More and more I see how everything goes together. There is such grace in this reconciliation — even the stomach, that restless loner, begins to understand.

- Susan Ludvigson

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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Ray Ewing

This way to Katama Bay.

Steamship Raises Rates, Adds Freight Surcharge

By LOUISA HUFSTADER

The cost of traveling with the Steamship Authority is going up again in January, with increases in every category of service and an additional surcharge for freight shipments on the Martha's Vineyard route.

The ferry line board, at its meeting in Falmouth Tuesday, signed off on raising passenger tickets by 50 cents, standard automobile tickets by as high as $18 each way in the height of summer and round-trip excursion vehicle tickets for Islanders by between $8 and $10.50, depending on the time of year.

The need to raise rates was driven by higher fuel costs and rising employee salaries, according to Steamship finance officials. The cost of gas for the ferries was expected to go up by $5 million in 2027 and staff wages by $4.75 million, eating into the projected revenues needed to keep the ferry system running.

Daily parking in Woods Hole and Hyannis will go up $1, yearly passes for the Palmer avenue parking lot $50 and yearly passes for the Woods Hole lot $200. Freight will go up a flat 7.5 per cent; medical travel rates are the only category not affected by the increases.

Fuel was a major topic of discussion at the board meeting this week, and the board also approved a surcharge on freight bookings to cover the additional costs of low-emission biodiesel for the M/V Island Home.

Known as RD-99, hydrogenated vegetable oil or HVO, the manufactured fuel burns cleaner than traditional diesel and keeps the Island Home from spewing sooty exhaust while powering up, a notorious quirk of her two 12-cylinder diesel engines.

The Steamship Authority began using RD-99 on the Island Home in 2025 in a pilot program that proved successful, leading the board to approve more funding for the biofuel this summer.

But RD-99's environmental benefits come at a cost, according to Mark Rozum, the Steamship treasurer and comptroller. The cooler-burning fuel is about 10 per cent less efficient than regular diesel in powering the Island Home's engines, he said, and last week he learned that its price per gallon has leaped from about 82 cents more to $1.73 more than diesel.

To meet the estimated $880,000 difference between RD-99 and regular diesel, Mr. Rozum offered the board the choice of adding surcharges for passengers, passenger and freight vehicles, passenger vehicles only or freight only.

The board chose the freight surcharge, which Mr. Rozum estimated at $14 per truck.

It will apply only on the Vineyard route, because the Island Home was built specifically for the passage from Woods Hole and does not serve the longer, more environmentally exposed Nantucket-Hyannis route.

Woods Hole resident Mary Musacchia thanked the board for supporting the cleaner-burning fuel.

"For those of us in Woods Hole, it will make a significant change to the quality of the environment there," she said.

Mr. Rozum said the Steamship was slightly ahead of its budget so far thanks to the authority's current hedges against price spikes.

"While other operators and other transportation industries have put fuel surcharges on their costs, with our hedges we haven't had to ... this year," he said.

Next year will be different, Mr. Rozum said, as a widely swinging fuel market spurs higher costs for hedging the future prices of diesel as well as for the oil itself.

The market fluctuations are caused primarily by the logistics of shipping fuel to customers, rather than a shortage of

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Cindy Doyle Was a Quiet Force for Good

By EMMA KILBRIDE

Cindy Doyle, an Island philanthropist who worked to uplift the most vulnerable Vineyarders, died on Nov. 11. She was 79.

The Gazette spoke this week with several Island activists, philanthropists and nonprofit leaders who worked alongside Ms. Doyle. They remembered her wit, her smile and the singular attention she paid to the people and causes she held dear.

"She is certainly among the most influential philanthropists this community has ever seen, both in her direct giving and in her participation..." said MV Youth executive director Lindsey Scott. "In a community like this, that's a big person to lose."

Ms. Doyle is best known for leading the campaign to establish a Martha's Vineyard YMCA, and sustaining it through its most recent expansion effort. She also founded and chaired the board of the MV Youth Task Force, co-founded and chaired the board of Healthy Aging MV, and served on the boards of MV Youth and the Martha's Vineyard Community Foundation. In addition to donating her time to these organizations, she financially supported them through her family's Peter and

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Right Whale Population Continues to Decline

By LILY ECHEVERRIA

Despite one of the best calving seasons in the last 20 years, the North Atlantic right whale population is still struggling and saw a slight decline in 2025.

The New England Aquarium and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) released an updated population estimate for the critically endangered whale population on Monday. The estimate currently stands at 382 whales – a 1.8 per cent decrease from the prior year.

Scientists have yet to determine the reasons why the population continues to decline, though vessel strikes and entanglements in fishing gear have been two of the major threats to the species, which regularly pass through Vineyard waters.

"It's really hard to predict when we're going to have a good year and when we're going to have a bad year," said Amy Warren, scientific program officer at the New England Aquarium.

Still, experts feel the lack of progress highlights the need to have sustained protections for the whales.

"The newly released right whale population estimate underscores that more work is needed to protect this species," said Heather Pettis, a right whale researcher and the chair of the North Atlantic Right Whale Consortium, in a statement. "The population is not yet on a clear path to recovery and is incredibly vulnerable to entanglements and vessel strikes, threats we know how to reduce."

The number of right whales has fluctuated over the years, but reached a recent peak in 2010, with about 500 individuals. The population saw a sharp decline between 2015 and 2020.

But amidst the declining population, there is a glimmer of hope. The 2025-2026 North Atlantic right whale

To Page Seven



Canadian Whale Institute/New England Aquarium, under DFO Canada SARA permit

Births have seen an increase, but general population is down.



Ray Ewing

The inspector general has taken the boat line to task over delays in the new reservation system.

SSA Addresses Reservation Concerns

By ETHAN GENTER

The Steamship Authority last week laid out the work that has been done on the new reservation system and the path forward after the state inspector general raised concerns about the progress toward getting the new booking program online.

Inspector general Jeffrey Shapiro wrote to the ferry line in October and asked for updates and cost breakdowns on the new system, which was delayed due to struggles with the several different ticket options at the Steamship.

In a Nov. 10 letter, Steamship general manager Alex Kryska responded to Mr. Shapiro's worries by writing that the ferry line has spent $1.6 million of the $2.4 million budgeted to implement the new system, which is being built by E-Dea, an Italian firm with experience with ferries.

About $3.3 million of the total $5.7 million contract with E-Dea is software licensing and hosting for the system through 2030, Mr. Kryska added.

The total implementation cost for the new system, which includes staff training, work to integrate the new system into the rest of the Steamship information technology, and hardware such as ticket scanners, is expected to cost a total of $11.2 million, inclusive of E-Dea's contract.

According to Mr. Kryska's letter, only two items have exceeded their initial estimates so far: the bulk shipping portal and network equipment. The former is expected to be $858,555, about $126,000 more than initially budgeted, and the latter is $650,000, or $190,000 over budget.

Mr. Shapiro's concerns about the reservation system came after he penned a highly critical report on the Steamship's plans for a new website in 2025. That project was met with several cost overruns and delays; Steamship officials later decided to pause that project to focus on the reservation system.

In that prior report, Mr. Shapiro took the ferry line management to task for not keeping the ferry line board informed on the project. He also felt the board was not asking enough questions of management.

Mr. Kryska highlighted the work that the Steamship has done in the wake of the website report to avoid similar situations.

The Steamship has formed several subcommittees to provide more oversight, and several officials have taken classes with the inspector general's office.

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Company Seeks Pot Sales In Oak Bluffs

By ETHAN GENTER

A group of cannabis entrepreneurs is spearheading a new effort to allow retail cannabis businesses just outside of the bustling downtown area in Oak Bluffs.

The backers of Black Harbor Group, which had previously planned to open a marijuana grow facility and dispensary in West Tisbury, collected signatures and submitted a petition to town hall last week.

The petition, which is set to go before town meeting in April, would amend the town's zoning to allow licensed retail marijuana stores in commercial areas south of Pennacook avenue along Circuit avenue, as well as within the town's arts district and Dukes County avenue.

The busier section of Circuit avenue would remain off-limits to cannabis businesses.

Right now, Oak Bluffs does not have any retail marijuana shops or medical dispensaries, despite designating a portion of town for the businesses. The Vineyard has one lone adult-use marijuana store, Island Time, in Vineyard Haven.

Jamarhl Crawford, a partner with Black Harbor Group, said his company started the petition to give better access to cannabis in Oak Bluffs while still keeping it out of the center of town.

"I understand the trepidation and the want to preserve what everybody holds sacred," Mr. Crawford said this week. "I tried to get a portion of Circuit avenue that makes sense to local people."

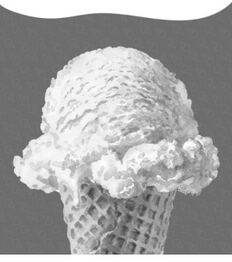
The Black Harbor Group had planned to open a grow facility and dispensary at the former Fine Fettle business in West Tisbury. Fine Fettle closed in 2024, citing the tough economics of growing on the Vineyard, which was required to sell only products grown here.

The Black Harbor Group was looking to take over the spot, but then dropped the idea to grow cannabis after the state allowed Island retail stores to sell mainland products. The company also lost out on opening at the former dispensary on State Road in West Tisbury, after Mr. Rose took the lease and brought in a pilates studio as a tenant.

The departure of Fine Fettle and the

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mad martha's
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Edgartown Board Rejects Latest Cape Pogue Appeal

By ETHAN GENTER

The Trustees of Reservations will not, for now at least, have to get another special permit to operate their oversand vehicle trails on Cape Pogue.

The question of whether the conservation nonprofit had all of the right approvals from town hall has been a central point in the longrunning battle over the trails, which allow beachgoers, fishermen and others to drive out to some of the Vineyard's most remote beaches.

The latest clash came up at the Edgartown zoning board of appeals Wednesday, after Chappaquiddick landowner Rick Murray appealed a decision from the town building inspector, Matt Rossi.

In August, a group of Chappy residents asked Mr. Rossi to issue a cease and desist to the Trustees for a lack of a special permit, claiming there was an increased intensity of use over the years that necessitated a new review process.

The Trustees, which manages miles of oversand vehicle trails on Chappaquiddick, received a special permit from the town planning board in the 1990s. But in recent years, town officials and the nonprofit learned that no one had a copy of the permit, sparking more disputes on top of the several lawsuits over the trails.

With no permit in hand, the zoning board ruled in 2024 that the Trustees needed to reapply for a permit with the planning board.

The Trustees was granted a special permit for several of its buildings on Chappaquiddick this past May. But several Chappy residents and even some town officials argued that the Trustees also needed to apply for a permit for the trails.

After hearing from the Chappaquiddick homeowner group, MR. Rossi declined to issue the cease and desist, prompting Mr. Murray's appeal to the zoning board.

While presenting his case Wednesday, Mr. Murray said he was befuddled by the furor around what he saw as a necessary requirement. He wasn't disputing if the Trustees should get a permit, just their need to have one for the buildings, as well as the trails.

"The zoning board told the Trustees to reapply for their whole operation on the other side of the Dike Bridge," he said.

"To me, that's kind of like me pulling a permit to renovate my bathroom, and then when the town shows up...the town sees that I'd put in an ADU and a pool as well," Mr. Murray added. "It's beyond what was permitted."

The Trustees argued that there was no additional permit needed, recreational uses were exempt, and there was no increase in use of the trails over the years that would require an additional review.

"Documented vehicle counts are similar today to what they were in the 1990s and significantly below the early 2000s," said Darci Schofield, the Trustees director on the Vineyard.

Oversand vehicle stickers, which signal a four-wheel drive vehicle is allowed on the trails, have dropped from an average of 2,300 permits a year between 1999 and 2005, to 1,311 permits in 2026, according to Ms. Schofield.



Ray Ewing

OSV trails have been hotly contested.

She expressed frustration with the continued challenges over the Trustees's trail network from Chappaquiddick residents.

"Repeatedly relitigating the same activity consumes resources intended for protecting wildlife, restoring habitat, educating children, maintaining public lands and serving this community," Ms. Schofield said.

For some members of the town zoning and planning board, the issue was black and white. The zoning bylaw requires a permit on Cape Pogue for trails, said zoning board member Robin Bray.

"In 2024, we sent this back to the planning board, and I remember looking at the regulation...that specifically says trails and roads need special permits in the [Cape Pogue district of critical planning,]" she said. "These trails don't have permits, and what we wanted to do was establish a baseline."

She believed the building inspector misinterpreted the bylaw.

"The Trustees did not apply as they should have under the bylaw for trails and for vehicles that use those trails," Mr. Bray said.

Julia Livingston, a member of the planning board, echoed a similar sentiment.

"The Trustees are required to have a special permit for any 'quote unquote' development, and development is specifically defined to include any change in the intensity of use of land," she said.

Because there was never a permit, any change since 1990 would require review.

"It's not complicated," she said. "They need to have a special permit as a baseline for going forward."

The majority, however, wasn't inclined to reopen the review process.

Zoning board member Pam Dolby backed the building inspector's decision and said that if there was an issue with the special permit granted by the planning board, it should have been appealed to the planning board.

"This issue has been before state agencies, local agencies; hours, months, years have gone into this," she said. "This is a dispute that is not our issue... I'm not going to sit and research all of these legal decisions."

The board ended up voting 4-1 to support the building inspector's decision, with Ms. Bray as the lone no vote.

Board chair Martin (Skip) Tomassian was not in favor of overturning the building inspector's decision, though he said he understood the points about regulations made by Ms. Bray.

He wasn't sure how to resolve the ongoing disputes over the trails between the Trustees and landowners, but said that Mother Nature may take care of things herself on the narrow barrier beach.

"I don't disagree with anything you said, Robin," he said. "The question is, how in God's name do we make it work? I don't know...Maybe we should all go to church and pray for more beach because that keeps disappearing."

Developer Defends Commission Approval for Oakwood Project

By EMMA KILBRIDE

The family behind plans to build a Victorian-style mixed-use building on Circuit avenue is pushing back against a neighbor's lawsuit that contests the approvals for the project.

The attorney for Jennifer Pacheco Freeman, whose family owns both the former Phillips Hardware lot and Reliable Market next door, asked the Dukes County Superior Court this month to dismiss the complaint from attorney and neighbor Laurence Hardoon.

Mr. Hardoon filed a lawsuit against the Martha's Vineyard Commission in May that argued the commission wrongfully approved the Pacheco family's plan for the Oakwood development. As approved, the project would have two retail shops and two upper floors of apartments. Before being home to Phillips Hardware, the lot was the site of the historic Oakwood hotel.

Mr. Hardoon owns the "arcade" building directly across the street at 31 Circuit avenue, which counts Sharky's Cantina and a T-shirt shop as tenants. Among Mr. Hardoon's claims are that the Phillips property owners lacked proper documents and the approval of an architect, and that the project failed to adhere to the style of the historic Victorian hotel that was there many years ago.

In his Nov. 3 answer to Mr. Hardoon's complaint, Pacheco family attorney Thomas Lesser defended the commission's decision process and asked the court to throw out the case and restore Ms. Pacheco Freeman's legal fees back to her.

"The Commission did nothing improper," the filing reads. "It held lengthy evidentiary hearings, weighed the probable benefits of the proposed DRI against the probable detriments, as it was required to do by statute, and then unanimously approved the project finding that the probable benefits of the [project] ... outweighed the probable detriments."

In an interview, Mr. Lesser said the burden Mr. Hardoon faces to refute the commission's decision is extremely high. Mr. Lesser does not believe the complaint will warrant a new presentation of evidence in court.

"The commission has a tremendous amount of discretion in matters like this. It held hearings. It hired an expert to review the matter on their behalf..." he said. "It considered all the factors required under the law, and it reached an impartial unanimous decision, which appeared on its face to be unassailable."

Legal representation for the commission did not respond to a request for comment.

In a statement to the Gazette, Mr. Hardoon said Mr. Lesser's filing is "nothing unexpected." He reiterated that, in his view, the commission did not adequately consider the historical elements of the design. He also said he has offered to meet with the owners regarding his own proposal for a building at the Oakwood site, which he claimed was more true to the historic hotel.

"We are long standing neighbors and owners (50+ years) of a Nationally recognized Historic Property that we restored, situated literally across the street," he wrote. "As the only property nationally so designated on Circuit Avenue, we have a compelling interest in holding the Commission to the statutory standard."

The court has not assigned a judge to the case or scheduled an initial hearing.

Longtime Islander Honored by Broadcasting Foundation

By LILY ECHEVERRIA

The Vineyard Gazette's former director of sales and marketing was honored this week with a lifetime achievement award by the Library of American Broadcasting Foundation.

Skip Finley was recognized on Tuesday at a Giants of Broadcasting & Electronic Arts luncheon alongside honorees including Kelsey Grammer and Jane Pauley.

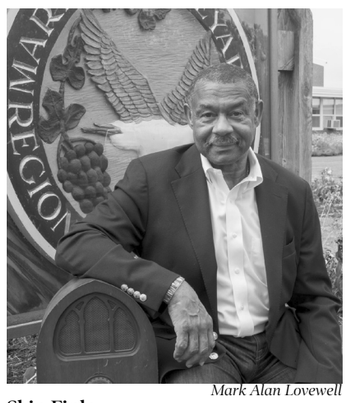
Over the course of his 55 years in media, Mr. Finley was responsible for 44 radio stations, five of which he owned. He worked as the director of sales and marketing for the Vineyard Gazette until 2022, also writing the Oak Bluffs column for about five years. He also published two books based on Vineyard life: Historic Tales of Oak Bluffs and Whaling Captains of Color: America's First Meritocracy.

"It was fabulous," Mr. Finley said of the awards ceremony, which took place at Gotham Hall in New York City. "It was in an old, restored bank building. It was absolutely beautiful."

Mr. Finley began his broadcasting career in radio, eventually serving as chairman of the Radio Advertising Bureau and vice chairman of the National Association of Broadcasters. The Vineyard has been his part-time home since 1955, when his father purchased a summer house.

"We've been here every year since then," he said. "My wife and I bought our own house in the '90s. The family still has its house, a summer place, and we've lived on the Vineyard for 25 years now."

His aspirations to work in media began as a kindergartner, when he was watching an old Western on television.



Mark Alan Lovewell

Skip Finley.

"I was watching one of those old black and white shows, one of those cowboy shows, when I asked my mama, 'How come their hair looks different from mine?'" Mr. Finley said. "Not wanting to get involved in racial relations when I was that young, she said, 'You have to be a TV producer to find that out.'"

Mr. Finley took his mother at her word. Now, he has earned recognition for a lifetime of contributions to that very industry.

The Library of American Broadcasting Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and celebrating the history of broadcasting. This year marked its 23rd annual ceremony.

"I've had a pretty good career," Mr. Finley said, summing his vast achievements in a modest tone. "I've had a lot of fun with the people."

Land Bank Revenues

The Martha's Vineyard Land Bank reported revenues of $168,440 for the business week ending on Friday, Nov. 13, 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 West Tisbury, where one transaction resulted in $73,000. Three transactions in Edgartown earned $47,860, one transactions in Chilmark resulted in $32,000, and one transaction in Oak Bluffs earned $15,580. No eligible transactions were recorded in Aquinnah.

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

Dairy Queen Buy-Down Remains Elusive

By LOUISA HUFSTADER

The Martha's Vineyard Commission has continued its review of a proposed 15-apartment rental complex behind the Dairy Queen dessert shop in Edgartown, after a public hearing this month that saw no progress on making some of the units affordable.

The Edgartown affordable housing committee has yet to begin negotiating a buy-down agreement with the developers, chair Melissa Vincent told commissioners Nov. 12.

"This has been a tough one," she said, citing disparities between market-rate estimates provided by the developer and those found by the affordable housing committee.

"If we went by the numbers that they gave us to buy down those units, it would be quite expensive," she said.

The committee's goal is to make four of the 15 Dairy Queen apartments affordable to Islanders earning 80 per cent of the area median, enabling the town to expand its subsidized housing inventory, Ms. Vincent said.

To make that happen, Edgartown would pay the landlords the difference between market-rate and lower rents for a period of years.

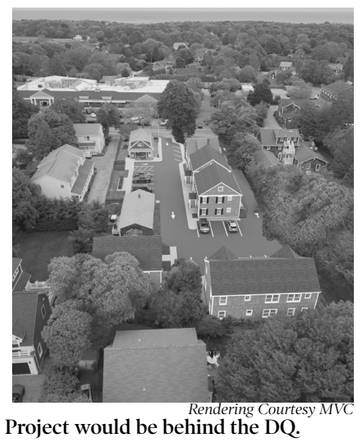
Property owners David and Jessica Rosenberg provided the town in September with a market-rate analysis of Island rental housing, but Ms. Vincent said the affordable housing committee has been struggling with the data.

"We were assured that the applicants themselves were in real estate and in development and could come up with a comprehensive market rate analysis, but I don't believe that's what we received," she said.

"What they found ... mostly were houses, and then they just divided the bedroom count up to come up with what they believed was a fair market rate per bedroom," Ms. Vincent said.

Those rates, she said, were $3,625 a month for a one-bedroom apartment and $4,625 a month for a two-bedroom unit, not including utilities.

To afford these rents without spending more than 30 per cent of their pretax income on housing, residents would need to earn 110 per cent to 120 per cent of the area median, Ms. Vincent said.



Rendering Courtesy MVC

Project would be behind the DQ.

"That's $159,900 a year for a single person to live there in a one-bedroom," she said.

The affordable housing committee also did its own research, Ms. Vincent said, consulting with Island Housing Trust and other Vineyard organizations.

Their market-rate estimates were sharply lower than the developers', averaging $2,700 a month for one bedroom and $3,500 for two, she said.

Representing the developers, Geoghan Coogan objected that their market analysis was not a statement of the rents they intend to charge.

"I sent what was requested of us: a market-rate analysis, not what we were requesting in rents," he said.

The affordable housing committee has not responded to the analysis, which he submitted in mid-September, Mr. Coogan said.

"This is extremely frustrating, to be coming to a public hearing and ... defending something that hasn't happened," he said. "It's disingenuous, at best."

Commissioners encouraged Mr. Coogan to provide the affordable housing committee with the owners' proposed rents for the apartments behind the Dairy Queen, so the two sides can begin negotiating in earnest.

As proposed, the 15 apartments would have 18 bedrooms and 18 parking spaces, with additional parking available at the Rosenbergs' Franklin Inn nearby.

All of the apartments would be deed-restricted to Islanders who must make them their primary residences for at least 10 months a year, with short-term rentals prohibited.

If Edgartown is successful in making four of the apartments affordable at 80 per cent or less of the area median income, the town will buy itself at least a year of safe haven from Chapter 40B developments that are allowed by state law to skirt many local zoning requirements.

At the Nov. 12 hearing, the commission also heard further testimony about traffic and parking at the proposed four-building complex.

Neighbors on Pinehurst Road, which runs behind the eight-acre site, raised more objections about traffic and light pollution. Mr. Coogan said the developers could plant larger, more mature arborvitae trees along the fence line bordering the nearest home, to prevent intrusion from car headlights.

Commissioners also discussed the potential of a seasonal parking coordinator to ease potential bottlenecks on the eight-acre site, which shares its parking with the Dairy Queen shop.

Jonathan Blum, owner of the nearby Bad Martha brew pub, said his business employs summer parking help as part of its agreement with landlord Donaroma's nursery.

"It's beneficial both to Bad Martha and to Donaroma to have that parking attendant direct traffic to the town lot if our lot ... is full," Mr. Blum said.

"It does work very well in the summertime," he said.

The public hearing on housing behind the Dairy Queen is scheduled to continue Dec. 3.

MVCF Awards $600,000 in Grants

The Martha's Vineyard Community Foundation announced it will award $600,000 in grants this year through the its Community & Impact Grants program. The funding will support community-based projects at 53 nonprofit organizations serving the Island.

The Community & Impact Grant program is offered annually to nonprofits based on or providing significant service to the Martha's Vineyard. This year, the Community Foundation received 71 applications from organizations of different budget sizes, operating structures and interests. The common thread is that the nonprofits proposed projects with a common purpose: making a significant positive impact on the lives of Islanders.

Grants distributed touched on all areas of the Island, from the arts and education to accessibility, environmental initiatives, elder services, food security, housing, health services and more.

For a full list of grant recipients, visit marthasvineyardcf.org.

For more information, contact program manager Elizabeth Bennett at elizabethbennett@marthasvineyardcf.org or 508-338-4665.

LadyFest Gives $30,000 to Support MVCS

Following its most successful fundraising year yet, LadyFest gave its largest ever donation to Martha's Vineyard Community Services CONNECT to End Violence.

LadyFest is an annual music festival that brings together the Island's female and nonbinary musicians, as well as local artisans and food vendors. All proceeds from this event have historically gone to CONNECT to End Violence, the Vineyard's domestic and sexual violence awareness program.

This year LadyFest donated $30,000.

CONNECT to End Violence provides Islanders with services including crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy.

"This amazing gift is important to the work we do at CONNECT. Every single dollar raised goes directly to the people we serve," said Susan Mercier, the director of CONNECT to End Violence, in a statement Monday. "We are able to utilize these funds to meet people where they are in their healing journey. Ladyfest donations allow us to think outside the box of the everyday – while we provide concrete supports, resources, and counseling to our clients we are now able to expand our services."

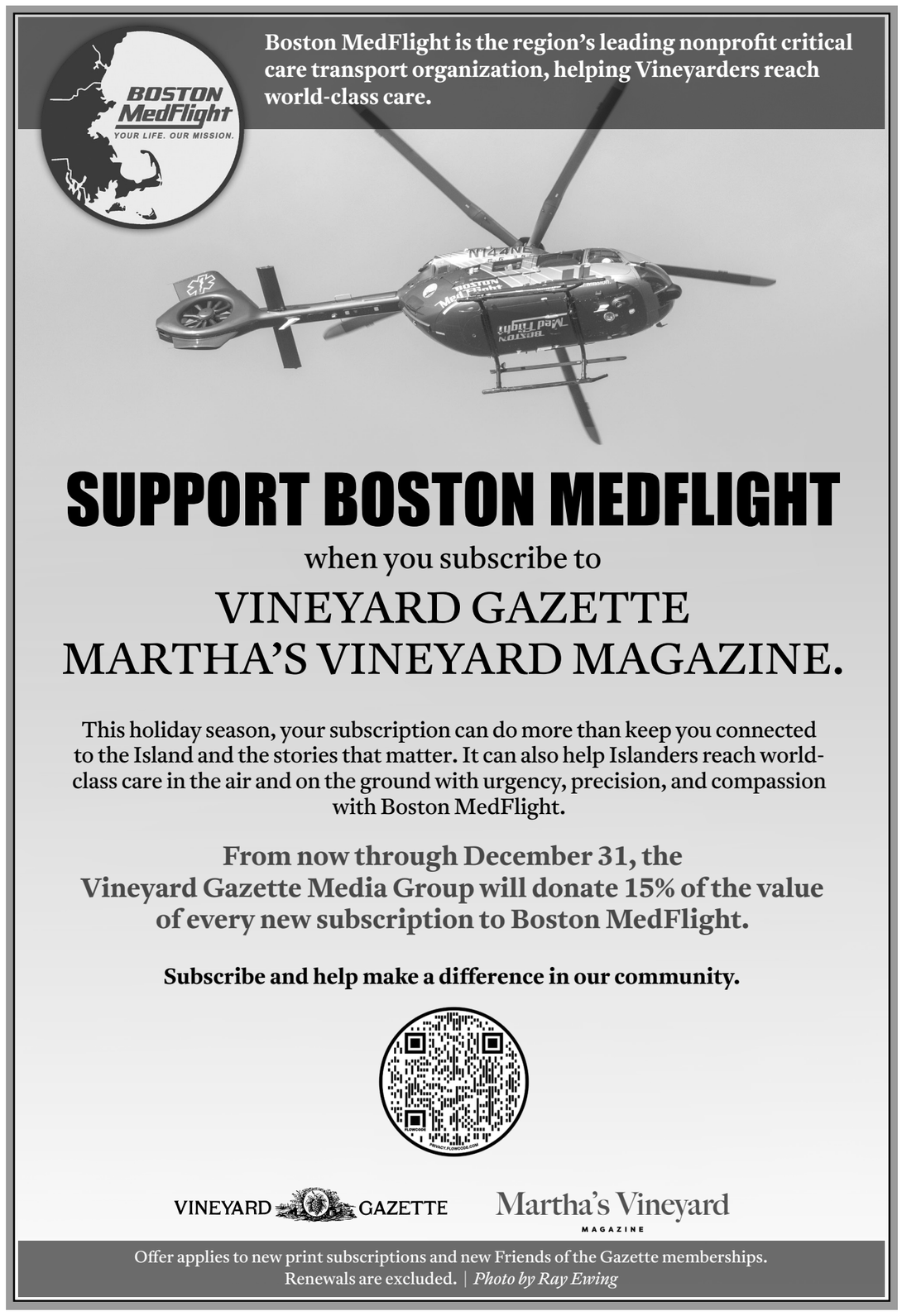
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Cranberry Picking Is a Holiday Tradition

By LILY ECHEVERRIA

Seven-year-old Vera Scheffer-Lew was thinking about cookies as she picked cranberries recently at Cranberry Acres on Lambert's Cove Road.

Vera was spending the day with her mother, sister and friend, picking berries and occasionally sneaking a bite or two.

"We're going to make cranberry cookies," she said, as the group swapped ideas for holiday dishes.

Vera's friend Vida Van Hollebeke was unsure about the berries' place at Thanksgiving dinner.

"I don't really know how turkeys and cranberries could be good together," Vida said. "We'll see."

Though Vida remained unconvinced, the tradition remains a popular one. This season the bog has welcomed 457 guests so far, as part of school field trips, public pick-your-own days and an outing hosted alongside the Martha's Vineyard Family Center. Through these initiatives, roughly 425 pounds of cranberries have been gleaned.

The flat fee for picking is $10, and customers can take as many as they can carry. Children cost $5, and children under five years old pick for free. You-pick is open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and continues through Nov. 24.

Annette Anthony has been the bog manager for 14 years now. She spends hours sorting and packaging cranberries for wholesale distribution to Island businesses such as Ghost Island, Beetlebung, Morning Glory and Cronig's.

The machines Ms. Anthony uses are 90 years old. After the harvested cranberries run through them, she sorts through the buckets by hand to ensure no rotten berries have slipped through.

"It's amazing the machines worked way back then, and they're still doing their job," she said.

Ms. Anthony said the team stumbled upon the "you-pick" idea by accident about five years ago.

"One time, the machine broke during our harvesting, so we couldn't pick any more ourselves," she said. "We left the cranberries out there, and then thought to start up a 'pick-your-own.'"

"It's important to show the kids how to pick so they can continue to carry the traditions on," Ms. Anthony added.

Earlier this fall, ownership and supervision of Cranberry Acres shifted from the Vineyard Open Land Foundation to Sheriff's Meadow Foundation. The Vineyard Open Land Foundation purchased the area in 1983, which was formerly a defunct campground. The property is 23 acres in total, with three ponds, public walking trails and 2.5 acres of the active, organic cranberry bog.



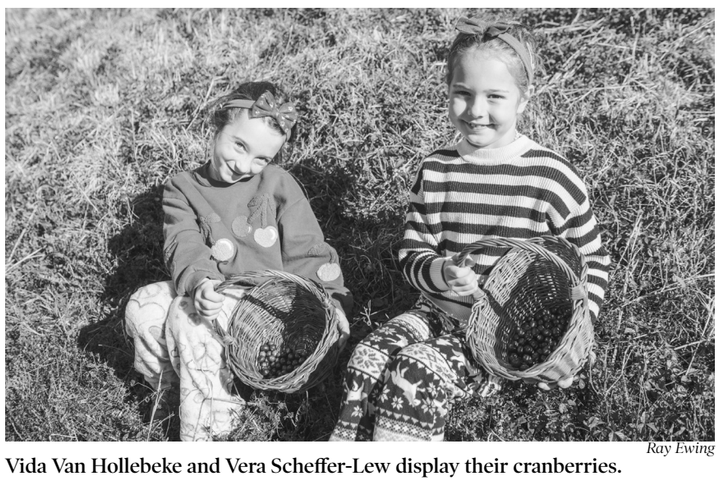
Ray Ewing

Vida Van Hollebeke, Vera Scheffer-Lew, Isabelle Lew and Maya Scheffer-Lew.



Tim Johnson

Annette Anthony with the cranberry sorting maching.



Ray Ewing

Vida Van Hollebeke and Vera Scheffer-Lew display their cranberries.



Ray Ewing

Noah Froh helps process the cranberries.

"It was very important that the bog be maintained, and Sheriff's Meadow seemed willing and dedicated to doing that," said Eric Peters, chairman of the Open Land Foundation.

In recent weeks, Sheriff's Meadow has built a farmstand, purchased additional baskets for pick-your-own customers and brought in a scale to weigh people's harvests.

"We are definitely going to continue the way the bog has been run," said Adam Moore, president of Sheriff's Meadow. "We don't have any changes in mind now. We're really just learning from Vineyard Open Land Foundation."

Ms. Anthony said cranberries are remarkable for both their health benefits and their place in New England's natural history. They are also, she said, simply fun to pick.



Ray Ewing

Newsroom was packed for a talk with Remy Tumin, Maia Coleman, Holly Pretsky and Diego Lasarte.

Gazette Alumni Talk Journalism Careers

By EMMA KILBRIDE

When Vineyard Gazette reporters move on from the Island, how do their journalistic careers progress? Four former staffers answered this question at this week's edition of the Gazette's Tuesdays in the Newsroom speaker series.

Gazette alumni Remy Tumin and Maia Coleman of the New York Times, Diego Lasarte of the New Yorker and Holly Pretsky of Hell Gate returned to the Gazette newsroom via Zoom Tuesday for a live audience Q&A, moderated by Gazette editor Bill Eville.

Mr. Eville worked closely with all four panelists. He's remained in touch with all of them, following their careers over the years.

"We're a family, whether they like it or not," he said, leading to laughter onscreen and in the newsroom.

Ms. Tumin has worked at the New York Times for a decade, where she's a general assignment and breaking news reporter. Before that, she spent five years as a Gazette reporter. She said her time at the Vineyard Gazette was instrumental in developing her confidence.

"One of the great things about working at the Gazette is that you are working and living in your community... and so you start to learn that reporting muscle in a really kind and generous way," she said.

Ms. Coleman spent a year at the Gazette during the Covid pandemic, then a fresh college graduate. At the New York Times, she covers crime, the justice system and the New York Police Department, in addition to writing long-form features.

Ms. Tumin, she said, helped her initially get her foot in the door.

"If not for the Gazette, I wouldn't really even be here at the Times," she said.

Mr. Lasarte interned at the Gazette the summer after college before working for Bloomberg, Quartz and then the New Yorker. He started as an editorial assistant before the magazine promoted him to an editor position. Now, he works with a slate of staff writers and writes features of his own.

He recalled Mr. Eville bringing him into the editing process, explaining his changes line by line.

"That was a really formative process for me," he said. "It was so instructive."

While Ms. Coleman, Ms. Tumin and Mr. Lasarte's publications have more than a century of history behind them, Hell Gate, where Ms. Pretsky is an editor and covers politics, is new in town. Launched in 2022 and focused on New York City news, Hell Gate's local coverage leans into humor and irreverence in a way Ms. Pretsky compared to the Village Voice.

"Someone described it as having the radical belief that journalism should be fun to read," Ms. Pretsky said.

She said reporting at the Gazette from 2018 to 2019 taught her what it means to report in service to a community — occasionally the hard way.

"There's nothing that holds [a reporter] more accountable than being in a small place and knowing that you could run into the people that you're writing about at any time," Ms. Pretsky said.

Despite their different professional vantage points, the panelists agreed that interfacing with a variety of people and listening to their stories is the joy of journalism.

"It's such a gift to be able to step outside of your own perspective and world and knowledge base every day," Ms. Coleman said.

On the other hand, reporting on grief, tragedy and chicanery takes its toll.

"You feel pretty cynical when you start to realize the lengths that people will go to, to ruin each other's careers or sabotage each other," Ms. Pretsky said.

On the New York Times breaking news desk, Ms. Tumin is often tasked with reporting on mass shootings, which means calling up survivors and victims' families in their most painful moments.

"Having a conversation with a survivor or a parent, it never gets easier," she said. "I think you learn to compartmentalize better, but it's still really, really hard."

The audience asked the four panelists to reflect on the major issues facing the news industry: artificial intelligence, financial pressure, mass layoffs that have rocked both local and national newsrooms across the country.

Ms. Coleman described working at an outlet as well-resourced as the New York Times as breeding a kind of "survivor's guilt" when so many other newsrooms are struggling.

"I have been so incredibly fortunate," she said.

Meanwhile, Mr. Lasarte said he recently watched an outlet he used to work for be whittled down to just one staff reporter, whose work he suspects is augmented by generative AI.

"It definitely is a humbling experience, especially when I get to work at a place like [the New Yorker], which is profitable and does amazing journalism..." he said. "But no, it's definitely bleak."

But the panelists don't seem to think all hope is lost. Hell Gate, Ms. Tumin said, is an outstanding example of what is possible when journalists approach their industry in new ways.

She added that local newsrooms are crucial to nurturing early talent and innovation.

"Small newspapers like the Gazette are still very good places for training grounds and need to be supported," she said.

Please Adopt Us

We have no adoptions to report this week, but if you're looking for a very friendly and affectionate cat you can't do better Toosie, our pet of the week.

Toosie was diagnosed with diabetes but his last two bloodwork tests were normal so he is now off insulin. He will still need to be on a special diet though. Toosie is a four-year-old, male tuxedo cat with big green eyes. He is indoor/outdoor, friendly, playful and affectionate, yet we feel he would be happiest in a home without small children.

However, he does get along with other cats. Toosie has been here a while and is feeling lonely so we're hoping he finds his forever family sooner rather than later. And he also has a lovely purr. Additionally, he is very food oriented so he would be easy to train and teach tricks. Come meet Toosie to experience how much fun he is and see if he could be the perfect cat for you.

Do we have any Persian cat lovers? Olaf is a seven-year-old, white male who is a 10-plus. He is sweet and kind, and a love. He also loves to play and would adore being in a home with children. He'll be ready to go to a new home next week so please stop in and visit and, maybe, fall in love.

If you'd prefer a female, we also have the very sweet Val, a four-year-old tabby and white girl. Since Val is a bit shy and not fond of dogs, we think she would prefer to be an only pet. So if you looking for a new companion Val might just be your girl.

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

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



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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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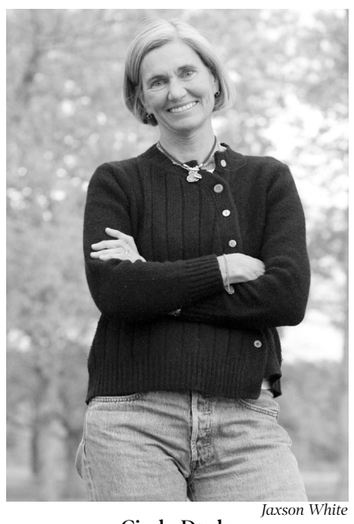
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NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 5, 2026

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Jaxson White

Cindy Doyle

Cindy Doyle Gave Back to The Island in Many Ways

Cindy Doyle, longtime Island resident and philanthropist, died on Nov. 11. She was 79.

The daughter of Peter Tower, a business visionary, and the painter Elizabeth Clarke Tower, Cynthia Tower Doyle was born on March 24, 1947 in Niagara Falls, N.Y. She and her sister Mollie grew up among apple farms and spent summers in even wilder environs on a tiny island on Lake Huron.

When she was 14, she followed her sister to the Walnut Hill School and subsequently attended Boston University where she majored in art history and found the "love of my life", Robert Doyle, at 19. After her college graduation, they married and spent the next 30 years in Providence, R.I. In her early years, she worked with and for children: at Headstart; as a children's librarian at the Atheneum, one of the oldest libraries in the United States; and as the development director at The Gordon School.

She had two daughters, Mollie and Erin Doyle, both of whom now also live on Martha's Vineyard.

In their early years as a young family, Cindy and Rob bought land on Martha's Vineyard. The Island and home they built became the family's sun — a base for gathering with friends, cooking meals, being together as a family — for more than 40 years.

As her children got older, Cindy went back to school to study photography at RISD and received her masters in social work at Salve Regina College. She also joined the board of Amos House, a soup kitchen in Providence. This volunteer time felt meaningful, engaging, and Cindy loved the work. As Cindy said, this is when she felt her work life "really got cooking."

In 1990, while she was in her second round of graduate school, Cindy's father sold his business and gave 99.99 per cent of it away through creating a foundation that supports addiction and mental health services and research. She was asked to be on the board. Cindy served on The Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation board for 36 years. Cindy and her family also founded The Tower Family Fund 16 years later to expand their giving. These foundations, along with Cindy's uncanny knack for raising money, became a catalyst for her to champion organizations around the country and play an integral role in founding community organizations on Martha's Vineyard such as the Youth Task Force, Healthy Aging Task Force, MV Youth, the Martha's Vineyard Donor's Collaborative and, most significantly, the Martha's Vineyard YMCA.

An avid swimmer, Cindy who has stroked and kicked her way from Naushon to MV, was surprised that there was no community pool and decided to raise the money to build one.

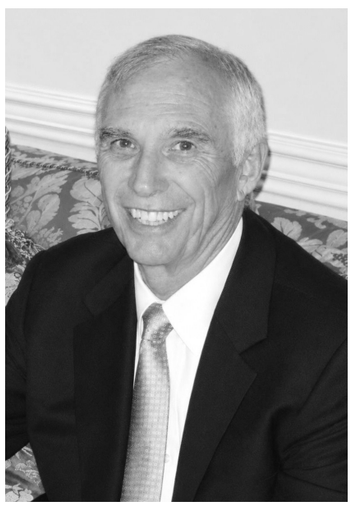
Beyond her community work, for the last 18 years, Rob and Cindy have lived among the trees with their family and ocean nearby. They had an extraordinary 60 years together — traveling with their family, crazy weekends and adventures with a lifelong friend group, and most especially, swimming together side by side in the ocean.

Cindy is survived by her husband Rob, sister Mollie, daughters Mollie and Erin, son in law Thomas Bena, sister and brother in law Marfi and Jack Gagnon and her beloved granddaughter Emma.

The family's hope is that Cindy's soul for service will inspire others to get involved and give what they can. Cindy's lifelong question was, "How can I help?"

Organizations that Cindy championed and would welcome support include: YMCA of Martha's Vineyard; Healthy Aging MV; MV Youth; MV Community Foundation.

A memorial service for Cindy will be held in June of 2027.



Christopher Ordway

Christopher Ordway Led With Kindness

Christopher Robin Ordway, known to family and friends as Chris or "Cappy," died suddenly at his John's Island home on Nov. 6. A devoted husband, father, grandfather and patriot, Chris gave more than he took. His was a life defined by family, faith and flying.

Born in Liverpool, England, and raised in the United Kingdom, Chris moved to the United States to attend Canterbury School and went on to study aeronautical engineering at Boston University. While in college, he married his sweetheart, Gerry. They shared more than 58 years of marriage.

Inspired in part by his family's military service, Chris made aviation his life's work. His flying career took him from West Texas to Da Nang, Vietnam, and later to northern Maine, Southern California, and Houston, Tex. Among his military honors was the Distinguished Flying Cross. He continued his service in the U.S. Air Force Reserve, returned to active duty during the first Gulf War, and retired from military service as a Lieutenant Colonel.

Chris began his commercial aviation career in Houston with Texas Air. His career continued through Continental Airlines and United Airlines, where he spent many years as a captain. Along the way, he flew the full range of Boeing's 7-series aircraft. He finished his career at United as a test pilot.

Chris and Gerry raised their four children in Houston, which remained their home for almost 40 years. A kind, protective, and steady presence, Chris took his responsibilities as a husband and father seriously. Quiet and reserved by nature, he was a man of deep loyalty and steadfast principles, with a playful sense of humor that those closest to him knew well.

Away from the cockpit, Chris loved skiing, tennis, and golf. He was also an avid car enthusiast. For decades, Chris and Gerry spent summers on Martha's Vineyard and winters in the Colorado mountains. Chris belonged to the Edgartown Yacht Club, Vineyard Golf Club, Chappaquiddick Beach Club, Beaver Creek Club, and New York Yacht Club. Favorite traditions included Fourth of July fireworks in Edgartown and New Year's fireworks in Beaver Creek, surrounded by family and cherished friends.

In retirement, Chris made his home at John's Island Club in Vero Beach, Fla., returning to Chappaquiddick each summer. He loved entertaining his grandchildren and playing golf and croquet with friends. On the golf course, Cappy made a hole-in-one and shot a round below his age. Even in his later years, he could outdrive golfers decades younger. He was a member of St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church of Edgartown and Holy Cross Catholic Church of Vero Beach, Fla.

Chris will be remembered for his kindness, his loyalty to family and friends, and the quiet example he set through a life of service, devotion, and purpose. He is survived by his wife, Gerry, and their four children, Christopher (Louisa), Katharine, Stephen (Adrianne), and John. He is also survived by his nine grandchildren, Christopher, Emery, Thomas, William, Andrew, Alexandra, Kyle, Peter, and Anna.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Nov. 17 at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Vero Beach, Fla.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Air Warrior Courage Foundation (airwarriorcourage.org) in honor of Chris's service in the United States Air Force.



Marian Trotter

Marian Trotter Merged Love of Art and Horses

Marian Warner (Bonnie) Trotter II died on Thursday, Sept. 17 in Chattanooga, Tenn. She was 84.

Bonnie was born to Jesse McLane Trotter and Marian Warner Trotter on March 31, 1942, in Northampton, before her father moved the family to Alexandria, Va. to teach at the Virginia Theological Seminary in 1946.

She grew up on the seminary campus, enjoying horseback riding and a variety of pets. She spent summers on Squam Lake, N.H., and on Martha's Vineyard, with her extended family. Like many others in the family, Bonnie possessed an artistic talent for painting, immersing herself in pastels and watercolors from an early age, and producing a diverse and substantial body of impactful work.

She attended Alexandria's Francis C. Hammond High School and later Saint Margaret's School in Tappahannock, Va., graduating in 1961.

From Saint Mary's Junior College, she transferred to the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. While there, she developed a passion to improve the lives of others, graduating with a bachelor of arts degree in sociology in 1965. She then moved to Los Angeles, Calif., for employment in social work.

Integrating her career with her artistic pursuits, Bonnie participated in various community projects, such as mural painting, art instruction for youth groups and exhibits of her work at local galleries. Following this inspiration, she earned a bachelor of fine arts degree from the Art Center College of Design, graduating in 1973.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, she developed a keen eye for photographic illustration, taking on work in photographic retail and various freelance gigs. While discovering the joy of mountains and open wilderness, she relocated in 1993 to Montana, where she continued her horseback riding and photography.

As a photographic artist, and by then a retired social caseworker, Bonnie is vividly remembered for sharing vast ranges of unusual and stirring visual experiences, from microscopic views of ordinary food and foliage, to close-ups of orchids and roses, to the aerial, looking down from a helicopter or hot air balloon on the Rocky Mountains and on Montana farmland.

Upon moving in 2014 to Chattanooga, Tenn., she embarked on research of her father's family of origin, starting by locating his family home on Lookout Mountain, where he was born and grew up.

At the Tennessee Aquarium, for her artwork, she drew inspiration from its marine life, particularly from the colors and designs found on the skins of fish.

Bonnie is preceded in death by her parents, and by brothers John McLane Trotter and William Pusey Trotter.

She is survived by brother Thomas Tallman Trotter and his wife Elizabeth of Tisbury, and their son Alexander of Woburn.

At Bonnie's request, no services will be held. Her marker stone will be placed on the Trotter family plot in Chattanooga's Forest Hills Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Art Center College of Design, 1700 Lida Street, Pasadena, California, 91103-1924.



Margaret Stafursky

Margaret Stafurksy Was a Beloved Teacher

Margaret Ann Stafursky died on Nov. 5 in Oak Bluffs after a battle with cancer. She was 74.

Margaret was born in Fall River on August 16, 1952, to Marie I. (Eagan) Staples and Robert E. Staples, joining brother Blaise (Danny). When Margaret was a young girl, her family moved to Asheville, N.C., before settling in Swansea.

After graduating high school, she attended Boston University where she earned her bachelor of science in education and history, graduating in 1974. She would later go on to earn her master's degree in education from Cambridge College.

Margaret knew from an early age that she wanted to be a teacher. She often played school in her parents' basement, leaving chalk marks on the walls, and during her high school years she also found herself teaching her classmates how to swim.

Prior to joining the teaching staff at Martha's Vineyard Regional High School in 1978, where she taught until 2010, she was a teacher in remote fishing village in Canada where she had to snowmobile to school. She also taught at the Chamberlain Center in Middleboro.

Margaret loved her students. Throughout her teaching career she fought for what she thought the students deserved and needed. She always made sure she had snacks for the students in her classes in case they needed them. Wherever she went in her final days there was always a former student to say hello, give her a hug and a kiss and say, "Mrs. Stafursky was my teacher." That always followed with a personal memory that they shared together.

Margaret and her husband Bill were the co-promoters of the Martha's Vineyard Pro-Am bicycle race which took place from September of 1979 to September of 1996 during Tivoli Day in Oak Bluffs. She took great pride in making this event something special. From this she and her family started traveling throughout New England and attending USCF bike races as officials. Margaret loved to tell the story of when riders would call to register over the phone if she happened to be getting dinner ready that she'd have to tell the racers to hold on so she could drain the pasta or flip the burgers.

She was an avid traveler as well. In her lifetime she traveled to Greece, Ireland, Spain, London and various part of Canada. The National Parks were also a favorite of hers: Yellowstone, Zion, Grand Tetons and the Grand Canyon to name a few. One of her favorite trips though was Hawaii and San Francisco with her husband Bill before he passed away in 2018.

She took great pride in being from Martha's Vineyard, especially Oak Bluffs. She enjoyed the small community feel in the winter months and the growth of the summer crowds. A favorite pastime was enjoying the weekends on State Beach with friends and family.

Margaret is predeceased by her loving husband of 40-plus years, William Stafursky. Her son Robert E. Stafursky, (in Feb. 2020) her parents Marie and Robert Staples and her brother Dr. Blaise Staples.

She is survived by her brother in-law Carl Ruck, stepchildren Joshua Stafursky and Monica Crozier, son in law Robert Crozier, her four grandchildren: Olivia Sattley, Noah Stafursky, Amelia Crozier and Nora Crozier. She is also survived by her great grandson Rhodes.

A memorial mass for Margaret will be held on Saturday, Dec. 5 at 11 a.m. at St. Augustine's Church, Franklin street, Vineyard Haven, and burial will follow at Sacred Heart Cemetery, Vineyard avenue, Oak Bluffs.

Donations in her memory may be made to Veterans Community Services at Martha's Vineyard Community Service, 111 Edgartown Rd., Vineyard Haven, MA 02568.

Daniel J. Garde

Daniel J. Garde, of Tisbury and later, Kingston, died on Nov. 10. He was 37.

A celebration of life will be held on Nov. 23, from 4 to 9 p.m. at Little West Pond Functions (American Legion Post 40), 199 Federal Furnace Road, Plymouth, with a brief prayer and remembrance beginning at 6 p.m.

In honor of his love for the Patriots, guests are welcome — though not required — to wear Patriots gear or team colors.

Melinda J. Sylvia

Melinda J. Sylvia, 71, died on Friday morning, Nov. 13, at her home in Oak Bluffs. She was 71.

A celebration of life will be held on Sunday, Dec. 6 at noon at the PA Club. A complete obituary will appear in another edition of this paper.

Harbor Homes Gift Honors Reverend Murdoch

By LILY ECHEVERRIA

To commemorate the 10-year anniversary of the death of Rev. Brian Murdoch, who led the Grace Episcopal Church from 2014 to 2016, his family granted a gift of $7,000 to Harbor Homes in order to continue the reverend's legacy of service to his community.

The announcement of the grant came after a recent anniversary service at the church. Reverend Murdoch died unexpectedly in 2016, at the age of 62.

"He did a lot to bring the church to the people, as opposed to people having to come into the church," said Philip Mangono, a longtime friend of Reverend Murdoch and CEO of the American Round Table to Abolish Homelessness. "He was out in the community a lot."

Mr. Mangono also spoke about Reverend Murdoch's work with the homeless.

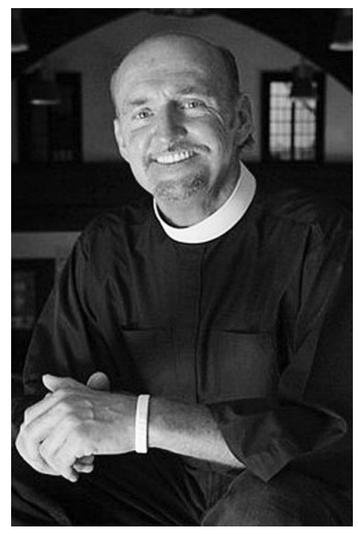
"He had a real ministry to homeless people and to people who are disadvantaged," Mr. Mangono said. "In the previous part of his ministry, he had been a chaplain both at a jail and at a homeless program [in Boston]."

The grant will be used specifically to create a business-oriented room at Harbor Homes, where people experiencing homelessness can access computers, employment resources and other tools to help them take steps toward financial independence.

"It's all part of the idea of creating a trajectory for homeless people out of homelessness and into the next part of their life," Mr. Mangono said. "The $7,000 is being invested in computers, other kinds of communications efforts and the remodeling of a room specifically to do that."

The seeds of the grant were planted immediately after Reverend Murdoch's death. His family worked with Mr. Mangono to establish a fund at Grace Church that would raise money for the causes Reverend Murdoch had cared most about.

"Ten years ago, Brian's family said in lieu of sending flowers or other kinds of acknowledgments, [they were] going to create a fund, which would be housed at Grace Church," said Mr. Mangono.



Rev. Brian Murdoch

Mr. Mangono feels the Father Brian Memorial Fund fund will continue to do good in Reverend Murdoch's name.

"There's no question that the focus of the fund is advancing the work that Brian was already doing," he said. "The idea was to keep Brian alive through the investment of those funds. He would have had a much fuller ministry [on the Vineyard] for many more years. So part of the intent here is to take these funds, and for that to be the extension of his life."

At the service on the Island two weeks ago, attendees shared stories of Reverend Murdoch's kindness and generosity. Mr. Mangono noted that people spoke with such enthusiasm and passion it was as though Mr. Murdoch had died recently.

"He was an extraordinary priest who took very seriously the call to be available to the poor and to the disadvantaged," he said. "He was an extraordinary human being."



Tim Johnson

Hello Elliette

Korrine Altieri and Everett Whiting, of West Tisbury, announce the birth of a daughter, Elliette Grace Whiting, born on Nov. 11 at the Martha's Vineyard Hospital. Elliette weighed 8 pounds, 5.2 ounces at birth.

Samuel Arrives

Renata and Bruno Carvalho, of Tisbury, announce the birth of a son, Samuel Pereira Carvalho, born on Nov. 12 at the Martha's Vineyard Hospital. Samuel weighed 8 pounds, 3.6 ounces at birth.

VINEYARD GAZETTE WEEKLY SUDOKU AND CROSSWORD – November 20, 2026

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

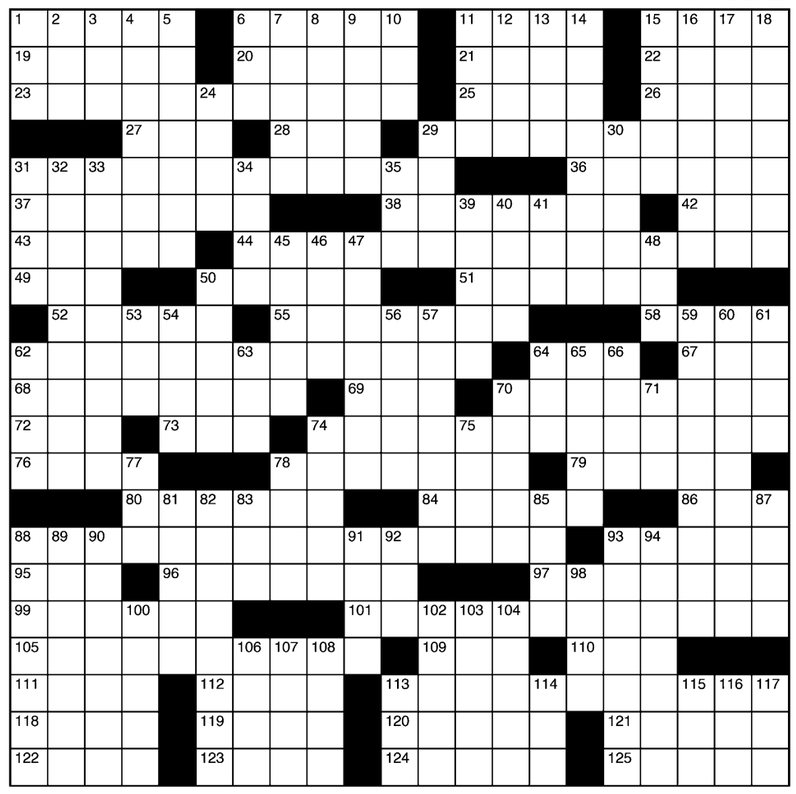
Difficulty this week: HOO BOY!

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

ACROSS
1 Hoops-centered cable channel
6 Hoarse-voiced
11 Similar (to)
15 Bad smell
19 "The Son" actress Dern
20 Disentangle
21 Joker Jay
22 — noire (bane)
23 Vehicle part connecting the motor to the frame
25 Art of Erté
26 "Der —" (nickname for Konrad Adenauer)
27 Greek letters before rhos
28 "— & the Women" (Richard Gere film)
29 Niles Crane's wife on "Frasier"
31 Smartphone setting for a flight
36 Major shock
37 Metal playing marble
38 Bland
42 Bodily pouch
43 SAG- — (performers' union)
44 When it's ideal to make a move
49 Actress Zadora
50 Eat greedily, in slang
51 Place of exit
52 U.S. base in Cuba, in brief
55 Halloween wear
58 Jeer
62 Best Actress winner for "Still Alice"
64 "Tommy" has two
67 Firearm rights gp.
68 References aiding tourists
69 Nutrient std.
70 Copies
72 Lead-in to plop or plunk
73 Goof up
74 Stele or monolith
76 Canadian gas brand
78 Ballistic weapon
79 Classic Ford, for short
80 Like weight-loss plans in "Eat This, Not That!" books
84 Bay State coll.
86 Wrestling pad
88 Saint Anselm, e.g.
93 A wizard may cast it
95 "Botch- —" (Rosemary Clooney hit)
96 Grain alcohol
97 Squealed on, say
99 Squeal on
101 She's part of the Hindu Godhead
105 Pregnancy length
109 Put — show
110 Suffix with propyl
111 Bullring cries
112 Frozen drink brand
113 Hit Pixar film ... and what you are doing as you examine this puzzle's longest answers?
118 Pond wriggler
119 Mom's mom
120 Epic of Troy
121 Stylish flair
122 Language spoken by 124-Across
123 Pant
124 Scottish Celts
125 Wanda of "Black-ish"

DOWN
1 Braves' and Mets' div.
2 Prohibit
3 Popular vacation mo.
4 Stumbling person
5 Cream soda's flavor
6 Daiquiri base
7 Battery end
8 — und Drang
9 Spotted pony
10 Nevertheless
11 Pierce player Alan
12 Retain
13 Part of a foot
14 Twelve p.m.
15 Ex-president with a Nobel
16 Remove certain insects from
17 Soft footstool
18 Simulate the events of
24 Morales of "Superfly"
29 Vehicle ding
30 Graph theory pioneer Paul
31 PDQ cousin
32 "I expected as much"
33 Many store owners
34 Gas in signs
35 Filmmaker: Abbr.
39 It may follow "So I lied!"
40 Playwright William
41 For each
45 Footsteps
46 Ball for grads
47 In a way
48 Chinese menu abbr.
50 Sub-locating system
53 Actress Carrere
54 Broadway "Auntie"
56 Foofaraws
57 Element in a reactor
59 Fit together, as gears
60 "All Alone Am I" singer
61 Sunrise side
62 Gyllenhaal of "The Guilty"
63 "Latino USA" broadcaster
64 Angsty genre
65 Breath fresheners
66 Ticket section
70 "To clarify ..."
71 Pal, in Lille
74 '60s protest
75 "Ticklish" doll
77 Certain till bill
78 Making reference to itself
81 Ancient concert hall
82 Making copies of
83 I, in Berlin
85 — -Ball
87 "I just skimmed the post" inits.
88 Omitting nothing
89 Spam sender, say
90 Current events reported via websites
91 Silent assents
92 Lilly of drugs
93 Loofahs, e.g.
94 Power
98 Marvel mutant group
100 Opposite of 61-Down, in Spanish
102 "There it is!"
103 Concave bellybutton
104 Tennis star Rafael
106 School sports org.
107 Certain till bills
108 Messy stack
113 "Newton" fruit
114 SSNs, e.g.
115 Moose cousin
116 Sallie —
117 Nail-biting NFL periods

GO FISH



Dispelling the Myths of Thanksgiving

By CHARLES LEITNER

For Brad Lopes, the Thanksgiving holiday can be a time to expand minds about the reality of the holiday.

Mr. Lopes is the education and public programs manager at the Aquinnah Cultural Center and the education director for the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah). Last weekend, he gave a lecture at the Oak Bluffs library entitled Truth and Tea: Wôpanâak Foodways and the Truth About Thanksgiving, which looked to dispel misconceptions surrounding Thanksgiving.

"The most dangerous element of myths, such as the 'First Thanksgiving,' is that they hide the history that actually happened," said Mr. Lopes. "They oversimplify and omit the negative, controversial and uncomfortable parts of history, presenting a false image that everything was peaceful and friendly, implying that Indigenous people just accepted all the forces of colonization and chose bonds."

During the lecture, Mr. Lopes led listeners through a complicated history on the Island of land dispossession engineered through colonial expansion, warfare, forced land transfers, agricultural and urban planning as well as private property laws that aggressively disrupted Indigenous practices.

The process of breaking down the mythology behind the "First Thanksgiving" requires dismantling a history written with stereotypical tropes depicting submissive natives living in the wild, Mr. Lopes said. In the early 1600s, when English colonists first landed on New England's shores, there were thousands of people living in vibrant communities.

"There was no wilderness here," said Mr. Lopes. "You're talking about thousands of people and communities that have been here for thousands of years, living with the land in different ways."

Many are also led to believe that the "First Thanksgiving" occurred in the 1600s after the pilgrims landed in Plymouth. But the reality, said Mr. Lopes, is that there were many forms of thanksgiving practiced through communal gatherings since the first people arrived in New England thousands of years ago.

Additionally, the term thanksgiving was not used until the mid-1800s, over 200 years after the pilgrims arrived in America, said Mr. Lopes. The holiday was later recognized, in part, as a way to help the United States heal after the Civil War.



Sydney Goldstein

Brad Lopes speaking last weekend at the Oak Bluffs library.

"Eventually, through 1863, it's issued as an official holiday under the Lincoln administration," said Mr. Lopes. "However, it was FDR that really kind of formalized it to what we know today, responding within World War II. Both of those actions occur as a way to form unity during the conflict, and so that's really a key inspiration here."

Through an analysis of the dietary structure of people who were living on the Island around the time the first English colonists made landfall, Mr. Lopes described how a relationship to the land and food was intertwined, which made for healthier lifestyles.

"I think at the core of this talk is really that concept: food sovereignty, and what does it mean to have control over one's own food systems and be able to actually enact those systems moving forward for the benefit of all, really," said Mr. Lopes.

Wampanoag legend tells the story of a crow sent to the Island by the God Kautantouwits, which carried a grain of corn in one ear and a French bean in the other. Some retellings say that in its mouth it held a squash seed. The items were deposited by the crow into the soil and are believed to be the source of all future harvests.

"He [the crow] lands and then drops all three seeds as a gift," said Mr. Lopes. "Those are seeds that we kept as a gift. And so, when we're thinking about the origins of our story, it's often-times with the crow, to the point where the crow is not touched on the cornfield. If they land, if they eat, you don't bug them."

It is this origin story that formed the basis of Thanksgiving for generations to come, he said.

Reciprocal gathering were also a common practice from the spring to the fall, and agro-forestry practices, such as controlled burns, helped to manage hunting grounds, maintain soil health and prevent wildfires. This practice is currently being researched by members of the Aquinnah Cultural Center (ACC) and have been conducted recently, to a small extent, here on the Island in recent years.

"Some tribes are working to actually revive this process," said Mr. Lopes. "We will be doing that in some ways. We have received a grant at the ACC to do some cultural burn work over the next three years and it's really about a learning opportunity right now."

The celebration of the harvest is a nourishing moment in and of itself, Mr. Lopes said, so much so that the soil mounds used to cultivate seeds were designed to act and look like a pregnant belly.

"Harvest celebrations, harvest gatherings, harvest ceremonies are very human, just in nature," said Mr. Lopes. "They are something that have existed across cultures, across times, since time immemorial."

In addition to being the month when Thanksgiving is scheduled to occur in the United States, November is also recognized as Native American History Month. But there are 11 other months in a year to talk about these things, said Mr. Lopes.

Program Director Named for MVCMA

The Martha's Vineyard Camp Meeting Association (MVCMA) has named Yvonne Mendez as its new program director.

Ms. Mendez is an experienced arts presenter, administrator, educator and activist. For the past four years she has worked as the programming director at The Yard in Chilmark. Previously, she served as director of education and engagement at the UMass Fine Arts Center.

Ms. Mendez will support the organization by planning, scheduling and delivering MVCMA's seasonal secular programming throughout the Campground during July and August, and by overseeing the master calendar of secular and religious programming.

The position also manages the rental program for the historic Tabernacle and other MVCMA venues, develops and implements marketing and communications strategies to promote MVCMA-sponsored events, and manages volunteers and some seasonal staff.

Brickyard Project Aims to Preserve History

By LILY ECHEVERRIA

The Trustees of Reservations and the Martha's Vineyard Museum are seeking people with personal connections to the Brickyard in order to create a new audio tour of the Chilmark landmark.

The historic site on the north shore of Chilmark was once home to a 19th century brickworks that sent masonry to construction projects throughout the northeast. Staff with the Trustees and the museum want to record oral histories of people who have stories tied to the former factory to paint a fuller picture of the site's past.

"We are collaborating on this project to reach as many community members as possible on Island, off Island, just anyone that has some sort of connection to the Brickyard," said Molly Peach Mayhew, education manager for the Trustees.

In its heyday, hundreds of thousands of bricks were produced at the Brickyard and shipped out to Boston, Providence and New York. Operations eventually ceased and the land around it became a nature preserve owned by the Trustees.

Ms. Mayhew invited anyone with a personal connection to the Brickyard to participate in this new project, whether through ancestors who worked there or an intimate knowledge of the surrounding land.

She said the idea rose from the lack of education around the Brickyard's history.

"Hikers and visitors would come down that whole trail system, arrive at the Brickyard, and then you're standing there and you're saying, 'Wow, what is this?'" she said. "You can tell it's a relic of something, but we didn't have any interpretation of the site."

The project began to come together after the Trustees applied for Community Preservation Act money in 2023 for educational purposes.

The Trustees teamed up with Indaia Whitcombe, oral history curator at the Martha's Vineyard Museum. Ms. Mayhew recalled a conversation she and Ms. Whitcombe had with Vita Poole, a direct descendant of Nathaniel Harris, who ran the brick factory when it was operational.

"It was just special to hear some of Vita's stories from childhood and her connection to the land," she said. "At that time, the Brickyard was so overgrown, and it was this hidden gem there on the shore with this robust history."

The team also spoke with longtime Chilmark resident Jane Slater about her memories of the site.

"We've sat down with Jane Slater, who's in her 90s, and had this wonderful chat with her, and recorded that oral history," Ms. Mayhew said. "It's just amazing to think of 80 years ago, for her as a child, Chilmark was very different than it is today, and the Brickyard was very different too."



Ray Ewing

Chimney remains but not much else.

The team plans to have the project up and running by late spring. The project comes as the Trustees considers the best course forward for preserving the 45-foot tall chimney from the old factory.

Ms. Mayhew hopes that by speaking with more people with connections to the Brickyard, the project will give visitors a deeper understanding of the site's history.

"I just hope that this [will be] a really wonderful piece of interpretation that will add a new layer to the Brickyard," she said. "It brings on a sense of awe when you're there...I'm hoping this is a nice piece that adds that extra layer to help fill in the void a bit, and just tell a story that can bring you back in time."

People interested in participating in the project can contact Molly Peach Mayhew at mpeach@thetrustees.org or Indaia Whitcombe at iwhitcombe@mvmuseum.org.

IN VINEYARD SKIES

	Sunrise	Sunset
Fri., Nov. 20	6:36	4:17
Sat., Nov. 21	6:37	4:16
Sun., Nov. 22	6:38	4:16
Mon., Nov. 23	6:39	4:15
Tues., Nov. 24	6:41	4:15
Wed., Nov. 25	6:42	4:14
Thurs., Nov. 26	6:43	4:14
Fri., Nov. 27	6:44	4:13

Extreme Tides Next Week

We have a Big Bay Scallop Full moon coming next Tuesday and it will coincidentally be close. The moon will be in perigee on Wednesday, Nov. 25, closer than normal, 223,288 miles away.

Since our ocean tides are created by the gravitational pull of both the moon and the sun, next week, the two celestial objects get to pull together. A close full moon has greater pull on our oceans, add that to the moon being opposite to the sun in our sky and the pull is greater. The two are collaborating and thus together they have a greater impact on our oceans.

Tides will be noticeably higher and lower than we are used to seeing. Low tide will expose sandbars we are not used to seeing in our estuaries and bays and with high tide, the beach wrackline will come up higher along the shore.

Should we get a bad storm, extreme high tides will be even more noticeable. We get these extreme tides several times a year.

M.A.L..

Full Moon Nov. 24 **New Moon Dec. 8**

Last Quarter Dec. 1 **First Quarter Dec. 17**

Temperature:

Day	Max. Fº	Min. Fº	Precip. Inches.
Nov. 13	58	45	0.99
Nov. 14	47	38	0.04
Nov. 15	45	36	0.00
Nov. 16	50	40	0.00
Nov. 17	52	32	0.00
Nov. 18	55	40	0.00
Nov. 19	63	35	).00

Water temperature in Edgartown harbor: 53º

Recent Island Real Estate Transactions

Chilmark

Jacqueline Friedman purchased 174 Middle Road in Chilmark for $1,600,000 from Barbarella, David and Dana Fokos on Nov. 13.

Edgartown

34 Curtis Lane LLC purchased 34 Curtis Lane in Edgartown for $995,000 from Gail C. Norden Trust and Gail C. Norden Trust Agreement of 2015 on Nov. 10.

Akram and Ashley Elouche purchased 51 Chase Road in Edgartown for $775,000 from Kevin L K Searle on Nov. 12.

Waterfront Builders Office LLC purchased 1 Mariners Landing in Edgartown for $1,375,000 from DB Marthas Vineyard Holdings LLC on Nov. 13.

Oak Bluffs

Haywood Lorenzo Perry III and Preston Hart purchased 26 Winthrop Avenue in Oak Bluffs for $779,000 from Betty Ann Silvia Trust on Nov. 12.

Vineyard Haven

Northern Light Property LLC purchased 70 Spring Street in Vineyard Haven for $3,000,000 from Susan Stewart Branch Trust and Susan Stewart Branch Living Trust on Nov. 9.

West Tisbury

Elias Unlimited LLC purchased 40 Elias Lane and 30 Elias Lane in West Tisbury for $3,650,000 from Philip S. Birsch Trust and Judith R. Birsch Trust on Nov. 10.



Tim Johnson

Record of Cases Heard in Edgartown District Court

Nov. 9

Gabriel W. Coogan, 51, of Vineyard Haven, was arraigned on Nov. 9 charges in West Tisbury of criminal harassment and annoying telephone calls/electronic communications. He was released on personal recognizance and has a pretrial hearing on Dec. 21.

Nov. 10

Matthew M. Arieta, 48, of Edgartown, was arraigned on Nov. 10 charges in Edgartown of assault and battery and threat to commit a crime. He was released on personal recognizance and has a pretrial hearing on Jan. 11.

Nov. 16

Lucas C. Julhio, 27, of Vineyard Haven, was arraigned on Nov. 16 charges in Tisbury of operating under the influence of liquor, marked lanes violation, failure to wear a seat belt, speeding, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and using an electronic device while operating a motor vehicle. His bail was set at $500 and he has a pretrial hearing on Dec. 18.

CALLING ALL HOME BAKERS & COOKIE LOVERS!

COOK THE VINEYARD presents

Holiday 2026 Cookie Market

December 5, 2026 | 1-3 PM | Inkwell Beach Club, Oak Bluffs

JOIN US FOR HOMEMADE COOKIES, HOT COCOA CAFE, DECORATING AND GAMES!

BAKERS

Register FREE and bring two dozen cookies.

COOKIE LOVERS

FREE admission! A $25 donation gets you cookie tickets.

SCAN TO REGISTER TODAY!

EMAIL: events@vineyardgazette.com for more information

SPONSORS

STOP&SHOP VINEYARD GAZETTE MEDIA GROUP Magical Moments MIRROR PHOTO BOOTH Inkwell BEACH CLUB OAK BLUFFS, MV OPEN FOR DINNER Thurs. - Sat.

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A big thank-you for all you do for our community.

MARTHA'S VINEYARD BANK Charitable Foundation

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bravo Copeland

Editors, Vineyard Gazette:

Recently, the Gazette published an article on the Copeland Plan review committee's decision to deny the Ocean View Hotel proposal. I say bravo to Copeland Plan review committee! The proposal should never have been approved by MVC.

Oak Bluffs voters approved a bylaw that prohibits obstructing views from abutting properties. The hearings concluded that the proposal would clearly obstruct views. The MVC determined that this bylaw should not apply to Copeland's narrow purview. I can accept that. But it is an absurd argument that the MVC can entirely ignore the bylaw in its deliberations because Copeland could not use the bylaw as a criterion.

The argument is particularly nonsensical after the MVC specifically discussed at one hearing that the commission can impose restrictions greater than a town's restrictions, but they can't impose restrictions that are less restrictive than a town's. I'm certain that every voter that approved the bylaw believed that the bylaw should apply to all of Oak Bluffs and not exclude a District of Critical Planning Concern.

Thankfully, Copeland corrected this illogical thinking by the MVC using criteria that were within Copeland's purview, notably size and massing. Copeland therefore upheld the will of Oak Bluffs voters. I hope that in the future, the MVC and building commissioners will honor the will of the Oak Bluffs voters as well as all Island town voters.

Robert Clancy

Oak Bluffs

With Gratitude

Editors, Vineyard Gazette;

On behalf of CONNECT to End Violence, a program of Martha's Vineyard Community Services, we write to express our gratitude to the community for their support and generosity during National Domestic Violence Awareness Month this past October.

To our Island libraries who participated in programming by hosting book displays with curated reading lists relating to domestic violence, healthy relationships and boundaries. As always, this particular group of professionals is a huge asset to the community.

To our MVRHS Uproot Student Club, which hosted an event to raise awareness at the high school about the impact of domestic violence on teens and taking a stand against violence. We are inspired and truly grateful for their dedication and compassion.

To Island law enforcement and other community partners who displayed purple lights as part of our Shine a Light MV Campaign.

To MVCS' Chicken Alley Thrift Shop, and their amazing round-up campaign held through the month of October and the $1,300 raised through the generosity of their customers.

Lastly, we are incredibly grateful to the organizers of Ladyfest. Through their hard work and dedication, they have raised $30,000 for our program in addition to hosting an incredible, one-of-a-kind event that brought Islanders together for a day of music, joy and solidarity. This Island is an amazing place and we as a team felt the love and support on that magical day. Kelly Fiertag and her team are a gift to our community and to CONNECT. Every single dollar raised goes directly to the people we serve to meet them where they are in their healing journey.

As Pricila Vilaca, CONNECT Outreach Coordinator said at Ladyfest: "Domestic violence does not have one face. It can affect women and men, people of different ages, cultures, backgrounds and communities. Sometimes, the person experiencing abuse is someone we work with, someone we see at the grocery store, a neighbor, a friend or even someone in our own family, and sometimes the hardest part is not recognizing the abuse. It is finding the courage to ask for help. At CONNECT to End Violence, we want every person who is experiencing Domestic Violence to know that they are not alone."

Thank you to everyone who participated in any way during National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Your actions have shown that Martha's Vineyard stands along aside those impacted by Domestic Violence. We are truly grateful for your support for all survivors.

Our 24-hour crisis hotline is 508-696-SAFE (7233).

Sincerely,

Susan Mercier,

Division director, and the whole team at CONNECT to End Violence

Not in Character

Editors, Vineyard Gazette;

As a neighbor directly affected by the proposed Ocean View Hotel, I appreciate the time and consideration the Copeland Committee has given this important matter.

I recognize the developer's desire to bring the Ocean View Hotel back to life, and I respect the effort that has gone into the proposal. However, I continue to believe that the size and massing of the current design are out of scale with the surrounding neighborhood and would have a significant impact on the character of the neighborhood. In fact, the proposed hotel would be one of the largest buildings in Oak Bluffs. Three times larger than the prior restaurant and 13 times larger than the average cottage in the neighborhood.

This is not about opposing development or preventing the Ocean View property from being put to productive use. It is about finding a design that respects the historic character of the Copeland district while also recognizing the legitimate concerns of the surrounding homeowners.

I hope the town, the applicant and the neighborhood can continue to work together toward a solution. I also trust that the town will carefully follow the applicable zoning bylaws and historic district guidelines as it determines the appropriate next steps.

I believe there is room for a solution that respects both the property's future and the neighborhood we all value.

John Kotsopoulos

Oak Bluffs



Tim Johnson

VINEYARD GAZETTE

Martha's Vineyard's Newspaper for 180 Years

Established in 1846 A Journal of Island Life

Monica Brady-Myerov, *Publisher*

•

Bill Eville, *Editor*
Ethan Genter, *Managing Editor*

Julia Wells, *Editor Emeritus*
Phyllis Meras, *Contributing Editor*

Jane Seagrave
Publisher 2011-2024

Richard Reston and Mary Jo Reston
Publishers 1988-2010

Sally Fulton Reston and James Reston
Publishers 1968-1988

Elizabeth Bowie Hough and Henry Beetle Hough
Publishers 1920-1965

At the Table



"...and thanks for it being such a good year for acorns on the Vineyard."

Time to Sound the Alarm About SNAP Cuts

By NOLI TAYLOR

Just a week after an election in which voters made clear that the cost of groceries is among their greatest worries, the Trump administration has issued a proposal that would take food assistance away from 6.3 million Americans.

On Nov. 10, the U.S. Department of Agriculture published a proposal targeting a policy called Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE). Nearly every state, including Massachusetts, uses it to allow people — including working families whose incomes are just over a strict federal limit and seniors with small savings — to qualify for SNAP.

By USDA's own estimate, nearly one in six people now on SNAP would lose their benefits. This would have a disproportionate impact on children. Nationally, about 1.78 million students could lose automatic access to free school meals. In Massachusetts, families who lose SNAP would also lose automatic enrollment in summer food benefits for their kids, and families with babies could lose access to WIC nutrition vouchers.

And this comes on top of the largest SNAP cuts in history, passed by Congress in 2025. Across Massachusetts, the proposal could end SNAP for roughly 100,000 people in households with children. This would pull an estimated $240 million a year in federal food dollars out of our grocery stores and farm stands. Tens of thousands of older adults and people with disabilities could also lose SNAP benefits and the other services SNAP connects them to.

On the Vineyard, the gap between what things cost and what people earn is already wider than in most of the country. Our Island Food Pantry serves approximately one in five year-round Islanders, neighbors struggling to make ends meet. When federal help shrinks, families don't stop needing to eat. They turn to local programs like IGI's instead.

There are two things you can do to help right now. First, tell the USDA what you think. This is a proposed rule, not a final one, and the agency will review public comments before deciding whether to finalize, revise or withdraw it. Comments are open through Dec. 10 at regulations.gov, under docket FNA-2026-0661. A few sentences about why you think SNAP is important and oppose the BBCE rule change can make a real difference.

Second, if you can, please support our grocery and meal programs. A food pantry can't and shouldn't have to replace SNAP, but as the year closes, a gift to Island Grown Initiative will help make sure that everyone on our Island has access to the food they need this winter. Thanks to our relationship with the Greater Boston Food Bank, a $150 gift allows us to purchase enough food for 100 meals for Islanders facing food insecurity. You can give securely at igimv.org/donate.

We are a community that takes care of one another as best we can. To do that now, please raise your voice with us and give what you can.

Noli Taylor is a co-executive director at Island Grown Initiative. She lives in Aquinnah.

Pop's Cauls

Pops always liked
a project.
He liked to sit
at his desk
and puzzle.

Thanksgiving one year
presented the perfect
conumdrum:
how to fit eighteen
at an eight person
table?

Pop's solution was
a set of cauls.
What are cauls?
Simple pieces of
two by four
as it turned out.

He fastened
his cauls
to two large
plywood sheets.
He then placed
the cumbersome
sheets crosswise
the table.
The cauls gripped
the table's sides
and the plywood
thus created one
big unfinished
square.

Tablecloths were laid.
Candles glasses and
tablewares were set.
Thanksgiving Day
arrived.

Gravyboats came
platters of turkey
dishes of stuffing
bowls of mashed and
sweet potatoes
green beans and
sweet onions
pitchers of water
bottles of wine and
sparkling cider.

I remember well
the thanksgiving.
Four to five of us
sat to a side.
We ate drank and
talked all around
that big wonderful
square table.

After the meal
we walked
in similar way
to the pond and
threw stones
in the water.
We laughed at
the pitiful attempts
of our elders and
were in awe
of the strength
of our youngers.
When throwing
and pictures
were finished
we returned
to the house
in like fashion.

There we had
pumpkin pie
and apple crisp
with plenty of
whipped cream.

Jonathan Burke







Pictures by Tim Johnson

THE GAZETTE CHRONICLE

Feasting

From the Friday November 18, 1949 edition of the Vineyard Gazette:

Up until the time when Abraham Lincoln set the date for the celebration of Thanksgiving as a national holiday in 1863, people had thanksgiving feasts whenever they happened to feel thankful. With its recognition as a legal holiday, Thanksgiving stopped being primarily a New England festival and became an occasion of great value to the whole nation.

As early as 1864 the Gazette published the following solemn warning as a reminder of the meaning of Thanksgiving:

"Around many well laden tables was found no vacant chair, and as they catered to their craving appetites, we fear that they thought not of the window and orphan whose husband and father went forth that they might sit under their own vine and fig tree unmolested to enjoy each coming Thanksgiving. Awake, sluggish soul and consider from whence are vouchsafed to you so much of the goods of this earth!"

In 1871, the year of the great whaling fleet disaster, in which Massachusetts suffered the heaviest of losses, the governor, William Claflin, issued a proclamation of thanksgiving:

"Sensible of their indebtedness to the goodness of God, the people of the Commonwealth have ever been ready to express their gratitude to Him by public act of worship for all his mercies. We have special cause of thankfulness in that we have been protected during the past year from dreadful diseases, from devastating calamities and popular disturbances, and that our labors have been generously rewarded.

"In accordance therefore with the recommendation of the president to the people of the whole country, I invite the inhabitants of the state to assemble in their usual places of worship on Thursday, the 30th of November next for the purpose of Thanksgiving and praise."

Even though two ships from Edgartown had been crushed in the ice shortly before reducing the town's whaling fleet by one-third, there was no grumbling. The proclamation is followed by this editorial:

"This good old day, honored by so many past observances, bringing to mind so many cheerful memories and associated with the recollections of beloved kindred and friends who have passed away has come once more. We may well be thankful for the rich mercies we enjoy, for the bounteous harvests of the year, for national blessings, for the precious joys which cluster around are homes, and while we are thankful, let us not forget to extend the hand to those who are in want and whose homes are unprovided with the comforts and luxuries which all should enjoy on such festive occasions."

This compares favorably with the Thanksgiving editorial of 1903, in which the emphasis seems to be almost entirely upon food. Various Thanksgiving recipes are given, there is a long description of an early Thanksgiving feat, but it is the food, not the reason for the festival that is described in detail. An editorial reads in part as follows:

"The changing attitude of the American is shown in his increasing willingness to have Thanksgiving come around every few weeks and his reluctance to have a fast day. Even up in New England where fast day was once as regular as feed day, it's a long time since the church bells have rung the people together to sustain one another through a day of short rations.

"...And so, comparing our lot with a lot of other people's lots, we take pride to ourselves and satisfaction and eat our annual bird with a light heart and a gravid stomach and are at peace with all the world, for we are feeling a good deal of that world as well as ourselves."

In the Vineyard Gazette for Nov. 30, 1888, appears the following suggestions:

"What to eat on Thanksgiving.

"Thanksgiving breakfast: coffee, devilled oysters on toast, water cress salad, fried chicken, cream sauce, baked sweet potato, tomato omelette, Malaga grapes.

"Thanksgiving dinner: stewed oysters; broiled smelts, sauce maitre d'hotel; Parisian potatoes; squirrel pot-pie, hunter's style; stewed cauliflower; roast turkey; cranberry sauce; celery mayonnaise; fruit cake, lady fingers, pumpkin pie, mince pie, cheese, assorted nuts and fruits."

Strange as it may seem, there is no mention of supper. There is, however, in the same issue, a fine illustrated advertisement of "caskets, coffins, and burial robes."

The real feeling of the holiday is perhaps best expressed by an editorial of Edgar Marchant's, written in 1873, which holds as true today as it did when it was first written:

"Again the smile of Thanksgiving day presents itself and the homes of our land are filled with gladsome voices. This is the day of days and childhood soon learns to hail it with delight while old age finds pulsations of joy at the heart, kindled by old associations. When there were but few holidays in New England, Thanksgiving day came into being, and now that they are multiplied it still holds its place as the greatest and best."

Compiled by Hilary Wallcox
library@vineyardgazette.com

A Generous Spirit Who Made a Difference

From Page One

Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation.

"I see things that are missing," Ms. Doyle told the Gazette in 2009. "You can't wait for somebody else to do stuff. I've learned in life that that somebody is [me.]"

Ms. Doyle grew up in Niagara Falls, N.Y. and after marrying Rob Doyle, the couple moved to Providence, R.I.

Her parents founded The Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation, and Ms. Doyle served on the board of the organization for over three decades. The family also founded The Tower Family Fund to expand their giving.

Longtime seasonal residents of the Vineyard, Cindy and Rob eventually moved to the Vineyard full-time in 2001. Their daughters Mollie, married to Thomas Bena, Erin, and granddaughter Emma also call the Vineyard home.

Soon after moving to the Island Ms. Doyle joined up with a group campaigning for an indoor pool on the Vineyard and found herself spearheading a years-long effort to establish a Vineyard YMCA.

"When her mouth opened, people listened," said YMCA CEO Jill Robie-Axtell, Ms. Doyle's friend and colleague since 2009. "People wanted to hear what she had to say, and people respected what came out of her mouth."

Ms. Doyle's involvement didn't stop with the first groundbreaking. She helped establish the YMCA's Alexandra Gagnon Teen Center, a substance-free space for young Islanders, named for her niece who died of a heroin overdose at the age of 23. And she was central to the Y's ongoing expansion, which broke ground last October.

"The number of families that go through and the generations that will benefit from the Y because of [the Doyles] is pretty amazing," said YMCA development director Erin Tilton.

Venture capitalist, Island philanthropist and key YMCA sponsor Jim Swartz met Ms. Doyle around 2003, when she approached him about putting money behind the project. That meeting marked the start of his decades of support for the Y, as well as his friendship with Ms. Doyle.

"I thought, well, you know, I'll write them a check and that'll be done, but of course, it didn't turn out that way," he said. "Cindy was very persuasive."

Mr. Swartz called Ms. Doyle the "backbone" of fundraising for the YMCA. When he co-founded MV Youth in 2014, he instinctively brought her onto the board, where she helped raise millions of dollars for young Islanders.

He described Ms. Doyle as a gentle, undeterred force for good.

"It's very rare to have somebody who's actively philanthropic and also actively generous with their time and their energies and their persistence," he said.

A former mental health counselor, Ms. Doyle took an interest in addiction abatement. At the peak of the Vineyard's opioid crisis in the mid 2010s, she helped Martha's Vineyard Community Services win hundreds of thousands of dollars in state funds for an addiction treatment center that would become the Red House, a peer recovery support center on the Island.



Pictures by Jaxson White

Cindy Doyle.

"She had the capacity, philanthropically, to really assist in things, which she did very, very quietly and very selectively," said former Community Services executive director Julie Fay. "But she put her time and energy into it as well, and that was something that I found really wonderful."

Ms. Fay said the effort required more than a few late-night meetings with town boards, but that Ms. Doyle's positivity made them bearable — even fun.

"Through our friendship early on, I got a sense of how you got things done on the Island through collaboration and consensus and good ideas and bringing people in," she said.

In 2004, Ms. Doyle established the MV Youth Task Force, focused on collecting data on substance abuse among young Islanders and employing targeted interventions.

Former Youth Task Force coordinator Theresa Manning described Ms. Doyle as a personal mentor and role model. She watched Ms. Doyle engage enthusiastically with even the most unglamorous behind-the-scenes legwork, from grant writing to putting labels on boxes at Island liquor stores urging customers to keep alcohol out of young people's hands.

"She would go from package store to package store, put her parka on and get in the cooler and be slapping stickers on," she said.

Grant funding and Ms. Doyle's own contributions helped the group bring substance abuse education into Island schools and to Island families and first responders.

"She just was a real model of community mobilization," Ms. Manning said.

Ms. Doyle also advocated for older Islanders through Healthy Aging MV, which seeks to make the Island a safe and supportive place for seniors.

As board chair, past chair and executive officer, she helped the organization set up five transportation programs for aging Islanders and infrastructure to keep Vineyard beaches accessible. She also helped Islanders access home safety modifications and advanced care planning.

"Everything we've done has been because of Cindy in a lot of ways," said Healthy Aging MV executive director Cindra Trish.

Through the Martha's Vineyard Nonprofit Collaborative and the Martha's Vineyard Community Foundation, Ms. Doyle was committed to helping even the nonprofits she wasn't directly involved with.

Community Foundation executive director Paul Schulz recalls a formative walk with Ms. Doyle in the Oak Bluffs Camp Ground, soon after he moved to the Island in 2020.

"I was totally smitten by the end of that talk," he said. "I wanted to join any board she was on. I just fell in love with her."

The pair bonded over laughter-filled car rides around the Island to visit donors. He said they'd have so much fun with the donors that they'd often forget to ask them for money.

"I loved her honesty, her sense of humor, her agency..." he said. "I think she knew fundamentally what was a good life, and she lived it."

It was a life she shared with her husband, who colleagues said was her partner in her philanthropic efforts. The couple passed their altruism on to their daughters Mollie, who co-founded The Field Fund, and Erin, whose homemade granola feeds Vineyarders through Island Grown Initiative.

Chilmark Preschool board president Rebekah Thomson first came to know Ms. Doyle as a devoted mother to Mollie and doting grandmother to Emma. Later, she got to know her as a formidable philanthropist. Ms. Doyle and her family were the lead donors behind the Chilmark Preschool capital campaign.

"They just knew how to get us over the finish line at a time where we were all ready to pull our hair out and were exhausted," she said. "And for a long time, they had chosen to be anonymous, which is also very in keeping with their giving style."

This past summer, Ms. Thomson's daughter Leah helped organize the Vineyard chapter of Swim Across America to help fund cancer research. Though conditions that day were so rough that many swimmers shortened their routes, Ms. Doyle and Mr. Doyle were at the front of the pack for the mile swim, smiles on their faces.

"She swam that mile despite the current, which I feel says a lot about her," Ms. Thomson said.

Any current Ms. Doyle was up against, she fought forcefully, but quietly.

"She never showboated anything she was involved with," Ms. Manning said. "You had to really work to find out that Cindy was supporting things."

That quiet influence can be felt all over the Vineyard, from the halls of a healthier high school to the echo in the YMCA's aquatic center.

"Her spirit was so bright, and is so bright," Ms. Robie-Axtell said. "I don't think it'll ever lose its glow on this Island."



Cindy Doyle (second from right) at inception of Youth Task Force in 2008.

SSA Unpacks Reservation System Schedule

From Page One

The overruns on the reservation system have also been relayed to the board, and the updates are provided regularly at the ferry line's public meetings, Mr. Kryska wrote.

E-Dea is scheduled to deliver a booking system for the high-speed Nantucket ferry next month. Testing would then go through January and it would go live on Feb. 23. The ferry line is looking to roll the system out on the fast ferry first, due to the simplicity of passenger-only tickets.

Public vehicle bookings on the new system are projected to start in July 2027, and terminal scanning by November 2027, according to Mr. Kryska's letter.

In recent public meetings, Mr. Kryska has expressed frustration about the delays and raised the potential for an outside assessment of the work being done.

Several factors have led to the delays, the general manager wrote in his letter to the inspector general.

Many of the Steamship's reservation policies were either not written down or inconsistent, prompting the ferry line to start a formalization process. There are also several ticket programs, such as Headstart, excursion, bulk freight, the blue line and standby on Nantucket, that are unique to the Steamship Authority.

A wide range of existing data, such as coupon books, open tickets and gift card balances, also needs to be ported over to the new system, the ferry terminals will need network, cabling and Wi-Fi upgrades, and there also has to be enough time to train staff, Mr. Kryska wrote.

E-Dea has also been late or required fixes along the way, Mr. Kryska added.

"The IT Executive Steering Committee continues to review the project to determine the best course forward," he wrote. "A responsible schedule must come out of that review rather than precede it, and we will continue to report the project timeline at our public meetings."



Ray Ewing

Delays in reservation system have been an ongoing issue.

While the new system is being worked on, the existing one continues to handle all reservations and will be online when the Steamship opens the highly-coveted summer bookings for 2027.

Mr. Kryska noted that the previously shelved website, which drew so much scrutiny from the inspector general, will be critical to the new reservation system.

"We cannot overstate this: the protracted monetary investment in the website redevelopment project, while subject to the deficiencies your office found, was not for naught – the website that was built in that project is functional, and is already integrating with the new reservation system," he wrote.

Mr. Kryska's letter also walked through several other questions raised by the inspector general, including project management policies and the need to have someone dedicated to overseeing larger efforts.

The inspector general was worried that senior staff, such as the treasurer and chief operations officer, were spending so much time on the reservation system, despite having other duties.

Mr. Kryska agreed with the point and noted that the Steamship was working to create an internal project management office led by a certified project manager. Recruiting for the role is going on now.

"Once the Project Manager is on staff, the Authority will have its own capacity to manage this and future projects, and senior staff involvement will be limited to decisions and approvals within their responsibilities," Mr. Kryska wrote.

The Steamship Authority welcomed the chance to meet with the inspector general and Mr. Kryska wrote that there will be public community meetings over the next week. One on the Vineyard is scheduled for Tuesday at 5 p.m. at the Hebrew Center in Vineyard Haven.

"The [office of the inspector general's website] report has been a useful roadmap for the Authority," Mr. Kryska wrote at the end of his nine-page letter. "We remain committed to the accountability and transparency that the public expects of us. Thank you again for your work and for your engagement on these important matters."

Calving Season Is Right Whale Bright Spot

From Page One

calving season brought 24 new calves into the population, the highest number recorded since 2009.

While those numbers are encouraging, they still won't immediately change anything for the species, which has been on the brink of extinction for years.

"People like to focus on numbers a lot, and I like to stress that... it's still a very low population," Ms. Warren said. "Even if it's going up or if it's going down, there's still a critically endangered population that we still need to continue working as hard as we can to protect wherever we can."

Beyond tracking the overall population numbers, scientists continue to monitor the number of females old enough to reproduce, their health and the environmental stressors they face. These factors can help researchers better understand the species' reproductive patterns and changes in population size.

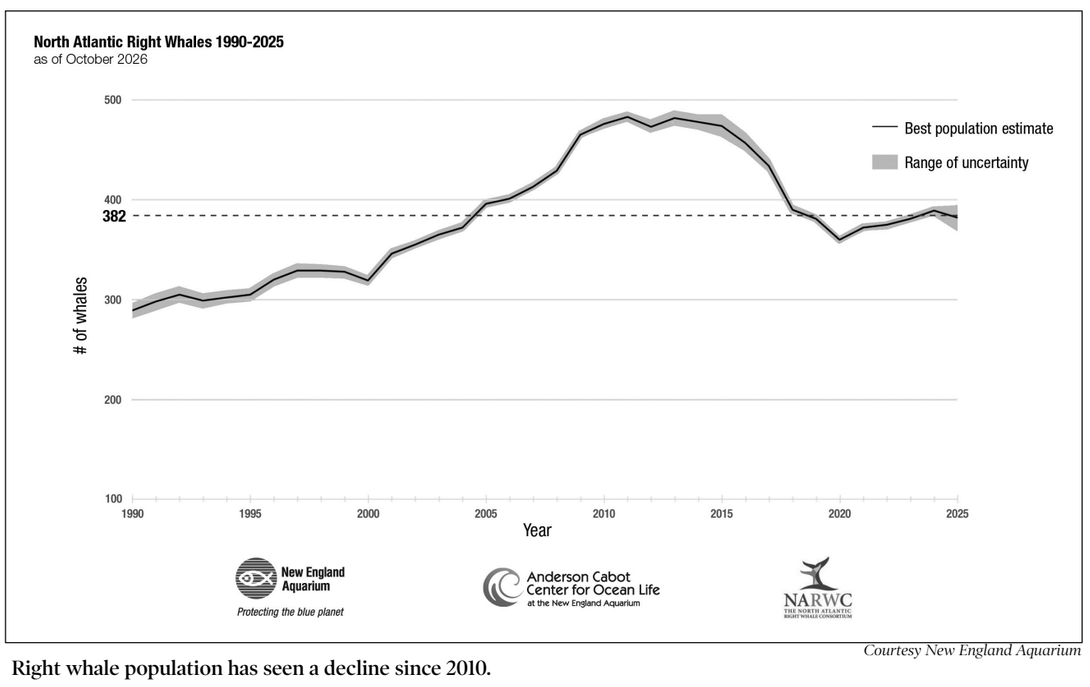
"Humans deal with the same things. If we're too stressed or we're too sick, we won't be able to do those things either," Ms. Warren said. "With these huge, free-swimming animals that live in a very large ocean, we don't know what they're dealing with in terms of stress on a day-to-day basis."

This past year, the estimated number of reproductive females remained steady at 73, around the same as the prior year.

Whale moms take about three years between calves, so there could be a downtick in births in the coming years, according to Clay George, the southeast large whale program coordinator for NOAA.

But there are also more female right whales reaching reproduction age.

"There are dozens of adult females in the population who have not ever been documented to calve yet," Mr. George said. "Many of these animals are in their teens and twenties, and so if we start seeing first-time moms recruiting into the calving population this year, that'll be a real positive."



Courtesy New England Aquarium

Right whale population has seen a decline since 2010.

When these whales give birth, and for many months after, they will remain near the coast, making it relatively easy for scientists to track their movement.

"At any given time in the year, they are usually within 50 miles of the coast, meaning they're almost always in range of a boat or a plane, and so we can do all these surveys and keep track of them because we, generally speaking, know where they are," Ms. Warren said.

The first calf of this season was spotted last week with its mother off the coast of Florida. In the spring, the pair could join the large portion of right whales that migrate past the Vineyard and up to Cape Cod Bay, where there is a bountiful food supply.

So far this year, there have been two right whale deaths, one from an entanglement and one from an undetermined cause. There have also been eight documented injuries caused by vessel strikes and entanglements, according to the New England Aquarium.

Scientists are working to understand what these new numbers can tell them about how to conserve the current species population, and help it grow in the coming years.

"The way science can help North Atlantic right whales is to provide an objective understanding and assessment of the status and trends of the species," said Michael Moore, director of the Marine Mammal Center at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. "Providing an objective assessment of the role of entanglement, the role of vessel strikes and other environmental factors is important, [as well as] an understanding of the trends of the population."

Scientists have worried that the stagnant population, plus attempts to cut back protections under the Endangered Species Act, could result in declining populations in the years to come.

Ocean advocacy groups, such as Oceana, are calling for increased protections for right whales.

"The latest numbers are disappointing and make the road to recovery longer for critically endangered North Atlantic right whales," said Nora Ives, marine scientist on Oceana's North Atlantic right whale campaign. "These historic whales will not escape extinction if their population cannot grow."

Rising Fuel Costs Lead to Rate Increases

From Page One

supply, he added.

Mr. Rozum said the additional $4.75 million for employees, the other main budget increase, was an investment in the company, and noted that staff training has gone from $400,000 in 2021 to more than $1.6 million for 2027.

That includes special training in how to use the authority's new reservation system, developed by Italian company E-Dea, he said.

"We have one week of dedicated classroom training ... for all of our ticket hall and reservations clerks," Mr. Rozum said.

Information technology represents another major chunk of the budget, which also shows increased costs for vessel maintenance.

Some of the maintenance costs, however, will be eligible for reimbursement from state grants, Mr. Rozum said.

The Steamship Authority has aimed for about $10 million in revenue in recent years, but, with the rising costs, would have cleared less than $600,000 in 2027, according to staff projections. That led the boat line board to endorse the rate increases.

"Our bottom line for the year would total $573,000 without any rate adjustments," Mr. Rozum said.

The board also discussed potential ways to cut costs, including a shorter year for the Oak Bluffs terminal, which traditionally operates from mid-May to mid-October.

Over the past three years, rough weather has led ferry captains to divert 29 per cent of scheduled Oak Bluffs trips to the more sheltered Vineyard Haven terminal, Mr. Rozum said.

Closing the Oak Bluffs terminal earlier in the stormy fall would save the weekly payroll cost of about $22,000 a week, he said.

However, Mr. Rozum said, an average of 100,000 Steamship passengers come through Oak Bluffs after Labor Day.

"We recognize that closing the terminal could have significant impacts on local businesses and reduce embarkation fee revenue to the town," he said.

Steamship board chair Peter Jeffrey, who represents Falmouth, questioned whether service to Oak Bluffs is required by the enabling legislation that charges the Steamship Authority with transporting passengers and the necessities of life for the Vineyard and Nantucket.

"If we're still running into Vineyard Haven... how are we not meeting our statutory obligations if we close Oak Bluffs two weeks, three weeks, four weeks earlier, in order to cut our costs?" he asked.

Vineyard board member Ted Gavin took a larger view of the necessities of life on the Island.

"If the town of Oak Bluffs were to say 'This is absolutely necessary for the vitality of our business district in the shoulder season,' I think that's a legitimate concern that we need to consider... given that we've been doing it for decades," Mr. Gavin said.

Another money-saving option would be to trim the winter freight service, Mr. Rozum said.

Eliminating weekend trips, or moving the final freight departure to 2:55 p.m., could claw back roughly $13,000 a week in crew costs but could also affect the Steamship's roster of licensed crew members, he said.

The board approved the $174 million budget for 2027 without taking immediate action on the cost-cutting options.

The next Steamship Authority meeting is scheduled for Dec. 15 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hyannis terminal.

Cannabis Company Seeks To Shift Oak Bluffs Zoning

From Page One

ensuing efforts to get a new business has sprouted several legal disputes between Mr. Rose, Black Harbor Group and the landlords of the West Tisbury facility, All are still ongoing.

With the grow facility plans scuttled, the Black Harbor Group recently finished auctioning off the grow equipment this fall and is on the hunt for a retail store location.

"We have beat the pavement," said Mr. Crawford. "We went to every location available on this Island."

Right now, Oak Bluffs only allows marijuana shops in the town's overlay district, which encompasses Windemere Road, Head of the Pond Road, Holmes Hole Road and the area around Martha's Vineyard Hospital.

A similar petition came to the town in 2023 by Geoff Rose, the proprietor of Island Time, but it was rejected by the voters at town meeting the following year. His petition included the town's B-1 district, which included all of Circuit avenue, Dukes County avenue and Lake avenue.

A zoning change requires a two-thirds majority at town meeting. Town clerk Amy Del Torto confirmed that she had received the petition on Nov. 9 and the board of registrators completed the certification of signatures on Nov. 12.

A minimum of 10 certified signatures is needed for a citizen's petition, 30 had been certified, setting it up for the April 17 annual town meeting.

The new Oak Bluffs petition would also set daily operating limits between 10 a.m. and 9 p.m. each day, and would authorize ground-floor retail operations in mixed-use buildings containing residential units.

The Black Harbor Group is now working to get the idea out to the public via a survey and an online petition, and continues to collect signatures.

"We are going to keep getting signatures," Mr. Crawford said. "It's voter engagement, it's an education campaign."



Maria Thibodeau

Black Harbor Group had originaly set its sights on West Tisbury.

CALENDAR

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

Friday, Nov. 20

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.

Fairy Sculpture Trail, meanders through a quarter mile of woods, Island Folk Pottery, daily, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., free, islandfolkpottery.com, 508-955-9944.

Fall Favorites — New Works, affordable small 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.

Fleeced! An American Revolution Story, interactive family exhibition explores Grey's Raid and Island Revolutionary history, Martha's Vineyard Museum, daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., free.

Turning Tides of Color, new works by new gallery artists: Colin Berry and Joe Krawczyk, Louisa Gould Gallery, daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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

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, 1042 State Road, West Tisbury, 10:30 to 11 a.m., free, westtisburylibrary.org, 508-693-3366.

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, daily through Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., agalleryartdesign.com, 508-939-0518.

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

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

Scrapbooking/Junk Journaling for Teens and Tweens, West Tisbury Public Library, 3 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.

Transgender Day of Remembrance Candlelight Vigil, First Congregational Church of West Tisbury, 1051 State Road, West Tisbury, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., free.

Frozen Jr., school play, Oak Bluffs School, Friday and Saturday, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Sunday, 2 to 3:30 p.m., $10 adults, $5 students/seniors, 508-693-0951.

Music Series: Blue Yonder Soulful Country Music Band, country rock band with Rick O'Gorman, George Davis, Jessie Leaman, Jim Orr, PathwaysARTS, 9 State Road, Chilmark, 7:30 to 9 p.m., free, pathwaysmv.org, 508-645-9098.

Saturday, Nov. 21

Friends of the West Tisbury Library Fall Book Sale, all proceeds benefit the library, daily, westtisburylibrary.org, 508-693-3366.

Car Seat Safety Day, all car seats installed and inspected, register at tinyurl.com/mv-carseat, West Tisbury Public Safety Building, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., free, tinyurl.com.

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

Cloth and Clay — Merry Farm Pottery Holiday Kiln Opening, new work from Merry Farm Pottery, art by Fae Kontje-Gibbs and free tea, Merry Farm Pottery, 79 Merry Farm Road, West Tisbury, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., merryfarmpottery.com, 774-836-4349.

Hillside Village Annual Art and Craft Fair, features Dave Grey, watercolor artist and handmade crafts by Island Elderly Housing residents, Hillside Village Community Building, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., free, 561-985-3668.

Baby and Toddler Storytime, stories, songs, scarves, and shakers, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 10:15 to 10:45 a.m.

Friends of the Library Monthly Meeting, new members and volunteers welcome, Vineyard Haven Public Library, 200 Main Street, Vineyard Haven, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m., free, vhlibrary.org, 508-696-4210.

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

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

Storytime Saturdays, Martha's Vineyard Museum, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., free.

Storytime, for ages 3 to 6, Chilmark Free Public Library 522 South Road, Chilmark, 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Cranberry Bog Visit, with the Ag Society, Cranberry Acres, 12 to 1 p.m., $10, marthasvineyardagriculturalsociety.org, 508-693-9549.

Drop-In Crafts: Fuse Beading, other craft materials will also be available, Aquinnah Public Library, 1 Church Street, Aquinnah, 12 to 3 p.m.

Exploring Printmaking with Allison Doherty, block printing, dry-point etching, mixed-media and monotype, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 12 to 3 p.m., $65.

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

Screening of: N'AP Boule (Through the Barricades), Oak Bluffs Public Library, 1 to 3 p.m.

Friends of the Aquinnah Library Meeting, talk with librarians about ideas for the upcoming year, Aquinnah Town Hall, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

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

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

Thank You Card Making, for kids and teens, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 2 to 3 p.m.

Book Group, Aquinnah Public Library, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Make Your Own Felt Pumpkins, registration required — for adults and kids 10 and up, Edgartown Public Library, 26 Edgartown-West Tisbury Road, Edgartown, 3 to 5 p.m., edgartownlibrary.assabetinteractive.com, 508-627-4221.

Thanksgiving Concert, violinist Grant Houston, co-artistic director of the Grammy-nominated Palaver Strings, Vineyard Haven Public Library, 4 p.m.

Peter Halperin and the Group Therapy Trio, with Chris Knott and Jim Orr, Stillpoint, 20 Stillpoint Meadows Road, West Tisbury, 4 p.m., $20 to $40, email if cost is a barrier, stillpointmv.org.

Sunday, Nov. 22

Coaster Fusing Class, learn how to cut, shape and assemble glass, Martha Vineyard Glassworks, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., $150, mvglassworks.com, 508-693-6026.

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

Water Communion Service with Mary Jane Aldrich Moodie, Unitarian Universalist Society of Martha's Vineyard, 10 a.m., free, uusmv.org.

An Exploration of Somatic Meditation, a guided exploration of somatic meditation taught by Jenna Harrison, Stillpoint, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., $25.

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

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

Opera Club: Charles Gounod's Romeo et Juliette, stars tenor Rolando Villazon and soprano Nino Machaidze, Edgartown Public Library, 1 to 4 p.m.

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

Sweater Mug Workshop with Sabrina Kuchta, Featherstone Center for the Arts, 2 to 4 p.m., $50.

Monday, Nov. 23

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

Free Cuts For Recovery, free haircuts for recovery by Seniel, The Red House Peer Recovery Support Center, 111 Edgartown Road, Vineyard Haven, 1 to 3 p.m., free, redhouserecovery.org, 508-693-2900.

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

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

Breathwork, conscious breathing techniques, The Red House Peer Recovery Support Center, 5 to 6 p.m., free.

Thanksgiving Centerpiece Workshop, Donaroma's Nursery, 270 Upper Main Street, Edgartown, 5 to 7 p.m., $150, 508-627-3036, ext. 1.

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

Tuesday, Nov. 24

Work From Home, From The Library, support for working from home with kids, email hburbidge@clamsnet.org for your spot, West Tisbury Public Library, 12 p.m.

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

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

Play Kitchen and Store, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Seasonal Storytime with Rachel, Edgartown Public Library, 10:30 to 11 a.m.

Lego Club, Chilmark Library, 2:45 to 4 p.m.

After School Club, activities, board games and crafts, Aquinnah Public Library, 3 to 5 p.m.

Maritime Patch Craft, Oak Bluffs Public Library, 3:30 to 5:30 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.

Full Moon Owl Prowl: An Evening Wildlife Walk, learn about and listen for the Island's owls on this wildlife walk, Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary of Mass Audubon, 100 Felix Neck Drive, Edgartown, 5 to 6 p.m., massaudubon.org, 508-627-4850.

Knitting Group, creativity and conversation, West Tisbury Public Library, 5 to 6 p.m.

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.

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

Movie Night, rated PG-13, call library for film title, Vineyard Haven Public Library, 6 p.m.

Dinner and a Movie — Goldfinger, Pawnee House, 6:30 p.m., thepawneehousemv.com, 508-338-2770.

Poetry and Prose Tuesday: Open Mic for All Writers and Poets, sign up on the night from 7 p.m., PathwaysARTS, 7:30 to 9 p.m., free.

Wednesday, Nov. 25

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, tisburycoa.com.

All Aboard The Carnegie, a holiday train display by the West Tisbury Public Library railroad club, The Carnegie, 58 North Water Street, Edgartown, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., free, vineyardtrust.org, 774-549-9107.

Dickens' Village Vignettes, The Carnegie, daily, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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.

Mahjong 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.

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

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

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.

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.

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. 26

Annual Turkey Trot, runners and walkers of all ages are welcome, Inkwell Beach House, 7:30 a.m., $20, sites.google.com.

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

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

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

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

Imagination Unbound



Ray Ewing

Music to Go with the Old World

Music, tarot readings and eclectic art await visitors of the Museum of Unnatural History at the Workshop Gallery this Friday.

The exhibit opened in October as an unconventional group art show, with the occasional musical performance.

"We turn all the lights out, and I made a bunch of stained glass lamps," said artist and organizer Liz Ragone. "It's listening room style, and it's just really sweet."

The space showcases the work of 26 artists, the pieces inspired by specimens one might find in a natural history museum.

"Everything is for sale, but the theme is that it's an old world museum of natural history with a dark, whimsical twist," Ms. Ragone said.

Ms. Ragone is a stained glass artist herself. At the heart of the exhibit is her collection of stained glass insects, created to look as though they are meticulously-preserved scientific specimens.

"Glass cloches, antique cabinets, weathered display cases, moss-covered logs, handwritten labels and botanical elements will create the illusion of an eccentric museum dedicated to a world where glass has become biology," Ms. Ragone wrote in her call to artists to participate in the exhibit.

She hopes visitors will be drawn into the imaginative world of the exhibition.

"Rather than a conventional gallery exhibition, this installation will feel like discovering an abandoned museum whose curator disappeared decades ago — its collections left intact, inviting visitors to peer closely at each object and wonder whether it belongs to science, art, or myth," she said.

Ms. Ragone said she drew inspiration for curating occasional musical performances from NPR's Tiny Desk concerts. She calls these musical events "tiny couch sessions," a nod to the antique Victorian couch in the gallery.

Past performers have included the Alpha Gals, Willy Mason and Sara Shaw Dawson. This week's musical guest will be Maryse Smith, whose performance will begin at 6 p.m.

Hannah Sparrow attends every week to do tarot and astrology readings from 2 to 4 p.m.

The gallery will be open throughout the day for guests to browse and purchase art.

The Museum of Unnatural History is at the Workshop Gallery at 32 Beach Road in Vineyard Haven, across from the ArtCliff Diner.

-Lily Echeverria

MOVIE LISTINGS
NOVEMBER 20-26

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

FRIDAY 11/20
Fatherland (NR) 4 p.m.
You Can See Everything (R) 7:30 p.m.
SATURDAY 11/21
Sense and Sensibility (PG) 1 p.m.
You Can See Everything (R) 4 p.m.
Warren Miller Ski Film: Days Off (NR) 7:30 p.m.
SUNDAY 11/22
Wicker (R) 1 p.m.
You Can See Everything (R) 4 p.m.
Sense and Sensibility (PG) 1 p.m.
MONDAY 11/23
Closed
TUESDAY 11/24
Closed
WEDNESDAY 11/25
Closed
THURSDAY 11/26
Closed

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

FRIDAY 11/20
I Play Rocky (PG-13) 3:30 p.m.
How to Rob a Bank (R) 6:45 p.m.
The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping (PG-13) 3:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY 11/21
Ebenezer (PG-13) 1 p.m.
I Play Rocky (PG-13) 3:45 p.m., 6:45 p.m.
The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping (PG-13) 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
SUNDAY 11/22
I Play Rocky (PG-13) 1 p.m., 3:45 p.m.
How to Rob a Bank (R) 6:45 p.m.
The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping (PG-13) 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
MONDAY 11/23
Ebenezer (PG-13) 4 p.m.
I Play Rocky (PG-13) 6:30 p.m.
The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping (PG-13) 5:30 p.m.
TUESDAY 11/24
Ebenezer (PG-13) 4 p.m.
I Play Rocky (PG-13) 6:30 p.m.
The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping (PG-13) 5:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY 11/25
Hexed (PG) 1:15 p.m., 4 p.m.
Focker-In-Law (R) 6:45 p.m.
The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping (PG-13) 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY 11/26
Hexed (PG) 1:15 p.m., 4 p.m.
Focker-In-Law (R) 6:45 p.m.
The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping (PG-13) 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

CHECK OUT OUR ONLINE CALENDAR FOR EVEN MORE EVENTS!
calendar.vineyardgazette.com

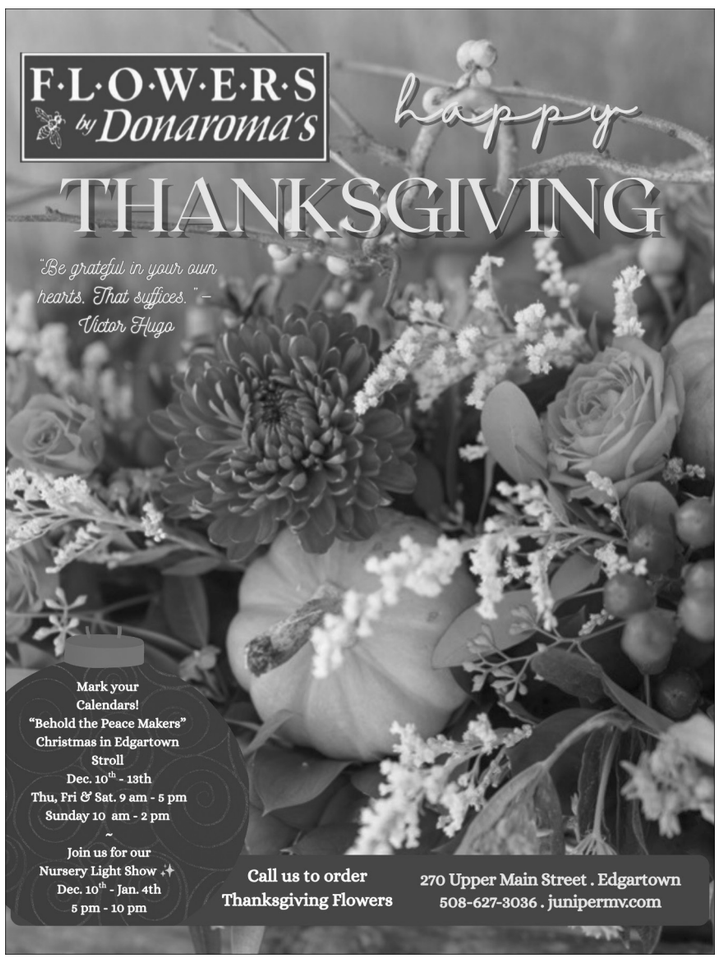
VINEYARD GAZETTE
@vineyardgazette

ISLAND ARTISTS & ARTISANS
the VINEYARD ARTISANS™ FESTIVALS
30th ANNUAL
THANKSGIVING WEEKEND FESTIVAL
FRI. 27 & SAT. 28 10a.m.-4p.m.
AGRICULTURAL HALL, WEST TISBURY
FREE PARKING
BUY HANDMADE ON THE VINEYARD
vineyardartisans.com

PLANNING AN EVENT?



Ray Ewing
It's EASY and FREE to enter your event on our online and print calendars!
SCAN HERE to find out how!
The Complete Martha's Vineyard CALENDAR | VINEYARD GAZETTE MEDIA GROUP
calendar.vineyardgazette.com







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, Oak Bluffs



OAK BLUFFS | WINTER RENTAL
Furnished three-to-four-bedroom, two-bath house. $2,000/month, including electricity, internet and trash. Pet-friendly, with washer and dryer, mini-split heat/AC, two parking spots with large yard. Near Tony's Market. Available now through June 2027 (end date flexible).
Email: andrew02539@gmail.com.

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.



For Rent, West Tisbury

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. (508) 939-1414.

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

ROBERT W OGDEN SHERIFF COMM. OF MASSACHUSETTS 2017 DUKES COUNTY

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

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.

ISLAND AUTISM
LIVE-IN HOUSE MANAGER
Seeking a reliable, caring individual to provide household support and companionship for an independent adult

Help Wanted

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.

PAINTER OF CUSTOM CABINETRY
Looking for experienced spray painter for custom cabinet manufacturing on the Cape and Martha's Vineyard.
Email islandstileholdings@gmail.com or call (914) 319-7390 if interested.

ISLAND HOUSING TRUST

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.

LAMBERT'S COVE WEST TISBURY MASS EST. 1969 INN·RESTAURANT·FARM

SERVER | BUSSER | LINE COOK
Restaurant Foster & Mermaid Bar at The Lambert's Cove Inn
Experience strongly preferred and willing to train the right candidate. Flexible hours, staff meal included.
Please send resume to Malaika at: malaika.lambertscovesinn@gmail.com.

LANDSCAPE PROFESSIONAL WANTED

Excellent opportunity for an experienced landscape professional to work with a high-end residential landscape maintenance team. Responsibilities include property inspections, client communication, crew coordination, quality control, horticultural oversight and landscape enhancement recommendations. Leadership experience and strong plant knowledge preferred. Competitive compensation, benefits, paid holidays, and advancement opportunities. English required; portuguese/English bilingual candidates preferred. Call Landscope at (508) 696-8812 or email info@landscopeinc.com.

FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST
DIGITAL MEDIA COORDINATOR
OFFICE ASSISTANT
Small and friendly nonprofit. Duties include answering phones, greeting the public, providing customer service, scheduling, attending meetings, and ordering supplies. Exemplary computer skills, attention to detail, and digital media aptitude is a must.
This full-time position offers a competitive salary, medical and 401(k) options. Must have stable housing.
Forward resume to:
humanresources44@yahoo.com.

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
Retail Banker

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

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

Help Wanted

MVY AIRPORT MARTHA'S VINEYARD

The Martha's Vineyard Airport has an exciting full-time, year-round, benefited, permanent position:

Operations Specialist / Firefighter

Full-time, benefited, permanent position. Duties include aircraft servicing, aircraft fire-fighting/rescue, airport and airfield maintenance, staffing operations office, and other airport responsibilities. Prior firefighting experience not required. Includes weekends, nights, overnights, and holidays. Starting Wage is $ 32.52, based on experience.

Applications and job description available online at:
www.mvyairport.com/employment-opportunities or at Airport Management Office, 71 Airport Road, West Tisbury, MA 02575, or emailing hr@mvyairport.com. Acceptance of applications closes **December 2, 2026, at 12 pm.**

The Martha's Vineyard Airport and the County of Dukes County are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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.

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.

VINEYARD GAZETTE

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.

Help Wanted

This is a part-time position. Send your resume to vczarnecki@vineyardgazette.com

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

Volunteers

AMERICAN RED CROSS
MARTHA'S VINEYARD
The American Red Cross of Southeastern Massachusetts is looking for community partners, volunteers, board members and responders to serve and represent Martha's Vineyard. From disaster response, home fire prevention, and emergency sheltering to community outreach, preparedness and blood collection, there are so many ways to support. Interested? Reach out to Executive Director, Barbara Cotton at Barbara.cotton@redcross.org.

ANGELS HELPING ANIMALS
Seeking volunteers and foster homes. Please call (508)274-2604.

CHICKEN ALLEY THRIFT SHOP
Make new friends. Learn something new. Support your community. Be environmentally friendly. Volunteer at Chicken Alley. Send email to:
chickenalleythriftshop@mvcommunityservices.org.

EDGARTOWN ENERGY COMMITTEE
The Edgartown Energy Committee is seeking a volunteer to run its Facebook page, providing news and information from the Committee to FaceBook friends. Learn new things about the town's use of energy and how residents can save energy and lower costs. Email or text Alan Strahler, Chair, alan@bu.edu, (617)791-8959, for details.

HEALTHY AGING MV
SEEKING DRIVERS
MV Connect, our program to help older adults maintain their independence, is looking for volunteer drivers.
Sign up online at www.hamv.org or call or text: (508) 560-4514.

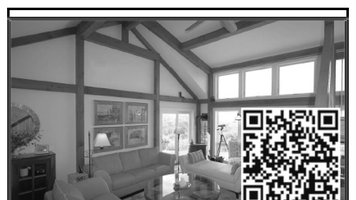
HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
Hospice & Palliative Care of Martha's Vineyard (HPCMV) welcomes new volunteers to help out with the following:
- Patient Care
- Administrative Tasks
- Fundraising and Events
- Camp by the Sea

No prior experience required; just a desire to be a member of the HPCMV team.
Email jangell@hospiceofmv.org
(508)693-0189. hospiceofmv.org

MV HOSPITAL
MV Hospital is looking for volunteers for several positions within our organization. For more information, please visit our website at:
https://mvhospital.org/charitable-giving/volunteer/

VINEYARD VILLAGE AT HOME
Our mission is to help older residents maintain their independence. We need volunteer drivers to take our members to social and cultural events, medical appointments, shopping and errands, and the like. We also would like volunteers for friendly visits or taking our members on outings. The volunteers and members usually enjoy each other's company, and it is fun and rewarding for both.
Contact: vineyardvillage@gmail.com.

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

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

Contractors and Builders

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

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

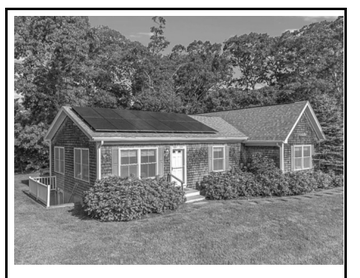
AMERICANA AUCTIONS ANTIQUES

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.

Yard Sales



ESTATE SALE
Antiques, vintage, collectibles, furniture, Waterford, household items, rugs and artwork. Something for everyone.
Saturday and Sunday, November 21 and 22, 10 AM - 2 PM. 4 Periwinkle Lane, Oak Bluffs. No early birds please park respectfully. (850) 293-4345.

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

Happy Birthday, Ethan!



Hope your birthday is as sweet as you!

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.

Aquinnah Legal Notices

AQUINNAH CONSERVATION COMMISSION
On **December 8, 2026 at 4:30 PM** a public hearing will be held in the Aquinnah town offices under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Aquinnah Wetlands Water Resource Bylaw to act on a Request for Determination of Applicability filed by the Andrew McAfee Trust for the renovation of an existing basement and crawl space located within the buffer zone of a bordering vegetated wetland and inland pond resource area.

Location: 7 Maple Hill Drive Map 9 Parcels 197.2 & 202.
Site Visit: December 8, 2026 at 3:25 PM.
nov20,1t

AQUINNAH CONSERVATION COMMISSION
On **December 8, 2026 at 4 PM** a public hearing will be held in the Aquinnah town offices under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Aquinnah Wetlands Water Resource Bylaw to act on a Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Ann C. Leonard, Trustee, to construct a deck addition to an existing dwelling within a Riverfront District, the buffer zone of a bordering vegetated wetland and the coastal district.

Location: 266 Lighthouse Road Map 5 Parcel 31.
Site Visit: December 8, 2026 at 3:45 PM.
nov20,1t

AQUINNAH CONSERVATION COMMISSION
On **December 8, 2026 at 4:15 PM** a public hearing will be held in the Aquinnah town offices under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Aquinnah Wetlands Water Resource Bylaw to act on a Request for Determination of Applicability filed by One Moshup LLC & Off State Road LLC for brush cutting 3' wide paths for flagging and locating wetland areas within the buffer zones of bordering vegetated wetlands.

Location: 1 Moshup Trail & 0 Moshup Trail Maps 11 & 8 Parcels 29 & 131.
Site Visit: December 8, 2026 at 3 PM.
nov20,1t

Edgartown Legal Notices

TOWN OF EDGARTOWN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 87, Section 3 of the Massachusetts General Laws and amendments thereto, that Beth and Bryan Palma, has requested permission to remove the following public shade tree. The tree is a Sycamore Maple Tree, approximately 16 inch DBH and 30 foot height. The tree is located at 109 School Street. Assessors map 29A, parcel 93.1.

A public hearing will be held upon said request at **4:00 PM on Monday, December 7, 2026,** in the Fred B. Morgan meeting room of the Town Hall, 70 Main Street, Edgartown, Massachusetts.

Select Board / Tree Warden
nov20,27,2t

TOWN OF EDGARTOWN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 87, Section 3 of the Massachusetts General Laws and amendments thereto, that Cammie Naylor / Donaroma's Nursery & Landscape Services Inc., agent for Michael Donaroma has requested permission to remove the following public shade trees. The trees are (3) Sycamore Maple Trees, with 15" to 18" inch DBH and 22' to 26' foot height. The trees are located at 32 Pine Street.

Happy Birthday, Vivian!



Hop your birthday is ribboting

EDGARTOWN LEGAL NOTICES

Assessors map 20A, parcel 131.

A public hearing will be held upon said request at **4:00 PM on Monday, December 7, 2026,** in the Fred B. Morgan meeting room of the Town Hall, 70 Main Street, Edgartown, Massachusetts.

Select Board / Tree Warden
nov20,27,2t

TOWN OF EDGARTOWN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 87, Section 3 of the Massachusetts General Laws and amendments thereto, that Donaroma's Nursery & Landscape Services Inc., agent for Big Red Dog MV LLC, has requested permission to remove the following public shade trees. The trees are (A) Norway Maple, (B) Sycamore Maple, and (C) Norway Maple with 18", 28", and 36" inch DBH and 42' to 45' foot height. The trees are located at 49 High Street. Assessors map 20C, parcel 132.1.

A public hearing will be held upon said request at **4:00 PM on Monday, December 7, 2026,** in the Fred B. Morgan meeting room of the Town Hall, 70 Main Street, Edgartown, Massachusetts.

Select Board / Tree Warden
nov20,27,2t

TOWN OF EDGARTOWN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 87, Section 3 of the Massachusetts General Laws and amendments thereto, that Edgartown Park Department, agent for Town of Edgartown has requested permission to remove the following public shade trees. The trees are (A) (2) Beech Trees, (B) American Elm, and (C) Norway Maple with 22", 32", 16" inch DBH and 48', 68', 40' foot height.The trees are located at Cannonball Park. Assessors map 20C, parcel 207.

A public hearing will be held upon said request at **4:00 PM on Monday, December 7, 2026,** in the Fred B. Morgan meeting room of the Town Hall, 70 Main Street, Edgartown, Massachusetts.

Select Board / Tree Warden
nov20,27,2t

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 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.

EDGARTOWN LEGAL NOTICES

nov13,20,2t

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

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 #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

OAK BLUFFS LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

The Oak Bluffs Capital Improvement Committee will hold a Public Hearing on **Thursday December 10th, 2026, at 5:00pm** at Oak Bluffs Town Hall. 56 School Street, Oak Bluffs in the downstairs meeting hall to present the proposed FY2028 Capital Improvement Plan.
If desired, comments or questions may be submitted in advance of the hearing in writing to Debra Alley bosadmin@oakbluffsma.gov.
A copy of the Capital Improvement Plan will be available at the Select Board Office from Monday December 7th, 2026, during normal business hours or on the Town website https://www.oakbluffsma.gov/446/Capital-Improvement-Committee.
nov20,1t

TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Oak Bluffs Select Board will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, December 8, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.** at Oak Bluffs Town Hall 56 School Street, lower-level meeting hall, Oak Bluffs on a petition WO # 29354162 from Eversource for the installation of 38' +/- 1-4" conduit and one (1) new handhold 101/H19 along Hiawatha Avenue.

The purpose of this construction is to accommodate a customer requested electrical service upgrade at 3 Uncas Avenue.
nov20,1t

TISBURY LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF TISBURY
Office of
BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Case 2591

The Tisbury Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a hybrid public hearing on **Thursday, December 10, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.** at the Tisbury Town Hall Annex, located at 66 Highpoint Lane. Members of the public may attend in person or participate remotely. The purpose of the hearing is to consider an application submitted by 12 Bluebird Lane LLC seeking a variance to allow residential use on the first floor of a building located in the B1 zoning district. The location of the project is 28 State Road (Assessor Parcel 9A3) The application is filed pursuant to Tisbury Zoning Bylaw 05.12.01. Copies of the application are available for public review at the Tisbury Zoning Board of Appeals Office.
Remote participation information:
Zoom Link:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84180643208
Meeting ID: 841 8064 3208
Passcode: 901757
Phone Access: +16468769923
nov20,27,2t

TOWN OF TISBURY
Office of
BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Case 2590

The Tisbury Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a hybrid public hearing on **Thursday, December 10, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.** at the Tisbury Town Hall Annex, located at 66 Highpoint Lane. Members of the public may attend in person or participate remotely. The purpose of the hearing is to consider an application submitted by Eric G. Johnson seeking an amendment Special Permit Case No. 2549, dated April 10, 2025. The existing permit authorizes the location of pool equipment under the pool house at 36 Howard Street (Assessor's Parcel 15B17.2). The proposed amendment would allow the pool and spa equipment to be relocated to an existing shed at 87 Bellevue Avenue (Assessor's Parcel 15B10). The application was filed pursuant to Tisbury Zoning Bylaw 04.03.10. Copies of the application are available for public review at the Tisbury Zoning Board of Appeals Office and Sourati Engineering.
Remote participation information:
Zoom Link:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84180643208
Meeting ID: 841 8064 3208
Passcode: 901757
Phone Access: +16468769923
nov20,27,2t

TISBURY LEGAL NOTICES

Tisbury Town Hall Annex, located at 66 Highpoint Lane. Members of the public may attend in person or participate remotely. The purpose of the hearing is to consider an application submitted by Eric G. Johnson seeking an amendment Special Permit Case No. 2549, dated April 10, 2025. The existing permit authorizes the location of pool equipment under the pool house at 36 Howard Street (Assessor's Parcel 15B17.2). The proposed amendment would allow the pool and spa equipment to be relocated to an existing shed at 87 Bellevue Avenue (Assessor's Parcel 15B10). The application was filed pursuant to Tisbury Zoning Bylaw 04.03.10. Copies of the application are available for public review at the Tisbury Zoning Board of Appeals Office and Sourati Engineering.
Remote participation information:
Zoom Link:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84180643208
Meeting ID: 841 8064 3208
Passcode: 901757
Phone Access: +16468769923
nov20,27,2t

TISBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Tisbury Conservation Commission will meet to review the Request for Determination of Applicability under M.G.L., C. 131. S.40, the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and Tisbury Wetlands By-law, on **December 1, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.** at the Tisbury Town Hall Annex, 66 High Point Lane. The proposed project, submitted by Estate of Allison Brownlow, is to install enhanced treatment septic upgrade located at 95 Hines Point (Assessor Parcel 11A45). The application and project plans are available for public review at the Tisbury Conservation Office and Vineyard Land Surveying and Engineering, Inc.
nov20,1t

TISBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Tisbury Conservation Commission will meet to review the Notice of Intent under M.G.L., C. 131. S.40, the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and Tisbury Wetlands By-law, on **December 1st, 2026, at 4:00 p.m**. at the Tisbury Town Hall Annex, 66 High PointLane. The proposed project is filed for James Dow to remove an existing guesthouse/ADU and construct a new ADU with a new foundation meeting the flood requirements. The project will also include the restoration of previously disturbed dune area. The existing structure is located within a FEMA VE-13 flood zone with first floor elevation at 3.5 feet. The new ADU would be elevated on a pier foundation meeting the VE-13 flood zone construction requirements. A similar project was filed for, reviewed and ultimately denied by the Conservation Commission in the past 6 months. This application has reduced the size of the relocated structure and included restoration details of the dune. The property is located at 662 Chappaquonsett Road (Assessor's Parcel 59A2) within the R3A Zoning District. The application and project plans are available for public review at the Tisbury Conservation Office and Vineyard Land Surveying and Engineering, Inc.
nov20,1t

WEST TISBURY LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
WEST TISBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The West Tisbury Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing under the requirements of G.L. Ch.131 § 40, as amended, and West Tisbury Wetlands Protection Bylaw and regulations to consider a Notice of Intent filed by Vineyard Land Surveying & Engineering, Inc., on behalf of Corinne Field for a project located at 369 & 399 Reservoir Road, Assessors Map 14 Lots 14 and 14.1, to trim and remove invasive Gray Willow trees to maintain a view channel. The public hearing will be held on **Tuesday, December 1, 2026, at 5:10 PM** in the Select Board's meeting room at the West Tisbury Town Hall and via remote participation (Zoom). The procedure to join the meeting is provided on the Conservation Commission meeting agenda posted on the Town website (www.westtisbury-ma.gov). For information contact the Commission office at (508) 696-6404 or by email at concomm@westtisbury-ma.gov.
nov20,1t

GENERAL LEGAL NOTICES

DUKES COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY
LEGAL NOTICE - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
AFFORDABLE HOUSING MAINTENANCE SERVICES

The Dukes County Regional Housing Authority (DCRHA) invites sealed proposals from qualified contractors to provide comprehensive maintenance services for its affordable housing portfolio on Martha's Vineyard. Services include routine and emergency maintenance, preventive maintenance, unit turnovers, property inspections, subcontractor coordination, and general maintenance management.

Proposal Deadline: December 14, 2026, at 2:00 PM.

Complete RFP documents, including submission requirements and specifications, may be obtained by contacting:
Maria Ventura, Executive Director
Dukes County Regional Housing Authority
Phone: (508) 693-4419.
Email: maria@housingauthoritymv.org.

Sealed proposals must be received by the deadline at:
Maria Ventura, Executive Director
Dukes County Regional Housing Authority
21 Mechanic Street
P.O. Box 4538
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568.

DCRHA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive minor informalities when deemed in the public interest.
nov20,1t

GENERAL LEGAL NOTICES

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
DOCKET NO. DU26P0137EA
ESTATE OF:
MEGAN B. ALLEY
DATE OF DEATH: 10/14/2026

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by
Mary Alley of Oak Bluffs, MA
requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that:
Mary Alley of Oak Bluffs, MA
be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
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 the return day of 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 day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Susan L Jacobs, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 12, 2026
Daphne DeVries, Register of Probate
Dukes Probate and Family Court
PO Box 237
81 Main Street
Edgartown, MA 02539
(508) 627-4703
nov20,1t

GOSNOLD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Gosnold Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Monday, November 30, 2026 at 10:30 AM** at Gosnold Town Hall and via Zoom under the MA Wetlands Protection Act to consider a Notice of Intent filed by William Spaulding and Anne Rose. The project involves maintenance dredging to maintain tidal flow of the West End Pond, Cuttyhunk Island, MA. To receive details of the project or remote access please contact: lwright@townofgosnold.org.
nov20,1t

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

MARTHA'S VINEYARD COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING

The public is invited to a public hearing concerning the following Development of Regional Impact **#789 Edgartown Cove Housing.**
Applicant: Edgartown Cove Housing LLC; William Cumming & Jason Talerman (Applicants).
Location: 501 Edgartown-West Tisbury Road, Edgartown. Map 22, Lot 2.1 (approximately 2 acres).
Proposal: Construction of a 40-unit condominium complex spread across six standalone buildings, creation of 58 parking spaces, and alterations to a Special Way.
Date & Time: Thursday, December 3, 2026 at 6:35 p.m.
Place: Hybrid Meeting **MVC Office - 1st Floor,** 33 New York Ave, Oak Bluffs, MA and **Zoom Meeting ID: 880 5998 1524; Password: 634487.**
The application and plans are available on the MVC website. Written testimony may be submitted prior to or during the hearing. Check for updates on the online calendar.
nov20,27,2t

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
DOCKET NO. DU04P0004-TP1
IN THE MATTER OF: THE POST CHARITABLE TRUST

TRUST CITATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by:
Brian D. Bixby of Needham MA
requesting the appointment of a Successor Trustee to serve without sureties on the bond.

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 12, 2026.
Daphne DeVries
Register of Probate
Dukes Probate and Family Court
PO Box 237
81 Main Street
Edgartown, MA 02539
(508) 627-4703.
nov20,1t

NEW CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING SYSTEM!

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

$24 FOR 24 WORDS
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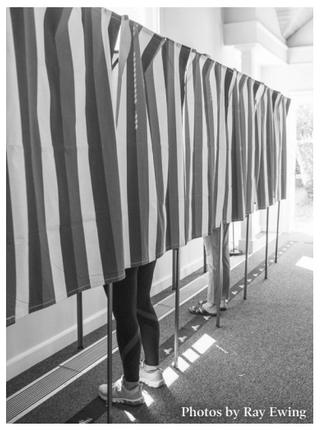
WEEKLY SUDOKU AND CROSSWORD ANSWERS – November 20 2026

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



2 AWARD-WINNING NEWSLETTERS FROM THE VINEYARD GAZETTE

TUESDAY+FRIDAY
THE BROADSHEET



TOP NEWS stories, in-depth features, trends, profiles, commentary and stunning photography from the Vineyard Gazette, bringing you up to date twice a week.

THURSDAY
ISLAND TIME



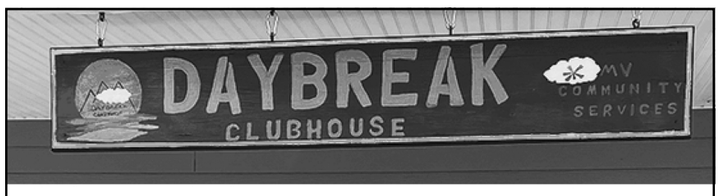
BEST BETS for things to do on the Island in the coming week, from special events, concerts and films to art openings, trail walks, kids' activities and more.

IT'S **FREE** - SIGN UP TODAY!
VINEYARDGAZETTE.COM/NEWSLETTERS

DELIVER A TRUCK LOAD OF HOLIDAY CHEER!
GIVE A GIFT FROM THE VINEYARD GAZETTE



Find something for everyone on your list at vineyardgazettestore.com.



MVCS Disability Services
is seeking a Daybreak Staff Generalist
$23.00 - $27.60/hour
Sign-On Bonus available to employees in good standing!
This position supports adults living with mental health conditions through vocational, educational, recreational, and social activities that promote independence, recovery, and community engagement. Responsibilities include supporting members, coordinating activities, maintaining records, and providing transportation. Experience in human services or mental health preferred. Valid Massachusetts driver's license required. Flexible availability, including occasional evenings and weekends, is needed.

For full job responsibilities and to apply please check our website or scan the QR code:
mvcommunityservices.org/employment
MV Community Services

From the Town Columnists

CHAPPY

PETER WELLS

Chris Ordway was well known and well liked by the Chappy Ferry captains and deckhands. And not just because he or his wife Gerry brought us a dozen donuts every Sunday morning. He always had a relevant comment as we paused by his car to take his ticket. It was always positive, even if it was to admire the length of the ferry line.

Every July he would tell Captain Tara that summer officially started when she returned to drive the ferry. I took vicarious pleasure in seeing his enjoyment when he came aboard in his convertible Porsche. What a difference in altitude between that sports car's driver's seat a foot off the deck compared to a 747 captain's seat 25 feet above the pavement. That airplane could weigh 300 times what that elegant go-cart weighs. I noticed that Chris nearly always hugged the right side of the ramp when departing, putting himself on the centerline. Just as he would when steering a plane down a runway.

Here's one last reminder about Trip Barnes memorial potluck gathering at the Ag Hall in West Tisbury this Saturday, Nov. 21 starting at 4 p.m.

The maintenance and repairs of the On Time 2 are progressing. Brian went off-Island on Tuesday to fetch the refurbished propellers and replacement hydraulic hoses. He has a keen eye for ship-shape. Check out the new and improved Chappy Ferry website. You can sign up for ferry alerts.

CHILMARK

KATIE CARROLL

Our town just got a little sweeter. While there may not be an official "baby season," our community certainly feels like we are right in the middle of one — and our hearts couldn't be fuller. Please join me in giving a warm welcome to our newest resident, Beatrice Demers. Proud parents John and Dyan, along with big brother Clive and big sister Iris, are overjoyed to welcome sweet Beatrice into their lives. Clive and Iris are already proving to be wonderful, doting and helpful older siblings. Arriving as the very best surprise of 2026, Beatrice has already brought so much happiness to the Demers family and everyone lucky enough to be in their circle including, of course, grandparents Fran and Phil Demers. Congratulations to the whole crew as they settle in as a wonderful family of five.

This past Monday, the Fishing Partnership anchored in town to share vital, life-saving wisdom with our fleet. Nearly 20 members of our commercial fishing community — including Wayne Iacono, Judi Worthington, Max Suman, Brooks Carroll, Isaiah Scheffer, Grace Kenney, a gaggle from the USCG and more — answered the call, earning their certifications in CPR and first aid. Everyone will be back on the dock and on the water carrying not just new credentials, but a deeper confidence to keep one another safe.

Running right along with our theme of safety, our wonderful friend Henry Bassett from the Tri-Town Ambulance Association shares they are hosting a car seat safety event this Saturday, Nov. 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the West Tisbury public safety building. Did you know that over 50 per cent of car seats are installed incorrectly? Whether you are a parent-to-be, a current parent, a grandparent, a caregiver or a friend, this is a fantastic opportunity to swing by and have your car seat inspected or installed by a team of nationally certified car seat technicians. Their team is excited to help our Island neighbors keep their little ones safe on the road. Bringing the kids along? No problem at all. Members of the West Tisbury library staff will be on-site with fun activities for the kids so you can chat with the technicians worry free. Feel free to sign up for the event in advance at tinyurl.com/mv-carseat.

That same fabulous Henry Bassett brought a Tri-Town ambulance to Vineyard Montessori's Touch a Truck event last weekend. He was joined by Aidan Coombs and Ryan Cray who brought the Chilmark fire department's engine 121 to the event and were joined by a parking lot full of cool trucks, cars and other vehicles.

Joan Caulton and Ed Greenebaum, have come to the end of their 2026 stay in Menemsha. Indiana is calling and their car is packed and ready to answer. They made the most of autumn in Chilmark by welcoming a few trick-or-treaters, taking plenty of strolls and soaking up the sunsets. I always enjoy seeing them around and look forward to welcoming them back next year.

EDGARTOWN

KATHIE CASE

We are still enjoying the sun and warmth. I have been looking ahead to see what is in store for us this winter, and it seems we are supposed to have a mild winter, but a little stormy with rain and very little snow. With the price of fuel oil and electricity, it will be a great relief to us all.

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 this past week.

The holiday season is officially on. The trees are here, the wreaths, greens and roping are on the tables, and the poinsettias are perking up the greenhouses with their vibrant color of red. The ladies are busy decorating balsam wreaths and putting together the wet wreaths.

Wet wreaths are beautiful and people sometime gasp at the price of them, but once we explain the process they understand why they are high priced. They are put together with a ring filled with moss that has been soaked overnight. The girls then put a plastic wrap around the moss and ring, and slowly press some of the water out. Once wrapped, they put a velvet backing on the back half, and then it is then ready for the greens.

The greens start with boxwood in the middle, and balsam on the outer rim to give it its form. They then pick different greens which are cut to fit the blank area. They then incorporate berries and pine cones to give them color and that Christmas look.

The process takes a few hours, but the finished product is so worth it. They last the whole winter as the greens are in the wet moss to help keep them fresh.

While Christmas prep is under way, we are still keeping Thanksgiving in our plans. I am hearing about families coming to visit, people traveling, and of course social media is full of different recipes to try. It is sometimes hard to incorporate new things as we all have our favorite traditional favorites. But the best part is being with family or some great friends.

The West Tisbury Tri-Town Fire Association is holding an Islandwide car seat safety event on Saturday, Nov. 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the West Tisbury fire station (across from Cronig's). They are very excited to provide the Island community the opportunity to keep their kids safer! There will also be librarians at the event who will provide activities for kids, so that adults can turn their full attention to the car seat technicians.

Have a great week and keep the home candles burning.

VINEYARD HAVEN

NANCY GARDELLA

You knew I would be extolling the virtues of our talented Islanders. I shall begin with my favorite comedian and former student, Charlie Nadler, son of Marty and Holly Nadler. Charlie was in Boston from Nov. 11 through Nov. 14 as a semifinalist in the Boston Comedy Festival. I am waiting on the results.

Everyone's favorite artist, Margot Datz, has installed her new 3-D mural in the newly renovated Vineyard Haven library. Come see.

A great local artist I had the pleasure of taking lessons from, Tom Maley, painted his take on a Turkish Village in the mode of Cezanne. It is now on display in our Martha's Vineyard Hospital.

Our Martha's Vineyard Museum has installed a wonderful exhibit of Denys Wortman's work, who was a prolific painter and cartoonist for the New Yorker for many years. His son, also Denys Wortman, says the exhibit will be open through Feb. 27, 2027.

One of my favorite Island artists is John Holladay. New original landscapes by John are on exhibit in the Louisa Gould Gallery downtown on Main street.

You may do your own painting, face painting that is, at the 46th annual Fall Festival at Felix Neck. There will also be crafting, hay rides, wreath making, music, food trucks and more.

There is so much to say about the wonderfulness of Margaret Stafursky, a teacher and friend to all. Margaret always looked out for her students needs and had spare snacks for them. Margaret passed away at home on Nov. 5. Her service will be at St. Augustine's on Dec. 5 at 11 a.m. Farewell good friend.

The birthday bandwagon pulled along Amber Ventura on Nov. 4. Welcome to age 18, Amber.

And the birthday cake goes to my new friend David Orekhov who turned 17 on Nov. 18. Many happy returns.

WEST TISBURY

EILEEN MALEY

A brand new family member will be the star performer at the traditional Thanksgiving dinner in the Whitings' dining room. The newcomer is Elliette Grace Whiting, who was born on Nov. 11 and arrived at her West Tisbury home on Saturday. She is the daughter of Korrine Altieri and Everett Whiting, the co-owner of the Fish House at the airport.

Hosting the annual banquet are Lynne and Allen Whiting, grandparents of little Elliette. At the table will be Elliette's other ecstatic grandmother, Karen Altieri. The infant's cousin Prudence and her parents Will and Ozge Whiting are coming from Pawtucket. In attendance as well will be up-Islanders Aunt Bea Whiting, Uncle Patrick Ruel and cousins Asa and Nora. Allen's brother Danny and his wife Annie will be there too.

Joan Apt and David Smith are celebrating the holiday as they do every year. They plan to drive to Joan's sister's home in Connecticut, joining family from near and far, for their annual Thanksgiving feast and festivities. This year, 27 family members are expected from all over — from Seattle, from Vermont, from Martha's Vineyard and elsewhere.



Ray Ewing

Anna Alley will join her sister Nina in Providence, then attend the occasion being created by her daughter Nicole in North Attleboro. Nicole promises to do the cooking this year.

Richard Knabel and Jim Osmundson expect 22 guests at their annual gathering, many from the neighborhood, a couple from Oak Bluffs. Each year they rent tables, chairs and linens, and produce mountains of time-honored holiday food, including a selection of baked desserts Richard produces for the groaning table.

So much food, while all around us, too much hunger. Island Grown Initiative has a new and dedicated pantry space in Oak Bluffs, across from Tony's Market. The Island Food Pantry continues to provide nutritious meals to one in five year-round Island families. Local libraries and churches are also reliable sources of free fresh food as well.

Food for thought: Did you realize that three months in 2026 included Friday the 13th? One in February, one in March and again this month. That is a lot of bad luck, for those who believe.

More food for thought: A friend works on Main street and hears a lot of questions from visitors. Her favorite question this season: Was Martha's Vineyard named for Martha Stewart? We know Martha Stewart is no ingenue, but the Island was named in the year 1602 by the explorer Bartholomew Gosnold, who named it for his deceased daughter, or perhaps for his mother-in-law. Martha Stewart wasn't even born yet.

Happy birthday Friday, Nov. 20, to JJ Sauer and Matt Merry. Esteemed theatre director MJ Munafo will celebrate her big day on Saturday, Nov. 21. Paddy Moore is the birthday girl on Monday, Nov. 23.

Happy wedding anniversary to the happy grandparents Allen and Lynne Whiting on Tuesday, Nov. 24. David and Jeanne Merry also celebrate their marriage the same day. Congratulations to all.

TIDE AND TIME

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

Source: National Ocean Survey and Tidal Current Tables

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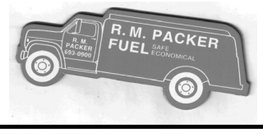
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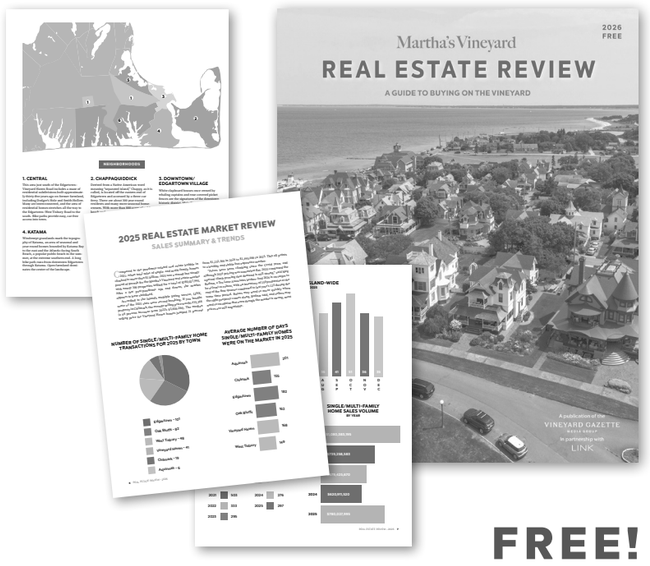
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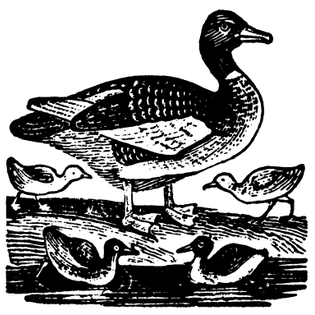
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All Outdoors

Earth Tongues

By SUZAN BELLINCAMPI

It was, and perhaps still is, a mycological mess.

Many mushroom mavens have studied, described, named, renamed and documented a fascinating family of fungi. Earth Tongues are a small, subtle selection of species that sit in the center of taxonomic tribulations.

Count among the Earth Tongue family and genus geniuses a selection of international mycological masters including Christian Hendrik Persoon, George Edward Massee, Elias Judah Durand, Fred Jan Seaver, Edwin Butterworth Mains and Curtis Gates Lloyd. Regardless of what their native tongues were, all of these scientists spent time identifying and classifying this group of odd organisms.

Of these experts, one of them had a sense of humor and an affinity for sarcasm and often judged his predecessors and peers. Curtis Gates Lloyd came to mycology after a career with his brothers in the pharmaceutical industry. So taken with fungus was he that he convinced his siblings to let him retire early to study them.

And study he did, all the while criticizing other mycologists for being quick to publish new species, erroneously identifying them, and adding their own names to their official nomenclature.

In one article, Lloyd lambasted his peers by explaining "The mistakes, blunders, and personal foibles of mycological writers have been my chief source of pleasure. I have never failed to express myself plainly, and have spared neither friend nor antagonist. I have always tried to be good-natured in my comments, and as a general thing the parties affected are taking it more as a joke on themselves and an idiosyncrasy of myself.... Nor am I deceiving myself into the belief that I will accomplish what I am trying to bring about, the abolition of personal advertisements in mycology."

Earth Tongues are one of the mushrooms that show his and other colleagues' over-exuberance. This group of funky fungus in the genus Geoglossum has more than 160 species named in the Index Fungorum (the project to index all of the formal names in the fungus kingdom). Many of those are thought to be "dubious, invalid, or synonyms" — a true Tower of Babel among Earth Tongues. Another source, The Dictionary of Fungus, recognizes only 22 distinct species.

No matter how many Earth Tongues there are, it is impossible not to be curious about them. On an uneventful day, in an uneventful grassy parking lot, I reached down to pick up what I thought were some scraps of trash. When I tried to grab one, it became apparent that it was attached to the ground. Looking around, there were more black snippets. These and the other dozens of black emerging strips were a colony of Earth Tongues.

How cool, and a first of this shroom for me. Earth Tongues include many separate species that can only be identified with the help of a microscope. These emerging bits do look like little tongues and can be black, brown or green, and the up to two-inch slivers are the fruiting bodies of the fungus. They can be sticky, striped, fuzzy, round or oval, and are a "nightmare to identify" according to the Mushroom Expert website. A far-reaching fungus, varieties can be found worldwide in many habitats, including that sandy parking lot.

It is not surprising that this fungus was on the tip of Lloyd's tongue and one subject of his many examinations and opinions. And even he cannot claim to have always lived up to his own high expectations. Another mushroom expert criticized Lloyd's "conservative approach to classification" and "slipshod taxonomic methods," sharing "the terror that Lloyd spread among North American mycologists and abroad by ridiculing everything...has not yet been completely overcome."

Not taking himself or his criticisms seriously, Lloyd eventually had the last word. Before his death, he ordered and had engraved his own tombstone which read: "Born in 1859 — Died 60 or more years afterwards — The exact number of years, months, and days lived nobody knows and nobody cares."

And on the other side of the headstone, Curtis G Lloyd: Monument erected in 1922 by himself, for himself, during his life to gratify his own vanity — What fools these mortals be".

Well said in his own tormented tongue.

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

A fascinating fungi.

Bird News

Wild Week

By ROBERT CULBERT

What a wild week it has been, with two hummingbird sightings and a common murre sighting, which triggered the discovery of other unusual birds in and near Vineyard Haven harbor.

The first hummingbird sighting comes from Mark Shea in Ocean Heights, as he observed what turns out to be either a ruby-throated or black-chinned hummingbird in Ocean Heights on Nov. 7.

Then, on Nov. 13, Diane Lucey watched a young male hummingbird that was feeding on flower nectar in Menemsha. Are these two sightings of the same bird or did we have two hummers in one November week? It is not surprising that we cannot identify the hummers from the photos. The late Vern Laux claimed that the only way to distinguish between similar-looking hummers is the shape of the end of the outermost wing feather. It is not easy to photograph the fast-moving wings of a hummingbird.

Then there is the common murre, first observed by Stefan Martin and his group of Connecticut Audubon birders on Nov. 8 near the Steamship Authority dock. Bob Shriber saw it later that day near the Vineyard Wind terminal and again the next day at Eastville Point Beach.

On Nov. 10, Ruth Richards, Janet Woodcock, Bridget Dunnigan, Sea Williams and Nancy Weaver found it, and Nancy Weaver, Shea Fee and Luanne Johnson saw it again in the harbor on Nov. 15.

The sighting of the murre, an uncommon ocean-going species that is rarely seen from the Island, has attracted many other birders to the area who found a variety of birds.

Terns are not common in November but Bob Shriber saw one common tern in the harbor in early November and one Forster's tern at Eastville Point Beach on Nov. 9.

Then Lisa Maxfield, Wendy Culbert and I spotted a breeding plumage roseate tern near the drawbridge on Nov. 11. We also observed a Forster's tern flying overhead on Nov. 12.

The roseate tern was most unexpected, as no roseates have been seen in the Cape and Islands area since Oct. 10, and none on the Island since Sept. 26. The roseate was in its complete breeding plumage: a completely black cap and entirely black bill were clearly visible. The bird was less than 50 feet from us as it perched on the Eastville Point Beach jetty.

We also found varied numbers of Bonaparte's gulls, laughing gulls and double-crested cormorants actively feeding near the drawbridge.



Lanny McDowell

Forster's tern.

Bonaparte's gull sightings included: Nancy Weaver (5, Nov. 9); Charles Morano (6, Nov. 10); Nancy Weaver (1, Nov. 10); Sea Williams and Bridget Dunnigan (5, Nov. 10); Wendy Culbert, Lisa Maxfield and I (20, Nov. 11); Lisa Maxfield and Cynthia Bloomquist (3, Nov. 12); and Lisa Maxfield and I (12, Nov. 12).

Laughing gull sightings included: Bridget Dunnigan and Sea Williams (5, Nov. 10); Wendy Culbert and I (30, Nov. 11); Thaw Malin (1, Nov. 12); Lisa Maxfield (4, Nov. 12); me (15, Nov. 12).

Double-crested cormorant sightings included: Sea Williams and Bridget Dunnigan (85, Nov. 10); Lisa Maxfield, Wendy Culbert and I (40, Nov. 11); Lisa Maxfield (16, Nov. 12); Thaw Malin (21, Nov. 12); and Luanne Johnson and Shea Fee (1, Nov. 15).

There were similar variations in numbers of common loons, with a high count of 20 observed by Cynthia Bloomquist and Thaw Malin on Nov. 12.

We might not have made these observations if not for the common murre attracting birders.

Two seldom seen year-round residents were observed this week. Stefan Martin's group found five northern bobwhites at Blacksmith Valley on Nov. 8, and Bob Shriber observed one ring-necked pheasant along West Basin Road on Nov. 14.

A more common year-round resident is the cedar waxwing. On Nov. 8, Stefan Martin's group spotted 23 at the Gay Head Cliffs and five along South Summer street. On Nov. 12, Bob Shriber, Janet Woodcock and Nancy Weaver watched 55 at the Gay Head Cliffs and 20 at the Lighthouse Road overlook of Dogfish Bar. Charles Morano saw 20 at Pecoy Point on Nov. 15.

Seabirds are on the move. Charles Morano found one red-necked grebe from West Chop meadow on Nov. 10, and on Nov. 14 he made a conservative estimate of 115 red-throated loons off Lobsterville Beach, where there also were seven razorbills.

Earlier in the week, on Nov. 8, Stefan Martin's group spotted two northern gannets from the Gay Head Cliffs and one horned grebe from Squibnocket Beach.

Arriving for the season are American coot, horned lark and eastern meadowlark. Shea Fee spotted one coot at Crackatuxet Cove on Nov. 11, Nancy Weaver found it on Nov. 12, and Charles Morano located it on Nov. 13.

I observed a flock of 15 horned larks at Norton Fields Preserve on Nov. 12.

On Nov. 10, John Nelson watched six meadowlarks at Katama Farm, while Shea Fee counted 10 of them there the next day.

Flocks of tree swallows may linger into the new year. On Nov. 8, Mark Mattson observed a large flock of at least 1,000 birds from a south-facing beach in Aquinnah, while Stefan Martin's group counted 259 (using a clicker) at the Gay Head Cliffs. The MV Bird Club spotted 30 at Long Point, and Nancy Weaver estimated there were 200 at Squibnocket Beach on Nov. 13.

Winter resident shorebirds are here. On Nov. 8, the MV Bird Club counted 13 black-bellied plovers and seven sanderlings at Long Point, while Bob Shriber had six black-bellieds, one lesser and six greater yellowlegs, 20 sanderlings and 45 dunlins near the middle of Chilmark Pond.

John Nelson counted one golden plover within a flock of 42 black-bellied plovers at Katama Farm on Nov. 10.

Please email your sightings to birds@vineyardgazette.com.

Robert Culbert is an ecological consultant living in Vineyard Haven.

The Vineyard Gardener



Still Blossoming

By LYNNE IRONS

The days have been so sunny and warm that I've been hearing the words Indian Summer thrown around. Correct me if I'm wrong. Doesn't the term refer to warm weather after a fall freeze? So far, I've only had a couple of very light freezes. I'm still picking some late-planted green beans for Pete's sake.

One other November, some years back, I remember having some dahlia arrangements on the Thanksgiving table. It was memorable because it was so rare.

Growing up in the Western Pennsylvania snow belt, we would have the ground covered by now and not see it again until mid-April. No I didn't walk to and from school uphill both ways!

Some odd things are happening in garden world. I have a few blossoms on the bridal wreath spirea and two fully blooming verbascums. Do they think it's already spring? More appropriately, do plants think?

I'm a huge fan of yard art. I always got a kick out of pink flamingos. My grandson, Christian, rescued one from the dump. It was copper with a green tile body, I have it in the middle of a yellow-leafed hosta. It's a bit tipsy so I propped it up with a small cement pig.

When he was in middle school, my son, Reuben, lugged a very heavy Saint Francis of Assisi home on his bicycle as a Mother's Day gift.

Knitworks in Vineyard Haven has a couple of life-sized sheep that seem to have a new location every day. My favorite is a giant chicken in a cowboy hat at Second Nature nursery, next to Woodland on State Road.

Rusted old-fashioned farm implements are always a big hit sitting all alone in a field. Nothing compares to the Big Thighs at the western end of Old County Road.

By the time this hits the newsstands, preparations will be beginning for the Big Feast on Thursday. It's been a good year in the gardens and there is much for which to be thankful.

In 1999, there was growing concern about "Y2K." Folks thought that technology wouldn't be able to adjust to the change in the millennium. I bought a new pressure canner, being the ultimate prepper/alarmist. It was a huge (at the time) purchase of $200. A family member just spent $500 on one recently. How times have changed. It was barely worth a mention.

My canner is still functioning and has helped preserve all sorts of vegetables, chicken stock, and even meats and fish. Only fruits and pickles need not to be preserved. They can be done in a simple water bath.

Here we are with another technological actual breakdown. I wonder if the airlines will be up and running soon. It seems that none of the powers-that-be want to share any reasonable information — they most likely have no idea.

It's predictable that Joe Biden and Barack Obama are the first to be blamed. I noticed that our president hopped right on a taxpayer funded flight to Asia on Tuesday.



Violet Southwick

Not just another yard flamingo.

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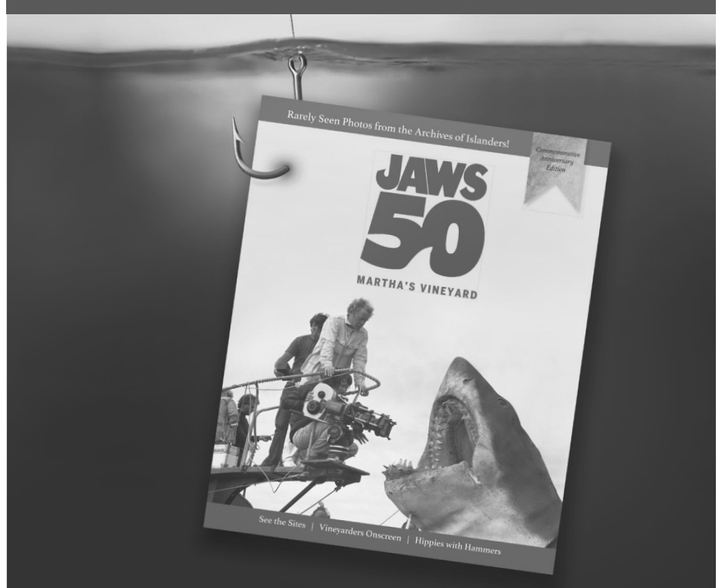
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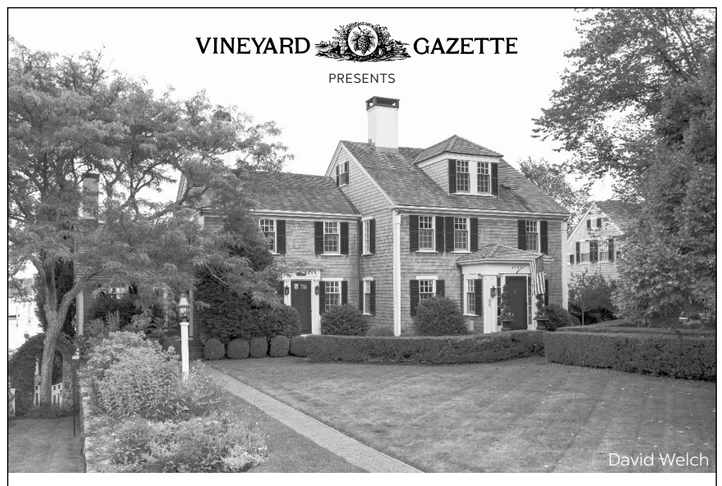


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