



Happy Thanksgiving!

Thursday, November 23. It's a holiday to be grateful for family, friends and community. Kindness and understanding are good to have at the close of 2023.

MANCHESTER CRICKET A Local Tradition Since 1888

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Dueling Special Town Meetings

On Monday night in Essex and Manchester it was a tale of two Special Town Meetings with residents taking up important business, like funding for school district

consultants and athletic fields, zoning, the future of the Manchester Community Center, and the controversial public safety project to widen and raise Apple Street that would have linked the two sides of Essex in case of emergency flooding. Read what happened below.

BRIEFLY

Manchester Musings: Fish Stories

When engaging the history of Manchester, a lot of attention goes to the Gilded Age set of wealthy industrialist families that discovered the area for summering. And with the help of real estate developer, Boston's Rev. Cyrus Augustus Bartol, large "cottages" were built on the "Points" (Coolidge, Smith's, Tuck's). But this week we share a wonderful piece of writing by Manchester's Peter Willwerth about regular life as a child growing up in the 1960s and all the colorful and lively figures in town that surrounded him as a pre-teen working at Manchester Seafood on Central Street. "Manchester Musings: Fish Stories" is on Page 8 and we have included some "Back in the Day" images from the Cricket's photo archive of notable folks from the same period.

Out & About Holiday Season Continues

The Holiday "Out & About" preview continues on Page 5 this week, detailing the Cape Ann Symphony's Holiday Pops and Christmas by the Sea. And for subscribers in Manchester and Essex, enjoy our second annual "Holiday Book!"

Lease Approved, MBTS Community Center Stays Put

By Jeff Pope

The Manchester Community Center will remain where it is after the Manchester-by-the-Sea Fall Town Meeting agreed to accept a 10-year lease with Harbor's Point Associates.

That was one of several contentious issues that Town Meeting dealt with on Monday night at Manchester Memorial School. More than 450 residents attended the three-hour meeting.

The meeting had to be paused in the first hour when some of the vote-counting clickers stopped working. After attempts were made to replace the non-working clickers, Moderator Alan Wilson chose to use voice votes and raised-hand votes for the rest of the meeting.

Select Board member Brian Sollosy explained that Article 8, the lease agreement with Harbor's Point Associates, was the result of a private tenant-landlord dispute.

"Normally, a municipality would not be involved in such a dispute," said Sollosy. "However, the MCC has asked the town to intervene on their behalf."

The dispute was a result



Photo Paul Clark

of Harbor's Point Associates, which owns the land Community Center sits on, seeking more money from the MCC. Their discussions broke down on September 12, and as of November 12, the MCC faced either moving its building to a new location or turning the building over to the tenant's association.

But the town stepped in and negotiated a deal where it would take over the lease from the MCC. As part of the lease, the town would

install the harbormaster's office on the second floor, use some space for board meetings and other gatherings and create much-needed public bathrooms in the building. But otherwise, the rest of the building would be sublet to the MCC.

Resident Bill Shipman asked about the financial implications of the town taking over the lease. Town Administrator Greg Federspiel said that the town was asking for \$10,000 to cover its share of the building's

expenses for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Tim Gates of 2 Desmond Ave. asked who would be assessed the property taxes on the building under the new lease. Federspiel said that it would be up to the town's assessors to determine if it would be assessed, but if it

were, then Harbor Point's Associates would be getting the property tax bill.

Susan Halpern of 3 Bell Court, who teaches a tai chi class at MCC, said that quiet was needed for the class and was concerned that public bathrooms would be a disturbance to the class. Federspiel said that the public bathrooms would be kept separate from the MCC classes.

Patrick Meehan of 384 Summer St., co-president of the MCC, asked that Town Meeting support the lease agreement and said they planned to have Santa Claus arrive by lobster boat on December 2.

"We are happy to keep all these traditions alive," said Meehan. "We will withdraw Article 11 and encourage everyone to vote yes on Article 8 to save the MCC."

Article 11 asked for the Town Meeting to approve funds for the town to take the property the Community Center by eminent domain.

A loud cheer went up from Town Meeting when Meehan announced the withdrawal of Article 11.

Town Meeting overwhelmingly approved the lease agreement by a voice vote.

...(Continued on page 3)

Essex Special Town Meeting: Historic Zoning, Apple Street Project Fails

By Erika Brown

For the second time in six months, Essex residents at Monday's Special Town Meeting failed to approve a town plan to elevate and widen a portion of Apple Street to link the sides of town during flood emergencies. But they did approve most items on the 25-article Warrant, including

passage of an historic zoning milestone; approval of \$40,000 for an outside consultant to review operations of the Manchester Essex Regional School District and \$353,255 for district athletic fields project; and approved \$1.2 million for a new ladder truck for the Fire Department.

In all, 255 voters showed up at the Essex Elementary School gymnasium Monday

to weigh in on town business. The most impactful vote came with Article 4 to create a new General Use Zoning District. Sponsored by the Planning Board, the article secured the required 2/3 votes easily with no public comment.

The vote's low drama, however, belied its historic importance.

The proposed new General Use District would

comprise more than 98% of Essex land, she said, and approving it would be historic. Before the town approved the Downtown District and Conomo Point District two years ago, Essex was the last municipality in Eastern Massachusetts that allowed landowners anywhere to use their property for any purpose.

...(Continued on page 7)



For a third year in a row the ME Hornets have reached the semifinals in tournament play. With a win on Wednesday, they would qualify for the MIAA Finals. See more info on page.

Photo Paul Clark

Weekly Weather Chart

Table with 4 columns: Date, Weather icon, High temperature, Low temperature. Rows for Saturday 18 Nov through Friday 24 Nov.

Weather data pulled Wednesday and is subject to change.



Gavel to Gavel This Week's Town Meetings

Manchester Town Hall is Open to the Public. Public hours are 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and 9 a.m. - 6:15 p.m. on Thursday. Essex Town Hall hours are Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

MERSD

SC Meeting Tuesday, Nov 21, 6-8 p.m.

Schools Closed

Thursday & Friday November 23-24

Town Halls Closed

Thursday & Friday, Nov 23-24

IN THIS ISSUE

Table listing issue sections and page numbers: Obits (2), MBTS Town News (3), Letters to the Editor (4), Holiday Out & About (5), Sports (6), Essex Echo (7), Manchester Musings: Fish Stories (8), Senior Living (11).

Obituaries

Following a long-standing tradition, The Cricket publishes obituaries as a public service for our readers. If an obituary cannot be published in time for a service, we will post the notice to our website and Facebook page (facebook.com/TheManchesterCricket).

John A. "Jack" Harrison



John A. "Jack" Harrison, 94, of Manchester-by-the-Sea and Sarasota, Florida and formerly Martha's Vineyard, died November 6 at home surrounded by his family. He was the husband of Linda M. (Rovedo) Harrison with whom they shared 44 years of marriage. Born in Arlington, raised in Carlisle, he was

the son of the late John and Ada (Whyte) Harrison.

An honorary discharged veteran, he served in the United States Navy. He was an air traffic controller in the Navy stationed in Patuxent River Maryland. After being discharged he went into the automobile industry and went on to open his own dealerships and was also involved in commercial real estate.

He loved hunting, deep-sea and fly fishing and golfing. He also loved dancing and singing for his family and friends. He was a member of the Shriners and Masons.

Surviving him in addition to his wife Linda, is a son,

Craig Harrison and his wife Margo of Old Orchard Beach, ME; two daughters, Vicki Ward and her husband Michael of ME, Lisa Savini and her husband Nick of Peabody; two sisters, Pauline Buchanan of NH, Marion Stebins of Bellingham; 4 grandchildren, John, Luke, Robert, Skye; many nieces, nephews and great nieces, great nephews and extended family: Marion and Jim Powers of Manchester-by-the-Sea and their children, James Powers, Marni Powers Boyer, Kara Powers Burke. He was predeceased by three sisters,



Helen Macone, Ada Barnett, Wanda Adams.

Visiting hours were at First Parish Church Congregational, Manchester-by-the-Sea, on Monday, November 13, from 10-11 a.m. Funeral service followed at 11 a.m. Burial was at Pleasant Grove Cemetery, Manchester-by-the-Sea. Relatives and friends were invited to attend.

Contributions may be made in Jack's memory to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 6704, Hagerstown, MD 21741 www.donate.cancer.org or to the American Heart Association, PO Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284-0692 www.heart.org.

MANCHESTER POLICE NOTES



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6
10:01 a.m. Central St., citizen assist, assisted as needed. 2:13 p.m. Lincoln St., directed patrol, no ac-

tion taken. 9:04 p.m. Route 128SB, motor vehicle stop, citation issued. 9:24 p.m. Route 128SB, motor vehicle stop, vehicle

towed.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7
1:57 a.m. Lincoln St., directed patrol, secured/checked. 11:12 a.m. Ashland Ave., fire alarm, fire false. 11:51 p.m. Route 128NB, motor vehicle stop, written warning. 8:39 p.m. Summer St., motor vehicle stop, written warning.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8
7:31 a.m. Lincoln St., school zone, community policing, secured/checked. 11:18 a.m. Woodholm Rd., suspicious activity, secured/checked. 4:45 p.m. Route 128NB, disabled motor vehicle, assisted as needed. 11:46 p.m. Proctor St., suspicious activity, report to follow.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9
7:41 a.m. Elm St., alarm, secured checked. 11:24 a.m. Summer St., motor vehicle stop, written warning. 1:02 p.m. School St., selective enforcement, notification made. 5:33 p.m. Central St., citizen assist, assisted as needed.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10
8:35 a.m. Knight Circle, animal complaint, secured/checked. 10:48 a.m. Church St., community policing, assisted as needed. 2:13 p.m. Central St., disabled motor vehicle, assisted as needed. 8:02 p.m. Brook St., suspicious activity, gone on arrival.

WHAT WAS HAPPENING

90 YEARS AGO - 1933

Although Armistice Day was not generally observed as a holiday in Manchester, with stores and business establishments, for the most part, staying open, members of the Frank B. Amaral Post, American Legion, and the ladies of the Auxiliary celebrate the 15th anniversary of the World Wars's ending by participating in a parade in Gloucester in the morning and enjoying a supper and entertainment at the Legion rooms on Saturday evening.

A real touch of winter was felt here Saturday night when during the evening a snow-storm started in depositing two inches of wet heavy snow on the ground and the thermometer fell to 18 above zero turning the roads to a very slippery condition and making driving hazardous.

75 YEARS AGO - 1948

A meeting of the Manchester School Building Committee was held Friday evening, November 12, 1948 at 8:30 p.m. All members were present including the professional staff, the architect, educational consultant and

superintendent of schools.

Butler Oil Company was granted a permit to install a 1000-gallon gasoline tank on their property at 41 Pleasant Street. The board, in granting the permit, was assured by the company that there would be no deliveries after 6 p.m.

60 YEARS AGO - 1963

Leo Walsh, of 44 Norwood Ave, was credited by police on Sunday with saving the life of two-year-old Nicholas Demarkis, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Demarkis, 28 Desmond Avenue. Walsh was called to the brook, near his home, at 2:34 p.m. Sunday, moments after Nicholas had slipped and fallen into the swollen waters while playing with other children. Walsh leaped into the brook and pulled out the wet and frightened youngster. He was called to the scene by the boy's frightened playmates.

A capacity crowd of interested parents and townspeople attended the "Open House" at the Memorial School, Tuesday evening to take advantage of the opportunity to evaluate the class-

rooms and the other instructional areas.

45 YEARS AGO - 1978

The Manchester Hornets are the sole possessors of the Mayflower League Championship title. It is their third consecutive championship.

The Manchester Debate Team collected five trophies and compiled a total team record of 26 wins against 20 losses at the Eighteenth Annual University of Massachusetts Invitational Debate Tournament.

30 YEARS AGO - 1993

Manchester Junior Hornets stand tall in defeat. Everything was perfect except the final score, which for the record was Rockets 8, Hornets 0. Yet to those of us involved with the program, who have watched a team who last year was 1-9 become a team who this year was 9-1 and qualified for the championship

game, we see nothing but a victory.

There are new regs being proposed by the DEP regarding Title 5, the state environment code, regarding cesspools and septic systems, to wit: in five years all cesspools and sub-standard septic systems will have to be replaced.

15 Years Ago - 2008

The Manchester Garden Club is celebrating the third year of a 10-year Civic Campaign called "Daffodil Days".

The Manchester Cricket

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MBTS VILLAGE—Upstairs at 38 Union St features renovated 1 bdrm/1bthrm with shower. Hdwd floors, cathedral ceilings, exposed beams, patio and backyard, two private entrances. W/D in unit. Central A/C. 700 sq.ft. +/- \$2,500/month. Great light with sunshine all day. Available now thru May 2025. Come bring your ideas to this ideal home or office space in the heart of MBTS right above Gray House Antiques! Email hello@grayhouseantiques.com.

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On Veteran's Day at the American Legion, Vietnam Veteran Paul Sullivan addressed a large gathering of Veterans, family and friends. His message delivered outlined the demographics of soldiers that fought and died in Vietnam. The basic tenet was that "Freedom is not Free." A large contingent of Manchester Scouts presented worn-out US flags to the officers of the Legion so that they may be honorably taken out of commission. *Photos Paul Clark*

...(Continued from page 1)

Several other articles faced debate on the Town Meeting floor.

Article 3, which asked for \$80,000 for the School District to conduct an operational review to see if greater efficiencies and cost savings could be found in the school budget, was rejected by a vote of 118-237. Resident Lindsay Banks said that the two towns that make up the School District should let the School Committee do its job and find areas where the budget can be cut.

Article 4, a Zoning By-law change, would have allowed people with existing outbuildings to use them to house anyone, not just employees, as currently listed in the bylaws. Sarah Creighton of the Planning Board explained that the board had sought an opinion from town counsel if it could change the bylaw from employees to family members, to allow "in-law apartments" in these outbuildings. But town counsel said that would be problematic and conflict with fair housing rules.

But several residents pointed out that neighboring communities, including Hamilton, Beverly and Danvers, all have bylaws limiting Accessory Dwelling Units (or ADUs) to family members.

Planning Board member Mary Foley said, "A more comprehensive bylaw was needed." Planning Board member Christine Delisio said the bylaw should incorporate family members.

Article 4, which needed a two-thirds majority to be approved, did not get that majority with 235 for and 162 against.

Article 12, a citizen's petition, which would have required that any zoning change would need to be approved at the ballot as well as Town Meeting.

Resident Morgan Evans said this article would ensure that bylaw changes got a full debate and increase the people voting for or against a zoning change, noting that 500 people voted at Town Meeting, while up to 3,000



voted in ballot elections.

Neither the Select Board or the Planning Board backed the change, saying it would make zoning bylaw changes too difficult. Robin Stein of KP Law, the town's counsel, said the change was likely to be rejected by the state's Attorney General, since it was inconsistent with all other town's rules on zoning bylaws.

Tom Kehoe of 20 Lincoln St. said the change would undercut the significance of Town Meeting. He called Town Meeting "one of most precious forms of our democracy," noting that Town Meetings preceded the United States.

But Select Board member Catherin Bilotta said that too many people were unable to attend Town Meeting but could vote at the ballot, meaning that they didn't have a say in zoning changes.

In a voice vote, Town Meeting rejected Article 12.

Roundup of remaining articles:

Article 1, which would change the date of the annual Town Meeting to the fourth Monday in April was approved, 344 to 13.

Article 2, appropriated \$30,000 in funds to enhance security to the town's computer network, was approved 354-8

Article 5, which would pay back \$916 to people who were wrongly given parking tickets, due to the location of

their parking sticker, was approved 350 to 29.

Article 6, which would allow the Fire Department to purchase a new sports utility vehicle for \$64,000 from unused funds, was approved.

Article 7, which would transfer funds from two accounts to a new Professional Services account to pay for contracted services for a Conservation Agent and Town Planner, was approved.

Article 9, which would delete the location resident parking stickers were to be placed, amend the process for obtaining stickers, clarify where parking placards may be used and allow the Select Board to decide which streets would be "Resident only" parking, was approved.

No action was taken on Article 11.

Article 13, which would provide Article 97 protection to three lots of land at the Powder House Hill Reservation, was approved. Select Board member John Round said it was likely that the parcels already had Article 97 protection but that the Town Meeting vote would confirm this.

Article 14, a citizen's petition, asked that the lots of land discussed in Article 13 at Powder House Hill, be transferred to a charitable corporation to protect the land from ever being developed. The article, which needed a two-thirds vote to be approved, was rejected.



BOARD UPDATES

Select Board Meeting: The Select Board will meet on Monday, November 20 at 6:30 p.m. Meeting details can be found on the Town website.

Transfer Station Hours Update: The Transfer Station will reopen on Wednesdays starting Wednesday, November 22 from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Transfer Station will continue to operate on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Town Hall Closed: Town Hall will be closed on Thursday, November 23 in observance of Thanksgiving.

CPC Submission Deadline:

Grant applications for FY25 Community Preservation Committee grants are due by December 1, 2023.

Walker Road Work: Water Main work continues this week on Walker Road. The work will take place M-F from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and will take approximately 90 days to complete. Traffic will be one way on alternating sides of the road during work times.

MBTA Zoning Walking Tour: Join the MBTA Zoning Task Force for a walking tour of downtown Manchester to view and discuss examples of density. The tour will take place on Saturday, November 18 at 10 a.m. and will start on the Town Common in front

of Town Hall. The tour will be postponed in the event of rain.

Curbside Leaf Collection: The next curbside leaf collection date will be the week of November 27. Please place leaves in bags on curb by 7 a.m. on the Monday of collection week regardless of your trash collection day. Please cover with a tarp if it rains.

Trash, recycling, and compost collection: Regular Schedule. Please place curbside by 7 a.m. on day of collection. Follow Us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter @townofmbts and visit the Town website www.Manchester.ma.us to stay informed.



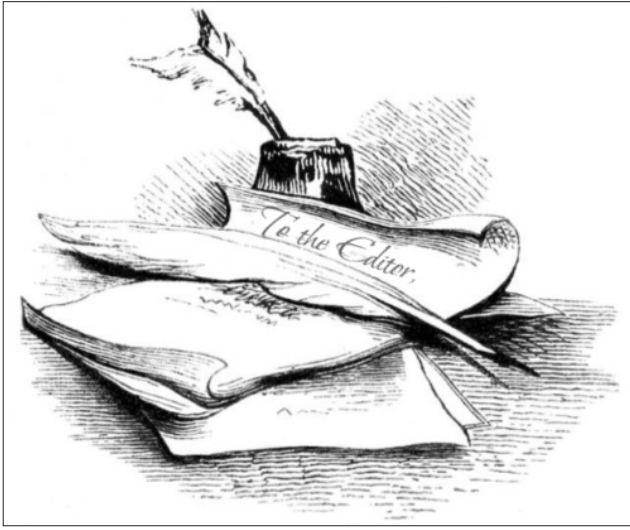
Tides & Sun Chart For The Week Ahead

DATE	HIGH				LOW				☀️	
	AM	FT	PM	FT	AM	FT	PM	FT	RISE	SET
17 Fri	1:41	8.8	1:42	10.5	8:02	1.2	8:45	-0.2	6:35	4:20
18 Sat	2:31	8.7	2:35	10.3	8:53	1.2	9:37	0.0	6:36	4:19
19 Sun	3:26	8.7	3:32	10.1	9:48	1.3	10:32	0.1	6:37	4:19
20 Mon	4:25	8.8	4:35	9.8	10:47	1.3	11:29	0.2	6:39	4:18
21 Tue	5:29	8.9	5:43	9.6	11:50	1.2			6:40	4:17
22 Wed	6:33	9.3	6:53	9.5	12:28	0.3	12:54	0.9	6:41	4:16
23 Thu	7:34	9.7	7:59	9.4	1:26	0.3	1:58	0.5	6:42	4:16



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Special Town Meeting Thanks

To the Editor,

I write to thank the nearly 450 voters who attended town meeting last evening. Their performance showed what a vibrant institution our

meeting is, and it is the voters who make it work so well. The discussion of each article was animated and thorough, yet efficient. We also maintained our tradition of civil debate at town meeting. To my complete surprise, we concluded our business at an early hour: as I said in my

opening comments, I thought there was a chance we might need two nights.

Town officials and citizen petitioners who placed articles on the warrant also have my gratitude. They were well prepared and offered clear statements in support of their positions. Town Clerk Dianne Bucco managed the check-in process and the vote counted by the tellers with her usual competence and efficiency. We are fortunate to have her in Town government.

Once again, the electronic voting system failed. This was through no fault of Town staff. Dianne and Communications Coordinator Tiffany Marletta prepared carefully, tested all the handsets and other components thoroughly, and Tiffany ran the software seamlessly. Fortunately, our running tally of the number of voters in attendance revealed shortfalls in the counted votes, so we can be confident that the system's failure did not affect the outcome on any article.

Nevertheless, it is a problem we must solve. Electronic voting allows every vote to be confidential, which many voters have told me they appreciate. It also speeds up the meeting, as the vote counted by the tell-

ers demonstrated. I am not technically savvy enough to diagnose the cause of the failure, but other residents are. I intend to form a small group to analyze the problem and develop a solution.

Sincerely yours

Alan Wilson
MBTS Town Moderator

No to Extending Parking on Beach Street

I was surprised to see an article, recently voted at Town Meeting, advocating allowed parking on Beach Street, past Tappan Street with a town By Law change. Parking past Tappan Street was recently and decisively voted down at Town Meeting and the result was put in the By Laws by citizen petition.

This stretch of Beach Street is one of the most beautiful in town with no utility poles, with Masconomo Park on one side where the Friends of Manchester Trees planted many new trees, and a forest of 200-year-old Oaks on the other side. It is also one of the most traveled due to beach parking lots and people just "spinning the beach". It is, in addition, a major walking route. Why spoil it with more parked cars?

You can be sure, at least during the warmer weather, that they will be filled up with out-of-town beach goers and dog walkers. In the past scramble for free parking, when it was briefly allowed, there were U-Turns at Old Neck Road and even vehicles going the wrong way on Sea Street. There was no room for two-way traffic with bicycles allowing space to avoid a sudden opening of car doors. For the rest of the year, those spaces will be mostly vacant since all of the nearby businesses have ample parking. 40 Beach Street and Cape Ann Savings Bank mini malls, Crosby's and Manchester Hardware have their own parking. Even the Post Office has two 15 Minute spaces where at least one of them is usually vacant.

If this 88-year-old can still bike or walk for village errands, surely there are a few folks younger and closer to the village than me who could do the same. (Electric vehicles excepted). Granted we are only talking about two spaces, but I fear this is only the beginning once we have overcome the By Law hurdle. Events at Masconomo Park would be exempt.

George P. Smith
Manchester

Winthrop Field Clarification

It was surprising to see the blue handout at Town Meeting with Winthrop Field noted as a reason to support Article 14: "Why Place Town-Owned Land into a Conservation Restriction". While it is true that Clara Winthrop deeded Winthrop Field to the Town with restrictions, there is no "third party" that monitors the Field. The upkeep and well-being of Winthrop Field is entrusted to the Winthrop Field Committee, an advisory committee to the Select Board, with seven members appointed to periodic terms by the Board. The Committee was not given the courtesy of a "heads up" that Winthrop Field was to be brought up during the discussion and subsequent defeat of Article 14. Please feel free to attend the Winthrop Field Committee's posted open meetings for more information on the Field.

Thanks to all who attended Town Meeting and to Alan Wilson for his expertise in once again successfully guiding us through the proceedings.

Mike Chapman
Chair, Winthrop Field Committee

LIBRARY NEWS



The MBTS Public Library hosted local artist Allison Moir-Smith, whose art is on display at the library, for beginner painters and those recovering from brain injuries at the Manchester Community Center. You can meet Allison at the reception at the library on Saturday, November 18 from 2-4 p.m.

round of construction grant funding from the state. To apply for the grant, which is due next Spring, we are preparing a Library Building Program, a planning document which identifies what the community wants and needs from their library in the next few decades. To begin that process, we need lots of community feedback, so we are inviting community members, library users (and non-users) to participate in focus groups. If you are interested in participating in one of the focus groups, please contact the library. We will be hosting two public forums on November 15, one at 11 a.m. at Town Hall, room 5, and another at 6 p.m. at the library.

Color Painting Class Series
Wednesday, November 29 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Local artist, Allison Moir-Smith, whose work is on exhibit at the library in November and will be offering two beginner, concussion and arthritis friendly painting classes on November 8 and November 29. All adults of any skill level are welcome. When you register for the 1st session you will be registered automatically for the second so you can see how your technique progresses. Artists will work on their skills by painting the same subject with acrylic in both sessions. This event is for adults.

Allison's exhibit is called From Darkness-Color and will be on display from November 6-December 4. Allison Moir-Smith is a concussion activist, public speaker, brain-injury art teacher, and facilitator of an online concussed Moms support group. Learn how to recognize phishing and reporting phishing attempts.

Library's Free Public WiFi
MBTS Library's WiFi is now encrypted, offering extra security for our community and guests. Log on from inside the building or from the front garden by connecting to MBTSLibraryWifi using password library1887.

Mindfulness Meditation
Every Tuesday from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Community Center with Alida Bryant. Beginners and experienced meditators are welcome. There will be guided meditation, some silence, and discussion. Please register if this is your first time coming to this program. We need either an email or a phone number in case we need to cancel or change venues.

Tai Chi
Wednesdays from 9:45-10:45 a.m. When the weather is good the class will be held on the library's front side lawn, if the weather is inclement, it will be held at the Manchester Community Center. Please complete the Safety Release Registration Form, on the event listing on the library website, before joining. Susan Halpern will update by email those who have completed the Safety Release Registration Form.

Digital Advice Appointments and Drop-ins
Register for a dedication session on Mondays, or drop in most Fridays between 3-4 p.m. Increase your comfort level with technology or try out a digital service you have always wanted to try.

Shut Up and Write (Virtual)
Every Thursday from 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Join a community of writers and artists on Zoom who just want to write. Come any time. No need to share, no need to critique or be critiqued.

MPL Children's Events:
Trivia Contest
Rhetorical question for teens and Hunger Games fans of all ages: Are you psyched for the prequel movie, "The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes," opening this Friday? Stop by the library's teen loft, put a copy of the book or audiobook on hold and play our trivia contest for a chance to win an AMC Theatres gift card or a minty Hunger Games movie poster.

Lego Fun!
Saturday, November 25 from 2-3 p.m. Children ages 4-12 are invited to come to the library to build their own spectacular Lego creations. We've got tons of Legos for you to make the project of your dreams.

Storytime with Miss Audrey
Fall and Winter story time, Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. Registration is required each week as space is limited.

Teen Advisory Board (TAB)
Second Tuesday of the month from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Want to earn community service hours while you design amusing activities for your friends and neighbors? Register on the library events calendar.

Library Closing
The library will close early Wednesday, November 22 and will be closed all day November 23 and November 24.

Mystery Book Group
Friday, November 17 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. We will discuss "Friday the Rabbi Slept Late" by Harry Kemelman.

Hearthside Book Group
Tuesday, December 5 from 4-5 p.m. We will be discussing "The Art Thief" by Michael Finkel.

Cookbook Club
Tuesday, November 28 from 5:30-6:15 p.m. November's pick is "The Book On Pie: Everything You Need To Know To Bake Perfect Pies" by Erin Jeanne McDowell. Erin will be presenting a virtual baking demo on Tuesday, December 5 at 7 p.m.

Authors (Virtual)
Monday, November 20 from 7-8 p.m. Bestselling author Tess Gerritsen will discuss her brand new book, "The Spy Coast," in conversation with bestselling author Paul Doiron.

Library Building Program
The library is preparing a grant application for the next

Evening with Bestselling

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Sale of Real Estate Under M.G.L.c. 183A, §6

ROCKPORT-1BR CONDO

40-B Main Street – Unit 40-B
The Village at
Poole's Corner Condominium
Tuesday, November 21 at 2PM

- 505± sf living space
- 3 rooms
- 1 Bedroom & 1 Bath
- Washer/dryer hookup
- Deck
- Close to amenities
- Walk to water

TERMS OF SALE: \$5,000.00 deposit required by bank check at the time & place of sale. Balance due 30 days, other terms, if any, announced at auction.
Joel Favazza, Esq., Seaside Legal Solutions, P.C., 123 Main Street, Suite 301, Gloucester, MA, Atty. for Condo Association. Auctioneer makes no representations as to the accuracy of the information contained herein.
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Cape Ann Symphony's Annual Holiday Pops Concert Featuring Boston's Renese King

The Cape Ann Symphony's Annual Holiday Pops Concert, returns to kick off the holiday season on Saturday, November 25 at 2 p.m. at the Dolan Performing Arts Center at Ipswich High School on 134 High Street, Ipswich, MA; Saturday, November 25 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, November 26 at 2 pm at Manchester-Essex High School auditorium on 36 Lincoln Street in Manchester.

The 2023 Holiday Pops Concert led by CAS Conductor and Music Director Yoichi Udagawa features a program of holiday favorites and welcomes back Boston's pre-eminent gospel performer Renese King. King last performed with CAS in 2012. Ms. King's array of musical talents have taken her from spiritual and gospel singing at the church podium to timpani playing on the Carnegie Hall stage. She has toured internationally as a percussion-



Renese King.

Courtesy Photo

ist, pianist, and vocalist with a number of Massachusetts based choral and orchestral ensembles. But, it is her soulful and unforgettably moving voice that has piqued her na-

tional reputation.

"Our Holiday Pops 2023 will feature a lot of great music to get into the spirit of the Holidays for the whole family," says Maestro Udagawa,

"We are also thrilled to have Gospel sensation Renese King join us at these concerts. She is a remarkable musician who I love working with. Her musical gifts are phenomenal - don't miss this opportunity to hear her! The orchestra and I love these Holiday concerts! They are always so joyful and fun - a highlight of our concert season. We can hardly wait to make music together and celebrate the holiday season with you!!"

Maestro Udagawa has planned a program of holiday favorites for the 2023 Holiday Pops including Anderson's Christmas Festival, Humperdinck's Hansel and Gretel Overture, Tchaikovsky's Selections from The Nutcracker, Christmas Favorites arranged by Chase, Festive Sounds of Hannukah arranged by Holcomb and a selection of holiday favorites performed by gospel sensation Renese King. A CAS Holiday Pops tradition, all the concerts end

with the annual audience Holiday Singalong.

Renese King's array of musical talents has taken her from spiritual and gospel singing at the church podium to timpani playing on the Carnegie Hall stage. Her soulful, moving voice garnered her a Boston Music Award as Gospel/Inspirational Artist of the Year. Often singing her own arrangements, King has performed with many ensembles in the New England area and across the nation. Her voice is featured on the soundtracks of three award-winning PBS documentary films (Emmy, Peabody, and Sundance awards): Freedom Riders (2011), Freedom Summer (2014), and Tell Them We Are Rising (2018). She appears regularly with the Boston Pops, having been a featured and guest soloist in concerts at Symphony Hall and on the Esplanade, in television broadcasts, and on the 2004 CD Sleigh Ride,

alongside the Boston Pops Orchestra, Tanglewood Festival Chorus, and Boston Pops Gospel Choir. Renese King is the Executive Assistant to the Vice-President of Berklee College of Music and serves as director of the New England Gospel Ensemble in Boston. She graduated from Berklee in 1990 and from Atlantic Union College in 1987.

Founded in Gloucester in 1951, the Cape Ann Symphony is a professional orchestra of over 70 players from throughout the New England area.

Single ticket prices for the Cape Ann Symphony's Annual Holiday Pops Concert are \$45 for adults, \$40 for senior citizens age 65 and above, \$20 for Students of any age with a valid student id; \$5 for youth 12 years old and under. For tickets and information about this Cape Ann Holiday tradition, call 978-281-0543 or visit www.capeannsymphony.org

New Holiday Cards Available at Manchester-by-the-Sea Museum



Watercolor (on photograph) of "First Electrified Christmas Tree, Manchester Common, Dec. 25, 1914. Showing toys given by Hoopers. Wiring done by G.A. Knoerr" reads hand-written description on reverse side of framed original. © Manchester-by-the-Sea Museum

This charming artwork, in the collection of the Manchester-by-the-Sea Historical Museum captures the scene of the first electrified Christmas tree on Manchester Common, December 25, 1914.

It's extraordinary, and the colorful, festive tableau has been reproduced on holiday cards to celebrate this year's season and are now available for purchase at the museum.

Following the inaugural lighting of the tree, The Cricket (Jan. 2, 1915 edition) reported:

"Christmas Tree a huge success -- The tree, resplendent in its festoons of tinsel, and lighted with scores of colored electric lights, an electric star surmounting all,

was a conspicuously beautiful object and delighted old and young alike. The tree was furnished by Frank P. Knight, set up by Roberts & Hoare, and was illuminated by G. A. Knoerr."

Also featured in the holiday scene is the Hooper-Trask House, home of the museum and visible in the background, painted pea green and with remnant of the original portico visible.

To commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Hooper-Trask house, the Museum has launched a Capital Campaign to raise funds to restore the portico. For more information visit manchesterhistoricalmuseum.org. The Manchester-by-the-Sea Historical Museum

will host an Open House at the Trask House during the Holiday Stroll of the 2023 Greater Cape Ann Chamber's Christmas by the Sea celebration on December 1 from 4 - 8 p.m. Stop by and see the decorations at the Trask House by the Manchester Garden Club, have some holiday snacks and enjoy the Cheer.

Then, from 2 - 3 p.m. Tuesday, December 5 the museum will host its annual Holiday Tea at the Trask House. Tea sandwiches, pastries and live music will be featured. RSVP by December 1. And, if you haven't renewed your membership to this important community resource, do so before the ringing in of 2024.

Community "Messiah Sing"



Image from last years' "Messiah Sing" at First Parish Congregational.

Courtesy Photo

Save the date, all are invited! The 2nd Community "Messiah Sing" will be presented at First Parish Church, 10 Central St. Sunday evening, Dec. 10, 7:30 p.m. A reception at the FPC Community Hall will follow. This event is again being made possible by a bequest from Laura Ells, who was for many years a member of the First Parish Choir. It's open to the community, singers and listeners alike. We plan a 14-piece orchestra with professional soloists and a chorus consisting of anyone who is eager to sing this beautiful music.

As Music Director Dr. Herman Weiss describes it, "The whole idea is that people who may or may not know each other will spontaneously get together with professionals to create something beautiful." We will sing the choruses for Part I of the Messiah plus the

The "Messiah Sing" is a highly unique and cherished local tradition, pairing audience carolers with a professional orchestra & chorus to sing along to Handel's Messiah

beloved Hallelujah Chorus, and the arias and recitatives will be sung by professional soloists. If you have your own Messiah score, please bring it, but we will hand out printed scores to anyone who needs one.

Last year following our first Messiah Sing, Christiane Alsop wrote a heartfelt message to the choir that encouraged us to do it again and captured exactly the response we had hoped to elicit. "The Messiah

Sing-Along will forever be engraved in my memory as such a moving, and yes, glorious moment. I loved every minute of it: Herman's inviting, anxiety-melting ways of introducing the event and conducting it, the soloists, the orchestra and then us, the expert choir singers and the commoners (like me), all together joining in the creation of it all - awe-inspiring in the true sense of the word. Cannot think of a better way to open our church's doors for all those who usually shy away from entering."

So, if you missed it last year, don't let that happen again! Following the singing, there will be a reception in the Chapel Hall. Invite your friends!

And please help us raise the funds to do this again next year. A donation of \$20 per person at the door will get us halfway to that goal.

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2023

Christmas-by-the-Sea

A Wonderful Holiday Tradition

Holiday Stroll
Friday, December 1 | 4 - 8 PM | Downtown Merchants

Santa Arrives by Boat
Saturday, December 2 | 1 - 3 PM | Masconomo Park

Friendship Tree Lighting & Program
Sunday, December 3 | 3:30 PM | Town Hall Common

Cape Ann Savings Bank | Gibson Sotheby's International Realty | MAHRI
Next Chapter Family Law & Estate Planning, LLC | Seashore Comfort Solutions | Sullico, Inc.



In the Hornets' Nest



ME Sabine Cooper qualifier for the Meet of Champions.

Courtesy Photo

Cross Country: Hornets Cross Country competed in the State Divisional 2C races at Wrentham on Saturday. The boys team finished 8th with 230 points.

They missed the two wildcard slots to Newburyport and Wayland. Finn O'Hara won the race with a school record time of 15:54 and will move on to next week's Meet of Champions as an individual qualifier. Colby Rochford missed the individual qualifier by 3 spots. Also scoring for the boys were Henry Stevens, Charlie Latons and Lyall Cunningham. Aiden Woods was the Hornets 6th runner finishing 3 spots ahead of Bishop Stang's 6th runner to break the tie score. The girls team finished 10th with 248 points. Sabine Cooper led the team with a 20:32 PR for a 17th place finish. She also qualified for the Meet of Champions as an individual. Faith Castellucci missed qualifying as an individual by one spot. Also scoring for the girls were Whitney Turner, Libby McKinnon and River Silva.

Boys Soccer:

The Manchester Essex Boys Soccer team found itself as the number thirty seed in the Division IV State Tournament by season's end, which meant that they would host a play-in game to earn a spot in the round of thirty-two. The game was played at Hyland under the lights on Thursday, November 2 and the Hornets lit up the visiting and shell-shocked Tri-County Regional School who had not lost a

match by more than a goal all season. After some excellent initial possession, the Hornets struck first when a loose ball in the midfield found its way to junior centerback Finn Birkeland. Junior striker and 22 goal scorer Sammy Bothwell saw that Finn had a chance to send him in with a one touch through ball and bounced out wide to receive it. The ball was perfect and the finish was calm to the lower right and the Hornets were up 1-0. The midfield trio of juniors Charlie Langendorf, Hayden Spencer, and Ali Erdogan took away the Tri County direct attack by winning head balls in the middle and taking that completely away from the frustrated Cougars. The second goal came from an athletic back head assist from converted defenseman Owen Olivier Meehan which was settled by Bothwell. Bothwell dipped a shoulder inside and exploded back to his right and finished side netting for 2-0. The third goal came from another beautiful assist, this time by Charlie Langendorf who floated a ball just over the defender to Erdogan who took it down and pounded it cross corner. The final goal came later from a clever pass from Erdogan to Bothwell who shaped up to the right then cut it back on to his left and pounded it home. The 4-1 final put the Hornets into the top 32 and would have them travel 2.5 hours to face the undefeated 3 seed Hampshire Regional. The match featured excellent teamwork,

defending, and ridiculous work rate from the boys who were contending with some extremely talented players who were well coached. Though the match ended 0-2, the Hornets may have played some of their best soccer of the season in the loss. In end of season news, Sammy Bothwell was selected as a CAL first team all-star, along with Eastern Mass All Star, and Finn Birkeland was placed in the second team CAL all-star group.

Girls Soccer:

The Manchester Essex Hornets fall on the road to #1 seed South Hadley. The Hornets certainly started the game on the back foot and found themselves behind within 10 minutes from a great long shot. The Hornets rallied and found chances through the hard work of Pippa Spingler, Meg Hurd, and Izzy Zagrobki and the midfield trio of Libby Lawler, Harper Brooks and Charlotte Crocker was beginning to take over the game. A quick counterattack saw South Hadley double their lead, but the Hornets redoubled their efforts in the second half. With more possession, the Hornets looked certain to score but could not find their goal. In the dying minutes South Hadley made it 3-0 but the Hornets pushed forward until the last second to get a goal back.

Final Score: 0 - 3

Player of the Match: Mackay Brooks

A Second Look at ME Girls Soccer Team's Season

By Jason Brisbois

The tournament game against top-seeded South Hadley was a microcosm of the journey that the Manchester Essex girls' soccer team underwent in 2023.

During the course of the 2023 regular season, the Hornets hit some bumps in the road and struggled to find their footing early on, but won three out of their last five and played a couple of playoff-level teams close in those two losses.

Similarly, in the first half of their 3-0 loss to the top seed in the Div. 4 tourney, the Hornets took their lumps and learned some key lessons before coming back with a vengeance after halftime.

"I am incredibly proud of the team's performance against South Hadley, especially in the second half," says ME girls soccer coach Christo Manginis. "We conceded two goals that we should have prevented in the first half, but mistakes happen, that's part of the game. We were dominant in the second half. We had more possession and created some great scoring opportunities."

While that effort wasn't enough to pull out a victory and keep their playoff run going, it was enough to provide some encouragement on how much the team has grown



ME's Mechi O'Neil CAL All-Star Second Team.

Courtesy Photo

over the course of the fall, and the possibilities for the future.

"The first half of our game against South Hadley reminded us of the importance of transitioning quickly to defend after we lose the ball," explains ME girls soccer coach Christo Manginis. "We knew that South Hadley would exploit slow transitions going into the game, but experience is the best teacher. Remembering that lesson will be essential for the team next season. The second half of the game should have shown the team - with nine returning starters - that they can compete with anyone

when they are focused and playing with passion."

That passion could be seen from not only the Hornets' six outgoing seniors - a group that includes Sienna Crocker, Grayson Crocker and Emily Parkins, as well as captains Mackay Brooks, Pippa Spingler and Mechi O'Neil - but by also from those nine re-

turning starters as well.

"The passion, desire and belief that were on display from the whole team - but especially my 'Player of the Match' Mackay Brooks - in the second half was incredible to witness," says Manginis. "Sometimes things don't go your way, that's life, but just because you lose does

not mean you can't be proud of how you lost."

At the end of the day, this is a group that should be proud of its accomplishments this season, a list that includes highlights like goalie Madi Cook making 20 saves in a shutout against Cape Ann League rival Hamilton-Wenham, O'Neil's four-goal game, Spingler scoring the game-winner on Senior Night, Libby Lawler's amazing goal directly off a corner kick in the 3-0 tournament win over Monomoy, and Brooks' top-notch effort in the finale in the Sweet 16 against South Hadley. It took some time to get there, but it seems the Hornets figured things out in the second half of the season.

"We definitely had ups and downs this season," explains Manginis. "Part of that is my fault, as it took me a while to get the team on the same page in terms of our style of play. I think our first playoff game against Monomoy really showed the girls what they are capable of when we are all on the same page. We dominated possession and

chances, could have won by several more goals, and there were not any poor performers because we were all helping each other succeed."

With the 2023 season now in the books, the Hornets now look ahead to 2024, when 11 of the 13 players who took the field against South Hadley will be back, one year older and wiser thanks to what they learned this fall.

"Goalkeeper Madi Cook will look to pick up where she left off this season as a first-team all-star," says Manginis. "We also return a captain in Ella Arntsen, whose partnership with Tori Moulton at center-back is one of the foundations upon which the team is built. Charlotte Crocker and Libby Lawler - a second-team all-star - will look to dominate the midfield together again next year, and Meg Hurd will look to build on a season that saw her become a more consistent attacking threat. I am sure that there are many other players who will step up next season as well."

New Challenger, New Challenges for ME Football on Thanksgiving

By Jason Brisbois

With their playoff and non-playoff tournament bracket games now complete, the Manchester Essex football team looks to finish its season in a traditional game that promises to include a not-quite traditional opponent.

Manchester Essex and Georgetown have faced each other on Thanksgiving Day for decades, but the Royals weren't able to field enough players for a varsity squad in 2023. GHS athletes interested in the sport ended up on a co-op with Pentucket, and the Hornets ended up without an opponent for one of the most popular, well-attended games of the year.

Manchester Essex wasn't the only school left in a similar situation, however, allowing for the addition of North Middlesex Regional as the Hornets' brand-new Turkey Day foe.

"Late this summer, Georgetown decided on a co-op with Pentucket and left us without an opponent on Thanksgiving, so we had to scramble a bit to find someone," explains Manchester Essex football coach Joe Grimes. "It's too bad to see a 62-year rivalry end. North Middlesex found themselves in a similar situation a few weeks into the season and it all came together pretty



ME quarterback Zach Hurd takes coaches' instruction when lining up in an earlier season game at home. Photo Paul Clark

quickly. I'm just glad we will have a proper football game to send these seniors off to." With a new opponent on tap comes new challenges, and they don't come any newer or more challenging than North Middlesex, based in Townsend, MA. The Patriots finished with an impressive 7-3 regular season record and a 2-2 record in the Midland Wachusett C League. Located about 60 miles from Cape Ann, North Middlesex is truly an unfamiliar foe.

"They are tough and physical and well-coached," Grimes says of the Patriots. "You can see that on film. We're preparing for a defense that'll demand we play mistake-free to be effective."

As he has been all season long, quarterback Zach Hurd will continue to be the centerpiece of an offense looking to gain ground against

the North Middlesex defense. Hurd continued his strong play throughout 2023, even in defeat - the sophomore was 22-for-44 and 231 yards through the air, along with 85 yards in the 10-0 non-tournament playoff loss to Triton on Nov. 9. Zach Hurd had a stellar night," says Grimes of his QB, adding, "He really stepped up for the offense."

On the other side of the ball, it will be crucial for the Hornets to get stops on third and fourth down.

"[North Middlesex] have done a good job this year putting up points so any game plan we have will be focused on stopping them on scoring plays and fourth downs," explains Grimes. "If we can't get them off the field on third and fourth down, we'll struggle, but I think my guys will be up for the challenge on Thanksgiving."

Quinn Brady will be an important part of that effort, with the senior linebacker/running back playing a big game on both sides of the ball in the aforementioned loss to Triton. "Quinn Brady also was a huge factor on both sides of the ball and was a persistent problem for the opponent," says Grimes.

While the game was played in the non-playoff bracket, the Hornets played with maximum effort throughout, another quality that will be needed on Thanksgiving Day. "It was a real close game, back-and-forth throughout," Grimes says of the loss to Triton. "My guys played tough and even with every excuse available to give up and pack it in, my guys just kept fighting and fighting right up until the end. It bodes well for future Hornets to see that level of competition."

ScottEnergy Community Bulletin Board

Manchester Essex Regional High School Presents:

Disney **FREAKY FRIDAY** The Musical

November 17th & 18th 6:00PM
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ESSEX ECHO.

...(Continued from page 1)

"Until two years ago, all uses were permitted anywhere in town," Planning Board Chair Lisa O'Donnell said in her introduction of Monday's four zoning articles (Articles 4-7) that supported her board's two-year effort to shape Essex's Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw.

She said in many ways Article 4 will change nothing for Essex property holders. Approvals, permitting, definitions and uses remain, the same she said. But for the first time, the entirety of Essex would be covered under a formalized district that has expectations.

Article 5, asking voters to approve new language that significantly bolsters language for projects requiring Site Plan Review passed after O'Donnell explained that, again, nothing practically would change about special permit process when it applies. However, strong site review would give the town a review and notification tool for impacted neighbors for relevant projects. It passed easily, as did Article 6, which introduced new definitions to the bylaw for terms such as attic, basement, certificate of occupancy, mixed-use lot, buildable lot area, special permit, among others. Finally, Article 7 asks voters to extend the change of land use moratorium established in 2020 from January 1, 2024 to January 1, 2025 unless the Planning Board decides to end it earlier. This was the second time the moratorium has been extended by Town Meeting approval.

Apple Street Project Proposal Fails Again

The fireworks started with consideration of Article 8, which reprises the town's effort at May's Annual Town Meeting to acquire easements over a series of primarily roadside strips of land along approximately 850 feet of Apple Street starting at Southern Avenue to replace a culvert and elevate the roadbed to make it a navigation link to Rte. 22/ Martin Street for emergency vehicles in case the Essex Causeway on Route 133 is flooded.

Essex Selectman Peter Phippin, and environmental scientist, presented the article and Town Administrator

Brendhan Zubricki offered a the project is mandated by



Essex Special Town Meeting Monday. Lisa O'Donnell (above) presents Planning Board articles. Hand votes below.



lengthily response to feedback given the board after the project's rejection by voters last spring.

At the time, those opposed to the project said Apple Street is a charming historic rural road and widening it using federal grants and engineering requirements were too big and would destroy what makes Apple Street special. They also said the forced taking of valuable property by eminent domain is excessive.

In his remarks to voters, Zubricki emphasized the required lands were an "easement" rather than an out-and-out taking of lands. He said the total lands needed for the project are 1.8% of the targeted parcels, representing narrow slivers of roadside property that would widen the pavement width of the public road from 18ft to 20ft. He acknowledged the plan would require the felling of trees but said they'd be replaced. And he said the culvert under Apple Street is weakening and it will only continue to be vulnerable.

Further, he said, access to federal grants that would entirely fund the \$4.5 million project would not be available forever. If and when

the state, Essex will have no choice but to proceed with the project on their own nickel and the required easements will simply be taken.

Most importantly, Zubricki said, 46% of Essex homes (many dependent on wells) are on eastern side of the Causeway, and not having a backup link between them and the Public Safety Building's police and fire on the western side is dangerous.

While it is true that Apple Street itself has not flooded very often, experts are predicting additional events in the future due to sea level rise and climate change.

"This is an over-widening to satisfy federal engineering requirements that aren't appropriate," said one resident. "The elephant in the room didn't just show up," said Janet Carlson, an Apple Street resident who said residents already voted the project down last spring.

The article failed to secure the 2/3rds majority required to pass.

MERSD: Bellwether Vote?

When it came to the Manchester Essex Regional School District-related questions, Articles 13 and 14, there was a bit of a surprise.

Some predicted Essex voter support (or lack thereof) of funding the school district's replacement of student turf fields, completed last summer, would be a bellwether of how the Essex-School District-Manchester relationship will be after Essex voters failed to pass a Proposition 2½ override last spring to plug the District budget gap.

But, Monday's voters approved \$353,255 for their share of the fields project overwhelmingly, with just two residents voting, "No."

Then, Article 14 seeking \$40,000 for a consultant to review school district operations to find efficiencies was approved even as Manchester voters at their Special Town Meeting rejected the idea earlier that evening. The issue was said to be moot. Why even discuss it?

Voters on Monday disagreed, discussing and debating the issue at length before ultimately approving the article narrowly. Support for the third-party review has come from Finance Committees and Boards of Selectmen in both towns. Both say that audits or reviews of regional school districts are routine and since Manchester Essex has never done one it's time to do so.

The School Committee has said the idea of a review could be productive, but determining the project's goals or scope hasn't been collaborative, and since they would be left to implement the consultant's recommendations, excluding them is wrong.

Also, they say, the Massachusetts Dept. of Education (DESE) offers similar reviews of school districts for free and free is better than the estimated \$70,000 to \$100,000 for an outside district review.

"The two towns don't seem to be on the same page," said Annie Cameron, who served on the School Committee at the time of regionalization.

"We should explore the free (DESE) review first."

In the end, voters narrowly approved to fund the review, although it's not clear how the town will proceed with Manchester having failed to support funding its share of the project.

LIBRARY NEWS

T.O.H.P. Burnha
Public Library



Children and adults alike enjoyed a Halloween Magic Show at the library with magician Tommy James. It was an hour full of laughs and surprises-including a live bunny during the grand finale!

Courtesy Photo

Community Book Group

Monday, December 11th at 10 a.m. Come by for a discussion of "Ask Again, Yes" by Mary Beth Keane. Copies are available at the Circulation Desk or by request.

Holiday Baking Demo

Tuesday, December 5 at 7 p.m. with Chef Erin Jeanne McDowell.

Holiday Romance Book Recommendations

Monday, December 11 at 7 p.m. with "Booklist" reviewer, John Charles.

Meet the Elf On The Shelf, Tuesday, December 12 at 4 p.m. Kids, ages 2-10, Reserve your spot at essexpl.org.

Regional Social Worker

Wednesdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in the first-floor meeting room. Free, private, and confidential, learn about resources, gain strategies and skill to assist in stress reduction and management. No appointment necessary.

Monthly Scavenger Hunt

Stop by and enjoy our themed scavenger hunt all throughout the library.

Puppet Story Time

Tuesday, November 28 at 2 p.m. with the Waldorf School at Moraine Farm.

Story Hours Begin

Wednesdays at 9 a.m. for Wee Ones, ages 0-2 yrs. 20 minutes for songs, rhymes, stories and creative play. Please register. 10 a.m. Preschool ages 3-5 years. 30 minutes of songs, rhymes and stories read aloud and concludes with a themed craft. Please register.

CFCE Science Thursdays

Thursdays 9-10 a.m. for ages 2-6 years old. Join Ms. Christine for some STEAM fun, you will listen to stories, then explore science, technology, engineering, art, and math. Space is limited so please register.

ESSEX POLICE NOTES

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

12:15 a.m. Main St., disabled motor vehicle, assisted as needed. 1:10 a.m. Centennial Grove Rd., directed patrol, secured/checked. 1:26 a.m. Main St., selective enforcement, no action taken. 1:33 a.m. John Wise Ave., selective enforcement, no action taken.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6

7:06 a.m. Conomo Point Rd., directed patrol, secured/checked. 9:29 a.m. Martin St., disabled motor vehicle, other. 2:34 p.m. Gregory Island Rd., male with altered mental status, transported to hospital. 10:19 p.m. Martin St., directed patrol, no action taken.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

10:32 a.m. Chebacco Terrace, directed patrol, secured/checked. 2:21 p.m. Willow Court, male sick, transported to hospital. 6:19 p.m. Western Ave., animal complaint, no action taken. 10:06 p.m. John Wise Ave., motor vehicle stop, verbal warning.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

12:55 a.m. Scotts Way, directed patrol, secured/checked. 1:51 a.m. John Wise Ave., directed patrol, secured/checked. 2:09 a.m. Chebacco Terrace, directed patrol, secured/checked. 7:00 a.m. Island Rd., directed patrol, secured/checked.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9

No report.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

No report.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

12:40 a.m. Main St., directed patrol, secured/checked. 1:05 a.m. John Wise Ave., selective enforcement, no action taken. 2:59 a.m. John Wise Ave., citizen assist, assisted as needed. 6:47 a.m. Centennial Grove Rd., directed patrol, secured/checked.

Essex Senior Living | Nov 17

The Essex Council on Aging offers a variety of events and trips for seniors. For further information or to sign up for an event, please call the Essex COA Office at 978-768-7932 or visit the Senior Center at 17 Pickering Street.

Games with Gil at the Senior Center: Wednesdays 1 p.m.: ALL AGES WELCOME, come play BOARD games or Scrabble, Boggle, Cribbage, Backgammon, Join us or bring a friend and come play ANYTIME!

Arts & Crafts activities: Tuesdays, 1-3 p.m. COA Fitness Programs - \$5 Donation Requested: • BALANCE IN MOTION Tuesdays and Fridays, 10

a.m. • GROOVE FITNESS VIDEO Mondays and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. - get your dancing shoes on and join this fun, energetic dance class! Video, no instructor. • FITNESS WITH GIL: Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - Build strength, build stamina, energize yourself, and get ready to face the day!

Cape Ann virtual senior center - Tune into channel 67 for a number of fitness programs sponsored by the Cape Ann Councils on Aging and the Friends of the Essex Council on Aging. **Computer help:** Do you have questions about your computer, tablet, phone, etc.? We have opportunities for help! Drop-in with Curt

Wednesdays 1-3 p.m.

Grab and Go Meals, Mondays & Thursdays, 12 noon (must be picked up by 12:30 p.m.): Monday meals provided by Open Door, Thursday meals provided by Senior Care. Please register two business days in advance - 978-768-7932.

Ted Lasso Weekly Watch Party, Thursdays, 11 a.m. - starting September 7: "Ted Lasso" is a feel-good television series that combines sports, comedy, and drama to deliver a heartwarming and inspirational story about the power of optimism and kindness, both in sports and in life. Unless you have Apple+ TV, you can only watch Ted Lasso with us -- so come

and join the party and watch this delightful show on our new TV! Light refreshments will be available!

Monthly Book Club: last Tuesday of each month, 1 p.m.: Join us for a lively discussion about the current book of the month and other topics.

Veterans Gallery: The Veterans Gallery will be returning this November! Right now, we are looking for additional photographs of veterans with ties to the Essex community. Our photo wizard can work with photos in most any condition and size. Please email photos to: essexseniorphotos@gmail.com or drop-off at the COA.



Last Wednesday in the MERHS auditorium the Athletic Department held a signing day event for two of ME's stand-out athletes. Caelie Patrick signed for field hockey at Providence College and Lily Francoeur will be rowing for Bucknell University. Congratulations Hornets. Courtesy Photo

Essex Locals

115 Years Ago - 1908

Stephen Wright, principal of the High School, while out gunning on Saturday, accidentally shot himself in the leg. He was taken to Beverly Hospital for treatment.

90 Years Ago - 1933

A delegation from Stephen H. Muise Post, American Legion attended the meeting of Augustus P. Gardner Post at Hamilton last week and report a most interesting evening.

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Manchester Musings: Fish Tales



Artist Mary Ann Wenniger sketched this image from her home on Ashland Avenue of a man fishing for eels on the frozen inner harbor in the 1950s. Locals say the inner harbor often froze solid in winter and eel fishing was common. Wenniger, who lives in Gloucester, created a stone lithograph from her sketch. (Courtesy image)

By Pete Willwerth

I remember being a kid no more than six or seven, digging up sea worms and clams at low tide in the flats behind our house at 4 Ashland Avenue on the inner harbor. Rubber boots, a bucket, and a shovel were all I needed.

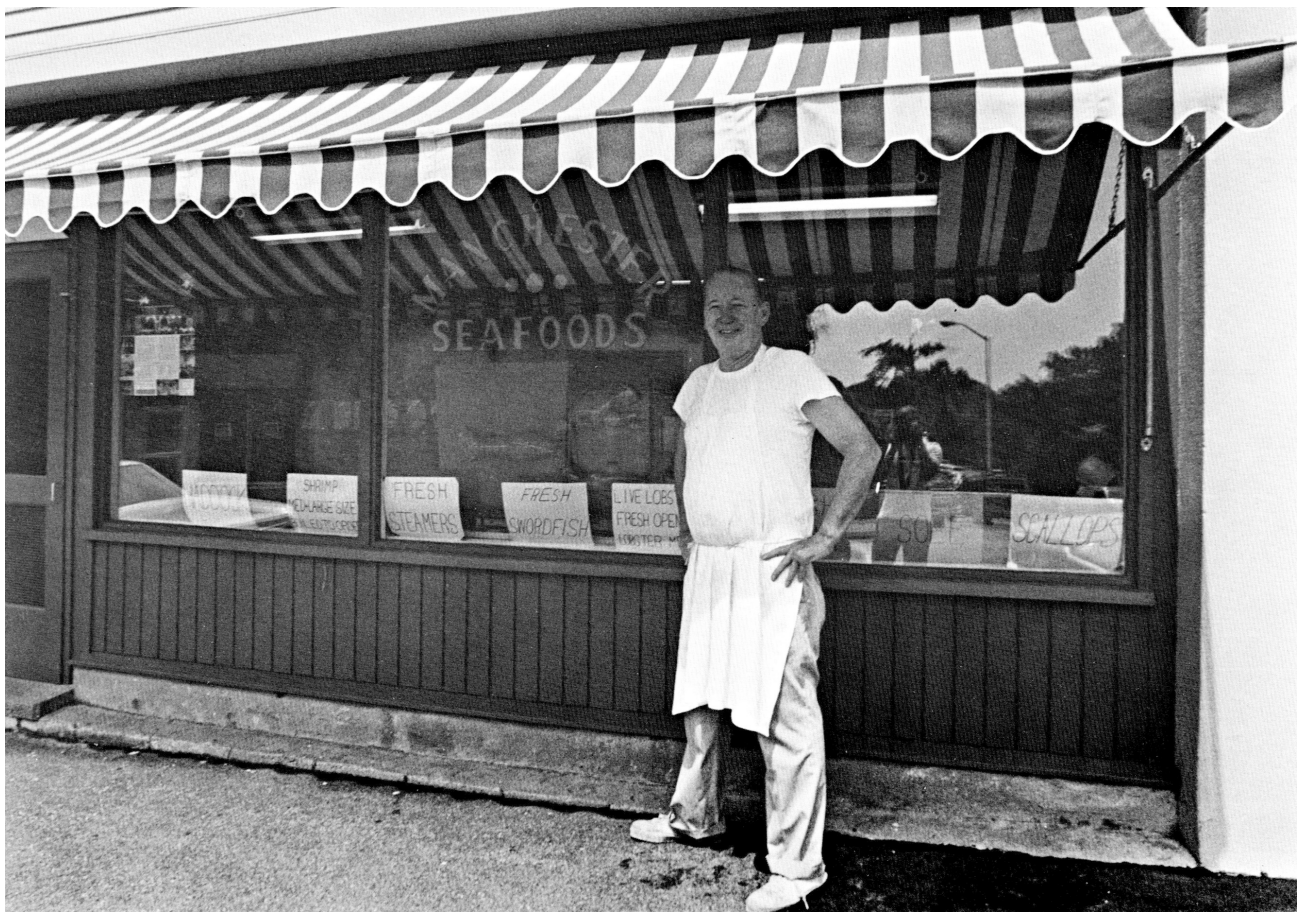
Off I went to Knight's Hardware with a brother or two (I had plenty) for a 50-cent dropline, a few sinkers and tiny snelled hooks. Then running past Al's Cafe to the docks behind town hall to drop a line. If the door to Al's was open, we'd yell "Got any beer?" and run like hell. The guys at Al's got a kick out of that.

Kids from all around town hung at the docks. We never failed to catch flounder back then. It was as if the bottom was carpeted with them. Mostly none too big, but the occasional doormat! Then in mid-summer, the mackerel and pollock would choke the harbor. For those we used a cheap spinning reel with clams and sea worms or shiny metal jigs.

In the fall, the old men would show up on the docks and set down milk crates for seats. They'd bait their bamboo poles with sand shrimp, each guy dropping four or five lines five feet under to fill their buckets with smelt. They'd sit on their crates talking old man stuff, but they were always willing to let us kids man a pole or two.

The smelt flooded the harbor as they schooled up on their way to the ocean – all this after hatching and growing in the channel and the "River Brook," as Coach Field named it. Ounce for ounce, a great fighting fish! Nothing like a plate of fried smelt and thin cut potatoes for lunch, cooked up in the kitchen on Ashland Ave. by Mom in her big iron skillet.

Then we graduated to the drawbridge, the townies' playground. Oh, the fish we would jig as they channeled into the inner harbor! There was a one-legged gull we named Gertrude. She'd swoop in when we called her



Bob Flanders, proprietor of Manchester Seafoods on Central Street who ran the business with his wife, Vi. From them, Pete Willwerth learned how to boil and pick lobsters, skin fillets, chip blocks of ice, and set up the showcase just so. Photo: Richard Toll

to grab whatever catch we would throw to her. Under the bridge was a little gap that served as an aquarium. Little fish swam between pilings covered with barnacles, starfish, and periwinkles, all tinted green by the shadow of the bridge.

Under the sort-of-watchful eye of bridge tenders George Kemp and John DeMarino, we'd spend all day jumping off the bridge, playing chase all over the infrastructure and smoking the occasional unfiltered Chesterfield we lifted off my poor parents. We could climb to the top of the great cement counterweight through the steel ribbing, to stand among the dirt, weeds, and pigeon droppings. A few boys much braver and more foolish than me actually jumped off the block into the harbor.

At 14, I scored a job at Manchester Seafoods, run by Bob and Vi Flanders from Hamilton. What a great couple to learn from. For \$1.15 per



Bruce Leseine, a.k.a., "Captain Dusty," in front of his namesake fish market on Beach Street, down the street from Manchester Seafood. The shop was later purchased by Lee Gates. Photo: Richard Toll

hour, which was more than I could spend, I learned how to boil and pick lobsters, skin fillets, chip blocks of ice, and set up the showcase just so. Bob made sure if you had nothing else to do, you were scraping scales off of the

woodwork and counters or scrubbing the sinks with a stiff brush.

Back then there seemed to be no possible end to the beautiful fish that came into the market. Brassy-colored metal boxes filled with gray

sole, haddock, and cod fillets all fresh from Gloucester. Salmon, halibut, and swordfish would come in wooden crates packed in ice.

A 25-lb halibut was called a chicken in those days. One time Bruce Leseine threw a big hook behind his lobster boat a few miles offshore and hauled in a halibut so big we had to saw it in half to get it in the back door. As I recollect, it was well over 250 lbs.

According to an article in the Cricket, Bruce ended up in Manchester when he lost his job as a private Pullman porter during the Great Depression. He used his severance from Albert J. Burrage to buy a rowboat and started fishing with a handline. Later he bought his boat, the Dirty Shame, and started lobstering and selling his catch at his shop called Captain Dusty's (now our local ice cream shop). And then he'd sell whatever lobsters he couldn't move at his shop to Bob.

Bruce would let us borrow his dinghy to row around the harbor when he wasn't out lobstering. One day he brought 2 lobsters on leashes into Jimmy Lynch's coffee shop as if they were his pets.

Another character who sold lobsters to Bob was Connie Driemond, a tiny man from Latvia who had the bluest eyes I'd ever seen. He built his own little smokehouse at his place on Summer Street and would bring in nibbles of smoked eel and other treats. He and his wife together didn't measure 10 feet.

Two or three times a day we would pull out the baskets of lobsters covered with seaweed to sort out the least peppy for the next boil. After the boil, we'd throw the lobsters into a sink full of water to cool, and I'd pull off the tails to crack and devein them, break off the little legs and roll the meat out of them four at a time with a mayonnaise jar. Bob would crack the claws for me to pick with a butter knife and make two expert cuts in the bodies for me to pick out the bits of meat.

The leg and body meat we sold as broken lobster meat at a fair price, while the tails, knuckles, and claws we saved for the carriage trade. The tomalley (green lobster "liver") and coral (the red eggs that hadn't yet made it to the tail) would go into little half-pint cartons. If you've never had tomalley on crackers, you've never known the quintessence of lobster flavor!

Little bits and pieces of haddock and cod went into the freezer in cartons that we'd draw a cat on the side of and label "catfish." A nice lady named Eva Gertrude Stoops would come in every week for a carton or two for her cats. Broken steamer clams were sold for pennies to kids looking for bait. Fish was wrapped in Kraft paper and went into paper bags, no plastic. Not much went to waste. There was a 26 lb. lobster mounted over the storefront and a little framed picture of a flatfish on an inside wall captioned "Our Flounder." The register was so old, the highest amount on it was one dollar. It was a struggle keeping count ringing up a \$20 sale, but Vi always checked the little tape for screw-ups. The radio was always on WHDH, Jess Cain in the morning and all the latest hits with little skits and news in between.

Bob ran a tight ship and there was always work to do, but he and Vi always made sure I got my 15-minute break in the afternoon. I'd run next door to Allen's to ask Betsy Gauthier or Gail Burgess to whip up a mocha frappe or a vanilla root beer float with coffee ice cream. Oh yeah!

Each day at closing, I'd empty the showcase and all the fish would go back into boxes we'd bury in ice in the big chest up three stairs where Bob manned the helm behind a chest-high counter.

Every day, Norm Crombie would come by and chip ice for Bob.

... (Continued on page 9)



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Back in the Day ...

“Life back then” in Manchester, or anywhere one might suppose, looked a whole lot different in the 1960s and 70s. The archive of the Manchester Cricket’s newspaper has been digitized, but the photographs taken mostly by Manchester’s Richard “Dick” Toll for the paper, remain as “negatives.” (That’s “film” for those born after 1980). Enjoy. And feel free to contact us with additional details on anyone here.



The opening of the Parkhurst Garage on Summer Street (now M&T Bank) in Manchester. Second from left is George Parkhurst, Sr., and we’re told the gentleman on the far right is Ed Jasiak.



Alice Rice, proprietor of Floyd’s Candy on Central Street (today J. McLaughlin). She sold penny candy and comic books in her general store, so she was a legend and a rite of passage for decades of local children growing up in Manchester. Alice’s son, Fred Rice, was a highly accomplished gardener, landscape designer, and the face of the North Shore Horticultural Society’s annual plant auction for years.

...(Continued from page 8)



This 1974 photo of Manchester’s Norm Crombie ran as part of a Ruthanne Collinson profile in the Gloucester Daily Times.

Photo: Ruthanne Collinson

The ice was tonged in by Ernie Tucker, big blocks from, I suppose, Cape Pond Ice. Norm wasn’t drinking by then, having dried out in the hospital after nearly freezing to death in his shack in the woods during a blizzard. Norm was every kid’s favorite, standing in front of

the fish market decked out in his teamsters dungaree overalls and a squarish denim cap, dripping chewing tobacco and tickling kids under the chin while spouting some sort of gibberish only the kids seemed to understand. Inside the market he was a little gruffer: Always “Rain,

snow, shit and blow,” or “bullshit, horseshit, cowshit, who gives a shit?” He was a real teamster, too. Earlier in life, he drove a team of horses to the train in Gloucester, loaded it with hanging meat, and delivered it to all the butchers and grocers in town for Swift Packing.

Norm was every kid’s favorite, standing in front of the fish market decked out in his teamsters dungaree overalls and squarish denim cap, dripping chewing tobacco and tickling kids under the chin while spouting some sort of gibberish only the kids seemed to understand.

Like every working man back then, Bob would need a few swigs in the afternoon to help him get through the day. He’d occasionally send Norm across the street to Bullock’s for a pint of Caldwell’s vodka. He worked long and hard, so who could begrudge him that?

Most everyone who came into the market was cordial – even the millionaires! Mrs. Odman was my favorite. She’d park her black T-Bird convertible coupe, come into the market, and throw her Pekinese on the counter while she chatted with Bob and Vi as if they were her best friends.

Some of the well-heeled were not so nice. There was always some lady who would charge in on July 3 when we were buried in orders for salmon and lobster meat.

“Bob, I need 10 salmon steaks right away.”

“Sorry, but you’ll have to come back later while I fill all the orders.”

“But I need them now!”

To Bob’s credit, when he was pushed far enough, he’d explode. “Get the hell out lady, I don’t need your business!” (And he didn’t.)

The monied lady would look dumbfounded at being treated like “the help” and



Serving under General Patton in WWII, Major Hurlley was one of Manchester’s most notable veterans. His father was a gardener on Coolidge Point. His brother, Bill, was a Manchester policeman. And his sister, Pat Jackson, recited “In Flanders Field” every Memorial Day Ceremony at Rosedale Cemetery.



This one is seasonally appropriate. The Brown brothers (Anthony, Ted, and Speros) at Brown’s Market on Beach Street, readying a live turkey for a Thanksgiving customer giveaway.



At first, this image is a puzzler. But village residents in the 1960s report this gentleman was a familiar door-to-door knife sharpener!

Interested in checking out our photo archive and help us ID people and places we don’t recognize? Email news@thecricket.com.

for me to run down to JP’s Harbourside. Then it got harder to get shad roe in the spring, a delicacy that Bob and Vi would take home for supper, and which I couldn’t imagine eating. The shad have since recovered somewhat. Not so, the salmon. Once running up every major river north of the Hudson, U.S. Atlantic salmon are now present in only two rivers in Maine.

My two summers there were my first job on the clock. I would go on to plenty of other occupations – parking lot attendant at Singing Beach, working the Singing Beach Club, dishwashing at JP’s Harbourside – but by far the best job was with Bob and Vi Flanders at Manchester Seafoods!

Pete Willwerth grew up in Manchester as the eighth of 14 children of Walter and Eleanor Willwerth. He sent this authentic, honest and utterly enjoyable personal essay from his home in Beverly. Thanks much to Lee Gates for helping source some critical images.



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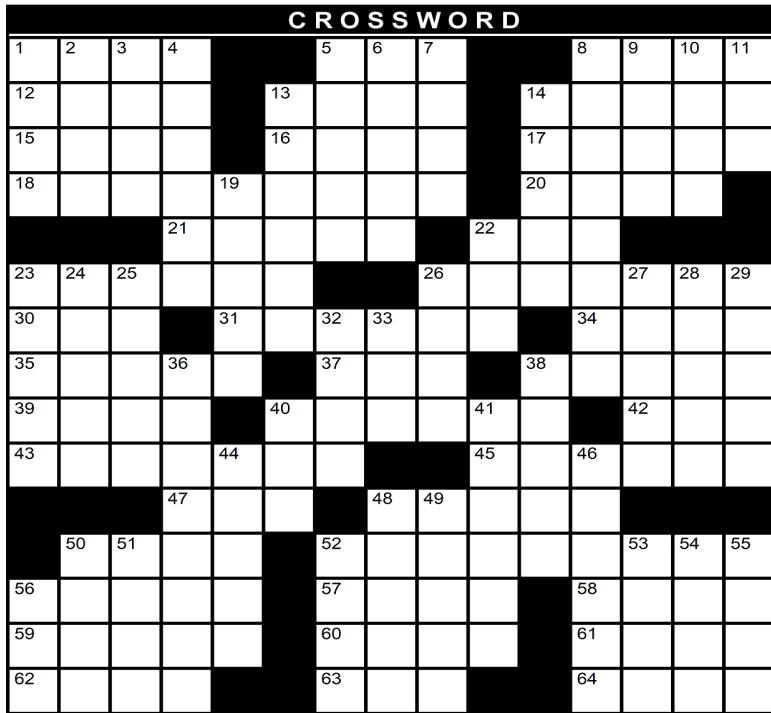


Puzzle

THEME: CATS & DOGS

ACROSS

1. Baby powder
5. Hundredweight, acr.
8. Same as gauge
12. S squared, e.g.
13. Actor Wyle
14. Undergraduate's field of study
15. J. Edgar Hoover's man
16. Norse capital
17. Extremely angry
18. *Tweety chaser
20. Bob Ross' do
21. Not quite right
22. Hawaiian dish
23. Directed
26. Brought down
30. Deed
31. Rifle's backward move
34. Denim innovator
35. Like salad greens
37. Greek R
38. Read-only memory device
39. Western Samoan money
40. Oklahoma athlete
42. Tiny guitar
43. Relating to dreams
45. Like certain Debbie?
47. U.S. Marine Corps gift recipient
48. Gin mixer
50. Title for Turkish leader
52. *1929 Best Actor Oscar nominee
56. Lallygags
57. Medley
58. Pineapple producer
59. Suggestions
60. *Lassie's mark in Hollywood sidewalk
61. Arabian bigwig
62. Banana leftover
63. New York time
64. "Wanted!" state



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DOWN

1. Labels with a name, on Facebook
2. Major or general employer
3. Same as #36 Down, archaically speaking
4. Painter's surface
5. Receipt listings
6. *Corgi's homeland
7. Marvel Comics hammer wielder
8. *Jon Arbuckle, Odie and ___
9. A bit cracked
10. Kind of move, 2 words
11. Bard's before
13. End of rugby match
14. *Cat sound
19. Manicurist's file
22. Neighbor of Ger.
23. *Nome, AK hero
24. Continental divide
25. Like old cracker
26. *Rhodesian Ridgeback's target
27. *Old episodes of Eddie Crane's

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

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9. Solutions on Page 11

- TV show
28. Call forth
29. Two identical molecules put together
32. Rubber sandal
33. Exclamation of surprise
36. *Fido, in Latin
38. More than one crocus
40. *Canine command
41. Newspaper VIP
44. ___ beef

46. Meandered
48. Leaves at the alter, e.g.
49. Uniate church member
50. Of the highest quality
51. Open-mouthed astonishment
52. Thorny gift
53. Large book
54. Pelvic parts
55. Smart but awkward one
56. "A stiff upper ___"

Religious Notes

Cornerstone Church

We gather for worship each Sunday at 10 a.m. and welcome you to join us for a time of studying the scriptures and praising the Lord. Other ministry updates and details can be found on our website, www.CornerstoneNorthShore.org. If you have any special needs or concerns, please let us know! We're here to serve!

Visitation Parish - Mass Schedule

The Visitation Parish Mass Schedule:

Sacred Heart Church - Saturday Vigil Mass - Virtual Mass - on our

YouTube as well as www.mecatholic.org

Sunday Mass - 8:30 a.m.

St. John the Baptist Church - Saturday Vigil Mass - 5 p.m. Sunday Mass -10 a.m.

Please go to our website: www.mecatholic.org for Sacramental Information as well as Parish Registration if you are new to town or looking to join a Catholic Church.

The Assumption of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church

8 Lafayette Road, Ipswich Mass.

Church services, with Father Christopher Kolentsas, are held each Sunday.

Sunday's Divine Liturgy, with Fa-

ther Christopher, starts at 9:30 a.m. followed by a weekly sermon. All are welcome to attend.

First Parish Church Manchester-by-the-Sea

Worship service, Sunday Nov. 19, 2023, 10 a.m., we invite everyone to join us for hospitality following the service. Worship Leader, Rev. Teri Motley

Music led by Dr. Herman Weiss, with the First Parish Choir.

Monday Friends of the COA Senior Drop in 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Wednesday Choir rehearsal 7:30 p.m.

Coming up in December, mark your calendar! Happening before the outdoor concert in coordination with

The Manchester Woman's Club tree lighting event, Sunday, December 3, - Community Carol Sing at 2:30-3:15 p.m. inside First Parish Church, 10 Central St. Join us around the piano to sing some traditional carols and get in the mood for the tree lighting. Happening no matter the weather. Sunday, December 10, 2nd Annual Messiah Sing, 7:30 p.m. with a reception held following.

St. John's Episcopal Church (Beverly Farms)

FALL SERVICE SCHEDULE - 8 a.m. Rite I & 10 a.m. Rite II

Our Children's Chapel is the first Sunday of every month. Our first children's chapel will be October 1.

ist Church

10 Church Street, holds Sunday morning services at 10 a.m. in-person in its historic sanctuary, as well as online. Please visit the church's website, www.gloucesteruu.org, for the link to the livestream. Activities provided for elementary school-aged children during the service. Masks are always now optional. Our church is handicap accessible. All are welcome.

Quaker Meeting

Quakers of the North Shore worship every Sunday from 10-11 a.m. at the Glen Urquhart School: 74 Hart Street, Beverly Farms, Mass.

Gloucester Unitarian Universal-

...(Continued on page 11)



CHURCHILL PROPERTIES

266 Cabot St, Unit 7, Beverly | 169 Bay Rd, Hamilton | 49 Union St, Manchester
230 North St, Unit 2, Danvers | 127 Eastern Ave, Gloucester | 1 Merrimac St, Suite 6, Newburyport



Gloucester
Sunny and open, this updated townhouse has the modern amenities you want with original details that make this home special.
\$599,000 | Kathleen McHugh | 978-314-9131



Peabody
This bright, sunny 3 bed, 2 bath home is a beautifully renovated colonial in the desirable Emerson Park area. Nothing to do but move right in!
\$619,000 | Ray Gosselin | 617-543-9841



Haverhill
Spacious 4-5 bedroom split level home near the Plaistow line. Lots of room here for everyone- bright, airy livingroom.
\$479,000 | Kelly Martinson | 978-360-1618



Beverly
Bright and sunny 2 bedroom condo, with no condo fee, close to downtown Beverly! High ceilings make this condo feel nice and open.
\$385,000 | Samuel Gifford | 781-307-0228



Newbury
New Custom Designed Modern Farmhouse with 1 year warranty! Exquisite 4 bedroom home sits on a private, level 1 acre lot abutting farmland.
\$1,789,000 | Leshia Crestin | 617-543-3104



Manchester
"HARBORHEAD" has stunning town and water views. Fabulous New Construction is modern but Classic Colonial design.
\$12,650,000 | Karen Bernier | 978-807-5580



Beverly
Waterfront/Beach/New Construction - Rare opportunity to purchase a 1.83 acre waterfront building lot on Boston's North Shore Gold coast
\$5,250,000 | Robin Martyn | 978-815-4497



Peabody
Come see this classic colonial that offers the best of country living and nestled on a dead end street with 2100 square feet of living.
\$649,000 | Robert Nelson | 978-559-1228



Essex
Classic seasonal summer home located on beautiful Conomo Point. Enjoy panoramic views of the Essex River and Crane Beach.
\$395,000 | Karen Bernier | 978-807-5580



Gloucester
Opportunity to own a prime mixed-use property. A combination of 4 residential units and 3 commercial units with extensive renovations.
\$2,650,000 | Debra Lovelace | 978-879-7356



Medford
Stunning Urban Oasis: you don't have to choose between city conveniences and plenty of indoor and outdoor living space.
\$699,000 | Liz Nelson | 518-469-0710



Manchester
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Churchill Properties is pleased to welcome

Rob Nelson

to our Danvers office. If you are considering renting, buying or selling a home, contact Rob today at **978-559-1228 or RobNelson@ChurchillProp.com**



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The Holidays Are Upon Us



By Joanne MacInnis RN
CDP, President, Aberdeen Home Care, Inc.

“Can’t wait till it’s over...”

We hear that every year. While I fully understand the exhaustion behind that sentiment, I am mostly sad that this is the reality for many people. We all know it’s more than shopping, cooking, and entertaining that fuels this feeling.

Firstly, the Hallmark version of “holidays” is a perfect setup for us all to feel as if we have the “B-Movie” of the perfect holiday. The emotional hype and push for “the best holiday you’ve ever had or ever will have” is nonsense and, in my view, should be rejected as such.

Maybe you are like me and have an ongoing struggle during the holidays. It isn’t “who can’t be in the room with whom” anymore. Frankly, most of them are in the great beyond. It’s not so much what’s happening outside in the real world but what’s going on...inside.

What I want, more than the Boston Pops, the Christmas Carol, or even Handel’s Messiah, is to sit in a cozy living room, reconciled with those I can be, reunited with the long lost, and of course, several unicorn wishes to have all those loved ones back in my presence again. Alright, that sounds a bit Hallmarky, hence my own personal setup for disappointment.

Parties, Theater, Music, Lights, Benefits, Santa Parade, and another thousand options are presented to us every year.

If you are not a definitive sort, all the choices may overwhelm you. As far as the

“holiday schedule” goes, in the words of Nancy Reagan, “Just say no.” Ok, maybe say, “Thank you very much, but no.” If you can’t stand being that direct, try, “I would LOVE to...but we already have a commitment.” Stressing the I would love to part...

If you need some real structure to plan out the next seven weeks, reduce what you ideally would like to do by half. There are only 24 hours a day, and we are still working, shopping, cooking, cleaning, walking the dogs, and caring for the grandchildren. We feel overwhelmed...because we are.

In addition to the madness available all around us, the “inside factors” could be churning us up. Is the separation from loved ones who have passed even more painful during the holidays? I argue yes, indeed. Are the family and friend connections that are fragile or broken an extra source of angst? Yet again, I say yes. And... are the disappointments that we struggle with daily (aging needy elders, substance abuse in the family, mental health, serious illness) MORE difficult for us to manage during the holidays? For a third time, I answer in the affirmative.

Why? Because we long for what we do not have.

We long for the Waltons. Even if it sounds silly to you, I maintain we want a resolution to our issues and a bow on top of the package, at least during the Holidays. Maybe it’s recapturing some of the magic we knew as children. The excitement and energy were palpable. Even though we can’t have the whole enchilada, we can have a portion. We can find

a way to honor those feelings, especially the sad ones, longing for what was and who was with us.

My family, except for the West Coast Contingency of 6, the last of the large extended family that descended on Manchester around 1910 from Prince Edward Island, have passed. The hollow feeling that emerges, along with that of being untethered, is like a leaf in the wind. I drive by what was the homestead that held five generations of this family of mine, and I’m lost. Sadly, the house itself is no longer. In some way, I imagine that this is easier than looking at anyone else parked in that driveway. I see the faces and hear the voices even as I drive by and then take a spin around Rosedale.

Perhaps the emotional expectation, the inevitable trips down memory lane at this time of year, and the sentimentality of Burl Ives, Andy Williams, and Bing Crosby transport us back to another time. These melodies, movies, and rituals find our bound-up wounds and seep through the bandaids we have created around them.

It’s always a both/and. Knowing that nasty fact gives us a framework to consider the options. It’s not going to be all good or all bad. Not all fun or all misery. Likely, it’s a mix of pleasure and pain—the one coin with two sides.

This year, I want to be “safely open.”

Not wide open so that I am defenseless against “what I no longer have,” but instead turn that into gratitude. Maybe what I had, contributed to who I am. Perhaps they are still here, in me.

My heart soars when I meet seniors in Manchester who remember my family. When they remember them fondly and with love, I fly.

We compartmentalize. We do so to stay afloat. It’s a useful defense mechanism to protect the tender feelings and places in us all. Here is my “to-do” list for Holidays 2023:

“Wouldn’t she have loved these Christmas lights?” I will love them twice as much in her absence or take someone else out to see them, for whom it would be a treat.

“Oh, that was his favorite holiday song.” How blessed am I to have such powerful and loving memories of him?

“I feel a little sad and lonely.” Two random acts of kindness (especially at the Holidays) could easily turn that around.

Choices. We have them.

We also have loss, and many of us are trying to manage the annual wave that is about to arrive. Validate your losses. Yes, you are right; things often don’t feel the same. Claim what was yours, claim what is yours. Pace yourself in every way, in the outside world and, even more importantly, in your inner world.

If you are in the “can’t wait ‘til it’s over” camp this year, I hope it can be different for you. There is beauty in the season. There is goodwill. Deprogram your brain from the Hallmark version. In the both/and of it all, breathe deeply and intentionally, cast off what you can’t do without guilt, and maybe this year, look with new eyes. Who knows what we will see?

I’ll be looking.

Solution to puzzles on page 10

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

PET OF THE WEEK



HUNTLEY AND HONEY

Honey and Huntley are two playful, bouncy 6-month-old girls with wonderful personalities and even more wonderful ears. Both retriever mixes, they love other dogs and lots of attention from people. Both have been spayed. If you think of them or both

would make a good addition to your family, stop by and visit them today! Visit www.capeannanimalaid.org for more information about them and all the other animals waiting for homes here at the Christopher Cutler Rich Animal Shelter, 4 Paws Lane in Gloucester.

... (Continued from page 10)

It is an unprogrammed Quaker Meeting. There is no Pastor (or leader) save the spirit of God in and among us. Our worship is primarily silent. When a worshiper is moved, it may include a brief, spoken ministry offered in a ‘spirit of worship.’ Friends gather quietly, awaiting the experience of God’s presence.

If you are new to Quakers, someone will be happy to talk with you and answer any questions you may have. Send an email to: northshore-quaker@gmail.com. First Day School, our Children’s Program, consists of forest walks near the Glen Urquhart School led by Jessica Kagle from the Kestrel Foundation. Blessings To You.

Senior Highlights

There’s a lot set to happen with the Council on Aging (COA) in the coming weeks. Check them out here, and for on any of these great trips or to reserve your seat on the van, please call 978-526-7500

COA to Walmart

On Friday, November 17, the Manchester COA van will be going to Walmart in Danvers. The van will start picking up seniors around 10 a.m.

Lunch of the Month

The Manchester COA is offering a Baked Haddock Luncheon on Tuesday, November 28 at the Congregational Chapel at 12 noon. Catered by the Causeway Restaurant, come and enjoy baked haddock or chicken broccoli ziti (for the non-fish lovers), potatoes, vegetable, dessert, and beverage.

The cost of this luncheon is \$10 per person and open to the first 40 who sign up. Reservations and prepayment are necessary by November 22. Transportation will be available.

Chamber Music @ Crowell Chapel

On Wednesday, November 29, you are invited to see the Arpeggione Ensemble perform a chamber music concert at Crowell Chapel. Arpeggione will perform Mozart’s “The Magic Flute” and other works in dazzling chamber arrangements for flute, clarinet, and strings.

The event starts at 2 p.m. and is free of charge. Reservations are required. Transportation will be available.

COA to Malls

On Friday, December 1, the Manchester COA van will be going to the Peabody and Danvers Malls. Seniors can pick between the North Shore Mall or Liberty Tree Mall. The van will start picking up seniors around 10 a.m.

Lobster Roll or Chicken Salad Roll Lunch

The Manchester COA is offering a Lobster Roll or Chicken Salad Roll Lunch on Monday, December 4. Catered by Jeff’s Variety of Gloucester enjoy a delicious lobster roll or chicken salad roll, potato chips and cookie. You’ll be able to pick your lunch up at the COA of-

rice around 12:30 p.m. or we can deliver it to you.

The cost of this luncheon is \$12 for the lobster roll, \$6 for chicken salad, per person, and open to the first 50 who sign up. You can drop your payment off or mail a check to the Council on Aging, 10 Central Street, Manchester, MA 01944.

Holiday Tea at the Trask House

The Manchester Historical Society has extended an invitation to Manchester seniors to enjoy a “Holiday Tea” on Tuesday, December 5. Tea and treats will be served at 2 p.m. at the festively decorated Trask House. Celebrate the season with friends, food, Christmas carols and music.

Reservations are necessary so please call the Manchester Historical Museum at (978) 526-7230 to sign up. The event is limited to 40 individuals. Transportation is available.

Parade of Trees at Tapley Memorial Hall

The Manchester COA will be taking a trip to Tapley Memorial Hall in Danvers on Friday, December 8. Enjoy viewing beautifully decorated trees and wreaths at the

Danvers Historical Society’s 15th Annual Parade of Trees. If you like you can purchase a raffle ticket for a chance to win a tree or wreath. Don’t forget to look at the “not your average” gingerbread houses on the stage.

Admission is \$5. The van will start picking up at 1:30 p.m.

Manchester Seniors Invited by Masons to Holiday Dinner

On Wednesday, December 13 the Manchester Masons invite all Manchester senior citizens to the Annual Holiday Dinner. This seasonal event will be held at the Manchester Masonic Lodge beginning at 4:30 p.m. for appetizers and dinner. This party is free of charge to the first 80 Manchester senior citizens that call to make a reservation.

The C.O.A. van will be available for transportation to and from the Masonic Lodge. Please call the C.O.A. office at (978) 526 7500 by December 6 to make a reservation for this wonderful event and to reserve your seat on the van.

PUBLIC NOTICE



Town Hall
10 Central Street
Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA, 01944

SELECT BOARD

Public Hearing

In accordance with Chapter 369, Acts of 1982, Section 1, the Select Board of the Town of Manchester-by-the-Sea will hold a public hearing on the determination of the percentage of tax levy to be borne by each class of real property for Fiscal Year 2024. Hearing is to be held on Monday, December 4, 2023, at 6:30pm in room 5 of Town Hall and by Zoom.

Posted to MNPA website: <http://masspublicnotices.org>

November 17, 2023 MC
November 24, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE



Town Hall
10 Central Street
Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA, 01944

SELECT BOARD

Public Hearing

The Select Board will hold a hybrid public hearing on Monday, November 20, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in Town Hall meeting room #5 and by zoom. Zoom information will be available on the Town website, prior to the meeting.

Request for Amendment to the Change of Ownership Interest in the all alcohol, on-premises license at 8 Atwater Avenue, Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA held by Aspect Athletic Club, LLC

Posted to MNPA website: <http://masspublicnotices.org>

November 10, 2023 MC
November 17, 2023



The North Shore's Premier Real Estate Agency



Gloucester \$4,900,000
Miles of ocean views, direct Plum Cove Beach access, mooring, huge paver patio top long list of highlights in custom 4-bedroom, 4.5-bath, 2016 stunner. Heated garage, generator, geothermal heat.
Ann Olivo & Rick Marshall



Beverly \$3,998,900
Secluded 3.7-acre haven near private beach. Renovated 1929 Colonial has 5 bedrooms, 6.5 baths, in-law suite, heated pool, tennis court. Enjoy comfortable daily living, effortless entertaining.
Fabyan & Filias Team



Danvers \$1,275,000
Live. Work. Generate Income. The Samuel Fowler House is an iconic landmark with rare potential: legal 3 family, 4,000 sf main house, 2 rental units, 7-car parking, upgraded systems.
Sheri Trocchi



Hamilton \$1,100,000
Curb appeal! Picturesque 4-bedroom, 3 full bath, 3,450 sf Colonial offers farmer's porch, roomy U-shaped kitchen, fireplaced living room, and great room. 2-car garage. Near downtown, train.
Michelle Theriault

Thinking of Buying or Selling YOUR Home - WE ARE HERE TO HELP!



Wenham \$1,095,000
Autumn Artist! Stately custom 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath Colonial in prime location has open floor plan, fireplaced living and family rooms, kitchen, pantry, sunroom. Yard, fire pit, fenced area.
Peggy McNamara



Boxford \$899,000
Spacious 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath Contemporary on beautiful, private 6-acre lot. Open floor plan, large windows, well-appointed kitchen, fireplaced dining room, family room, 2 offices. Much more.
Emily McPherson



Gloucester \$655,000
Artfully designed 2-story, 2-bedroom, 1.5-bath condo. White-quartz-stainless kitchen. High ceilings, restored floors in living and dining rooms. Office, 2-car parking. Near beaches, downtown.
Felicia Trupiano



Rockport \$485,000
Charming 2-bedroom Condo near beaches, shops and Shalin Liu Center has antique pine floors, high ceilings, custom kitchen, AC, in-unit laundry, 1-car parking. Great getaway or year-round home.
Fabyan & Filias Team

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10 Eaglehead Manchester | \$3,349,000
This is a 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath home on over an acre. There is a separate garage with space above, perfect for a home office, studio or gym.

Marianne Round | Realtor
978-902-5452

Joan McDonald | Realtor
978-979-3190



137 Linden Street Hamilton | \$624,999
Charming, turn-key 3 bedroom colonial in ideal So. Hamilton neighborhood features a garage and spacious yard.

Marianne Round | Realtor
978-902-5452



28 Granite Street Rockport | \$920,000
Character, comfort, and potential. Check out this freshly painted handsome Rockport 4-bedroom antique near the beach, town and train.

Paula Murphy | Realtor
978-559-1465



5 Mark Street Manchester | \$1,200,000
Single Family home with 2 dwellings on convenient cul de sac. In-law or single level living options.

Joan McDonald | Realtor
978-979-3190



6 Lattof Farm Circle Rockport | \$1,495,000
Impeccable Colonial on private cut-de-sac in Rockport. 4-5 beds/3.5 baths. Impressive great room. Great fenced yard, 2 car garage.

Scott Smith | Realtor
617-750-2793

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COLDWELL BANKER REALTY



2 Raymond St. Manchester | \$850,000
Sweet coastal home with seasonal peaks of ocean. 3 bedroom, 2 bath large living and family rooms with fireplaces overlooking pond. Large deck and terrace. 2 car garage.

Lynda Surdam | Realtor
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TELEPHONE 978-526-7572

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