



Christmas by the Sea 2023 Is Here

From Thursday, November 30 and right through Sunday afternoon, all around Manchester, it's the holiday tradition that gets us out and around downtown.

MANCHESTER CRICKET

A Local Tradition Since 1888

VOL. 136, NO. 28

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2023

PRICE: \$1.25

BRIEFLY

Photo Worthy Local Holiday Happenings

We're looking at a full slate of photo-worthy events around the holidays that are happening right now. Be sure to have your cameras ready. First up, this Friday, Dec. 1 in Essex, Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive by boat to the dock at the Essex Shipbuilding Museum for a "Very Essex Christmas Celebration." The party starts at 4 p.m. and the couple from the North Pole are expected at 5. Then head to Manchester for Friday's Holiday Stroll throughout downtown as part of Christmas by the Sea. 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. On Saturday, Dec. 2 it's the Manchester Community Center's Jingle Bell Walk at Masconomo Park, 1 to 3 p.m. with Santa arriving by boat. Also on Saturday, the "Night of the Stars" talent show is scheduled for 4 p.m. at the ME Regional High School Auditorium. Sunday, Dec. 3 it's the Community Carol Sing, 2:30 to 3:25 p.m. at First Parish Church/Meeting Hall on Town Common, followed by the Friendship Tree Lighting & Program Village Green at 3:30. (A full listing of Christmas by the Sea programs is on Page 5.) Finally, take note now of the schedule of precious holiday programs at our public schools. Tuesday, Dec. 12 it's the ME High School Winter Concert featuring the SoudWaves, chorus, band and jazz band. Thursday, Dec. 14 it's the Elementary concert band, rock band, and chorus. Wednesday, Dec. 20 it's the FIRST EVER "Music Trivia" night National Music Honor Society at the High School cafeteria. All school shows start at 6 p.m.

File Under Important: Essex Tax Rate Public Hearing

Next week the Essex Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on tax classifications to determine residential, commercial, industrial, open space, and personal property tax rates with a look at small business and residential exemptions for the FY2024. Currently all Essex properties fall under a single rate. 6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 4 at Town Hall.

ME Football Falls in Thanksgiving Finale to North Middlesex



ME Quarterback, Zach Hurd, runs a keeper through the Northern Middlesex line during the Thanksgiving Day game at Hyland Field. The Patriots came away with the win 28-8 against the Hornets.

Photos Paul Clark

By Jason Brisbois

In the end, the match between the Manchester Essex and North Middlesex football teams seemed a lot like how the game itself played out for the Hornets: It was a worthy effort, but ultimately didn't meet some of the expectations that the team had going in.

At the start of the season, the football team found itself without its traditional Thanksgiving Day rival, Georgetown, after the Royals determined that they didn't have enough interest to field a varsity team in 2023. With the clock ticking, Manchester Essex football coach Joe Grimes worked with Athletic Director Cami Molinare and the MERHS Athletic Department to fill the gap and find an opponent for the Hornets for one of the most important games of the year.

That search ended with North Middlesex Regional High School accepting the invitation to play against the Hornets on Thanksgiving Day at Hyland Field. Manchester Essex kept

things close until the Patriots pulled away in the third quarter, falling by a score of 28-8.

"It was closer than the final score implies," says Grimes. "It was a one-score game until the late third where they separated a little bit. [We had a] big offensive push with Beckett Walker delivering a strike on a wide-receiver pass, and Finn McCue pulling in a two-point conversion in the fourth quarter."

That push wasn't enough for the Hornets to overcome Townsend-based North Middlesex. With the win over Manchester Essex, the Patriots finished with an 8-3 regular season record and a 2-2 record in the Midland Wachusett C League. Meanwhile, the loss dropped the Hornets to 5-6 overall in 2023.

"Lots of positive contributions from the guys who are returning next year and lot of strong lessons in toughness from the outgoing seniors," Grimes says of the game. "We dealt with our share of adversity this year



Hornet #3, Quinn Brady, breaks up a pass and prevents a touchdown on Thanksgiving Day at Hyland Field enjoyed by a SRO crowd.

and those seniors were a model of toughness and willingness to play through and get the job done."

While the loss itself stung, the loss of traditional oppo-

nent Georgetown was also deeply felt on Thanksgiving Day.

"If I'm being honest - it wasn't the same and I missed it," explains Grimes.

"The Georgetown rivalry goes back 62 years and it's hard to get too fired up about such a random team."

...(Continued on page 6)

MCC Future Shape Shifts, Again

By Erika Brown

November was a head-spinning month for anyone following the Manchester Community Center.

Indeed, when residents left Manchester's Special Town Meeting on November 13, it seemed cooler heads had prevailed after voters overwhelmingly approved an article empowering the Town of Manchester to negotiate a 10-year lease to save the Manchester Community Center (MCC) after its lease was terminated by the Harbor's Point Condominium Association. In fact, feelings on Town Meeting floor were so good that the MCC pulled a separate article it sponsored asking voters to force a taking by eminent domain of land it leased from Harbor's Point. All seemed right for the future of the 47-year-old organization.

Now, a mere three weeks later, that "kumbaya moment" may be in the rear-view mirror after the MCC last Wednesday formally notified Harbor's Point that, as per its lease agreement, it would be moving its building, an historic former railway cargo hold, entirely from the site.

The MCC's decision now leaves the town in limbo hav-



The future of the Manchester Community Center building, an historic 1920s former train cargo building located on leased land, is again in question.

After more than 30 years of operating rent free, Harbor's Point asked MCC to pay \$200/month in rent. That ask triggered heated negotiations.

ing been empowered to negotiate a new lease directly with Harbor's Point that would have preserved the MCC building and its programming.

The MCC, which organizes many of Manchester's most popular public events including this weekend's Jingle Bell Walk at Masconomo Park, has until February 10th to complete the move. It's not yet clear where the organiza-

tion plans to move the 2,141-sqft, 1920s structure.

A long and local history

The MCC was formed in 1976 after an automotive dealership owner from Essex, Augustus "Gus" Means, donated the old train cargo building at the Manchester train station to serve as a youth center.

But Means excluded the land the building sits on from the gift, and that issue lay qui-

etly ticking for decades until 2017 when, after allowing the MCC to operate rent free for more than 30 years, Harbor's Point asked the organization to sign a new lease.

This request prompted tenuous negotiations, with the MCC asking for a long-term lease and balking at the idea of paying rent. In 2021, the MCC relented and signed a year-to-year lease that gave the organization a year's free rent followed by a monthly rent of \$200. At the same time, Kim Kaner, MCC's executive director, explored moving the building. She met with Manchester officials about possible town-owned sites.

The town was generally supportive of the MCC's position, but officials faced their own challenges finding sites for critical municipal projects, including a new public safety building, a DPW headquarters, downtown public restrooms, a Council on Aging senior center. Asking taxpayers to underwrite a new home for a private local non-profit, however well intentioned, would be a stretch and would require approval at Town Meeting. Kaner and the MCC board continued their search, without success.

...(Continued on page 9)

Weekly Weather Chart

Saturday 2 Dec		44°	38°
Sunday 3 Dec		46°	37°
Monday 4 Dec		44°	33°
Tuesday 5 Dec		48°	40°
Wednesday 6 Dec		44°	39°
Thursday 7 Dec		42°	36°
Friday 8 Dec		43°	36°

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.

MBTS
Planning Board Site Visit
Saturday, Dec 2, 9:30 a.m.

Essex BOS
Monday, Dec 4, 6 p.m.

MERSD
SC Meeting
Tuesday, Dec 5, 6 - 8 p.m.

IN THIS ISSUE

Police Notes.....	2
Town News.....	3
Letters & Library.....	4
Holiday Goings On.....	5
Essex Echo.....	7
A View From Here.....	8
Puzzles.....	10
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).

Robert “Bob” N. Atwater



Robert “Bob” N. Atwater, 70, passed away Sunday, November 19 at his home surrounded by his family. Born in Manchester, he was the son of the late Robert and Stella (Demarkis) Atwater. He was the beloved husband of Tracy (Barton) Atwater.

Founder and long-time owner of the Beach Street Cafe, Bob perfected the art

of the omelet, and employed countless Manchester teens, quietly mentoring them in whatever way they needed most. He was an avid golfer, horse racing buff, and Dave Matthews Band fan.

In addition to his wife, Robert is survived by his son Steven Atwater of Weymouth; brothers Tom and Chuck Atwater; sisters Joni Carnevale, Kathy Atwater, and Pattie Atwater; and his nephew Matt and nieces Caitlin, Alison, Kristin, and Willow. A celebration of life will be held in the spring. Contributions may be made in Robert’s memory to a charity of one’s choosing.

Donna M. Huet

Donna M. Huet, 60, passed away Sunday, November 19, at Beverly Hospital. Born in



Lynn, she was the daughter of the late Lawrence and Jeredith (Stiver) Rugo. She was the beloved wife of John Huet.

Donna grew up in Marblehead, where she graduated from Marblehead High School. She began a career as a model while attending Endicott College and Boston University to pursue a degree in finance. After completing her degree, she

worked as the CFO of Redcat Productions. Donna was passionate about reading, writing, traveling, Singing Beach, and most of all her family and children.

In addition to her husband, Donna is survived by her children, James and Gianna; her sisters, Kathy Hennigan and her husband Paul and their children, Katherine and Jack; Nancy Rugo and her husband Jim Whedon and their son, Ian. She was predeceased by her brother, James Rugo.

Her funeral Mass will be at Visitation Parish-Sacred Heart, 62 School Street, Manchester-by-the-Sea, on Saturday, December 2nd at 11 a.m. Relatives and friends are invited to attend. Contributions may be made in Donna’s memory to a charity of your choice.

The Manchester Cricket

Founded in 1888.
Published every Friday.

Erika M. Brown
Publisher & Editorial Director

Paul Clark
Assistant Editor

Susan Zampell
Business Development Director

Christy King
Digital Director

Susan Anthony
Subscriptions & Office Mgr.

Business & Editorial Offices

P.O. Box 359
Manchester, MA 01944
11R Beach Street
Manchester, MA 01944

www.thecricket.com

Phone | 978.526.7171
Email | news@thecricket.com

Display Advertising
ads@thecricket.com

Classifieds & Legals
classifieds@thecricket.com
legals@thecricket.com

Postmaster, please address changes to:
The Manchester Cricket
PO Box 359
Manchester, MA 01944



Contents Copyright 2020
The Manchester Cricket, LLC.
All rights reserved.

Subscriptions

\$52 / year (print / digital)
\$26 / year (digital only)

\$1.25 at newsstand

PUBLICATION NUMBER
USPS 327-420



New England Newspaper Association
2019 Winner For Best Website, Best Photo
Feature Series, Best Front Page

CLASSIFIEDS

First, the good news. For subscribers, classified ads are free (one listing / subscriber at a time, please ... and keep it to 25 words or so). For all others, submit your weekend sales, lost and found, for rent, help wanted, services, etc. to classifieds@cricketpress.com or call us at 978-526-7171 and we'll take your payment over the phone. Cost: 65 cents/word the first week and 55 cents/word thereafter. Minimum charge \$12. Deadline for Classifieds Mondays, 5 p.m.

FOR RENT

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.

MBTS DOWNTOWN, 1-br—Bright, modern one-bedroom condo for rent in downtown Manchester. Private patio. Walk to everything. Available Jan 1. Six-month or year-long lease. \$2,200/mo. 978-578-5016. TF

SERVICES

HANDYMAN, MBTS—Handyman for light construction, home repairs, painting, cleanups, home repairs, painting cleanups, power washing, rototilling. Fully insured. Have truck and trailer. Clean, honest, references. Contact Bill mbtshandyman@gmail.com or (978) 618-0999. TF

HOLIDAYS!

WISHES CAN COME TRUE—Read the heartwarming novel *Five Wishes* by local author Karin Gertsch. Publishing Number is ISBN 978-1-63988-791-0. At local bookstores and Amazon.. TF

FOR SALE

2012 TOYOTA TACOMA—Toyota Tacoma pick up truck 2012, 6' bed with cap, 2WD, 86,000 miles and runs like new. \$10,500 or BO. 207-551-1733 11/17

E-MOTORCYCLE—2018 FXS Electric motorcycle--excellent condition, low milage. Call 860 601 8420 for test ride 11/24

NEW DECKING—Approx 250 sq ft of Sylvanix Skyline Series Teak synthetic decking with hidden fasteners. Left over from project. Can source more if necessary. \$1,000. Please call 617-835-6281

CUSTOM MADE QUEEN BED—Queen bed in mint condition. Sealy mattress and box spring, rarely used. Custom made headboard, \$350.00. Two Lifetime kayaks in excellent condition, \$200.00. Paddles and cart included. 617-817-1308 11/24

MANCHESTER POLICE NOTES



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20
6:50 a.m. Summer St., directed patrol, secured/checked. 8:12 a.m. Summer St., motor vehicle accident with injury, patient refusal. 1:52 p.m. Atwater Ave., animal complaint, spoken to. 6:09 p.m. Route 128SB, motor vehicle stop, verbal warning.

5:41 a.m. Beach St., fire alarm, fire false. 12:25 p.m. Forest St., animal complaint, assisted as needed. 2:38 p.m. Pine St., motor vehicle stop, citation issued. 9:11 p.m. Tuck's Point Rd., alarm, secured/checked.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22
8:04 a.m. Atwater Ave., fire alarm, fire false. 3:38 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Masconomo St., animal complaint, assisted as needed. 8:46 p.m. School St., motor vehicle stop, other. 11:53 p.m. Central St., disturbance, assisted as needed.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23
1:21 a.m. School St., motor vehicle stop, verbal warning. 10:18 a.m. School St., suspicious activity, report to fol-

low.
12:51 p.m. Elm St., fire alarm, fire false.
5:23 p.m. Forest Lane, fire alarm, fire false.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24
1:53 a.m. Summer St., fire investigation, assisted as needed. 12:01 p.m. Route 128NB, motor vehicle accident with injury, assisted as needed. 7:56 p.m. School St., fire alarm, cleared, false alarm. 10:01 p.m. Bridge St., suspicious activity, secured/checked.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25
1:15 a.m. Lincoln St., suspicious activity, secured/checked. 1:22 a.m. Brookwood Rd., fire alarm, fire false. 7:52 a.m. Dexter Lane, alarm, secured/checked. 10:45 a.m. Hickory Hill Rd., motor vehicle lockout, assisted as needed.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26
1:46 p.m. Route 128NB, welfare check, secured/checked. 2:12 p.m. Central St., citizen assist, spoken to. 3:46 p.m. Beach St., motor vehicle accident, no personal injury, secured/checked. 5:35 p.m. School St., motor vehicle stop, criminal appli-

Art is a subject that is inundated with opinions. In fact, that’s all it is about is opinions.

~ Chick Corea ~

WATER REPAIR
SIDING
PORCHES

WINDOWS
ROOFING
DECKS
CARPENTRY

Glenn Battistelli
BATTISTELLI
CONSTRUCTION
(617) 962-1235

PROFESSIONAL LISTINGS

<p align="center">MAKE IT GO AWAY!</p> <p align="center">www.makeitgoaway.net</p> <p align="center">Call (978) 526-7452 Email Kathy.Willy@verizon.net</p>	<p align="center">MASONRY <i>Lombardi & Son</i></p> <p align="center">Brick & Stone Restoration • Repairs</p> <p align="center">Over 40 Years Experience Don: 978-526-4123 lombardimasonry.com</p>
<p align="center">MCINNIS PAVING, INC.</p> <p align="center">Infra-Red Asphalt Repair Specialists Cold Planing • Driveway Rebuilding Repairs • Seal Coating • Crack Filling Beverly Farms, MA 01915</p> <p align="center">Timothy McInnis 978-921-1608 Cell: 978-375-1727 • Fax: 978-927-9602</p>	<p align="center">BROOKSIDE CONTRACTING 978-526-1414</p> <p align="center">Manchester-by-the-Sea</p> <p align="center">keithlilka@brooksidecontracting.com</p> <p align="center">Home Improvement • Carpentry Roofing • Siding Replacement Windows</p>

GRIMARD CHIROPRACTIC

WISHING YOU A HEALTHY AND PAIN FREE HOLIDAY SEASON.

grimardchiro@google.com
(978) 347-5489
grimardchiro

20 Oak St,
Beverly Farms, Ma 01915

<p align="center">Monuments</p> <p>Whose lasting beauty is permanently guaranteed by all members of the Barre Guild.</p> <p align="center">MOUNT PLEASANT MEMORIALS</p> <p>150 EASTERN AVENUE Gloucester 978-283-7841 • (800) 287-7841</p> <p align="center">EXPERT CEMETERY LETTERING</p>	<p align="center">KETTLE COVE CATERING</p> <p align="center">Manchester - by - the - Sea</p> <p align="center">A personal touch to lobster bakes, birthdays, celebrations & events of all kinds.</p> <p align="center">Todd Crane - proprietor -</p> <p align="center">(978) 998-1533</p>
--	---

<p align="center">THE ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT Accounting & Bookkeeping Solutions</p> <p align="center">GAIL MCELHINNEY</p> <p align="center"><i>Bookkeeping / Accounting, Client Invoicing, B2B Collections, Bill Processing, 1099s, Reconciliations, Monthly / Quarterly Reports, Cash-Up Services, Auditing Preparation</i></p> <p align="center">978-792-5433 Gail.TheAcctgDept@gmail.com</p>	<p align="center">LOCAL & BEYOND</p> <p align="center">ESSEX LIMO SERVICE</p> <p align="center">EDWARD B. CUSHING (978) 491-1267 essexlimoservice@yahoo.com</p>
---	--

Never Be Without Electricity Again

Standby Residential Generators

Power outages will happen, but don't be caught in the dark. Generac stand-by generators will automatically keep your power running 24/7.

Call Today! **Manchester Electric Co.**
978-526-1194 Manchester, MA
www.manchesterelectricllc.com
Authorized Generac Dealer

BUCKLEY TREE CARE

pruning • vistas • tree removal • land clearing
hazard mitigation • cabling • stump grinding

(978) 704-1441 • BUCKLEYTREECARE.COM

MANCHESTER FRAMING

custom picture framing

Sarah Rodier
(978) 808-2596

Friends, Parties, Holidays ...
"Time For Cleaning"

Complete House Detail
 Regular Routines
 Brass/Silver Polishing
 Kitchen Floors Restored
 Post-Construction
 Window Washing
 Chandlery

978-526-4741
Celebrating Our 38th Year!

Estate Caretaking & Management Services Available | Bonded & Insured
Post Office Box 52, MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA, MA 01944

HANDYMAN SERVICE and REMODEL PROJECTS

PAINT-CARPENTRY-PLASTER - INSURED -

508-932-1442
RSLSELLS@COMCAST.NET
RSL Building Services Beverly Mass

Next Chapter

Family Law & Estate Planning LLC

ANDREA LANCE, ESQ.

36 UNION STREET
MANCHESTER
(978) 704-9223
LANCENLAWMASS.COM

Budget Challenges Ahead



By Gregory T. Federspiel

Work is well underway on the Fiscal Year 2025 budgets covering town and school operations from July 2024 through June 2025. Voters will be asked to approve the budgets at the Annual Town Meeting next April. A preliminary budget crafted by staff will be presented at a joint meeting of the Select Board and Finance Committee on December 18 followed by weekly meetings all through January and February to finalize a proposed budget for the Annual Town Meeting. The School Committee will be undertaking a similar process. Public input throughout is welcomed.

Specific challenges are emerging. Regarding Town operations, there is a need to add more public safety staff (Deputy Fire Chief and Deputy Harbormaster) as well as added position for our utility operations (water and sewer.) On average, the all-in annual cost of a new position (salary and benefits) comes to about \$100,000. Increased revenues from more ambulance runs, more transient boaters and new water and sewer connections can partially defray the costs of these positions if they are created.

Much more expensive challenges loom regarding the Town's facilities and infrastructure. The Town has benefited from investments that were made decades ago but most of these investments have run their course and are at the end of (or past!) their useful life. Reinvestments are needed to allow critical municipal services to continue. A new facility master plan has identified some \$100 million in new facility needs over the next 10 years, excluding the need for a new elementary school in Essex. New DPW facilities, a possible new public safety com-

plex, renovated Town Hall, upgrades to the sewer plant and dealing with the new filtering required to remove PFAS from our drinking water are some of the more critical needs. And looking beyond 10 years, enhanced seawalls, elevated roadways, and enlarged culverts, etc. will all be needed in the face of a changing climate and rising seas. Taxpayers will not be able to afford the bond payments for all these needs thus hard choices will have to be made.

Each million borrowed will cost the Town between \$100 -120,000 a year in principal and interest payments. In a few years each percentage point tax increase will generate about \$300,000. Thus, for each \$25,000,000 borrowed adds \$2.5 to \$3.0 million in annual expenses requiring 8 to 10 percentage point increases in taxation.

Helping the situation will be new property taxes from the CST project and freeing up funds once our retiree liabilities are fully funded. Combined this could represent some \$3 million in available funds for new bonds - about a quarter of the need. The high school debt is retired as well in about 10 years. How we pace ourselves and what choices we are able to make will have a big impact on future tax hikes.

Reinvesting in facilities and infrastructure will be an ongoing challenge which will be addressed over time. A more immediate and vexing challenge that will likely come to the fore next spring is what level voters choose to fund the Manchester Essex Regional School District. For the current year, the originally proposed budget for the District required a Proposition 2 1/2 Override vote by Essex in order for them to raise their required share of the District's budget. Due to shifting enrollment patterns,

Essex is currently picking up a bigger share of annual budget increases (it was not that long ago when enrollment patterns required Manchester to come up with a bigger percentage increase.) With the failure of the initial budget proposal, a reduced budget which relied on a combination of program cuts and further drawdown of reserve funds was approved by both towns on a second try.

Without an override Essex feels the most it can afford is a 2.5% annual increase in their appropriation to the District. Given the current shift in enrollment, this translates to an overall District budget increase in the 1% range, significantly below the typical 3 to 3.5% annual increase most school districts need to maintain level services. The reduction in offerings such a budget would cause will be a significant concern to parents of students. Last spring, voters approved the District's budget on a second try. Had it failed, a third attempt would have been a "super town meeting" attended by residents of both towns where whatever budget is approved by a majority of attendees to this joint town meeting must be accepted by both communities. Such a trifecta of meetings may well play out next spring if those advocating for maintaining current operations and those wanting to avoid an override end up in a stalemate. Regardless of how many attempts are needed this spring, there likely will be intense debate in the coming months over the FY25 School budget.

Voters will be the ultimate arbiters of how these challenges are resolved. Given the high stakes, all voters are encouraged to stay abreast of the issues and provide input over the coming months as budget proposals are finalized for approval.



BOARD UPDATES

Holidays by the Sea: The holiday season is here. A complete list of festive events from the Christmas Stroll to Santa's Firetruck Tour can be found on the Town website. Please remember to support our local small businesses this season.

Select Board Meeting: The Select Board will meet on Monday, December 4 at 6:30 p.m. A public hearing to set the FY24 tax rate will be included. Meeting details are posted on the Town website.

Police Chief Office Hours:

Chief Fitzgerald will hold his monthly office hours on December 7 from 4 - 6 p.m. at the Police Station. All residents are welcome to stop by.

Harbor Advisory Committee Meeting: The Harbor Advisory Committee will meet on Wednesday, December 13 at 5:30 p.m. Discussion will include the Fishermen's Pier. Meeting details will be posted to the Town website.

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.

Trash, recycling, and compost collection: Regular Schedule. Please place curbside by 7 a.m. on day of collection. Transfer Station is open on Wednesdays from 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Follow Us on Facebook, Instagram, and X (formerly Twitter) @townofmbts and visit the Town website 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
1 Fri	1:51	8.6	1:49	10.0	7:52	1.3	8:35	0.3	6:51	4:12
2 Sat	2:35	8.4	2:33	9.5	8:36	1.6	9:17	0.7	6:52	4:12
3 Sun	3:20	8.2	3:18	9.1	9:21	1.8	10:01	1.0	6:53	4:11
4 Mon	4:06	8.0	4:07	8.7	10:10	2.0	10:46	1.3	6:54	4:11
5 Tue	4:54	8.0	4:59	8.4	11:01	2.1	11:34	1.5	6:55	4:11
6 Wed	5:45	8.1	5:57	8.1	11:56	2.1			6:56	4:11
7 Thu	6:37	8.3	6:56	7.9	12:24	1.6	12:53	2.0	6:57	4:11

WHAT WAS HAPPENING



90 YEARS AGO - 1933

On Friday, December 8th at 8 p.m. the public of Manchester will be given a chance to hear Mr. William Earle, the noted radio broadcaster, who will present a program under the auspices of the Ladies Auxiliary to F.B. Amaral Post 113AL. The entertainment will be given in Town Hall.

A full house is expected. Three hundred and fifty million dollars will be distributed to about 8 million members of the Christmas Club by approximately six thousand banking institutions and organizations within the next two weeks, according to an estimate given out yesterday by Herbert F. Rawll founder and president of Christmas Club, a corporation.

75 YEARS AGO - 1948

A free venison stew has been promised to the customers of Peter and John Demarkis, proprietors of Seaside Cafe on Saturday, December 4. The Elder Mr. Demarkis' returned recently from a hunting trip to New Hampshire with a small deer, and is remembering his many patrons by asking them to share with him a dish from this animal.

With the largest registration of automobiles in the history of the Commonwealth this year, and with all signs pointing to an in-

creased registration for 1949, we urge motorists to go to their nearest branch office and get their plates over the counter in preference to mailing in their applications.

60 YEARS AGO - 1963

The Manchester Housing Authority, Inc., has announced that Edward Sears Read and Associates of 177 State Street, Boston, have been named as architects for the local Elderly Housing units which it is proposed to erect on Pine Street.

Coach and Mrs. Edward Field, Jr., of Lincoln Street are receiving congratulations on the birth of their first son, Edward J. Field, III, Tuesday morning. The little boy has four sisters awaiting him at home.

45 YEARS AGO - 1978

Mark Chafey, 29, of 17 Old Essex Rd., was pulled from the waters off Misery Island by two Wenham lobstermen on Wednesday of last week following a freak accident in which Chafey was hauled overboard when his leg became entwined in his trawl line. Chafey was tending his lobster pots about noon when the incident occurred.

The Board of Selectman is indeed proud of the Manchester Hornets Football squad which concluded an extremely successful season with a 10-win, 0-loss record,

the finest accomplishment in the long history of High School football in Manchester.

30 YEARS AGO - 1993

On Wednesday, December 22, the Manchester Council on Aging is planning a restaurant outing at The Kings Grant Restaurant in Danvers. The Kings Grant Restaurant is noted for its fine food and its beautiful decorations for the Christmas Season.

Manchester's Troop #3 Boy Scouts of America participated in the national "Scouting for Food" program and it was a mega-success! Through the generosity of the residents of Manchester, Troop #3 Scouts collected, and the troop committee delivered to the Cape Ann Food Pantry in Gloucester, 5654 pounds of non-perishable food goods. That is 2.8 tons.

15 YEARS AGO - 2008

Postmaster John J. Buckley today asked for the cooperation of postal customers to keep walkways and curbside mailboxes clear of snow and ice to ensure the safe and efficient delivery of mail this winter.

The annual Jingle Bell Walk will take place on Saturday, December 6, at 1 p.m. at Masconomo Park in Manchester. A treasured town tradition, the event starts when Santa arrives by boat.

Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus



Kids get a free photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus and a little gift.

**Saturday, December 9th
10am-noon**

**Cape Ann Savings Bank
109 Main St, Gloucester**

Holiday Hours:

Closed on Monday, December 25th in observance of Christmas Day

Closed on Monday, January 1st in observance of New Year's Day



Cape Ann Savings Bank
capeannsavings.bank





The Cricket publishes every letter it receives. However, letters should be original (no reprints), no more than 400 words and written in a general spirit of discourse, signed and include an email/phone and a valid address in case we have questions. Letters may be edited for clarity and accuracy. We have a "one letter, one person, one topic" policy, so please do not send multiple letters on a single issue. We do not publish press releases, anonymous letters, those judged to be libelous or an invasion of privacy. Longer pieces (up to 1,000 words) may be submitted for consideration as an Op-Ed Commentary. Please send submissions to letters@cricketpress.com.

Support MERSD, to See EES Thrive

To the Editor,

As President of Friends of Essex Elementary School (EES), a parent of an Essex Elementary student and a MERMS student, and a local pediatrician, I have been following the status of our school district closely.

Last week, there was a letter to the editor here in the Cricket that implied something nefarious is going on behind the scenes at MERSD; I do not think this is the case.

The school district is absolutely aware that the MCAS scores this year were evidence of a need to do better. When the school committee presented these scores at their meeting on 11/7, they

identified several causes of the dip in scores. Absenteeism related to mental health is a root cause; they are addressing the problem by supporting students and parents through social-emotional supports and workshops. COVID learning loss itself is also a root cause, and the district is focusing on interventions to support all learners. Additionally, socioeconomic factors have a huge impact on school performance and certainly are not equivalent between Manchester and Essex, making direct comparison in scores challenging.

Personally, I have seen decisive and swift action by our EES principal, who was new as of last year, to increase academic rigor. For example, EES students are getting homework for the first time this year, while MMES students have always been given nightly homework.

It is certainly true that "a school budget that needs to be artificially suppressed is not sustainable." The solution to a dip in student performance is to provide MORE resources to support them, not less. The assertion that one year of low test scores, is demonstrative of negligence or even malintent behind the scenes, only serves to promote the agenda to reduce funding for our schools. Avi Urbas has demonstrated excellent stewardship in his tenure at MERSD, and his departure during a budget crisis is a blow to our district. He is not the problem here.

Town administrator Brendham Zubricki has expressed that the Town of Essex cannot even fund an increase of 2.5% this year. Given a natural increase of 3-3.5% year over year due to the cost of living, healthcare, and special

education services, we are looking at a potential budget gap of around \$920,000. We are also looking at possibly getting a state grant for a new EES building in the near future; robust reserves would give the district favorable borrowing terms. Yet, in the past five years the district has dipped into reserves to cover costs the Town of Essex could not pay. This type of town financial management will not help our students' test scores or learning conditions improve.

We would best serve EES and our community by supporting our excellent MERSD and EES leaders' efforts to address the needs of students. Our children and our schools need our support at home, and they also need our advocacy around how our town prioritizes its spending. We must show that support by ensuring that our votes around town finances and town leadership reflect our values.

Elizabeth McKeen, MD
Essex

Essex Taxpayers Suffering Financial Inequity of School District Budgeting

Last Spring Essex residents voted to fund the MERSD budget by way of using all of its excess capacity (\$430,000). While this DID increase their taxes, they did not vote to increase their taxes MORE with an override to fund the district's "growth." With waning trust, it seems a "Super Town Meeting" is inevitable.

What would a Super Town Meeting and a larger increase in our taxes mean for the fu-

ture of Essex?

At 2.5% district growth, Essex could use its own reserves to fund the gap, but this practice would only be sustainable for two years at best. Understanding that using reserves to fund an operating budget is poor financial practice (though the district has been doing this for about 10 years), Essex will have to look within. The library, senior center, DPW, and Public Safety budgets could be reduced.

Annual overrides will become a habit; Essex will become more exclusive, and the community will suffer. But none of this matters if you plan on moving when your kids graduate from high school...

How long can Essex continue in this manner before the district realizes it is disproportionately affecting one of its town partners?

If Essex can reduce its expenses and grow at 1%, then a district should be able to do as well. After all, THE DISTRICT IS HAVING THE SAME FINANCIAL ISSUES ESSEX IS HAVING: not enough reserves and limited revenue.

The schools, our towns and our needs are different than they were 10 years ago.

Perpetuating a school budget without considering change and partner affordability is as far from Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion as you can get.

Antonella Muniz
Essex

John O'Brien: A Remarkable Career as South Essex County Register of Deeds

On January 5, 1976, 25-year-old John O'Brien was sworn

in as the 24th Register of Deeds for Southern Essex County (including 1636-1637, Clerk of Quarter Courts in Salem & Ipswich).

Over the next four decades, John O'Brien would become a champion for the people in his district and nationwide—a forward thinker and solution finder. Over the years, he's pushed for the advancement of technology while protecting the integrity of the land recordation system. He was also a pioneer in electronic recording of Land Court Documents.

There's a reason why he won a Smithsonian award for innovative use of technology. John's progressive thinking moved all areas of this Registry forward. He lived by the motto "How May We Help You!" operating the Registry like a family-owned business. He hit the street with outreach programs, created a free Property Fraud Watch Alert program, and always had an open-door policy for employees, constituents, friends, and family.

As this year is about to end, so does John's tenure as Register. A four-decade career as a public official is quite astonishing. His dedication to the people of the Southern Essex District is an inspiration. The phrase, "thank you for your service," seems trivial for the 46 years, 11 months, and 26 days, or 17,161 days he has been in office.

John, as you retire from a long and successful career, we'll remember you not only as the longest-serving Register of Southern Essex District Registry of Deeds but as a great man full of humor, wit, and compassion.

Nancy Fitzgerald Doherty
Beverly

LIBRARY NEWS



Gingerbread house. Courtesy Photo



Chef and cookbook author Erin Jean McDowell. Courtesy Photo

Manchester Library Meet & Greet
Sunday, December 3 from 1-2:30 p.m. Stop by for some holiday cheer and to meet the new Library Director and

Library Board of Trustees. **Baking Demo and Discussion (Virtual)** Tuesday, December 5 from 7-8 p.m. We are pleased to

welcome Chef and Cookbook Author Erin Jeanne McDowell. Erin will demonstrate how to make one of her favorite recipes and then will have some time to chat with attendees.

When the Tiger Smoked a Pipe: The Art of Korea (Virtual)

Sunday, December 10 from 2:30-4 p.m. The Art of Korea with Ginny Meyer and the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco. Explore the varied and fascinating art that Koreans have produced for thousands of years.

Friends of the Library Holiday Book Fair

Friday, December 1 from 4-8 p.m. At the First Parish Church Congregational Parish Hall, come peruse the hottest new book titles from the Beverly Farms Bookstore. Adults and children's books, stocking stuffers, wrapping paper, cards and more. Twenty percent of sales will support the Friends of the Library.

Library's Free Public WiFi

MBTS Library's WiFi is now encrypted, offering extra security for our community and guests. Log on from in-

side the building or from the front garden by connecting to MBTSLibraryWifi using password library1887.

Mindfulness Meditation

Every Tuesday from 11 a.m. - 12 noon 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.

Lindsay and Her Puppet Pals

Saturday, December 2 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Join puppet artist Lindsay for a holiday puppet show.

Make a Graham Cracker Gingerbread House

Thursday, December 14 at 5:30 p.m. Families are invited to the library to come make their own gingerbread house out of graham crackers. Registration is required.

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.

Manchester Animal Hospital
Larry A. Lamb, DVM
66 Summer Street
Manchester-By-The-Sea
MA 01944
Office: 978-526-9500
Urgent Care: 978-500-6208
Comprehensive Veterinary Medical, Surgical and Dental Care
www.manchestervet.com

Dementia Friends Presentation

Thursday, December 7 from 5:30-7 p.m. Visit the library for a free information session and discussion led by volunteer Dementia Friends Champions, Abby Considine and Carrie Johnson.

Hearthside Book Group

Tuesday, December 5 from

CAPE ANN INSURANCE AGENCY
A division of Salem Five Insurance Services
Home • Renters • Auto
Business • Life Insurance
Workers' Compensation
SalemFive
MAKE YOUR MOVE.
978.283.7757 • 23 Dale Ave, Gloucester, MA

Santa's Tour of Manchester



The traditional tour of Manchester-by-the-Sea by Santa Claus will occur on Sunday, December 10, 2023. This will probably be the last public appearance by Santa prior to returning to the North Pole and resting for his big around-the-world trip the evening of December 24th. Santa will ride, escorted by engines from the Manchester Fire Department and a cruiser from the Manchester Police Department and visit all parts of the town.

Listen for the siren and come out to the curb to see Santa. He

will have animal crackers for all of the youngsters in town. Santa's tour will leave the fire station at 12 noon. If you would like to see Santa early, please gather in front of the fire station about 11:45 a.m. that morning. You can see Santa early in the tour, give him a letter or give him some cookies and send him off on the tour with a big wave and cheer. The tour of the town is co-sponsored by the Seaside Fireman's Club of the Manchester Fire Department and the Amaral Bailey Post # 113 of the American Legion. This

year's trip around town makes over 65 years of giving to the community sponsored by these two organizations.

Santa's Route is as follows: Leave the fire station at noon and proceed to Central Street, turn right on Elm Street, travel Elm Street and Saw Mill Circle and return to Central Street. Turn right on Central Street to Bennett Street; Bennett Street to the end and turn left on Bridge Street. Bridge Street to Pine Street, Pine Street to Newport Park and go around Newport Park and back to Pine Street, Pine Street to Wood-

holm Road and Woodcrest Road and return to Pine Street. Pine Street to Walker Road and Highwood Road and return to Pine Street. Travel Pine Street to Crooked Lane to Rockwood Heights Road to the end. Turn right on Pine Street to Moses Hill Road and then return to Pine Street to Pleasant Street. Turn left on Pleasant Street to Old Essex Road. Old Essex Road to the Plains and around the Plains. Turn right on Old Essex Road to Blue Heron Lane. Return to Old Essex Road and follow it to the end.

Return to Pleasant Street and follow Pleasant Street to School Street. Turn right on School Street, School Street to Lincoln Street, Lincoln Street to Norwood Avenue, Norwood Avenue to Vine Street, Vine Street to School Street, School Street to Burnham Lane to Sumac Lane and Friend Street. Return to School Street, to Brook Street, Brook Street to Norwood Avenue.

Follow Norwood Avenue to Desmond Avenue, Desmond Avenue to School Street, School Street to North Street to Norwood Avenue. Turn left on Norwood Avenue and follow Norwood Avenue to Brook Street.

Turn right on Brook Street and follow to Summer Street. Turn left on Summer Street to Harold Street, Harold Street to Forest Street, Forest Street to Loading Place Road to the end. Return to Forest Street to Ledgewood Road to Birch Street to Ancient County Way. Follow Ancient County Way to Forest Street and out to Summer Street. Turn left on Summer Street to Hickory Hill Road, go around Hickory Hill Road and back to Summer Street. Summer Street to Raymond Street, Raymond Street to Magnolia Square and return to Summer Street. Turn right on Summer Street to Blynman Circle. Go around Blynman Circle and return to Summer Street. Follow Summer Street to Ocean Street, travel Ocean Street to Summer Street and then to Sea Street. Follow Sea Street to Tappan Street to Beach Street. Turn left as Santa "spins the beach" and then returns to the fire station via Beach Street, Union Street and School Street. Arrival back at the fire station about 2:30 p.m.

So, listen for the Manchester fire truck siren on Sunday, December 10th and come out to the sidewalk to see Santa and welcome him to your neighborhood as he tours the town looking for all children young and old.

by Tom Kehoe

Christmas by the Sea

The annual Christmas by the Sea in Manchester is finally here, with events happening all weekend long throughout town. Be sure to check in with the Greater Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce's website for updates. And don't forget to shop at local businesses that depend on you to keep our downtown vibrant and lively.

Thursday, November 30

Greater Cape Ann Chamber Christmas Party & 50/50 Raffle: 5 - 7 p.m. | Location Bravo by the Sea: Food, friends, & cash bar -- all are welcome to join!

Friday, December 1

Holiday Open House at Manchester-by-the-Sea Museum: 3 - 5 p.m. Children's program and ornament crafting. 5 - 8 p.m.: Passbook stamping. Museum Holiday Cards on sale at the Museum.

The Manchester Holiday Stroll: 4 - 8 p.m. | Downtown Businesses, Manchester. Support Manchester businesses. Stroll around town, enjoy refreshments at many shops

& collect stamps in your Holiday Stroll Passbook. Turn in your completed Passbook at Bravo by the Sea by 8:15 p.m. for a chance to win one of three prizes: \$200, \$100, or \$50 in Cape Ann Gift Checks. There will also be a 50/50 Raffle! Details and Passbooks available at local businesses.

Parents Night Out: 5 - 8 p.m. | Cornerstone Church. Drop your kids off in their Holiday Pajamas for an evening of fun activities, free pizza, and a showing of a holiday movie. Free for children ages Pre-K to Grade 5. Pre-registration is required at cornerstonenorthshore.org.

Friends of the Manchester Public Library Holiday Book Fair: 4 - 8 p.m. | FPC

Parish Hall Located behind Santander Bank. Join the Friends of the Manchester Public Library to peruse the hottest new book titles from the Beverly Farms Bookstore! Adults' and children's books, stocking stuffers, wrapping paper, cards, and more!

Saturday, December 2

Holiday Open House at Manchester-by-the-Sea Museum: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Ornament crafting. Museum Holiday Cards on sale at the Museum.

Lindsey & Her Puppets: 10:30 a.m. | Parish Hall Located behind Santander Bank Lindsey & Her Puppet Pals is a funny, fast-paced interactive show to delight the young and the

young at heart! Following the show, visit the Manchester Library for treats. Sponsored by Friends of the Manchester Public Library.

Jingle Bell Walk: 1 - 3 p.m. | Masconomo Park: Santa will arrive at Masconomo Park by boat and lead the children in a parade around the park and then be available for pictures. There will also be a petting zoo, crafts, face painting, a candy cane hunt, refreshments and a visit from Mrs. Claus!

Sponsored by the Greater Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce, Manchester Community Center, Manchester Mothers' Club and the Parks and Recreation Department.

Night of Stars Talent Show: 4 p.m. | Manchester Essex Regional Middle High School. Tickets & Info at spaulding-educationalfund.org.

Sponsored by Spaulding Education Fund.

Sunday, December 3

Breakfast & Photos with Santa: 9 a.m. - 12 noon | Manchester Masonic Lodge, 10 Church Street Breakfast (\$12 each - under 5 free). Kids & dogs welcome for photos with Santa!

Manchester Library Open House: 1 - 2:30 p.m. Come by for some holiday cheer and to meet the new Library Director & the Library Board of Trustees.

Community Carol Sing: 2:30 - 3:15 p.m. | Inside First Parish Church Join us around the piano to sing some traditional carols and get in the mood for the tree lighting. Happening no matter the weather.

Community Friendship Tree Lighting & Program: 3:30 p.m. | In front of Town Hall Common Enjoy a concert by the MERHS Band, Chorus and Sound Waves, as well as a dance performance by students of the Ballet de Mar School. The tree lighting will happen at dusk regardless of the weather.

Sponsored by the Manchester Woman's Club | Hot Chocolate donated by the Masons.

Troop 3's 150th Eagle Scout



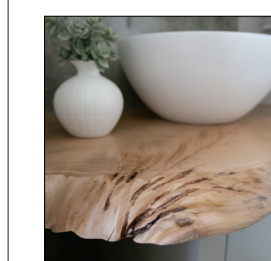
Troop 3's newest Eagle Scout, Jackson Thomas Surette, poses with his grandfather and sponsor, Dave Metrano, at the Scouts' Court of Honor. Courtesy Photo

On July 15, 2023, Jackson Thomas Surette became Troop 3's 150th Eagle Scout. Jackson began his Scout experience as a Cub Scout and followed his brother's footsteps through Troop

3. Thomas Surette earned his Eagle Scout Award in 2018. His grandfather Dave Metrano has been involved with scouting for over 60 years, as well as his Uncle Dan Metrano who was the Scoutmaster for Troop 3 as well as the Chairman of the Committee.

Scouting has always been a bond between Jackson and

his grandfather (aka Papa Dave). They spent countless hours during Covid working on numerous merit badges. The Scouts were not meeting in person at that time and Dave was considered high risk so the two of them continued with scouting requirements and swapping stories. ...*(Continued on page 6)*



interior design services
Jennifer Coles, principal
colescoloranddesign.com
jen@colescoloranddesign.com
978.808.7481



Boston, Mass.

New Homes
Major Renovations
Property Development
View our portfolio at www.chbuilds.com





During the Fall Athletic Awards this picture honored all of the seniors who performed in the various fall sports.

Courtesy Photo

FALL ATHLETIC AWARDS*

CROSS COUNTRY:

BOYS
Runner of the Year: Finn O'Hara
Coaches Award: Charlie Lations
Unsung Hero: Lyall Cunningham
Most Improved: Henry Stevens
Sportsmanship: Colby Rochford

GIRLS

Runner of the Year: Sabine Cooper
Coaches Award: Whitney Turner
Unsung Hero: Faith Castellucci
Most Improved: River Silva
Sportsmanship: Libby McKinnon
Team Captains: Finn O'Hara, Charlie Lations, Colby Rochford, Whitney Turner, Sabine Cooper, Faith Castellucci

GOLF:

VARSDITY
Athlete of the Year: Gray West
Most Improved: Matt Graeter

Coaches Award: Lilly Brigham
Unsung Hero: Luke Holmes
Sportsmanship: Matt DeOreo
Team Captains: Lilly Brigham

JV

Athlete of the Year: Connor Dickson
Most Improved: Robbie McLaughlin
Coaches Award: Jack Bediz
Unsung Hero: Elliot Davis
Sportsmanship: Ian Campbell

FIELD HOCKEY:

VARSDITY
Player of the Year: Ella Chafe
Most Improved: Liv Cahill
Coaches Award: Torrin Lee Kirk
Unsung Hero: Isabelle Donnellan Valade
Sportsmanship: Greta Gado
Team Captains: Torrin Lee Kirk, Caelie Patrick, Phileine de Widt, Ella Chafe

JV

Player of the Year: Molly Schimpf
Most Improved: Sarah Broadbent
Coaches Award: Maya Frangioso
Unsung Hero: Sarah Cort
Sportsmanship: Madeleine Franco

BOYS SOCCER:

VARSDITY
Player of the Year: Sammy Bothwell
Most Improved: Ian Carlin
Coaches Award: Logan DeSouza
Unsung Hero: Hayden Spencer
Sportsmanship: Sam Porter
Team Captains: Logan DeSouza, Sammy Bothwell

JV

Player of the Year: Chase Spencer
Most Improved: Logan Lunt
Coaches Award: Egehan Guntas
Unsung Hero: Robin Lovett
Sportsmanship: Nicky Clements

GIRLS SOCCER:

VARSDITY
Offensive Player of the Year: Mechi O'Neil
Defensive Player of the Year: Madi Cook
Most Improved: Megan Hurd
Unsung Hero: Olivia Kent
Coaches Award: Charlotte Crocker
Team Captains: Mechi O'Neil, Mackay Brooks, Pippa Spingler, Ella Arntsen

JV

Player of the Year: Ava Linson
Most Improved: Bianca Torri
Coaches Award: Emilia Kirkpatrick
Unsung Hero: Tess Taylor
Sportsmanship: Simone Argento

CHEER:

Cheerleader of the Year: Audrey Smith
Most Improved: Chloe Psalidas

Coaches Award: Ella Aieta
Unsung Hero: Grace Ashley
Sportsmanship: Caroline Doucette
Team Captains: Ella Aieta, Allie Delaney and Caroline Doucette

FOOTBALL:

Most Valuable Player: Stephen Martin
Most Improved: Beckett Walker
Joe Hyland Coaches Award: Troy Flood
Unsung Hero: Henry Thurlow
Ed Field Defensive Player of the Year: Mac Edgerton
Offensive Player of the Year: Quinn Brady
Alan Cummings Special Teams: Preston Potter
JV Player of the Year: Jacob Zachareas
Team Captains: Henry Thurlow, Stephen Martin, Troy Flood

*Awards were presented and graciously supplied by the Manchester Essex Boosters Club.

...(Continued from page 5)

Jackson chose his Papa to be his sponsor for his Eagle Scout journey. The following is the speech that Jackson wrote and recited for his sponsor.

"The person that I chose to be my sponsor did not take more than a second for me to come up with. This guy has been my mentor, my hero, my example and one of my best friends for the last 17 years. I have always admired his dedication to Scouting, but one thing that has always made me sad is that he never achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. He chose to serve his country in the Navy on a nuclear submarine during the Vietnam War, instead of finishing his Eagle Scout rank. This represents a selfless pride that even an Eagle Scout would admire. He has spent countless hours teaching through Scouts. He is the reason that I wanted to learn to scuba dive. I love to listen to his stories about his past Scout troops and all the things that they did, including taking scuba diving trips to Bonaire and other islands.

My whole life I always knew that there was nothing that he

could not build or fix. When I came up with the idea for my Eagle Service Project, he was the first one that I went to for ideas and input on exactly how to build the depth markers, what kind of wood to use and how to fasten them to the pilings. He coached me on developing my written plan to present to the committees. Once I received approval from all the necessary boards, we began the project. He spent many late nights using the power tools that I was not allowed to, carving the measurements into the markers. He never once complained. My project was a success because of this man.

My family is a Scouting family. My brother Thomas is an Eagle Scout, my Uncle Dan is not only the Chairman, but also an Eagle Scout. Two of my sisters received their Girl Scout Gold Awards and my mom was a Girl Scout and has many different jobs in the troop. When you look back throughout my family history of Scouting, it all started with one man, my Papa, Dave Metrano. He and I spent countless hours during Covid

working on merit badges. I thank him for all his dedication towards getting me to where I am at in Scouting. I am proud to have him as my sponsor. Saying thank you does not even come close to showing how much he means to me. Thank you, Papa."

For Jackson's Eagle Scout Service project, he designed, built, and installed depth markers for the docks in the harbor and at Tucks Point to assist boaters in determining if they had adequate depth to bring in their boats to the docks. Jackson was celebrated with a traditional Eagle Scout Court of Honor on October 15, 2023. He was awarded numerous citations and well wishes from the Commander of the Amaral Baily Post, Senator Bruce Tarr and other officials. His ceremony was attended by family and friends.

Jackson is a senior at Essex Tech and has been accepted to the University of Northwestern Ohio for next Fall. He plans to study high performance engines and pursue a job with NASCAR upon graduation.

His family is extremely proud of his accomplishments and look forward to seeing where the next chapter of his life takes him. Congratulations Jack.

Sponsor a Bulb Donors Setting Up Manchester Holiday Tradition

The Manchester Woman's Club (MWC) has launched its annual Friendship Tree lighting program tradition, with local residents sponsoring bulbs on the tree at the Town Common when it is lit up for the season on Sunday December 3, as part of the Holiday Stroll in Manchester. Each year the MWC sponsors the program which includes a concert on the Town Green, hot cocoa provided by the Manchester Masonic Lodge and served by the MWC, and the lighting of the Friendship Tree ceremony starts at 3:30 p.m.



The following people have already sponsored a bulb on the tree in the name of loved ones.

NAME OF DONOR

Lauren Bunker
Stephen Laspesa
Kathryn Demarkis

The Bennock Family
Jennifer DeSimone
Mary Cody-Kenney
Robin Blumenthal
Elizabeth Loomis
Constance Leahy
Joan Desgroseilliers
Michael Garvey
Cynthia Conway
Roseanne Bruno
Anne Gilson
Holly Gavin
Valerie McAskill
Gillian Palumbo
Andrea & Earl Morgan
M&M Chapman
Charlene Young
Robert Ruderman
Sheila Carrassi
Mary Peart
Nancy Delaney
Joe & Judy Sabella
Julie Smith
Susan Mirak
Jennifer DeSimone

REMEMBERING

Casey Kelly
J. Laspesa, L. Laspesa, M. Davis, M. Laspesa, T. Laspesa
M. Demarkis, A. Laste, A. Kinoy, B. Laste, A. Kinoy, K. Demarkis, P. Demarkis
B. McDonald, K. Clark, M. Smith, T. Murphy
P. DeSimone
Donation
I. Blumenthal, H. Blumenthal, J. Verbist, Kail/McHugh Family
Donation
D. Sheahan, P. Sheahan, K. Sheahan, P. Leahy, M. Leahy
D. J. Slade, H. A. Slade, J. H. Slade, M. S. Slade, D. Slade
F. Garvey, S. Craig
Friends & Family Manchester Community
Dianna, Ester, Peter, Maris, Jerry
Donation
H. Bell, D. Gavin, E. I. Gavin, C. D. Tracey, E. M. Forward
N. Wrobel, J. Wrobel, J. Wrobel, J. Wrobel, J. Wrobel
A. Palumbo, D. Prisco
Morgan & Ranta Families
L. Parrish, J. Parrish, J. Chapman, K. Chapman
E. Young, G. Logue, M. Logue, Skippy
S. Caruso, G. Caruso, L. Ruderman, R. Hurwitz
B. E. Emslie, Class of 56 who have gone
F. Noonan, E. Thibodeau, S. Currier, S. Stewart, J. Noonan
D. J. Delaney, R. Delaney, L. J. Pomfret
Mom, Dad, Mom, Dad, Brother
C. Smith, J. Gamble, B. Gamble, A. Smith
Gabrielle, Audrey, Eliza, Peter, Eddie, John, Priscilla
P. Adams

The Friendship Tree has a long history dating back to 1965 when the MWC organized a campaign to raise funds to acquire a tree on the Town Green, as a "symbol of a friendly community."

...(Continued from page 1)

Thanksgiving means so much to the seniors and that was great, but it wasn't as fun as playing a long-time rival, that's for sure."

Those seniors were at least able to have one final game at home on Thanksgiving, and they will be missed after they graduate. Stephen Martin finished with 915 yards and nine touchdowns on the ground this season in spite of missing two games to injury and running back/linebacker Quinn Brady tallied just under 500 yards and seemed to have a nose for the end zone with six total touchdowns, along with his contributions as a blocker. In all, the Hornets lose 11 seniors from this squad to graduation, including captains Martin, Troy

Flood and Henry Thurlow. "This was a special team for me as it is the end of my third year as head coach and prior to that I was the jayvee coach with this group as freshmen in 2020-21," explains Grimes. "You may recall, that was that crazy spring 2021 pandemic season, and these now-seniors were a great group that dealt with all the headaches from that year with a smile and really learned some tough lessons about adversity that served them well this year." An experienced, talented core will return, however, to help the team transition next season. "Our new 2024 captains, Zach Hurd (quarterback/defensive back) and Cian Brennock (offensive/defen-

sive line) are sure to make a big impact next season," says Grimes. "Incoming junior trio of Walker Valeo, Joe Glass and Chris Glass are going to anchor the O-Line and D-Lines coming off great sophomore campaigns." Another question the Hornets need to answer in 2024: Who will be the Thanksgiving Day opponent next year? It's likely it won't be North Middlesex again, a team located about 60 miles from Cape Ann that shares very little history with Manchester Essex. "I don't think we will," says Grimes. "We're working on something that we're hoping will be a little better fit that we hope to lock down soon in this winter season."

ScottEnergy Community Bulletin Board

2023 HOLIDAY TEA
Manchester-by-the-Sea Museum

Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2-5 p.m.
TRASK HOUSE, 10 UNION ST.

r.s.v.p., 526-7230 for this free event

Supporting Our Community Since 1946

Cleaner Better Fuel. Unmatched Service.
800-736-4929
ScottEnergyCo.com

This ad space has been purchased by the ScottEnergy Company and is offered free of charge to local non-profits 501(c)(3) and public organizations. Call the Manchester Cricket at 978-526-7171 to reserve this space for your group.

116 YEARS OF TREE SCIENCE
BEVERLY FARMS

BARTLETT TREE EXPERTS

SCIENTIFIC TREE CARE SINCE 1896

ESSEX ECHO.

Town Administrator's Report

Board of Selectmen's Meeting of Nov. 13, 2023
Report covers from October 24, 2023 to November 10, 2023

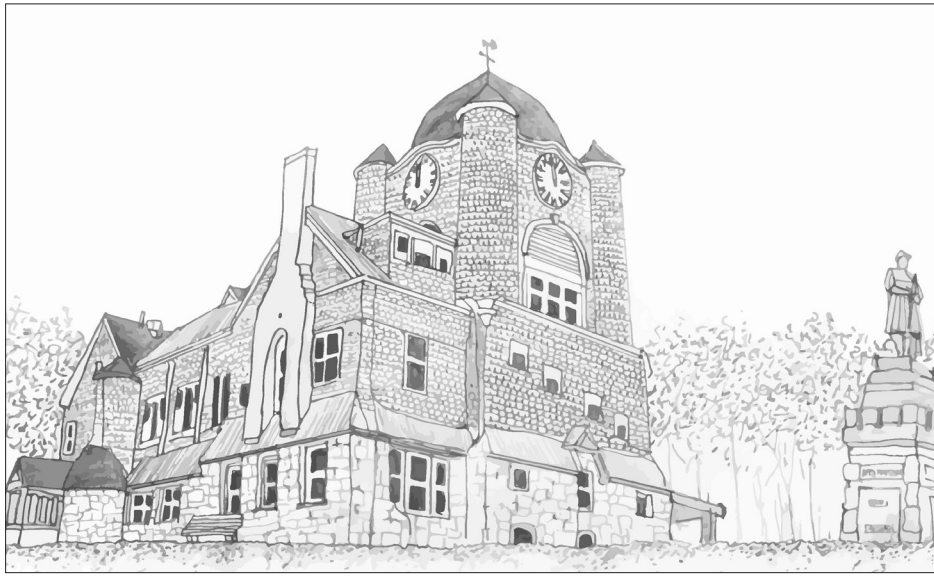
North Shore Regional 911 Center Executive Advisory Board Meeting

The TA attended the subject meeting on November 6, 2023 along with Chief Francis, in his capacity as Chairman of the subject board. The meeting featured a discussion about allowing the Town of North Reading to join the Center. Frank Poznaniak of the State 911 Department was in attendance and he indicated that the addition of North Reading would not change the no-cost nature of being a member of the Center.

The Center's Director commented that North Reading will be cut over only when both that town and the Center are ready.

For example, if the Center has difficulty recruiting the necessary number of additional dispatchers, North Reading will need to wait until that situation has been rectified.

The Board voted to allow North Reading to join the Center in accordance with the Onboarding Project Plan that spells out all of the de-



tails and conditions necessary for North Reading to eventually go live. As the Board may recall, back in March, the Town of Manchester joined the Center. As such, with North Reading, the Center will be covering a total of seven communities.

Greater Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce Essex Division Meeting

All three Board members attended the subject meeting on October 25, 2023. Chairman Preen provided Chamber members with an update on Town projects and initiatives.

Field Trip: Losing the High Marsh

Selectman Phippen led a field trip on October 27, 2023 to assist Town Green to illustrate the expected problem of losing the high marsh vegetation with the advancement of sea level rise. Current predictions have the high marsh vegetation transitioning to low marsh vegetation and low marsh vegetation transitioning to unvegetated tidal flats in future years. Since the high marsh has very little room to migrate into current upland areas (which are mostly already developed), this cascade of transitions

may adversely affect the ability of the Great Marsh to buffer future coastal storms. Town Green is an organization based in Gloucester that is trying to bring attention to the effects of sea level rise and climate change on Cape Ann.

Veterans' Day Holiday

The office was closed on November 10, 2023, in observance of the subject holiday.

This report is available at www.essexma.org on the morning after any regularly scheduled Essex Board of Selectmen's Meeting.

LIBRARY NEWS

T.O.H.P. Burnha
Public Library



Patrons at the Essex Library enjoyed making Autumn Floral Arrangements prior to Thanksgiving with local florist Karen Bell of "Something Extra Flowers." Courtesy Photo

Community Book Group

Monday, December 11 at 10 a.m. We will be discussing "Ask Again, Yes", by Mary Beth Keane.

Teen Cocoa & Craft

Friday, December 8 at 3:30 p.m. for grades 6-12.

Meet the Elf on The Shelf

Tuesday, December 12 at 4 p.m. Kids ages 2-10, please reserve your spot.

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.

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.

Story Hours Begin

Wednesdays at 9 a.m. for Wee Ones, ages 0-2 yrs. Twenty 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 19

7:38 a.m. John Wise Ave., motor vehicle accident with injury, report to follow. 1:37 p.m. Southern Ave., male with abdominal pain, transported to hospital. 1:38 p.m. Goodwin Court, motor vehicle accident no personal injury, assisted as needed. 6:24 p.m. Southern Ave., motor vehicle stop, citation issued.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

12:16 a.m. Martin St., directed patrol, secured/checked. 1:02 a.m. John Wise Ave., selective enforcement, no action taken. 1:38 a.m. Scotts Way, directed patrol, secured/checked. 6:38 a.m. Spring St., directed patrol, secured/checked.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

No report.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

10:57 a.m. Story St., community policing, secured/checked. 2:35 p.m. Route 128NB, directed patrol, secured/checked. 6:32 p.m. Eastern Ave., disabled motor vehicle, secured/checked. 9:43 p.m. John Wise Ave., motor vehicle stop, citation issued.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23

7:48 a.m. John Wise Ave., harassment, report to follow. 9:54 a.m. Pond St., traffic hazard, secured/checked. 8:43 p.m. John Wise Ave., citizen assist, assisted as needed. 9:14 p.m. John Wise Ave., disturbance, secured/checked.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24

11:01 a.m. John Wise Ave., male sick, transported to hospital. 12:01 p.m. Route 128NB, motor vehicle accident with injury, assisted as needed. 4:09 p.m. Lufkin St., citizen assist, assisted as needed. 9:00 p.m. Main St., motor vehicle stop, arrest.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

10:40 a.m. John Wise Ave., motor vehicle accident, no personal injury, spoken to. 11:12 a.m. Martin St., animal complaint, assisted as needed. 3:59 p.m. Eastern Ave., male with unknown medical problem, patient refusal. 7:06 p.m. Story St., motor vehicle stop, citation issued.

Essex Zoning Bylaw Review Project Public Forum

You are invited to attend a public forum on Wednesday, December 6, 2023, at 7 p.m. to learn about the progress of the Essex Zoning Bylaw project. The event will begin with a project overview presentation, followed by a brief Q&A session. After the Q&A, attendees will have the opportunity to participate in an interactive mapping exercise and provide valuable input on updating the town's zoning map. Click here: <https://www.essexma.org/> for more details.

ESSEX SENIOR LIVING | DEC 1

Celebrate the Holidays with these Festivities

Holiday Market in the Shipyard

Saturday, December 2 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. The Friends are selling Essex items.

Guest Chef

Tuesday, December 5 from 12 noon-2 p.m. join Gil and Nancy Frieden who will be cooking up some traditional Jewish Holiday delights. Advance registration required.

Grab and Go Holiday Meal

Wednesday, December 6, 4:30 p.m. pick up for last names A-M, 5 p.m. pick up for last names N-Z. \$10 per person payable to Friends of the Essex Council on Aging. RSVP and payment due by December 1. Choice of entrée: Baked Haddock or Steak Tips. Meals include vegetables, clam chowder and apple crisp. Participating restaurants: The Blue Marlin, The Farm, The Mill, Woodman's.

Friends Holiday Party

Wednesday, December 13 at 11:30 a.m. at the 1640 Hart House. \$20 per person, payable to the Friends of Essex Council on Aging. RSVP and payment due by December 1. Choice of entrée: Baked Haddock, Chicken Piccata or Vegetarian Pasta. All meals include Caesar salad, seasonal vegetables, blueberry cobbler, tea/coffee.

Ugly Sweater Party

Thursday, December 14 at 1 p.m. Wear your favorite UGLY holiday sweater and join us to decorate "ugly sweater" cookies. Prize awarded for best holiday outfit. Registration required.

Cultural Cookie Celebration & Sing-along

Thursday, December 21 at 1 p.m. Join Fran Pierce and sing-along to all your holiday favorites. Enjoy the company of friends sharing songs and a buffet of around the world cookies and cocoa. Please register. Arts & Crafts Activities, Tuesdays, 1-3 p.m.



Christmas sweaters.

Courtesy Photo

Computer & Technology Assistance, Wednesdays 1-3 p.m.

Games with Gil, Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

COA Fitness Programs

Balance in Motion, Tuesdays and Fridays at 10 a.m. Groovefitness Video, Mondays at 9:30 a.m. Fitness with Gil, Wednes-

days at 10 a.m.

Another Grab and Go Meal

Monday & Thursday at 12 p.m. Please register 2 business days in advance. Mobile Market at the Essex Senior Center December 1 and December 15 at 10:30 a.m. Free to all seniors.

Ladies Brunch

December 12 at 11 a.m. RSVP five days before.

Men's Coffee and Donuts

December 13 at 9:30 a.m.

Monthly Book Club

Tuesday, December 19 at 1 p.m. Holiday Book Swap.

Essex Locals | Dec 1

115 Years Ago - 1908

During the heavy squall of wind about 11:30 a.m. Monday a carriage shed belonging to Fred M. Burnham was blown down.

90 Years Ago - 1933

The pupils of the public schools were highly entertained by Capt. Stanley Osborne last Friday who gave a lecture on Australia which he illustrated with colored lantern slides. Being a native of that country he was able to give an unusually interesting and authentic account of life in that far away country.

jeffreys creek
land contractors inc.

Builders of Quality Crafted Outdoor Spaces

180 SOUTHERN AVENUE ESSEX, MA

978 ~ 768 ~ 3359

www.jeffreyscreek.com

The View From Here

It's Time to Consider Sensible Restrictions on Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers



One sign in the Gloucester auditorium of those opposed to banning gas powered leaf blowers read, "Worry about real problems." As if a whole population of leaf blowers losing their hearing is not a real problem; maybe not for us, but what about them?

By Sylvia Vriesendorp

It's fall, and during fall, leaves fall.

Over time the dropped leaves decay and provide many benefits to our ecosystem: protective cover for the small creatures that inhabit the land and nutrients for the soil. We used to leave the leaves around the trees and shrubs to protect the roots against hard frosts and feed the soil. The ones that fell on our lawns we either mowed into mulch or raked and bagged to be sent to a place to be composted so that we could bring them back to our yards in the spring-true recycling.

Now that some of us are older and can't do the raking anymore, we hire people. Enter the rise of a whole new industry: the lawn-care or landscape companies. We see those parked (and sometimes blocking) our streets, no longer just in the fall and spring, but now all year round. Most of these companies are equipped with the gas-powered leaf blowing machines that rattle so many of us.

The landscape companies like to use these powerful gas-powered leaf blowers because they get the job done quickly and efficiently! They employ crews who carry their leaf blowers like backpacks. These young people are often from immigrant communities. Like anyone else, they are lucky to have a job. But they are unlucky in that their jobs may well contribute to early hearing loss

if they don't have ear protectors. Notice how many of them don't.

Gas-powered leaf blowers emit 80 to 92 decibels of noise, and some large commercial units emit even more.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), noise above 70 decibels over a prolonged period may start to damage your hearing. If leaf blowing is a full-time job, hearing loss is all but guaranteed for these young workers carrying the backpacks. One sign in the Gloucester auditorium of those opposed to banning gas-powered leaf blowers read, "Worry about real problems." As if a whole population of leaf blowers losing their hearing is not a real problem; maybe not for us, but what about them?

With many more people working from home these days, the noise argument may well have contributed to an uptick in ordinances proposed to city governments all over the country.

Since the EPA standards for leaf blowers and other small landscape equipment haven't been updated since 2010 and there is no state-wide law in Massachusetts, it's up to cities and towns to regulate them. Bans of gas-powered machines are in effect in Washington, D.C., Miami Beach, Florida and Evanston, Illinois. California will end the sale of gas-powered blowers next summer. A phase-out by 2025 has been approved by the Multnomah County Leadership in Portland, Oregon, and the Seattle

City Council is outlawing gas-powered tools, first by all city departments and contractors (by January 2025) and eventually, in 2027 by all businesses and residents.

In Massachusetts, Lexington, Belmont, Arlington, Concord, and Dedham have voted to phase in year-round bans on gas-powered blowers. Swampscott will prohibit blowers from Memorial to Labor Day.

Although noise is annoying for people, especially those working from home who need a quiet environment to do their work, it is not the primary reason why we should ban gas-powered leaf blowers.

The main reason is that they are hazardous to our health, the health of our planet, and the survival of the small creatures we share our yards with. The latter are losing their winter leaf cover when winds of over 200 miles per hour are directed at their hiding places, blowing them into smithereens. These very high winds also blow herbicides, pesticides, fungicides, and other hazardous chemicals into the air we breathe. Even if we have healthy lungs, that stuff gets into our bodies when we walk near a leaf blower at work. Imagine the damage to someone whose lungs are already compromised.

If these winds coming out of the front of these machines are bad for all of us living creatures, there is more. Gas-powered leaf blowers are dirty machines and have no place in a world that is

fighting global warming. The small two-stroke engines may seem efficient because they are inexpensive, lightweight so they can be easily carried like a backpack. But the mixing of oil and gasoline that drive these motors, leaves a residue in the air of unburned aerosols. These emissions spew benzene (which we know to be a carcinogen), methane and carbon dioxide into the air. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) estimates that using a commercial leaf blower (many of which are powered by two-stroke engines) for one hour produces as much smog-forming pollution as driving 1,100 miles in a car.

So, this is the irony: we may proudly show that with our hybrid or all electrical vehicles we do our part to reduce carbon dioxide (the primary greenhouse gas emitted through human activities), and then we allow landscapers to use their gas-powered equipment in our yards, the equivalent of driving a (gasoline-powered) car from Boston to Birmingham Alabama.

Efficiency and speed and convenience, at what price?

It is true, there are other factors that need to be considered, such as the costs to the landscaper of buying new equipment, such as extra batteries. Last week, the Kyroz auditorium in Gloucester's city hall, was packed with local landscapers to make sure a proposed ordinance to ban gas-powered leaf blowers died on the vine. It did. One sign read: "Stop destroying small businesses."

This argument requires serious consideration. The president of a landscaping business that operates in the Washington D.C. area calculated that replacing his equipment will take a big bite out of his revenue. He considers moving to a clientele in the D.C. suburbs where such bans are not in effect. Changing batteries frequently is annoying, but then again, the noise and the damage to our environment is more than annoying. Landscapers complain they cannot get the wind power from battery-charged leaf blowers - but now that we know what that wind does, are we willing to take that wind with all its nasty side effects?

I am sure we can be creative at finding new ways to approach lawn care so that we can meet the needs of all creatures, big and small. We can learn from what others are doing. For example, in Evanston, Illinois, landscaping companies registered with the city may be eligible for grants of up to \$3,000 to assist with the purchase of electric-powered leaf blowers through the city's Entrepreneurship Support Grant program.

If we can talk with each other and give full weight to the consequences of the old and the new, we will come up with temporary compromises that will give rise to win-win solutions over time.

Sylvia Vriesendorp is a Manchester resident since 1993 and a public health professional.

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 | Sullco, Inc.

thecricket.com



Merry Cricket

AND A HAPPY NEWSPAPER!



\$52

online & print

Give the gift they'll enjoy all year long!

A gift subscription to The Cricket is a weekly treat no matter where you are. The first paper comes delivered in a Cricket tote bag and a message from you. Then, every week, they'll think of you all year long!

52 issues, for just \$52*.
Who will you make happy this year?

ho ho ho!



* US SUBSCRIPTIONS ONLY. INTERNATIONAL RATES CAN BE PRICED SEPARATELY. CALL US AT 978.526.7171.

Sustainability: Tips Use Less During the Holidays

By the Manchester Sustainability Committee

RecycleMA states that all landfills in Massachusetts are scheduled to close by 2030 and the five municipal waste combustors in the state are operating at or near capacity now. It is imperative that we cut the amount of stuff we are throwing away. Here are some ways everyone can reduce the waste burden during the holidays.

Q: How much extra waste is created during the winter holiday season?

A: Americans throw away 25% more trash during the Thanksgiving to New Year's holiday period than any other time of year. The extra waste amounts to 25 million tons of garbage, or about 1 million extra tons per week!

If every family reused just two feet of holiday ribbon, the 38,000 miles of ribbon saved could tie a bow around the entire planet. If every American family wrapped just 3 presents in re-used materials, it would save enough paper to cover 45,000 football fields. The 2.65 billion Christmas cards sold each year in the U.S. could fill a football field 10 stories high. If we each sent one card less, we'd save 50,000 cubic yards of paper.*

Q: How can I reduce waste during the winter holiday season?

A: While the winter holiday season brings good cheer for most people, it also brings a lot more solid waste to the landfill, harm to the environment and additional debt to the average American family. Here are some environmentally-smart tips for a less wasteful -- perhaps less stressful -- holiday this year:

Wrapping paper is often used once and thrown away. Most wrapping paper is mixed with plastic and is not recyclable. Try using colorful pages torn from magazines to wrap small gifts, and old maps or the Sunday comics



for larger boxes. Avoid using paper entirely by using fabric, reusable decorative tins, baskets or boxes. If you do buy wrapping paper, look for ones made of recycled paper. Reusable cloth ribbons can be used in place of plastic bows. Finally, unwrap gifts carefully and save wrappings for reuse next year.

If you buy gifts, look for durable and re-usable items and resist the latest "fad" on Amazon. Think of how many pet rocks, mood rings, and cabbage patch dolls ended up in the landfill!

Look for gifts with an environmental message: a nature book, a refillable water bottle, a canvas tote bag, a battery recharger or items made from recycled materials. Choose solar powered instead of battery powered products. Or better yet, ones that require no power at all.

Other environmentally-smart gifts include home-made ones: home-baked cookies, bread or jams, a plant or tree. Ones that don't create any waste at all: concert or movie tickets, dinner at a restaurant, or an IOU to help rake leaves or repair a leaky faucet. Ones that get "used up": candles, soap, or seeds for next year's garden.

You are probably receiving piles of mail order catalogs at this time of year. Call the company's 800 number and

ask that you be removed from their mailing list. Fortunately, magazines and catalogs can usually be recycled with your mixed paper.

Lastly, if you send holiday cards, look for ones made of recycled paper. Avoid cards with glossy, shiny or gold foil coatings since these cannot be recycled. Save the cards that you get in the mail, cut off the front pictures, and re-use as "postcards" next year. This saves on postage too. Or, send "electronic cards" or make a phone call instead!

Q: How can I reduce waste and buy great gifts this holiday season?

A: We will generate an additional 7 million pounds of waste between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. To reduce waste, give gifts of time and gifts that are sure to be used. Here are some suggestions.

Certificates

Baby-sitting, taking out the garbage, doing the dishes, cleaning the house, or cleaning the car.

Trips/Outings

Museums, parks, beaches, hikes, seasonally lighted parks, or winter picnics.

Hand-Made Gifts

Fill a basket with baked goods, assemble a collection

of favorite family recipes, make a holiday bouquet from fresh greens, holly, etc. and tie with bow, make Christmas ornaments from family photos, or video tape family members telling favorite family stories/memories.

Tickets

Movie, concert or sports tickets.

Gift Certificates

Restaurants, record stores, book stores, video rental stores, department stores, or grocery stores.

Memberships

Health spas, swim clubs, museums, zoos, or amusement parks.

Subscriptions

Magazines, newspapers, book clubs, or flower of the month club.

Financial Accounts

Savings accounts, mutual fund shares, or stocks or bonds.

Gifts for Children

"Dress Up Box" filled with costume jewelry, scarves, hats, aprons, and ties, cooking equipment and a recipe with ingredients, blank journal or diary, blank scrapbook with scissors and tape, flower seeds and pots, or tool box and supplies to build a simple

bird house.

Gifts to the Environment

Send e-greetings to family and friends, buy a living Christmas tree and replant after the holidays, buy live plants, gardening tools, bird seed, battery charger with rechargeable batteries, bus/light rail/train passes, e-bikes or walking shoes.

Q: How can I protect the planet this holiday season?

A: Gift Ideas -

- Keep an eye open for products made from recycled materials.
- Gift certificates to a favorite store or tickets to a concert, theater production or sporting event.
- An annual pass to State Parks.

Entertaining -

- When planning holiday festivities, make it easy for your guests to recycle at gatherings.
- Use plates, glasses and cutlery that can be washed and re-used.

Public Transit -

Let someone else do the driving on holiday shopping trips- Try a bus, train or subway. Check with local public transit for special holiday routes and hours.

The Giving Tree -

- When it comes to trees, you have plenty of beautiful options. With live trees you can have a tree to enjoy year-round. Ask your local nursery which trees grow best in your area. Artificial trees are cost effective and they can be reused year after year. Cut trees are beautiful. But remember, they take up valuable landfill space, so be sure to have yours composted.

Wrap It Up -

- For gift wrapping, you can start your own recycling program.
- Use old posters, comics, colorful shopping bags, even old maps.
- When you receive gifts, be sure to save the ribbons and bows.

Conserve Energy -

- Set the thermostat lower- put on a sweater to stay warm.
- Turn off holiday lights when you go to bed.
- String popcorn and cranberries, instead of lights.
- Close your chimney flue when your fire is extinguished.

Amidst all of the celebration and gift-giving, we can all look for ways to reduce waste, recycle and save energy.

J Barrett & Company Opens New Office at Hamilton Crossing to Serve Hamilton/Wenham



J Barrett & Company is pleased to announce the opening of a new office in The Shoppes at Hamilton Crossing.

"We are very excited about this opportunity to better serve clients in the Hamilton/Wenham area," says Jon Gray, president. "Our agents have helped countless clients buy and sell properties successfully in both Hamilton and Wenham over the

years. Having a 'local' office will allow us to better focus on these towns as well as the surrounding communities."

Realtor® Deb Evans, who was the #1 agent in Hamilton/Wenham in 2022 agrees. "I look forward to J Barrett having a 'physical' presence in Hamilton/Wenham," says. "Communicating with people via phone and email is efficient but the

opportunity for spontaneous face-to-face meetings when people stop into the office 'because they are in the neighborhood' is exciting."

J Barrett & Company's newest office in Hamilton Crossing is near Crosby's Marketplace and the restaurant, 15 Walnut. "We appreciate the long-standing support from the business community in Hamilton and

Wenham and now it's our turn to give back," adds Gray.

Established in January 2007, J Barrett is a service-oriented company that has become the premier privately-owned real estate firm on the North Shore. The company serves the North Shore and Cape Ann areas from offices in Beverly, Gloucester, Hamilton, Ipswich, Manchester, and Marblehead.

...(Continued from page 1)

Not so fast ...

In December 2022, amid speculation that the town was considering the site for a new senior center, Harbor's Point terminated the MCC's lease and offered the MCC a new 60-day tenant-at-will agreement. The MCC accepted the new deal, but on September 12, Harbor's Point sent the 60-day notice terminating the lease.

Then, at the MCC's request, town officials stepped in as something of a white knight. The town's proposal? Take over the lease relationship with the HPCA that would allow the MCC to run its programming from the building, while also using the space for a temporary COA senior center, add needed public restrooms and a temporary Harbormaster office. Harbor's Point was warm to the concept. So was the MCC.

On November 13, Special Town Meeting voters agreed, seeing a potential lease as a win-win-win.

But in the afterglow of town meeting, the MCC met with town officials and introduced a new twist. They wanted the town to insert a two-year window into its lease with Harbor's Point that would enable the MCC to take back the building at any time. Given the town would be investing taxpayer money to upgrade the building for a public purpose, town officials said giving a private community organization the right to move a renovated structure would complicate matters and needed further discussions with all parties. HPA was skeptical of entering into a new lease with the town with such a provision.

Even as of last Monday, Raquel Przesiek, co-president said the MCC's future was entirely in the town's hands. She wrote that, "the town is still working out the finer details" of the deal and the MCC would respectfully wait before speaking publicly. This didn't

jibe with Town Administrator Gregory Federspiel's update that same day to the Select Board. When asked, he said lease negotiations would have to wait. The ball, he said, was firmly in the MCC's court, not the town's.

Two days later, Federspiel was proven correct. On Wednesday, the MCC triggered the clause in its lease, declaring it would go it alone and remove the building by the February 10 deadline. The town learned about it from Harbor's Point.

In an online post Patrick Meehan, MCC's other co-president, wrote that the MCC had "tried valiantly to work with both parties" on the lease proposal, "including three different variations. No version of the deal would protect the historic building." In fact, all the proposal variations would have preserved the historic building.

Without details from the MCC, it's unclear if the building can be successfully moved. And it faces considerable hurdles in doing so. First, the MCC will have to secure a required special Massachusetts MBTA approval to move the building. And it's likely the structure's destination will require local zoning approvals as well. Another challenge is financial. Does an organization with \$187,139 in the bank as of 2021 have the wherewithal to plan, permit and then move the historic structure? And finally, can this all this happen by February 10?

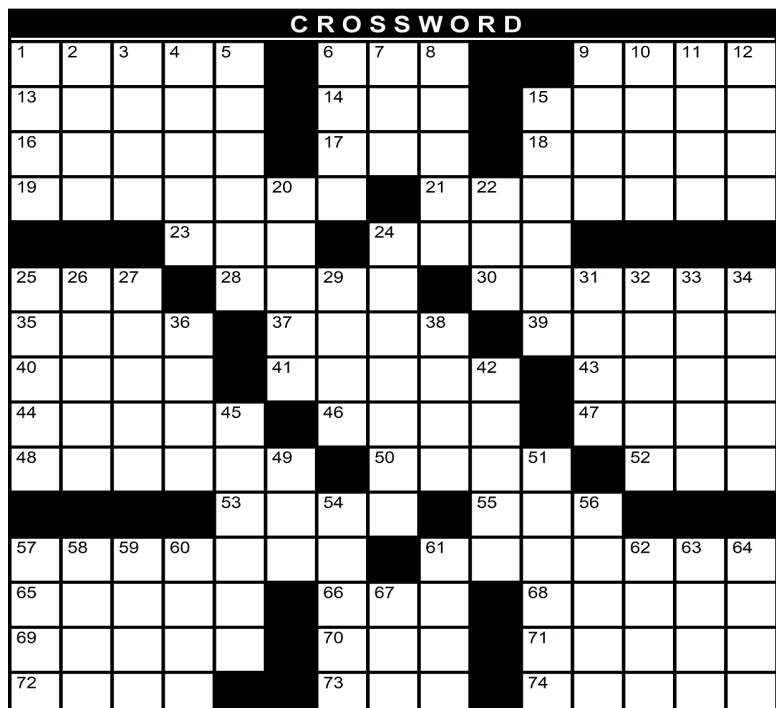
For its part, Harbor's Point has said it still hopes to negotiate a town lease and would offer the MCC a right to purchase the building for \$1.00 if it ever decides to demolish it and give the MCC six to seven months to complete the removal when the time comes. It doesn't appear this was enough, and in the meantime the town may now be on the outside looking in. And the MCC may already be in touch with another "white knight."

Puzzle

THEME: MATH 101

ACROSS

- 1. Loaded up
- 6. Tube in old TV
- 9. Pouches
- 13. Tequila source
- 14. Stick in water
- 15. Jig's French cousin
- 16. TV's "___ Secretary"
- 17. Money in Myanmar
- 18. Photoshop maker
- 19. *Result of multiplication
- 21. *Whole number
- 23. *Say 2+2 is 5, e.g.
- 24. Arctic floater
- 25. Dashboard acronym
- 28. Fountain serving
- 30. Spanky or Alfalfa
- 35. Short for "hurry up"
- 37. Live bait
- 39. Turn upside down
- 40. Cassette contents
- 41. Retire from military, for short
- 43. Jason's vessel
- 44. Sicker
- 46. *Sight for ___ eyes"
- 47. Puppy cry
- 48. Denver option, at a diner
- 50. Apartment
- 52. Green turtle's domain
- 53. Final
- 55. Personal trainer's place of employment
- 57. *Venn ___
- 61. *Point in 2.5
- 65. Barrel racing meet
- 66. Gobbled up
- 68. On the rocks (2 words)
- 69. *Fields Medal to a mathematician, e.g.
- 70. Sports official, for short
- 71. 8 of something
- 72. Like Gulf Stream
- 73. Big bang maker
- 74. Required things



Off First Month of New Service!
USE PROMO CODE: GZ590

\$25

Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR **888-804-0913**

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

DOWN

- 1. "I lift my ___ beside the golden door"
- 2. Petri dish gel
- 3. Carpenter's groove
- 4. Dodge, as in tax bill
- 5. Takes exception to
- 6. Native Egyptian, in Roman times
- 7. *Line with one endpoint
- 8. Path in the woods
- 9. Left or right, e.g.
- 10. Awestruck
- 11. *Three-dimensional figure with 6 square faces
- 12. Palm reader, e.g.
- 15. Cake with filling
- 20. Three people?
- 22. Neither here ___ there
- 24. Subcontract (2 words)
- 25. *1:2, e.g.
- 26. Sacred song
- 27. Canada's favorite tree?

Sudoku

SUDOKU

Call today and receive a **FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF**

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB 1-855-576-5653

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In-Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in-tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

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

© StatePoint Media
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

- 29. "Nobody ___ It Better"
- 31. Fix a cat
- 32. First discovered asteroid
- 33. *Measured in degrees
- 34. Parkinson's disease drug
- 36. Banana remnant
- 38. Between dawn and noon
- 42. Brown shade
- 45. Retread, past tense
- 49. Non-alcoholic brew
- 51. Rockefeller or Bezos
- 54. Like today's phone
- 56. Kind of pie
- 57. No-win situation
- 58. Wisconsin neighbor
- 59. Jewish month of Purim
- 60. Disease-causing organism
- 61. Clever
- 62. Indoor allergy cause
- 63. Crushed it, as in a test
- 64. "___ Make a Deal"
- 67. *X

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 Kolentas, are held each Sunday.

Sunday's Divine Liturgy, with Father 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 with Communion, Sunday Dec. 3, 2023, 10 a.m., we invite everyone to join us for hospitality following the service. Worship Leader, Rev. Rick Spalding
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, Dec. 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, Dec. 10, 2nd Annual Messiah Sing, 7:30 p.m. with a reception held following.
Our Advent theme - Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you... So affirms the beloved carol in whose shelter we gather ourselves together, each Advent -- to wait and to wonder. The prophet Isaiah proclaims that God's name means "God with us". What are the implications

of the with-ness of God -- for each of us alone, for all of us together? How does the with-ness of God change our ways of being with each other? with ourselves? with the world? These are some of the questions we'll be pondering as we worship together during this momentous Advent at First Parish -- on the cusp of an exciting new chapter in the life of our church, and a season of urgent need in the world. In light of everything that's going on around us, let's be sure to be with one another, and with God, as we prepare ourselves again through the month of December to receive tidings of great joy which shall be to all people!

...(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



Hamilton
This sweet remodeled Cape boasts a high end kitchen you'll wish you could cook Thanksgiving dinner in this year!
\$579,000 | Tracey Hutchinson | 978-473-9720



Wenham
This classic Farmhouse is set on a large flat acre lot. MANY improvements have been made to this wonderful property
\$795,000 | Karen Bernier | 978-807-5580



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



Gloucester
Look no further. This is your opportunity to live with so much at your finger tips. Beaches, Gloucester harbor, restaurants, and more!
\$638,000 | Bruce Figurido | 978-869-3151



Lowell
Discover this beautifully renovated loft townhouse in the heart of historic downtown Lowell. Spacious open-concept living area!
\$529,000 | Tara Farley | 603-247-7800



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



Newbury
Centuries past and modern elegance seamlessly blend in this showpiece renovated property with 1.64 acres on the Newbury Upper Green.
\$2,795,000 | Karen Bernier | 978-807-5580



Boston
Welcome home to this lovely two bedroom, two bath condo situated on one of the South End's tree-lined, cul-de-sac streets.
\$1,249,000 | Theresa DiPiro | 617-275-6624

Want to Know the Value of YOUR Home?
Finding out has never been easier!
Go to **ChurchillProp.com** and use the **Churchill Instant Price Valuation Tool**.
This tool will instantly give you the value range and estimated value of your home.
Try it today!



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**



Time to head South? Maybe not.



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

What a relief not to have worried about Mom and Dad during the winter months; no slipping on ice, driving in snow, frozen pipes, furnace failures, or snow removal. They enjoyed winter outdoor living down South without the weather-related complications that are the norm here in New England.

Living in two places has its benefits (and plenty of complications).

Mom and Dad have two of everything...including medical teams. It's a challenge to keep everything coordinated between their North and South teams: communication, testing, medications, refills, dosages, etc. It's been manageable until now, but circumstances shifted this past summer.

Mom's medical situation is rapidly evolving and becoming more and more com-

plicated. Since they came home in May, she has been in the Emergency Room four times and hospitalized twice. Her overall stamina has decreased, and her symptoms and meds seem to be changing all the time. It's not that there isn't good healthcare in Florida, but to change medical teams now (that took months to stabilize) feels precarious. Mom needs consistent medical care and daily help.

And then there's Dad.

He is determined to go. His golfing buddies are pressuring him to return. They have a great network down South, although their friends are aging, too. Some have had to "stay put" with family up North through the years. Mom and Dad always said, "That won't happen to us."

The bottom line is that Mom and Dad are in two different places for the first time. Mom is fragile. Dad is healthy and wants to get back to his regular winter routine. They are the same age and have both had minor

issues. Up until now, their daily lives and routines have not been impacted.

How can we make this work?

Mom wants Dad to go to Florida, but he says he won't go without her. It feels like an impasse. We must find a way to meet the needs/wants of each without sacrificing the well-being of either one. It's not easy and maybe not possible, but it's worth some thought:

- Can Mom go for two weeks and then return home?
- Can the family accompany her to Florida?
- Can we divide the time and provide some family coverage for her there?
- If she isn't comfortable going, can Dad go down alone for a couple of weeks, and can we cover Mom at home?
- Can we present to Dad that he goes, and if Mom changes her mind and feels up to it, she joins him for a week or two with support from the family?

Reality check.

It might be a time when Dad needs education about what's happening. Maybe he's stuck in denial that Mom's issues are now limiting her ability and freedom to "get up and go." Like The Conversation of "giving up driving," "getting help at home," or "relocation," this is a difficult period and topic to wrestle with. Whatever the subject, bringing your perspective to a loved one in your family, especially when they may not share your opinion, will, for sure, be difficult. Coming to terms, however, is part of the deal.

Sometimes, there isn't a perfect solution where both parties get exactly what they hoped for. A healthcare professional who can help Dad understand Mom's "new normal" and its impact might be the reinforcement you need. Through careful and thoughtful decision-making, you will find a compromise that best fits your family to support Dad's happiness and Mom's wellness.

Solution to puzzles on page 10

L	A	E	D		C	R	T		S	A	C	S		
A	G	A	V	E		O	A	R		G	I	G	U	E
M	A	D	A	M		P	Y	A		A	D	O	B	E
P	R	O	D	U	C	T		I	N	T	E	G	E	R
			E	R	R		F	L	O	E				
R	P	M		S	O	D	A		R	A	S	C	A	L
A	S	A	P		W	O	R	M		U	P	E	N	D
T	A	P	E		D	E	M	O	B		A	R	G	O
I	L	L	E	R		S	O	R	E		Y	E	L	P
O	M	E	L	E	T		U	N	I	T		S	E	A
			T	E	S	T		G	Y	M				
D	I	A	G	R	A	M		D	E	C	I	M	A	L
R	O	D	E	O		A	T	E		O	N	I	C	E
A	W	A	R	D		R	E	F		O	C	T	E	T
W	A	R	M		T	N	T		N	E	E	D	S	

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

PET OF THE WEEK



Meet Rob

Rob is a 1.5-year-old boy looking for his forever home. He can be a bit shy when first meeting but once he is comfortable, he will come over and rub against you to show his love! He would do best in a low-traffic, routine-based home where he can settle in at his own pace. Rob has been diagnosed with a heart murmur that is associated with a pulmonic stenosis so he is considered a special needs adoption. If you think Rob would make a good addi-

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

PUBLIC NOTICE



Town of Manchester-by-Sea
Office of the
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Town Hall, 10 Central Street,
Manchester-by-Sea, MA 01944-1399

Public Hearing Notice to be Published on or before 12/1/23

Michael Corsetti requests the Commission make a decision regarding a Notice of Intent for widening and paving an existing private drive, approximately 16' wide, to approximately 22' paved drive within Bordering Vegetative Wetland (BVW) and within the 100-foot, 50-foot No Build Zone, and 30-foot No Disturb Zone Buffers to BVW at 10 Old Wenham Way (map 32, lot 130)

This request will be discussed at a VIRTUAL meeting Tuesday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m. and will be reviewed under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (MGL Chapter 131, Section 40) and/or the Manchester General Wetlands Bylaw.

MNPA website: <http://masspublicnotices.org/>
December 1, 2023 MC

...(Continued from page 10)

Come one and all to our 5pm Christmas Eve Intergenerational Service for people of all ages. Infused into the service will be a recreation of an older pageant script, slightly modernized, entitled Looking Back is Looking Forward. Music, joy, and the humanness of this ancient tale is sure to set your Christmas Eve with just the right tone to meet Christmas Day with arms and eyes wide! Don't miss it. 7:30 p.m. Traditional candlelight service with hymns open to all.

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.

Gloucester Unitarian Universalist 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.gloucester-uu.org, for the link to the livestream. Activities pro-

vided 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. 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: northshorequaker@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.

LEGAL



Town of Manchester-by-Sea
Office of the
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
Town Hall, 10 Central Street,
Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA 01944-1399

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Manchester-by-the-Sea will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Location: This is a Hybrid meeting. ZBA Board will meet in Room 5, Town Hall. Applicants, Presenters, and Public are welcome to join the Board in Room 5.

New Applications

Application of Joseph Falzone on behalf of Francesca C. Falzone, Trustee of the Black Cove Realty

Trust for a Special Permit under Sections 5.0, 7.2 and 12.5 of the Zoning By-Law to allow for the change from a nonconforming use (parking and storage) to a single-family residence in a nonconforming structure on a nonconforming lot at 75 Harbor Street, Assessor's Map 22, Lot No. 32 in District E filed with Town Clerk on October 12, 2023.

Application of Lindsay and Valdimir Ratushny for a Special Permit under Sections 4.3.2, 7.2, and 12.5 of the Zoning By-Law to allow for the construction of an accessory 62' x 32' sports court at 1 Crooked Lane, Assessor's Map 32, Lot 98 in District A filed with Town Clerk on November 7, 2023.

Application of Andrew and Jennifer Migonis, for a Special Permit under Sections, 4.3.2, 7.2, and 12.5 of the

Zoning By-Law for the installation of an in-ground swimming pool at 89 Bridge Street, Assessor's Map 27, Lot No. 13 in District C filed with Town Clerk on November 14, 2023.

Application of Davis Keniston for a Variance under Sections 7.2, 7.4, and 12.5 of the Zoning By-Law for a Shed installed within the front setback at 16 Jersey Lane, Assessor's Map 26, Lot No. 12, in District C filed with the Town Clerk on November 13, 2023.

Zoomb information will be available on the Town website prior to the meeting.

Sarah Mellish, Chair, Zoning Board of Appeals

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

December 1, 2023 MC
December 8, 2023 MC

MANCHESTER CRICKET
A Local Tradition Since 1888

Man, these Police Notes are great!



The North Shore's Premier Real Estate Agency



Manchester \$5,835,000
Elusive "small" house on the water exists! Updated Contemporary with versatile, multi-level floor plan, floor-to-ceiling slider access to multiple decks, views from every window, 3-car garage.
Fabyan & Filias Team



Beverly \$3,998,000
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



Hamilton \$3,985,000
Savin Hill - 15 acres of rolling lawns and direct trail access for equestrians are idyllic backdrops to 6-plus bedroom English country manor house (in-law suite, too), barn and 3-car garage.
Gretchen Berg



Ipswich \$1,100,000
Location, location! Breathtaking water views, private resident beach. Open concept 3-bed, 2-bath home. Glass walls in fireplaced living room overlook water. Updated septic. Near yacht club, train.
Dottie Levesque

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



Hamilton \$1,049,000
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



Hamilton \$725,000
Flexible floor plan, 5-bedroom septic, central A/C, and plumbed/heated bonus spaces are highlights of this 3-bedroom Ranch near Appleton Farms and top schools. Room for garage, in-law/office.
Cricket Sperry



Wenham \$629,900
Sun-splashed Antique with timeless features, classic charm, enchanting character. Enclosed rear entry mudroom, sleeping porch, pantry in kitchen, 3 generous bedrooms, large yard. 1-car garage.
Fabyan & Filias Team



Beverly \$625,000
Beverly Cove. Delightful 3-bedroom, 2-bath, 1,620 sf Cape. Versatile 1st floor, hardwood, central A/C. Fireplaced living room, eat-in kitchen, gas stove in bonus room. Full dormered 2nd floor.
Kristin Kelly

1 Beach Street • Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA 01944 • 978.526.8555

Find us on :
JBarrettRealtyNorthShore

WE'RE LOCAL
WE'RE GLOBAL®

Leading REAL ESTATE COMPANIES OF THE WORLD®

LUXURY REALTY

www.jbarrettrealty.com

J Barrett & Company, LLC supports the principles of both the Fair Housing and the Equal Opportunity Acts.

COLDWELL BANKER MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA



**10 Eaglehead Rd
Manchester | \$3,349,00**
This is a four bedroom, four and half 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**



**304 Summer St
Manchester | \$1,950,000**
This is a rare find as it brings together beauty and privacy in an incredible and convenient location near the ocean. This five bedroom, four bath well maintained Colonial is perched on over an acre of land with an additional acre of usage.

**Krista Julian | Realtor
617-312-5413**



**28 Granite St
Rockport | \$920,000**
Character, comfort, and potential! Check out this freshly painted, handsome Rockport four bedroom antique near the beach, town and train.

**Paula Murphy | Realtor
978-559-1465**



**74 Cherry St
Wenham | \$4,250,000**
Sited on over 40 acres of private rolling lush fields overlooking a majestic pond. This property is in move-in condition six bedrooms, five and half baths and 7 fireplaces.

**Lynda Surdam | Realtor
978-764-7474**



**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 and two-car garage.

**Scott Smith | Realtor
617-750-2793**

WHEREVER YOU DREAM OF LIVING, WE'LL HELP GUIDE YOU THERE.



**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 a pond. Large deck with terrace, two-car garage.

**Lynda Surdam | Realtor
978-764-7474**