I am the stone step, the latch, and the working hinge. I am the heart contracted by joy, the longest hair, white before the rest.

- Jane Kenyon



VINEYARD GAZETTE





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

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

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Island Welcomes New Woman Catholic Priest

By LOUISA HUFSTADER

Two Sundays a month at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Vineyard Haven, Rev. Mary Michael Leahy takes the pulpit to offer a Roman Catholic mass, complete with home-baked communion bread.

The rite is familiar, with just two exceptions: God is not male, and neither is the priest.

Reverend Leahy, who goes by Rev. Mary Michael, is part of an international movement for ordained Roman Catholic women priests that has been gaining momentum since the early 2000s despite steadfast opposition and excommunications from church leadership in Rome.

"We're now over 300 in the world in a matter of 24, 25 years, which is a great accomplishment," she told the Gazette this week.

Reverend Leahy began her ministry on the Vineyard in September and named it Mary Magdalene Community, honoring the Roman Catholic saint and historical figure known in the Bible as Christ's foremost woman follower.

"Sometimes I get a lot of people at my services, sometimes I don't get any at all, and that's okay," said Reverend Leahy, who was raised in a large Irish-American, Roman Catholic family in Marshfield and attended the Jesuit university Boston College for her bachelor's and master's of divinity degrees.

Her call to priesthood came long before she discovered there was a pathway to women's ordination, she said. Even as an undergraduate, she had a deep interest in spirituality and theology.

"I always wanted to be a priest, [but] I didn't know how that was going to happen," Reverend Leahy said.

After graduating from BC, she joined the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, becoming a

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Tim Johnson

Waves lap against the rocks at Lucy Vincent.

Wind Farms Hit Milestones

Two of the Nation's Largest Offshore Wind Energy Projects Are Now Fully Operational off the Vineyard

By ETHAN GENTER

There were hours of hearings, years of permitting, bluster in Washington, embarrassing mechanical failures and lawsuits galore. But after more than a decade of planning and construction, the nation's first two large-scale offshore wind energy farms have reached full commercial operation off the Vineyard's coast.

"We are going to shift from being a net energy importer to being able to power our communities regionally, and doing it largely with renewable energy."

Vineyard Wind and Revolution Wind announced last week that all 127 of their combined turbines are now operational, bringing the promise of enough electricity to supply hundreds of thousands of homes in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

For supporters, the milestone demonstrates that, despite opposition from the Trump administration, offshore projects remain viable and can play a significant role in bringing more renewable energy sources to New England.

"In the last several years, we have had a lot of worrisome backsliding when it comes to the climate crisis," said state Sen. Julian Cyr, one of the Island's representatives on Beacon Hill and a vocal supporter of offshore wind energy. "These projects show what's

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Vacation Rental Rules Headline Town Meeting

By EMMA KILBRIDE

Voters in Oak Bluffs could put new regulations on short-term rentals at a special town meeting next month.

The proposed bylaw, one of 12 articles at the Dec. 1 special town meeting at the high school performing arts center, seeks to codify the lucrative rental industry hosted on platforms such as Airbnb and Vrbo in the zoning regulations while also imposing restrictions on owners who rent their properties.

The bylaw says Oak Bluffs will maintain a public registry of all licensed short-term rentals in town and report annually on registration numbers and tax revenue collected. Other provisions include a maximum overnight occupancy, a ban on renting multiple rooms in a house on a short-term basis unless the owner is present, and a way for the town to address health and safety violations at rentals.

Additionally, the bylaw defines "owner" in a way designed to block corporations from buying up properties to rent them and limits rental occupancy to two people per bedroom, plus two additional people.

The draft bylaw is the result of many months of work by a short-term rental subcommittee assembled by the select board. A version of the bylaw was supposed to go before voters at town meeting in April before officials pulled it from the warrant at the last minute, stating

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Ocean View Hotel Plans Face Historic Hurdle

By EMMA KILBRIDE

A controversial plan for a new hotel in Oak Bluffs faces an uncertain future after a town historic committee refused to give it its blessing last month.

On Oct. 13, the Copeland plan review committee voted 3-1 that the proposed Ocean View Hotel was not appropriate for the district. The three-story, 26-room, Victorian-style hotel, backed by Boston-based developer Charles Hajjar, is designed to pay homage to the original Ocean View that burned down in 1965.

The decision comes amid a years-long approval process and after months of Copeland committee meetings, where neighbors of the site largely expressed opposition to the project.

In a statement to the Gazette, Mr. Hajjar said he was "disappointed" by the committee's decision that deemed his hotel inappropriate for the area.

"We believe the hotel fits the district, we are reviewing our options, and we remain committed to bringing a historic hotel back to this site," he wrote.

After the Ocean View Restaurant, owned by Mr. Hajjar and his father Charles (Chuck) Hajjar on the same lot, burned down in March 2022, several plans for a new structure were floated before the current Victorian hotel plan went before the Martha's Vineyard Commission in 2025. The commission narrowly approved the project in January, with 57 conditions designed to minimize impact on the surrounding neighborhood.

For many abutters, the issue comes down to the sheer size of the building. Neighbors of the lot say the hotel would disrupt their quality of life by towering over their homes and blocking their views of the ocean.

"Size and bulk of the building is the elephant in the entire issue for the neighborhood," abutter John Kotsopoulos said at the Oct. 13 meeting. "The patios, the balconies, the fences, these are only distractions to the big issue, which is the size and bulk of this building."

Cass Luskin, attorney for Mr. Hajjar, said the plan was adapted to incorporate neighbors' feedback, including dropping a public restaurant, trying to minimize light pollution and changing the posi-

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Rendering Courtesy MVC

Copeland committee felt project was too large.



Rendering Courtesy Icon Architecture

Rendering shows addition flanking the existing town hall and Katharine Cornell Theatre.

Tisbury Eyes New Town Hall Options

By LOUISA HUFSTADER

Tisbury officials got their first look Tuesday at a new potential solution to the chronic lack of adequate space for town offices, which now are scattered among multiple buildings in different neighborhoods.

Voters in 2024 approved $600,000 to study the feasibility of a consolidated town hall, which proved too costly at an estimated $36.7 million.

But Rick Homans, a member of the town's finance and advisory committee who is working with the study's architects, said that even if all plans for a new town building were dropped, Tisbury would still need to spend millions on urgently-needed work at its existing offices.

"We call [that] the 'do-nothing' option, which was ... keep what we have, but make sure we keep it operational," Mr. Homans said at Tuesday's select board meeting.

Icon Architecture, which has been conducting the feasibility study, estimated a total cost of at least $4.5 million for the minimal option, including deferred maintenance at the historic town hall on Spring street and the removal and replacement of two deteriorating modular buildings at the annex on High Point Lane.

On Tuesday, the architects returned to the select board with a scaled-back, two-part proposal, which they said would cost significantly less than a consolidated town hall while achieving more than the do-nothing alternative.

"We went back to the drawing board and came up with the lowest-cost option, which introduces a town hall annex at the West William site along with a renovated town hall," architect Mark McKevitz said.

Intended to meet Tisbury's office space needs for 50 years into the future, the project would begin with an all-new municipal building at the town's one-acre property on West William street, across from Tisbury School.

The 6,700-square-foot, single-story building would be the permanent home of the town's building, planning, clerk's and information technology departments, along with the conservation commission, the zoning board of appeals and the board of health.

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Housing Lot Ballot Question Rejected

By ETHAN GENTER

A ballot question that would have made it easier to build homes on traditionally undersized lots split voters on the Vineyard and ultimately failed by the slimmest of margins at last week's midterm election.

Question 7, put forward by Lowell-based organization Legalize Starter Homes, would have allowed single-family homes to be built in residentially zoned areas as long as the land was at least 5,000 square feet, had 50 feet of land bordering a road, and had access to public sewer and water.

While some Vineyarders and Island officials believed the measure could help ease the Island's housing crisis, others worried that it could have created more second homes and would smash decades of permitting precedent.

The Associated Press called the contest last Friday, with more than 95 per cent of the votes tallied. About 1.28 million people voted against the question and 1.2 million voted in favor.

Question 7 was the lone ballot initiative where the six Island towns weren't in agreement. Aquinnah, Tisbury, and Oak Bluffs voted in favor; Chilmark, West Tisbury and Edgartown voted against.

According to unofficial tallies from town clerks, overall the Vineyard was in favor by a 4,832 to 4,318 vote.

The initiative had drawn support from Gov. Maura Healey, housing advocates and the Vineyard's state senator Julian Cyr for its ability to help bring more housing options to Massachusetts.

In an interview with the Gazette in the lead up to the election, Yes on 7 campaign chair Andrew Mikula said that he saw the question as a way to help middle earners find their way into the housing market.

"The goal is to create homes that are smaller, lower cost, lower maintenance," he said. "This should be the baseline allowance everywhere in Massachusetts that has the infrastructure."

Municipalities would have been able to put restrictions on height, setbacks, parking and whether the properties could be rented out on a short-term basis.

Here on the Vineyard, the question would have only affected the down Island towns, as Aquinnah, Chilmark and West Tisbury don't have municipal water or sewer.

Officials in Edgartown, Oak Bluffs and Tisbury didn't have exact numbers on how many parcels this would have opened up, but it would have been a big change.

"There are a slew of small lots, postage stamp lots, in Oak Bluffs, Vineyard Haven and Edgartown," Oak Bluffs building commissioner Adam Petkus told the Gazette in September.

The proposal drew criticism from organizations such as the Massachusetts Municipal Association. The nonprofit, which provides advocacy and training for communities, felt the proposed regulation changes would have taken away from local planning by setting a limit regardless of existing neighborhoods and other conditions.

"Local officials are directly responsible to taxpayers, and this would remove significant oversight on behalf of their residents," association executive director Adam Chapdelaine wrote in a rebuttal to the ballot question. While the law did allow towns to prohibit the new homes from being used as short-term rentals, there were no provisions written in the law that would ensure they would be affordable or limited to year-round use — the two biggest deficiencies in the Vineyard housing market.

With Vineyard home sales continuing to climb into a more expensive stratosphere, that was a big worry for some here. Ahead of the election, Edgartown planning board member Julia Livingston worried the proposed change would have encouraged more market-rate single family homes.

"The market is for homes that most people on the Island can't afford," she said.

Island housing officials were working with the region's legislative leaders on potential amendments that could have tailored the regulation to the Vineyard's needs.

The most robust support for the ballot question came from the Greater Boston Area. Boston, Somerville, Cambridge and many other surrounding municipalities voted in favor.

Around the Vineyard, though, there was much less support. Along with Chilmark, West Tisbury and Edgartown, Nantucket, nearly all of the Cape and much of the South Coast voted against question 7.

In a letter opposing the question, Ben Robinson, a Tisbury resident and member of the town's planning board, noted that the towns could themselves decide to implement these looser lot restrictions.

For him, one of the major issues in the question was enforcing a single standard across the entire state.

"Any town meeting can reduce its minimum lot size tomorrow, and the state even pays towns that adopt starter-home districts," he wrote. "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."



Ray Ewing

Tribal council chair Kevin Devine drapes a blanket over Chief Belain.

Aquinnah Police Chief Randhi Belain Retires

By CHARLES LEITNER

After 34 years with the Aquinnah police department, chief Randhi Belain retired last Friday in a tearful ceremony at town hall.

Mr. Belain struggled to summarize his tenure as the town's top law enforcement official to the more than 30 people in attendance.

"It's been a heck of a ride," Mr. Belain, while standing at a podium. "I've been thinking about this. How do you sum up 30 years in a few minutes or try to say something?"

Present at the ceremony were friends and family of Mr. Belain as well as members of Martha's Vineyard's police and fire departments.

"Randhi is a staple," said West Tisbury Chief of Police Bradley Cortez. "We love him."

Ryan Ruley, the new Aquinnah police chief, spoke briefly about filling a role that was occupied by someone so rooted in the community.

"Today's about Randhi, who is retiring after years of serving the Aquinnah community," said Chief Ruley.

As per tradition when a police chief retires from their role, Mr. Belain made one final call over the radio to dispatch.

"Thank you control and to all the first responders, brothers and sisters out there," Mr. Belain said over the radio. "Stay safe. Get home to your families. Stay educated and be kind to one another. Look out for one another."

There was resounding applause as the now former Aquinnah chief of police signed off.

"We thank you for over 30 years of service," said the officer on the other end of the radio. "You have devoted your time and energy to serving others. We wish you well in the next chapter."

After Mr. Belain turned off his radio, he walked from the podium towards members of his family, who were seated at the front of a row of chairs, and embraced them. They spoke to one another in private as tears formed in their eyes.

"It's hard when you do something for a long time and you care about people and then it just ends," said Kevin Devine, chair of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), who served in the U.S. Army for more than 20 years.

During the ceremony, Mr. Devine presented Mr. Belain, who is also a member of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), with a blanket that is often given to tribal elders.

"I want to thank you for all that you've done, you know, for the last 100 years." Mr. Devine joked. "Now come work for the tribe."

Mr. Devine presented the gift to Mr. Belain early for his dedication to community service.

"You'll get another one of these as an elder," said Mr. Devine. "But, I think this one means more for the service that you've done for us and this community. We appreciate you and love you."

Boys & Girls Club Welcomes New Director

By LILY ECHEVERRIA

A former theatre leader with Island ties is starting a new act as the executive director of the Martha's Vineyard Boys & Girls Club.

Brittany Giles-Jones took over as the head of the nonprofit following the retirement of Barbara-jean Chauvin in August. Ms. Giles-Jones moved to the Vineyard from North Carolina, where she was the managing director of the North Carolina Black Repertory Company. Prior to that, she was the director of the drama division at Juilliard School in New York, and also has experience in emergency management.

In an interview this week, Ms. Giles-Jones said she wanted to bring her wide-ranging experience to the Island and was excited for the chance to work with the Vineyard's children.

"The kids are fantastic," she said. "Every day, they remind us why we're here and why we support Island families."

Ms. Giles-Jones is a part of an Island family herself, as her aunt and uncle live on the Vineyard. Originally from Connecticut, she visited here often as a child.

"I grew up coming to the Island," she said. "So it was just like coming home for me. This is my happy place."

One of the major projects on Ms. Giles-Jones horizon is the Boys & Girls Club's new facility, which is expected to open in early 2027. Ms. Giles-Jones said the new $17 million building is just "three cartwheels away" from the current facility off Robinson Road in Edgartown.

"It's a really unique and special thing that we have such great funders on the Island and so many amazing, committed donors," she said. "I hope they really see the impact that is being done when we show them the building when it finally opens up."

The Boys & Girls Club serves 350 families, including 190 children through its afterschool programming. Additional programs include basketball, soccer, flag football and STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics).

One of the new initiatives Ms. Giles-Jones is overseeing is the expansion of the club's food programs. The nonprofit currently offers a grab-and-go pantry, after-school snacks and packaged meals for families.

"We're doing a really robust program, and we're seeing how great it's been for our community," she said. "[We are] looking at ways we can provide more support through the pantry. We generally close [the pantry] in the summertime, but we have heard that there's a need for our families, so we are looking to continue that."

The club previously partnered with outside providers to prepare and deliver meals. Now, Ms. Giles-Jones has helped bring meal preparation in-house.



Ray Ewing

Brittany Giles-Jones started in August.

"We used to contract out, and so all of the meals were prepared offsite, and then they were delivered," she explained. "Now, we have a curated menu based on the likes of our kids. Paul Donnelly, who has a background in food service, mass serving and catering, does it all by hand."

Mr. Donnelly is able to put together 150 prepared meals per week for club families, Ms. Giles-Jones said.

"Our goal is usually around 120, but he always goes above and beyond," she said.

Ms. Giles-Jones is also interested in expanding programs for teens.

"We're looking to constantly be able to serve as many as possible," she said.

"With the new building, we have some really cool things coming in... we're hoping to really re-up our teen department."

Next year is the club's 90th anniversary, and the organization plans to celebrate with a gala.

For now, the focus is mainly on the new building, which kids and adults alike have found themselves eagerly waiting for.

"I just can't even imagine what it's going to do for our kids," Ms. Giles-Jones said. "Sometimes, we'll be going over the ground plans and the kids will see it and get so excited. They love to get involved, and map out where things are going to be."

Land Bank Revenues

The Martha's Vineyard Land Bank reported revenues of $452,330 for the business week ending on Friday, Nov. 6, 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 Tisbury, where four transactions resulted in $205,490. Three transactions in Edgartown earned $144,440, one in Chilmark netted $57,000, one in Oak Bluffs garnered $20,500 and one in West Tisbury added $24,900.

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

Edgartown Select Board Adopts Residential Tax Exemption

By CHARLES LEITNER

The Edgartown select board this week approved a residential tax exemption that will shift some of the property tax burden from year-round residents to seasonal homeowners.

The board voted unanimously Monday in favor of enacting a 5 per cent residential tax rate exemption after holding hearings earlier this year. This is the first time that Edgartown has enacted the residential exemption, which has been employed by several other municipalities on the Island.

The decision was made Monday with the recommendation of the town's board of assessors.

"We had two public hearings," said Julia Tarka, a select board member. "I think it was overwhelmingly positive for folks at the time to adopt it."

Enacted in 1979, the residential tax exemption is a local option available to Massachusetts municipalities that shifts a chunk of the tax burden from certain year-round homeowners to non-primary dwellings, such as vacation homes.

In Massachusetts, towns have been allowed to implement exemptions up to 35 per cent, but under the Affordable Homes Act, passed in 2024, the Vineyard towns and other seasonal communities can go up to 50 per cent.

Edgartown's home stock largely skews toward seasonal use. According to a presentation given by the board of assessors earlier this year, there are 3,317 seasonal residential parcels and 1,311 year-round properties.

During the prior public hearings on the exemption this summer, officials gave rough outlines on how the exemption could affect tax bills.

A $1.5 million year-round home with a 5 per cent exemption would see a tax reduction of around $277 dollars annually; a seasonal home of the same assessed value would see its bill go up by $45.

On Monday, town administrator James Hagerty emphasized that the tax exemption doesn't change the overall tax levy.

"Hypothetically, the town's tax levy is $40 million," he said during Monday's meeting. "By implementing a residential exemption, the tax levy doesn't go up to $41 or $42 or $43 million. It stays at $40 million. Just the distribution of who's paying that $40 million changes."

To qualify, a taxpayer must own and occupy the property as their primary domicile. Residents will need to apply for the exemption with the board of assessors, which has already started prequalifying people.

"It's a pretty arduous process... You have to submit your driver's license, and there's a good amount of due diligence and a lot of work that goes into it," Mr. Hagerty said.

Of the towns that have residential exemptions, Edgartown is on the low end. West Tisbury is at a 30 per cent exemption, Oak Bluffs is at 15 per cent and Tisbury has 22 per cent.

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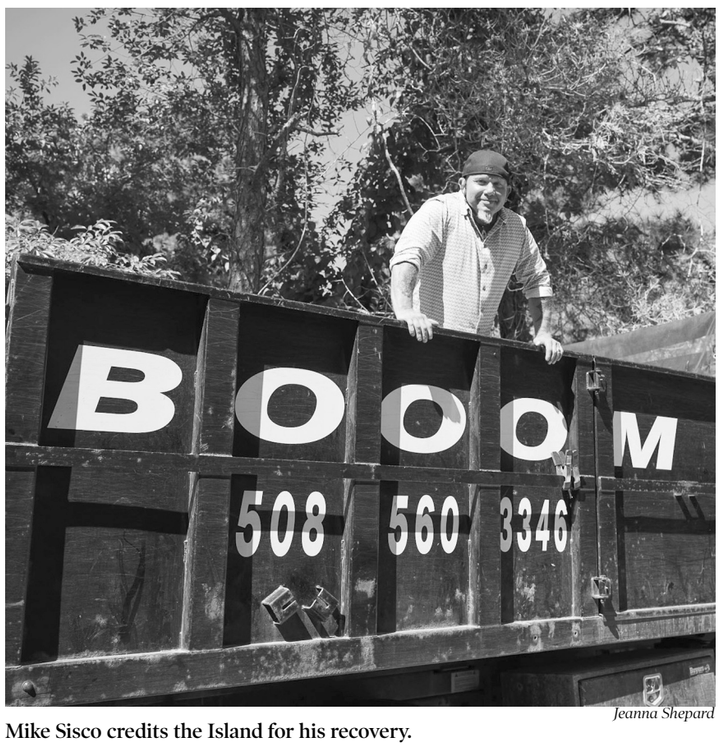
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Giving Back After Getting a Helping Hand

By CHARLES LEITNER



Jeanna Shepard

Mike Sisco credits the Island for his recovery.

Mike Sisco washed ashore on the Vineyard over 16 years ago in the midst of a life-threatening battle with drug and alcohol addiction.

"When I first came here, it was either jail or death for me," Mr. Sisco said. "There was no doubt about it."

Today, Mr. Sisco, 54, who owns Sisco Family Services and jokingly refers to himself as the Island's go-to fixer, is still an imposing figure. He's bald, has a white goatee and has two large earrings hanging from either ear. Both of his forearms are decorated with large tattoos honoring the Red Sox and the Bruins.

"I grew up very poor in a rough, rough neighborhood in Taunton," he said. "A single mother, a father that left when we were five. Some serious things happened to my family."

But over the years, since coming to the Vineyard, Mr. Sisco decided that his life would be better spent helping others who have experienced similar struggles. His Boom Sisco trucks can be seen all over the Island, taking jobs big, small and everywhere in between.

Clearing snow from the Oak Bluffs School roof? Not a problem. Relocating gym equipment? Too easy. Dropping food off at the food pantry? All in a day's work.

"We work with every single organization on Martha's Vineyard, no matter what it is," said Mr. Sisco. "We get to look like the good guys and all that stuff, and it's fun actually saving people from pretty [awful] situations."

He has 15 people working with him, many of whom are undergoing some form of recovery, including his wife whom he met and fell in love with in a recovery meeting.

"He is the most persistent man I have ever met and he will help you until you want to help yourself," said Emily Sisco, who works the business alongside her husband. "He'll give the shirt off his back to help somebody who he sees needs it."

His nephew Marcus was also an important figure in Mr. Sisco's journey to recovery.

"This kid was the good and I was the bad," said Mr. Sisco. "The only good thing in my life was him looking up to me, so I put myself in a position for the rest of my life for him to look up to me."

But the shift didn't come easy.

Recovery can be an arduous process, one that takes time and serious individual effort.

"A lot of people don't want to participate in their own recovery," said Mr. Sisco. "If you're willing to go to a meeting and get help and talk to somebody about it, you're halfway there."

When Mr. Sisco first arrived on the Vineyard in 2008, he was still drinking heavily and using drugs. He was angry and, by his own account, had been placed in protective custody by police 28 times in just six months.

It wasn't until West Tisbury police chief Bradley Cortez, then a sergeant in the department, showed up at Mr. Sisco's front door one day that things began to change for the better.

"I was the one that knocked on the door," said Chief Cortez. "But what Mike does not know is that on the side of the back deck in the shadows were three other police officers, and in the road there were other officers. We were prepared for the worst case scenario."

At the time, Mr. Sisco was living in a house with his mother. Before the police arrived, he was in the midst of a bender. His mother, seeing her son deteriorating before her eyes, decided she needed to help him find help. She went down to the police station and spoke with Mr. Cortez to begin facilitating a motion to remove Mr. Sisco from his home in an attempt to get him aid.

Chief Cortez isn't exactly sure what clicked that day in Mr. Sisco's mind, but something did.

"We all knew what he was battling, but there was a decision that he made to listen to me," said Chief Cortez. "When I pulled him back out on that deck, I think he saw the determination in my voice and my willingness to help. I don't know what clicked, but he adhered to what I had to say and he came with me willingly and did not put up any sort of resistance."

From there, Mr. Sisco was transported to Falmouth where a judge made the decision to send him to the state substance abuse center in Bridgewater.

"Let's just say that it wasn't a glorious place to be," said Mr. Sisco. "It was an epiphany time in my life, it was a God-wink moment. It was the moment that I realized I didn't want to live like this anymore."

Seared in Mr. Sisco's mind is the shame he felt as kids watched him sitting in the back of the police car during the ferry ride to the mainland, the time he spent locked in a Falmouth jail cell with an alleged murderer while awaiting his turn to stand before the judge and the terrible nature of life in Bridgewater, an incarceration site that houses Massachusetts' most violent offenders.

When Mr. Sisco was released from Bridgewater and came back to the Vineyard, he was eager to turn his life around, but he understood that it would be a hard road, one that he would have to take one step at a time.

"When you're sober, you need to keep yourself busy because we all know that idle time is the devil's playground, and I'm no different," he said. "I'm not a saint. I'm not trying to act like I am. I'm just trying to be a guy that's bettering himself every day by the work that I put into the community every single day."

When Mr. Sisco returned to the Island, he started a business, began attending substance addiction meetings and made a decision to dedicate the rest of his life to helping others.

"It doesn't matter what pain people carry, everybody is the same," said Mr. Sisco. "Just because it's not important to me, what's hurting you is important."

Mr. Sisco's business is hard to define. In short, he has created a labor force that, by his own admission, just does it all. When he first started, Mr. Sisco would stand on State Road with a ladder, a bucket of paint and a paint brush looking for work. Day in and day out Mr. Sisco and his team would hustle for every opportunity they could find.

Often, he would spend his time handing out fliers or placing signs at Five Corners hoping to generate more work for himself and his employees.

"This isn't like we did anything special," said Mr. Sisco. "We just worked hard and did what we said we were going to do, and meant it when we said we'll do anything."

As Mr. Sisco worked to rebuild his life, his wife, nephew and Chief Cortez encouraged him from the same front row seats from which they watched him nearly slip into oblivion.

"It's not easy," said Chief Cortez. "It's a long road to get to where Mike Sisco is currently in his life, with his family and the community. I am so incredibly proud of that man."

Over time, Mr. Sisco's business expanded, affording him more opportunities to give back to the community he credits with saving his life.

In addition to starting his own business, Mr. Sisco often works to raise money for various organizations across the Island.

"He's already helped out countless organizations within the town," said Chief Cortez. "Whether it's a dump removal or elderly services, the man goes above and beyond for his community. He's your example of achieving the impossible."

This past summer, Mr. Sisco worked with Jesse Steere, owner of Shirley's Hardware and Steere the Course Mini Golf and Grille, to create the first annual Jabberwocky Golf Invitational. The event brought together more than 50 local business sponsors and helped raise more than $35,000 for Camp Jabberwocky.

"Fundraising is what allows us to remain tuition-free for campers and their families," said Hilary Dreyer, executive director at Camp Jabberwocky, in a statement provided to the Gazette. "It allows us to keep our facilities safe and functional, and quite literally keep the [stage] lights on."

Inspired by the work his mother did for organizations that focus on disability services, Mr. Sisco plans to raise more funds for Camp Jabberwocky and on Feb. 5, 2027 he will host a comedy show at the Old Whaling Church in Edgartown. The show will feature performances by comedians Pete Costello, Dan Crohn and Christine Hurley.

Mr. Sisco said his journey has taught him a lot about what it means to be a man, both the good and the bad. But mostly he's proud of what he has created and that he can now give back to the Island he calls home.

"The reason why I do what I do is because I know for a fact that Martha's Vineyard saved my life," Mr. Sisco said. "So, I'm going to give everything I got to help in any way I can because I'm very, very passionate about it."



Ray Ewing

Mariana Cook's new book has photos from around the world.

Capturing the Beauty in What's Left Behind

By EMMA KILBRIDE

Photographer Mariana Cook's newest exhibition, entitled Out of Place — Out of Time, begins and ends on the Vineyard.

Encompassing 74 black-and-white photos of glacial erratics taken on the Island and all over the world from 2013 to 2024, the project is showing from November through February at Kultursiftung Basel H. Geiger, an art foundation in Basel, Switzerland.

A former apprentice to Ansel Adams, Ms. Cook has photographed subjects such as Ruth Bader Ginsberg, Maurice Sendak and Barack and Michelle Obama. Before that, Ms. Cook found her own beginning on the Vineyard, spending childhood summers on her family's Chilmark property where she now shares a barn with her husband.

Early on she was ispired by the rich Island landscape. She said the first photograph she remembers having published, a shot of Quitsa Pond, appeared in the Vineyard Gazette. She recently unearthed the clipping in one of her mother's scrapbooks.

"Among my first pictures are Vineyard pictures," she said.

Later, the Island would appear in many of her professional projects. She photographed owner-built homes on the Island while studying under photographer Walker Evans at Yale, and she was inspired to travel the world photographing stone walls after she watched a herd of cows cross a crumbling section of the wall surrounding her property in Chilmark.

Though Ms. Cook is perhaps most known for her portraiture, and though she loves people, working with human subjects does not afford the same freedom as working with inanimate features of the natural world.

It was that desire for liberation, and a suggestion from a Vineyard friend, that helped her arrive at the idea of photographing glacial erratics — rocks displaced from their points of origin by glaciers during ice ages. The force of moving ice sheets can push stones remarkably far, depositing them all over the world.

And the world looked much different, Ms. Cook pointed out, when the last ice age reigned over 11,000 years ago.

"What I love about erratics is they're sort of the opposite of stone walls, in the sense of they know no national bounds. They're free," she said. "They're pushed by a glacier, and countries didn't exist when the glacial erratics that we see on the Vineyard were dropped there by an ice sheet."

She also admires that stones enjoy a kind of immortality, despite the environmental forces that may weather and displace them.

"When there's another ice age, another glacier will come across Martha's Vineyard, and they'll pick up that stone and they'll push it someplace else, and it will survive," she said.

The first photo in the collection, Tree Shadow on Erratic, captures a large stone in her backyard in Chilmark that she's had a fondness for since she was a child. The final photo, Erratic at Sea, Ms. Cook took on a beach in Aquinnah. The erratics in between are from all over the world: California, Chile, New Zealand, the Inner Hebrides of Scotland.

In all, the project took 11 years to finish. She knew the project was complete when she went to Finland to photograph a famous erratic, a rock said to have fallen into the sea when a priest tried to throw it at a giant and missed.

"It was enormous, and it was so ugly," she said. "It didn't speak to me at all.... I consciously did not take even a snapshot with my iPhone because I never wanted to see it again."

"I just thought, you know what, that's it, enough, so I stopped," she added.

Ms. Cook's exhibition found a home at Kultursiftung Basel H. Geiger after director Raphael Suter and his wife saw Ms. Cook's work at one of her shows in Switzerland. When she pitched them her concept, they were receptive.

Seeing the project to its end and finding a home for it has been a relief.

"I'm glad it's finished," she said.

The exhibition is accompanied by a book, as well as a documentary by Evelyn Schels, whose other subjects have included Georgia O'Keefe and Marina Abramovic. The film examines Ms. Cook's artistic process and spans the Vineyard, New York and Spain.

"[Ms. Schels] felt it was important to try to reveal me as an artist, but also my process, which is traditional analog photography," she said. "I use film. I make my own prints. A lot of people don't know what that is and have never seen it."

The Vineyard continues to serve as inspiration for Ms. Cook. Her multiple ongoing projects, which include landscapes, portraits and still lifes, contain bits of Island beauty that strike her — beauty that can come from unexpected places.

"If I see a head of lettuce that really speaks to me, I'll photograph the head of lettuce that was grown on Martha's Vineyard," she said. "It's just a place where I am and where I see and feel for things."

Islander's Work Celebrated By National Academy

By LILY ECHEVERRIA

Last month, Vineyard summer resident Deborah Gray White was inducted into the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. The honor recognizes Ms. White's career as a scholar of African American and women's history.

The induction ceremony took place at Harvard a few weeks ago, and honored Ms. White and other inductees, including Barbara Kingsolver, Colson Whitehead, Jodie Foster and Rita Moreno, to name a few.

"I'm not one for a whole lot of pomp and ceremony, but quite frankly, it was lovely," Ms. White said in an interview with the Gazette last week. "It really was special to be recognized, particularly in the humanities."



Courtesy Deborah Gray White

Deborah Gray White at the induction ceremony.

Ms. White, one of 250 inductees this year, has spent her career as a professor at Rutgers University, where she specialized in African American and women's history. She is the author of several books exploring the experiences and contributions of African Americans throughout history.

Ms. White's history on Martha's Vineyard dates back to the 1980s, when she would visit the Island with friends. In 1991, at age 42, she purchased a home on the Island.

She now resides primarily in Washington D.C., but returns to the Vineyard whenever she can, often with her two daughters and six grandchildren. One of her daughters, Maya Pascual, teaches at the Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School.

"I guess you could say we're now three generations of Vineyarders," Ms. White said.

Ms. White has a deep admiration for the Vineyard, particularly its history as a haven for the African American community.

"The Vineyard has always been a haven, and I think even more so nowadays for African Americans," she said. "I think now with the Black freedom movement, and with the expansion of the Black middle class, there have been so many people who will come, if only for a couple of days. It is considered a place where we can feel safe."

In her career, Ms. White has written several books, beginning in 1985 with the publication of "Ar'n't I a Woman?: Female Slaves in the Plantation South."

Looking back, she says this is the project she is proudest of, especially because of the impact it had on how enslaved women were recognized in historical records.

"When [the book] got to the Library of Congress, and this was in 1985...they actually had to hold an editorial meeting and create a subject catalog called 'women slaves.' They now have changed it to 'enslaved women,' but [at the time] they didn't have a place for it, and that they created it as a result of the publication of that book," she said.

This marked a shift in how the experiences of enslaved women were documented. The book helped bring greater attention to a group whose lives had been overlooked in historical scholarship.

Ms. White spoke about how little depth there was within the field when she first began her academic career.

"It wasn't really a field that even professional historians took seriously. Maybe a few did, but not serious enough for it to be a major force," she said. "But actually, we have moved African American history from the margins to the center of the field of American history."

Throughout her career as a historian, Ms. White says she has witnessed a growing recognition of the importance of African American history.

"For years, it's been neglected, but there's nothing that you can say about America that doesn't somehow include the history of African Americans," she said. "I think my induction into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences reflects that."

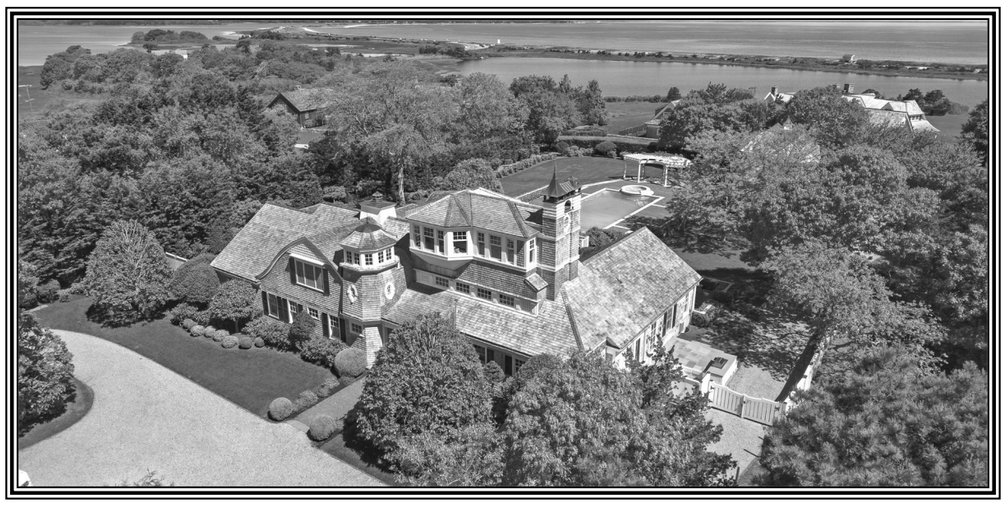
Ms. White said she also sees the honor as an acknowledgement of the continued importance of the humanities in the United States.

"I think the humanities is now coming back into focus," she said. "I know that enrollment in humanities courses at a lot of universities is up, and so I think it's important for us historians and artists to be recognized as central to American culture."

Ms. White retired in 2024, but her work is not done just yet. She recently finished writing an autobiography, a project she said began just for herself.

She hopes to spend her retirement with her children and grandchildren, exploring her genealogy and finding a publisher to share her story with a wider audience.

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14 COW BAY ROAD

Set within the prestigious Cow Bay Association, one of the island's most exclusive and sought-after enclaves, this extraordinary 1.5-acre estate embodies the pinnacle of refined coastal living. Accessed via a private road through protected land, the property includes access to over 2,000 feet of private shoreline, beach cabanas, Trapps Pond, and potential mooring. Despite its remarkable seclusion, the property remains just minutes from the charm and sophistication of downtown Edgartown. The six-bedroom main residence is a masterclass in timeless design and effortless elegance. Grand yet inviting, the home offers beautifully proportioned living and dining spaces, a thoughtfully designed chef's kitchen, and a sweeping screened porch, all oriented to capture wonderful views across the pool and out to Vineyard Sound. Every room is infused with natural light and a sense of understated luxury. The grounds are nothing short of spectacular, featuring a curated landscape of mature plantings, expansive stone terraces, and romantic pergolas draped in cascading wisteria. At the heart of the property, a stunning pool and lounge area create a private, resort-like setting, ideal for both intimate relaxation and sophisticated, large-scale entertaining. A separate carriage or guest house with full amenities offers flexible accommodations for guests or staff. This is more than a home. It is a rare and irreplaceable offering, a legacy property in one of the island's most coveted coastal settings.

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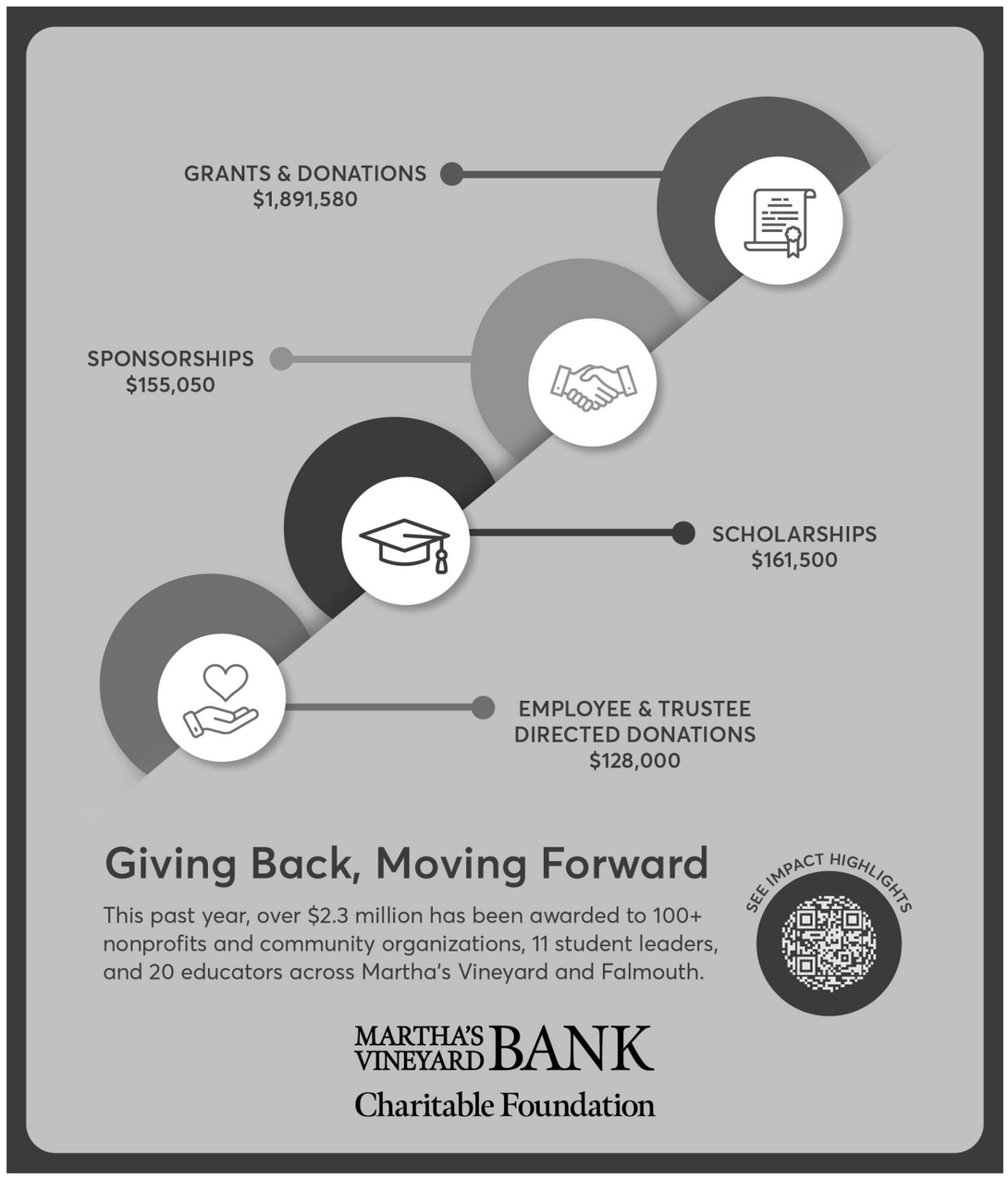
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Mon - Fri	5:45 a.m.	6:15 a.m.
Mon - Fri	7:15 a.m.	7:45 a.m.
Mon - Fri	8:45 a.m.	9:15 a.m.
Mon - Fri	10:30 a.m.	11:15 a.m.
Mon - Fri	1:30 p.m	2:00 p.m.
Mon - Fri	3:00 p.m.	3:30 p.m.
Mon - Fri	4:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.

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Clarence "Trip" Barnes III

Trip Barnes Never Followed The Traditional Path

Clarence A. "Trip" Barnes III, 83, died at home in West Tisbury on Sept. 1, 2026, having lived all nine of his lives in his own way, leaving behind a legacy of generosity, ingenuity, friendship, many trucks and a lifetime of stories that will be told on Martha's Vineyard for generations to come.

Born in New York City in 1942, Trip grew up in Manhattan, spending his summers on Chappaquiddick, his happiest place. As a teenager, he decided the Vineyard was where he belonged. Rather than follow a traditional path, he built a life entirely his own, becoming one of the Island's most recognizable and unforgettable characters.

Trip founded Clarence A. Barnes III Moving and Storage, building a business that became part of many people's lives. His distinctive trucks and vehicles were familiar sights on Vineyard roads and far beyond. A natural entrepreneur and collector of just about anything with a story, Trip believed there was little that couldn't be fixed, figured out, or put to good use. There are still converted green school buses living alternative lives out there if you keep your eye out.

For decades, Trip supported countless organizations, lending his time, resources, and unmistakable personality to causes he believed in. As a charity auctioneer, he often persuaded friends and neighbors to give a little more than they had planned, usually with a laugh, occasionally followed by a cautionary letter about his choice of language, and always leaving everyone with a memorable experience.

One of his proudest accomplishments was helping establish Vineyard House, providing housing and support for those in recovery. Sober for 38 years, Trip believed deeply in second chances and was known for offering opportunities to people when others might have turned away.

Trip served on numerous boards and organizations, including the Martha's Vineyard Commission, the Agricultural Society, the airport commission and his beloved Barnacle Club, among many others. To each, he brought his independent voice, creative problem solving,and tremendous work ethic. In 2018, he received the Creative Living Award in recognition of his contributions to Island life.

Trip was outspoken, inventive, stubborn and endlessly curious. He loved a good story, an unusual piece of machinery, a spirited debate and most of all, the people who made Martha's Vineyard home. Behind his colorful personality was a man whose generosity often happened quietly, without recognition or expectation.

Trip is survived by his partner, Joan Silva-Pretty; his sons, Clarence IV (Jamie) and Michael (Alecia); his daughter, Elizabeth (Michael); their mother, Judith Cronig; his grandsons, Henry, Ian, and Harrison; and his niece and nephew, Susan and Ernie Walker.

Many have generously asked Trip's family where donations might be made in his honor. Trip was passionate about serving his community in countless ways, from animal rescue and Island historical preservation to agriculture, recovery programs, eighth-grade fundraisers and just about everything in between.

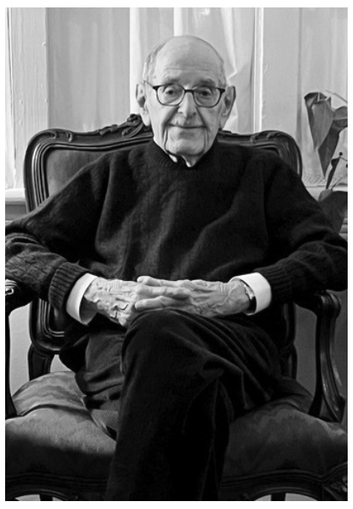
He was deeply grateful to Martha's Vineyard Hospital for the excellent care he received over the years and would happily tell anyone who would listen just how wonderful his doctors, nurses and medical support teams were. At the end of his life, he benefited from the compassionate care of Martha's Vineyard Hospice, an organization for which he had once helped raise significant funds.

The list of organizations and causes Trip supported goes on. In his honor, we hope that those who knew him will make a new effort, in some meaningful way, to help others or make something better.

Help someone, even when no one is watching. Speak out, and use your time and voice to make your part of the world better, even when it is inconvenient or difficult. Put in the extra energy and commitment it takes to build and sustain a truly wonderful Island community. And, if you can, donate to a cause that moves you, so you can help move others.

A Celebration of Life and Community Potluck, a "Final Trip," will be held on Saturday, Nov. 21, 2026, at 4 p.m. at the Agricultural Hall in West Tisbury. Family, friends, and members of the community are warmly invited to gather, share stories and celebrate a man who was truly one of a kind.

Trip spent his life moving things, but he will be best remembered for the number of people he moved along the way



James Booth

James Booth Was An Avid Traveler and History Buff

James Edward "Jamie" Booth died on Oct. 27, 2026, at the age of 97. He was preceded in death by his wife of 59 years, Joan; his son Stephen; and his siblings Herschel, William, and Nancy.

He is survived by his son Jeb (Lisa) Booth; his grandchildren Cole and Rylee Booth; his siblings Jerry and Kathryn; and many extended family and friends in Virginia, Florida, Mississippi, Massachusetts, Alabama and around the world.

Jim was a native of Opelika, Ala. and a graduate of Auburn University. He took great pride in his Alabama roots and returned to Opelika many times throughout his lifetime. At 94, he made one last trip to his childhood stomping grounds to visit his siblings, nieces and nephews, show his grandchildren where he came from, tour the Auburn football stadium field and enjoy a wonderful southern Thanksgiving with many loving family members.

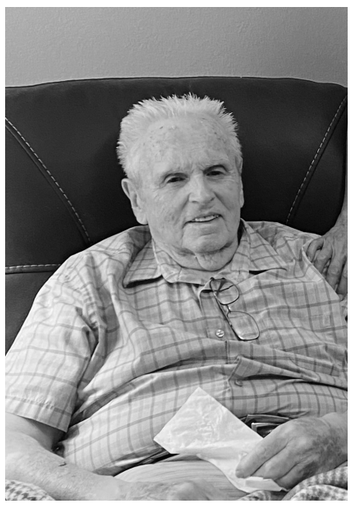
Jim served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War, stationed in Morocco and Jacksonville, Fla. After the Navy and his graduation from Auburn, he settled in Washington, D.C., where he met Joan. They were married for 59 years and raised two sons, Stephen and Jeb. After 29 years in Massachusetts, Jim and Joan settled in Alexandria, Va., in 1994.

Jim was an avid history connoisseur, world traveler, and storyteller, but Martha's Vineyard was the place he always came back to. For more than 40 years, he spent summers there with Joan and their family, and beginning in 1982 they owned a vacation home on Sengekontacket. Together, Jim and Joan traveled the world: on safari in Africa, across the Atlantic on the QE2, to Russia, Egypt, throughout Europe and South America and beyond. Surprising his grandchildren in Ireland was a family favorite. Jim saw more of the world than most people dream of, and he and Joan were known for their warm entertaining, neighborly cocktails and lively stories of their adventures.

Of all the places they went, the Vineyard is the love Jim and Joan passed on. Their son Jeb, his wife Lisa, and grandchildren Cole and Rylee still return to the Island every summer, carrying the tradition forward.

A memorial gathering for family and friends will be held on Martha's Vineyard, the place Jim loved, at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Disabled American Veterans in memory of James Edward Booth.



George Willoughby

George Willoughby Enjoyed Bridge and the Beach

George A. Willoughby, 86, of Fort Myers, Fla., died peacefully on Oct. 26, 2026 at Pondella Residential Care in Cape Coral, Fla., with his son by his side.

George was born on May 28, 1940, at the Martha's Vineyard Hospital. He was the son of Marjorie (Shea) from County Kerry, Ireland, and Emery A. Willoughby. He grew up in Edgartown and graduated from Edgartown High School in 1959 as a member of its final graduating class before the opening of Martha's Vineyard Regional High School. In his youth he was active in community sports and activities. After his father passed away at the early age of 53, George went on to work to help support his mother, younger brother and sister.

George worked at the old A&P in Edgartown, where he advanced from clerk to assistant manager and ultimately store manager.

George met and married his first wife Sharon (O'Neil) Willoughby in 1965. They had three children together, Tricia, Gregg and Karen. Together they purchased the Frito-Lay franchise and founded Island Distributors, Inc., expanding the business to include other brands and products, serving grocery stores, convenience stores and restaurants throughout Martha's Vineyard. The business was a true family business with all three children also working alongside their parents, as well as providing employment opportunities for many other extended family members and local youth.

George was a selectman for the town of Edgartown from 1974 to 1977.

George later married Susan Voorhees, who predeceased him. In retirement, George and Susan traveled extensively before settling in Fort Myers, Fla. George was an avid bridge player who competed in tournaments throughout the United States and on numerous cruises. He and Susan also enjoyed teaching bridge and serving as tournament directors and George achieved the rank of Ruby Life Master (3 ranks above Life Master).

George enjoyed the weekly summer Sunday beach days at South Beach, hunting, fishing, playing bridge, watching sports, going to Super Bowls, the Ducks Unlimited annual dinners and auctions (where he purchased many prints), telling jokes and doing card tricks to entertain his children, grandchildren and friends. He owned season tickets to the New England Patriots games for many years (when they weren't good and played at the old Schaefer Stadium), but gave them up in 1985, ironically the season the Patriots went to the Super Bowl to face the Chicago Bears in 1986.

George is survived by his daughter, Patricia (Tricia) A. Willoughby of Edgartown, his son, Gregg A. Willoughby and his wife Sandra of Lynnfield, and his daughter Karen M. Hiemer and her husband Daniel of Diemelsee-Adorf, Germany; his grandchildren Ava and Amelia Willoughby, and Analiesa Hiemer; his sister, Kathleen J. Wray and her husband William (Billy) of Edgartown, as well as many nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends. Sadly, his brother, Donald E. Willoughby, passed away just 23 days before him.

A celebration of George's life will be held at a later date.



Virginia Gonsalves

Virginia Gonsalves Savored The Simple Moments

Virginia "Ginny" "Figa" Cecilio Gonsalves, died Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2026 at age 96. She was predeceased by her beloved daughter, Paula, and her husband, Frank "Chuck" Gonsalves.

Born and raised in Tisbury, Virginia was the second youngest of nine children. She graduated from Tisbury School as the valedictorian of her class, with strong aspirations of continuing her education. As a woman of color facing the limited opportunities and barriers of her time, Virginia was ultimately forced to put her educational dreams aside and began working alongside her mother, providing laundry and housekeeping services to local families. She would later take over her mother's laundry business when her mother became ill.

Shortly after high school, Virginia married the love of her life, Chuck. Together, they moved across the street from her childhood home, where they began building a family of their own. Summer street would remain a special place, home to many of Virginia's siblings and countless nieces and nephews. It was at 46 Summer street, however, that Virginia and Chuck would raise their four children, Paula, Wayne, Brian, and Glenn. Virginia was a devoted wife and mother.

It wasn't until her forties that Virginia stepped away from her role as a full-time homemaker and began a new chapter of her working life at Martha's Vineyard Co-Op Bank. After both Virginia and Chuck retired, the two enjoyed traveling together, exploring numerous countries throughout Europe and creating many memories traveling across the United States.

In her later years, it was the simpler moments that brought Virginia the greatest happiness. Visits with family and friends and time spent together on the porch became some of her most cherished moments. In the last few months of her life she found joy in long drives all around the Island, making a pitstop for a fish sandwich and ice cream cone.

Virginia's life was one of perseverance, sacrifice, devotion, and love. She leaves behind a legacy that extends far beyond the walls of her home. Her smile will be remembered fondly by those who were fortunate to know Virginia and will live on for generations to come.

Virginia is survived by her son Wayne Gonsalves; granddaughter Mia Wright and husband Jasen Wright, great-grandsons Brayden and Kellen Wright; granddaughter Gina Gonsalves and great-granddaughter Eliza James; granddaughter Elana Gonsalves; son Brian Gonsalves and wife Terry Gonsalves; grandson Frank "Drew" Gonsalves and granddaughter Kayla Gonsalves; son Glenn Gonsalves and wife Cynthia Gonsalves; grandson Maxwell; granddaughter Camryn Gonsalves.

Virginia is predeceased by her husband Frank "Chuck" Gonsalves, daughter Paula Small and daughter in law Linda Gonsalves.

Visitation in the Chapman Funeral Home, Edgartown Road in Oak Bluffs will be held on Thursday, Nov. 12 from 5-7 p.m.

Her funeral mass will be celebrated in St. Augustine's Church on Friday, Nov. 13 at 11 a.m. and burial will follow in the Oak Grove Cemetery in Vineyard Haven.

Ezra Arrives

Margaret Anne Moton and Quinten Moton, of West Tisbury, announce the birth of a son, Ezra James Moton, born on Nov. 6 at the Martha's Vineyard Hospital. Ezra weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces at birth.

Welcome Sofia

Layse Vicente Flores and Lindolfo Coelho Dos Santos, of Edgartown, announce the birth of a daughter, Sofia Dos Santos Flores, born on Oct. 28 at the Martha's Vineyard Hospital. Sofia weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces at birth.

Greetings Arya

Yarla De Souza Silva and Delormiel Sales Neto, of Oak Bluffs, announce the birth of a daughter, Arya Sales Souza, born on Nov. 2 at the Martha's Vineyard Hospital. Arya weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces at birth.

Hello Beatrice

Dyan and John Demers, of Chilmark, announce the birth of a daughter, Beatrice Willow Demers, born on Nov. 4 at the Martha's Vineyard Hospital. Beatrice weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces at birth.

From the Town Columnists

CHAPPY

PETER WELLS

The "Final Trip" gathering to remember Clarence A. Barnes III will be held on Saturday, Nov. 21 starting at 4 p.m. at the Ag Hall in West Tisbury. Bring a potluck and Trip stories to share.

It was postponed from back in September due to stormy weather. I'm sure that as well as you might have known Trip, new information will be revealed on Saturday from unexpected sources. You need not doubt any of them. As I mentioned before, when it comes to Trip stories, he lived a life of "you don't need to make this stuff up!" I'll be away on a previously planned journey with my Mrs. to the southwest, but I've had my opportunity to tell a couple of Trip stories here already. Hers's another one.

Way back when the Schifter house got moved, Trip was hired to haul the big beams back to the Ferry Point to get loaded on the barge with all of the other paraphernalia used in that project. Two empty flat bed tractor trailers were at the point one evening when I was getting off of a shift driving the ferry. Trip had just come across on foot from town. He asked if I would like to take a ride out to Wasque. I said sure. We walked toward one of the gigantic semi cabs. He started to climb up on the driver's side and I headed around to the passenger side. He pointed at the other gigantic semi and said, "Why don't you bring that one? We'll have time to talk on the way back together."

I had driven some pretty large manual transmission fire trucks but never anything pulling a 53-foot-long trailer. This monster had 18 tires. He didn't ask if I even knew how to drive a stick. He did say that I need not worry about the rear split since there was no weight on the trailer. I was aware of the gizmo called a split differential, but had never worried about it before now. He also pointed out that I didn't need to wait for the air pressure alarm to go off to get going as I would have plenty of pressure by the time I got to Mrs. Potter's. That's the sharp right hand turn in the pavement at the beginning of the Dike Road.

He started up his rig and I eventually got mine running and the air brakes off. Back then there were still concrete bumpers running up the center of the parking lot. As I hatched a plan to get around them, Trip headed right for them. He went over them at an angle. I could see his head bouncing around in the cab as one at a time and then in pairs, the tires shrugged their way up and over. Now that there was more room, I drove around them.

The trip to Wasque was slow going for me. I think that I only used 3 of the dozen gears available. I had to come to a complete stop at the turn at Mrs. Potter's in order to downshift into a lower gear after slowing to a crawl to negotiate the turn. When I got to the house moving site, Trip offered to back it up for me with the polite comment that reverse was tricky in that truck. He must have seen my hands shaking.

To get back to the ferry, we hopped in a green pickup with his name painted on the side. It wouldn't start. Dead battery. No problem. We switched to another pickup with his name on the side. I've learned that wherever Trip went, there was always a surplus of vehicles with his name on them at the end. Sadly, we are witnessing the end of an era.

CHILMARK

KATIE CARROLL

Santa is beginning the process of checking his list twice, and Chilmark has some wonderful news to report to the North Pole. Thanks to a mini baby boom, our community has been fortunate to welcome several sweet new faces this year. Lucky us.

To Page Five



Elizabeth Allen

Elizabeth Allen Loved Nature and Music

Elizabeth F. Allen, 91, of Vineyard Haven died on Sunday, Nov. 1, 2026 at the Navigator Homes in Edgartown. She was predeceased by her husband, Stewart Allen in May of 2008.

Elizabeth was born on April 3, 1935 in Boston, the second daughter of Francis Joseph Turcotte and Alice Mary Whittier. Her older sister Therese Anne Turcotte died on Nov. 3, 1969 of cerebral palsy. Her brother Paul E. Tucotte also predeceased her on Sept. 7, 2003.

Elizabeth attended Beethoven Elementary School and Robert Gould Shaw Junior High School in West Roxbury and graduated from Roslindale High School in June of 1953. She graduated from the Comptometer school in Boston in December of 1953 and worked for H.P. Hood and Sons in Charlestown as a payroll clerk.

She attended Northeastern University in Boston for one year in 1954 as a biology major, then went back to H.P. Hood and Sons until Feb. of 1956.

Elizabeth met Stewart Allen on Sept. 17, 1955 and married him on June 17, 1956 at St. Theresa's Church in West Roxbury and came to live on Martha's Vineyard on Tashmoo avenue from August 1956 until the present day.

She was a "stay at home mother" until the death of her son Thomas in October of 1981, when she returned to work for Thomas Hale as an office cleaner and housecleaner; then next went to work for A&P food store, then Cronig's Market, when it was located on Main street in Vineyard Haven and finally at Leslie's Drug Store from May 1987 until after 2010.

Elizabeth loved animals and nature and found great pleasure in her flower garden. She learned to love music through her husband and had enormous pride in the accomplishments of her son, Christopher, who founded the Martha's Vineyard Festival Orchestra.

She was the mother of Elizabeth Ann Allen, Christopher Paul Allen and Therese Katherine Wheeler. In recent years, she was attended to with great love and devotion by Mary Bryant Bailey, Christopher's partner of many years. She was predeceased by her son Thomas Stewart Allen from muscular dystrophy.

She was the grandmother of Joseph R. Wheeler and Sabrina N. Wheeler.

Visiting hours will be held on Friday, Nov. 13 from 5-7 p.m. in the Chapman Funeral Home, Edgartown Road in Oak Bluffs. Her funeral mass will be held on Saturday Nov. 14 at 11 a.m. in St. Augustine's Church, Franklin avenue in Vineyard Haven and burial will follow in the Oak Grove Cemetery, State Road in Vineyard Haven.

Visit chapmanfuneral.com for online guest book and information.

VINEYARD GAZETTE WEEKLY SUDOKU AND CROSSWORD – November 13, 2026

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

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

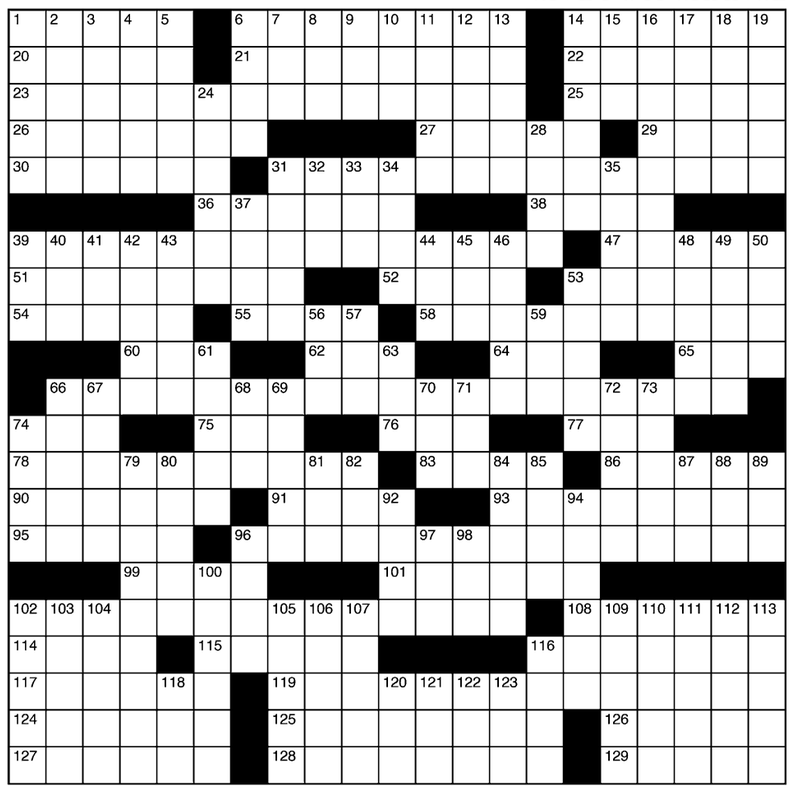
Difficulty this week: A GOOD CHALLENGE!

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

ACROSS
1 "It's — cause!"
6 Square mile, say
14 Puccini's "— Butterfly"
20 Roping event
21 Broken ceramic bit
22 Trapped after a blizzard
23 Stumbled and really got hurt?
25 Starting a golf game, with "off"
26 As yet unborn
27 Don't fully believe
29 Rind
30 Winged seed of a maple or elm tree
31 Stress felt after eating jalapeños?
36 Arranged like a ladder
38 Organic compound
39 Gymnast?
47 Banquet
51 One giving paid money back
52 U.S. territory since 1898
53 Noonday nap
54 Sight-related
55 Flooring square
58 Person walking with a limp?
60 Actor Mineo
62 Lac liquid
64 Pro vote
65 OR hookups
66 Bribed a judge in order to win?
74 Body part with three bones
75 Wriggly fish
76 Tram cargo
77 Actor Linden
78 Battles between Thelonious Monk and Dizzy Gillespie?
83 Ex-U.N. leader Annan
86 Martini & — (vermouth)
90 DeGeneres and Burstyn
91 Get really wet
93 Exchanges favors, in politics
95 More guileful
96 Mailed in the opposite direction of?
99 Hoops great Bryant
101 Last Greek letters
102 Bounding along merrily on a Swiss mountain?
108 Himalayan guide
114 Johnson who directed "Knives Out"
115 Electric fan's sound
116 Dissolves out via percolation
117 Riddle
119 Sluggish mammal wearing a pair of hats?
124 Golden ager
125 Fearful
126 San Diego ballplayer
127 Third-largest Danish city
128 Cold carnival treat
129 Tarnish

DOWN
1 "— a jealous mistress"
2 — Doone (cookie brand)
3 Strong dislike
4 Train system in Philly
5 Heavy drinker
6 Raised coif
7 Negating word
8 "What was — do?"
9 General —'s chicken
10 Sound made during a physical
11 Novelist Charles
12 Mistake
13 Do a tally of
14 Glove alternative
15 High card
16 Heavy slumber
17 "Sayonara!"
18 76-Across digger
19 A right one is 90 degrees
24 Wiped clean
28 Male sibling, in dialect
31 Father: Prefix
32 Pixieish sort
33 Good bud
34 Prudish sort
35 Opera singer Anne — von Otter
37 Tech news website
39 To and —
40 Sales agt.
41 Small newt
42 Old cereal with an alien mascot
43 Open, as a drink bottle
44 British tavern
45 Gasol of the NBA
46 TV prizes
48 Meat jelly
49 Actor Carell of "Vice"
50 Sailors, colloquially
53 Spherical bacterium, informally
56 Zodiac feline
57 Body part with three bones
59 Establish
61 Gazes creepily
63 ETs' craft
66 Cave dwarf
67 Insinuate
68 Dawn moisture
69 Blink brightly
70 Rankle
71 Olds oldie
72 Basketball great Bird
73 Socially cold
74 $5 bills, informally
79 Looking through a keyhole, say
80 2002 scandal company
81 King, in Nice
82 Devitalize
84 Writer Fannie
85 Ames' state
87 35mm camera type
88 — -mo replay
89 Doctrine
92 Psy and BTS' music genre
94 Very excited, slangily
96 Meeting, informally
97 U.K. record label
98 Lion lair
100 Watch out for
102 Playground rejoinder
103 Like ruled paper
104 Pamphleteer Thomas
105 Saint — and Nevis
106 Writer Shaw
107 Teaser ad
109 Lock holders
110 Dazzling success
111 1970s sitcom
112 — dish (bio lab item)
113 Ghostly white
116 — majesty (high treason)
118 Year divs.
120 AAA service
121 Tolkien fiend
122 Malti- — (hybrid dog)
123 Play on words

GIVE P'S A CHANCE



From the Town Columnists

From Page Four

To ensure the North Pole sorting room has everything perfectly prepped for the Chilmark delivery route, we want to make sure every single one of our town's newest residents is included. If you have a new bundle of joy to add to Santa's local roster, please reach out with their name and date of birth. Let's make sure our littlest neighbors get an extra-warm welcome from the big man in red this December.

Maisy Louise Natichioni made her grand entrance on Nov. 1 weighing a perfect 7 pounds 8 ounces. Parents Marc and Hadley (Chapman) Natichioni have officially handed over the keys to the house, as tiny Maisy has instituted a strict new schedule of midnight roll calls and a monopoly on everyone's hearts. Marc and Hadley are doing well and are completely over the moon, while the equally overjoyed grandparents have officially stepped into their roles as Maisy's biggest fans. The sleep-deprivation levels in the household have reached record highs, but with a roommate this cute, everyone is happy, healthy and entirely in love. Welcome to the world, sweet Maisy.

Larry and Holly Glick are overjoyed to announce the arrival of their new grandson, Asher Edward Karr. Asher was born on Nov. 1 to their youngest daughter, Sara, and her husband, Jordan. Mom, dad and baby are all doing well and are back home at their apartment in Hoboken, N.J. Larry and Holly are currently staying with the new parents to help welcome the little one. They can't wait to bring baby Asher to the Vineyard next summer to introduce him to his first Menemsha sunset.

I am delighted to share some joyful news from a dear family friend and former Texaco staffer. Liz (Willette) and Harper Hoffman have welcomed a baby girl into the world. Congratulations to Liz and Harper on the birth of their daughter, Penelope. They make their home in New Jersey.

I had an opportunity to chat with Pinto Abrams a short while ago and he shared that eldest son, Kalib, and his sweetheart Shay celebrated their marriage just as the golden aspen leaves began to settle in for the season. Family travels from back east to revel in their joy. The newlyweds will continue to weave their story into the mountains, making their forever home amidst the peaks of Crested Butte, Colo.

After a long fall of healing from knee surgery, Kristin Brown is gradually making her return to the great outdoors. Though her steps are slow, her hands remain faithfully soil-covered as she tucks the library's winter flower beds into their cold weather slumber. Keep healing, Kristin.

Linda Thompson is heading off for surgery and will be away from town for a spell as she recovers. She plans to split her healing time between her two daughters' homes. Let's join together in sending Linda our warmest well wishes and positive thoughts for a smooth procedure and a remarkably quick recovery. Linda, I am looking forward to welcoming you back home once you are fully healed.

As the dark and grey winter months approach, we look for ways to keep our spirits bright. Janet Stoddard and Nan Doty are delighted to announce the return of Music and Light at the Chilmark Church, a special series designed to bring our community together through the warmth of music, poetry, and fellowship. These seasonal events were originally facilitated by the wonderful Lia Kahler, and they are honored to carry on this beautiful, luminous tradition. Please save the dates for the upcoming winter gatherings, which will all take place at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 6, Jan. 3, and Feb. 7. Everyone is welcome to join in this uplifting community tradition, with refreshments following each gathering. Keep an eye out for more details in the coming weeks.

EDGARTOWN

KATHIE CASE

Once again, our week was sunny and warm during the day. But when the sun goes down it is best to have a jacket or sweatshirt available. With the weather threatening freezing temperatures, and some places snow, it is time to put the hoses away after having to water with the past warm weather. Now we just have to deal with the leaves.

Happy Birthday to all who celebrated their day this past week. Big balloons go out to Victoria Cezario, Michael Leahy, Sophia Dos Santos, Alice Martins, Rahjae Hall, Helena Da Silva, Addison Kral and Juliet Merrill who all celebrated their day this past week.

The Edgartown School performed the production of Beetlejuice Jr. The production of this play was amazing and proved that we have some very talented young people. The great part of the play was that it involved all the children from kindergarten to the eighth grade.

Of course, it was all made possible by teachers, and technical crew and of course costumes creators to make it all come together. They also had Andrew Kober who is a veteran performer, who has appeared in 11 Broadway productions and was a standby for Beetlejuice himself on Broadway, work directly with the cast. It was a great play, and I look forward to more productions.

With this past week being Veterans Day, it is a great opportunity to remind you all why I close with "keep the home candles burning." At Christmas time when my parents put the candles in the windows, they always put a white light in the window on the right side of the sidewalk. Being young I asked why they put all different colors in the other windows and a boring white one in that window. They explained to me that with both my brothers being away in the service, this white light was there to guide them home safely.

So, to this day, I keep a white light in my window because there are many men and women serving our country near and far, and I wish them a safe return home to their loved ones.

Thank you to all who served our country and keep us safe and free.

Have great week and keep the home candles burning.

OAK BLUFFS

RICHARD LEWIS TAYLOR

Halloween on Circuit avenue around 1 p.m. was full of big kids and little kids in costumes, strollers and wagons parading in and out of stores and businesses offering a variety of packaged candies, lollipops, popcorn and welcome greetings from merchants. My favorite was the Haunted House at Mocha Mott's. The show was about five minutes long while those waiting in line enjoyed the sunny day. This is a wonderful time of the season when business proprietors can visibly thank local customers who patronize them all year. It was all "treats, no tricks" on Circuit Ave in 2026!

It is traditional to wait for the "October surprise" in the political world as voters contemplate November elections. This year it was the "November surprise," and the Vineyard was a big part of the story. Oak Bluffs' own Keisha Lance Bottoms, who has been a favorite at Union Chapel over the years, became the first Black woman to become a governor in United States history. Last summer the former mayor of Atlanta was saluted at a major fundraiser organized by Tiffany Whittaker in West Tisbury, with on-the-ground support from Willie Clemmons. After her victory on Nov. 3, many in Oak Bluffs praised Stacy Abrams who ran twice unsuccessfully for governor of Georgia but registered thousands during her campaign days and most recently as the founder of Fair Fight, organizing against voter suppression.

But Keisha was not the only Vineyard star campaigning during this political season. Former President Barack Obama, campaigning in Cleveland, Ohio, observed that President Donald Trump's White House interior decor looked like "Saddam Hussein opened a Cheesecake Factory." Shortly thereafter Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent staged a counter-protest by eating at a Cheesecake Factory. After lunch, he took aim at our lifestyle by saying, "I would tell the Martha's Vineyard set to give it a try."

At times when our nation seems to defy many aspects of the U.S. Constitution, the public finds a way to restore the confidence that the founders had in 1776. As Rob Sand, the Democratic Governor-elect of Iowa said while framing the tone of the American electorate and his campaign, voters were looking "not for the redder or bluer, better and truer."

The Middlesex County Chapter of The Links, Inc. recently gathered on Martha's Vineyard for their 2026 Chapter Friendship Weekend Retreat. The gathering was co-chaired by Vineyard residents Earlene Avalon and Jennifer DaSilva. The weekend welcomed 51 active and alumnae members who enjoyed fellowship, friendship, sisterhood and service.

A highlight of the retreat was a hands-on floral service project where members created and donated 50 floral arrangements to local Island organizations, including the Vineyard hospital, Harbor Homes and Navigator Homes. Earlene and Jennifer send a big thank you to Vivian Beard, Barbara Cruz, Jacqueline Glenn, Trina Martin, Angela Motley, Sabriya Targete, Shawnda Walker, Pat Washington and Sabrina Williams for opening up their cottages to host those attending. See you in 2027!

On Nov. 17, 1911 the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. was founded on the campus of Howard University. This past summer, the Rho Xi Nu Chapter was established on Martha's Vineyard under the leadership of Greg Jones, Chris Greene, Niles Stewart and yours truly. Other Charter members include Ed Redd, Hansel Tooks, Rodney Sampson, Fred Lowery, Larry Jones and Rory Moreis.

Congratulations on hosting their very successful First District meeting where they entertained over 50 brothers from around New England and contributed over $3,000 to the Island Grown Initiative. On Nov. 17 of this year they will celebrate the life and career of Founder Dr. Ernest E. Just (1883-1941), a pioneering African American biologist and experimental embryologist who spent over 20 summers conducting marine biology research starting in 1909 at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole. His decades of meticulous work at Woods Hole left a permanent mark on cell biology. He received the very first NAACP Spingarn Medal in 1915 for his scientific achievements.

The Martha's Vineyard Community Greenhouse located at 114 New York avenue, has issued a call for volunteers to join them on Saturday, Nov. 14 from 9 a.m. to noon to help with Fall Cleanup and Spring Prep. This involves cleaning up and staging the inside of the Greenhouse. Come on out for a very worthy community cause.

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

Rest in Peace Randall Edward Taylor

WEST TISBURY

EILEEN MALEY

I remember what I was wearing 50 years ago. Unlike this year, with its balmy bright fall days, the season I recall was exceptionally chilly on the Vineyard and we were bundled up in woolly winter gear.

My heavy coat was from L.L. Bean. It was a man's navy blue pea jacket, double-breasted, with four big buttons. It was my husband's old coat, and it was the only thing that wrapped all the way around my big belly. We were temporarily in Boston awaiting the birth of a child.

The child took her sweet time but arrived on a raw and cold November day, so long ago. That was Chloe, who looked when she got here as exhausted as I felt.

Chloe was born (taking her sweet time) with autism, but she now spends her weekdays in a happy place, the Island Autism Center, and she probably couldn't be more content.

For all of us, there is little that is more satisfying than having grown-up offspring who are content, if not jumping with joy.

One joyful West Tisbury resident we know is Sundy Smith, who was in attendance in Iowa on election night when her daughter and granddaughter both succeeded in winning for the blue side. Sundy's daughter Rachel Smith won her second term as county attorney for Johnson County.

And Sundy's granddaughter Zoe Smith, the youngest paid staffer on the campaign for the governor's race, is still ecstatic over Rob Sand's success. Mr. Sand will be the first Democratic governor of Iowa in 25 years, with an 11-point victory over his opponent. Iowa has been known as a deep red state, until now.

I ran into David Finkelstein in the cereal aisle up-Island the other day. He informed me that he and Molly had recently returned from a trip to Florence, Italy. Their oldest granddaughter is taking a semester abroad in that historic art capital and with skill and knowledge she guided her grandparents through the classic treasures of the Renaissance. David beamed with pride as he reported the vacation.

A big thank you to West Tisbury's fire department for installing a new white spruce at the junction of State Road and Old County Road. The tree replaces the one that began to suffer from a spruce disease, and had to go. It was the tree that greeted us all with its Christmas lights for the past generation. And of course the new tree will soon be asparkle with all those welcoming holiday lights. More thank yous go to Norman Lobb and Peter Wells of L&W Tree Farm, for donating the gift to the town.

Another thank you to our thoughtful town clerk, Tara Whiting-Wells for providing chairs at all the voting stations, knowing that we would need to take more time at this election.

Happy birthday Friday, Nov 13, to Thomas Mayhew. And Judy Mayhew will celebrate her big day on Sunday, Nov. 15. Macguire Carlomagno, who heads the day program at Island Autism, will share a cake with our daughter Chloe when they both enjoy their birthdays on Tuesday, Nov. 17. Thursday, Nov. 19, is the big day for both Sam Hart and Hunter Athearn.



Tim Johnson

Record of Cases Heard in Edgartown District Court

Oct. 16

Asher C. Cottrell, 31, of Vineyard Haven, was arraigned on Oct. 14 charges in Tisbury of assault and battery on a household or family member and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. His bail was set at $1,000 and he has a pretrial hearing on Dec. 7.

Oct. 23

Justin C. Dodge, 44, of West Tisbury, was arraigned on Dec. 22 charges in West Tisbury of larceny over $1,200, receiving stolen property and possession of a class E drug. His bail was set at $250 and he has a pretrial hearing on Dec. 4.

Oct. 30

Ronald Arthur, 62, of Spencer, Ind., was arraigned on a Oct. 29 charge in Edgartown of assault and battery on a family or household member. His bail was set at $500 and he has a pretrial hearing on Dec. 7.

Emily S. Kral, 18, of Edgartown, was arraigned on Oct. 29 charges in Oak Bluffs of assault and battery on a person over 60 or disabled, breaking and entering for a misdemeanor, and trespassing. Her bail was set at $500 and she has a pretrial hearing on Dec. 10.

Zachary G. Crabtree, 20, of West Tisbury, was arraigned on an Oct. 27 charge in West Tisbury of assault and battery on a family or household member. His bail was set at $500 and he has a pretrial hearing on Dec. 7.

Nov. 2

Brian P. Beasley, 34, of Oak Bluffs, was arraigned on Oct. 30 charges in Oak Bluffs of assault and battery, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, larceny from a person and destruction of property. He was released on personal recognizance and has a pretrial hearing on Nov. 30.

Hamilton M. Walker, 29, of Vineyard Haven, was arraigned on a Sept. 16 charge in Tisbury of destruction of property. He was released on personal recognizance and has a pretrial hearing on Dec. 21.

Maxwell J. Milan, 22, of Boston, was arraigned on Nov. 2 charges in Edgartown of operating under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and marked lanes violation. His bail was set at $200 and he has a pretrial hearing on Dec. 7.

Nov. 5

Alan T. Sklar, 73, of North Easton, was arraigned on June 18 charges in Edgartown of indecent exposure and enticing a child under 16. He was released on personal recognizance and has a pretrial hearing on Jan. 14.

Nov. 6

Paulo G. Dos Santos, 25, of Edgartown, was arraigned Sept. 17 charges in Edgartown of disorderly conduct and breaking and entering for a misdemeanor, two counts. He was released on personal recognizance and has a pretrial hearing on Dec. 11.

Brian W. Frost, Jr., 29, of Edgartown, was arraigned on Nov. 6 charges in Edgartown of operating under the influence of liquor, second offense, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, leaving the scene of a property damage crash, speeding and operating under the influence of drugs. He was released on personal recognizance and has a pretrial hearing on Dec. 21.

Kaua O. Goncalves, 18, of Oak Bluffs, was arraigned on August 14 charges in Edgartown of reckless operation of a motor vehicle, failure to stop for police, leaving the scene of a property damage crash, speeding, and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle. He was released on personal recognizance and has a pretrial hearing on Jan. 8.

Nov. 9

Gabriel W. Coogan, 51, of West Tisbury, was arraigned on June 29 charges in Oak Bluffs of criminal harassment and annoying telephone calls/electronic communications. He was released on personal recognizance and has a pretrial hearing on Dec. 21.

IN VINEYARD SKIES

	Sunrise	Sunset
Fri., Nov. 13	6:27	4:23
Sat., Nov. 14	6:29	4:22
Sun., Nov. 15	6:30	4:21
Mon., Nov. 16	6:31	4:20
Tues., Nov. 17	6:30	4:20
Wed., Nov. 18	6:33	4:19
Thurs., Nov. 19	6:35	4:18
Fri., Nov. 20	6:36	4:17

Mars, Jupiter and Leonid Meteor Shower

A lot going on in the coming week, take a look outside in the early morning sky before dawn.

In the wee hours of Monday morning look for the two planets, Jupiter and Mars, side by side, less than two degrees apart. The planets are so close together, close enough to look like they are talking together. You'll agree, however, Jupiter is 497 million miles away and Mars is much closer at 125 million. The two are closest Monday.

The two have been hanging out together this month and will continue. But Monday, is the best time because they are so close.

You've got another reason to step outside, Tuesday morning, this time for the Leonid Meteor Shower.

You may see as many as a dozen meteors in an hour of viewing. Look up to the constellation Leo, rising in the east. This is where the meteors will appear to originate. The best time is to look in the early morning, though you could see a straggler, an accidental meteor any time in the nights ahead.

M.A.L.

First Quarter Nov. 17

Last Quarter Dec. 1

Full Moon Nov. 24

New Moon Dec. 8

Temperature:

Day	Max. Fº	Min. Fº	Precip. Inches.
Nov. 6	68	61	0.68
Nov. 7	65	59	2.45
Nov. 8	65	47	0.02
Nov. 9	59	41	0.00
Nov. 10	59	45	0.00
Nov. 11	57	47	0.00
Nov. 12	-	-	-

Water temperature in Edgartown harbor: 56º

Recent Island Real Estate Transactions

Chilmark

Jennifer Chun and Daniel Kim purchased 28 Black Point Road and Black Point Beach (Lot 26) in Chilmark for $2,850,000 from Jackbo LLC on Nov. 6.

Edgartown

37 Plain Field Way LLC purchased 37 Plain Field Way in Edgartown for $5,300,000 from Christopher D. Charles and Meghan C. Charles on Nov. 5.

Brandon Willett and Alexandra Kruse purchased 23 Hamblen Way in Edgartown for $1,147,000 from Daniel G. Garab Trust and Gary Garab & Evelyn E. Garab Family Trust on Nov. 6.

Oak Bluffs

Helen and Edward Dee purchased 2 Winemack Street in Oak Bluffs for $1,025,000 from Corey Michael Randolph Sr. on Nov. 6.

Vineyard Haven

John H. Hale III and Nicole Y. Lamb-Hale purchased 21 Woodlawn Avenue in Vineyard Haven for $2,200,000 from Paula M. Lyons on Nov. 5.

Debra Phillips and James Murrin purchased 26 Union Court in Vineyard Haven for $1,574,500 from Pieter Pil and Karen Casper on Nov. 6.

Stephanie and Michael A. Brown purchased 94 Weaver Lane in Vineyard Haven for $3,500,000 from Niels and Jane Puetthoff on Nov. 6.

West Tisbury

Elton Taciano Nascimento Sr. purchased 129 Charles Neck Way in West Tisbury for $1,245,000 from Heather Hendrickson Trust and John Doyle Irrevocable Trust on Nov. 3.



Ray Ewing

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Hosted by Vineyard Bancorp & Martha's Vineyard Bank
Edgartown, Massachusetts - November 2026

CORPORATORS & TRUSTEES

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Michael Donaroma	Greg Mason	Ann Tyra
Steven Ewing	Robert McCarron	Julianne Vanderhoop
Frank Fenner, Jr.	Robert Mone	Berta Welch
Keith Fenner	Adam Moore	Timothy Williamson

*Denotes Trustee

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VINEYARD BANCORP

MARTHA'S VINEYARD BANK

Member FDIC | Member DIF



Alison Shaw

Dusty and Cash make a dynamic duo.

Bringing Cattle Teams Back To Martha's Vineyard

By CAROLE SOULE

In a typical "Island Shuffle," two more calves have moved to the Vineyard. We trailered them from New Hampshire to Mansfield, where we met Dan Athearn. That morning, Dan had dropped a load of pigs at the New England processing plant, so he had an empty stock trailer. We met Dan in the Home Depot parking lot and moved the calves from our trailer to his. I joined him on the return trip to attend a writing workshop with John Hough Jr. that night.

These Guernsey calves, Cash and Dusty, are only seven months old, and they work in a yoke guided by a teamster; a job they've had their whole lives. They're on the Vineyard to help the 4-H Katama Cowpokes become better teamsters.

Born not far from my farm, the pair was trained by a 4-H teenager who taught them to obey voice commands and body language. After a successful show season at New England agricultural fairs, she sold them to Slough Farm's educational program for the Cowpokes to use. Two Cowpoke teams already exist on the Vineyard; Cash and Dusty make three.

At my first Agricultural Fair in 2021, I was impressed by the Vineyard's support of local farms but disappointed by the lack of Island cattle teams. All the working steers and oxen teams at the fair came from off-Island. At one time, many Vineyard farms had a team of oxen to help with chores, but now tractors have replaced them. My mission was to bring the joy of working steers back to the Vineyard. With the help of Slough Farm and willing children, that dream is being fulfilled.

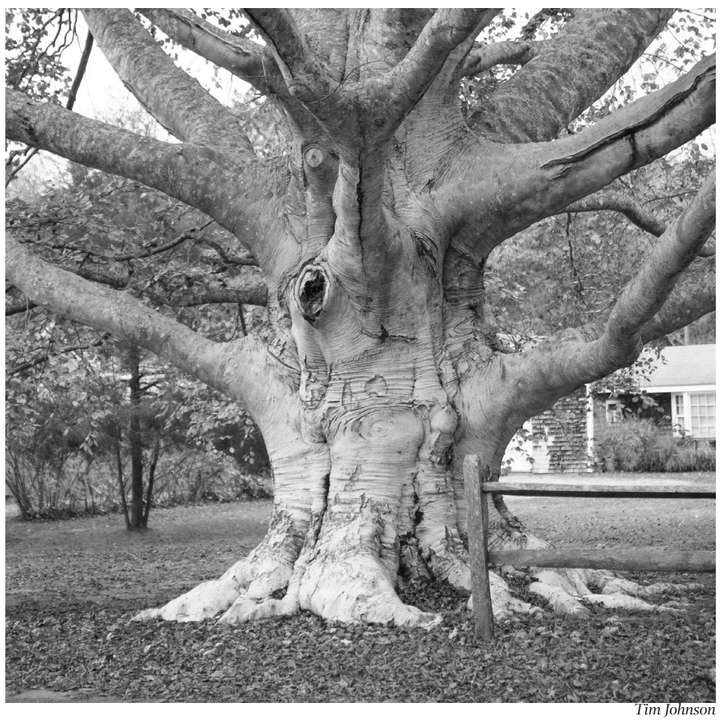
Cash and Dusty each weigh about 700 pounds and are more obedient than most dogs. Just think what would happen if a 700-pound dog decided to chase a car? Yet these two steers come when called and follow their young teamsters' commands. The steers want to work with humans, and that's what makes them magical.

But training isn't without stress. The first command a Cowpoke must teach her team is "Whoa." A team without "Whoa" is like a car without brakes. Dangerous. Teaching it means setting boundaries that keep humans safe.

Boundaries work for people too. So often we humans don't set boundaries because we don't want to offend the other person. We forget that boundaries, like "Whoa," are about our safety, not the other person's feelings. Letting a pushy person get under your skin is like forgetting to teach "Whoa." That's what the Cowpokes learn: how to set boundaries and stick to them.

Meanwhile, I'm witnessing a small miracle at the Agricultural Society barn, where Cash and Dusty will spend the winter. On my frequent trips to the Vineyard, I'll draw inspiration from these teenage Cowpokes and their bovine partners as they learn together the power of a clear "Whoa," a boundary that works with people too.

Carole Soule is a 4-H leader and part-time Vineyard resident. She and her husband offer the Ultimate Cow Experience with Highland bovines on their Loudon, New Hampshire farm.



Tim Johnson

VINEYARD GAZETTE

Martha's Vineyard's Newspaper for 180 Years

Established in 1846 A Journal of Island Life

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Raise the Roof



Ray Ewing

The Heart of the Derby

By JACKIE LONG

Being new to the Island — having lived here for just one year — and participating in my very first Martha's Vineyard Striped Bass and Bluefish Derby was an amazing experience. Although I didn't catch a fish large enough to weigh in, I had an absolute ball.

Whether I was rising early to fish and behold the beautiful sunrises or fishing at night into the dark, mysterious waters, braving the cold rain or feeling the heat of the sun on my back, I embraced every moment. From the Edgartown Wharf to Chappy, beneath the bridge in Vineyard Haven, at the pier in Oak Bluffs, along the jetties and shores near the big and small bridges, or simply peeping out at the action in Menemsha, I discovered and came to appreciate even more of the beauty of Martha's Vineyard — and the people who call it home.

What made the entire experience especially meaningful and heartwarming, however, were the wonderful people I met throughout the Derby who showed me incredible kindness in so many ways.

I met amazing people who took time out to teach me how to improve my cast, jig for squid, tie Uni-to-Uni and Palomar knots and pick out the best lures. I learned that I should wash off my lines if jellyfish glide over them, and that I should not have worn my favorite pink jacket while jigging for squid. Oh well. I also learned some new angler lingo and was given directions to other fishing spots and trails around the Island.

I saw bait, tackle and snacks being shared amongst those fishing. I was given a few fish to take home. I looked forward to trying some of the recipes shared with me. I didn't know there were so many ways to cook squid or bluefish.

When I finally hooked a fish, Luke ran to get a net to help me land it. Although it was too small to weigh in, he made me feel as though I had caught the winner. How thrilling!

And then there were the hearty hellos, fist bumps, words of encouragement and friendly reminders even from children: "You're getting better!" "Good job!" and "Good luck!" Each gesture, no matter how small, made the experience memorable.

This, to me, was the true heart of the derby. It was about so much more than competition. It was about community, camaraderie, kindness, patience, generosity and the joy of sharing a common passion—and making a newcomer feel welcome.

So, I want to give a special shout-out to Kathi, Luke, Denny, Sandy, Joe (Heidi), Melanie, Doug, Jeff, Terry, John O., John C., John S., Carmelo, Randy, James, Alex, Adam, Shawn, Erick and Eugene — and to all the passersby who rooted me on.

Thank you all. Your kindness and encouragement confirmed that the greatest rewards aren't always measured in pounds or ounces. Sometimes, they're measured in friendships, shared laughter and the kindness of strangers who become familiar faces. I will definitely pass it on.

Jackie Long lives in Edgartown.

A Chance Meeting With a Future Governor

By JANE C. EDMONDS

Everybody seems to have a Keisha Lance Bottoms story these days. As I watch the celebrations surrounding her historic election as the nation's first Black woman governor, I find myself remembering mine. It began on a glorious summer afternoon on Martha's Vineyard.

My beloved husband, Stephen, and I were sitting in the gazebo on the front lawn of our Victorian home on Nashawena Park in Oak Bluffs. We had our glasses of wine, smooth jazz was playing in the background and we were thanking God for the privilege of being in such a beautiful place.

Nashawena Park is one of those quintessential Vineyard streets, lined with old Victorian homes, mature trees, flowering gardens and the ocean just a stone's throw away. Visitors often drive slowly along, admiring the scenery.

On this particular afternoon, Steve noticed a car moving especially slowly. Eventually, it stopped near our house. My husband, one of the kindest and most gracious people I've ever known, never met a stranger he couldn't turn into a friend. Naturally, he walked over to ask whether he could help. The occupants were Keisha Lance Bottoms, her husband Derek and their children.

They weren't lost. They were exploring the neighborhood, interested in purchasing a vacation property on the Vineyard. Within minutes, Steve had worked his magic. The car was parked, the family had joined us in the gazebo, and I was gathering cold drinks and glasses for our unexpected guests. What followed was one of those delightful, unplanned conversations that stay with you for years. Somewhere along the way, Keisha and I began talking about public service.

I shared my experience of being elected to the Sharon School committee decades earlier, when women of color in elected office in Massachusetts were still a rarity. My campaign had brought together an extraordinary collection of people: Jews and Gentiles, young and old, people of different political persuasions and backgrounds. On election night, several remarked that they never imagined finding themselves in the same room, much less working toward the same goal.

And then the results came in.

We hadn't simply won, we'd won by a landslide! The house practically shook with excitement. But what I remembered most wasn't the victory margin, it was the humility of being entrusted with an opportunity to serve my community and help make our schools better.

Keisha listened with interest. At the time, she was serving on the Atlanta city council, and our conversation turned to her future. I remember asking her directly: "Keisha, have you ever thought about running for mayor?"

She acknowledged, somewhat demurely, that she had.

Derek quickly chimed in. Yes, he said, he'd been encouraging her to do exactly that.

Well, that was all I needed to hear!

"Keisha," I said, "what do you have to lose? Go for it!"

I wasn't dispensing profound political wisdom. I was simply sharing the encouragement born of my own experience, many years earlier, when I took a chance and discovered what could happen when people believed in me — and when I dared to believe in myself.

But another part of that visit has stayed with me, perhaps even more vividly. Steve had been struggling with a carpentry-related task around our house. I no longer remember exactly what needed doing, only that he needed another pair of hands. When Derek learned about it, he immediately offered to help. He said he'd return with one of their sons.



Ray Ewing

Keisha Lance Bottoms

And you know what? He did.

A day or so later, Derek and his son returned and helped my husband. Imagine that, a family vacationing on Martha's Vineyard encounters two strangers sitting in their gazebo, stops for a conversation, and then returns to help with a household chore.

No fanfare. No special treatment. Just ordinary human kindness. That told me something important about this family. Years later, Keisha ran for mayor of Atlanta. And won.

I smiled when I heard the news, remembering our summer afternoon and that little conversation about taking chances. Now, in November 2026, she has made history again, becoming the first Black woman elected governor in our nation's history. What an extraordinary achievement, and what a powerful example for young women, especially young women of color, who may now see possibilities for themselves that once seemed impossibly distant.

I don't pretend my few words of encouragement had anything to do with Keisha's remarkable journey. She possessed the talent, determination, courage and family support to make that journey herself. But I do believe encouragement matters. Sometimes we never know what a kind word, a question, or a simple "Go for it!" might mean to another person.

Today, as I watch the celebrations of Keisha's victory, I find myself smiling through a few tears because there's one person I wish were sitting beside me to enjoy this moment. My Steve. He would have been absolutely delighted. I can almost see his wonderful smile as he remembered the afternoon when a slowly moving car brought a future governor and her family into our lives.

I wish we could raise our glasses together once more, with smooth jazz playing and the summer breeze drifting across our lawn. But I take comfort in believing that somewhere in his special place in heaven, Steve is smiling down on Keisha, too.

And perhaps he's saying what we said all those years ago: "Go for it, Keisha!"

Only this time, I imagine he'd add: "And look how far you've come."

Jane C. Edmonds lives in Oak Bluffs.

THE GAZETTE CHRONICLE

Double Decker

From the November 10, 1950 edition of the Vineyard Gazette:

The old sail loft, commonly known as the Double Decker, at the head of the Vineyard Haven wharf, was auctioned Wednesday afternoon to Henry Cronig, whose high bid of $250 was believed an almost infinitesimal price for the historic two-story structure. Terms of the sale are that the building must be moved away from the present site by Dec. 1, and that the ground there be seeded.

Mr. Cronig, Vineyard Haven real estate man, said he had "no idea at all" what would happen to the building, but that his first act would be to communicate with Mrs. Wilfrid O. White of Vineyard Haven and Boston. She had expressed interest in preserving the structure, but has given him no assurances that she will actually underwrite its future.

Indications are that renovations must be extensive if the building is to be turned into a private home. Although it is in good repair for its years, the many different uses to which the Double Decker has been put leave it somewhat disordered for living purposes.

There are several rooms, however, and endless possibilities for an ingenious decorator. The top floor has particular potentialities because of its long enclosed porch at the rear. But terms stipulate that windows there are the property of Leroy W. Luce of Vineyard Haven whose shop and restaurant were there until recently, and will not be transferred to the new owner.

Although a large crowd turned out for the auction, only two persons engaged in active bidding. The crowd was attracted by the unusual historical interest of the building and its long-time service as a landmark both for Vineyard Haven residents and for persons arriving on the Island by ferry.

Plans now are to level off the area as a parking space to accommodate the many cars which jam facilities during the summer season.

Just before the auction began, the building teemed with persons who looked like prospective bidders. Philip J. Norton, the auctioneer, commented that it was "a good turn-out", and he obviously expected the bidding to prove more spirited than it did. But by the time Mr. Norton began soliciting bids, many people had moved outside and stood on the sidewalk looking on, as if a funeral were proceeding inside to which they hadn't been invited, although they'd long known the corpse.

There was a long silence among the persons who had remained on the top floor, where the auction took place. Finally Michael Fontes Jr., Vineyard Haven contractor, tentatively offered a $100 bid. Mr. Cronig jumped him to $200. When Mr. Fontes seemed to be going no higher, Mr. Norton went to the window and yelled at the bystanders: "Doesn't anyone want to buy a building?"

Under urging from Mr. Cronig, Mr. Fontes at last went up to $225. But Mr. Crong's next bid of $250 was the last of the afternoon. "Do I hear $275?" asked Mr. Norton. "Do I hear $275?" But he didn't. "The building goes to Henry Cronig for $250," said the auctioneer.

No one seemed very upset or surprised, but there was general agreement among those who wandered through the building that Mr. Cronig had a bargain. He said himself that he had anticipated more bidders, and reiterated to all questioners that no definite plans had been made relative to its future. There was no mention of the most fearsome possibility — tearing down the historic structure for its lumber value.

The Dukes County Historical Society had attempted to preserve this remnant of the Island's maritime era, but had failed either to find a prospective purchaser or to convince the Steamship Authority, which owns the property, that it might serve to house ticket offices and waiting rooms.

Its most recent commercial uses has been as the site of candy and antique shops. Many years ago, the Double Decker served as a cooper shop, and later as the home of Boat Brand Noman's Land codfish, which was packed there.

Adding to their extensive South Water street holdings in Edgartown, Mr. and Mrs. Leo J. Convery of the Harborside Inn have just completed the purchase of the Errol T. Fisher house and are already at work on changes and improvements to the property. The third house from the bank, the dwelling is next to the home of the Converys.

It is in the same general architectural style as the Brown and Convery house, and the new owner has been told that the trio of houses once stood near Tower Hill where an early settlement was started and where there was once a tavern. On the 1858 map of Edgartown the house is identified as the "Mrs. J. Pease" home. There were so many "J. Peases," though, that the identification is not very helpful.

In 1858 the present Convery house was owned by J. Bunting, and next to the Errol Fisher house on the other side came Capt. Roswell Coon, Capt. Lafayette Rowley, and the "estate of Timothy Coffin," this being the present Osborn house.

It is presumed that the Converys will use their new purchase for the purposes of the Harborside Inn.

Compiled by Hilary Wallcox
library@vineyardgazette.com



Ray Ewing

Vineyard Wind, pictured here, and Revolution Wind are the largest offshore wind farms in the U.S.

Offshore Wind Projects Hit Milestones

From Page One

possible."

For opponents, though, the spinning turbines are a towering testament to the industrialization of the Atlantic. Mike Lombardi, the president of Green Oceans, a nonprofit that has been fighting offshore wind development, said politicians had previously talked about not developing important fishing areas such as Cox's Ledge.

"Yet, here we are with projects atop this very area," he said, referring to Revolution Wind.

Despite the years of effort it took to reach this point, the announcements for the buildouts were relatively understated – a tactic wind developers have taken in recent years as the industry has increasingly become a target of the Trump administration.

Vineyard Wind spokesman Craig Gilvarg confirmed that the project, which will supply power to the regional grid in Massachusetts, reached full commercial operations on Oct. 29, but declined to say anything more.

Revolution Wind's completion was announced by its parent company, Orsted, during an investor call on November 5. CEO Rasmus Errboe said the project is beginning to fulfill its power purchase agreements to supply electricity to Rhode Island and Connecticut.

"The project will supply enough electricity to power more than 350,000 homes and businesses," he said. "This is a major milestone, and I'm very pleased with the resilience and efforts that the team has demonstrated to achieve this."

The waters around the Vineyard have been eyed for decades as one of the premier locations for offshore wind in the U.S., and have even been referred to as the "Saudi Arabia of wind."

In 2010, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management – the federal agency tasked with overseeing the rollout of the new industry – began seeking industry interest in the area. Two years later, the agency designated an 826,241-acre wind energy area and began the process that would eventually lead to commercial leases.

Vineyard Wind and Revolution Wind's predecessor – Deepwater Wind New England – scooped up two of the areas and then moved on to permitting. Vineyard Wind, a partnership between foreign renewable energy companies Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners and Avangrid, got approval to build turbines about 14 miles off the Island in 2021. It was the first commercial-scale offshore wind project in the U.S. to get federal approval.

Revolution Wind, which started out as a partnership between Danish developer Orsted and U.S. energy supplier Eversource before the latter pulled out, received the signoff from the U.S. Department of the Interior in 2023 to erect 65 turbines to the southwest of Aquinnah.

Though other projects were completed before them, including the five-turbine Block Island wind farm and 12-turbine South Fork Wind off New York, Vineyard Wind and Revolution Wind are now the largest offshore wind energy projects in the U.S., boasting 62 and 65 turbines respectively.

But the projects were controversial from the start on the Vineyard, where they can be seen from the south shore. Fishermen worried about what the addition of the turbines could do to the ecosystem, while others just didn't want to see them from the beach.

They also became the target of numerous lawsuits, and some of the initial test cases for the offshore wind permitting process. Thomas Melone, an Edgartown seasonal homeowner and president of a solar energy company, claimed the approvals for Vineyard Wind violated the Marine Mammal Protection Act. He lost that case and subsequent appeals.

A group of Nantucket residents argued that the permitting for Vineyard Wind didn't adequately consider the impacts on the critically endangered North Atlantic right whale, an argument that also didn't gain traction in the courts.

Revolution Wind faced lawsuits from a nonprofit that owned historic seaside mansions in Rhode Island, and from the advocacy group Green Oceans, which has a number of supporters on Martha's Vineyard.

The projects emerged relatively unscathed from those challenges, but came up against major headwinds in recent years.

Vineyard Wind suffered arguably the most public failure to date for the nascent industry when one of its blades snapped in July 2024, scattering debris in the ocean. The company attributed the failure to a manufacturing defect, and several other blades had to be removed for fear of a similar problem.

The malfunction kicked off a fight between Vineyard Wind and the manufacturer of the blades, GE Vernova, which threatened to terminate its agreement to finish the project. That resulted in another lawsuit over payment owed. The two settled the dispute in September.

Revolution Wind, meanwhile, became cannon fodder for the Trump administration. In August 2025, federal officials ordered construction to halt, citing national security concerns. A court later issued an injunction against that order.

In December 2025, the Department of the Interior announced another suspension affecting Revolution Wind, Vineyard Wind, and three other offshore projects, citing more alleged threats to national security.

The courts again intervened, construction continued, and Revolution Wind started to deliver power this spring.

That both the Vineyard Wind and Revolution Wind projects were able to not only get through construction but also get to full operations was welcome news to electric suppliers as New England heads into winter.

"This significant milestone comes at a critical time for our region where extreme temperatures have underscored how important it is to bring every potential energy source online for customers," said Eversource CEO Joseph Nolan during an earnings call last week. "[Revolution Wind] adds essential new supply that enhances grid reliability, meets growing demand and ensures dependable power when our customers need it most."

Between July and September, Vineyard Wind produced 336,382 megawatt-hours of electricity, according to data released by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. During that span, Revolution Wind, which has more turbines but a smaller overall capacity, generated 314,321 megawatt-hours.

Both projects are expected to create more power now that they have reached commercial operation on the cusp of the windy season.

Katie Segal, the senior offshore wind director for the Massachusetts Environmental League, sees this as a win for the Bay State.

"Prices will come down," she said. "The wind itself is free, unlike fossil fuel, which is variable in price."

Getting two of the nation's biggest projects online will also be a boon for other developers, who will be able to study how wind farms pan out on the water.

"I think having these two projects will only give us more and more data, and real-time information on what's working and what can improve," Ms. Segal said. "These two are really paving the way for Massachusetts and New England projects in a positive way."

But other developers hoping to build off the Vineyard will likely be several years behind Vineyard Wind and Revolution Wind.

On his first day back in office, President Donald Trump issued a memorandum halting new federal offshore wind leasing and directing agencies to pause certain permitting activity. A federal district court later vacated the order.

The administration has also tried to persuade developers to abandon existing offshore leases, offering financial settlements in exchange.

"There's no denying that [offshore wind energy] is facing particular challenges with this administration," said Anxhela Mile, a staff attorney at the Conservation Law Foundation, which has been fighting on behalf of the industry in court.

With the Democrats' big wins in the midterms last week, wind energy could gain more political support, but getting any new projects over the finish line will likely continue to be difficult under President Donald Trump, according to Ms. Mile. That could scare away some investors to other countries, such as China, that are embracing the technology. Still, there are opportunities for expansion in the U.S.

"We might not have new projects in the next two years, but there's still a lot of work states can do for construction in ports," Ms. Mile said.

Even Revolution Wind could face future legal uncertainty. Last month, the Department of the Interior asked a federal court to remand federal approval for the project so it could be reconsidered by the agency. The Interior claimed that its own reasoning for approval, done under the Biden Administration, wasn't adequate enough to justify signing off on the project.

"Where the administrative record does not support the agency's determination, the ordinary course is remand to the agency for further evaluation and explanation," the department's attorney wrote in an Oct. 9 filing.

While Revolution's battles continue, activity will likely start to ramp up soon at Vineyard Wind's operations and maintenance headquarters on Beach Road in Vineyard Haven.

Vineyard Wind staff previously said that the building would be the central hub for the 62 turbines, with several dozen maintenance and operation employees expected to be stationed there to keep things spinning.

The building has a massive warehouse for turbine parts, as well as offices and a control room. Across the street, Vineyard Wind maintains a dock on Vineyard Haven harbor for boats that will shepherd workers to and from the turbines.

Mr. Gilvarg, the Vineyard Wind spokesman, did not respond to requests for interviews or information about what Islanders should expect to see at the facility.

For Mr. Cyr, who was voted into office the year after Vineyard Wind won its 167,000-acre lease, the completion of the two projects was a sign that Massachusetts is starting to shift into becoming a power producer ahead of its goal to cut greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030.

"We are going to shift from being a net energy importer to being able to power our communities regionally, and doing it largely with renewable energy," he said. "I'm heartenedthat we are taking action here."

West William Street Considered for Town Hall

From Page One

A 2,800-square-foot basement would provide ample storage space, Mr. McKevitz said, and the building would leave enough land on the site for potential future housing.

If the project were to begin in 2028, Icon Architecture estimated the total cost would be $14 million for a modular building or $15.2 million for traditional construction.

A modular building comes together more quickly, Mr. McKevitz said, while traditional methods allow for better airtightness, which is a plus for energy sustainability.

Once the West William street building is occupied, he said, the second phase of the project would bring sweeping renovations to the existing town hall on Spring street.

The first floor would be gutted and rebuilt to provide 3,750 square feet of permanent office space for the finance, human resources and town administrator's departments, Mr. McKevitz said.

The second floor would hold a large conference room, employee kitchenette and storage, he said.

The Katharine Cornell Theatre, on the town hall's top floor, would receive updates to its lighting, air-handling systems and finished surfaces, Mr. McKevitz said.

The renovation also would include new, replica replacements for the building's historic windows and higher-performance fiberglass windows for the more recently-added wings.

"We're being very respectful of the original building in this," architect Ned Collier said, adding that the design is meant to subordinate the additions on either side of the onetime church.

Icon Architecture has redesigned the additions, which currently are painted white, with larger windows and darker walls than the main building.

Select board members raised concerns about the contrast, noting that the building is located within the William Street Historic District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

But Mr. McKevitz said that while the design is up for discussion, his firm followed the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's guidelines for the National Register of Historic Places in making the additions identifiably more contemporary than the main building.

"There is a fear with the National Register and the Secretary of Interior that when you try to blend things, the understanding of what was original and what isn't becomes difficult to read, and they view that as a very important element for additions," he said.

Icon estimated the Spring street project to cost $10.3 million if work begins in 2028 or $11.7 million if delayed to 2030.

Town administrator Joseph LaCivita said Tisbury could pay for the projects by issuing short-term notes rather than bonds, which would affect the town's financial rating.

Select board members Roy Cutrer, John Cahill and Connie Alexander voted unanimously in favor of Icon's conceptual design, clearing the way for Mr. LaCivita and Mr. Homan to begin developing a warrant article for the spring town meeting.

Oak Bluffs Could Enact New Rules for Short-Term Rentals

From Page One

that it needed more time to bake.

Select board member Bill Cleary chaired the committee, which was composed of town officials and concerned members of the public.

"What we wanted to really focus on was the registration process ... [and] manage whatever expectations and/or parameters the state will eventually put on things, and just move in a positive direction by recognizing them as a legal use," Mr. Cleary said.

Short-term rentals are not currently prohibited by any Oak Bluffs bylaw, but they are also not explicitly allowed. A similar situation bred legal turmoil on Nantucket, where both the town and property owners ended up in court after short-term rentals showed up without a bylaw expressly permitting them. Nantucket voted last year to approve short-term rentals, and the attorney general upheld the decision in May.

Chris Chambers, a member of the subcommittee and vice chair of the Oak Bluffs planning board, has been pushing to codify short-term rentals in town for years, in part to prevent what happened on Nantucket.

There are over 1,000 vacation rentals in Oak Bluffs registered with the state, and Mr. Chambers described them as a "critical lifeblood" to the town's economy.

"I think it's a beautifully written, simple bylaw ... I can't imagine why any of the residents would be opposed to it," he said.

Mr. Cleary said it was the committee's goal to balance the town's economic reliance on short-term rentals, including tax revenue, with the town's affordable housing needs.

"There may be a feeling out there that [short-term rentals] are overtaking the marketplace," Mr. Cleary said. "We definitely have a housing issue.... I don't think we need less [short-term rentals]. I also don't think that we perhaps need more."

Several potential short-term rental regulations discussed back in April, such as registration fees and limiting each owner to operating a single short-term rental, did not make it into the bylaw being proposed in December. The bylaw Oak Bluffs voters will consider next month is not as strict as West Tisbury's version, passed in 2024, which requires owners to occupy their rentals for part of the year and only operate one at a time in addition to registering them.

Select board member Mark Leonard, who was vice chair of the short-term rental subcommittee, said the bylaw is a good regulatory foundation that could lead to further rules down the road, such as mandatory inspections.

"It's a good starting point," he said. "As the building code matures, as our registration process matures, it may change."

There will be several other articles on the warrant. With spring budget season still a way off, voters will exclusively deal with proposed bylaw changes.

Voters will also weigh amendments to the town's bylaw governing boat storage, designed to codify residents' right to store one or two of their own marine vessels on their properties depending on their zoning district. It specifies owners may store an unlimited number of non-motorized vessels shorter than 14 feet belonging to them.

"We live in a boating community, and so people need to be able to keep a boat on their property," Mr. Chambers said. "What we wanted to do was create some structure around that right to store something on your property."

Voters will also consider strengthening the town's restrictions on overnight parking for commercial vehicles in multi-family residential sites, formalizing the roads and byways committee and limiting street performances to no more than 90 minutes per 24 hours, while releasing them from needing to list their social security numbers on performance applications.

Other changes proposed by the planning board seek to update or clarify the definitions of "structure," "equipment," "footprint" and "building height" in the Oak Bluffs zoning bylaws.

"We've added language to create clarity so contractors, architects and homeowners can easily interpret those bylaws," Mr. Chambers said.

Mr. Leonard is encouraging Oak Bluffs voters to attend town meeting and provide input on the issues presented.

"It's just the opportunity to vote and have your voice heard," he said. "[It's] the cornerstone of democracy."

Oak Bluffs special town meeting takes place at 7 p.m. on Dec. 1 at the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School performing arts center.

Copeland Committee Questions Proposed Ocean View Hotel

From Page One

tion of the hotel to minimize the extent to which it would block the view of the harbor. He argued that the project as presented met all of the requirements imposed by the Copeland committee, including height, setback and visual requirements.

He pointed out that the Ocean View lot is grandfathered into Oak Bluffs zoning as a commercial lot despite being surrounded by a residential neighborhood.

"We've gone through quite a few versions of this in order to try and accommodate and minimize the impact that [the Ocean View] is going to have on the folks who already live there," Mr. Luskin said at the meeting. "But at the end of the day, it is a Bl [commercial] lot that was zoned by the town of Oak Bluffs.... There's a court case about it affirming it."

"That tension ... [is] not a reason for the plans to be changed, altered, diminished," he added.

Scott Slarsky, the only member of the Copeland committee to vote in favor of the plan, argued that the project is in line with the architectural style of the neighborhood and Copeland's own guidelines. He also said that the building could actually enhance the viewscape from several areas of the neighborhood.

"For all sections of the Copeland plan review district guidelines, from my experience as an architect of buildings and active overlaid districts in communities of historical significance, I find the proposed Ocean View house to be appropriate and a welcome addition [to the neighborhood]," he said.

Committee chair Gail Barmakian disagreed. She said she does not see it as architecturally cohesive with the character of the neighborhood and "radically alters and disrupts" the viewscape.

"I think because of the size, it stands out and overpowers the neighborhood," she said.

Committee member Shelley Christiansen echoed Ms. Barmakian in not finding the project appropriate, a decision that came down in part to character.

"The concept, I think, is beautiful," committee member Shelley Christiansen added. "That said, I have tremendous problems with the massing of this building and its impact on the character of the community."

The Copeland district planning committee's jurisdiction is outlined in the Oak Bluffs zoning bylaws. The bylaw says that Copeland's blessing is necessary in order to pull other permits for a project but that the building commissioner can override Copeland's authority in specific cases, such as if adhering to Copeland's rules would create economic hardship for a homeowner.

The bylaw lists a maximum building height and turn-of-the-century Victorian architectural standards to which applicants must adhere, all in the name of enhancing "the physical character of the landscape."

But the concept of "character," outside of the bylaw's specific benchmarks for an appropriate project, is somewhat of a gray area.

"Character, if you will, is somewhat subjective," Ms. Christiansen said in an interview. "But just based on our knowledge of the district and our experience looking [at] and living in the district, as several of us do, we have our own sense of appropriateness."

In an interview, Oak Bluffs building commissioner Adam Petkus said that because of the lot's commercial zoning, the Ocean View project does not need to go before the zoning board of appeals or planning board at this time. In other words, the Copeland committee's approval was the last stop before Mr. Petkus would be ready to hand over a building permit to Mr. Hajjar.

When asked if the plan would need to go back through the Copeland committee again before he would issue a permit, he suggested a path forward has yet to be determined. He said it's rare for Copeland to not deem a project appropriate.

"Every situation and every application is unique in its own way, and Copeland does not historically see applications for new development," he said.

Mr. Petkus said the next step is working with Mr. Hajjar and his team to figure out how to proceed.

"Going right back to the zoning bylaw, we have to use that as the north star," Mr. Petkus said. "So I'm hoping that just like [with] any application, that the town and the applicant can work together to come up with a beneficial solution."

Islander Preacher Joins Growing Movement of Women Priests

From Page One

case worker among the elderly poor in Seattle. The years were formative for her, she said, but when she moved back to the East Coast after volunteering, she built a private-sector career as an executive with an expanding home care company.

By then, she said, established Roman Catholicism had begun to chafe against her own spiritual calling.

"I kind of dropped out of the church when I realized, well, I can't be a priest," said Reverend Leahy.

But she never lost her faith and continued to attend worship services with a variety of denominations.

"I wanted to explore other religions ... to see how, if there is a god for people in general, who is that god and how can it be for everybody?" Reverend Leahy said.

She was still working as an executive when she met her husband, Manley Kiley, Jr., the single father of two young children; the couple later had a daughter, who is now 26.

In 2011, while living in Duxbury, Reverend Leahy contracted Lyme disease from a hidden tick bite that led to a late diagnosis and a series of debilitating illnesses.

"I had everything that went along with [Lyme], like meningitis, encephalitis, Bell's palsy," she recalled.

"It was a very intense illness, and I had to rest a lot. And it was the first time in probably 20 years that I got a chance to just slow down and rest," Reverend Leahy said.

The two-year process of sickness and recovery also provided the opportunity to think about her life beyond the day-to-day, she said.

"During that time I had this epiphany of 'Okay, I've done all these things in my life, but what I really want to do is get my master's of divinity, and I want to go back to theology and spirituality,'" Reverend Leahy said.



Ray Ewing

Rev. Mary Michael Leahy.

After regaining her health, Reverend Leahy began taking classes at BC and the family moved to Chestnut Hill near the university. She also volunteered for the homeless in downtown Boston with St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and worked on a homelessness prevention initiative with then-mayor of Boston Marty Walsh.

"I was assigned to gathering and supporting all the people who were homeless, who were going to be on [the mayor's] committee, and getting them to meetings and doing follow up and all that kind of stuff," Reverend Leahy said.

"I really felt I met Jesus there in those situations, working with those people, and it fed me, [although] at times it could be very heartbreaking," she said.

While she worked with Episcopalians at St. Paul's and explored other Christian denominations, Reverend Leahy never lost her Roman Catholic vocation.

"I still felt called to the priesthood," she said, despite an explicit prohibition from the Vatican in Rome.

The official Roman Catholic position, established by Pope John Paul II in 1994, is that the church has no authority to ordain women because Jesus Christ did not appoint any women as his apostles.

In 2002, however, rogue bishops in Europe ordained seven women priests. Although the Vatican moved swiftly to excommunicate everyone concerned, two of the women were made bishops the following year with the ability to ordain priests themselves.

Today, the Roman Catholic Women Priests organization lists clergy in the Americas and Africa, with the largest number working in the United States.

Reverend Leahy learned about the movement in 2015 through the Women's Ordination Conference, a feminist Roman Catholic organization founded in 1975 to advocate for women priests.

"It was pretty much from then on that I was committed to that path," she said.

After earning her master's of divinity degree from BC in 2017, Reverend Leahy said, she made time to contemplate her next step.

"I took a couple years of discernment. I did some other kinds of work with spiritual direction and centering prayer, and I was still always in touch with Roman Catholic women priests," she said.

"Finally, I just decided to do it."

While women priests are not required to take the traditional Roman Catholic vows of chastity, poverty and obedience, Reverend Leahy said, the requirements for ordination are stringent.

In addition to a master's degree in divinity, she said, prospective priests must have acquired years of pastoral experience and provide multiple references from people who know them in a ministerial role.

They also have to submit a spiritual autobiography, to be reviewed by an ordination committee, and undergo both psychological evaluations and a criminal background check, Reverend Leahy said.

She was first ordained a deacon in 2020 and, in late 2021, realized her long-held dream of becoming a priest.

"It was just a beautiful experience, crossing that bridge into a different kind of life and ... finally matching up with what had been inside me my whole life," Reverend Leahy said.

For her first three years of priesthood, she led a small community in Cambridge called the Mary Magdalene Spirituality Center, located near Porter Square. She likely would have continued that ministry, Reverend Leahy said, if her health had allowed.

"I had an illness that required me to have a couple surgeries a couple years ago, and my husband retired at that time too," she said.

The couple have moved full-time to what had been their vacation home in Vineyard Haven and now is their only residence, Reverend Leahy said.

"He really wanted to be here, and I always had in the back of my head that I was supposed to live on Martha's Vineyard one day. That was an important thing in my life," she said.

Her Island story began with a visit to the beach at Aquinnah when she was 30, Reverend Leahy said.

"This spiritual energy seemed to just come charging up out of the sand, and it literally knocked me over," she recalled.

"For a long time after that, I was trying to process [it]. What was that all about? What did that mean? And ... I settled on the fact that I was meant to live on the Island at some point as my home," Reverend Leahy said.

The interfaith Island Clergy Association has welcomed her, she said. Although she hasn't met the local Roman Catholic priests, she has been invited to preach at some of the Protestant churches. She also performs weddings and funerals, Reverend Leahy said.

At the Unitarian Universalist Church, Reverend Leahy celebrates mass at 5 p.m. on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. She welcomes contact from Islanders in person or through her email, newseeds28@gmail.com.

"If anybody wants to talk about this phenomenon that is happening and that I'm a part of, I'm more than open to answering questions [at] meetings or coffee or whatever they would like to do," she said.

"They can ask whatever they want, or argue about it, for or against. I'm really happy about doing that, too," Reverend Leahy said.

CALENDAR

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

Friday, Nov. 13

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.

Costume Collection for 2027 Costume Swap, drop off your gently used, clean Halloween costumes for 2027 swap, West Tisbury Public Library, 1042 State Road, West Tisbury, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., free, westtisburylibrary.org, 508-6933-366.

Small Works Show, new works by gallery artists, Louisa Gould Gallery, 54 Main Street, Vineyard Haven, daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., louisagould.com, 508-693-7373.

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

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, 10:30 to 11 a.m.

Harvest Art Exhibition, Circuit Arts' first annual fall group exhibition, Martha's Vineyard Playhouse, 24 Church street, Vineyard Haven, daily except Sunday and Monday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., circuitarts.org, 508-696-6300.

Holiday Art Pop Up, art in all mediums by over 15 artists, 510 State Road, West Tisbury, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Thursday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., agalleryartdesign.com, 508-939-0518.

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

World Market Holiday Shop, fair trade gifts from around the world, Capawock Theatre, 43 Main Street, **Vineyard Haven**, daily, 11 a.m. to 5 a.m., free, 508-981-2598.

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

Featherstone's Annual Holiday Gift Show, 'tis the season for supporting the arts community, Featherstone Center for the Arts, daily, 12 to 4 p.m., free.

2D Wool Painting Class with Laura Hearn, learn to needle felt at the library, registration required, West Tisbury Public Library, 2:30 to 4:45 p.m.

Happy Place Club, self-care, crafts, games and more for kids 8 and up, West Tisbury Public Library, 3:15 to 4:15 p.m.

Friends in Ferment: An Evening of Beer and Cheese Pairings, explore Island beer, cheese, and fermentation with Morgen and Bow, Martha's Vineyard Museum, 5 to 6:30 p.m., $75.

Dog Park The Musical: A Workshop Production, Martha's Vineyard Playhouse, Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m., Sunday, 2 p.m., pay-what-you-can (suggested $25), circuitarts.thundertix.com, 508-696-6300.

WE DANCE: Dance Class and DJ DC ROSE, PathwaysARTS, 9 State Road, Chilmark, 7 to 10:30 p.m., free, pathwaysmv.org, 508-645-9098.

Saturday, Nov. 14

Hunter Safety Course, Massachusetts Free Hunter Safety Certification Course for first time hunting license purchasers, Martha's Vineyard Rod & Gun Club, 265 The Boulevard, Edgartown, Saturday and Sunday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., free, 508-389-6300.

Fall Cleanup and Spring Prep, Martha's Vineyard Community Greenhouse, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., marthasvineyardgreenhouse.org, 774-563-9225.

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

Truckin' MV, rain or shine, Martha's Vineyard Regional High School, 100 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road, Oak Bluffs, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., free, vineyardmontessori.com, 508-693-4090.

Community Dance Class, for more information, visit westtisburylibrary.org, West Tisbury Public Library, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Truth and Tea: Wôpanâak Foodways and the Truth About Thanksgiving, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Seed Sorting and Tea, for more information, visit westtisburylibrary.org, West Tisbury Public Library, 12 to 2 p.m.

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

Youth Printmaking with Allison Doherty, for ages 11 and up, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., $55.

Scavenger Hunt Photo Race, for ages 11 to 18, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 1 to 3 p.m.

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

Creating a Floral Centerpiece with the Martha's Vineyard Garden Club, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 2 to 3:30 p.m.

All That Jazz: Film Screening and Discussion with Dave Kish, for more information, visit westtisburylibrary.org, West Tisbury Public Library, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Healing Hour with Sue Angeley, with sound and crystals, Stillpoint, 20 Stillpoint Meadows Road, West Tisbury, 3 to 4 p.m., $20 to $40, email if cost is a barrier, stillpointmv.org.

Partner Dance Class with Ellen Brodsky, learn partner dancing with professional dance teacher Ellen Brodsky, Edgartown Public Library, 26 Edgartown-West Tisbury Road, Edgartown, 3 to 4:30 p.m., edgartownlibrary.assabetinteractive.com, 508-627-4221.

[Virtual] Toward Ethical Scholarship: Stolen Land, Stories, and Identities, for more information or to receive the Zoom link, please email gwilbur@clamsnet.org, 4 p.m., 508-693-3366.

Harvest Dinner, dine-in or take-out, First Baptist Church Parish House, 5 to 6:30 p.m., donation: $20 adults, $10 children under 10, firstbaptistvh.com, 508-246-1729.

MVRHS Minnesingers Silent Auction and Karaoke Fundraiser, Portuguese-American Club, 137 Vineyard Avenue, Oak Bluffs, 6 to 9 p.m., mvrhsminnesingers.org, 310-508-2856.

Sunday, Nov. 15

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

Mixed Media Collage Workshop: Make it Your Own with Bricque Garber, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., $110.

The Healing Journey with Reverend Vicky Hanjian, in person or online, Unitarian Universalist Society of Martha's Vineyard, 10 a.m., free, uusmv.org.

An Exploration of Somatic Meditation, Stillpoint, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., $30 single class, $125 for five-class pass.

My World by Washington Ledesma: Opening Reception, Martha's Vineyard Film Society/Film Center 79 Beach Road, Vineyard Haven, 1 to 3 p.m., free, featherstoneart.org, 508-693-1850.

Soil Testing Q&A with Faren Osnoss, review your soil testing results with professional gardener Faren Osnoss, Agricultural Hall, 35 Panhandle Road, West Tisbury, 1 to 2:30 p.m., free, marthasvineyardagriculturalsociety.org, 508-693-9549.

Cat (or Dog) Sculpture Workshop with Sabrina Kuchta, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 2 to 4 p.m., $50.

Community Death Education, for more information, visit westtisburylibrary.org/calendar, West Tisbury Public Library, 2 to 3:45 p.m.

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

Climate Book Club, email the library at wt_mail@clamsnet.org to sign up, West Tisbury Public Library, 4 to 5 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 16

Hands-On First Aid and CPR Training for Commercial Fishermen, for commercial fishermen, Chilmark Community Center, 520 South Road, Chilmark, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., free, fishingpartnership.org, 774-840-9418.

Moving Stories Dance Class, creative movement dance for kids ages 2 to 6, West Tisbury Public Library, 11 to 11:45 a.m.

Martha's Vineyard Woman's Club Monthly Meeting, byo luncheon meeting with Dr. Robert Tankard, St Andrews Hall, 12 to 1:30 p.m., free, womansclubofmv.org, 860-916-3364.

Holiday Floral Design Ideas, Emily Coulter will speak on creating natural and seasonal floral designs for the holiday home, The Wakeman Center, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., free, marthasvineyardgardenclub.org, 617-543-7898.

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

Pathways



Ray Ewing

Keeping Arts Alive All Winter

Pathways Arts is kicking off another season of winter cheer with a slate of events, from Poetry & Prose Tuesdays to dance parties and musical performances, all taking place at the Chilmark Tavern.

Founded by Marianne Goldberg in 2009, the organization was created to give the up-Island community reasons to gather throughout the winter months.

"Marianne's saying was 'Keeping a light on in Chilmark,'" said current Pathways director Keren Tonneson.

On Friday, Nov. 13, attendees can learn a flash mob routine, followed by DJ DC Rose, who will spin R&B, disco and funk.

One week later, guests can return for soulful country music and dancing from local band Blue Yonder on Nov. 20.

"There's always new people coming through. We see a lot of the same people on Tuesdays and we have a lot of regulars, [but] different music brings in different people," Ms. Tonneson said.

Ms. Tonneson highlighted Jeremy Berlin as one of the organization's most popular performers. Pathways will host Mr. Berlin's group in both January and February.

"One of our most heavily attended events is when Jeremy Berlin's trio comes in and he brings in singers," she said. "It's so well attended that we do it twice."

Ms. Tonneson emphasized that Pathways' listening-room atmosphere is one of the qualities that distinguishes the venue from other Island gathering places.

"We don't let people talk while musicians are playing, and that's been something that scared them in the beginning because they're not used to having people focus on them like that," she said. "But they get used to it after a couple tries. That's something that really sets us apart."

-Lily Echeverria

Letters of Gratitude: Kids Letter Writing Workshop, Edgartown Public Library, 3 to 4 p.m.

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

Monday Night Movies: Howl's Moving Castle, Martha's Vineyard Playhouse, 6 p.m., pay-what-you-can, circuitarts.org, 508-696-6300.

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

Tuesday, Nov. 17

Functional Strength with Alyssa Camara, please register for each date you wish to attend, Edgartown Public Library, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

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

After School Club, activities, board games and crafts, Aquinnah Public Library 1 Church Street, Aquinnah, 3 to 5 p.m., aquinnahlibrary.org.

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

Kids Cook Around the World, day-of registration begins at 2:45 p.m. in the Children's Room and is limited to 10 participants, Edgartown Public Library, 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Teen and Tween Drop In Arts and Crafts Class, for kids ages 10 to 18 years, West Tisbury Public Library, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Behind the Art: Stories of Rescue, Inspiration and Compassion, artist and architect share rescued animals' stories, art and inspiration, Martha's Vineyard Museum, 5 to 6 p.m., MVM members: $15, non-members: $25, mvmuseum.org.

Newsletter Co-Working Sessions, monthly 90-minute session working on your email newsletter, Haven, 517 State Road, Vineyard Haven, 5 to 6:30 p.m., $100, secure.qgiv.com, 508-693-9222.

Table Tennis, for all ages and skill levels, Tisbury Senior Center, 34 Pine Tree Road, Vineyard Haven, Tuesday and Thursday, 5 p.m., free, mvtabletennis.com, 508-728-5898.

Deer Breakdown and Butchering with Slough Farm and Ag Society, The FARM Institute, 14 Aero avenue, Edgartown, 5:30 to 7 p.m., free, 508-627-7007.

Author Talk: Ripple Effects and Other Stories by Lesley Mahoney O'Connell, a conversation on writing with Lesley O'Connell and Brenda Horrigan, Vineyard Haven Public Library, 200 Main Street, Vineyard Haven, 6 p.m., free, vhpl.blogspot.com, 508-696-4211.

Community Pizza Nights, pizza and optional potluck for our Island community, Chilmark Community Church, 6 to 7 p.m., free, 508-645-3100.

Tuesdays in the Newsroom, round-table discussion with four former Vineyard Gazette reporters, Vineyard Gazette, 6 to 7:30 p.m., free, vineyardgazette.com, 617-823-4224.

Literary Arts Readings by Dan Martino and Gregory Mone, PathwaysARTS, 7:30 to 9 p.m., free.

Wednesday, Nov.18

Old-Time Appalachian Jam, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 8:15 to 10 a.m.

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

Wednesday Storytime, with stories, songs, scarves and a parachute, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 10:15 a.m.

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

Tummy Time For Babies, circle group for babies led by Dr. Katy Smith, West Tisbury Public Library, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Mah Jongg Group, registration required, observers are not permitted, Edgartown Public Library, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Lego and Magna-tile Club, for kids of all ages, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 2 to 4:30 p.m.

Magical Magnets, fun with magnets, Chilmark Free Public Library, 2:30 to 5 p.m.

Fit Camp with Bonnie Kingsbury, after-school youth fitness program, 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.

Knitting Group, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 3:15 to 4:15 p.m.

[Hybrid] Typology and Context: The Ideal in an Imperfect World, for more information, email wt_mail@clamsnet.org, West Tisbury Public Library, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

The Coast Guard Mission of a Generation, retired Coast Guard commander recounts the JFK Jr. search operation, Martha's Vineyard Museum, 5 to 6 p.m., MVM member: $15; non-member: $25.

Memoir Book Club, for more information, visit westtisburylibrary.org, West Tisbury Public Library, 5:30 to 7 p.m.

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.

Art Night — Mug Making with Sabrina Kuchta, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 6 to 8 p.m., $50.

Quilting Circle, for more information, visit westtisburylibrary.org, 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.

Agricultural Society Annual Meeting, learn what the Ag Society's been up to this year, Agricultural Hall, 7 to 8:30 p.m., free, marthasvineyardagriculturalsociety.org, 508-693-9549.

The Arnie Reisman Poetry Café, Martha's Vineyard Playhouse, 7 p.m., free, circuitarts.org.

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, Nov. 19

Little Naturalists, for young children and caregivers, Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary of Mass Audubon, 100 Felix Neck Drive, Edgartown, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., massaudubon.org, 508-627-4850.

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

Drop-in Mah Jongg, no instruction provided, Vineyard Haven Public Library, 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Modern Novel Study Group, to become a member, contact Jeff at jnasonmd@gmail.com, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., westtisburylibrary.org.

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

VHPL Book Club reads Station Eleven: A Novel by Emily St. John Mandel, Vineyard Haven Public Library, 2 p.m.

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

Ukulele Jam, public jam session meeting every other Thursday, West Tisbury Public Library, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Book Tasting Event — Read-a-Latte Cafe, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Naptime with David Stanwood, experience the calming effect of harmonic vibration, Stillpoint, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., $10 to $30 sliding scale.

Nature Walk and Craft, explore around the library and collect items to create art, Aquinnah Public Library, 3:30 to 5 p.m.

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

[Virtual] Astrology Workshop: A Beginner's Guide to Your Chart, email gwilbur@clamsnet.org to receive the Zoom link, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Edgartown Book Club — In Person October Meeting, with Edgartown Books, The Carnegie, 58 North Water Street, Edgartown, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., free, edgartownbooks.com, 508-627-8463.

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

Open Mic Night: Where Dreams Come True, sign up on arrival, Vineyard Haven Public Library, 6 p.m., free.

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

MOVIE LISTINGS
NOVEMBER 13-19

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

FRIDAY 11/13
Sense and Sensibility (PG) 4 p.m.
Fatherland (NR) 7:30 p.m.
SATURDAY 11/14
Met Opera Live: Carmen (NR) 1 p.m.
Fatherland (NR) 4:30 p.m.
Sense and Sensibility (PG) 7:30 p.m.
SUNDAY 11/15
Wicker (R) 4 p.m.
Fatherland (NR) 7:30 p.m.
MONDAY 11/16
Closed
TUESDAY 11/17
Closed
WEDNESDAY 11/18
Sense and Sensibility (PG) 4 p.m.
National Theatre Live: Golden Boy (NR) 7:30 p.m.
THURSDAY 11/19
Sense and Sensibility (PG) 4 p.m.
Fatherland (NR) 7:30 p.m.

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

FRIDAY 11/13
How to Rob a Bank (R) 4 p.m., 6:45 p.m.
Ebenezer (PG-13) 4 p.m.
Godzilla Minus Zero (R) 6:45 p.m.
SATURDAY 11/14
The Cat in the Hat (PG) 1:15 p.m.
Ebenezer (PG-13) 4 p.m., 6:45 p.m.
How to Rob a Bank (R) 1 p.m., 6:45 p.m.
Godzilla Minus Zero (R) 3:45 p.m.
SUNDAY 11/15
The Cat in the Hat (PG) 1 p.m., 3:45 p.m.
You Can See Everything (R) 6:15 p.m.
How to Rob a Bank (R) 1 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
Ebenezer (PG-13) 3:45 p.m.
MONDAY 11/16
The Cat in the Hat (PG) 4 p.m.
Godzilla Minus Zero (R) 6:30 p.m.
Ebenezer (PG-13) 4 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY 11/17
You Can See Everything (R) 5:30 p.m.
How to Rob a Bank (R) 3:45 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY 11/18
The Cat in the Hat (PG) 4 p.m.
Godzilla Minus Zero (R) 6:30 p.m.
Ebenezer (PG-13) 4 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY 11/19
You Can See Everything (R) 5:30 p.m.
How to Rob a Bank (R) 3:45 p.m., 6:30 p.m.





The Steamship Authority

JOIN US FOR A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

The Steamship Authority is holding a community conversation on Martha's Vineyard, with SSA General Manager Alex Kryska and other members of the senior leadership team attending to speak directly with residents about what's on their mind.

The conversation will be driven by the questions from the public, but likely topics include the True North Initiative and the new reservation system, the final phase of construction at the Woods Hole Terminal, the 2027 Operating Budget, and recent trends in both traffic and finances.

Bring your questions and mark your calendars:

- 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, November 17
- Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center, 130 Center Street, Tisbury
- Join by Zoom: https://bit.ly/MVconversation

We'll see you there!



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS WARRANT FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2026 7:00 P.M.

County of Dukes County, ss
To any of the Constables in the Town of Oak Bluffs,
Greetings:
In the name of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Oak Bluffs who are qualified to vote in Town Affairs and Elections, to assemble at **Martha's Vineyard High School Performing Arts Center, Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road, Oak Bluffs, on Tuesday, December 1, 2026, at 7:00 PM** in the evening, then and there to hear the reports and act upon the following articles.

ARTICLE 1 – Personnel By-law Amendment: Schedule A: The Classification Schedule

Article 1. To see if the Town will vote to amend and adopt Schedule A: The Classification Schedule of the Personnel Bylaws for employees covered under the personnel by-laws, as printed in this article or take any other action relative thereto.

Grade Level	Position Title
I	
II	Administrative Assistant (Marina)
	Administrative Assistant (Police)
	Administrative Assistant (Select Board)
	Administrative Assistant (Fire)
III	
IV	Executive Assistant I (Police)
	Executive Assistant I (Fire)
	Deputy Shellfish Constable
	Animal Control Officer
	Assistant Town Accountant
	Assistant Treasurer-Collector
	Assistant Marina Manager
V	Parks and Recreation Manager
	Executive Assistant II -Select Board
	Planning & Zoning Administrator
	Fire Prevention Officer
	EMS Coordinator
VI	COA Administrator
	Deputy Fire Chief
	Town Accountant
	Treasurer - Collector
	Human Resources Director
	Library Director
	Principal Assessor
	IT Manager
	Harbormaster / Marina Manager
	Wastewater Facilities Manager
	Shellfish Constable
VII	Building Commissioner/ Zoning Official
	Director of Human Resources and Administrative Services
	Assistant Town Administrator
	Highway Superintendent
VIII	Town Administrator

By: **Personnel Board and Town Administrator**
Executive Summary: This amendment includes the new Director of Human Resources and Administrative Services and the Building Commissioner/ Zoning Official that was not included when the Town hired a full-time Commissioner in 2022. Please note that while the Human Resources Director is still listed, it is not currently funded.

ARTICLE 2 – General By-Law Amendment - Roads and By-Ways Committee

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to amend and add the following section to the Oak Bluffs General Bylaws regarding the Roads and Byways Committee, as printed in the warrant or take any other action relative thereto.

309) Roads and Byways Committee:

The Roads and Byways Committee is a six-member advisory committee created to support the Town of Oak Bluffs by advising the Select Board and Town on planning, programs, policies, and activities related to the maintenance, improvement, safety, accessibility, parking, and long-term stewardship of public roads, sidewalks, paths, ways, and related transportation corridors.

309-1 Established: The Roads and Byways Committee was established as an Advisory Committee by the Select Board in 2008, with members assigned based on Town Department position or appointed by the Select Board.

309-2 Mission or Purpose: The mission of the Roads and Byways Committee is to advise and assist the Town of Oak Bluffs in identifying, prioritizing, and recommending policies and projects that promote safe, reliable, accessible, and well-maintained roads, sidewalks, paths, ways, parking, and related public infrastructure, including auto, bicycle, and pedestrian safety. The Committee shall support planning efforts that preserve the character of Oak Bluffs, improve accessibility for residents and visitors, and promote responsible stewardship of public ways.

309-3 Membership and Term: The Roads and Byways Committee shall consist of six members, each serving by virtue of Town office or appointment by the Select Board. Membership shall include one Select Board representative or designee, one Planning Board representative or designee, the Police Chief or representative, the Fire Chief or representative, the Highway Superintendent or representative, and the Water District Superintendent or representative. Appointed members, if any, shall serve staggered one (1) year terms expiring at the end of the fiscal year (June 30th).
The Committee may establish subcommittees or work groups to address specific initiatives and projects that support the Oak Bluffs Master Plan, transportation planning, public safety, accessibility, road maintenance, streetscape improvements, and the Committee's mission. The subcommittee and workgroups shall consist of individuals the Committee identifies as possessing the skills and abilities to advance the Committee's objectives.

309-4 Vacancy: Whenever a vacancy shall occur in the membership of the Committee, by reason of death, resignation, inability to act, or for any other reason, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the represented Board, Committee, Town department, or the Select Board for the remainder of the term.

309-5 Officers and Meetings: The Select Board representative shall serve as Chair of the Roads and Byways Committee. The Committee may elect from its membership, if needed a Vice Chair and Secretary, who shall hold such office for one year or until a new Vice Chair or Secretary are duly elected. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of Vice Chair or Secretary, the Committee shall elect one of its members to fill such vacancy at the next meeting.

309-6 Reports: The Committee shall provide the Select Board with annual updates on the status of the Roads and Byways Committee's activities and recommendations in the Town Report. The Committee shall make proposals to the Select Board as needed throughout the year regarding road and byway priorities, maintenance needs, accessibility improvements, safety concerns, funding, grants, and project statuses.

309-7 Appointments: The Committee may employ, subject to appropriation, a clerk or secretary. The position of clerk/secretary may be filled from the Select Board Office staff. If a member fills the position of clerk/secretary, that member shall act simultaneously as both a voting member and a clerk/secretary.

309-8 General Responsibilities: Committee members are expected to be familiar with the Town's Handbook for Boards and Councils, as may be amended from time to time. Committee's responsibilities include but are not limited to: Abiding by all applicable rules, regulations, and laws that may apply, including but not limited to the Conflict of Interest Law and the Open Meeting Law; reviewing and recommending priorities for roads, sidewalks, paths, public ways, traffic calming, signage, accessibility, drainage, parking, auto safety, bicycle safety, pedestrian safety, and related infrastructure; and coordinating with Town staff and other boards or committees as appropriate.

By Select Board.
Executive Summary: This bylaw formalizes the Oak Bluffs Roads and Byways Committee to advise the Select Board and Town on matters related to public roads, sidewalks, paths, ways, parking, and transportation corridors in Oak Bluffs. The Committee will provide a regular forum to review priorities, identify maintenance and safety concerns, and recommend improvements that support safe and reliable parking and travel for drivers, bicyclists, pedestrians, residents, businesses, and visitors.

ARTICLE 3 – General By-Law Amendments: 201-23: Street Performers

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Oak Bluffs General Bylaws 201-23 sections D and F, governing the permits of Street Performers, by deleting the text identified by strikeouts and by adding the text shown in bold, and by making no other changes to the language of the existing bylaw, which is printed in the warrant for context.
2.3 Street Performers Bylaw:
D Permit Required: A street performer's permit shall be issued by the Town to each applicant in exchange for a completed application and a fee of $50:
(1) A completed application for a permit, and the permit itself, shall contain such information as may be required by the Town and shall include the applicant's name, current address, permanent address, ~~social security number~~ and telephone number. The permit application shall be signed by the applicant and it shall specify the type of performance for which a permit is requested.
(2) The permit shall be valid from the date on which it is issued to the end of that calendar year.
(3) The permit shall be nontransferable and shall state the applicant's name, type of performance, the permit number of the applicant and the year in which the permit is valid. Each member of a group of performers who play together shall be required to obtain an individual permit.

(F) Permitted Performances:
1. Performances may take place in the following locations:
(i) ~~In public areas, except within 200 feet of an elementary school, secondary school, church while in session or a hospital open at any time, further to except within 25 feet of a public entryway of an open business and further to except public areas excluded by the Select Board or the Chief of Police pursuant to paragraph 6.~~
(i) In public areas, except within 200 feet of an elementary school, secondary school, church while in session, or hospital; within 25 feet of the public entrance of an open business; or in any public area excluded by the Select Board or Chief of Police pursuant to paragraph 6.
(ii) ~~Deleted.~~
(ii) In public areas where the Town has authorized a street fair or public festival to be conducted, with the permission of the sponsor of such fair or festival.

(2) Performances may take place at the following times:

i Monday through Saturday between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.
i Sundays between 10:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.
iii. Performance time limited to no more than 90 minutes per 24 hours
(3) No performer or group of performers may generate sound exceeding a sound level of 80 decibels (db.) measured at a distance of 50 feet from the per- former or group of performers. The use of sound amplification equipment is expressly prohibited.
(4) A performer may not create any interference with the traffic flow of the public through a public area.
(5) If a performer attracts a crowd sufficient to interfere with traffic flow of the public through a public area or endanger the safety of the public or if said crowd becomes disorderly, the police officer shall first request that the crowd disperse or, if necessary, thereafter request that the performer leave the location.
(6) No performer or group of performers may perform less than 75 feet from another performer or group of performers
(7) A performer may request contributions at a performance, provided that no sign requesting contributions shall be posted. Contributions may be received in a receptacle, such as an open musical instrument case, box, or hat. The placement of any type of blanket or covering over any sidewalk or street during a performance shall be prohibited.

By: Select Board
Executive Summary: As part of an ongoing effort to update the Town General Bylaws, this article seeks to clean and update language. It removes the need to display applicants' social security numbers on permits. The amendments also provide for a time limit in consideration of the number of street performer applications and the limited performance space.

ARTICLE 4 – Zoning By-Law Amendment: Section 11 – Definitions: "Structure"

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 11 of the Zoning By-laws governing Definitions concerning the word "structure" as follows, or take any other action relative thereto:

TIDE AND TIME

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

Source: National Ocean Survey and Tidal Current Tables

Amended Text:
Structure: A combination of materials assembled at a fixed location to give support or shelter**, or act as a barrier.** ~~such as a building, framework, retaining wall, tent, reviewing stand, platform, bin, fence, sign, flagpole, recreational tramway, mast for radio antenna or the like. * For the purposes of this bylaw, a fence six (6) feet or less in height, or a wall four (4) feet or less in height shall not be considered a structure.~~
~~*Amended ATM 4/8/2008 Art 25. AG Approved 5/14/08, Posted 6/6/08.~~
A structure includes any building. A fence or wall over four (4) feet height shall be a structure.

Two-Thirds Majority required
By: Planning Board
Executive Summary: This amendment is to provide clarity on terms used throughout the current by-laws and prevent confusion while conforming to written text.

ARTICLE 5 – Zoning By-Law Amendment: Section 11 – Definitions: "Equipment"

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 11 of the Zoning By-laws governing Definitions by adding the word "Equipment" as follows, or take any other action relative thereto:

Current Text:
No current text.

Proposed Text:
Equipment: Any tool, machine, device, or article that is placed at a fixed location and meets the dimensional requirements of a structure (four feet in height or more). This definition includes, but is not limited to, HVAC compressors and similar items, which shall meet the governing setbacks for structures.

Two-Thirds Majority required
By: Planning Board
Executive Summary: This addition is to provide clarity on terms used throughout the current bylaws and prevent confusion while conforming to written text.

ARTICLE 6 – Zoning By-Law Amendment: Section 11 – Definitions: "Footprint"

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 11 of the Zoning By-laws governing Definitions by adding the word "Footprint" as follows, or take any other action relative thereto:

Current Text:
No current text.

Proposed Text:
Footprint: The footprint of a structure includes all of its parts; however, eaves and uncovered steps shall not be included.

Two-Thirds Majority required
By: Planning Board
Executive Summary: This addition is to provide clarity on terms used throughout the current bylaws and prevent confusion while conforming to written text.

ARTICLE 7 – Zoning By-Law Amendment: Section 11 – Definitions: "Building Height"

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 11 of the Zoning By-laws governing Definitions concerning the term "Building Height" as follows, or take any other action relative thereto:

Current Text:
~~Building Height: The vertical distance from the grade plane to the average height of the highest roof surface. When a building faces more than one street, the height shall be measured from the average of the grade at the center line of each street front. Not included are spires, cupolas, antennae, or similar parts of structures which do not enclose potentially habitable floor space.~~

Proposed Text:

Building Height: The distance between the highest point of a structure, including railings of roof decks (excluding radio and television antennas, chimneys, flag poles and similar slender structures), and the mean of the natural ground level on the perimeter of the proposed or existing structure.

Two-Thirds Majority required
By: Planning Board
Executive Summary: This by-law change is to simplify and clarify the current bylaw language that is confusing and unclear leaving residents and town officials with compliance and enforcement challenges.

ARTICLE 8 – Zoning By-Law Amendment: Section 5.0 - "Noise from mechanical equipment in residential zones"

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 5.0 GENERAL REGULATIONS of the Zoning By-laws governing 'noise from mechanical equipment in residential zones' to read as follows, deleting the text marked with strike throughs and adding the text shown in bold:

Amended Text:
5.4.2 **Noise from mechanical equipment in residential zones.** ~~No use shall be permitted within the Town which, by reason of excessive noise generated there from, would cause nuisance or hazard to persons or property, as set forth in 310 CMR 7.0 1.~~ **Mechanical equipment that generates noise (including pool equipment, generators and climate control equipment) shall be located within the minimum setbacks for the lot, in accordance with the Table of Dimensional Requirements - Appendix B of the Oak Bluffs Zoning Bylaws. The Building Commissioner shall have the authority, after determining that no conforming location is available, to designate a location for mechanical equipment where it creates the least nuisance to and impact on neighboring properties, but no closer than five (5) feet from any lot line.**

Two-Thirds Majority required
By: Planning Board
Executive Summary: This bylaw addition establishes guidelines for the placement of mechanical equipment on properties within residential zones and removes responsibility of noise control from the building department by eliminating duplication of a town by-law.

ARTICLE 9 – Zoning By-Law Amendment: Section 3.2.3.4 – "Overnight Parking of Commercial Vehicles"

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 3.2.3.4 of the Zoning By-laws governing overnight commercial vehicle parking regulations to include regulations for high-density, multi-unit housing within the Oak Bluffs Zoning Bylaws, by deleting the text marked with strike throughs and adding the text shown in bold as subsection 3.2.3.4(d), to read as follows:

Amended Text, with changes in bold:
4. Overnight Parking of Commercial Vehicles.
~~(Added STM 12.2.03, AG Approved 3.26.04, Published 4.9.04)~~
The use of residential premises as a place for the overnight parking of commercial vehicles owned or operated by a resident of the premises is authorized as an accessory use, subject to the following limitations:
a. One or two commercial vehicles less than 15,000 gvw are allowed as of right.
b. three or more commercial vehicles less than 15,000 gvw are allowed by special permit from the ~~Board of Selectmen.~~ **Zoning Board of Appeals.**
c. One or two commercial vehicles more than 15,000 gvw but less than 26,000 gvw may be allowed by special permit from the ~~Board of Selectmen.~~ **Zoning Board of Appeals.**
d. Premises exceeding 130,000 sq. ft. and containing eight (8) or more residences shall be limited to one commercial vehicle less than 15,000 lbs. gvw per residence. A second commercial vehicle less than 15,000 lbs. for an individual residence may be allowed by a special permit granted to the occupant of the residence from the Zoning Board of Appeals. No commercial vehicles equal to or greater than 15,000 lbs. gvw shall be permitted on premises identified in this subsection.

Two-Thirds Majority required
By: Planning Board
Executive Summary: This bylaw addition is intended to protect residents of large, multi-family residential sites from excessive commercial vehicle noise and congestion.

ARTICLE 10– Zoning By-Law Amendment: Addition of Section 3.2.3.5 – "Boat Storage and Service"

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-laws by: (a.) adding Section 3.2.3.5 governing boat storage, repair, maintenance and/or construction; (b.) changing the table of uses for boat yards and boat service; (c.) adopting a revised definition of "boat yard or boat service", as follows, or take any other action relative thereto:

Added Text:
3.2.3 Residential Accessory uses in all districts

Amendment (a.)

5. Boat storage and service.

a) Non-motorized vessels such as kayaks, dinghies, rowing craft and sailing craft of an overall length of less than 14 feet and titled to the owner and/or resident of said premises shall be exempt from the tally of vessels.

b) Storage, repair, maintenance and/or construction of vessels on a single premises shall be considered a residential accessory use by right, provided all vessels are titled to the owner and/or resident of said premises. Limits to number of allowable vessels per zoning district are as follows:

Zone	R1	R2	R3	R4
# of Vessels	1	2	1 or 2 (see below)	2
Size of Vessel(s)	Up to 16' in length	Up to 25' in length	1 vessel up to 36' in length; OR 2 vessels up to 25' in length	Up to 36' in length
Increase # of Vessels	NO	NO	NO	Up to 3 with Special Permit by PB

c) Use of a residential premises for the storage, repair, maintenance and/or construction of any vessel or vessels not titled to the owner and/or resident of said premises, and provided that no more than four vessels occupy the premises at any given time, shall be considered a "boat yard or boat service" and subject to the granting of a special permit from the planning board. Such use shall conform to all applicable regulations under Section 8.2 (Water Resource Protection Overlay District) of the Zoning Bylaws regardless of the premises' location, and

d) Use of a residential premises for the storage, repair, maintenance and/or construction of five or more vessels shall be prohibited.
Amendment (b.)
Table of uses: Commercial uses

District	R-1	R-2	R-3	R-4	B-1	B-2	HC
Boat yards and boat sevice	PB	PB	PB	~~N~~ PB	PB	N	~~PB~~ N

Amendment (c.)

11.0 Definitions
Boat yard or boat service: ~~Facility servicing marine vessels.~~ **Facility used for the storage, repair, maintenance and/or construction of marine vessels.**

Two-Thirds Majority required
By: Planning Board
Executive Summary: This bylaw addition and these changes ensure town residents may store their own marine vessels on their property by right. It also provides clear guidelines and definitions for all other uses and extends protection of the environment under existing WRPOD regulations.

ARTICLE 11 – Zoning By-Law Amendment: Appendix A: Zoning Use Table – Short Term Rental By-Right

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to amend Appendix A of the Zoning By-Laws to provide for by- right short-term rental, or take any other action relative thereto:

APPENDIX A	DISTRICTS						
	R1	R2	R3	R4	B1	B2	HC
Residential Uses							
Single family dwelling	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Conversion to duplex in conformance with section 7.1	BA	BA	BA	BA	N	N	N
Rooming/ boarding guest house	PB	PB	PB	N	PB	N	PB
Conversion of one or two story to apartment units in conformance with section 7.2.2	N	N	N	N	Y / PB	N	N
Conversion of three story to apartment units in Conformance with section 7.2.3	N	N	N	N	Y/ PB	N	N
Conversion and Expansion of Existing Building to Apartment Units in compliance with section 7.2.4	N	N	N	N	Y/ PB	N	N
Flexible Development	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB
Short Term Rental (*provided the owner complies with the Short-Term Rental General By-Law)	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*

Two-Thirds Majority required
By: Planning Board
Executive Summary: To provide for by-right Short-Term Rental use.

ARTICLE 12 – New General By-law – Short Term Rental

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to add the following section to the Oak Bluffs General Bylaws for the establishment of a Short-Term Rental By-law, as printed in the warrant or take any other action relative thereto.
509 Short Term Rental By-Law

509- 1 Purpose and Intent:
The purpose of this bylaw is to preserve and protect the long-standing tradition of short- term home rentals in the Town of Oak Bluffs (the Town) while promoting the health, safety, and welfare of residents and visitors.
This bylaw recognizes that the short-term rental of a dwelling by its owner is a lawful residential and commercial district use and an important part of the Town's history, economy, and community character. Short-term rentals (STRs), as regulated by this bylaw, provide accommodation opportunities for visitors, support local businesses, and enable homeowners to maintain and preserve their properties without being detrimental to the character and livability of the Town.
The intent of the bylaw is to:
(a) Permit and recognize the lawful operation of STRs consistent with
Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 64G, Section 14 and the Town's Zoning Bylaws;
(b) Authorize the adoption of reasonable registration procedures necessary to implement this bylaw in a manner that is efficient, transparent, and minimally burdensome to both property owners and the Town; and
(c) Provide mechanisms and procedures to protect the health, safety, and welfare of both property owners and persons who rent STRs in the Town.

509- 2 Definitions:
Owner: For the purpose of this bylaw, an owner is defined as a person who is a sole owner, joint tenant, tenant by the entirety, tenant in common, life estate holder, or remainderman. An owner may also be a Limited Liability Company, an S-Corporation, partnership, or holder of a present, vested and non-contingent beneficial interest in a trust, including any of the foregoing who is a lessee-shareholder of a residential cooperative housing unit, if every owner/member of such an entity is a natural person, confirmed by documentation. A single natural person who is an "owner" of an entity must be designated as the "contact person" at the time of annual registration. (The owner/contact person may also list a local agent/caretaker as a contact for the Town.)
Short-Term Rental: An owner-occupied, tenant-occupied, or non-owner-occupied property- including but not limited to an apartment, house, cottage, condominium, or furnished accommodation - that is not a hotel, motel, lodging house, or bed and breakfast establishment, where: (i) at least one room or unit is rented to an occupant or sub- occupant; and (ii) all accommodations are reserved in advance. A private owner-occupied property shall be considered a single unit if leased or rented as such. Rentals lasting more than 31 consecutive calendar days shall not be considered a Short-Term Rental.

509- 3 Registration:
State Registration Requirement. An Owner shall register with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Revenue before operating an STR; the Owner shall provide the state-issued registration number and remain in compliance with state requirements upon submitting for registration with the Town.

Town Registration Requirement. No Owner shall rent, or offer to rent, any STR prior to registering and without having first obtained an annual certificate of registration from the Town. An application for a certificate of registration shall be in a form and method provided by the Town. An STR registration is non-transferable: any change in designated Owner or transfer of property ownership requires a new registration. All registrations must be renewed annually, expiring on December 31 of the expiration year. See Registration Form on Town Website
Fees: The Select Board may establish an annual fee for the certificate of registration and to cover the costs associated with state requirements and may amend it annually through the referenced regulations or by adopting an associated fee schedule.

509- 4 Administration:
The Town of Oak Bluffs shall:
1. Maintain a publicly accessible registry of all licensed Short-Term Rentals.
2. Report annually on registration totals, revenue collected, and fund expenditures, to be included in the Annual Town Report.

509- 5 Policy: Compliance with Law. An STR shall, at all times, comply with the Town's STR By-Law, the Town's General and Zoning By-Laws, Town regulations, state and federal law, as well as all applicable codes, including building, electrical, plumbing, mechanical, fire, health, and housing codes ("Codes").
An STR will not be eligible to register if there are outstanding taxes due on the property and/or if the property is subject to Code enforcement, including any notices of violation, notices to cure, orders of abatement, cease and desist orders, or correction notices.
1. Separate Bedrooms. Separate bedrooms or spaces within a single dwelling unit may not be rented to different parties on a STR basis simultaneously unless the Owner of the property resides on the premises during such rental.
2. Subleasing. A Short-Term Renter may not sublease their rental, or any portion thereof, as a Short-Term Rental.
3. Maximum Occupancy. Maximum overnight occupancy shall not exceed two persons per legal bedroom, plus two additional persons, unless further restricted by the Board of Health.
4. Units Restricted as Affordable. Affordable or income-restricted dwelling units subject to affordability covenants or local, state, or federal housing or rental assistance requirements shall comply with all applicable rental and occupancy restrictions set forth in their governing documents and applicable law. Such units may not be registered as STRs unless expressly permitted by their governing affordability covenant.
5. Health and Safety. In addition to complying with applicable law and Codes, an STR Owner shall make reasonable efforts to maintain the property in compliance with applicable state and local health and safety requirements.
6. Posting and Guest Information. Registration and property information shall be made available to guests in a reasonably visible location at the property or provided to guests electronically prior to arrival, including:
a) Street address.
b) Local contact information for the Owner or b) designated agent in the event of an emergency.
c) Maximum occupancy and the number of permitted on-property parking spaces.
d) Town Registration Number and State STR Registration Certificate.
e) Location of the fire extinguisher.
f) 911 Information and Local Non-Emergency Telephone Numbers.
7. Duty to Respond. An Owner or designated agent shall be reasonably available to respond to complaints or inquiries from a renter. The Owner or designated agent should make reasonable efforts to respond within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving a complaint or inquiry. A failure to respond within twenty-four (24) hours shall not, by itself, constitute a violation where the Owner or designated agent can demonstrate a reasonable effort to respond or circumstances beyond their control prevented a timely response.
8. Duty to Update Contact Information. An Owner or designated Owner shall maintain current contact information with the Town, including a working telephone number and email address. The Owner shall update such information within fourteen (14) days of a change. The Town may provide written notice of outdated or incomplete information and allow a reasonable period for correction before imposing a penalty.

509- 6 Violations and Enforcement
1. The Town shall provide written notice of a violation and an opportunity to correct the violation before imposing a monetary or other penalty, except in circumstances involving an immediate threat to health or safety or where otherwise authorized by law.
2. An Owner who fails to correct a violation within the applicable correction period may be subject to a fine of $300 per day, as permitted by Law. The fines provided for in this section may be imposed by the use of tickets under G.L. c. 40, § 21D, issued by the Building Official, local inspectors, or Health Agent, or may be sought by criminal complaint, as permitted by applicable law.
3. An Owner who accumulates more than three (3) unresolved or repeated violations during a single registration period may be subject to additional enforcement, including
a.) possible suspension or revocation of registration, at the discretion of the Town; and/or
b.) a civil penalty under G. L. c. 64G, Section 14 (v) of up to $5,000.00.
Prior to imposing either of the remedies established in this subsection, the Select Board, or its designee, shall give notice to the Owner and an opportunity to be heard, unless the violation immediately threatens the health, safety or welfare of any occupant of an STR.
4. Each additional day shall constitute a separate violation only after the Owner has received written notice of the violation and the applicable correction period has expired. The correction period shall be no less than thirty (30) calendar days for administrative or non-emergency violations, unless a shorter period is reasonably necessary to address an immediate health or safety concern.
Nothing in this section shall limit the Town's 5. authority to take immediate action where necessary to address an imminent threat to public health or safety.

By: Select Board
Executive Summary: The proposed Oak Bluffs Short-Term Rental (STR) General Bylaw preserves the Town's long-standing tradition of short-term rentals while establishing clear requirements for registration, safety, accountability, and enforcement. The bylaw recognizes STRs as a lawful and important part of the Town's history, economy, and community.

The bylaw requires owners to register with the Commonwealth and the Town and renew their registration annually. It establishes occupancy limits, guest information requirements, local emergency contacts, and owner responsiveness to complaints. Properties with outstanding taxes or active code enforcement matters would not be eligible for registration. The Town would maintain a public registry of registered STRs and report annually on registration totals, revenues, and expenditures. Enforcement provides written notice and an opportunity to correct violations before penalties are imposed, except where immediate action is necessary to protect public health or safety. Repeated or unresolved violations may result in fines or suspension or revocation of registration, as permitted by law.

The bylaw was developed through a committee process that included 10 open meetings and input from the public, municipal officials, and Town Counsel. The process was intended to address current statutory requirements while considering the concerns of property owners and the community.

HEREIN FAIL NOT AND GIVE PUBLIC NOTICE BY CAUSING THIS NOTICE TO BE POSTED IN TWO (2) OR MORE PLACES IN THE TOWN AT LEAST FOURTEEN (14) DAYS BEFORE THE TIME OF SAID MEETING AND MAKE DUE RETURN OF THIS WARRANT WITH YOUR DOINGS TO THE TOWN CLERK AT THE TIME AND PLACE SPECIFIED.
GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS THIS 27th DAY OF OCTOBER 2026.

DION P. ALLEY , CHAIR

SEAN P. DEBETTENCOURT, VICE CHAIR

WILLIAM F. CLEARY

EMMA GREEN-BEACH

K. MARK LEONARD

SELECT BOARD
TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS

PURSUANT TO THE FOREGOING INSTRUCTIONS, I HEREBY NOTIFY AND WARN THE INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS, QUALIFIED TO VOTE AS EXPRESSED IN THIS WARRANT TO VOTE AT THE TIME AND PLACE SPECIFIED.

Attest:
______________________________Constable

OFFICER'S RETURN
COUNTY OF DUKES COUNTY, ss
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOREGOING INSTRUCTIONS, I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I DID ON THE________ DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026 GIVE PUBLIC NOTICE BY CAUSING ATTESTED COPIES OF THIS WARRANT TO BE POSTED IN TWO (2) OR MORE PLACES IN THE TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS, AND I HEREBY MAKE RETURN OF THIS WARRANT THIS ______ DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026.

Attest:
______________________________Constable



Tim Johnson



CLASSIFIED SECTION

Real Estate
For Sale/Rent
Help Wanted
Articles for Sale



Land For Sale

LAND FOR SALE
60 20th Street South in Edgartown, 1/2 acre plus with approved septic for 3 bedrooms and well installed. $595,000. Text (508)939-1168.

For Rent, Chilmark

WINTER RENTAL
SECLUDED CHILMARK HOUSE
Two-bedroom, one-bath house. $1,600/month plus utilities. High-speed internet. Wood heat. First, last and security deposit. References required. Available until May 15. (617) 868-3018.

For Rent, Edgartown



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

WINTER HOUSE RENTAL
EDGARTOWN (KATAMA)
10/1/26-5/1/27. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Rent $2,750 per month, plus utilities. If interested, call Peter at (401)789-3127.

WINTER RENTAL
Now through May 31. Lovely one-bedroom guest house with water view. Furnished with parking. $1400/month plus security deposit. (603) 355-9075. (603) 355-0816.

For Rent, West Tisbury

WEST TISBURY| WINTER RENTAL
Cozy, furnished three-bedroom, one-bath with fireplace and large backyard. Dogs OK. $3,000/month, utilities included except heat. November 15-May 15; dates flexible. Contact Heather: (860) 463-4437.

WEST TISBURY | RENTAL
Spacious, charming apartment in a beautiful, private area. Features a patio, full kitchen, washer and dryer. Utilities and WiFi included. $2,800/month, with possibility of year-round. (617) 688-6818.

WEST TISBURY | WINTER RENTAL
Furnished three bedroom and two bath home. Clean, bright and private. Available November 1 to May 1. $2,000/month plus utilities. Contact Rich: (916) 215-1915.

Help Wanted

EXPERIENCED HORSE TRAINER WANTED
Care and train two to four horses on a beautiful, down-island farm overlooking a large pond. Must be experienced and qualified. Free room in a one-bedroom apartment plus salary. Salary and terms



Help Wanted

of employment will be discussed after a review of qualifications. References required. Send resume to: island_aviators@yahoo.com.



OPERATIONS COORDINATOR
AMERIGAS, EDGARTOWN
Year-Round | Full-Time | $30/hour

AmeriGas is hiring a detail-oriented Islander to support our Edgartown field operations.
Job Responsibilities:
- Order and receive parts, supplies, uniforms and appliances.
- Pull files and documents for our customer service team.
- Pick up permits from town and county offices.
- Enter inventory counts and transfers in SAP.

Qualifications:
- High school diploma.
- Martha's Vineyard resident.
- Two years of office experience.
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail.

Benefits Include:
- Opportunities for growth within a national company.
- Medical, dental and vision coverage.
- Steady, year-round work.
- Paid time off (PTO).
- 401(k).

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

DUKES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
TELECOMMUNICATOR-IN-TRAINING
$500 Monthly Housing Stipend for Full-Time Island Residents.
Looking to kick-start a rewarding career while serving the Island community?
Duties include, but not limited to receiving, processing, and dispatching emergency and non-emergency calls for police, fire, emergency medical, and other public safety services.
Requires effective oral and written communications skills, high integrity, positive attitude, sound judgement, and the ability to handle confidential material and adapt to changing environments and priorities. Essential functions include rotating assignment to the day, evening and night, weekend, and holiday shifts. Paid on-site training, plus off-island Academy training.
Full-time position with a generous benefit package including paid leave, insurance, state pension and deferred compensation matching.
Full time Telecommunicator-In-Training pay range is $73,986.64 - $81,687.06 annually, plus $500 monthly stipend. Candidates must pass skills-based aptitude testing, interview, background check, and post-conditional-offer medical and audiology evaluations.
Apply today. Download applications and job descriptions at:
dukescountysheriff.com/careers

POLICE OFFICER
EDGARTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT
MPTC full-time Police Academy and POST Certified officers preferred. Applicant must be a U.S Citizen, at least 21 years of age, have a high school diploma or equivalent, and possess a valid MA driver's license, as well as a valid LTC or ability to obtain one. Applicant must be able to perform the duties and responsibilities of a Police Officer. Successful applicant will be required to pass a medical and psychological examination, fitness test, and an extensive background investigation. Full-time Police Officer starting salary is $100,391.04 (8-step annual increase pay scale), plus an educational incentive (Associates 6%, Bachelors 12%, Masters 15%), overtime pay, and detail pay. Health insurance benefits, retirement benefits, 10-hour patrol shifts, 4 shifts on - 3 off work week, vacation, holiday pay & accrual, personal days, sick days, longevity pay, and shift differentials.
Qualified lateral transfer candidates are encouraged to apply and may be eligible for placement at a step equal to their current salary or on a higher step on the salary scale based on experience and qualifications.
New Hire benefits also include a $5,000 sign-on incentive. The first installment of $2,500 will be paid as a one-time lump sum on the employee's second paycheck. The remaining $2,500 will be paid as a one-time lump sum upon the successful completion of the employee's one-year probationary period.
Applications are available at the Edgartown Police Station, or on our website: (https://edgartownpolice.org/about/employment).
Please submit a completed Employment Application, cover letter, and resume to:
Chief Christopher Dolby
Edgartown Police Department
PO Box 1118 / 72 Pease's Point Way S
Edgartown, MA 02539.

Applications due no later than 4pm November 30, 2026.

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.

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

ISLAND AUTISM
LIVE-IN HOUSE MANAGER
Seeking a reliable, caring individual to provide household support and companionship for an independent adult woman with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. No personal care required. Flexible morning/evening hours, compatible with another daytime job. Long-term commitment preferred. Subsidized housing plus monthly stipend.
Contact: lena@islandautism.org.

ISLAND GROWN INITIATIVE
HIRING FULL-TIME FIELD MANAGER
Hiring for regenerative vegetable farm. Five plus years farming and tractor experience. $70K–$75K plus benefits. Send resume and cover letter to: tim@igimv.org.

Help Wanted

ISLAND HOUSING TRUST
is seeking a full-time **Advancement Coordinator** to support private fundraising initiatives, campaigns and event planning. View the job description at ihtmv.org/job-openings. Interested candidates are invited to send their resume to jlincoln@ihtmv.org.

Care • Compassion • Community
HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE of Martha's Vineyard

ASSISTANT TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND DEVELOPMENT

EMPLOYEE HOUSING AVAILABLE

Full- or part-time position. $25 - $30/hour. Benefits eligibility varies based on employment status.
Seeking organized, adaptable professional to support our Executive Director, Board of Directors, and Development and Communications team. Responsibilities include administrative support, BOD meeting coordination and minute-taking, social media content and graphics, and assistance with annual fundraising events.
Strong proficiency across multiple software platforms is essential, including Microsoft 365, Zoom, Little Green Light, Canva, and Constant Contact, or comparable tools. Candidates should have relevant administrative and digital communications experience, excellent communication skills, strong attention to detail, and the ability to learn new systems, manage varied responsibilities, and shifting priorities. Nonprofit or event experience preferred. Occasional evening and weekend availability required.
Please submit your resume and cover letter to mdevaney@hospiceofmv.org or visit: https://hospiceofmv.org/careers/ for more information and to apply.

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

CURATORIAL ASSOCIATE
MARTHA'S VINYEARD MUSEUM
Do you love history, culture, and bringing stories to life? Join our team as a Curatorial Associate and help preserve, interpret, and share the stories that connect our community to its past.
Interested in being part of something meaningful? We'd love to hear from you.
Visit: mvmuseum.org/careers for the full position details and how to apply.

MUSEUM EDUCATOR
Love history, storytelling and working with the community? The Martha's Vineyard Museum is seeking an enthusiastic educator to bring local history to life for diverse audiences. Visit mvmuseum.org/careers for more information and how to apply.

Help Wanted

THE POLLY HILL ARBORETUM

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/.

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.

THE YMCA OF MV
HIRING TWO FULL-TIME POSITIONS
Housekeeping Department

- Hiring for all shifts: early morning, nights and weekends.
- Health and Dental benefits available.
- Competitive pay.
- Previous experience preferred but not required.

Please email applications and a resume to the Director of Housekeeping Ryan Schwab Doyon: ryan@ymcamv.org.

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, reviewing 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 November 20. *Town of Tisbury is EOE.*

OUTREACH COORDINATOR
UP-ISLAND COUNCIL ON AGING

General Duties: Provide case management; analyze, assess, advise and coordinate programs and services for older adults. Conduct home visits, connect clients to resources, provide education and promote awareness of Council on Aging services.
Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree in Human Services or related field: two years of developing and implementing programs for seniors; or any equivalent combinations of education and/or work experience.
Hourly rate $34.67 - $38.23 per hour. 37.5 hours per week.
The Town anticipates hiring at Step 1 ($34.67). The Town may offer a higher starting step, up to Step 3 ($38.23) depending on qualifications and experience. Full job description and required application can be found on the Town of West Tisbury's website at www.westtisbury-ma.gov. Resume and application must be received by **December 4th 2026 at 4p.m**. by mailing to Up-Island Council, P.O. Box 3000, PMB 3174, West Tisbury, MA 02575, or hand delivered to the Council on Aging located at 1042A State Rd., West Tisbury, or e-mailing to coa-director@westtisbury-ma.gov.
Must have a valid MA driver's license and complete a Criminal Offender Record Information check.
This is a benefited position.
The Town of West Tisbury is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Help Wanted

VINEYARD GAZETTE

EDITOR - THE VINE (PART-TIME)
The Vineyard Gazette is seeking an experienced editor to lead The Vine, a publication delivered seven times a year to every mailbox on Martha's Vineyard. Responsibilities include assigning and editing stories, managing the editorial calendar, and coordinating freelance writers and photographers.
The ideal candidate is well-connected to Island life, with a keen eye for compelling local stories, people, and events. Strong editorial judgment, excellent organizational skills, and the ability to develop engaging content that reflects the Island and its community are essential. Design experience is a plus but not required.
This is a part-time position.
Send your resume to vczarnecki@vineyardgazette.com

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.

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.

Volunteers

MARTHA'S VINEYARD
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
The Martha's Vineyard Boys & Girls Club is looking for volunteers to make a positive impact on the lives of Island children. We need volunteers to help with our after school and summer programs, coaching, fundraising events, facility maintenance, and gardening. Contact office@mvbgclub.org.

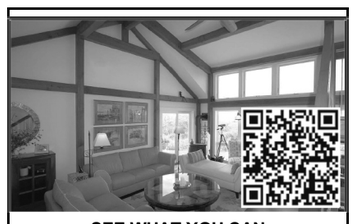
Services

UP-ISLAND MATH TUTOR
Elementary and High School tutoring.
Contact: (508) 560-1463.

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

Contractors and Builders

Giveaways

CAMPING EQUIPMENT
REI 4HC tent, two backpacks and lots of cooking equipment. Must take all items. Text: (650) 296-8515.

FREE BEAUTIFUL WOODEN QUEEN PLATFORM BED FRAME | HEADBOARD | UNDER BED STORAGE
Must have a truck and two people to load it. Currently disassembled and on the ground floor, in Chilmark. Please email me at: ekw02468business@gmail.com if you can come and get it.

Antiques and Collectibles

AMERICANA AUCTIONS ANTIQUES

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.

Heavy Equipment

TAYLOR Auction Co. PICK UP: WEST TISBURY, MA

LIQUIDATION OF THE WEST TISBURY HORTICULTURE FACILITY
Online Auction



TIMOTHY PFISTER - #AU3742 WWW.TAYLORAUCTION.NET

AUCTION
Lab equipment, LED grow lights, commercial refrigeration, mixers, generator, shop tools and more. Preview: November 4. Auction closes November 5, 12pm - 4pm. Pickup begins November 7.
Online now: tayloraucton.hibid.com.
90 Fisher Dr., West Tisbury.

Auto - Sales - Accessories

GREAT ISLAND CAR
- 2011 Navy Blue Volvo XC90 SUV.
- New tires, new brakes and new shocks.
- Needs a little work to pass inspection.
- $5,000 OBO.
- 141K miles.
- (508) 294-4675.

JOHN KEENE EXCAVATION

We are looking to add to our team!

- **Experienced Deisel Mechanic**
- **Site Supervisor / Experienced Machine Operator**
- **Laborer**
- **CDL Class A or B Truck Driver**

These four positions are year-round and include excellent benefits! Please call our office at 508.693.5975 or email us at office@johnkeene.com

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

MARTHA'S VINEYARD BANK
Best of the Vineyard 2026 Martha's Vineyard Magazine
American Banker 2025 Best Banks to Work For

Join the Martha's Vineyard Bank Team!

Martha's Vineyard Bank, a local community bank, has some exciting opportunities available. If you are seeking a career with an organization that has a strong commitment to the communities we serve, then we want to hear from you!

AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITIES:

Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
Financial Advisor

Please visit www.mvbank.com for detailed information or to apply. We offer an exceptional benefits package including both 401k and pension plan, growth opportunities, and competitive compensation.

Equal Opportunity Employer: Minority/Female/Disability/Veteran.

Boat Sales and Accessories

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

Lost and Found

THE VINEYARD GAZETTE'S LOST & FOUND CATEGORY
Found something of value, and want to do the right thing? Let the Gazette help you.
The Lost & Found category is a free serves. Deadline for publication is 3:00PM Tuesdays. 24 words or less, please. Ads will be published for 4 weeks in print and online.
www.vineyardgazette.com/classifieds

Announcements

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

Chilmark Legal Notices

CHILMARK PARK & RECREATION COMMITTEE
Will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, November 19 at 3:00 PM, in the Select Board Room at Town Hall, to receive public comment on a proposed amendment to the Committee's Menemsha Bulkhead Lot Rules and Regulations.
Questions via email to cstoeber@chilmarkma.gov.
Proposed amendment is posted at: https://www.chilmarkma.gov/1791/Park-Recreation-Committee.
nov6,13,2t

Edgartown Legal Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with Section 5.2 of the Edgartown Zoning Bylaw, the Edgartown Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, December 1, 2026 at 4:35 PM**, at the request of Joseph Schott, Schott Designs, on behalf of Hans Van Lancker to construct a second-story addition over the existing garage that will add a bedroom and bathroom in the Island Roads District.
The subject property is located at 14 Twenty First St N, Assessors Parcel #12B-82.
This public hearing will be conducted using Remote Conference technology, in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023. Interested parties may 'attend' the meeting online by visiting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88094100496, or voice phone call to (646) 558-8656 (when prompted, enter Meeting ID #8809 410 0496.
Application Materials may be reviewed online on the Edgartown Planning Board page on the town's website -- https://www.edgartown-ma.us -- or at the Edgartown Planning Board Offices, PO Box 5130, Edgartown, during regular business hours. Please direct questions or comments to Brae Eddleston, Administrator, planningboard@edgartown-ma.us.
nov13,20,2t

EDGARTOWN PUBLIC HEARING

On **Wednesday, 18th November 2026 at 4:30 p.m**. . the Edgartown Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on the second floor of Edgartown Town Hall (70 Main St, Edgartown) on a **Notice of Intent** filed by Martha's Vineyard Engineering and Design on behalf of **Main Street LLC** under the Edgartown Wetlands Protection Bylaw and the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act. The applicant is proposing to remove and replace an existing underground propane tank within filled tidal land and the floodplain.
The property is located at 2 Main Street (Assessor's Map 20D Lot 323.2)
For a copy of the application or for questions related to observing the meeting
via Zoom, please
contact: conservation@edgartown-ma.us.
nov13,1t

EDGARTOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On **Wednesday, December 2, 2026 at 4:00pm** the Edgartown Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a remote public hearing via ZOOM on the request by Michael Donaroma for a special permit under section 10.1.G of the zoning bylaw to construct a garage and ADU in a new structure, and add a second story to the existing main house. The two structures will be connected by a full basement. The property is a pre-existing, nonconforming .21-acre lot at 10 Silva St (Assr. Pcl. 20B-28) in the R-5 Residential District. Written comments should be received no later than noon on December 1, 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/84907300232

Or Join by Phone: 646 558 8656
Meeting ID: 849 0730 0232
nov13,20,2t

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with Sections 5.1.D.2 and 5.6 of the Edgartown Zoning Bylaw, the Edgartown Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, December 1, 2026 at 4:45 PM**, at the request of George Sourati, Sourati Engineering Group, LLC, on behalf of Patrick J. & Katherine A. O'Keefe to construct roughly 720sqft exercise studio and 6.5x8' spa in the Inland Zone of the Coastal District. An ADU is also proposed, but is not included in this application. The property is a 6.3-acre lot located in the Coastal District, Ponds Area District and Floodplain District.
The subject property is located at 71 Kanomika Road, Assessors Parcel #38-8.7.
This public hearing will be conducted using Remote Conference technology, in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023. Interested parties may 'attend' the meeting online by visiting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88094100496, or voice phone call to (646) 558-8656 (when prompted, enter Meeting ID #8809 410 0496.
Application Materials may be reviewed online on the Edgartown Planning Board page on the town's website -- https://www.edgartown-ma.us -- or at the Edgartown Planning Board Offices, PO Box 5130, Edgartown, during regular business hours. Please direct questions or comments to Brae Eddleston, Administrator, planningboard@edgartown-ma.us.
nov13,20,2t

EDGARTOWN PUBLIC HEARING

On **Wednesday, 18th November 2026 at 4:35 p.m**. the Edgartown Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on the second floor of Edgartown Town Hall (70 Main St, Edgartown) on a **Notice of Intent** filed by Sourati Engineering Group on behalf of **Patrick J. & Katherine A. O'Keefe** under the Edgartown Wetlands Protection Bylaw and the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act. The applicant **proposes construction of an ADU, exercise studio, and spa with utilities in the 100-Year Floodplain and 200 ft buffer zone.**

The property is located at 71 Kanomika Rd (Assessor's Parcel Map 38 Lot 8.7).

For a copy of the application or for questions related to observing the meeting
via Zoom, please
contact: conservation@edgartown-ma.us.
nov13,1t

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with Section 14.2, the Edgartown Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, December 1, 2026 at 4:30 PM** at the request of Jack Sipperly, South Mountain Company, for a 210 kW roof-mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation at the Martha's Vineyard Boys & Girls Club. The proposed system consists of 484 Q.Cells 435W all-black panels.
The subject property is located at 6 M Daniels Rd, Assessors Parcel #20C-134.2.
The public hearing will be conducted using Remote Conference Technology, in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023. Interested parties may 'attend' the meeting online by visiting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88094100496, or voice phone call to (646) 558-8656 (when prompted, enter Meeting ID #880 9410 0496).
Application Materials may be reviewed online on the Edgartown Planning Board page on the town's website -- https://www.edgartown-ma.us -- or at the Edgartown Planning Board Offices, PO Box 5130, Edgartown, during regular business hours. Please direct questions or comments to Brae Eddleston, Administrator, planningboard@edgartown-ma.us.
nov13,20,2t

EDGARTOWN PUBLIC HEARING

On **Wednesday, 18th November 2026 at 4:40 p.m.** the Edgartown Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on the second floor of Edgartown Town Hall (70 Main St, Edgartown) on a **Notice of Intent** filed by Vineyard Land Surveying and Engineering on behalf of **Robert McCarron, Trustee** under the **local** Edgartown Wetlands Protection Bylaw. The applicant is **proposing to clear and develop 4 community lots for the Walking Man Close housing Project. The work is within the local buffer zone to an isolated wetland.**

The property is located at 33 Jernegan Pond Road (Assessor's Parcel Map 21 124.211.).

For a copy of the application or for questions related to observing the meeting via Zoom, please
contact: conservation@edgartown-ma.us
nov13,1t

EDGARTOWN PUBLIC HEARING

On **Wednesday, 18th November 2026 at 4:45 p.m.** the Edgartown Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on the second floor of Edgartown Town Hall (70 Main St, Edgartown) on a **Notice of Intent** filed by Vineyard Land Surveying and Engineering on behalf of **Robert McCarron, Trustee** under the local Edgartown Wetlands Protection Bylaw. The applicant is **proposing to install sewer and electric utilities to service the Walking Man Close housing project. The work is within the local buffer zone to an isolated wetland.**

The property is located at 33 Jernegan Pond Road (Assessor's Parcel Map 21 Lot 124.211.).
nov13,1t

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with Section 10.3.I.3 of the Edgartown Zoning Bylaw, the Edgartown Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, December 1, 2026 at 4:40 PM**, at the request of Reid G. Silva, Vineyard Land Surveying & Engineering, on behalf of 36 Smith Hollow LLC - James Hale to construct a second ADU. The site currently contains a three-bedroom house, guest house, and ADU. The proposed project would convert the existing three-bedroom house to two bedrooms with a one-bedroom basement second ADU. The property is used for employee housing.
The subject property is located at 36 Smith Hollow Dr, Assessors Parcel #11-2.21.
This public hearing will be conducted using Remote Conference technology, in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023. Interested parties may 'attend' the meeting online by visiting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88094100496, or voice phone call to (646) 558-8656 (when prompted, enter Meeting ID #880 9410 0496).
Application Materials may be reviewed online on the Edgartown Planning Board page on the town's website -- https://www.edgartown-ma.us -- or at the Edgartown Planning Board Offices, PO Box 5130, Edgartown, during regular business hours. Please direct questions or comments to Brae Eddleston, Administrator, planningboard@edgartown-ma.us.
nov13,20,2t

Tisbury Legal Notices

TISBURY PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE UTILITY EASEMENT

The Tisbury Select Board will hold a town wide utility easement public hearing on **Wednesday November 18, 2026, at 4:30 pm** at the Tisbury Emergency Services Building, 215 Spring Street. This Public Hearing will review and consider the request of CBN America LLC, who is responsible for installing new fiber-optic cable within certain public rights-of-way located in Tisbury with a goal to deliver modern, high-capacity broadband infrastructure to income-restricted properties while ensuring minimal disruption to the community.
The public can attend in person or participate in the hearing by joining zoom meeting:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87813842013
Meeting ID: 878 1384 2013 Passcode: 433764

Full proposal available upon request in the Tisbury Select Board office, 115 High Point Lane. Contact jgatchell@tisburyma.gov for a copy.
nov6,nov13,2t

General Legal Notices

MARTHA'S VINEYARD AIRPORT COMMISSION DISPOSITION OF PROPERTIES VIA LEASE

2 NORTH LINE ROAD, EDGARTOWN, MA.

The Martha's Vineyard Airport Commission is soliciting responses from interested parties for the lease of up to 20 years, with one (1) 20-year extension of one (1) parcel of vacant land located at 2 North Line Road, Edgartown for any purposes allowed under current zoning regulations in the Town of Edgartown and further limited by any restrictions associated with proximity to the Martha's Vineyard Airport. The Airport is seeking to have the property used in a manner that best reflects the Airport's Master Plan (refer to our website) and to maximize revenue to the Airport.

The Request for Proposal documents and supporting information can be obtained from the Airport Properties Manager, 71 Airport Road, West Tisbury, MA 02568 and/or electronically from KBrennan@MVYAirport.com starting Monday, November 9, 2026. A pre-proposal response meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 2, 2026 at the Training Room of Martha's Vineyard Airport Firehouse, 71 Airport Road, West Tisbury, MA 02575 at 9:00am to entertain questions and review the submission requirements.

This solicitation is being conducted in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30B, Chapter 16 and a resulting lease must be awarded in accordance with the requirements of the Request for Proposal regarding Real Property Transactions. If it becomes necessary to revise any part of an RFP or otherwise provide additional information, an addendum will be issued to all prospective proposers who received copies of the original request. The Airport reserves the right to cancel the process at any time when it is in its best interest to do so.

All responses must be received in a sealed envelope properly marked prior to the deadline per the submission requirements found in the RFP documents on or before 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 23, 2026 to the Airport Properties Manager, 71 Airport Road. **USPS**: Vineyard Haven, MA 02568. **PHYSICAL ADDRESS**: West Tisbury, MA 02575.

nov13,20,2t

General Legal Notices

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT DOCKET NO. DU26P0135PO

TRUST CITATION

In the matter of: The 45 Whalers Walk Road Revocable Trust

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by:
Michelle BenDavid of Edgartown, MA requesting 1) to authorize the petitioner, as the remaining co-trustee, to execute the HELOC and mortgage on behalf of the trust; 2.) Alternatively, to appoint a successor trustee with authority to execute the financing documents;
3.) to grant such other relief as is necessary to prevent damage to the trust property.

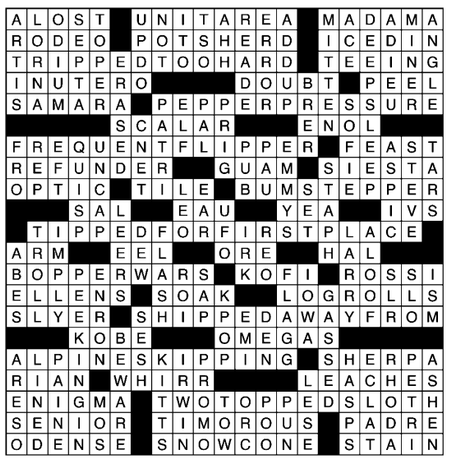
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 12/08/2026.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. Susan L Jacobs, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 05, 2026
Daphne DeVries
Register of Probate
Dukes Probate and Family Court
PO Box 237
81 Main Street
Edgartown, MA 02539
(508)627-4703
nov13,1t

WEEKLY SUDOKU AND CROSSWORD ANSWERS – November 13, 2026

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



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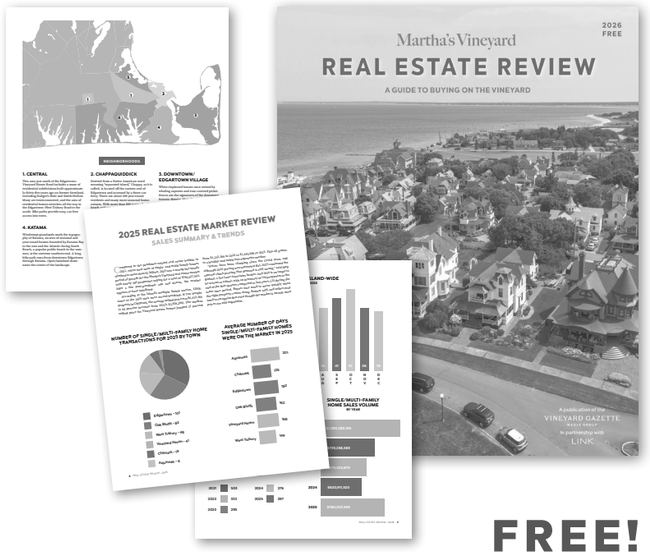
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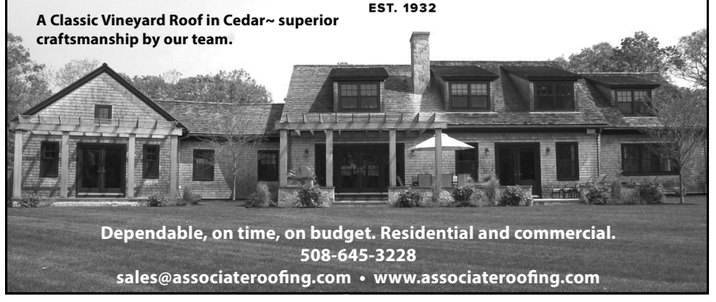
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All Outdoors

Breadcrumb Sponge

By SUZAN BELLINCAMPI

It is a lot to absorb.

The breadcrumb sponge is simultaneously simple and complicated. This organism is a marine animal, albeit a very basic one, lacking nervous, digestive and respiratory systems. Which of course invites wonder at how this brainless, stomach-less and lungless beast eats, breathes and processes internal and external stimuli.

Yet somehow, it does squeeze out a successful existence.

Considered an invertebrate, the breadcrumb sponge has something of a rudimentary framework. Not a skeleton, but a silica-based structure of spine-like spicules to provide support. That framework encompasses a variety of shapes.

Breadcrumb sponge can be a bit of a chameleon. Colors range from cream to gray, green, yellow or orange, depending on its environment. Green can occur when the sponge lives in symbiosis with algae, usually in shallower water. Deeper seas favor cream and gray, and environmental factors including nutrient and oxygen concentration can also affect its hues.

This variation has caused breadcrumb sponge to be described as a new species more than 50 times. With each "discovery," a scientist believed that they had found something no one else ever had, leading to disappointment again and again when it was realized that this "original" organism was just a different form of one already named.

I had a good look at this creature after we pulled our boat out of the water for the season. The sponge had covered a small portion of the bottom of the hull, appearing as volcano-like protrusions from an encrusting orange spreading blob. Sponges with these projections are most often found in wave-sheltered areas, while in rougher seas, the breadcrumb sponge appears as thin sheets.

The tubes are called oscula and serve to filter water through the animal's body. That water filtering is how the sponge feeds and excretes. Sponges are in the phylum Porifera, which means "pore" or "pore bearers." Several liters of water per day per gram of sponge provide food, oxygen and nutrients to move through its body.

Even without a brain, the organism somehow knows when conditions are bad, and can slow and even stop its filtering. Low oxygen or high nutrient conditions could shock and damage its delicate system.

Breadcrumb sponge is sessile as an adult, and attaches to a substrate. Besides boats, it could colonize seaweed, coat a rock, boulder or shells, or attach to piers or other human-built structures. A sponge can be from four to eight inches, although at their largest they may be three feet wide.

While this sponge needs a connection, it also provides one. All of their folds and valleys create habitat for others, and within this microhabitat sea stars, worms, amphibians and other marine invertebrate can find homes.

Its name describes breadcrumb sponge's affinity to crumble when squeezed or dried. And this sponge is known to have an odor, described as reminiscent of exploded gunpower. Reproducing sexually through external fertilization, a free-floating planktonic larvae results, then sessile adults. Asexual reproduction through the breaking off and regrowth of a piece of sponge is also not only possible, but common.

Observing this sponge may soak up some time, but delving further into the hills and valleys of this simple sponge is worth the temporary absorption.

Suzan Bellincampi is director of the Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary in Edgartown, and author of Martha's Vineyard: A Field Guide to Island Nature and The Nature of Martha's Vineyard.



Suzan Bellincampi

Soak it in.

Bird News

Winterish

By ROBERT CULBERT

As October has rolled over into November, the bird life we are seeing now is looking more like wintertime.

First sightings since last spring include one long-tailed duck seen by E. Hawes and Alana Moberg in Lagoon Pond on Nov. 1, and Bob Shriber found another in Aquinnah on Nov. 5. On Nov. 3 he also found a 15 greater scaup, two lesser scaup, and a flock of 44 ruddy ducks at Squibnocket Farm, and he saw a lone common murre near the drawbridge on Nov. 9, and Charles Morano found it again near the Vineyard Wind terminal on Nov. 10.

Charles Morano also observed three horned grebes and a Savannah (Ipswich) sparrow at Squibnocket Beach on Nov. 1, Stefan Martin and his friends from Connecticut found three Wilson's snipes at Katama Farm Nov. 6 and five razorbills at Dogfish Bar on Nov. 7, and the quartet of Susan Whiting, Nancy Nordin, Lanny McDowell and Bob Shriber observed one purple finch in Aquinnah on Nov. 1.

Multiple observers spotted snow buntings: on Nov. 1 Nancy Weaver found four snow buntings on Norton Point, and Luanne Johnson observed six there, Chris Schmandt spotted two at Long Point on Nov. 2, and the MV Bird Club counted 15 of them at Long Point on Nov. 8.

Rock pigeons, mourning doves and wild turkeys are fairly common species that are often ignored by this column; well, not today!

On Nov. 1 Alana Moberg and E. Hawes found 13 pigeons at Oak Bluffs harbor, 47 in Ocean Park and three near Lagoon Pond. Nancy Weaver saw two pigeons in Vineyard Haven harbor on Nov. 4, and Stefan Martin's group counted 13 at State Beach on Nov. 6.

The closely related mourning dove is more widespread: On Nov. 1 Charles Morano found one at Squibnocket Beach. Bob Shriber spotted eight and Susan Whiting located six in Aquinnah on Nov. 1, and Bob Shriber spotted four on Nov. 5. On Nov. 7 Stefan Martin's group observed five at the Gay Head Cliffs, and Cynthia Bloomquist counted 19 in the Aquinnah Headlands. Cynthia Bloomquist and Thaw Malin had two at their West Tisbury home on Nov. 3, I have one visiting my Vineyard Haven feeder every day this week, I also saw one near Upper Deep Bottom Cove on Nov. 5, and Stefan Martin's group discovered two at Katama Farm on Nov. 6.

Wild turkeys – they are not very wild – are widespread. This week Bob Shriber observed five in Aquinnah on Nov. 1 and five at Squibnocket Farm on Nov. 3, I saw four near the East Chop Beach Club on Nov. 4 and seven at my home on Nov. 7, and Stefan Martin's group counted 12 along Herring Creek Road on Nov. 6 and one near Squibnocket Beach on Nov. 7.



Lanny McDowell

Long-tailed ducks.

Northern gannets are remarkable seabirds with 11 sightings this week. On Nov. 1, Bob Shriber found eight in Aquinnah and Charles Morano counted 78 from Squibnocket Beach. Nancy Weaver spotted one in Vineyard Haven outer harbor on Nov. 4. On Nov. 5, Bob Shriber estimated 420 in Aquinnah, Chris Schmandt observed two from Squibnocket Pond South, and Jim Suozzo watched 44 from Squibnocket Beach. Stefan Martin's group located 42 from South Beach on Nov. 6, and on Nov. 7 Chris Schmandt discovered 100 from Lucy Vincent, and Stefan Martin's group counted 122 from Black Point Pond and eight from Squibnocket Beach.

Both common and red-throated loons are abundant this week. Common loons were spotted from Dogfish Bar (Stefan Martin's group, 27, Nov. 7), Pilot's Landing (Stefan Martin's group, two, Nov. 7), Gay Head Cliffs (Stefan Martin's group, four, Nov. 7), Aquinnah (Shriber, six, Nov. 1, Susan Whiting and Nancy Nordin, two, Nov. 1 and Bob Shriber, eight, Nov. 5), Squibnocket Beach (Charles Morano, six, Nov. 1, and Nancy Weaver and Janet Woodcock, two, Nov. 2, and Jim Suozzo, four, Nov. 5), Sepiessa Point (me, two, Nov. 5), Long Point (Chris Schmandt, one, Nov. 2), Norton Point (Nancy Weaver, one, Nov. 1), Oak Bluffs harbor (Alana Moberg and E. Hawes, three, Nov. 1 and me, three, Nov. 4 and Lisa Maxfield, seven, Nov. 5), and Vineyard Haven outer harbor (me, one, Nov. 4).

Red-throated loons were found at Dogfish Bar (Stefan Martin's group, 18, Nov. 7), Pilot's Landing (Stefan martin's group, three, Nov. 7), Gay Head Cliffs (Stefan Martin 's group, three, Nov. 7, and Chris Schmandt, three, Nov. 3), Aquinnah (Bob Shriber, Susan Whiting and Nancy Nordin, one, Nov. 1, and Bob Shriber, two, Nov. 5), Squibnocket Beach (Charles Morano, four, Nov. 1, and Nancy Weaver and Janet Woodcock, seven, Nov. 2, and Jim Suozzo, five, Nov. 5), Sepiessa Point (me, two, Nov. 5), Norton Point (Nancy Weaver, six, Nov. 1), and the Drawbridge (me, one, Nov. 4).

Transient warblers (not yellow-rumped or pine warblers) were more frequently seen this week. The quartet of Bob Shriber, Susan Whiting, Nancy Nordin, and Lanny McDowell found two orange-crowned warblers and one common yellowthroat in Aquinnah on Nov. 1, Charles Morano spotted an orange-crowned warbler, one yellowthroat, and one palm warbler at Squibnocket Beach on Nov. 1, Bob Shriber observed a prairie warbler at Squibnocket Farm on Nov. 3, Stefan Martin's group located one western palm warbler at Katama Farm on Nov. 6 and an American redstart at Black Point Pond on Nov. 7 and one Nashville warbler and one western palm warbler at the Gay Head Cliffs on Nov. 7, and Melissa and David Kuehne have had a black-throated blue warbler visiting their Edgartown feeders from Nov. 3-5 and again on Nov. 9.

Finally, we have sightings of lingering species. On Nov. 1 Charles Morano spotted one yellow-billed cuckoo and a dickcissel from Squibnocket Beach, Chris Schmandt found one snowy egret at Nashaquitsa Pond on Nov. 5, and Stefan Martin found a flock of approximately 500 common grackles at Felix Neck on Nov. 5.

Please email your sightings to birds@vineyardgazette.com

Robert Culbert is an ecological consultant living in Vineyard Haven.

The Vineyard Gardener



Lovely Lilacs

By LYNNE IRONS

Last weekend's rain set everything right in garden world. I was beginning to get into some serious fretting.

I still have not had a hard killing frost on the property. The wax leaf begonias nested into a covering of fallen maple leaves is particularly beautiful.

The Bloomerang lilac is reblooming. A nice little shrub with both small leaves and blossoms, it is a nice addition to the front of a shrub border. It doesn't get more than four feet tall.

Like all lilacs, it blooms on old wood so pruning should be done carefully. Another striking shrub right now is Callicarpa. Also known as American beautyberry, it is covered in fall with tiny purple berries.

There is a striking one next to a winterberry between Vineyard Gardens and the drive-thru of the West Tisbury bank.

There is also a large Crape Myrtle in front of the bank with lovely bark that reflects the now low-in-the-sky autumn sun.

Fall clematis has gone to seed. I do an aggressive cut back as it tends to be quite invasive. Regardless, it is very nice with a jasmine aroma when in full bloom.

I like to avoid the terms hack or whack when it comes to cutting but for once, the words apply. The vine always comes right back in spring.

This week's Veterans Day reminded me of the 1918 poem about the poppies in Flanders Field. Let me refresh everyone's memory.

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.
-John McCrea

For years, growing up, we wore a little cloth poppy on that day.

Poppies are an interesting plant. There are several types. The red ones mentioned in the poem are an annual that tends to replace itself over the years. Trying to grow them in a traditional way never tends to work. They loathe being transplanted. I simply gather some seeds after early summer bloom and toss them about willy-nilly.

I have some in the vegetable garden paths every year. For the life of me I have no recognition of the original ones.

The men in my family were veterans. We have a documented ancestor who was killed in the Civil War.

My 21-year-old Dad and his brothers all went to the local recruiting office to sign up the day after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

Dad joined the Navy. We often joked with him since he couldn't swim.

One of his ships was torpedoed and limped into Casablanca.

Then off he went to the Pacific. He watched, with binoculars in 1945 from on board a mine sweeper, the surrender of Japanese Emperor Hirohito, to the Allied forces.

Fast forward to my anti-Vietnam War activities in the late sixties. Never once did I hear a fellow protestor call fallen veterans "suckers and losers" but here we are.

Hopefully sanity will prevail after the midterm election. Hope springs eternal.



Ray Ewing

Look out for the Bloomerang.

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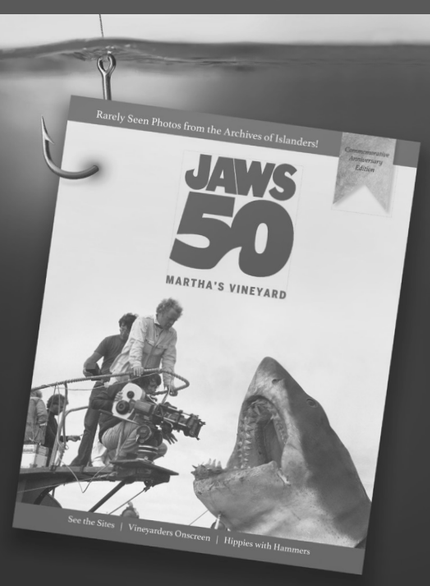
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