ballot question that will go before Islanders and voters statewide at next month's election would create a new fund that aims to protect nature and create new outdoor recreational areas in Massachusetts.

If passed, ballot question six would establish the Nature for All Fund, which would be sustained by the existing sales tax on sporting goods, recreational vehicles and golf courses.

Mass Audubon, with the support of dozens of other organizations, has pushed for the new fund as a way to create a consistent stream of funding to support conservation measures and outdoor spaces as federal and state budgets get squeezed in an uncertain economy.

David O'Neill, the president of Mass Audubon, said the impetus for the ballot initiative came when Massachusetts created climate, biodiversity and open space goals, but had no dedicated funding source to achieve them.

"We knew we needed a dedicated source of reliable revenue that we could call on to help us expand opportunities to protect clean water and natural lands, and improve parks and trails and open spaces," he said in an interview last week.

Initially 50 per cent of the sales tax on sporting goods, recreational vehicles and golf courses would be earmarked for the fund, and starting in July 2028, the entire sales tax earned from those categories would be diverted, according to the ballot question.

An analysis of the ballot question by The Center for State Policy Analysis at Tufts University estimated that, when fully phased in, the fund could earmark \$65 million per year.

"Environmental and conservation spending is the last funded and the first cut in the budget."

The Tufts analysis pointed out that figure is far below the estimated \$400 million that the state currently spends on wildlife and outdoor programs, though supporters say having these earmarks will

still be important moving forward.

The proposed legislation would establish a 15-member board to oversee the fund and establish rules for how the money would be spent.

Five state officials and 10 members of the public would be appointed by the governor. The 10 public members would include representatives of Indigenous and underserved communities, and at least one person with experience in natural resource conservation.

The ballot question has seen support from Island conservation organizations, such as BiodiversityWorks.

"We think that any opportunity to funnel funds directly into land conservation and water... is certainly mission aligned for us," said Luanne Johnson, the director *To Page Seven*



Ray Ewing



Ray Ewing

New policy is in effect after alleged rape at the state police barracks.

Overnight Guests Banned from Barracks

By ETHAN GENTER

State police have put a stop to any overnight guests at the police barracks on the Vineyard and Nantucket after a Boston man was arrested for a rape that allegedly took place at the Oak Bluffs barracks.

State police Colonel Geoffrey Noble, the head of the agency, made the decision as a criminal investigation continues into Edward Brown, who pleaded not guilty to the rape in Edgartown District Court last week.

Colonel Noble has also requested a formal policy requiring written approval for visitors to enter non-public areas of the barracks, state police said this week. The barracks commander would need to sign off and guests must be accompanied at all times, according to a spokesperson. "These allegations are deeply troubling," Colonel Noble said in a statement

Monday. "The Massachusetts State Police are fully cooperating with the ongoing criminal investigation and conducting an internal review of applicable policies, visitor authorization procedures and compliance with established requirements."

Colonel Noble went on to say that he was committed to maintaining the highest standard of safety, security and accountability at all state police facilities and taking any corrective action that is needed.

Police did not respond to a request to produce visitor logs for the barracks on Temahigan Road, where troopers are stationed while they work on the Vineyard.

There apparently were no rules for who could come and go on the state-owned property, which features an 1800s shingled housing facility, along with a garage and storage building, according to town records.

cor.

Oak Bluffs police are investigating the alleged rape from August, and Oak Bluffs police Chief Jonathan Searle said that his department's work is focused on the alleged crime that took place at the barracks.

"That being said, it is my belief that there was no policy in place at the time of this incident in regards to guests that are allowed in their living quarters," Chief Searle wrote in an email to the Gazette.

The Cape and Islands District Attorney's Office laid out the allegations against Mr. Brown, who works as a security guard *To Page Seven*

New 40B Project Proposed In Edgartown

By ETHAN GENTER

The developer behind two of the most controversial housing proposals in recent years is coming back to Island officials with a plan to build 40 condominiums on two acres along Edgartown-West Tisbury Road in Edgartown.

William Cumming has applied to build the Edgartown Cove housing project on a vacant lot just west of Codman Spring Road, and is set to go before the Edgartown zoning board of appeals next week.

The project is the latest so-called 40B housing project from Mr. Cumming, and could set up another battle over the Martha's Vineyard Commission's authority to oversee these types of housing projects.

Edgartown Cove would be made of home-ownership units, with 10 set aside for sale to households earning up to 80 per cent of the area median income and 30 designated market-rate. That qualifies Edgartown Cove as a 40B housing project under state law, which means that it can have a streamlined application process with the zoning board of appeals and would be able to skirt some zoning requirements.

Mr. Cumming, who grew up in Edgartown, is currently locked in legal fights over his Edgartown Gardens proposal that was eyed for Upper Main street in Edgartown and the 116-unit Green Villa project near the high school in Oak Bluffs.

The Martha's Vineyard Commission denied Edgartown Gardens last fall and approved Green Villa in May, though with conditions that Mr. Cumming said made the project unfeasible. The developer is contesting the Martha's Vineyard Commission's ability to review 40B housing projects after a state *To Page Seven*

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SSA Board Votes Against Resuming Standby

By LOUISA HUFSTADER

A unanimous Steamship Authority board voted Tuesday against bringing back the standby line for drivers seeking to travel ahead of their ferry reservation times.

The Blue Line, a limited standby service for motorists enrolled in the Steamship Authority's excursion and preferred program, will continue.

At Tuesday's board meeting, held at Oak Bluffs town hall, general manager Alex Kryska said the Falmouth traffic advisory committee and bicycle-pedestrian committee had justifiable concerns about what resuming standby would mean for Woods Hole village.

Residents and Falmouth police already have objected to the number of ride share cars that congregate at the Woods Hole terminal waiting for passengers.

Future site plans for the terminal include a dedicated waiting area for ride shares, but that spot is still encumbered by the now-closed temporary terminal and a nearby construction trailer.

"We should get the temporary building and the construction trailer out of there and try to work on the ride share and getting those things cleared out, before we kind of open up the can of worms potentially that standby might bring," Mr. Kryska.

He also acknowledged that the Blue Line needs improvement.

"One of my big [comments] I've heard over the summer was that the Blue Line is not working, and ... I think there are ways that we can improve the Blue Line and make sure that it is really servicing our constituents who are the Island residents, both full-time and part-time people," Mr. Kryska said.

Board member Ted Gavin, who represents the Vineyard, asked if a window sticker could be created so that terminal staff could quickly identify Blue Line-eligible vehicles.

"If we can do something that requires a minimum of effort but has a lot of payback, let's do that," he said.

Director of shoreside operations Alison Fletcher said her department is already in the process of ordering permit stickers and would look into Blue Line stickers as well.

Also Tuesday, the Steamship board voted unanimously to require every board member to take three 90-minute online classes from the state office of the inspector general.

The three subjects are fraud awareness, the responsibilities of board and commission members and how to manage risk and measure success. Inspector general Jeffrey Shapiro had recommended the training as part of his severely critical report on the Steamship Authority's mismanaged website project in late 2025.

In other business Tuesday, treasurer/comptroller Mark Rozum said August was the Steamship Authority's best month of this year, outshining August, 2025.

The authority has been working to reduce the amount of unused deck space



Ray Ewing

Board of governors met in Oak Bluffs this week.

aboard its ferries, which helped make the month more profitable, he said.

Mr. Rozum and assistant treasurer/comptroller Courtney Oliveira led the board through a presentation on the preliminary operating budget for 2027, which includes across-the-board increases in fares, parking and freight to offset sharp rises in fuel costs and other rising expenses.

"This is a bare-bones budget," he said, with a \$9.8 million bottom line.

The Steamship Authority will hold a public meeting on the budget Oct. 27 in Vineyard Haven, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center.

The board approved the 2027 ferry schedule for Nantucket and the Martha's Vineyard schedule for January 1 through May 17, reserving action on the rest of the schedule for its next meeting in November.

The schedule beginning May 18 includes a 5:30 a.m. ferry from Woods Hole to Vineyard Haven that has been opposed for years by Falmouth residents, who annually file a petition for a public hearing on the matter.

Director of shoreside operations Alison Fletcher said this year's hearing took place July 9 and a report has been prepared for the board's review.

The venerable freight ferry M/V Governor is officially on the market, Mr. Kryska said, and he's already heard from some interested potential buyers. The Steamship Authority is accepting sealed bids for the 242-foot-long double-ender through Dec. 8, according to a listing on [workboat.com](#). A condition and evaluation survey earlier this year estimated

its resale value at \$325,000.

During public comment Tuesday, Amy Cody of the Steamship Authority Citizens Action Group urged the authority to continue using the lower-emission manufactured diesel known as RD-99 in the M/V Island Home, which is running on the fuel through the end of the year.

"I understand that your budget is tight. I understand every penny counts, but I think that we're trying to reduce the toxic effects of diesel-burning ferries that go back and forth on the port communities and our environment," she said.

"We're not asking for the whole fleet ... we're asking you to keep it with at least the Island Home, so we don't lose ground," Ms. Cody said.

Earlier in the meeting, Mr. Rozum had noted that using RD-99 throughout the Steamship Authority fleet in 2027 would add \$3.9 million to fuel costs that are already nearly \$5 million dollars higher than in the current year.

Ms. Cody also concurred with Mr. Gavin's call, which he repeated this week, for an outside assessment of the long-running reservation and website project.

"We need someone to look at all of it," she said.

The next Steamship Authority board meeting is scheduled for Nov. 17 at the boat line's administration building in Falmouth.

Grants Awarded to Combat Pollution and Climate Change

By CHARLES LEITNER

Nearly half a million dollars in regional environmental grants were awarded last Thursday to three organizations working to manage the impact of climate change, pollution and sea level rise on Martha's Vineyard.

Cong. Bill Keating joined Peter Wharton, chair of the Martha's Vineyard Commission, and Thomas Ardito, director of the Southeast New England Watershed Grant Program, to award \$249,990 to the commission to implement a permeable reactive barrier to continue to improve water quality in Lagoon Pond, \$242,000 to The Trustees of Reservations for salt marsh and barrier beach restoration on Chappaquiddick, and an additional \$6,000 to The Great Pond Foundation to purchase water quality monitoring equipment.

"We're leveraging science, technology, environmental expertise and we're empowering the local communities to do what they know their needs are," said Mr. Keating. "That's what's great about this program."

The grants were awarded via the Environmental Protection Agency's Southeast New England Program to empower the Vineyard community by funding projects that aid climate resiliency efforts around the Island.

"Nature is healing itself with watershed protection, with marshlands," said Mr. Keating. "All we're doing is aiding and literally channeling this, as is the case on Chappaquiddick, channeling nature so that it's healing itself, and in the nitrogen issue, which is fascinating."

A permeable reactive barrier was first installed at Lagoon Pond in 2020. According to Dr. Jessica Thomas, a professor of mathematics and physics at Roger Williams University, areas that have installed similar permeable barriers have seen a 99 per cent reduction in harmful bioavailable nitrogen release.

"Permeable reactive barriers are an innovative technology for dealing with nitrogen," said Ms. Thomas. "This is a technique that we can use to try to address that and it's a natural technique."

Nitrogen is a common ecological

issue facing coastal communities and is most often released into the groundwater via nearby septic systems. Permeable reactive barriers are designed to function as a passive on-site method for groundwater treatment using seed oils to absorb excess nitrogen.

"We inject vegetable oil into the groundwater to intercept [nitrogen molecules] and that vegetable oil will create an environment for the natural microbes to take a bioavailable nitrogen, which is our problem nitrogen, and change it into nitrogen gas, which can off-gas right into the atmosphere and is the most abundant gas in the atmosphere," said Ms. Thomas.

Following a brief discussion, those in attendance were invited to join Alejandra Narvaez, the coastal project manager at The Trustees of Reservations, on a tour of the salt marshes situated on Chappaquiddick. There, Ms. Narvaez discussed the history of salt marshes on the Island and how The Trustees plan to bolster areas that are highly susceptible to sea level rise.

According to Ms. Narvaez, models suggest that by 2070 the Dike Bridge, which grants access to various Chappaquiddick beaches via over-sand vehicles, will be submerged during daily tidal fluctuations.

"That's why we're intervening now," she said during the tour. "We're maintaining the natural vegetation to keep up with sea level rise."

The process to protect salt marshes and barrier beaches involves a combination of efforts that include ditch remediation, which can take anywhere from three to five years, said Ms. Narvaez, and reconnecting channels via tunnelling to reach an equilibrium and maintain natural tidal flow.

Typically, runnels are dug approximately seven inches into a salt marsh and are constructed in a 'V' shape to allow for natural reshaping as sea levels continue to rise.

"We want a light touch restoration," said Ms. Narvaez. "We are basically remediating or healing these ditches."

Edgartown Hires New Police Officer

By CHARLES LEITNER

Officer Miguel Jarillo was sworn in as the Edgartown Police Department's newest member during Monday's select board meeting.

Mr. Jarillo comes to the Edgartown Police Department after serving as a police officer in Tisbury. Mr. Jarillo was born and raised on Martha's Vineyard and has been serving in the Army National Guard since 2021. At one point during his service, he was deployed to Syria.

Mr. Jarillo attended the police academy while working as a police officer in Tisbury and previously worked as a summer officer in Edgartown.

"He graduated from Martha Vineyard Regional High School," said Chief Chris Dolby. "[And], he worked for us in the summer of 2023. So, he's familiar with us."

In addition to his experience working as a police officer in Tisbury, Mr. Jarillo is fluent in Portuguese, which will be an asset to the Edgartown Police Department, Chief Dolby said.

The Edgartown police force has undergone some changes in recent weeks. Sgt. Ryan Ruley took the chief position in Aquinnah, and Sgt. Jeff Trudel also joined the up-Island department.

Chief Dolby was sad to see them go. "First, I'd like to recognize Sergeant Ruley," said Chief Dolby. "It's hard to see somebody like that go. That's a significant loss for the police department."

Finances Cut off Former Fire Chief Suit

By ETHAN GENTER

The former Tisbury fire chief who had his lawsuit against the town dismissed from court earlier this month is now speaking out about the case.

Gregory Leland, who led the department for four years until he was put on leave in 2024 and later fired, wrote to the Gazette last week to say he believed his case against the town for discrimination was strong, but ran out of steam for financial reasons.

"Unfortunately I came to realize trying to get a measure of justice on the basis of principle was proving to be far too costly for me, and, as I have learned, the average [person]," Mr. Leland wrote.

The former chief sued Tisbury in 2025, claiming that his termination did not follow the correct process. But his lawsuit fell apart this year when communications with his legal team broke down: Dukes County Superior Court Judge Peter Krupp dismissed the suit on Oct. 5 after Mr. Leland didn't attend his second hearing in a row.

The select board voted to fire Mr. Leland after a town investigation found that the chief was in a romantic relationship with a subordinate, leading to allegations of favoritism and an uncomfortable work environment.

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.

Mr. Leland maintained that the town's statements were untrue and he was prepared to challenge his termination.

"Unfortunately, believing in the merits of a case does not make litigation financially sustainable," he wrote to the Gazette. "My financial circumstances prevented me from continuing before the evidence could be heard."

Tisbury town administrator Joe LaCivita and select board member Roy Cutrer did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

In his letter, Mr. Leland went on to write that there were no union grievances filed against him, and no investigations were conducted to address the allegations of a toxic work environment.

"Unfortunately there were a few bad eggs that saw an opportunity to fabricate a narrative that eventually led to my termination," Mr. Leland wrote.

The former chief also wrote that he had disclosed his relationship with the subor-



Ray Ewing

Greg Leland lead the Tisbury department for four years.

dinate to the town, and was never shown a policy stating that the relationship was prohibited. He also alleged that there are several other municipal employees in romantic relationships.

Mr. Leland wrote that he was proud of his service to the town's fire department, but was disappointed that his employment ended based on claims he believed were false.

"The public deserves more than a headline stating that a lawsuit was dismissed," he wrote. "It deserves to know whether the standards used to judge one employee are the same standards being applied to those in positions of authority today."

Land Bank Revenues

The Martha's Vineyard Land Bank reported revenues of \$1,349,385 for the business week ending on Friday, Oct. 16, 2026. The land bank receives its funds from a two per cent fee charged on many Vineyard real estate transactions.

Much of the land bank revenue last week came from the town of Edgartown, where seven transactions resulted in \$925,005. Five transactions in Oak Bluffs earned \$178,080 and three transactions in Tisbury resulted in \$166,100. One transaction in West Tisbury earned \$33,700 and one transaction in Chilmark resulted in \$46,599. No eligible transactions were recorded in Aquinnah.

The land bank uses its revenues to purchase and manage land for purposes of conservation, preservation and passive recreation.

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Anonymous Donor Gives \$3 Million to Planned Shelter

By LILY ECHEVERRIA

At the end of last month, an anonymous donor gifted \$3 million to Kinship Heals, bringing the nonprofit a step closer to realizing its vision for Aquinnah Headwaters, a shelter and healing center for Native survivors of violence.

Kinship Heals provides services to Native American survivors of intimate partner violence, sexual assault, stalking and trafficking. The organization was founded in response to the disproportionate rates of violence that Native women experience.

"For tribal people, we didn't have domestic violence and sexual assault in our communities prior to colonization and contact with Europeans," said Jen Randolph, executive director of Kinship Heals. "There is no Native language that has any words for sexual assault or domestic violence."

Now, according to Ms. Randolph, it is estimated that four out of every five Native women have experienced violence, often from non-Native perpetrators.

Aquinnah Headwaters seeks to address this by filling a gap in services for Native people on the Vineyard. The project would provide survivors with a place to stay while they heal from the traumas or violence they have experienced. The space, planned to be built in Aquinnah, would be the first shelter and healing center dedicated to serving Native people in Massachusetts.

"We currently have an office and program space where we can run programs that offer support groups and education and all of those things, but we don't have a place to provide shelter. And there's nowhere on this Island to do that," Ms. Randolph said.

The idea for Aquinnah Headwaters took shape in November 2022 when Ms. Randolph first saw the land for sale. Kinship Heals put in an offer and signed an agreement contingent upon fundraising the full purchase price, which the organization was able to accomplish in 60 days.

Fundraising paused as the organization began researching and planning the next steps for the land. With the \$3 million gift, the team is ready to build on that momentum.

"Now we're ready to get building. We are ramping up again, and that big \$3 million donation was the beginning of our new push to get the rest of the building funds raised," Ms. Randolph said.

The total cost for the project is \$17.67 million. So far, Kinship Heals has raised

\$6.7 million, with about \$11 million left to raise. Architectural and design plans are complete, and the organization has received all necessary permits to break ground, which the team plans to do in the fall of 2027.

At Aquinnah Headwaters, Kinship Heals plans to offer three one-bedroom dwellings where residents could stay for up to 18 months. Ms. Randolph sees the model as an alternative to traditional shelters, where survivors often share crowded spaces and must leave before they feel ready.

"[Traditional shelters] are a safe space, but not very healing," Ms. Randolph said. "People don't stay very long and they're hurried up to get into more permanent housing, and they move on without really taking the time to heal."

Beyond housing, Kinship Heals hopes to provide multifaceted services, including credit counseling, therapy and childcare.

Ms. Randolph said personal experience, alongside what she has learned from survivors in her community, helped shape her vision for the center's approach to healing.

"Being a survivor myself, and being in community with so many other victims and survivors, [means] knowing that firsthand what happens, how you feel, what you're going through and all the pieces that need to come together to really be successful in being able to move on," she said.

Ms. Randolph moved to the Island when she was 23, shortly after escaping an abusive relationship. For her, connecting with her Native culture and heritage was instrumental to her recovery.

"Digging into the cultural pieces and how important that was for myself, I thought it was important to be able to pass that on," she said.

Kinship Heals emphasizes cultural practices and traditional values as essential parts of recovery. By helping Native survivors reconnect with their heritage at Aquinnah Headwaters, the organization hopes to restore a sense of safety and connection to its communities.

"My ultimate goal is looking at not just saving someone from the immediate crisis at hand, but also restoration," Ms. Randolph said. "How do we bring people back to who they would have been if this horrible thing hadn't happened to them?"

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Calling Tiles and Making Friends

By LILY ECHEVERRIA

Last year, three friends and avid-mahjong players came up with a plan to host the Island's first official mahjong tournament. On Saturday, their idea materialized when 60 players (59 women and 1 man) gathered at the Grange Hall in West Tisbury.

Erica Dinerman, Susan Trani and Barbara Reynolds wanted to host a tournament that brought together local mahjong players from around the Island who may not have had the chance to meet.

"There are all the little pockets of mahjong, but there hasn't been much of a chance to all get together," Ms. Reynolds said.

Weekly mahjong sessions have been taking place all over the Island both in summer and the off-season. Libraries teach beginner lessons and host drop-in sessions for players of all levels. Tiles and Tea, a sold-out mahjong event in July, raised \$10,000 for Martha's Vineyard Community Services.

For this event, the trio partnered with the Martha's Vineyard Center for Living, an organization that supports Islanders living with dementia and their caregivers. Ms. Reynolds is a board member for the center, which made the connection a natural fit.

Katie Vieira, executive assistant of the Center for Living, was excited to be a part of the Island's growing mahjong scene, despite knowing little about the game herself.

"When they came to us, we felt absolutely honored," Ms. Vieira said. "We don't play mahjong, we don't know much about it, but we do know how to throw a party."

All proceeds from the event — including entry fees and raffle tickets — benefited the Center for Living.

Saturday's tournament consisted of three rounds, each lasting about an hour. Players competed in four games per round, with two in the morning and one after lunch. Between rounds, attendees switched tables to play with new groups.

Play began at 10 a.m. with participants eager to take their seats. The tournament was at capacity with a waitlist, but in the end, everyone on the waitlist was able to secure a spot.

"There was one woman on the waitlist who said 'I'm just going to come at 9:40, and if you need me I'll hop



Pictures by Joanna Shepard

Islandwide mahjong tournament took place last Saturday at the Grange Hall.

in," Ms. Vieira said. "We had a super last-minute cancellation and she got to play."

The tournament's atmosphere was both welcoming and competitive. Ms. Reynolds said maintaining this balance was one of the goals of the event.

"We worked to create an environment where if you really want to win, you can play and win, but if you just want to play for fun, you can also just do that," Ms. Reynolds said.

Ms. Reynolds was particularly proud of the event's community-building aspect and the opportunity for participants to meet new people.

"It's different from a lot of fundraisers we go to," she said. "Some people know each other, and some are just meeting for the first time."

As the last round came to a close, the Center for Living presented Ms. Reynolds, Ms. Dinerman and Ms. Trani with a gift of mahjong-themed Christmas tree ornaments in recognition of their hard work pulling the event together.



Kate Vieira, Barbara Reynolds, Mary Holmes, Erica Dinerman, Susan Trani.

The afternoon ended with players mingling with friends new and old as they awaited the raffle drawings and the announcement of the tournament winners. Around the room, women exchanged phone numbers and made plans to play together again.

The first place winner was Vicki Bologna, who said she has been playing mahjong for 25 years, but has

never played in a tournament before. When her name was announced, her friends let out a huge cheer.

"It's one of our own!" they shouted.

For Ms. Bologna, the day was about more than just her win.

"It's a great cause, and a lot of my friends were here," Ms. Bologna said. "It made me so happy."



Sixty people took part in the fundraising tournament.

Please Adopt Us

We have no adoptions to report this week, but our pet of the week is the wonderful Toosie, a four-year-old, male tuxedo cat with big green eyes.

Toosie has been here a while and is feeling 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, but 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. This is not as difficult as it may seem and will soon become part of your daily routine together, and you will be rewarded with a loving and affectionate lifetime companion.

Also, he is very food oriented so he would be easy to train and teach tricks. Come meet Toosie to experience how much fun he is and see if he could be the perfect cat for you.

Looking for a gift for the person/people who have everything? Making a donation on their behalf makes the perfect gift for any occasion. And we now have Venmo and PayPal available for your convenience.

The Animal Shelter of Martha's Vine-



Toosie.

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

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

In Memory of Lois Lane Armet

LOIS LANE ARMET, beloved member of the Armet family, died at home, surrounded by her loving family, on Oct. 12 at the remarkable age of 16 years, 2 months, 1 week and 2 days.

The Armet family grew up with black Standard Poodles, but Lois was their first white one. A trendsetter from the very beginning.

It is difficult to speak of Lois as a dog because she was, in every sense, a person of extraordinary depth and emotional intelligence. She was the best person you could ever hope to meet: selfless, patient, and well-behaved. She never complained, did not crave extravagance, and was content with her lot. She was perfect in every way.

Over the course of her remarkable life, Lois called Medway, Onset, Boston and Jupiter home, traveling extensively along the Eastern Seaboard by land and by sea. She especially enjoyed boat trips with her father, Barry, to Menemsha and Oak Bluffs. Of all the places she visited, her favorite was her own backyard.

Lois enjoyed watching Law & Order: SVU, chasing bunnies and squirrels, and spending time with her people, especially Julia and Sara. Nothing brought her greater happiness than having everyone together.

A woman of few words, Lois communicated almost exclusively through her right paw. She rarely barked and was known for always

smiling. Though born before the smartphone era, she eventually mastered FaceTime and maintained a very busy social calendar.

A recurring character and inspiration behind Lady & The Chocolate, Lois played an instrumental role in Sara's adult life. Julia, inspired by her profound bond with Lois, channeled that connection into helping others deepen their relationships with their own pets.

Petite, delicate and effortlessly elegant, Lois was the epitome of femininity. Her extraordinary beauty stopped traffic and made grown men gasp. Yet, despite the attention she commanded, she remained humble.

In this crazy world, Lois was a constant source of love, devotion, and goodness.

Lois is survived by her human family: her father, Barry Armet; sisters, Laura (Armet) Batruch, Sara Armet, and Julia Armet; brother-in-law, Nik Batruch; nephews, Eli and Ari; aunt, Sherri Armet; canine sister, Maya; canine niece, Stella; her neighbors in Onset; and countless friends whose lives she touched.

She was predeceased by her beloved canine sister and best friend, Mia, who was waiting to welcome her on the other side.

In honor of Lois's remarkable life and her love of Onset Village, memorial donations may be made to the Onset Bay Association.

Goodnight, our angel.  



"Someday, we'll all be gone / But lullabies go on and on / They never die / That's how you / And I will be..."

Seeking Clues About Bat Behavior

By LILY ECHEVERRIA

Once among the most abundant forest bats on Martha's Vineyard, the Northern long-eared bat has become so diminished that finding even one is cause for celebration.

Last Wednesday evening, it was time to celebrate.

As part of a bat tagging effort, five biologists from BiodiversityWorks gathered at dusk and set up nets at Long Point Wildlife Refuge. After hours of catching only big brown bats, the group trapped a Northern long-eared bat.

The team quickly attached a tiny tracking device, which weighs less than 5 per cent of the bat's body weight to avoid interfering with the bat's flight. They used skin-safe adhesive, the same type used to attach ostomy bags, to secure the tracker on the creature's back.

By following the tagged bat, researchers hope to learn more about where it spends its time and which structures it might use for shelter during the winter.

The BiodiversityWorks team was led by director Luanne Johnson, who, with her team, has been tracking Northern long-eared bats behavior for years. In the last few decades, the species has been nearly wiped out by the spread of white-nose syndrome, a fungal disease first detected in North America in 2006.

The disease thrives in cold environments and infects hibernating bats. The fungus grows on bats' skin, often appearing around their noses and wings, and disrupts the hibernation process.

Since its emergence in North America, the disease has killed millions of bats. Northern long-eared bats in particular have been hit hard, and Ms. Johnson estimates their population has declined by at least 95 per cent.

Ms. Johnson and her colleagues have worked with biologists on Nantucket as well as the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to study these bats across northeastern coastal islands, where their survival rates have been higher.

"What we learned is they're not necessarily surviving because they're resistant to this fungus," she said. "They're surviving because our winters are shorter. They have a shorter infection period here, and they can get infected, but they can survive it. It doesn't kill them."

Additionally, instead of hibernating in caves as they often do on the mainland, bats here have found a new spot that appears to be more disease resistant: crawl spaces beneath homes.

"At some point in history in coastal



Pictures by Sydney Goldstein

Island researchers tag a Northern long-eared bat.

New York and Massachusetts, once humans began building dwellings with below ground spaces that stay cold, damp and frost-free in the winter, Northern long-eared bats discovered [crawl spaces] and began using them instead of migrating inland to a cave or mine. This is likely because migration takes energy and uses up fat reserves... if you could find what you need close to your summer range, why not just stay put?" Ms. Johnson said.

When bats use crawl spaces, they leave in the spring, often without ever being detected by homeowners. But Ms. Johnson says there is little cause for concern.

"We do not find a lot of Northern long-eared bats together in one crawl space. Instead, it is two to six tiny bats hibernating together," she said. "When they are in crawl spaces beneath homes, they do not chew wires or insulation or leave a lot of droppings like mice. Instead, they just rest until spring."

Thus far, BiodiversityWorks researchers have found very few hibernation sites and are looking to learn more about the spaces the bats select and why, as well as how biologists can better support the bats by building hibernacula — protected shelters — for them.



Luanne Johnson takes notes.

They hoped the field work last week would bring them one step closer.

"We've been trying to better understand the types of places that they're using under houses," Ms. Johnson said. "We're trying to identify those types of houses, and we're trying to build spaces for the bats to use so that they're not vulnerable."

After measuring the one Northern long-eared bat they found and tagging it, Ms. Johnson held it in her gloved hands to prepare for release. She raised her hand toward the sky and urged the bat back into the wild. The researchers hoped to see where the bat would lead them this winter, but some variables were out of their hands.

A week after tagging the bat, the team learned the tag had been incorrectly coded, and no information was received. The team was back at square one, disappointed but still determined to find answers.

"It has been too windy to net again, but we will be out again soon," Ms. Johnson confirmed.



Big brown bats have fared better.

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This stunning custom-built waterfront estate offers sweeping views of Edgartown Harbor and exceptional craftsmanship throughout. Set on a private Chappaquiddick compound, the property features a beautifully designed main house, a separate one-bedroom guest house, a pool and spa, and expansive outdoor living spaces perfect for entertaining. Inside, warm wood finishes complement the home's comfortable scale, while the gourmet kitchen, spacious living room with a stone fireplace, and walls of windows showcase the spectacular harbor views. The second floor includes two queen suites, a bunkroom, and breathtaking water views from nearly every room. The finished lower level features a home theater and recreation room. A private path leads to the property's beach and deep-water dock, while a barn across the meadow offers a fitness center, guest suite, and basketball court. Cruise to Main Street Edgartown by skiff or take the nearby Chappy Ferry. This exceptional waterfront retreat offers the perfect blend of privacy, luxury, and island living.

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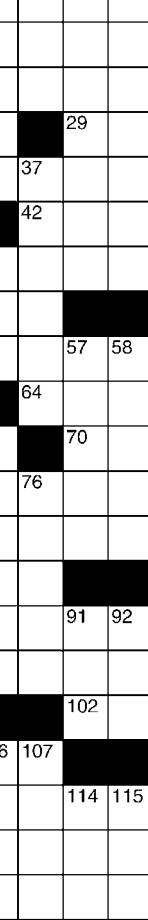
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Fall Sports Eye Playoff Season

By AARON WILSON

The Vineyard boys golf team captured its first Cape and Islands League title in 13 years with a win over Falmouth last week. Jacoby Light carded a 38, two over par, at The Cape Club in East Falmouth to help bring the title to the Island.

Meanwhile, the other fall sports squads with their eyes on the postseason include boys and girls soccer, field hockey and cross country.

The field hockey and girls soccer teams have each won three games in a row. Field hockey's wins came against Sturgis East and Saint John Paul II, with the Vineyarders facing the latter both at home and away.

Each victory came by a one-goal margin, making the goals from Hailey Smith, Maddie Huffam, Stella Duncheva and Abby Geary all the more clutch.

The field hockey team is positioned for a play-in game if its record stays above .500. The team hasn't reached the postseason since 2021.

Adding to the challenge, the Vineyarders face a gauntlet of a schedule to wrap up the year. They have six games in 11 days, half of them on the road, including the season finale against Nantucket for the Golden Anchor.



Matthew MacMillan has a strong run during game against Monomoy.

Ray Ewing



Tim Johnson

Girls soccer has been on a roll lately.

Girls soccer is also in line for a play-in game thanks to wins over Saint John Paul II and Nashoba Valley Tech, with the Vineyarders facing the latter both at home and on the road.

MV outscored its opponents 13-0 during that stretch, as Lucy Doyle increased her shutout total to five on the year.

During the three-game stretch, Leah Thomson notched five goals and Iyla Story scored three. Madison Curelli, Evvy Moffatt, Josey Johns, Hanna Goncalves and Laney Light each added a

goal. Light also recorded an impressive seven assists.

At 8-4, the girls need to win just one more game to secure a playoff spot. Their next home game is Saturday against Sutton. Kickoff is scheduled for 2:30 p.m.

The boys soccer team is currently ranked 11th in the Division 3 power rankings, with six games left before the playoffs. Wins over Nauset, Falmouth or Nantucket could improve the team's position.

The team's latest win came against



Ray Ewing

Boys soccer team is ranked 11th in its division.

Nauset. Chris DaSilva scored first, and Mayu Paniora Vento added an insurance goal as the Vineyarders shut out the Warriors 2-0. Nate Walsh was in net for his second shutout of the season.

The football team completed a comeback last Friday under the lights, winning an overtime thriller 33-27 over Monomoy.

Matthew Macmillan had a monster game, scoring four touchdowns and forcing a fumble on defense. Quarterback Adam Parchment threw a touchdown pass to MacMillan and scrambled for another score. Ian Nunes also forced a fumble on defense.

The Vineyarders will travel to Orangetown to face Mahar Regional this Saturday. The following week, they'll head to Nantucket for the Island Cup. Once the postseason bracket is set, there may be another home game before the season ends.

The cross country team dropped a close meet to Falmouth on the Cape in its most recent outing. MV's top finishers were Robert Riis, who placed second in 18:22, and Nevah Fitzgerald, who also placed second in 22:31.

The Vineyard harriers will race once more this week, hosting Dennis-Yarmouth before competing in the Cape and Islands League Championship this Saturday on their home course in the Manuel F. Correllus State Forest.

Community Services Celebrates Opening of New Campus

By CHARLES LEITNER

A little more than 18 months ago, members of the Martha's Vineyard community stood on a vacant lot with a vision to build a new home for people in need of care and assistance.

Last Friday, they gathered once again to officially open the Morby Family Building, created to house Martha's Vineyard Community Services, the Island's social services hub, offering support for those with disabilities, substance use disorder, behavioral health challenges and more.

"Indeed, the Island is built on a bedrock of strength, a history of philanthropy, a habit of the heart, modeled and manifested by our local founders and foundations," said Gary Foster, chair of Space to Thrive, the capital campaign created to rebuild the Community Services campus. "Our innovative civic institutions like MV Youth and our business and corporations that support this Island's health and well-being."

The project cost \$175 million and was supported by 225 capital contributions, including a \$3 million gift from the Morby family. It was built by South Mountain Company.

"Martha's Vineyard Bank Charitable Foundation is proud to support projects that reflect the very best of what makes this community so unique," said James Anthony, president and CEO of Martha's Vineyard Bank. "When we gathered on this very site, shovels in hand, for groundbreaking, the 18-month journey we've shared with community services, from that groundbreaking to today's ribbon cutting, exemplifies something I treasure deeply about our Island community: the value we place in trust, an act of trust to tear down a building, not knowing exactly where the next round of funding will come from, but believing that this generous community will rise to the occasion and help make this vision a reality."

A few hundred people gathered under a tent constructed outside of the entrance where a short ceremony was held before the ribbon cutting took place, officially opening the building to the public.

"For more than six decades, Islanders have turned to Community Services," said Mr. Anthony. "Today, the needs and pressures facing Island families are greater than ever, making the opening of these doors all the more meaningful."

Amy Gavin, board president for Community Services, talked about her own personal experience with domestic violence as a testament to the essential services the organization offers.

"We lived in a small community in northern New York State and navigat-

ing those frightening experiences were difficult without professional resources," said Ms. Gavin. "It taught me just how vital safety and support are when life is vulnerable."

Durwood and Tobias Vanderhoop, members of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) and part of the Black Brook Singers, performed an honor song before speeches were made by other members of the community.

"Any attempt to reduce the stresses impinging on Islanders must be the work of many hands," said Dr. Nancy Monestime-Williams, a member of the board of directors for Community Services. "So today, as I look around, right here, right now, under this tent, we see the many hands and many skills that are building on Dr. Mazer's vision of hope and health for this island."

Dr. Milton Mazer, who died in 2007, was the Vineyard's first resident psychiatrist and helped found Community Services.

Inside the building is the William and Rose Styron Center for Wellness and Recovery, where rooms are dedicated to support mental health and addiction recovery.

"My family is very happy about this," said Ms. Styron while taking a tour through the building for the first time.

THE MV WATER SHUTTLE

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Mon - Fri	4:00 a.m.	4:30 a.m.
Mon - Fri	5:45 a.m.	6:15 a.m.
Mon - Fri	7:15 a.m.	7:45 a.m.
Mon - Fri	8:45 a.m.	9:15 a.m.
Mon - Fri	10:30 a.m.	11:15 a.m.
Mon - Fri	1:30 p.m.	2:00 p.m.
Mon - Fri	3:00 p.m.	3:30 p.m.
Mon - Fri	4:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.

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Ray Ewing

Cutting the ribbon at the new Community Services campus.

The Steamship Authority

2027 OPERATING BUDGET OPEN HOUSE

The Steamship Authority has released the preliminary 2027 Operating Budget and a set of preliminary rate adjustments that are approximately 5% higher than 2026.

The SSA Port Council and Board will vote on the budget in November, but we want to hear from you in the upcoming weeks. Join us at an open house to discuss the budget, the factors that are driving up our costs, and cost-saving measures we're taking in response.

- 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, October 27
- Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center, 130 Center Street, Tisbury

Questions? Visit www.steamshipauthority.com/2027budget

IN VINEYARD SKIES

	Sunrise	Sunset
Fri., Oct. 23	7:02	5:48
Sat., Oct. 24	7:03	5:47
Sun., Oct. 25	7:04	5:46
Mon., Oct. 26	7:06	5:44
Tues., Oct. 27	7:07	5:43
Wed., Oct. 28	7:08	5:41
Thurs., Oct. 29	7:09	5:40
Fri., Oct. 30	7:10	5:39

Venus

The summer evening's brightest planet has disappeared. Tomorrow, Venus reaches inferior conjunction. It is now in such close proximity to the sun

and us, we can't see it. The planet is between us and the sun. Venus doesn't get much closer to us. It is only 25 million miles away. Consider that the sun is about 93 million miles away.

Stay tuned, the story continues. In the weeks ahead Venus will peak its head in the morning sky. From now through winter, Venus becomes a morning planet and remains a morning planet until June of next year.

Astronomers tell us that Venus may not be visible now but it will be visible in the morning sky for sure around Thanksgiving. And it will be at its highest in the morning sky come January.

Full Moon

Oct. 26

New Moon

Nov. 9

Last Quarter

Nov. 1

First Quarter

Nov. 17

Day	Max. F°	Min. F°	Precip. Inches.
Oct. 16	63	42	0.00
Oct. 17	66	46	0.33
Oct. 18	51	42	0.03
Oct. 19	57	37	0.00
Oct. 20	60	52	0.00
Oct. 21	62	53	0.00

Water temperature in Edgartown harbor: 55°

Recent Island Real Estate Transactions

Chilmark

Nicole M. Abrunzo and Christopher H. Merritt purchased 16 South Road in Chilmark for \$2,325,000 from North Bog LLC on Oct. 14.

Edgartown

Coleen and Colin McLane purchased 118 South Water street in Edgartown for \$6,125,000 from Robert F. Hoerle on Oct. 15.

Scott William Brickman and Julie Frank O'Brien purchased 91 Plantingfield Way in Edgartown for \$17,500,000 from Jane and Toby Merrill on Oct. 15.

MV Dune Grass LLC purchased 3 Somerset Lane in Edgartown for \$6,400,000 from Mattakesett Realty Trust. Oliver Snider TRS and Matthew Snider TRS on Oct. 16.

Andrew and Elizabeth Doyle purchased 24 Katama Bay View Road in Edgartown for \$7,500,000 from GoldenEye LLC on Oct. 15.

Kathryn R. Ham TRS and 68 Turkeyland Cove Realty Trust purchased 68 Turkeyland Cove Road in Edgartown for \$4,293,750 from 68 Turkeyland LLC on Oct. 16.

Oak Bluffs

Sherry Kay Rutherford purchased 312 East Chop Drive in Oak Bluffs for \$2,050,000 from Rachel Goldstein TRS and 312 East Chop Drive Realty Trust on Oct. 16.

Noni Ellison McKee purchased 28 Grovedale Road in Oak Bluffs for \$1,700,000 from Linear Property Group 1 LLC on Oct. 16.



Ray Ewing

Dennis Loria TRS, Patricia M. Loria TRS and 2025 Loria Family Trust purchased 12 Samoset Avenue in Oak Bluffs for \$2,394,000 from Sandra E. Kowalcheck, Scott P. Kowalcheck and Diane E. Maguire on Oct. 13.

Joan Bolen and Ji Chen purchased 13 Beach Road in Oak Bluffs for \$1,375,000 from Craig M. Mackenzie on Oct. 16.

Vineyard Haven

Tucker and Meredith Martin purchased 9 Hagerty Drive in Vineyard Haven for \$3,025,000 from RAM2 Partners LLC on Oct. 13.

Maya Moran purchased 5 Pine Tree Lane in Vineyard Haven for \$1,980,000 from Oceansay Homes LLC on Oct. 14.

Bridgeford Re Holdings 1 LLC purchased 35 Mt. Aldworth Road in Vineyard Haven for \$3,300,000 from Richard S. Dubin TRS and Mt. Aldworth Realty Trust on Oct. 16.

West Tisbury

Travis R. Keltner and Amy Trutor purchased 225 Lamberts Cove Road in West Tisbury for \$1,685,000 from Warren J. Simmons TRS, Leslie Richmond Simmons TRS and 225 Lambert's Cove Road Realty Trust on Oct. 16.

Healthy Aging Calls For Nominations

Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard is inviting the community to nominate individuals for its annual Healthy Agers Champion Award, which recognizes those making a meaningful difference in the lives of older adults across Martha's Vineyard.

Nominees may include volunteers, caregivers, neighbors, community leaders, professionals or anyone whose efforts help older adults maintain their independence, dignity and connection to the community.

Nominations are open through November 2026; the Healthy Agers Champion will be honored in December with a calibration. Submit a nomination by emailing lauren.bagnall@hamv.org or completing the online nomination form at hamv.org.

Water Bottle Refill Stations Expand

The Vineyard Conservation Society (VCS) has created several new water bottle refill stations across the Vineyard, expanding access to drinking water while helping residents and visitors reduce their reliance on single-use plastic.

The newest addition is an outdoor refill station at the Martha's Vineyard Shellfish Group's John T. Hughes Hatchery, made possible through a grant from the Edey Foundation.

Other new stations this year include a unit at the information booth in Oak Bluffs, next to the Flying Horses and two stations at each of the Tisbury School playgrounds.

VCS has also partnered with Oak Bluffs School to install a new indoor refill station in the school gym. The school's eighth-grade students raised

a portion of the funds as a graduation gift to their school.

Through its Take Back the Tap initiative, VCS has now helped provide refill stations at more than 32 locations across the Island, all of which can be found on the VCS Tap Map.



Ray Ewing

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Introducing the fourth custom built residence in the new Somerset development. This exceptional new construction represents a sophisticated interpretation of modern Martha's Vineyard living. With nearly 3,500 sq ft, the beautifully appointed 4-bedroom, 4.5 bath residence features light-filled interiors, 10' ceilings, gracious living spaces and clean architectural lines equally suited to relaxed summer living and year-round enjoyment. Two covered porches, an attached 2-car garage and additional space in the unfinished basement enhances the offering. The property offers the added opportunity to create an outdoor oasis, with ample room for a future pool, allowing the next owner to complete the setting with a pool house, patio, and outdoor entertaining area tailored to their vision. Designed with the Vineyard lifestyle in mind, the home sits in close proximity to the Field Club, the bike path, and the spectacular shoreline of South Beach, while the shops, restaurants, galleries, and charm of historic downtown Edgartown and the picturesque harbor are just minutes away.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Shine On
Editors, Vineyard Gazette:
We are writing to express our heartfelt appreciation for the outstanding success of this year's Gay Head 10K — Run for the Light — Road Race. Now in its 13th year, the race took place on Sunday, Oct. 4, on a spectacularly beautiful day at the cliffs. The event, and the many hours of work that go into bringing it to life each year, are a testament to the power of community spirit and the generosity and dedication of our neighbors, visitors and local businesses alike.

Our sincere thanks go to Chief Randhi Belain and the Aquinnah police department, Gordon Perry, the Town of Aquinnah, Tri-Town Ambulance and all the volunteers (including the MVRHS cross country team) who worked tirelessly to ensure the race's smooth execution. Your hard work and commitment are instrumental in making this event such a success. We thank Tom Seeman and Island Source for the water along the course and at the race finish. The post-race feast generously provided to our runners from The Gay Head Store, The Outermost Inn, Quitsa Kitchen, Morning Glory Farm and Juli Vanderhoop is always a special part of the event. It gives runners, volunteers and spectators a chance to celebrate the

accomplishments of the day together while taking in the extraordinary beauty of our surroundings, right under the lighthouse.
We are equally grateful to our local business sponsors, whose generosity helps sustain the race year after year, and to the Martha's Vineyard Community Foundation for serving as our fiscal sponsor. Their sponsorship plays a crucial role in the race's continued success and its positive impact on our community. The proceeds from the Gay Head 10K race contribute to the vital maintenance of the 1856 Gay Head Lighthouse. This iconic landmark is a beacon of our community, and your support helps ensure its continued splendor.
Congratulations to all the runners who competed in the race and especially to Sam Fettes of Vineyard Haven and Anna Riordan of Northborough for their accomplishments as first male and first female respectively.
We hope to see you all next year — the first Sunday in October! Until then, keep on shining.
With resounding gratitude,
The Gay Head 10K Race Committee:
Meg Athearn, Eliza Curtis, Hilary Dreyer, Casey O'Connor, Reagan Steenkamp, Ashley Van Murphy, Martha Vanderhoop and Beth Wike.

Feeling the Love
Editors, Vineyard Gazette:
Monday I spent the day at our hospital, first with a nurse practitioner from Dr. Price's office, then with the office teams in radiology and the lab. My husband Bruce and I were both so impressed by their friendly, helpful behavior, embodying the Island's happy sense of itself after a satisfying summer. I was unable to walk easily, and the smiling, friendly faces everywhere in the hospital made it so much easier to be rolling around the hallways in a wheelchair.
This warm, friendly approach creates

and reflects an atmosphere that flows from and into the Island community.
We all know we're lucky to be living here on Martha's Vineyard, and our hospital reflects that awareness. It's here for us when we need it. It works well into Island life, just as our good schools are giving us happy children and our diverse markets give us satisfied patrons. With all this warmth and my husband's patient, loving care, I recognize a loving environment.
This thank you note goes to you all.
Sarah Nevin
Edgartown

No to Question 7
Editors, Vineyard Gazette:
Question 7 on the November ballot would require every Massachusetts town to allow a single-family home on any lot of 5,000 square feet with 50 feet of frontage, as long as the lot has access to public sewer and water. Whatever you think of its goals, understand what a yes vote does: it takes one of the most basic planning decisions away from our towns and hands it to a statewide formula.
Towns can already do this. Any town meeting can reduce its minimum lot size tomorrow, and the state even pays towns that adopt starter-home districts. Island towns have looked at that choice and declined so far, because unrestricted small lots do not produce year-round housing here. Question 7 doesn't give towns a new tool; it takes away the right to decide, and an edict from Boston is the wrong way to settle a question that turns entirely on local conditions.
Here those conditions are plain. The measure assumes a lot with access to sewer can take on more homes. Oak Bluffs expects only about 150,000 gallons of added treatment capacity by 2028, and nearly all of it is already committed, mostly to nitrogen cleanup our ponds depend on, the rest to housing projects already in the pipeline.

Edgartown faces similar limits. Tisbury's plant can treat 139,000 gallons a day, and the town's wastewater plan already commits all of it: the downtown is capped, the new State Road district takes the rest, and the next expansion costs \$10 million or more.
Question 7 would allow a home on every 5,000-square-foot sewered lot, inviting lots to be divided to that size, and each new hookup would compete for capacity already promised to affordable housing and water quality.
Nor is there any guarantee these homes would house year-round residents. The Island's problem is not a shortage of houses; it is that too few of the ones we have are lived in year-round. On an Island where a small lot near town is prime second-home property, smaller lots without restrictions will add to the seasonal stock, not fix the imbalance.
A no vote from the Island sends Beacon Hill a clear message: seasonal communities need the authority to tie small-lot housing to year-round or affordable use, and to tie sewer "access" to real capacity. If Question 7 passes anyway, those protections will have to come from the Legislature, and our towns will need the same voters behind them. Either way, vote no on Question 7, and then stay engaged.
Ben Robinson
Tisbury (writing as a resident)



Ray Ewing

VINEYARD GAZETTE

Martha's Vineyard's Newspaper for 179 Years

Established in 1846

A Journal of Island Life

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Ray Ewing

Finding the Space to Stay Curious

By JEFF SCHEUER

In the night sky there's a full moon over Squibnocket and I'm thinking about the far future. I can see the Big Dipper pointing to the polestar. I'm not starry-eyed, but I marvel at a sight beheld by virtually every human being who ever lived or ever will.
I'm reminded of T.S. Eliot's line: "Let us go then, you and I, / When the evening is spread out against the sky..."
On a similar night a few years ago, I had dinner with my mother, and we stopped to admire the moon at Squibby on the way back to her house in Chilmark. It wasn't the first time we had stopped there together to look at the moon and the beach for a minute or two of silent reverie. But now I'm thinking about something she said that night while gazing at the sky: she wished she knew more about science, and astronomy in particular. I hope I'm as curious when I'm in my eighties.
Looking into space thrusts the mind forward. The past is a single dense weave, impossible to fully know or to ignore; the future seems bigger and more open, like the sky. I wonder what the world will be like in fifty, a hundred, two hundred years. Beyond that, it's hard even to imagine what I might be missing. It vexes me that I'll never know.
Now I think of Whitman's words: "On the beach at night alone / As the old mother sways her to and fro, sing-



Ray Ewing

ing her husky song / As I watch the bright stars shining, I think a thought of the cleft of the universes / and of the future."
I wonder what my grandchildren may live to see that I will not, just as my grandparents missed the glories of laptops, cell phones and the internet — but also social media, passwords, usernames, verification codes and in-boxes, all of which make death more palatable.
My gut tells me that the next few decades will be a rough ride, but after that things will begin to settle

down and improve markedly. That's my hope anyway; never mind the details.
I have little faith in human nature. Many of us are miserable creatures. I'll brook no nonsense about innate human goodness. But I do have faith in our better angels, and our better institutions, to bring the worst human impulses further under control. So, I'm an optimistic misanthrope.
But back to reality: the moon and the stars, in case you didn't know, are out there to make us wonder and think. The light is nice too. Tonight at Squibby, I'm also reminded of a poem called The More Loving One by W.H. Auden, which begins as follows: "Looking up at the stars, I know quite well / That, for all they care, I can go to hell, / But on earth indifference is the least / We have to dread from man or beast."
It goes on like that, but there's such a thing as copyright.
I'm pretty sure that our progeny will gaze at the sky, too, and wonder what is to come. All we can do is leave messages for them, letting them know where we've been and what we hoped for and wondered about. Maybe they too will become wanderers among the stars, stopping at Squibnocket, or wherever suits them, daring to feel awe and let the mind stray. I hope their curiosity is as endless as the night sky that nourishes it.
Jeff Scheuer lives in West Tisbury and New York.

Charter School Scarecrows Arrive



Pictures by Ray Ewing



THE GAZETTE CHRONICLE

Derby Throwback

From the October 20, 1967 edition of the Vineyard Gazette:
The leads in the twenty-second annual fishing derby were further capsized during the final hours of fishing. The derby ended at noon on Sunday, and the weighing-in continued until 2 o'clock.
James McCormick of Saugus nosed out Lee Fracchia of Manchester, Conn., by two ounces, making first in nonresident bass with a fish that weighed 49 pounds 5 1/2 ounces. Mr. Fracchia dropped to second place, and Mike Pagano of Newton to third, crowding Mrs. Louise deSomov off the list, but she was still tops in the senior group, and also the weekly prize for bass landed by women.
Fred Kiener of Vineyard Haven, who had held the lead among resident bass fishermen, held his place to the final hour, with Richard Hathaway of Edgartown second, and Stephen Amaral of Oak Bluffs third. Champ of stripper boat fishing was Kib Bramhall of Needham, who had held this place for some days. Ralph and Norman Whitten of Swampscott won the father and son trophy. Joyce and Ted Malley of South Duxbury won the husband and wife trophy, and Mrs. Malley the greatest shore fishing poundage. Lewis Hathaway Jr. of Edgartown won the Schaefer fly-rod trophy.
The largest shore bass landed on the final day was 28 pounds 7 ounces. It was landed by James Sullivan of Mattapoisett. The largest bluefish was 13 pounds 13 ounces, caught by Mark Davis of Oak Bluffs. Mark also won the juvenile prize boat or shore.
Total fish landed on Sunday was thirty-one, sixteen bass and fifteen blues, still indicating the pinching-out of the fishing. Total fish landed in the thirty-day contest was 1,856, 844 bass and 1,012 blues.
The champion bluefishermen in the derby were the "dauntless three," Arnold Carr of Teaticket, 16-11 1/2, Allan Peterson of Brockton, 16-11, and Robert Flanders of Mattapoisett, 16-2.
The first grand prize in the resident and nonresident stripper shore fishing categories is a \$500 U.S. Savings Bond, second is a \$100 bond and third is a \$50 bond.
Twenty-five dollar bonds were awarded for the leader in stripper boat fishing, senior stripper shore fishing and as the woman's bonus award for the greatest striped bass shore poundage. Fifty dollar bonds were awarded to the leaders in the juvenile stripper and juvenile bluefish categories.
In the twenty-two years that the Vineyard's fishing derby has been an annual event, the contest and related features have given rise to new ideas and developments from time to time. The changes have generally inclined toward a more sporting attitude on the part of the contestants.
No one connected with the management of the derby has suggested such things, yet it has been apparent that little by little the heavy surf rods and lines have been replaced by lighter tackle, as fishermen realized that the prolonged battle with a fish that has been given a fighting chance affords much more real sport than derricking in a half-drowned fish.
This year the trend toward still lighter gear has been more apparent than ever, and it is the very lightest, flyrods and fifteen-pound test lines or even lighter being favored to a higher degree than ever. Because of this trend, the prize for fly-fishing was added to the list, and another derby is expected to see the number of fly-fishers greatly increased.
This development can result in an absolute change of character in the derby. Benjamin F. Morton, who has directed the operation of the derby from the beginning, believes. It is his cherished idea that the contestant in the derby of the near future will do his fishing with a flyrod, and that his fishing ground will be the salt ponds of the Island rather than the beaches. Here, as he points out, may be found striped bass every fall. Here, a man can fish under conditions which favor fly-fishing regardless of weather conditions in many cases. Travel over private property can be reduced to a minimum, and in all ways the overall picture will be more attractive and provide greater sport.
Sunday:
Weekly prizes, bonus awards: Women's stripper shore fishing, Louise deSomov; Hampton Bays, L. I., 37-1; juvenile stripper shore fishing, William Wannamaker, Edgartown, 21-3; women's bluefish, Sandra Valois, Key West, Fla., 16; juvenile bluefish, Ed Tina, Mattapoisett (45 years), 10-1; weekly boat stripper, Kib Bramhall, Needham, 45-3; weekly shore bluefish, Ed Pina, Oak Bluffs, 11-1.
Daily stripper shore fishing: Francis Bernard, Oak Bluffs, 19-13; Bill Parks, Edgartown, 19-5; Cape Pogue; Bob Morgan, Edgartown, 13-10; Cape Pogue; John Searle, Oak Bluffs, 8-15; Tashmoor; Roger Andrews, Vineyard Haven, 7-15, Chilmark. Daily mystery, Dick Brown, Westport.
Daily bluefish: Bill Nolan, Norwell, Mass., 12-15; Gay Head; Gerald Morency, Padanaram, Mass., 12-9 1/2 off Wasque; Marshall Carroll, Chilmark, 11; Gay Head; George Vincent, Westport, Mass., 11-12 1/2; Gay Head; Richard Brown, Westport, 10-7 1/2; Gay Head. Daily Mystery, Marshall Carroll, Chilmark.
Compiled by Hilary Wallcox
library@vineyardgazette.com

Ballot Question Aims to Boost Outdoor Areas

From Page One

at BiodiversityWorks.

The Trustees of Reservations, which owns several properties on the Island, was one of the other groups that put together the ballot proposal. The organization's CEO, Katie Theoharides, emphasized that this fund would be used with existing sales tax.

"This does not raise a new tax," she said.

The former secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs under Gov. Charlie Baker, Ms. Theoharides said funding for nature and open space is often on the chopping block when belts need to be tightened on Beacon Hill.

That's what made this fund so important for her.

"We have nothing that goes to pay for the nature infrastructure that we all depend on," she said. "Environmental and conservation spending is the last funded and the first cut in the budget."

Supporters also said that the environment hasn't been made a priority under the current presidential administration, prompting them to push the state to get more involved.

"We saw it here in Massachusetts," Ms. Theoharides said. "Mass Audubon lost a \$25 million grant in partnership with the state to protect land all over the Commonwealth."

Coastal resilience, maintenance of public access and putting more land into conservation were all potential uses for the money that supporters cited.

While most ballot questions at the Nov. 3 election have galvanized official groups in opposition, ballot question six did not garner any opponents when the secretary of the commonwealth was putting together his red voter guide books.

But state budget minders did note that though the fund wouldn't be a new tax, it would be diverting tax revenue the state has previously counted on. The state legislature's special joint committee on initiative petitions raised some concerns, though it did not make a specific recommendation.

"A majority of the Committee has raised concerns regarding the structure, scope, and potential impacts of the Petition as drafted," the committee wrote. "While proponents of the measure assert that it is designed to be financially neutral and does not constitute a tax increase, the



Pictures by Ray Ewing

Taxes on sporting goods, recreational vehicles and golf courses would go to the proposed fund.

Committee notes that the proposal would rely on existing state revenue streams that are currently allocated to other ongoing programs and priorities."

The committee also noted that even if the ballot question passes, the state legislature still has complete authority over budgetary expenses.

"This constitutional framework ensures that funding decisions remain subject to annual budget deliberations and fiscal prioritization," the committee wrote. "As such, passage of this Petition would neither guarantee additional funding nor materially change the status quo."

Ms. Johnson at BiodiversityWorks said she believed that though some of the mechanics of the question may need to be worked out, the fund could allocate more money for Vineyard projects. Even work that improves the environment on Cape Cod could be a boon to Islanders.

"All of that benefits us, too," she said. "We are essentially downstream from the Cape."



Election day is Nov. 3.

Edgartown Cove Condominiums Proposed

From Page One

housing board overturned decades of legal precedent.

Under state law, 40B applications are consolidated to a single permitting process with a municipality's zoning board to help fast-track housing in communities that lag behind on state housing goals.

Other local boards can send concerns to the zoning board for consideration, but don't have their own public hearing process.

The Vineyard has operated differently, though. For years, the Martha's Vineyard Commission, which was created by the state legislature in 1974, also reviewed 40Bs ahead of the town permitting process.

That was all thrown into limbo in April, when the Massachusetts Housing Appeals Committee ruled that the MVC should be considered a local board and cut out of the process.

Edgartown and the Martha's Vineyard Commission filed an appeal of that decision in Dukes County Superior Court in May. The parties met briefly last week, but took no action as the Housing Appeals Committee works on finalizing its prior preliminary decision.

If Mr. Cumming prevails, he will have succeeded in overturning the review process on the Island for some of the most disputed projects.

Despite the opposition from the commission and Edgartown, Mr. Cumming sees his fight as getting the Vineyard in line with the rest of Massachusetts.

"There is an overriding structure, legal structure in society to get this housing built, and we seem to just kind of ignore that and fight it in this community more so than others," he said in an interview this week.

As that plays out, the Martha's Vineyard Commission and the Edgartown zoning board plan to continue reviewing 40B housing projects as they have in the past. Edgartown Cove would be the first new 40B application since the Housing Appeals Committee decision.

Edgartown zoning administrator Brae Eddleston said Tuesday that the zoning board would refer the project to the commission "without question," and MVC executive director Adam Turner

said the commission would proceed as normal.

"We're going to review the benefits and detriments as we always have," he said.

Mr. Cumming, who before getting into development worked in investment banking with a specialty in distressed debt, has not been shy about fighting for his projects in court and with the state Housing Appeals Committee. He said that only time will tell if another battle comes out of Edgartown Cove.

"My guess is a referral is an attempt to preserve their legal rights until Land Court rules," he told the Gazette. "That said we will not be holding a duplicative review process."

As proposed, Edgartown Cove would have six multi-family buildings, with a total of eight three-bedroom units and 32 one-bedroom units. The one-bedrooms would be about 680 square feet and the three-bedrooms would be about 1,360 square feet, according to the application.

Mr. Cumming said he was open to changing the units to rentals, if the town was willing to pitch in to make that financially feasible.

The buildings would have the typical New England trappings: cedar shake or clapboard siding with white windows and a pitched shingle roof.

Mr. Cumming has a purchase and sale agreement on the property for \$1.4 million. The current owner is the Arthur Luongo Trust.

The decision to make this project into several multi-family buildings was due, in part, to the Island's lack of diversity when it comes to housing types. Eighty-two per cent of the Island's housing stock, according to Mr. Cumming, is single-family homes.

"Smaller homes serve households at different stages of life, including first-time buyers and residents approaching retirement," Mr. Cumming wrote in a presentation filed with the zoning board.

"Additionally, downsizers are competing for the few smaller homes with young couples and younger families trying to join the property ladder," he wrote.

Preliminary cost estimates have the



Renderings Courtesy Edgartown Cove

Edgartown Cove is latest plan from William Cumming.

one-bedroom units at \$157,700 for a person making 80 per cent of the area median income, which is about \$83,000. The market rate cost is projected to be about \$700,000. A three-bedroom unit could be about \$186,000 for an 80 per cent area median income buyer and \$1.1 million at market rate.

When Mr. Cumming first broached the idea for the project with the town earlier this year, several boards raised concerns.

The affordable housing committee noted that the project consisted largely of market-rate units, which would increase demand for municipal services while providing little to no housing for the Island's essential workforce.

"The Edgartown Affordable Housing Committee does not believe that developers should be allowed to weaponize Chapter 40B for their own gain when developments of this size do not adequately address the real housing needs of the town," committee chair Melissa Vincent wrote in a July letter.

The developer is seeking to connect to the town sewer, as several of the nearby properties are, but that could be a stumbling block moving forward. In documents filed with the zoning board ahead of the hearing, town officials noted that a new sewer connection

would need to be built in the area.

"The timeframe for approval of a sewer main extension to capture that area is approximately 10 years on the low end and potentially 12 years before installation — if the Town decides on a multi-phase approach," wrote Edgartown wastewater superintendent Joseph Rock.

Though the state goal for affordable housing is 10 per cent for all communities, Edgartown is currently only at about 4.5 per cent. By Mr. Cumming's calculations, the town would need a minimum of 150 more affordable units to come into compliance with state regulations.

Mr. Cumming said he didn't wish to get into legal spats to get his projects to fruition, but he is willing to wage that conflict if needed to build more housing on the Island where he grew up.

"I wish there was a clear set of rules and everybody followed it," he said. "And, unfortunately, we're in this gray zone that is going to get clarified. I think we'll prevail. I think the commission will appeal it. And that's okay, that's their right."

The Edgartown zoning board of appeals will meet on Oct. 28 at 4 p.m. to discuss the project.

Katama Meadows Project Denied

From Page One

Mr. Sederholm, Mr. McGinn and Mr. Kim voting no.

Katama Meadows attorney Robert Moriarty told the Gazette after the decision that he felt the commission squandered an opportunity to provide "missing middle" housing opportunities to Island workers.

He also argued that the project met the commission's policies on housing, water quality, energy and open space, and had the support of the Edgartown select board and affordable housing committee.

"The project's attainable housing proposal was identical to the Walking Man Close project that the MVC had previously approved in 2024," he said, referring to a mixed-income project on Jernegan Pond Road formerly known as the Cohen family subdivision.

"Nonetheless, subscribing to the platitude 'we can't build our way out of this,' the MVC turned its back on the missing middle; thereby ensuring that they will continue to go missing to the detriment of the continued vitality of the Island community."

The decision virtually guarantees the resumption of legal action by the landowners, Douglas K. Anderson and Richard G. Matthews, who have been challenging the Martha's Vineyard Commission in court since 2020, when commissioners voted 10-4 to deny a subdivision plan known as Meetinghouse Place.

That project, which started out as a 38-lot plan for market-rate homes up to 5,000 square feet, also underwent several revisions over the two-year commission review process.



Rendering Courtesy Katama Meadows

Subdivision had gone through several reviews.



Ray Ewing

Martha's Vineyard Commission has faced numerous legal battles over Katama Meadows.

The final iteration of Meetinghouse Place proposed 28 market-rate lots on the undeveloped property for houses up to 3,800 square feet along with 14 small, income-restricted apartments, which Mr. Sederholm called "a garbage offer ... with no benefit to us," in his remarks last week.



Ray Ewing

A judge in 2022 found the commission had acted within its authority in denying the prior project. The developers appealed, and later agreed to put their litigation on hold to apply for a new subdivision that would consider local housing needs.

That suit could resume, and the developers could also appeal the latest decision from the MVC. Mr. Moriarty declined to comment on his clients' intentions.

The first Katama Meadows project, submitted to the commission in March, 2025, had 26 market-rate lots, 12 duplexes and 36 low-income rental units. That plan failed to win favor with Edgartown officials, who said the real need was among residents of moderate means, including town employees.

In January, 2026, the commission allowed the developers to withdraw that application and opened a new hearing on a revised Katama Meadows plan.

The new plan, like Meetinghouse Place before it, drew opposition from conservation organizations throughout the long hearing process.

"We are an island. Our land is limited.

This means our space for commercial ventures, housing, infrastructure and environmental protection is also limited," Samantha Look, the executive director of the Vineyard Conservation Society, told the Gazette after the denial.

"Proposals of any scale, but especially one as large as Katama Meadows, must be weighed heavily against community needs and the sharp reality of these land use limits," Ms. Look said.

The project did garner praise from the Edgartown affordable housing committee, which wanted to see more lots dedicated to middle income earners.

The developers offered to donate more than half of the 26 income-restricted lots to the town of Edgartown and to Habitat for Humanity, which would have boosted the town's state-mandated inventory of subsidized housing.

But this benefit is illusory without a plan or funding to build the housing, Mr. Robinson said during last week's deliberations.

"The idea that lots get us to affordable housing is quite speculative," he said.

Ethan Genter contributed to this article.



Proposed project would qualify as a 40B application.

CALENDAR

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

Friday, October 23

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., massaudubon.org, 508-627-4850.

Friday Kids Crafting, for ages 3 and up, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 56R School Street, Oak Bluffs, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., free, oakbluffslibrary.org, 508-693-9433.

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, west-tisburylibrary.org, 508-693-3366.

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

Scrapbooking/Junk Journaling for Teens and Tweens, West Tisbury Public Library, 3 to 4:45 p.m.

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

An Evening with Matt Nakoa, Martha's Vineyard Playhouse, 24 Church street, Vineyard Haven, 7 p.m., \$25, circuitarts.thundertix.com, 508-696-6300.

Fire and Song, fundraiser for Martha's Vinyard Diversity Coalition and their Living Legends Project, Old Whaling Church, 89 Main Street, Edgartown, 7 to 8:30 p.m., \$60 and \$100 for sponsor and reception, mvdiversitycoalition.org.

Fire & Song Musical Performance

The Old Whaling Church hosts a musical fundraiser for Martha's Vineyard Diversity Coalition on Friday, Oct. 23, beginning at 7 p.m.. Pianist and composer Joel A. Martin and vocalist Theresa Thomason join forces for an evening of music, history and cultural connection.

Saturday, October 24

Real Estate Salesperson License Prep Course, in-person real estate salesperson exam prep class, Haven, Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., \$595, secure.qgiv.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.

Children's Saturday Crafting: Halloween with Helen Hall, ages 6 and up, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., \$40.

Harvest Festival/Festival da Colheita Annual, pumpkin carving, local farm animals, crafts and games, gardening and sustainability demos and more, Agricultural Hall, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., free, marthasvineyardagriculturalociety.org, 508-693-9549.

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

An Introduction to Knife Sharpening, a two-hour class with hands-on experience, Stillpoint, 20 Stillpoint Meadows Road, West Tisbury, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$75; email if cost is a barrier, stillpointmv.org.

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

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

Exploring Printmaking with Allison Doherty, block printing, dry-point etching, mixed-media and monotype, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 1 to 4 p.m., \$65.

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

Book Group, a discussion of The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot by Marianne Cronin, Aquinnah Public Library, 2 to 3 p.m.

Children's Ceramic Exploration, for ages 7 and up, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 2 to 4 p.m., \$40.

Healing Hour with Sue Angeley, with sound and crystals, Stillpoint, 3 to 4 p.m., \$20 to \$40, email if cost is a barrier.

Peter Halperin: Solo Guitar Concert, for more information, visit westtisburylibrary.org, West Tisbury Public Library, 3 to 4 p.m.

Teen Pride Party, food from Wicked Burger, music and printing with Althea from Althea Designs, Vineyard Haven Public Library, 200 Main Street, Vineyard Haven, 7 to 10:30 p.m., free, oakbluffslibrary.org, 508-693-9433.

Thistle, live music, led by composer, singer and harpist Thistle Jemison, Martha's Vineyard Playhouse, 7 p.m., \$25, circuitarts.org.

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

Sunday, October 25

The Witching Hour: A Paddle Parade of Witchy Fun, Collin's Beach, 9 to 10 a.m., 774-563-1805.

Edgartown's Happy Haunting, trick-or-treating from business to business, downtown Edgartown, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., visitedgartown.org.

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

Who's a Mensch and How Might Things Be Different Right Now If We Could All Be Menschese? with Rabbi Lori Shaller and Kohenet Batya Diamond, in person or online, Unitarian Universalist Society of Martha's Vineyard, 10 a.m., free.

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

Kirtan, Live Music, Call and Response Chanting with Bhakti, chant, sing, dance and drum with Bhakti, West Tisbury Public Library, 12 to 1 p.m., devatalife.com, 802-989-9992.

Gnome Sculpture Workshop with Sabrina Kuchta, learn ceramic hand building techniques to sculpt a garden gnome, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 2 to 4 p.m., \$50.

Restorative Sound Journey, Peaked Hill Studio 11 Peaked Hill Pasture, Chilmark, 2 to 3:15 p.m., \$30 to \$45, peakedhill-studio.com, 774-563-8282.

Neighborhood Dance with Martha's Vineyard Ballroom Group, once-monthly dance event, Stillpoint, 3 to 4:30 p.m., \$5 to \$20 sliding scale.

Monday, October 26

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

Moonrise Kayak Tour, under the moon, with our naturalist guides, Sengekontacket Pond, 4:15 to 6:15 p.m., 508-627-4850.

Sound Bath, The Red House Peer Recovery Support Center, 111 Edgartown Road, Vineyard Haven, 5 to 6 p.m., free, redhouserecovery.org, 508-693-2900.

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

Tuesday, October 27

Musica Do Circulo/Music of the Circle, led by song leader Roberta Kim, Peaked Hill Studio, 5:30 to 6:45 a.m., free, bewellsing.com, 774-563-0318.

Jewish Meditation Circle, prayers, chants and teachings online, 9 to 9:45 a.m.

Assisted Knitting Open Studio, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., \$10.

Seasonal Storytime with Rachel, stories and hands-on activities inspired by the season, Edgartown Public Library, 10:30 to 11 a.m.

Memory Training, a course teaching memory enhancing techniques and practical strategies to boost memory functioning, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 2 to 4 p.m.

Virtual Armchair Travel To Eastern Island, led by Jack Holmes, owner of Images From Near and Far, 2 p.m., free, engagedpatrons.org, 508-696-4211.

Scary Season



Ray Ewing

Grange Hall Welcomes Back Spirits & Spirits

While gazing out the car window on a road trip, creative inspiration struck Kelly Kaye.

Ms. Kaye is the managing director of Circuit Arts, a nonprofit arts organization that runs year-round film, theatre and music programs on the Island.

On this particular drive, she was thinking about what the organization could do for Halloween.

"I started to go down this rabbit hole in my head of how play for adults is such an essential piece of life," she said. "I was just in this dream state thinking about how awesome it is that adults are still engaging in all of this wonder...I think the root of it was wanting to create that play space for adults."

That vision takes shape in the second iteration of Spirits & Spirits, which will transform Grange Hall into the Orchid Ballroom of the fictional Hotel Le Grangé. This year's production, Spirits & Spirits: Vivienne Vale's Vaudeville Revue, blends variety show performances with immersive theatre.

For five nights, from Oct. 27 to 31, Island actors, musicians, dancers and performers will bring the experience to life.

Last year's inaugural production of Spirits & Spirits introduced audiences to the fictional Hotel Le Grangé. This year, organizers are expanding upon the fictional theatrics by introducing new characters, stories and performance styles.

"We're building on what we did last year, which was a two-part experience," Ms. Kaye said. "We got a lot of wonderful feedback from last year, and decided to build on what we had created and lean into the parts that we found to be really successful."

The event was originally split between music and mingling downstairs and the subsequent performance upstairs. This time, the entire experience will unfold on the first floor, allowing audiences to remain immersed in the atmosphere throughout the evening.

"The show is there and it exists in the space that you get to stay in and make yourself at home in, and that kind of freed us to cook up a really wild show that happens in this amazing space," said Mac Young, frequent collaborator with Circuit Arts. "That's the highlight for me this year."

Mr. Young wrote this year's script and is directing the production, as well as overseeing its set design, sound and lighting.

The new format also allows for a larger audience, an advantage as interest builds. Next Friday night's performance is already sold out.

From Oct. 27 to 30, the performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. On Halloween night, Oct. 31, there will be a double header, with performances at 6 and 8:30 p.m. and doors opening an hour before each show.

The organizers suggest arriving as doors open in order to mingle before the show. Guests are also encouraged to dress for the occasion, whether in costumes, cocktail attire or otherwise imaginative interpretations.

"It's really unique," Ms. Kaye said. "It's a place to be transported...it's a night out, it's something that you don't get to see regularly. It's unreplicable."

-Lily Echeverria

Fit Camp with Bonnie Kingsbury, children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult caregiver, Edgartown Public Library, 3 to 4 p.m.

Rug Hooking Open Studio with Island Hookers, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 3 to 6 p.m., \$10.

Virtual Reality For Ages 10 to 18, West Tisbury Public Library, 3 to 5 p.m.

Yarn in the Art Barn, build your yarn stash and meet other fiber artists, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 4 to 7 p.m., free.

CSL Test Prep, in person construction supervisor's license prep course, Martha's Vineyard Regional High School, 100 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road, Oak Bluffs, 5 to 8:30 p.m., \$725, contractorsuccess.com, 978-939-3435.

Restorative Reset with Jelisa Difo, appropriate for all levels, Edgartown Public Library, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Women's Circle with Emily Galligan, a space for connecting with yourself and other women, Stillpoint, 5:30 to 7 p.m., \$10 to \$30 sliding scale; email if cost is a barrier.

Business Planning 101: From Idea to Action, four-part series with mentors to create business plan, Haven, 517 State Road, Vineyard Haven, 6 to 7:30 p.m., free, secure.qgiv.com, 508-693-9222.

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

Brews Brothers Music Bingo, hear the song, mark your card, sing along, win prizes, Indigo Martha's, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., free, instagram.com, 917-710-1066.

Dinner and A Movie — Halloween Themed, Pawnee House, 6:30 p.m., thepawneehousemv.com, 508-338-2770.

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

Thursday, October 29

Little Naturalists, for young children and caregivers, Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary of Mass Audubon, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Painting Still Life with Liz Taft, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$60.

Wiggle with the Words, a movement-based storytime with Elyce, Edgartown Public Library, 10:30 to 11 a.m.

Can You Shuck It: Shellfish Shucking with Chris Look, learning how to shuck local oysters, Edgartown Public Library, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

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

Creative Movement For Kids, Chilmark Free Public Library, 3 to 4 p.m.

Creator Club, a different hands-on craft each week, Edgartown Public Library.

Dragon Eggs, design and create your own dragon egg, Aquinnah Public Library, 3:30 to 5 p.m.

How To Be A Witch, reading from author Shana Gozansky, followed by potion making, West Tisbury Public Library, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Pokémon Club, bring your Pokémon cards to show others, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Open Studio Washington Ledesma, ceramicist and painter opens his studio for visitors, Washington Ledesma's Studio, 4 to 6 p.m., 508-560-2648.

SketchUp 3D Modeling, learn the basics of this modeling tool used in architecture, Haven, 5:30 to 7 p.m., \$150 to \$175, secure.qgiv.com.

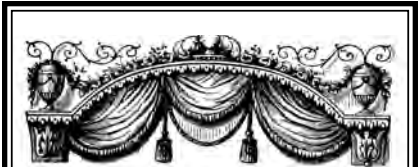
Meditation, group meditation in person and online, Bodhi Path Buddhist Center, 6 to 7 p.m., free, bodhipath.org.

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

Jeremy Berlin Plays Jazz Piano, The Sweet Life, 63 Circuit Avenue, Oak Bluffs, 6:30 to 9 p.m., sweetlifemv.com, 508-696-0200.

Jimmy and the Janitors and The Back Porch Trio, with a New Orleans feel, Pawnee House Restaurant, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., free.

Thursday Night Trivia, with prizes, Indigo Martha's, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., free, instagram.com, 917-710-1066.



MOVIE LISTINGS

OCTOBER 23-29

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FRIDAY 10/23
Colors of Time (NR) 4 p.m.
Ha-Chan Shake Your Booty (R) 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY 10/24
Ha-Chan Shake Your Booty (R) 4 p.m.
Colors of Time (NR) 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY 10/25
Colors of Time (NR) 1 p.m.
Fallen Angels (PG-13) 4 p.m.
Ha-Chan Shake Your Booty (R) 4 p.m.

MONDAY 10/26
Closed

TUESDAY 10/27
Closed

WEDNESDAY 10/28
Ha-Chan Shake Your Booty (R) 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY 10/29
Ha-Chan Shake Your Booty (R) 4 p.m.
Colors of Time (NR) 7:30 p.m.

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FRIDAY 10/23
Whalefall (PG-13) 3:45 p.m.
You Can See Everything (R) 6:15 p.m.
Street Fighter (PG-13) 3:30 p.m.
Clayface (R) 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY 10/24
You Can See Everything (R) 2 p.m.
Whalefall (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Wildwood (R) 1 p.m., 4 p.m.
Clayface (R) 7 p.m.

SUNDAY 10/25
You Can See Everything (R) 2 p.m., 6 p.m.
Wildwood (PG-13) 1 p.m., 4 p.m.
Street Fighter (PG-13) 7 p.m.

MONDAY 10/26
Whalefall (PG-13) 4:15 p.m., 6:45 p.m.
The Social Reckoning (R) 4 p.m.
Clayface (R) 6:45 p.m.

TUESDAY 10/27
You Can See Everything (R) 5:30 p.m.
Street Fighter (PG-13) 4 p.m.
Wildwood (PG-13) 6:45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 10/28
Whalefall (PG-13) 4 p.m.
Clayface (R) 6:45 p.m.
The Social Reckoning (R) 4 p.m., 6:45 p.m.

THURSDAY 10/29
You Can See Everything (R) 5:30 p.m.
Wildwood (PG-13) 3:45 p.m.
Street Fighter (PG-13) 6:45 p.m.



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Ash Peters with a bluefish. Pictures by Ray Ewing

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



Crowd celebrates Isabella Pachico on her first fish, brought in at the last weigh-in.



Tucker Schaefer rings the final bell.



Isabella and John Pachico.

CURRENT DERBY LEADERS

ALL TACKLE

Name	Date	Weight
BOAT BLUEFISH		
David M. Gerhardt	10/13	21.0lbs.
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.

SENIOR

Name	Date	Weight
BOAT BLUEFISH		
David Kadison	10/14	17.75 lbs.
SHORE BLUEFISH		
Stephen M. Tirrell	10/17	17.32 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.

FLYROD

Name	Date	Weight
BOAT BONITO		
Zachary C. Horrocks	9/17	8.81 lbs.
SHORE BONITO		
Patrick J. Carson	10/14	6.00 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		
Emmett R. Sylva	10/10	17.81 lbs.
SHORE BLUEFISH		
Hudson J. Smith	10/15	15.26 lbs.
BOAT BONITO		
Brooke Stedman	10/9	8.54 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.

MINI JUNIOR

Name	Date	Weight
BOAT BLUEFISH		
Tucker Schaefer	10/14	18.11 lbs.
SHORE BLUEFISH		
Isabella M. Pachico	10/17	13.58 lbs.
BOAT BONITO		
Calvin Stedman	10/9	7.12 lbs.
SHORE BONITO		
Axel B. Abbott	10/9	5.53 lbs.
BOAT FALSE ALBACORE		
Calvin Stedman	9/13	15.62 lbs.
SHORE FALSE ALBACORE		
Clifton M. Colby	9/19	8.27 lbs.



Ray Ewing

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Emily Mizer, Donaima Juster, Arthur Hynes, Randy Cameron.



Luke Stobie with his shore-caught bluefish.

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First-Time Derby Fisherman Wins it All

By CHARLES LEITNER

There was a brief silence Sunday as each of the six grand winners of the 81st Striped Bass and Bluefish Derby handed over their keys to John Custer, who inserted them into the golden lock that, if opened, would crown the year's winner.

But, when David Gerhardt, an angler from Louisiana who traveled to Martha's Vineyard for the first time to participate in this year's fishing derby, watched Mr. Custer try his key, there was a sharp audible click followed quickly by a rally of cheers celebrating his victory.

Mr. Gerhardt, who secured his place on the Farm Neck Golf Club stage after catching a 21.01-pound bluefish, was in shock when he won.

"I've never been in a position like this before, ever," said Mr. Gerhardt. "It just felt unreal. I felt like I was floating."

Mr. Gerhardt reeled in the fish off Wasque while fishing with friends and coworkers on the Kyler Grace. It took about 8 or 10 minutes to land the fish, Mr. Gerhardt recalled.

"I was the guest, so they gave me the rod first, and I picked it up and landed it," he said. "I was wondering what the big deal was and then the captain said, 'You're the derby leader.' He didn't weigh it or anything. He just said, 'I'm telling you, it's huge.' So that was it."

Kevin Lord invited Mr. Gerhard to join him on the charter boat during the last week of the derby, and was excited for his friend.

"David's been a friend of mine for 20 years," said Mr. Lord. "He's the new CEO of my company that I just hired this year."



David M. Gerhardt celebrates beside his new grand-prize jeep.

And I said, I'm your boss, you've got to come up and go fishing. So, I brought him up, flew him up here and he was supposed to leave Thursday [before the ceremony]."

For earning the top prize, Mr. Gerhardt was awarded a new camouflage Jeep Gladiator Mojave that was provided by

Vineyard Vines, one of the main sponsors at this year's fishing derby.

Though it was his first time on the Island, Mr. Gerhardt has already found friends in the fishing community.

"It's a real tight-knit community in this derby," said Mr. Gerhardt. "You can tell the Island just swims around it, no pun intended. But it's just real tight knit and everyone's into it. It's been a great week. I met a lot of friends, people I'll probably continue being friends with."

The annual fishing derby first started in 1946. This year, the derby took place between Sept. 10 and Oct. 18. The last few anglers trickled in to weigh their catches the night before on Oct. 17, just before the weigh station closed at 9 p.m.

Mr. Custer, the derby president, thanked everyone who helped make the fishing tournament happen.

"I never take for granted the support that the derby receives," he said. "As I've said many times, and I'll continue to say, nothing lasts for over 80 years unless it has strong support."

In all, 3,034 anglers participated in this year's derby. Together, they weighed in 708 bonito, 584 bluefish and 159 false albacore.

"What we do is very, very special," said Mike Cassidy, a derby volunteer for over 40 years. "But fishing, to tell you the truth, is just an excuse we use to get people together."

The annual fishing derby ended Sun-



Mike Cassidy.

day with a long celebration and awards ceremony that was held under a tent at Farm Neck Golf Club in Oak Bluffs.

Friends and family members cheered as anglers who participated were presented awards for various achievements.

Perhaps the most notable catch besides Mr. Gerhardt's grand prize-winning bluefish was a false albacore landed from a boat by Sherry Countryman. Weighing in at 19.91 pounds, Ms. Countryman's albacore was both a new state and derby record. She was awarded \$1,000 for this achievement.



Richard Mann.



Luke Stobie.



Lela Gilkes and Cooper Gilkes were honored for their work with the kids derby.

Although Ms. Countryman was away in Europe Sunday, her friends brought a life-size cut out of her to stand in her place. According to friends of Ms. Countryman, the life-size cut out will be traveling around the Island, making appearances at many of her favorite haunts.

Rick Schifter was the recipient of the Martha's Vineyard Surfcaster's Association's Sportsmanship Award for allowing oversand vehicles to use his land to access Wasque Point.

"The definition of sportsmanship is quality, showing fairness, respect and generosity towards the opposing team or

player and the game itself when competing," said Mr. Custer. "Because of these qualities, the Surfcaster's would like to recognize this entire family for working with the Trustees to restore OSV access through their property to Wasque."

Each year the derby committee gives out the Beaulieu/Loud Memorial Award to a family who evokes the full spirit of the Island community and the fishing derby. This year, the Kurth Family, represented by Ryan, Katy, Latham and Gryphon, were the recipients of that award.

The derby also dedicated the annual kids derby day to Cooper and Lela Gilkes.

"As you know, Coop and Lela deflect all grace, but we all know how instrumental they have been and continue to be with the promotion and encouragement of fishing for families," said Mr. Custer. "Appropriately ongoing, the event will now officially be called the Cooper and Lela Gilkes Kids Day Derby. We all love the several generations of families on this Island that have benefited from their support."

Prior to the final awards ceremony, awards were given to young anglers who participated in the junior and mini junior fish derby. Those who placed in the top three of each fish category were awarded a plaque along with a new fishing rod and bag.

One winner was overheard saying that the derby is an event that is better than Christmas.

"That's why we do what we do," said Mr. Cassidy.



Derby president John Custer.



Buddy Dagostino and Tony Dagostino.



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processing, and dispatching emergency and non-emergency calls for police, fire, emergency medical, and other public safety services.

Requires effective oral and written communications skills, high integrity, positive attitude, sound judgement, and the ability to handle confidential material and adapt to changing environments and priorities. Essential functions include rotating assignment to the day, evening and night, weekend, and holiday shifts. Paid on-site training, plus off-island Academy training.

Full-time position with a generous benefit package including paid leave, insurance, state pension and deferred compensation matching.

Full time Telecommunicator-In-Training pay range is \$73,986.64 - \$81,687.06 annually, plus \$500 monthly stipend. Candidates must pass skills-based aptitude testing, interview, background check, and post-conditional-offer medical and audiology evaluations. Apply today. Download applications and job descriptions at: dukescountysheriff.com/careers

TOWN OF EDGARTOWN BUILDING DEPARTMENT ASSISTANT (\$28.38-\$40.39 with \$5,000 Sign-on Incentive)

The Town of Edgartown is seeking a customer-focused and organized professional to serve as Department Assistant in the Building Department. This 40 hour/week position is full-time/year-round and provides administrative and clerical support for a busy municipal office, assisting residents, contractors, architects, and other stakeholders with permitting, inspections, zoning inquiries, and general department operations.

Responsibilities include processing and tracking a variety of building-related permits, scheduling inspections, maintaining departmental records, collecting and reconciling fees, preparing payroll and bill warrants, assisting with budgeting and reporting, and responding to public inquiries regarding construction, zoning, land use, and related regulations. Position is open until filled, with a priority date of October 30, 2026.

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

TOWN OF EDGARTOWN Highway Department Operators

The Town of Edgartown is seeking applications for Operator I (\$32.00-\$45.55 + \$5,000 Sign-on Incentive) and Junior Operator (\$28.38-\$40.39 + \$5,000 Sign-on Incentive). These 40 hour/week positions are full-time/year-round and perform skilled labor in maintaining and repairing of Town streets, roadways, drainage systems, and other public infrastructure; operate vehicles and equipment; and participate in snow and ice removal and other emergency operations. Applicants must possess a high school diploma and at least one year of related public works or construction experience, or an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience. A valid driver's license is required for Junior Operator; Operator I requires a valid Class B CDL and Hoisting License 2B. The Town offers competitive benefits and opportunities for overtime, including seasonal and emergency operations. Positions are open until filled.

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

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.

HELP WANTED

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 ALPACA ENTHUSIASTS WANTED

Farm store positions, full and part-time. Request an application by email: info@islandalpaca.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, please contact lena@islandautism.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.

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.

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".



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.

LIBRARY AIDE TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS

The Oak Bluffs Public Library is accepting applications for part-time library aides, 3-19 hours per week, Tuesday through Saturday. Duties include using software to locate and circulate materials, organizing physical items, helping patrons access digital resources and assisting with programs. Successful candidates will have superior customer service, detail-oriented organizational skills, and ample technology experience. Hourly range: \$20.85 - \$24.18. Interested candidates can apply through the online portal at oakbluffsma.gov/Jobs or email wbrough@oakbluffsma.gov for an application form and for any inquiries. Applications reviewed as received. Oak Bluffs is an EOE.

POLICE OFFICER TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS

The Oak Bluffs Police Department is looking for motivated individuals who want to serve their community and be part of the next generation of police officers. We currently have one open position for patrol officer that we intend to fill immediately. We are a progressive department that offers great opportunities including specialized units and assignments such as the Motorcycle Unit, Drug Task Force, Tactical Response Team, Community Outreach, School Resource Officer, Field Training Officer, Firearms Instructor, Detective Unit, Bicycle Patrol, and Accreditation Team. The minimum requirements include: Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must be a United States citizen. Must have no felony convictions. MA driver's license and ability to obtain License to Carry Firearms. Must be in good health and physical condition. Applicants who have completed a full-time police academy prior to applying are preferred. We encourage lateral transfers to apply. We are a non-civil service department, and the patrol officers are represented by MassCop. We offer a highly competitive pay structure including an education incentive, starting salary range

HELP WANTED

\$100,077 - \$103,836, with detail and overtime opportunities. Employment applications and all inquiries can be obtained by calling Lt. Curelli at (508)693-0750. Oak Bluffs is an EOE, AA. Applications reviewed as received.



Join The Polly Hill Arboretum team as our **Education Manager**. This position is responsible for the strategic growth of adult and youth education at the Arboretum and the day-to-day operations of PHA's education programs, including planning, implementation, and evaluation. This involves the development of curricula and supporting materials for our youth education program and the development of a yearly schedule of educational events for adults. **Application deadline:** November 16, 2026. For more information: pollyhillarboretum.org/get-involved/employmentopportunities/.

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Full and part-time, year-round positions available, two to four days per week. Salary commensurate with experience. Willing to train the right applicant. (508)693-9682.

JEWELRY WELDER | RETAIL ASSOCIATE

Stefanie Wolf Designs, a woman-owned jewelry brand in Oak Bluffs, is hiring for a combined retail sales and permanent jewelry welding role. Friendly, reliable, detail-oriented, and love jewelry? Training provided. Pay based on experience. Email coral@stefaniewolf.com or stop by. Details: stefaniewolf.com/pages/hiring.



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.

PLANNING BOARD - ADMINISTRATOR

Town of Tisbury seeks individual to perform administrative duties. Administrative support for the activities and operations of the Planning Board. Some duties include Answering phones, Review applications, minutes, accounts receivable and payable. Full-time (40 hrs/weekly) year-round, starting pay \$38.40/hour, Grade 5 step 1, with generous benefits package under union contract including retirement. Application available on website under Human Resources. Union employee should submit application, resume and cover letter by October 30th. Town of Tisbury is EOE.

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 CONSERVATION SOCIETY HIRING PART-TIME ADVOCACY AND PROGRAMMING COORDINATOR

Environmental advocacy, community organizing, and events. 20 hrs/week, \$35/hr.

HELP WANTED

See full job description and how to apply: <https://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.

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. HOUSING AVAILABLE!

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.

SERVICES

ANTIQUES BUYING EVENT

Buying unwanted gold jewelry, silver jewelry, coins, sterling flatware and tea sets. Antiques of all types and free appraisals. Saturday and Sunday, October 24 and 25 from 10 am to 4 pm. **Location:** Enchanted Chocolates Shop, 4 Chapman Ave., Oak Bluffs.

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.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY EMMA!

NEW CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING SYSTEM!

Submit your Classifieds online at
www.vineyardgazette.com/classifieds

\$24 FOR 24 WORDS

1 week in print, 10 days online
.65 each additional word

CUSTOMIZE YOUR AD:

☒ Add a border: \$4 ☒ Add a logo/photo: \$15

Legal Ads: legals@vineyardgazette.com

Classified Advertising Deadline:
Tuesday at 3 p.m. for the Friday print edition

Questions?

Email Classifieds@vineyardgazette.com or call 774-549-9711

am so we do it the

VINEYARD

Submit your Classifieds online at
www.vineyardgazette.com/classifieds

\$24 FOR 24 WORDS

1 week in print, 10 days online
.65 each additional word

CUSTOMIZE YOUR AD:

☒ Add a border: \$4 ☒ Add a logo/photo: \$15

Legal Ads: legals@vineyardgazette.com

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Tuesday at 3 p.m. for the Friday print edition

Questions?

Email Classifieds@vineyardgazette.com or call 774-549-9711

THE PERFECT PAIRING.

SCAN HERE

to order your Gazette coffee mug today,
or visit vineyardgazettestore.com

Good People.
Quality Products.
Lasting Opportunities.

E.C. COTTLE INC.

MARTHA'S VINEYARD
BUILDING MATERIALS

LOCAL TEAM.
REAL PRODUCTS.
STRONG
COMMUNITIES.

WE'RE HIRING!
ALL POSITIONS!

FRONT DESK

HARDWARE ASSISTANT

YARD HAND

CDL & DELIVERY DRIVERS
Potential trips off island
2 days a week.

\$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

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES



1890 WHITE OAK DINING/BEDROOM HUTCH

In mint condition. Appraised at \$1,200. Selling for \$400. Contact The Look Inn (707)972-6901.



WANTED ANTIQUES, GOLD JEWELRY, STERLING, APPRAISALS

Highest prices paid for fine antiques, gold jewelry, sterling silver. Call for safe appointment, 28 years serving MV. Ed Tessier. Call (508)939-0556. Americana-auction.com

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.

AUTO - SALES AND ACCESSORIES

TRUCK CAP FOR CHEVROLET/GMC

- 6.5 body
- Fiberglass
- Missing front window
- \$300.00 or best offer

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.

MOTORCYCLES, MOPEDS, AND BICYCLES



BICYCLE FOR SALE

2024 Boomerang Platinum PEDAGO. In mint condition, low mileage, long range with lock, saddle bags and charger. Original: \$3600. Used: \$1600. (707)972-6902.

YARD SALES



VINEYARD HAVEN ESTATE SALE 10/24 10AM - 2PM 94 WEAVER LANE

Last chance sale. All items 50% off or better. Books BOGO. Housewares, art, furniture, nautical items, something for everyone. Cash, checks and Venmo accepted. Check our socials for photos (@deadseriousstatesalesmv). No early birds please. Email: deadseriousstatesales@gmail.com with any questions.



ESTATE SALE Saturday & Sunday | 10/31 & 11/01 10am - 2pm

Antiques, vintage, collectibles, local artwork, art, furniture, household and kitchen items, handmade lamps and sporting goods. Something for everyone. No early birds and please park respectfully. 24 Myober Lane, Edgartown. (850)293-4345.

YARD SALES

EDGARTOWN ESTATE SALE

Beautiful home with fine furnishings. Oriental rugs with lots of artwork included, J. Delbo, collection of old tin signs, art, pottery, substantial amount of saltwater fishing gear, garage and cellar items, outdoor teak furniture, iron planters and more.

Friday and Saturday, October 23 and 24 from 9 am - 4 pm. 205 Meetinghouse Way, Edgartown, MA.

BOAT SALES AND ACCESSORIES



TWENTY-FOOT BAYLINER TROPHY WITH TRAILER

- 1999 Model 2002 FP
- 2014 Suzuki 140HP low hrs
- SS handrails added
- Birmini top
- Loran fish finder with Navigation
- Two new batteries
- 82 gal fuel tank
- \$9,000

Contact Bill: (508)733-4830.

2020 LOAD RITE 20" BOAT TRAILER On Island. Very lightly used. \$3,500. (610) 304-6149.

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.

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.

CHILMARK LEGAL NOTICES

CHILMARK

Seeking sealed bids for the disposal of a surplus 1998 John Deere 4100 lawn tractor with hydrostatic transmission, bucket loader, auger, brush mower, and weight box. Serial number *W00410X008429*. Questions to jobs@chilmarkma.gov. Sealed bids are due on **November 9th 2026 at 12 Noon** in the office of the Select Board, 401 Middle Road, PO Box 119, Chilmark, MA 02535. oct23,1t

CHILMARK CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Will hold a ZOOM Public Hearing on Thursday, **November 5, 2026 at 9:02 AM**, under the MA Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L.c.131, Section 40 and the Chilmark Wetlands Protection By-law, on an application filed by Vineyard Land Surveying& Engineering on behalf of 25 South Abels Hill Road. The applicant is proposing to construct a seasonal elevated walkway and walking bridge over saltmarsh and the Chilmark Great Pond at 25 South Abels Hill Road (AP 24-225). Plan requests and questions via email to chilmarkconservation@gmail.com. Zoom meeting access will be posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting at: <https://www.chilmarkma.gov/conservation-commission>. oct23,1t

EDGARTOWN LEGAL NOTICES

EDGARTOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On **Wednesday, November 4, 2026 at 4:15pm** the Edgartown Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a remote public hearing via ZOOM on the request by **Dani Monroe** for a special permit under section 2.1.B.11 of the zoning bylaw to **host an amplified multi-day event with approximately 275 attendees, ending by 7:30pm.** The property is a conforming 13.3-acre lot at **20 Old Farms Trail** (Assr. Pcl. 27-13.3) in the RA-120 Residential District. Written comments should be received no later than noon on November 3, 2026. For information on how to use Zoom or to view the plans please contact: zba@edgartown-ma.us or check the town's website.

EDGARTOWN LEGAL NOTICES

To Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84597216491>

Or Join by Phone: 646 558 8656
Meeting ID: 845 9721 6491
oct16,23,2t

EDGARTOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On **Wednesday, November 4, 2026 at 4:00pm** the Edgartown Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a remote public hearing via ZOOM on the request by **Michael Raider** for a special permit under section 10.1.G of the zoning bylaw to **construct a 34x20' pool and open air cabana with enclosed soundproof pool equipment, all structures conforming to setbacks.** The property is a nonconforming .21-acre lot at **8 High St** (Assr. Pcl. 29B-21) in the R-5 Residential District. Written comments should be received no later than noon on November 3, 2026. For information on how to use Zoom or to view the plans please contact: zba@edgartown-ma.us or check the town's website.

To Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84597216491>

Or Join by Phone: 646 558 8656
Meeting ID: 845 9721 6491
oct16,23,2t

EDGARTOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On **Wednesday, November 4, 2026 at 4:45pm** the Edgartown Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a remote public hearing via ZOOM on the request by **Richard Murray** for an appeal under Massachusetts General Law Chap. 40A, Section 8 to **appeal the decision of the Zoning Enforcement Officer.** The properties in relation to the appeal are located from the **Dyke Bridge North to Cape Pogue and Cape Pogue Wildlife Refuge at 10, 20, 23, 30, 35, 36, 43 Lighthouse Rd** (Assr. Pcl. 32-2, 17-1, 3-14, 3-13.2, 3-13.17/18, 16-1, 3-12) in the R-120 Residential District. Written comments should be received no later than noon on November 3, 2026. For information on how to use Zoom or to view the plans please contact: zba@edgartown-ma.us or check the town's website.

To Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84597216491>

Or Join by Phone: 646 558 8656
Meeting ID: 845 9721 6491
oct16,23,2t

EDGARTOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On **Wednesday, November 4, 2026 at 4:30pm** the Edgartown Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a remote public hearing via ZOOM on the request by **Laura D. Cecere** for a special permit under section 10.1.G of the zoning bylaw to **construct a 16x19' in-ground swimming pool and to convert the existing shed into a soundproof pool equipment shed.** The property is a pre-existing nonconforming .18-acre lot at **26 Morse St** (Assr. Pcl. 20D-247) in the R-5 Residential District. Written comments should be received no later than noon on November 3, 2026. For information on how to use Zoom or to view the plans please contact: zba@edgartown-ma.us or check the town's website.

To Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84597216491>

Or Join by Phone: 646 558 8656
Meeting ID: 845 9721 6491
oct16,23,2t

OAK BLUFFS LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS PUBLIC HEARING

The Oak Bluffs Select Board will hold a Public Hearing on **November 10, at 5:30 pm** pursuant to MGL CH 130 Section 60 to consider the request of Cottage City Oysters, LLC (Dan Martino) 16 Webaqua Road, Oak Bluffs for the renewal for a five-year extension of two-acre aquaculture site # 2 in the V10 region off Oak Bluffs Eastville Beach. (Expiring December 31, 2026).

This application is on file in the Select Board Office for review Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
oct23,1t

TISBURY LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF TISBURY Office of BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Case 2589

The Tisbury Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a hybrid public hearing on Thursday, November 12th, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. at the Tisbury Town Hall Annex, 66 Highpoint Lane. Members of the public may attend in person or participate remotely. The purpose of the hearing is to consider an application submitted by Chris Wike on behalf of Dennis Dimitre for a special permit to construct an addition to an existing residential structure in the Coastal District. The property is located at 232 Lagoon Pond Road (Assessor's Parcel 11A4). The application was filed under Tisbury Zoning Bylaw § 09.01.05. Copies of the application are available for public review at the Tisbury Zoning Board of Appeals Office and South Mountain Company.

Remote participation information:

Zoom Link:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85048031361>
Meeting ID: 850 4803 1361
Passcode: 783255
Phone Access: +16468769923
oct23,30,2t

TISBURY LEGAL NOTICES

TISBURY PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Tisbury Select Board will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday November 10, 2026 at 4:30 pm** at the Tisbury Emergency Services Building, 215 Spring Street. This will review and consider the request by NSTAR Electric Company D/B/A Eversource Energy to install One new JO pole 100/16-5 along Spring Street. The Public can attend in person or participate in the hearing by joining on Zoom Meeting <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87836777028>
Meeting ID: 878 3677 7028 Passcode: 550669. One tap mobile +1 (301)715 8592 US (Washington DC).

Full proposal available upon request in the Tisbury Select Board office upon request at 115 High Point Lane.
Contact jgatchell@tisburyma.gov for a copy.
oct23,30,2t

GENERAL LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Marquenio De Souza Pereira and Aline De Freitas Gomes to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for OCMBC, Inc., dated October 28, 2024, and recorded at the Dukes County Registry of Deeds in Book 01693, Page 731, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by an assignment of mortgage from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for OCMBC, Inc., to U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, not in its individual capacity, but solely as trustee on behalf of PRPM 2025-NQM1 Trust, dated June 10, 2025, and recorded at said Deeds in Book 01711, Page 909. 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 P.M. on the 19th day of November 2026, at 129 Dunham Avenue, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

To wit:

The land together with the buildings thereon situated in Tisbury, County of Dukes County, Massachusetts, being more particularly bounded and described as follows: Being known as and numbered 129 Dunham Avenue and being Lots 17 and 18, as depicted on a plan of "Aldworth Height's Vineyard Haven, Mass." surveyed in January, 1913 by H.A. Hancox, C.E., Kewbury, NH, which said plan is recorded in the Dukes County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 7, Pages 38 and 39, and to which plan reference is hereby made for a more particular description of the granted premises.

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

Terms of sale: A deposit of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by wire transfer to Demerle & Associates P.C., 10 City Square, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02129 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.
oct23,30,nov6,3t

DUKES COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY ADVERTISEMENT TO BID MGL c.149 Over \$150K

Dukes County Regional Housing Authority seeks sealed electronic bids for building and site improvements in Oak Bluffs, MA. Work includes siding, insulation, windows, kitchens, baths, flooring, a new hot water heater, fixing a structural crack, and site upgrades. Estimated cost: \$598,500. Bidders must be DCAMM-certified. Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J and to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §26 to 27H inclusive. View documents and submit bids via biddocs.com by 11/5/2026, 3:00PM EST. No hard copies accepted.
oct16,23,2t

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

GOSNOLD ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
The Gosnold Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 2, 2026 @ 10:30 AM at Gosnold Town Hall and via Zoom to act on a request for a Special Permit filed by Rob & Michelle Burns. The applicants seek to construct an addition that does not meet the required setbacks. The project is proposed for the property located at: 10 Broadway, Cuttyhunk, MA Assessors' Map 1 Lot 67-9. For project details and remote access contact: wright@townofgosnold.org
oct16,23,30,3t

(SEAL) THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT 26 SM 003307 ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:

Chelise N.W. Firmin a/k/a Chelise Nicole Winkler Firmin, as Personal Representative of the Estate of David Ingram; Chelise N.W. Firmin a/k/a Chelise Nicole Winkler Firmin

and to all persons entitled to the benefit of

WEEKLY SUDOKU AND CROSSWORD ANSWERS – October 23, 2026

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

FAT	LIP	SCHOOLS	ARAFAT
ELOISE	HAIRNET	REVOTE	
WALLPAPER	PASTE	ALERTS	
TYCOON	SWAMI	GAT	
ARF	OLA	ATHLETIC	SOCK
REBECCA	BROMIDES	LOKI	
BLITZ	KRIEGBOP	MIDST	
HES	SLOE	PAYEE	
SONIC	AIL	GARDENS	LUG
CROCHETS	PAUPERS	TINA	
ADO	SLO	HITME	OERALS
RENO	INSEAMS	VISEGRIP	
FRENCH	CUFF	BET	LUSTS
BAUER	UPON	POI	
ADRAW	INTERNAL	CLOCK	
ZEE	CHANNING	OAKTREE	
ASTEROID	BELT	MRT	BOY
LEI	IDEAL	BATEAU	
ERRING	POLITICAL	CLOUT	
AVERSE	TOOLATE	EMERGE	
SEEKER	SMOKIES	TEETH	

GENERAL LEGAL NOTICES

the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq)

Santander Bank, N.A.

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Oak Bluffs, numbered 21 Nunpaug Street, given by David Ingram to Santander Bank, N.A., dated November 22, 2017, and recorded in the Dukes County Registry of Deeds in Book 1456, Page 91 has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before November 30, 2026 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on October 13, 2026.
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson

Recorder
30099
oct23,1t

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 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 L. 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
oct9,16,23,3t

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Laurence M. Moloney to LEDLE, Inc., dated September 27, 2005, and recorded with the Dukes County Registry of Deeds in Book 1057, Page 225, and also filed with the Dukes County Registry District of the Land Court as Document Number 63654, and noted on Certificate of Title Number 11250; as affected by Assignment of Mortgage from LEDLE, Inc., to David Walch as Trustee for the Athens Street Capital Realty Trust 21 u/d/t April 6, 2023, dated May 29, 2026 and recorded at the Dukes County Registry of Deeds in Book 1741, Page 234, and also

filed with the Dukes County Registry District of the Land Court as Document Number 97428, and noted on Certificate of Title Number 15043, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction, at 3:00 P.M. on the 30th day of October 2026, at 51 Gull Landing, Oak Bluffs, MA 02557, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

To wit:

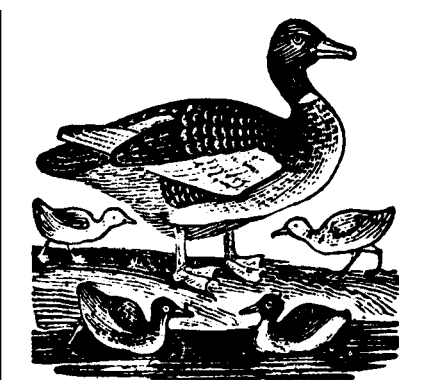
The land with the buildings thereon in Oak Bluffs, County of Dukes County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, consisting of a parcel of Registered Land and a parcel of Unregistered Land, which for the purposes of a Protective Covenant Agreement hereinafter referred, shall be considered as one parcel:

REGISTERED LAND

On the Northeast by land now or formerly of Carolyn M. Stevens, ninety and no/100 (90.00) feet;

On the Southeast by Lot No. 8 on plan hereinafter referred, ninety-four and 67/100 (94.67) feet;

On the Southwest by the Northeast sideline of



All Outdoors

Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
by SUZAN BELLINCAMPI

So many insects, so little time. Frost is coming (if it hasn't hit between the time I write and the time it's published) and with it, many insects will go. Some will be ready for the winter, having adaptations such as migration, dormancy, sheltering and even antifreeze proteins that will keep them alive until warmer times.

Others, ones that aren't prepared to overwinter, will be toast when a hard frost hits. And I worry for those, some more than others. I won't miss the mosquitoes, but am concerned for the monarch chrysalis that I observed during my outdoor shower (yep, still holding on to that pleasure) that was still green as of Tuesday, with a butterfly waiting to emerge.

Another recently observed late bloomer is an Eastern Tiger Swallowtail that I was surprised to see in the second week of October. The large yellow butterfly was high in a tree but still stood out. Sightings of these butterflies peak in July and August and decline quickly in September. October is unusual.

According to iNaturalist, there were only 15 documented observations in October. Of those, two were on the Cape and none were reported on the Island.

The one I saw was likely on its last legs (or last wings). Late-season Eastern Tiger Swallowtails are often tailless due to wear and predators nipping at them. They also tend to be faded. Both were characteristics of the one I observed, yet the yellow and black striping were unmistakable.

While this specimen made its identity crystal clear, that pigment and pattern are not always typical. This tiger can change its stripes. The coloring of these butterflies is variable and depends on sex and location.

Males are yellow with those black tiger stripes, while females can have that yellow pattern or be black. The female's dimorphism exists as an adaptation for protection. This butterfly is not toxic, but the black form resembles pipevine swallowtails, which are toxic. One is more likely to see the black version further south, where pipevine swallowtails are more plentiful.

And another interesting color quirk can occur because Eastern Swallowtails are gynandromorphic. Gynandromorphism is when one individual has both male and female characteristics observable — in this case, the coloring of both genders being exhibited by a single individual.

Another question that crossed my mind was whether this late-stayer might be a Canadian Swallowtail subspecies that was recently distinguished from the Eastern version. Unfortunately, they are difficult to differentiate; perhaps only those with the eye of the tiger might be able to spot the variations.

While I might be the last person to see and photograph this particular Swallowtail, which as adults live only about two weeks, an early rendering of this species was credited to colonial settler John White. In the 1580s, White and others tried to establish the Roanoke Island Colony in what is now North Carolina. The outpost didn't make it, becoming known as the Lost Colony.

However, it was during one of White's visits that he created watercolor paintings of the place, its Indigenous inhabitants, and some of the beautiful creatures he observed. The Eastern Tiger Swallowtail was one of those paintings, and it is recognized as the first image of a North American butterfly.

White's painting and my photograph captured the iconic butterfly in its species' unchanging beauty. There are variations, however, visible in individual specimens; and now there may be also deviations in its range, habitat, and time of year for flourishing. Let us hope our Vineyard population of Eastern Tiger Swallowtails continues to be more successful than White's Lost Colony.

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.



Ready to take flight.

Suzan Bellincampi

Bird News

Seasonal Returns

By ROBERT CULBERT

This week six species returned from their northern nesting grounds. Shea Fee, Nancy Weaver and Luanne Johnson observed five American pipits near the Gay Head Cliffs on Oct. 11, and the next day I found three pipits at Thimble Farm.

I also spotted four eastern meadowlarks where the trail from Thimble Farm to the Greenlands crosses the former Chicama Vineyards field.

Waterbirds are also returning. Susan Rogers and Chip Blake spotted one red-throated loon and six red-breasted mergansers from Moshup Beach on Oct. 17. They also found six northern pintails on Black Point Pond on Oct. 15. Susan Whiting and Bob Shriber also saw the pintails later that day. Nancy Weaver reports 12 American wigeon at the pumping station Oct. 13, and the next day Lisa Maxfield counted only two.

Wilson's phalaropes are an abundant western species but a rare transient here, typically observed between mid-July and September but not seen every year. I carefully identified one at Little Beach on Oct. 14, with its gray and white non-breeding plumage and the thinnest bill of any shorebird.

Here are two unusual sightings of common species. Susan and Jason Balaban report seeing a completely white, black-capped chickadee along South Road in Chilmark on Oct. 12. And John Nelson watched on Oct. 17 as an estimated 1,000 double-crested cormorants departed from Sengekontacket Pond and flew southeast, likely migrating past Chappaquiddick as they rode the strong northwesterly winds.

Margaret Curtin and Nancy Weaver found 300 cormorants in Sengekontacket Pond on Oct. 12, before the mass departure.

After the departures at Little Beach Janet Woodcock noted 200 cormorants on Oct. 15 and Kayla Smith counted 215 of them there the next day, while the largest concentration of cormorants up-Island was reported by Luanne Johnson and Shea Fee, who found 82 at the Gay Head Cliffs on Oct. 11. Pete Gilmore observed 60 from the Gay Head cliffs on Oct. 13.

The first brant (smaller than a Canada goose) was observed by Bob Shriber in Aquinnah on Sept. 30, but they are more reliably found in Ocean Park, where their presence is eagerly anticipated. Margaret Curtin and Nancy Weaver were the first to find them in Ocean Park this fall (a flock of 10 on Oct. 12) and Anne Whiting and I counted 13 brant (along with 165 Canada geese) in Ocean Park on Oct. 13. More will be coming soon.

Flocks of fish crows are another ea-



Lanny McDowell

Snowy egret.

gerly anticipated arriving winter resident, although scattered pairs nest here. I observed three fish crows at Slough Cove on Oct. 11, and Steve Moore spotted two at Ocean Park on Oct. 15. Cynthia Bloomquist observed the first large flock of 84 at Tisbury Marketplace on Oct. 15, while I had 15 of them at Five Corners on Oct. 17. More are on their way.

Susan Rogers and Chip Blake reported a late barn swallow at Black Point Pond on Oct. 15, quite likely the last of the season. Tree swallows are more numerous: I had five at Katama Farm on Oct. 11, Tim Johnson photographed a flock of more than 50 at Katama on Oct. 13, and on Oct. 15 the quartet of Thaw Malin, Richard Gold- enwire, Nancy Weaver and Gretchen L. observed one peregrine at the Gay Head Cliffs on Oct. 15. Bob Shriber and Susan Whiting found one at Tisbury Great Pond on Oct. 15. Susan Rogers reported one at Moshup Beach on Oct. 15. Kayla Smith, Chip Blake and Susan Rogers saw one at the Gay Head Cliffs on Oct. 16, and Susan Rogers and Chip Blake watched one at Moshup Beach on Oct. 17.

American oystercatchers are still here but much reduced from their nesting season. They have been found at Lucy Vincent Beach (Chris Schmandt, one, Oct. 12); Aquinnah (Bob Shriber and Pete Gilmore, two, Oct. 13); Norton Point (Janet Woodcock, two, Oct. 15); Little Beach (me, 28, Oct. 14; Janet Woodcock, 11, Oct. 15; Kayla Smith, 22, 11, Oct. 16; and Joan Massey and Nancy Weaver, 22, Oct. 16).

Other shorebird sightings include Chris Schmandt finding one piping plover, east of Lucy Vincent on Oct. 12, and Bob Shriber seeing three white-rumped sandpipers at Tisbury Great Pond Beach on Oct. 12. I saw one golden plover and one spotted sandpiper at Little beach on Oct. 14, and Kayla Smith observed 18 killdeer at Katama Farm on Oct. 17.

Black-bellied plovers, semipalmated plovers, ruddy turnstones, sanderlings, greater yellowlegs, lesser yellowlegs and dunlin were also reported.

Snowy egrets are still lingering. Kristin Wild reports one at Farm Pond on Oct. 11, Bob Shriber spotted three in Aquinnah on Oct. 13, and both Laura Lennihan and Kayla Smith observed one at John Butler's Mudhole on Oct. 14.

The Vineyard Gardener



Frosty

By LYNNE IRONS

Some of the up-Island fields were covered in frost Monday morning. I had some spotty areas that were hit with a not-yet-killing freeze.

Part of me is glad. I would like to get the dahlias lifted and put away for winter. On the other hand, it is sad to say goodbye to the tender annuals and vegetables.

The vines for the sweet potatoes took a hit. Luckily, the underground crop was still good. They were smaller this year than in the past. I have no one to blame but myself. I did not get them planted in a timely fashion. I love growing them. They store well for months and can get a quick scrub and bake when the day's tasks take up much of supper preparation time.

On the job sites, it's time to begin the cutbacks and general clean-up. I love how fall work, as opposed to the spring chores, does not have the same sense of urgency.

Because of our proximity to the still warm ocean, we have a long fall of outdoor activities. Some of the gardens still look so nice, I don't have the heart to cut everything, even though there is no one on the property until next late spring.

Perhaps the birds and bees are still enjoying the blooms and seeds.

Speaking of bees, I have a large ornamental pot that has some revealed tiny blue wild asters. Every morning, the flowers are covered with still-sleeping



Ray Ewing

A bounty of potatoes.

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Mortgage Reference: Dukes Cty. Registry of Deeds in Bk 1057, Pg 225. And also filed with the Land Court District as Document No. 63654, and noted on Certificate of Title No. 11250, as assigned of record.

TERMS: \$35,000 Deposit to register on-site day of auction; additional deposit of \$15,000 due within 7 days & balance due in 30 days. **Ligris & Associates, P.C., 1188 Centre Street, Newton Center, MA, Attorney for Mortgagee.**

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