

Presidents Day: Monday, February 19

"Change will not come if we wait ... We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek." ~ **Barack Obama**

MANCHESTER (RICKET) A Local Tradition Since 1888

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BRIEFLY

Last Call! MBTS COA Off to Olive Garden

On Friday, February 16th, the Manchester Council on Aging is offering a trip to the Olive Garden in Danvers. Olive Garden is a casual dining restaurant chain that specializes in Italian American cuisine. Join in and get your pasta fix. The van will start picking up seniors around 11 a.m. Call to reserve. On another note, the COA this week started its weekly (Thursdays) tax filing support service with volunteer counselors trained by the Internal Revenue Service. Contact the COA: 978-526-7500 for info.

Wellspring Hosts Free Feb. 24 Open House in Honor of Black History Month

The community organization, Wellspring, will open its doors for tours as part of a free Open House featuring its "History Lives Here" exhibit from 10 a.m. to 12 noon Saturday, Feb 24. The West Gloucester site that Wellspring has always operated from is also the historic site of the Davis-Freeman House. Come learn about the fascinating story of the Freemans, a prominent Black American family who for more than 100 years owned and lived in the home where Wellspring is headquartered today. Tours run every 15 minutes and are limited to 10 guests. Docent-led tours of the exhibit and activities will engage and inform attendees of all ages on an important piece of Gloucester's history. Information at the Wellspring website.

Mark Your Calendars: Greater Cape Ann Career & Educational Advancement Fair

On Thursday, March 7, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Gloucester High School Field House, the Greater Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Gloucester, Rockport, Manchester-Essex, Ipswich, and Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical High Schools, will host its annual free Greater Cape Ann Career & Educational Advancement Fair. This is a great opportunity for high schoolers to learn about a full spectrum of opportunities, including meeting with representatives from more than 75 colleges, trade professionals, and more than 50 business leaders. Find summer jobs, internships, community service opportunities, and, yes, educational options after graduation.



SINGING BEACH SUNDAY, 3 p.m.

Many folks showed up to see the running of the many brave this past weekend for the 2024 Magic Years Cooperative Nursery School Polar Plunge. The event raised \$9,000 (wow!) for the school. And the day was relatively temperate, so Mother Nature gave the group a bit of a pass this year. Great job for a great cause!

Photo: Erika Brown

Cell Signaling Hearing to Begin March 11

By Jeff Pope

The public hearing on the Cell Signaling plan for a new researchand-development laboratory to employ over 500 people will begin on March 11, according to a tentative plan set forth by Planning Board chairman Ron Mastrogiacomo at the Feb. 12 meeting.

Cell Signaling is seeking a special permit to build the laboratory over two phases off Atwater Avenue in the area of the old gravel quarry. The first phase will include one of two laboratory buildings, which will be connected by a lobby. The first phase will also include a parking garage, which will be expanded during the second phase.

Attorney Mark Glovsky, CSI development consultant Peter Gourdeau and Matt Connors of Hancock Associates attended Monday's Planning Board meeting. CSI had submitted a box full of documents to the town recently as part of its application for the special permit.

CSI had already received a variance from the town's Zoning Board of Appeals on several building height exemptions last November.

Glovsky said CSI is currently before the town's Conservation Commission to get its approval for the project.

The hearing on the special permit can take up to six months, but Mastrogiacomo



Cell Signaling is seeking a special permit to build a corporate campus over two phases off Atwater Avenue in Manchester's Limited Commercial District. The process is expected to conclude in June.

said for a start, the Planning Board was setting aside five additional meetings after March 11, to discuss traffic, civil engineering, landscaping, geo-thermal, utilities, financial and environmental

issues.

At each of the hearings, experts from CSI, or their consultants, will present reports on how the project will affect the different areas of concern, such as traffic. The Planning Board will then be able to hire its own consultant to conduct a peer review, if it feels it is neces-

Town Planner Marc Resnick presented the board with

a list of three possible companies to do those peer reviews - Environmental Partners of Woburn, BSC Group of Boston and Sampson and Weston of Reading.

Resnick said he had submitted CSI's application to Environmental Partners. "They will be submitting a cost estimate of all of their hourly rates," said Resnick.

He said he had talked to someone at Weston and Sampson and that they are used by many communities around the North Shore, "I need to talk to a different person but they are interested in the project," said

cerned that certain subjects be covered in the peer review process. Several members mentioned stormwater and water runoff from the project as a concern. Mastrogiacomo said that would be handled as part of the civil engineering discussion.

Board member Susan Philbrick raised the concern about the effect of the project on the surrounding wildlife. That will be part of the discussion on environment.

Mastrogiacomo said they Resnick will meet with members of the town's Police, Fire and Public Works departments to get input on the project, then report to the board.

Glovsky also said that CSI would be putting together a presentation, probably for the start of the hearing, which would, hopefully, answer a lot of residents' concerns about noise, lighting, and visibility of the project from Route 128.

...(Continued on page 11)

As Deadlines Approach, MBTA Task Force Moves Forward

Editor's note: Maps that show the different areas being considered by the MBTA Zoning Task Force are on the town's website, under the Quick Link to MBTA Zoning, then scroll down to the group listed Maps. The first map is the most recent, although it does not include changes discussed at this week's meeting.

By Jeff Pope

ime was foremost on the minds of the Manchester-by-the-Sea MBTA Zoning Task Force members at its meeting on Feb. 8.

New Town Planner Marc Resnick set up a long-range schedule for the Task Force, starting with joint meetings with the Planning Board in April, and sending the Task Force's completed proposal to the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities by May 18. That is about a month earlier than was proposed at the Task Force's last meeting.

The EOHLC has 90 calendar days to approve or reject the plan. This schedule would allow the plan to go to public hearings with the Planning Board and Select Board in September and October and go to a special Town Meeting in early November.

When asked if the Task Force has time to look at

other options, Resnick responded, "You don't have that luxury anymore."

Task Force member Richard Smith said he was concerned that they would be no further along after the next meeting. "I'm still worried that we end the next meeting and still have two options that we want to check," said Smith. "I would like to think that we could have a decision pretty much in our minds when (Consultant Emily Innes) does could back."

Innes presented the Task Force with several workable plans, although the side effects were often not what the Task Force was looking for. The zoning plan that the

The zoning plan that the Task Force is looking to approve, needs to meet the following criteria:

Rezone at least 37 acres;

 those acres must average at least 15 units of multi-family housing per acre;

in the rezoned area;
• include at least 40 percent
of the 37 acres (or 14.8
acres) be within a half mile
of the MBTA commuter rail

station on Summer Street.

allow for at least 559 units

The Task Force has said it prefers to try not to exceed any of the criteria by any more than they have

One option (Option 7) that Innes provided would be to rezone only the general district downtown and the Manchester Athletic Club and medical building in the Limited Commercial District. The problem with this plan is that it rezones 97.7 acres and allows for 1,351 units in the LCD, both far exceeding the needed numbers.

...(Continued on page 5)

Weekly Weather C	Chart		
Saturday 17 Feb	***	35°	20°
Sunday 18 Feb	*	36°	22°
Monday 19 Feb	*	37°	28°
Tuesday 20 Feb	*	46°	31°
Wednesday 21 Feb	1111	40°	37°
Thursday 22 Feb	***	38°	34°
Friday 23 Feb	34	38°	35°

Weather data pulled Wednesday and is subject to change.



BSC hasn't responded to

Resnick's calls. "Someone

might be on vacation," said

Resnick. "I will follow up

Several of the Planning

Board members were con-

with them as well."

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

Essex ConCom Tuesday, February 20, 7:15 p.m.

7:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.

MBTS Welcoming Committee Wednesday, February 21 7 p.m. Virtual Meeting

Essex Planning Board Wednesday, February 21, 7 p.m.

Essex Board of Health Thursday, February 22 7 p.m.

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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).

Christine M. Lawson



Christine M. Lawson, 50 of Manchester by-the-sea, died peacefully on Sunday February 11 at her beloved home surrounded by her family. She was born October 12, 1973 to Patricia (Monahan) and William Lawson and was the beloved wife of David Reissfelder.

Christine had a passion for many things, and was an accomplished photographer, artist, and professional. She developed a talent for web development and graphic design and flourished in her role at Adobe, where she ran a community of thousands of developers from all over the world. She left Adobe in 2008 to dedicate herself to being a fulltime mom.

She was an incredible mom, and her true passion was her family, and especially her children, who she loved fiercely. She loved spending time at home, gardening, cooking and entertaining family and friends. She had a love for all things ocean, and dearly loved the time she spent on the water with her husband, Dave, their children and many friends, exploring the coastline from Annapolis to Maine. She loved antiquing and had an incredible eye for design. She explored all of New England, but particular-

ly Cape Cod and Nantucket, in search of art and antiques for her home or to be given as a gift to others.

Her home was truly hers, and she made it a beautiful place for all her friends and family to enjoy. It was the epicenter of the family, and her family truly revolved around her and her home. She so loved her dogs, Hunter, Piper and Penny who are a constant presence and known to anyone who knew her and spent time with her.

Christine leaves her devoted husband of 22 years, Dave, and her amazing and cherished children, Sam and Lee both of Manchester by-the-sea; her mother Pat of Beverly; her sister and lifelong friend, Cathy Lawson and her partner, Charlie Adams of Beverly. Christine was predeceased by her father, William Lawson, who she loved so dearly. Christine also leaves an extended family of nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and in-laws all who are family to her and are wonderful.

Christine received incredible medical care throughout her battle with cancer from so many medical professionals, family and friends that are too numerous to name. We extend our sincere gratitude and admiration for the care they gave Christine and for their devotion to her during her fight.

In accordance with Christine's wishes there will be no funeral services. A joyous Celebration of Life will be held in her honor at a later date. Contributions may be made in Christine's memory to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute at www.dana-farber. org/gift, or Care Dimensions at www.giving.caredimen-

The Manchester Cricket

Founded in 1888. Published every Friday.

Erika M. Brown

Paul Clark Susan Zampell Business Development Dir

Susan Anthony bscriptions & Office Mgr

Business & Editorial Offices

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

www.thecricket.com

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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 SALE

1-WK TIMESHARE - ATTITASH MT VILLAGE-Not able to use any longer. Children long gone, need to sell. Located across the street from Attitash Mountain, children 7 & 5, are looking for Bartlett, NH. "Week 4," two sepa- a 2+ bed house in Manchester rate units on main floor that can be used as one. Private hallway 2 year position at Harvard. Year connects units. One with full round or winter rental Sept-June. bath and Q-bed. Other full bath, watsher/dryer, full kitchen, living Dr David Carus claracarus@gmail. rm, fireplace, pull down double bed. Main floor excess to pkg lot. responsible. Ski locker, use of pool & game rm. Pls call for details or to make an offer: (978) 526-7036. TF

FOR RENT

MANCHESTER 1st FLOOR APARTMENT—One bedroom apartment on the first floor in downtown Manchester. Good size kitchen, living room, den, laundry in the building, off street PERSONAL parking for one car. Located in downtown area. \$2,000/month, heat included. Tenant at will, please call 978-526-7226.

MBTS VILLAGE—Upstairs at 38 Union St features renovated 1 bdrm/1bthrm with shower. Hdwd HANDYMAN, MBTS—Handyman

space in the heart of MBTS right above Grav House Antiques! Email hello@grayhouseantiques.com. **SEEKING RENTAL**

MBTS, FAMILY—I, my husband, starting July/Aug/Sept during my \$4000 max. Dr Clara Carus & com. Excellent references, very

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ASSISTANT-Consider it Done/ Personal Assistant. (Services offered but not limited to) Errands, Shopping, Medical Appointments Gardening. Contact Tracy at 978-376-0950 or Email Te2photo2@gmail.com 2/1

floors, cathedral ceilings, exposed for light construction, home beams, patio and backyard, repairs, painting, cleanups, two private entrances. W/D in home repairs, painting cleanunit. Central A/C. 700 sq.ft. +/-. ups, power washing, rototilling. \$2,500/month. Great light with Fully insured. Have truck and sunshine all day. Available now trailer. Clean, honest, references. thru May 2025. Come bring your Contact Bill mbtshandyman@ ideas to this ideal home or office gmail.com or (978) 618-0999. TF

MANCHESTER POLICE NOTES

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

2:12 a.m. Central St., motor vehicle stop, verbal warning. 10:06 a.m. Union St., motor vehicle lockout, assisted as needed. 9:04 p.m. Pleasant St., selective enforcement, citation issued. 9:06 p.m. School St., motor vehicle stop, citation issued.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

9:14 a.m. Pine St., motor vehicle stop, written warning. 12:34 p.m. Bridge St., citizen assist, assisted as needed. 3:03 p.m. Nortons Point, alarm, secured/checked. 4:31 p.m. Route 128NB, motor vehicle stop, vehicle towed.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 9:24 a.m. Pine St., motor vehicle stop, written warning.



12:06 p.m. Beach St., animal complaint, spoken to. 1:50 p.m. Beach St., animal complaint, spoken to. 5:58 p.m. Bridge St., motor vehicle stop, citation issued.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7 9:10 a.m. Old Neck Rd., animal complaint, other. 9:48 a.m. School St., motor vehicle stop, written warning.

11:40 a.m. Lincoln St., community policing, assisted as needed. 7:45 p.m. Summer St., traffic hazard, secured/ checked.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8 9:36 a.m. Central St., fraud/

scam, report to follow. 12:07 p.m. Hickory Hill Rd., citizen assist, notification made. 5:47 p.m. Summer

St., motor vehicle stop, written warning. 9:36 p.m. Pine St., motor vehicle stop, verbal warning.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

11:36 a.m. Powder House Lane, fire alarm, fire false. 2:44 p.m. Raymond St., animal complaint, assisted as needed. 5:42 p.m. Beach St., motor vehicle crash, assisted as needed. 6:06 p.m. Beach St., assault and battery, report to follow.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10 8:46 a.m. Union St., motor vehicle stop, verbal warning. 12:18 p.m. Beach St., harassment, assisted as needed. 4:17 p.m. Smiths Point Rd., alarm, notification made. 4:39 p.m. Pulaski Drive, citizen assist, other.

WHAT WAS



HAPPENING

90 YEARS AGO - 1934

In one of the shortest and most harmonious sessions on record Manchester held her town meeting on Monday evening and completed her appropriations totaling over a quarter of a million dollars in the short space of two and a quarter hours.

A bad break in the six-inch water main on Elm Street gave the water department considerable trouble this week, digging to reach the break through three feet of frost, being a slow and tedious process.

75 YEARS AGO - 1949

Manchester's Annual Town Meeting was this year held in Legion Hall, thus marking the first time in the history of the Town that it has not been held in Town hall. Both halls were needed to accommodate the 700 voters who were present Monday evening, and the slightly lesser number who were in attendance Wednesday evening.

A human skull, possibly that of a matured male negro, was found Sunday on the flats near the Manchester Yacht Club by John Foster of Salem. Sgt. Daniel MacEachern and Officer John Con-

investigation.

60 YEARS AGO - 1964

On Tuesday, the last day for registration for new voters, 64 persons registered to vote with the Registrars. There are now 1143 men and 1224 women, a total of 2367, registered voters in Manchester.

The baseball scoreboard has disappeared from the playground and the Manchester Athletic Association directors are very anxious that this essential piece of equipment be located.

45 YEARS AGO - 1979

Edward Scott of Summer Street was installed as the new President of the Cape Ann Area Chamber of Commerce last Saturday evening at the Annual Meeting held at the Surf.

The Hornets would like to offer their congratulations to the Varsity Cheerleading squad that competed for the first time in Cape Ann League Cheerleading competition. The girls placed well and should be acknowledged for their superior effort.

30 YEARS AGO - 1994 O'Brien Marine took Scott

nors were assigned to the Oil through pounding surf this week and handed them an 8-0 beating. In other men's bowling the league leaders, Manchester Hardware were 6-2 victors over Peggy's Sub, Cape Ann Savings Bank won their match with Stoneworks 6-2 and Hooper's Market handed the Crickets a 6-2 defeat. Twenty-six and one-half inches of snow in one 24-hour period. It took a monumental effort to clear the roads and make them passable for the Town's citizens. The Town's work crews and contractors accomplished this and our town roads are much better

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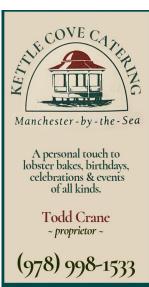
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ing towns. 15 YEARS AGO - 2009

than many of our neighbor-

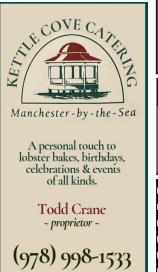
Anne Firth will present "Gardening with Birds and Butterflies" at the North Shore Horticultural Society's meeting, Tuesday, February 24th at the American Legion Hall. Ms. Firth will explain what birds and butterflies

want in the garden. This past week the Hornets Boys' Basketball team played two games and came away with two big victories at Pope John and Rockport.



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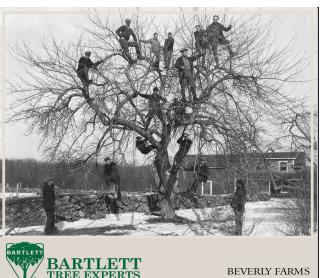
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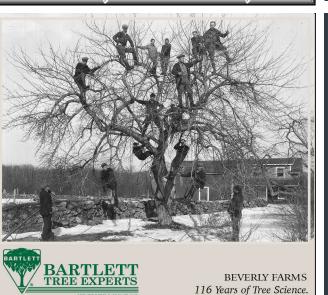
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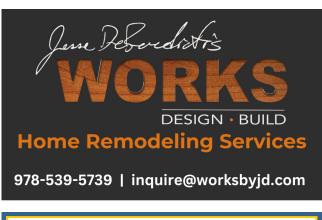
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Parking Discussions On Tap

By Gregory T. Federspiel

major focus of the Select Board's meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 20th is parking regulations, utilization, and enforcement. Parking often ranks high as a topic of concern at least for some. It tends to take up a fair amount of staff time as well.

Voters approved amendments to the Town's parking bylaw which authorized the Select Board to approve annually the list of streets restricted to resident cars only from May through October. The list used to be part of the bylaw which meant every time a change was needed a town meeting vote had to take place. Now adjustments can be made by the Select Board after taking public comment at a Select Board meeting. The Select Board will be reviewing the list and approving it after taking public comments at their meeting on the 20th.

Voters also approved removing from the bylaw the location of where the resident sticker is placed on a car. This is now up to staff and the Select Board to decide. The bylaw used to specify that stickers were to be placed on the rear, driver-side window but with most cars having heavily tinted side windows seeing a sticker in this location became too difficult. Resident stickers should be placed on the front windshield on the driver's side.

In the village core area parking is generally limited to two hours. For most of the year there are ample parking spaces but on hot, sunny summer weekends the Town can fill up. (Certainly, Singing Beach lacks enough parking for all who want to park there but that is a somewhat separate issue.) While a recent parking study completed for the Town



"I was looking for my piece of the American Dream when I bought this truck...now I'm looking for a parking space."

shows that the majority of cars do not exceed the twohour limit, certainly some do, and how best to enforce the limits is a perennial challenge.

Using traditional parking enforcement officers has become more difficult lately as fewer individuals are stepping forward to do this seasonal work. Alleged violators sometimes want to challenge the accuracy of the officer's work leading to more staff time spent on appeals of parking tickets.

To help alleviate some of these problems many communities turn to some type of parking fee payment system. Most communities with timed parking have gone to parking kiosks rather than meters at every parking spot. Police Chief Fitzgerald will present a few options that could be deployed here in Manchester if that is a direction the Select Board decides to take. The kiosks have grown in sophistication and can, for example, allow for free resident parking when license plate numbers are entered. However, moving in this direction represents a pretty big change from how the Town has managed parking in the past. Discussions on the pros and cons are needed.

The parking study completed in 2022 concluded that, with close to 500 parking spaces in the village core area there are almost always available parking slots. However, how these spots are managed could be improved and messaging about where parking is allowed and for what duration could be clearer. And there is the particular problem of employees of local businesses taking up prime on-street parking, moving their vehicle every couple of hours to avoid ticketing. Eliminating this alone could improve the availabil-

ity of on-street parking. Other parking issues involving mooring holders, care takers, and other guests of residents pose issues as well. The intent of Tuesday's meeting is to review many of these parking related challenges and to develop clear procedures and approaches that make for smooth enforcement and efficient use of the parking we have.



BOARD UPDATES

Town Hall will be closed on Monday, February 19 in observance of Presidents Day. All trash, recycling and, and compost collection will be delayed by one day.

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

Assessor Inspections: The Board of Assessors, in conjunction with Patriot Properties, will be conducting state-mandated cyclical inspections on all properties in Town over the next 30 days. Inspectors will carry identification from the Town Assessor and Patriot Properties. Please contact the Assessor's office with questions at 978-526-2010. Thank you for your cooperation.

Run for Office: Make a difference in our community and run for elected office. Nomination papers for Select Board, Planning Board, School Committee and Library Trustees are available at the Town Clerk's office.

Zoning 101 Forum: What zoning district is your property in? What makes your zoning district unique? Learn answers to these questions and more at a joint public forum hosted by the Planning Board and MBTA Zoning Task Force on Saturday, March 2 from 10 a.m. to 12 Noon in the High School Learning Commons.

Annual Town Meeting: Save the date! The Annual Town Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 24 at Memorial School. Learn about the Town Meeting process on the Town website.

Dog License Renewal: Dog registration is open. All dogs in Manchester are required by State and local law to be licensed through the Town Clerk's office by March 31. Please see the Town website to renew today.

DPW Rain Barrel Sale: Think spring and purchase a rain barrel from DPW. Order by March 24. Fifty percent off on the first barrel. Order at greatamericanrainbarell. com/community/.

Trash, recycling, and compost collection: Delayed Schedule. Please place curbside by 7 a.m. on day of collection. Transfer Station is open on Wednesdays from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Follow Us on Facebook, Instagram, and X @townofmbts and visit the Town website www.Manchester.ma.us to stay informed.

Tides & Sun Chart For The Week Ahead

DATE _		HIGH			LOW				*		
		AM	FT	PM	FT	AM	FT	PM	FT	RISE	SET
16	Fri	4:12	10.2	4:42	8.9	10:46	0.2	11:00	0.5	6:37	5:16
17	Sat	5:09	9.8	5:45	8.2	11:48	0.7	11:56	1.1	6:35	5:18
18	Sun	6:12	9.4	6:53	7.8			12:55	1.0	6:34	5:19
19	Mon	7:18	9.2	8:00	7.6	12:56	1.5	2:07	1.2	6:33	5:20
20	Tue	8:21	9.1	9:00	7.7	1:58	1.7	3:15	1.1	6:31	5:22
21	Wed	9:18	9.2	9:54	7.9	2:58	1.7	4:11	0.9	6:30	5:23
22	Thu	10:09	9.4	10:40	8.2	3:52	1.5	4:54	0.7	6:28	5:24

and Vest | CHRISTIE'S





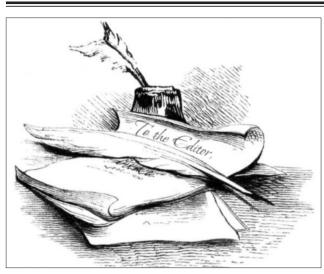
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Thoughts About Our Town Library

To the Editor,

Our Manchester Public Library faces two big predicaments -- but we have an opportunity to do something about it.

The root cause of both predicaments is the library building itself. It is both too small and too poorly configured to meet today's needs.

Meanwhile, the idea of a "public library" has evolved over the last 60 years to include two kinds of educational services for the community:

- "Traditional" individual services: spaces to read books and other materials, spaces (and assistance) to browse and find books and other materials, resources for doing research, and space for tutoring (by staff or other community teach-
- · Group educational programming events: Events for children, teenagers, and adults. Events that are primarily for watching and listening (lectures, presentations, movies, concerts); primarily for conversing (book clubs, discussions); and hands-on events (craft workshops, writing workshops, nature activities, cooking experiences, games, etc.).

Predicament # 1: Our current building makes it very difficult to accommodate both group programming events AND the Library's traditional services.

- · The library consists of four main "areas" (not "rooms" with doors) -- and sound travels easily from one area to the next.
- Group activities are distracting to those in the library for traditional services especially if they are happening in the same room. Configuration promotes the conflict in a variety of ways (computer workstations for individual use in the same area used 20-person events; the passageway to the stacks and the bathroom (Hearthside room) is sometimes also used for a 15- to 20-person event.
- Occasionally two group events/meetings take place in the building at the same time. This completely disrupts the traditional uses of the library while creating a din of noise impacting both events.
- SOLUTION: The library needs at least two dedicated meeting/function rooms with doors, separate from other library activities and services.

Predicament # 2: Our current building does not have enough space to grow our collections.

- · The size of our book collection has declined from a high of 46,000 in 1987 to 37,000 in 2023.
- The types of collections that circulate have increased: now there are DVDs and Audio Books, for

example. Many popular "newly"

- purchased books are discarded 3-5 years later. Realistically, all libraries weed out older items; yet our building now makes this process more ruthless than in the past.
- SOLUTION: The library needs more space (1) to display collections, and (2) to store the seldom used collections (often called, "the stacks"), possibly with "compressed mobile shelv-

The Overall Ideal Solution **Options:** (1) we build a new library elsewhere in town; OR (2) we dramatically expand our building while reconfiguring our existing space, all while balancing the historic features of the building. It is a multi-million-dollar solution no matter how you look

Therefore, We Need Major Donors!

- Ron Borel, who had moved out of Manchester, gave a large gift through his estate in 2022-- but the project will cost a lot more.
- T. Jefferson Coolidge, a town resident (!), paid for the architect and the entire building that he gave to the Town in 1887.
- We need more people like Mr. Coolidge and Mr. Borel to give land or cash to help solve the predicaments of the library. Do you know someone who will help the community in this way?

Meanwhile, two things have happened to finally bring the matter of an overall solution within grasp:

- 1. Ron Borel's major gift of \$500K
- 2. The Massachusetts State Board of Library Commissioners (BLC) 2024 construction grants.
- It has been multiple years since such grants have been made available and it won't happen again for another chunk of time.
- · These are big amounts of money: Example: 60% of up to \$5 million of our eligible construction.

Our Opportunity for Action as a Town is NOW, this Spring. The Manchester Library Board of Trustees has told the BLC that it intends to apply for a 2024 Grant for future construction. It has a consultant helping to prepare the complex application. We are one of a very few librar-

ies in the entire state with no meeting rooms. We have a very good case to present.

But a BLC requirement for an acceptable application is proof of citizen support for an expansion project. That requirement of proof must be a town vote to fund

the planning for the project. I strongly urge my fellow citizens to support passage of the Library's request for \$150,000 to plan the project and to meet the requirement of the grant proposal, at our April 24 Town Meeting.

I have also made a video to provide more clarity: mrpbet.com/lib

Respectfully,

Dick Goutal Manchester

What a Joke

"The MBTA is on track to be broke soon. There's no longterm fix." (Boston Globe).

And, Healy and the MBTA, WANT US TO CHANGE THE CHARACTER OF THIS TOWN SO MORE PEOPLE ARE CLOSER TO THE STATIONS.

I think they might have other things to worry about. This is so typical.

Betsy Kross Manchester

MBTS 4th July Committee Thank You

The Fourth of July Committee would like to thank the following for contributing to this year's Fourth of July Celebration over the past couple

The O'Malley Family, The Ross Family, The Melamed Family, The Spence Family, The Lamphear Family, Andreas Ramos and the Manchester Barber Shop, the Peart Family, The Eschauzier Family, The Coyne Family, the Noble Family, The Fitzgibbon Family, The Schoenherr Family, The Taliaferro Family, The Nesbit Family, The Aiello Family, The Burroughs Family, The Coccoluto Family, The Deery Family, The McNulty Family, The Marr Family, The Macklem Family, the McCabe Family, The McDonald Family, The Morris Family, The Stone Family, The Julian Family, The Doneghy Family, The Lucas Family, The Petty Family, The Rives Family, The Kilpatrick Family, the Nelson Family, The Daley Family, The Anderson Family, The Bilotta Family, The Wogan Family, The

O'Keefe Family, The Elder Family, The Colburn Family, The Meany Family, The Michaels Family, The Almy Family, The Costello Family, The Kehoe Family and The Canny Family.

With the listed donations, we are about 15% of the way to our fundraising goals which is a great start at this point. The cost of the entire celebration is approximately \$70,000, with the rise in the cost of the fireworks. We are currently looking at corporate donations if you know a company that may be interested, please pass the information along to me at Town

Thank you,

Cheryl Marshall, Director, Manchester Parks & Recreation Dept.

Cape Ann GOP Debate Forum Feb 19

On behalf of the Cape Ann GOP Debate Forum Committee, I would like to invite you and your readers to attend a debate featuring candidates for Republican State Committee in the First Essex and Middlesex District. The Cape Ann GOP forum is an independent forum started and is co-hosted by Jonathan Ring (chair, Rockport Republican Town Committee), Julie De-Paolis (Chair of the Essex Republican Town Committee), and Phil Corey (Vice Chair of the Gloucester Republican City Committee). In addition, the group is joined by Jim Morose, chair of the Danvers Republican Town Committee, and Doug Dawes, Secretary of the Georgetown Republican Town Committee.

Candidates that have confirmed their attendance: Ashley Sullivan, Lisa-Marie Cashman, Cynthia Bjorlie, Michael Scarlata, and Jeff Yull.

Nicole Coles, and Clayton Sova, who will also appear on the ballot for state committee, have not responded yet to the invite but we're hopeful they will show. Each candidate is also invited to post on the event page for the debate: (20+) Cape Ann GOP state committee forum | Facebook.

This debate will be on Monday, February 19th from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. at the Community Room of the Rockport Police Station, 168 Main Street, Rockport MA 01966. This event is Free and Open to the public. The moderator, Doug Dawes, will ask five questions of the candidates and then

open the questions up to the audience. Each candidate will have a chance to articulate their vision to the public about how they will move the Republican party forward.

Any questions, please contact me at j_ring@hotmail.

Jonathan Ring Rockport

MERSD FY25 Budget: Could There be More Opportunities?

At their February 6th meeting, the Manchester Essex Regional School Committee voted 4 to 3 on the Fiscal Year 2025 budget: a 2.99% increase from the prior year.

Superintendent Pam Beaudoin recommended a 2.77% spending increase that accounts for all contractual obligations, fulfils (Tier 1) staffing and capital needs but requires an additional \$66,000 in reallocations for additional (Tier 2) staffing requests. She warned: a budget above her recommendation will likely result in cuts next year.

Most MERSD School Committee members are not educators and look to the administration for recommendations. This time, however, the majority voted for a higher budget-creating a larger funding cliff in the next budget cycle.

Further, the School Committee discussed administrators' suggestions for a potential schedule change at the Middle and High Schools whereby sharing staff would increase academic rigor, increase students' time on learning and allow the return of world language in sixth grade-all while saving \$65,000 per year. The Committee, again, dismissed all recommendations and opposed any effort to align the schedules for now.

A more responsible alternative: use the \$65,000 saved from the schedule change to (mostly) fund the Tier 2 staffing requests. The district could use reserves (which never seem to go down) for this request until the new schedule is implemented. Thereafter, the district would see savings from the change.

This is just one example of striving towards academic excellence while being fiscally responsible. What other opportunities is the School Committee missing?

Antonella Muniz Essex

Mindfulness Meditation -- Moving Back to the Library

Every Tuesday from 11 a.m. - 12 Noon in the teen loft starting January 2 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 ven-

"The Globemakers: The Curious Story of an Ancient Craft" (Virtual)

Thursday, February 22 from 2-3 p.m. Join Peter Bellerby, founder of Bellerby & Co. Globemakers, in this visual

tour through the history of has a MPAA Rating: R; for vio-Globemaking, how it almost became a lost art, and how he is bringing it back, one beautiful hand painted globe at a time.

Romance Authors Hazelwood, Payne & Williams (Virtual)

Monday, February 26 from 7-8 p.m. The authors will discuss their latest romance novels followed by audience

Mystery Book Group Friday, February 23 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. We will discuss "The Bookseller" by Mark Pryor.

Free Friday Movies Friday, February 23 from 6-8 p.m. The movie this month

lence.

Tai Chi

Wednesdays from 9:45-10:45 a.m. Join Susan Halpern in a new Tai Chi form, Longevity Tree. The Longevity Tree is a form that addresses the balance of mind, body, and spirit by combining movement, deep breathing, and alertness. It was designed to move all of the body, both internally and externally. The form begins with the image of the tree-progressing to other visual images as we journey through a variety of movements. This form will be offered for 12 weeks but registration is only available until 1/17/2024. If you are interested in the form but have missed the registration period, contact Maddy Willwerth and we will reach out when a new session is available. For now, the class 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



Marcia and Mark Wilson from Eyes on Owls, an education and rehabilitation center for owls, brought some gorgeous birds to Manchester. Attendees learned how to hoot like an owl, as well as great tips for conservation. Courtesy Photo

update by email those who have completed the Safety Release Registration Form.

Digital Advice Appoint-

ments 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 (Vir-

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 cri-

MPL Children's Events:

tique or be critiqued.

Lego Club

Wednesday, February 21 from 3-4:45 p.m. Grades 2 and up. Join us every third Wednesday of the month, drop in and build with Legos.

All About Me Collage

Saturday, February 24 from 2-3 p.m. Ages 7-12. Join Miss Audrey and rip up magazines to make a work of art that's all about you.

Chocolate Olympics

Tuesday, February 20 from 4-5:30 p.m. Oreo stacking, M & M themed relay races, Hershey's Kiss unwrapping-with oven mitts. Are you ready for the Chocolate Olympics?

Graphic Novel Club

Wednesday, February 28

discussing "Ghost Book" by Remy Lai. Registration is required. Winter and Spring Story-

from 4-4:45 p.m. This pro-

gram is for grades 4-7. Join

the graphic novel club, we

meet once a month from

January to June. We will be

Wednesdays from 10:30-11:15

times

a.m. starting January 24. Join Miss Audrey for Storytime for children ages 0-5 with their caregivers. We will share books, songs, and games. This program runs through April 24th.

Pajama Storytime

Thursday, February 22 from 6-6:45 p.m. Come dressed in your pjs for a Storytime and craft with Miss Audrey. This program is for ages 4-7.

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



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At Home Now Hmmm What Can't Paint Do?

By Jen Coles

ecently while driving, I glanced to my left as a well-loved car was passing. I'm pretty sure that car was painted with housepaint and a paintbrush. It makes me pause and it's a "hmmmmm ... "moment for sure, but I find myself smiling and wanting to catch my neighbor's eye. Why? Because there is this unifying element at play here.

It's an instinct near to my heart that so many of us share; this urge to make something look better. Or to improve the places where we spend our time. Or to have those places be a closer reflection of who we are. I'm not really sure why, but somehow it makes me want to tip my hat to this fellow human and say, "I get it," and, "me too."

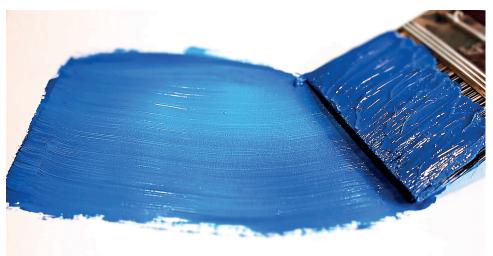
I see that common instinct take on many forms. Some of us embark on expensive home renovations, while others buy a cement donkey for the front yard or carefully duct tape over a dented fender. But regardless of what drives you, I think we can all agree that the humble can of paint is frequently up to the task. Nothing is better suited to the job of a high-impact improvement with low-impact investment than a coat of paint.

I'm no stranger to the wonders of it. I shake my head when I think about the "improvements" I used to make to a host of sketchy rental apartments in my youth. I mean I never painted my car, but I did paint a rusty refrigerator with house paint once. Which makes just about the same kind of sense, so this glass house will be throwing no stones.

I knew painting that fridge wasn't right when I did it. But I also knew I'd probably be long gone before that fridge shed its new layer of skin. And that's an important distinction actually. You really can paint just about anything if your only goal is to buy yourself a little time. Paint can do that. It can also, when done properly, create lasting change that will stand up to the years.

And all that makes paint the perfect muse for these long, dark days of February. If you're like me, you are craving a quick change that's not too big of a project. And, again, if you're like me, you may also be craving half a





tray of mac and cheese. But first things first.

What paint projects are good candidates? Oh so, so many. How about a new color for your stair risers, your mudroom built-in, the back panels of bookshelves, or a bedroom ceiling? Or whip out some spray paint and quickly upgrade your light fixtures, or even (with the proper masking) your doorknobs and hinges. Try painting all your interior doors a light neutral tone and be amazed at the impact of this subtle change.

You can have fun with a powder room by painting it all one color: walls, vanity, ceiling, and trim. Or paint your cat. I don't know, you do you. But if you get it right, there will be a great reward. And if you really, really hate it? Well, you can always repaint. Which is admittedly soul crushing, so I hope you don't have to. But the point being that paint is largely reversible.

Largely, but not always. So, think carefully before you decide to paint over your varnished woodwork or exposed brick. And also remember this: unless you are in a low-grade rental where you are painting lemons to

make lemonade? Please do your homework and adhere to good painting practices. Tape things off, use a drop cloth and quality brushes, set up good project lighting, and prep those surfaces just like they tell you to on YouTube. Otherwise, you may have just made matters worse, and that sort of defeats the purpose. Are you ready to up the ante? Because there is a whole other paint world out there and it goes by the name of epoxy. Let me first say that these paints are tricky to work with. There are lots of ways to go wrong, and if you are using them be sure to crack a window. But it might be worth it because these paints, when used correctly, can do crazy things.

They can refinish a bathtub, transform a linoleum counter or maybe cover a granite that you hate. It can change your avocado green appliances to white, or visaversa if that's your thing. It can paint over tile, concrete, and enamel. And it can definitely paint your garage floor because that's where these paints originally came into fashion. I haven't seen a car painted with it yet, but I'm keeping my eyes peeled.

But like I said there are lots of ways to go wrong. So much so that I don't go near it myself. I hire professionals for the tricky stuff because I have zero tolerance for a flubbed project. But you DI-Yers always amaze me. I saw on Pinterest that one woman used epoxy paint to change the color of her kitchen counter while (get this) her baby was napping. I mean, hmmmm ..., on that one too. But she seemed happy, and the pictures looked nice. I hope she cracked a window.

I've used it professionally to give new life to antique bathtubs and sinks. I saw one of my clients recently and asked her how her tub was holding up. She said it was great and that was five years ago. Online they say it can last 10 to 20 years, so at that rate the finish might actually outlive the appliances that you just painted it with.

I frequent a restaurant where I've noticed they used it to change the color of the floor tile in their bathroom. I keep an eye on it to see how it's holding up in this wet, high traffic area and so far, it's doing very well. I also went to a yoga studio that had cement floors which they covered in this beautiful epoxy blue. It was shiny and smooth and almost looked like glass. My yoga practice missed the wood underfoot, but it was pretty enough to make me come back.

So, I've given you lots to think about. These are my inspirations, but you can google a ton more. Just don't ignore that urge to make your space more you. Or to make something you spend time around look nicer. I get it, and me too.

Jennifer Coles is a local interior designer. Her website is: colescoloranddesign.com

...(Continued from page 1)

One possible option (Option 2) that some members said was their favorite option was to include Lower Pine Street (1-B), Morse/ Saw Mill (1-C) and Powder House/Elm Street (1-D) for a total of 19.2 acres inside the station area, and the 23 acres at MAC and medical center.

Under this option, only the lower section of 1-B would be needed, and some strong limitations could be placed on the area within the LCD. But a zoning change would

be needed for the 1-D area, where the density is quite

Task Force member Sandy Bodmer-Turner suggested that Innes come up with numbers for a section of downtown, including parts of Summer, Beach, and Union

Innes will return to the Task Force with the modeled numbers for this new area and the changes to Option 2 at the Task Force's next meeting on Feb. 29. Planning Board

member Christine Delisio, who was attending via Zoom, asked why the Task Force was not considering large areas, such as sections of the Essex County Club, as the area to be rezoned outside of the station area.

Task Force Chairman Chris Olney said that the golf club would have to be willing to divide its land into smaller lots, including one of about 23 acres, and he wasn't sure the club would be willing to do that. He did say he would

contact the club and ask.

"The real reason we are not targeting three-acre (and larger) lots is because we know exactly what will happen," said Smith earlier in the meeting.

"Forty-five units," said Task Force member Sarah Mellish, answering exactly what Smith's comment about would happen.

Under the proposed MBTA Zoning, a developer would be allowed to build 15 units for each acre on a lot, and a

three-acre lot would allow 45

units. On the other hand, if a developer acquired a small lot of 4/10ths of an acre in the downtown area that had been rezoned, the developer would only be able to build six units.

The scarcity of time crept back into the conversation toward the end of the meeting.

"The numbers and the areas we were looking at, we were looking at two months ago," said Smith.

"But now we know which

ones work and which ones

don't," said Bodmer-Turner. "My point is that we are really under a lot of pressure," said Smith. "We need to come to a geographic decision real fast. ... Even after the geographic decision, we have a lot of huffing and puffing to do."

Smith was referring to design requirements, such as setbacks, height restrictions, and other zoning changes the Task Force may seek to attach to the newly zoned districts.



massage, natural beauty services, reiki, hypnotherapy, workshops, and a curated retail shop for a well lived life.





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Hornets Runners Track Progress in Postseason

By Jason Brisbois

ismiss the athletes on Manchester Essex boys and girls indoor track teams at your peril.

On paper, it might be easy to do so: Between them, the Hornets were able to pick up one team victory during the 2023-24 regular season, with the girls breaking through against Hamilton-Wenham on Jan. 23. And the roster size for both teams is small when compared to other teams in the Cape Ann League, making those team victories tough to come by in a sport where numbers are a crucial element for piling up wins.

All that being said, the regular season is now well in the rearview mirror, and 10 members of those two teams (totaling 23 student-athletes between them) are still running. That means that just under half of the Hornets who competed this winter in the regular season qualified to compete in the MIAA Divisional Meet on Feb. 14, an impressive feat that also bodes well for the future of both programs.

"The regular season surpassed expectations," explains ME indoor track coach Nicole Bembridge. "Being a smaller team is stacked against us for dual meets, but individually both teams were amazing. Highlights were definitely the amount of athletes that auto-qualified for [the Divisional Meet] early in the season. And the amount of athletes we had trying new events -- and finding success -- was great."

Among those slated to compete against the top competition in Div. 5 on Wednes-



day are Nate Gardner (55 high hurdles, 300 meter), Meg Hurd (55 meter dash, long jump, high jump) and Maggie Light (300 meter). Abby Kent and Cia Donohoe qualified to run in the 600 meter, while Charlie Lations, Sabine Cooper, Henry Stevens and Finn O'Hara were set to run in the mile. The girls 4x200 relay team of Light, Donohoe, Kent and Caroline Eliassen also went to the Divisionals.

The fact that there is so much talent here makes all the difference when the opportunity to win a meet presents itself, just like the win over the Generals last month.

"Hamilton-Wenham has a great program," says Bembridge. "They are similar, with smaller numbers and very capable athletes. The girls pulled it off by giving it their all and helping each other out when needed."

The numbers weren't quite there that day for the boys to pull off the same feat, however.

"The boys were great as well, but that meet we were down about 50 percent of the boys' point scorers from injury or sickness," explains Bembridge. "A full team may



Hornets Indoor Track winners Meg Hurd (third in high jump in the CAL Open) and Nate Gardner (first in 55 high hurdles in CAL Open).

have turned it around, but you never know, Hamilton-Wenham may have had a bunch out, too. We can only show up and give our best, and I know both of my teams did just that."

The regular season ended in January, but February provided two more opportunities for Hornet runners to shine with the Cape Ann League Open on Feb. 6 and the MSTCA Invitational on

Three attended and two qualified for the next level during the Feb. 10 meet, with Cooper completing the mile with a time of 5:54.22 and Donohoe recording a time of 1:47.83 in the 600 meter, a personal best.

"These are two hard working young ladies, so I'm pretty pumped for them." Bembridge says of the performances.

Both the boys' and girls' teams finished eighth overall in the CAL Open, with more standout performances for the record books. Gardner was a named a CAL All-Star while also winning the 55 high hurdles (7.74) and fin-

"Highlights were definitely the amount of athletes that auto-qualified for [the Divisional Meet] early in the season. And the amount of athletes we had trying new events -- and finding success -- was great."

ishing fourth in the 55-meter dash and 300-meter.

"They ran the hurdle and dash prelims and finals back-to-back," explains Bembridge. "He was still at the finish line of hurdles when they had the dash finals at the finish line. He did a legitimate track workout that day."

Hurd also earned CAL All-Star status, while finishing third in the long jump (16'5.50), fifth in the 55-meter dash (personal record of 7.78) and fifth in the high jump (personal record of 4'10). Light qualified and finished in seventh in the 300-meter with a time of 44.87, and according to her coach, "...left flames on the track with a huge personal record in the 300 meter."

Kent finished seventh in the 600-meter (personal record of 148.12) and 55 meter (personal record of 8.07). Stevens accomplished his goal of getting under five minutes in the mile, recording a PR of 4:57.26, good enough to qualify for the Division 5 meet and a seventh-place fin-



Members of the 3/4 grade girls' basketball teams for the town league became part of the fan base to join an SRO crowd at the recent Hornets girls' basketball team. They enjoyed a game in which the Hornets defeated Swampscott 40-34.



January 31st was Senior Day for the Varsity Girls Alpine Ski team at Bradford Mountain. Honored were the 3 Senior Hornets: Kate Bappe, Sienna Crocker and Grayson Crocker.



In the Hornets' Nest

Swimming/Diving

The Girls and Boys Swimming and Diving teams headed to WPI in Worcester for the Sectionals Championships. Girls placed 17th overall, out-

scoring local teams Beverly, Gloucester, Ipswich, Salem and Lynnfield.

Girls Results:

200 Medley Relay (Megan

ScottEnergy Community Bulletin Board

2024 Speaker Series Kick Off Mushrooms of the 1661 **Cemetery:** From Death to Life

Local mycologist Gary Gilbert will speak on the history of the 1661 cemetery, its inhabitants, and the relationships between the woodlands there and their fungi in this old pastureland turned burial ground.

7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 29 First Parish Community Hall 1 Chapel Ln., MBTS (behind Santander Bank)

Doors open at 6:30 PM for socializing and refreshments.

Free to members \$15 non-members

Manchester-by-the-Sea Museum

Info at www.manchesterhistoricalmuseum.org/lectures

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Graeter, Sydney Hemme, Libby McKinnon and Claire Masters) 13th place, 2:04.86 200 Free Relay (Megan Graeter, Claire Masters, Libby, McKinnon, Sydney

3 second drop! 400 Free Relay (Maggie Bediz, Paisley Koeplin, Claire Masters, Libby McKinnon), 20th place, 4:41.95 Megan Graeter:

Hemme) 16th place, 1:53.26

200 IM: 8th place, 2:17.57. Best time! 100 Backstroke: 5th place,

1:01.18 Sydney Hemme: 100 Butterfly 24th place,

100 Breaststroke, 24th place, 1:17.39

Boys Results:

SIDING

Colin Conway swam the 100 Breaststroke and placed 30th

WATER REPAIR

with a time of 1:07.02

Girls' Basketball

The Manchester Essex Hornets went 2-1 this week in three close games that came right down to the final minutes. The Hornets are 12-5 overall and 8-4 in the CAL with three games left in the regular season.

On Monday night on the road the Hornets faced off against the Clippers from Newburyport. Trailing by 5 at the half the Hornets had a huge 3rd quarter scoring 20 points and taking a 2-point lead. Holding off a tough Clippers team, the Hornets won 41-40 with the winning shot made by Philiene de Widt with less than 10 seconds left. A balanced offensive attack was led by Harper Brooks with 9 and de Widt with 8. Mackay Brooks had 6 on 2 huge three-pointers in the third quarter. Kacey O'Connell added 5, Mechi O'Neil and Tess Carpenter

each added 4. Lily Oliver had 3 and Ella Arntsen 2 in the team effort. O'Neil had 8 rebounds and Harper Brooks added 7. Arnsten added 4 steals.

On Tuesday the Hornets hosted Swampscott and started slow the first half, falling behind by 7. The Hornets adjusted defensively and found some offensive rhythm to win the next 2 periods and the game 40-34. Harper Brooks paced the comeback with 18 points and 10 rebounds. Lily Oliver added 11 and 8 rebounds. Mechi O'Neil had 9 points. Phileine de Widt added 2 in the effort.

On Thursday the Hornets traveled to Georgetown for a huge league match up. The Hornets fell behind early, struggling to get their offense going in a fast-paced physical game and were down 10 going into the 4th quarter. The Hornets never quit and battled back to within 2 points before ultimately losing the game 40-47 to the Royals. Mechi O'Neil paced the Hornets with 17 points. Lily Oliver added 9 and Harper Brooks 8. Mackay Brooks, Tess Carpenter and Phileine

de Widt each added 2. The Hornets will host Ipswich, Amesbury and Danvers this week to finish the regular season. The MIAA tournament will begin after school vacation.

Alpine Ski:

Manchester-Essex-Triton Alpine Ski Team had a strong finish to the season (despite the meets being delayed multiple times). Kate Bappe is in the starting spot for the season's last meet. Fellow seniors Grayson and Sienna Crocker have led the team to dominate among the smaller schools of the league. Hennix Ogren came in ranked #1 in 5 of his JV races. Despite being the youngest on the team, several of our young racers, Madison Day, Kiernan Day, and Gracelyn O'Neill have been some of our strongest racers. The North Shore Ski League Interscholastic race will be the last time the team meets on snow and is currently scheduled for Wednesday, February 13.

Finish strong, Hornets!!

PORCHES Glenn Battistelli



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Love is the bridge between you and everything. ~ Rumi -

ESSEX

Town Administrator's Report

Board of Selectmen's Meeting of February 12, 2024. Report covers from January 20, 2024 to February 9, 2024

Affordable Housing Trust Meeting Summary

The Essex Affordable Housing Trust met on January 25, 2024. The Town Administrator (TA) attended the meeting along with Chairman Pereen, who also chairs the Trust. The Trust members discussed the Trust's current major goal, which is to develop a Housing Production Plan (HPP) for Essex. While the Trust has sufficient funding to pay for such a plan outright, the Community Planning Grant, part of the Commonwealth's One Stop for Growth grant portal, will likely cover 90% of the project. As such, given that the development of a HPP with a consultant can cost up to \$100,000, and given that the grant program provides preference for a community contributing at least 10 percent of the cost, the Trust voted to set aside up to \$10,000 as a project match. The Trust was in agreement that our new Town Planner should put together a grant application for this round of funding and she is already working on the first step - the Expres-

Town Planner Commencement of Work

sion of Interest form.

New Town Planner Valerie Massard began work during the week of February 5, 2024. The TA assisted her with the establishment of a VPN connection for remote computing and the configuration of her new Windows desktop, e-mail, Town website access, and access to the State's on-line system (One Stop for Growth Portal) she will be utilizing to apply for a Community Planning Grant for the development of a Housing Production Plan. Valerie will also become involved in the ongoing zoning review project with the Planning Board and, hopefully, a Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) Technical Assistance Program (TAP) grant for the update of the Town's Open Space Plan - if awarded. Valerie can plug into the ongoing process of updating the Town's Federal Hazard Mitigation Plan, a project also being managed by MAPC. Eventually, work will include coordinating the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness 2.0 (MVP 2.0) grant which will assist the Town with the update of its

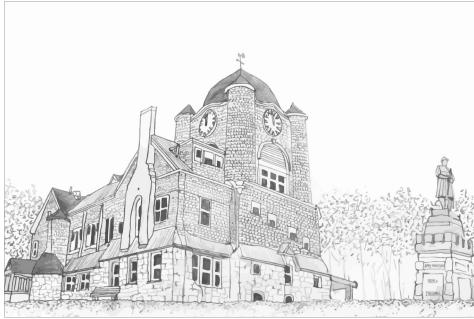
Method of Construction of Centennial Grove Restroom Building

MVP Plan.

At the last meeting, the TA informed the Board that we did not have any bidders on the modular restroom facility for the Centennial Grove when we recently went through a bid offering process for a precast concrete building using the Modular Construction Statute.

Another avenue could involve an architect and a sitebuilt unit but that approach is usually more expensive than modular work (unless tradespeople and an architect are willing to donate labor, as was the case with the Folsom Pavilion). To that end, Chairman Pereen, Dan Mayer of Mayer Tree, Jodi Harris (in her capacity as Chair of the Economic Development Committee), local architect Peter Levasseur, and Mr. Zubricki met out at the site on February 9, 2024. Mr. Mayer coordinated the post and beam replacement structure for the Folsom Pavilion and he is confident that ample professional donated labor is available to construct a scaled down post and beam restroom building. Further, Mr. Levassuer is willing to donate his time for the necessary architectural drawings. A third option was suggested by the Massachusetts Office of the Inspector General - which is the Cooperative Purchasing route. A national purchasing group known as Omnia Partners is recognized in Massachusetts for the provi-

sion of many types of items,



including modular buildings. The Hunter Knepshield Company is a vendor under the Omnia Partners contract that can provide the restroom facility as a primarily stick-built modular unit and the setting of the building and the related site work can be completed by the Department of Public Works and by professional tradespeople volunteering their time. If this option is chosen, the lead time for this modular unit would put delivery somewhere in the early summer and the exterior could be customized to match the finish of the new pavilion at the Grove. The floor of this particular modular facility would be an I-beam reinforced floor using 3" C-channels as joists. It would have a 4" depth of concrete over a 24-gauge floor pan.

Design of Tight Tank System for Centennial Grove Restrooms

As the Board may recall, the new restroom facility at the Centennial Grove will be served by a tight tank. Since the TA is a Registered Sanitarian, it is possible for the TA to design the system and seek the approval of the plan by the Board of Health. Mr. Zubricki is already working with the Board of Health Administrator to confirm that the format for the plan in mind is consistent with the Board of Health's expectations. The TA has also already visited the site with the Superintendent of Public Works to confirm that the Town's water supply wells are far enough away from the proposed system (which will be the case) and, separately, with the Conservation Agent to confirm that the whole system and the restroom building itself will be outside of the 100-foot wetlands buffer (which will also be the case). Mr. Zubricki will be conducting some exploratory digging with the DPW during the week of February 12, 2024 to verify the amount of soil depth available for an 8,000-gallon tank. We are working with the YMCA and others to locate a licensed septic system installer who may be willing to donate labor and machine time for the project, with the Town covering all necessary materials.

Essex Zoning Bylaw Review Project Update

Chairman Pereen and the TA participated in two update meetings concerning the Town of Essex zoning review bylaw project along with members of the Planning Board and personnel from the Metropolitan Area Planning Council on January 25, 2024 and on February 8, 2024. The focus of the first meeting was continued refinement of the proposed

Special Permit bylaw provisions (for Annual Town Meeting in May) and specific parking requirements for each type of use in the Town. The Planning Board is working to balance items that should be codified in the bylaw versus items that are more fluid to be managed by the Board's regulations. The focus of the second meeting was to refine the above topics using guidance that the full Planning Board offered at a Planning Board meeting on February 7, 2024. The next public forum with respect to the zoning project is scheduled for February 21, 2024 (the Selectmen will be posted for that meeting). At the forum, the Planning Board hopes to get input from the public with respect to how different types of future zoning districts might incorporate limited other uses (for example, a residential district that allows for a neighborhood store, etc.). The forum will also review data collected from residents concerning where in Town certain uses should be concentrated. Generally, for the upcoming Annual Town Meeting, it appears that three types of uses will be proposed to be added to the Town's existing Special Permit section of the zoning bylaw via three separate articles. The Planning Board will also likely propose further refinement of the zoning definitions section and perhaps delve into the general characteristics of future zoning districts without actually setting any such districts up right away. Actual zoning districts could be carved out of the Town's existing General Zoning District at the Fall Town Meeting later in the year.

Public Water Supply Well Modernization Project

As the Board is aware, the subject project has been out to bid for a few weeks. Filed sub-bids were due on January 31, 2024 and a total of three sub-bidders submitted sub-bids across three categories of work (some subbidders submitted in more than one category). Unfortunately, the only on-time masonry sub-bid was about five times the engineer's estimate for that work and a second masonry subcontractor arrived late and did not submit his bid. Subsequently, on February 7, 2024, General Bidders submitted overall project bids that incorporated the figures from filed sub-bidders that the General Bidders had chosen. The TA was present at both bid openings, along with Water Department Personnel and personnel from our consulting engineering firm. We had a total of two general bids submitted and the apparent low bidder was Weston & Sampson. Unfortunately, both bids were much higher than the project budget can accommodate, and the project will have to be put back out to bid, with a reduced scope of services.

Review of Replacement Siding Options for Public Safety Building

As the Board is aware, Copeland Building Envelope Consultants is presently working to specify repairs and materials replacement at the Public Safety Building. A variety of samples have arrived for the Board's review and commentary.

Monthly Pothole Log

We have received from the DPW the pothole log for the month of January. No potholes were reported. log is intended to document potholes and their rapid repair in order to limit the Town's liability.

Senior Center Sprinkler

Line Replacement Update As the Board may recall, a short section of sprinkler system line in the Senior Center just after the main enters the building was in need of replacement. Our contractor attempted to remove the threaded pipe from the flange connecting the system with the main on Ianuary 26, 2024 after the Water Department had turned off the main at the street to the extent possible (large mains of this type typically leak by the valve to a certain extent). The situation became much more complicated when the corroded section of pipe had its threaded section break off

inside the flange. With water still coming through the main, the planned use of buckets for just a short period of time had to be extended. With the help of a

Essex Locals | Jan 26

115 Years Ago - 1909

It was a handsome sight to look out on Wednesday morning, the sun shining and the trees glistening as if covered with spangles, from the sleet which had frozen upon them.

90 Years Ago - 1934

The George W. Proctor Men's Club of West Gloucester spent a pleasant evening with the Veteran Fireman's Association, Friday evening, playing whist and



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LIBRARY NEWS





Children celebrated the Year of the Dragon and Chinese New Year with stories, rhymes and a craft. Courtesy Photo

Library Closed

Monday, February 19th in observance of President's Day.

School Break February 20-24

Stop by the Library anytime we are open during School Break week to color a portion of our Giant Zentangle Banner. All ages welcome.

Tax Forms

State and Federal tax forms are available for pick up at the Library.

Community Book Group

Monday, February 26 at 10 a.m. Join us as we discuss "The High House" by Jessie Greengrass.

Community Rummikub

Saturday, February 24 from 10 a.m.- 12 Noon. No experience necessary. Enjoy meeting others from the community over this popular game.

Bending Toward Justice: (Virtual)

Wednesday, February 21 at 7 p.m. African Americans as Subject and Creators in American Art.

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.

Pajama Storytime with Jackson the Reading Dog

Wednesday, February 21 at 6 p.m. Ages 5 and older. Meet Jackson and listen to dog-themed stories and make a doggy craft.

Story Hours Begin

Beginning in the New Year on January 10, 2024 Wednesdays at 9 a.m. for Wee Ones, ages 0-2 yrs. 20 minutes for songs, rhymes, stories and creative play. Please register. 10 a.m. Preschool ages 3-5 years. 30 minutes of songs, rhymes and stories read aloud and concludes with a themed craft. Please register.

CFCE Science Thursdays

Beginning in the New Year on January 11, 2024 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, FEBRUARY 4 No report.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

10:48 a.m. Willow Court, police investigation follow-up, unable to locate. 1:04 p.m. Centennial Grove Rd., directed patrol, secured/checked. 4:37 p.m. John Wise Ave., citizen assist, assisted as needed. 6:13 p.m. Eastern Ave., selective enforcement, no action taken.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

6:20 a.m. Belcher St., directed patrol, secured/checked. 1:25 p.m. Story St., male with chest pain, transported to hospital. 7:02 p.m. Eastern Ave., animal complaint, assisted as needed. 9:35 p.m. Town Farm Rd., harassment, report to

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

9:29 a.m. Apple St., disabled motor vehicle, vehicle towed. 11:46 a.m. Story St., directed patrol, secured/checked. 3:31 p.m. Eastern Ave., erratic operator, assisted as needed. 7:35 p.m. John Wise Ave., utility request, notification made.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Essex Division 36 Federal Street

Salem, MA 01970

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. ES24P0380EA

Estate of Christopher R

Also known as: Christopher

Date of Death: 01/14/2024

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Orestes G. Brown of Danvers, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Orestes G. Brown of Danvers, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve without surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this

10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/14/2024.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. Frances M. Giordano, First Justice of this Court.

February 8, 2024

Pamela A. Casey O'Brien, Register of Probate.

http://masspublicnotices.org.

Posted to MNPA website:

February 08, 2024S MC

Open Door Opens Its ... Well, Doors

By Erika Brown

t's been nearly five years since The Open Door pur-Lchased the former food cooperative on Emerson Avenue in Gloucester, and this month, after a pandemic and nearly \$4.4 million expansion project, the Open Door's Food and Nutrition Center opened last week for in person dining.

It was a great milestone for sure. But it was hard to notice that anything at The Open Door's food pantry hadn't been going smoothly. During the last four years of construction, the community nonprofit hit records for food distribution to the tens of thousands of clients in the region-from Inswich to Manchester, Essex, Rockport and Gloucester-who depend on The Open Door for food and services.

The renovated 17,000-sqft facility includes a larger, modernized teaching and commercial production kitchen, dedicated meal packing room, fulfillment center, client meeting areas, additional cold and dry storage, offices, and flex space. Other areas were also restructured and modernized to maximize space and improve workflow.

The renovated facility brings a lot of benefits. There's more space for kitchen prep, which means The Open Door can better meet demand for meals and even take on more meal contracts throughout the community. The team can also offer more pre-prepped "healthy choice" options for clients. Besides food prep benefits, the new space has more storage to accept more donations, and that's a great thing, according to The Open Door President and CEO Julie Lafontaine.

During the pandemic, The Open Door's food pantry pivoted from traditional food distribution to online ordering and pick-and-pack package fulfillment that readied groceries every week for



Volunteer Susan Scangas, of Gloucester, packs groceries last month before Open Door started "live" meals at its newly renovated facility in Gloucester.

Courtesy images

During the pandemic, The Open Door's food pantry pivoted from traditional food distribution to a combination of online ordering (via a new ecommerce ordering platform) and pick-and-pack fulfillment.

either pick up or delivery. These continue to be a fundamental part of how clients benefit from the food pantry.

But in the last year the organization hit many important milestones in its renovation that had been paused during COVID after the organization purchased its new facility in 2019. The project finally broke ground formally in June 2022 and, by last year, the fulfillment center was completed in May, the kitchen was finished in August, a ribbon cutting for the expanded food pantry took place in the fall and, finally, the entire project was completed last month.

In person dining is available by reservation for one afternoon sit down meal per day. Clients can double up and take home groceries and ready-made meals when they



The Open Door food pantry's food service manager, Dan Trimble.







BOUCHIER

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General Contracting

Gretchen Berg is Number 1 in the Manchester Office at J Barrett in 2023



eal estate firm J Barrett & Company an-■nounced that vice president realtor Gretchen Berg was the top producing agent in the firm's Manchester office for 2023, selling just over \$27,000,000 in property.

"Reaching this professional milestone is very satisfying, and while I am immensely proud of this, the fact is my clients are key to my success," says Gretchen. "They trusted me to help them achieve their real estate goals and I am most grateful."

"Gretchen's accomplishment is exciting, and we are pleased to recognize it," says Jon Gray, president of J Barrett & Company. "Gretchen has been consistent in her ability to be successful on a long-term basis. Her proactive approach to market research, creative marketing for every property and her care for every client's best interest is always above and beyond and that is reflected in her outstanding record."

Gretchen, who grew up on the North Shore and also lived in New York where she worked as a producer for NBC News' TODAY show, enjoys putting her skills to work in creative marketing on her Instagram account.

Memories of Rosalie's at Super Bowl





Beverly Farms resident and chef Rosalie Harrington way back in 1985, when her restaurant Rosalie's in Marblehead was featured in a Superbowl commercial for Visa credit card. Courtesy images

iewers of this past weekend's Super Bowl LVIII tuned in for the commercials as much as they did the game. And for one viewer, Beverly Farms resident and chef Rosalie Harrington, the game marked the upcoming 40th anniversary of the award-winning Super Bowl XIX VISA ad that centered on her Marblehead restaurant, Rosalie's.

"I was used to getting calls

from Boston or around the North Shore, but after the Super Bowl we started getting calls from places like New Zealand. My regular customers started to complain," laughed Harrington, adding tional notoriety.

that even regulars loved the restaurant's sudden interna-The "Everywhere You Want To Be" campaign lasted

more than two decades, and it was Rosalie's that launched

it all. And it worked. Within 10 years of the ad's debut, customer spending with Visa increased from \$25 million to about \$92 million per year.

Even before the ad, Rosalie's was a cult favorite of noteworthy customers like best-selling crime author Robert Parker or chicken king Frank Purdue. But the ad changed her life. "I still get asked about it to this day," she said with a smile.

Additional Notable 2023 Achievements

s part of its awarding of top performers, J Barrett also tapped Jackelyn Enslow and the broker team of Binni Hackett and Char Glessner for recognition.

Jackelyn, who is at the agency's Gloucester office, helped clients buy and sell property throughout the North Shore totaling over \$7 million last year. She was among the agency's overall top 10 brokers in 2023.

A Gloucester resident for several years, Jackelyn credits her success to providing the best possible customer service. "Communication and transparency throughout the transaction are critical to advocating and negotiating on behalf of my clients," she says. "I also find that my hands-on experience renovating houses is especially helpful when working with clients."

"In addition to her insight about the various communities in our area, Jackelyn's clients especially appreciate her determination to make each transaction a success," said Gray. "They know that she is always on their side."

Jackelyn has been selling real estate on Cape Ann, throughout the North Shore and in the Greater Boston area successfully since 2009.

Then, vice presidents and realtors Binni Hackett & Char Glessner ("Hackett & Glessner Team") were the top brokers in the agency's Ipswich market for 2023.

Binni and Char, who have worked together in the Ipswich office for over five years, sold property on the North Shore totaling \$17,200,000

"Being recognized for professional achievements is always a pleasure but this type of success is a collaborative effort with our clients," says Binni. "They chose us to help them ensure that their goals involving one of their most important financial and personal decisions are successful. I am immensely grateful for their trust in us."

Char agrees. "Every real estate transaction is a team effort, but every transaction and every client are unique," she says. "Success happens when we all understand and work toward the 'same' goal. Open communication is critical."

"Binni and Char are pro-





Binni Hackett & Char Glessner of the agency's Ipswich office.

active in their approach to every client and property," said Gray. "They study market trends as well as real time sales thoroughly and then apply that information appropriately whether clients are buying or selling."

Binni, a long-time North Shore resident and native of England, has a special appreciation for historic homes. As part of her "green" designation from the National Association of Realtors, her expertise includes environmentally

sound and sustainable building practices.

A world traveler (and resident), Char has lived in France, Singapore and Malaysia, but "home" is the North Shore.

Established in January 2007, J Barrett is an independent, 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.

Backpack Donation Partnership Between Rotary and ME Regional High School



he Manchester-Essex Rotary Club is partnering with Manchester-Essex Regional High School's Comfort Cases club to collect gently used or new adult-size backpacks for The Grace Center now through March 15.

Parents and students may drop off gently used or new backpacks in a bin outside of the Middle and High School office.

Community members without students in the school system may donate through the Rotary Club.

The Grace Center is lo-

cated at 264 Main Street in Gloucester and offers a safe, free day resource center for people who are homeless and others, including older or disabled adults, isolated community members, and people at high risk of or currently in crisis.

Comfort Cases is an organization intending to bring dignity and hope to youth in the foster care system through donation drives, volunteering, and awareness. Recently the club has expanded the organization's mission to include organiz-

ing clothing, book, and hy-

giene donation drives for all people in need. Formed in 1905, Rotary International is the world's first service club organization with over 1.2 million members in 34,000 clubs worldwide.

If you have one or more spare adult-size packs left over from a prior school year and have been wondering what to do with them, this may be exactly the program.

The Manchester-Essex club serves Cape Ann and surrounding communities giving life to the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self."

Puzzle

THEME: U.S. PRESIDENTS

ACROSS

- 1. Falling out
- 5. Bottle top
- 8. Door fastener
- 12. Shoe emanation?
- 13. Staff note
- 14. Home to Buccaneers
- 15. Actress Spelling
- 16. Thor's father
- 17. Kidman's husband
- 18. *He served two nonconsecutive presidential terms
- 20. *JFK and RFK's relationship, abbr.
- 21. Foreword
- 22. J. Edgar Hoover Building org.
- 23. Pac-Man venue
- 26. Long and adventurous journey
- 30. Rudolph's Clarice, e.g.
- 31. Like life, according to some
- 34. Is it enough?
- 35. Jalisco plant
- 37. As opposed to rent
- 38. Grassy mound
- 39. Flat-top hill
- 40. *W in George H. W. Bush
- 42. Nicki Minaj's genre
- 43. Reusable painting pattern
- 45. Sacred songs
- 47. Horse control
- 48. Laughing predator 50. Gunk
- 52. *Nobel Peace Prize winning president
- 56. Social media button
- 57. Tangerine-grapefruit hybrid
- 58. Greek god of love 59. Cautious gambler
- 60. Trousers
- 61. Baltic capital
- 62. Port in Yemen
- 63. Follow ems
- 64. Not ever, poetically

ule:

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- 1. Campus drillers
- 2. One on a pedestal
- 3. Golfer's warning 4. "Jeopardy" question, e.g.
- 5. Closet wood
- 6. ___ acid
- 7. Body between England and U.S.? 8. *President who spent the shortest

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR

- time in office
- 9. Orator's stand
- 10. Pampering establishments
- 11. J.M. Barrie's Peter
- 13. Like hot lava

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- 14. Short and plump 19. Endow
- 22. *WW2 Pres.
- 23. *Thomas Jefferson was his VP
- 24. "Thesaurus" author 25. Cut it out
- 26. Sound on Old MacDonald's farm
- ManchesterMa.
- Sunday Lenten Worship Series: Living Our Faith in Worship with Rev. Katherine Schofield (revkatherine. fpchurch@gmail.com) with music led by Dr. Herman Weiss, and the
- We invite everyone to join us for hospitality following the service.

First Parish Choir. Sunday school 10

a.m. led by Jeanne Westcott.

- Monday Friends of the COA Senior Drop in 10 a.m. - 12 Noon.
- Weekly Lenten Group Study Series on Five Spiritual Disciplines That Draw Us Closer to God: 5-6 p.m. on Zoom

Sudoku



© 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.

46. Tap house

49. Egg parts

51. Sand trap tool

54. Theater section

56. #10 Down, sing.

52. Ill-mannered

55. Russian ruler

48. TV classic "___'s Heroes"

50. Past tense of chide

53. Albany-Buffalo canal

Solutions on Page 11

- 27. Annoy a bedfellow 28. "Bravo! Bravo!" e.g.
- 29. Online reviews
- 32. Delivered by a mare 33. Hole punching tool
- 36. *a.k.a. Old Kinderhook 38. Danish money
- 40. Intelligent humor 41. Vomiting
- 44. Pressed beverage
- Wednesdays, Lenten Weekly Vespers Service 6:30 p.m. in the Sanc-
- Choir rehearsal 7:30 p.m.
- Bible Study, Via Zoom 4 p.m. join in with computer, smart device or dial in on a phone - email office.fpchurch@gmail.com or call 978-526-7661 for the link
- Weekly At-Home Devotional: "Wendell Berry and the Sabbath Poetry of Lent"
- office.fpchurch@gmail. Contact com with questions.
 - ...(Continued on page 11)

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 Sched-

ule The Visitation Parish Mass SchedSacred 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 - Sat-

urday Vigil Mass - 5 p.m.

Gibson | Sotheby's

Sunday Mass - 10 a.m. Please go to our website: www. mecatholic.org for Sacramental Information as well as Parish Registra-

tion if you are new to town or look-

ing to join a Catholic Church. The Assumption of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church

INTERNATIONAL REALTY

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**

First Parish Church Manchester by the Sea - join us for a moving message, beautiful music and community at the center of town, 10 a.m. Sundays 10 Central St and streamed on Facebook, FirstParishChurch-

Open the door to what's next.

DISCOVER HOMES ON THE NORTH SHORE

5 Plum Court

4 Beds | 1.5 Baths | 2,975 Sq. Ft.

Eileen Gagnon | 978.270.6843

Offered at \$2,500,000



MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA 146 Bridge Street 5 Beds | 4F 2H Baths | 8,808 Sq. Ft. Offered at \$4,295,000

McDermott Group | 978.857.0343



69 Bridge Street

Offered at \$2,995,000

5 Beds | 3 Baths | 3,456 Sq. Ft.

Kristin Francoeur | 978.270.7929

ROCKPORT 10 Briarstone Road Waterfront/Land/Approved House Plans Offered at \$1,950,000 Jill Michaud | 978.766.8064





NEWBURY 2 O'Connors Court 2 Beds | 1.5 Baths | 1,362 Sq. Ft. Offered at \$799,000 Eileen Gagnon | 978.270.6843



NEWBURYPORT

Offered at \$2,349,900

Kevin Fruh | 978.500.7409

5 Beds | 5.5 Baths | 5,567 Sq. Ft.

347 High Street

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 $\label{thm:continuous} \textbf{Each office is independently owned and operated. So the by 's International Realty Affiliates LLC fully supports and the support of the support$ the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. All offerings are subject to errors omissions, changes including price or withdrawal without notice



Result of super high tide after a recent storm off the coast of Manchester. Driftwood pictured here at Grey Beach.

Photo Paul Clark

...(Continued from page 1)



Matt Connors, civil engineer for Hancock Associates; Peter Gourdeau, development consultant with CSI; and Attorney Mark Glovsky listen to the Planning Board on Monday night.

Jeff Pope photo

"I think you need to determine to what extent portions of the application will require peer review," Glovsky told the board. "I think that there are some aspects of the project that speak for themselves. We have gone overboard in some departments,

especially the environ-habitat area. So maybe that's not so necessary."

Glovsky also said that topics that might require a peer review should be scheduled at the earlier meetings, to allow time for the reviews to be conducted.

Mastrogiacomo said that civil engineering and traffic were the one most likely to need peer reviews.

Board member Sarah Creighton pointed out that the town has particularly strict rules on construction it cannot start before 8 a.m.

...(Continued from page 10)

St. John's Church Worship:

Every Sunday we hold services at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Child care is available during the 10 a.m. service. This Sunday we will have a guest speaker discussing Electric Transportation following the 10 a.m. service.

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 together quietly, awaiting the experience of God's presence.

People in our community hail from the traditional tribal lands of the Pawtucket and Massachusett now called Manchester, Gloucester, Bev-

erly, Ipswich, Rockport, Salem, Lynn and Marblehead. Whether you have worshiped in other Quaker (Friends) Meetings or not, we welcome you to join us. 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. Bless-

ings To You

"The construction industry does not like it, it's challenging," said Creighton, who

added that they could apply for a waiver from the Select

Board.

Mastrogiacomo said that an additional site walk might be scheduled during the public hearing, "not so much for the Planning Board but maybe for some townspeople."

Mastrogiacomo said that the continued public hearings would extend through May and that at the June 3 meeting, the board may deliberate on the application and write a deci-

"But it's all very tentative," said Mastrogiacomo.

Solution to puzzles on page 10



5 3 6 5 6 8 6 5 2 5 3 5 2 8 3 4 8 2 9

In the depth of winter, I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer.

~ Albert Camus -



North Shore's Top Choice for Private Home Care

Are you seeking purpose and fulfillment in your work?

We're hiring caregivers, CNAs, CHHAs, nursing students, and retired health care workers.



PET OF THE WEEK

My Name is Snow



'm a sweet and loveable little lady. I love doing **■** zoomies around the shelter play yard followed by hanging out with my humans for a cuddle. I traveled all the way from Puerto Rico to CAAA so I could find my forever home. I'm almost a year and a half old and I weigh approximately 20 lbs. I'm considered special needs as I have an eye condition that requires drops for my entire life. Although I'm an adult, I am still learning the concept of potty training and will need extra help in that area. Do I sound like a good fit for you? You can find the application at https:// capeannanimalaid.org/adopt.

PUBLIC NOTICE



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

PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Board of the Town of Manchester-by-the-Sea will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, February 26, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

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

New Application

Application of 19 SPR Nominee Trust, for Special Permit under Sections 6.4 and 2.5 of the Zoning By-Law to allow for Earth Removal and Filling at 19 Smith's Point Road, Assessor's Map 20, Lot No. 16, in District E filed with the Town Clerk on January 29, 2024.

Zoom information will be available on the Town website prior to the

Gail Hunter, Administrator Planning Board.

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

February 9, 2024 MC February 16, 2024 MC

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Timothy P. Girian, Ann W. Girian to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., dated July 25, 2007 and recorded in the Essex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 27056, Page 2, as modified by a certain modification agreement dated February 14, 2020, and recorded with said Essex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 38844, Page 559, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., a separate corporation that is acting solely as nominee for "Lender", Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. and its successors and assigns to BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP f/k/a Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP, recorded on December 13, 2010, in Book No. 30054, at Page 273

Bank of America, N.A., successor by merger to BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP, formerly known as Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as Trustee of Stanwich Mortgage Loan Trust A, recorded on April 18, 2017, in Book No. 35801, at Page 489

Wilmington Savings Fund

Society, FSB, as Trustee of Stanwich Mortgage Loan Trust A to Stanwich Mortgage Acquisition Company IV, LLC, recorded on July 31, 2019, in Book No. 37717,

Stanwich Mortgage Acquisition Company IV, LLC to Morgan Stanley Mortgage Capital Holdings LLC, recorded on July 31, 2019, in Book No. 37717, at Page 560

at Page 557

Morgan Stanley Mortgage Capital Holdings LLC to FV-I, Inc. in trust for Morgan Stanley Mortgage Capital Holdings LLC, recorded on August 14, 2019, in Book No. 37751, at Page 153

FV-I, Inc. in trust for Morgan Stanley Mortgage Capital Holdings LLC to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, d/b/a Christiana Trust, not individually but as Trustee for Pretium Mortgage Acquisition Trust, recorded on May 13, 2020, in Book No. 38510, at Page 433 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 3:00 PM on March 4, 2024, on the mortgaged premises located at 14 Old Neck Road, Manchester (Manchester By The Sea), Essex County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT: The land in said Manchester, with the buildings thereon, shown on a plan entitled. "Plan of Land in Manchester, Mass. Scale 1" = 50' Arthur Mickelini, C.E., Manchester, Mass., May 1950", recorded with Essex South District Registry of Deeds, Book 3750, Page 532, and being bounded and described, according to said plan, as follows: SOUTHERLY by Old Neck Road, a public way, on three courses, 33.43 feet; 30.07 feet, and 86.50 feet, respectively:

WESTERLY by land of Maynard B. Gilman, 360.28 feet;
NORTHERLY by land of said Gilman and land of Michael Bakulla and Emily Bakulla, 150.00 feet; and EASTERLY by said land of Bakulla on two courses, 237.20 feet and

113.60 feet, respectively.

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Essex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 16690, Page 541.

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

or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Thirty Thousand

(\$30,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, D/B/A CHRISTIANA TRUST, NOT INDIVIDUALLY BUT AS TRUSTEE FOR PRETIUM MORTGAGE ACQUISITION TRUST Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys, HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C. 150 California St. Newton, MA 02458 (617)558-0500 20162

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

February 2, 2023 MC February 9, 2023 MC February 16, 2023 MC



The North Shore's Premier Real Estate Agency



\$4,900,000 | Ann Olivo & Rick Marshall

Miles of ocean views, direct Plum Cove Beach access, mooring, huge paver patio top long list of highlights in custom 4-bedroom, 4.5-bath, 2016 stunner. Heated garage, generator, geothermal heat.



\$995,000 | Susan Collins

Build your own riverfront property on banks of Parker River. 110 feet direct frontage. 3-acre cleared/surveyed lot. Area for private dock. Perk test done. Minutes to Plum Island, marina, train



\$659,000 | Mandy Sheriff

Downtown Gloucester multi-family, perfect for investors, developers or owner occupants. Unit 1 has 3+ beds and Unit 2 has 1 bed, sun filled, newer systems & roof, parking and backyard.



\$2,600,000 | Kate Richard

Development opportunity. 20-acre lot Ravenswood Park, near beach. Has potential as private estate or single-family-condo-40B development. Has existing dwelling, drive, pristine wooded lot.



\$874,900 | Alle Cutler & Ed Dick

Scoop up the last unit at Farm Village! MAYAPPLE. 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath 2,500 sf attached townhome with 1st floor main suite, loft, additional flex space, 2-car garage. This unit is available now!



\$655,000 | Felicia Trupiano

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



\$2,250,000 | Ted Richard

Majestic Queen Ann Victorian overlooks Salem Common. 13 masterfully appointed rooms, 6 beds, 4.5 baths, 7 fireplaces. Exquisite 2-story foyer, grand staircase, chef's kitchen, handsome library



\$749,500 | Ed Dick & Melissa Lane

Picture-perfect 3-family with 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths has 1-bed/studio Affordable Unit. 2006/2007 renovation replaced wiring, plumbing, extensive new insulation. Near train, shops, restaurants.



\$545,000 | Christine Grammas

Bright 2-bedroom, 1.5-bath end unit condo at Essex Green at Peabody with hardwood floors, fireplaced living room, eat-in kitchen, dining room, in-unit laundry, deck, basement. 2-car parking.

1 BEACH STREET • MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA, MA 01944 | 978.526.8555 | JBARRETTREALTY.COM









Find us on **f**:JBarrettRealtyNorthShore

MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA





4 Lane Road Annisquam | \$3,475,000

Iconic Annisquam waterfront property located at the head of Lobster Cove. Sited on over an acre of rolling lawns and gardens, the property enjoys stunning views of Lobster Cove with direct access to a private tidal float and dock. The property consists of a 9 room, 3 BR, 3.5 BA main house and an enchanting barn conversion quest house w/ kitchen, 3/4 bathroom and bedroom with waterfront terrace.

Lynda Surdam | Realtor



Gloucester | \$1,550,000

Impressive ocean views from this Nantucket shingle saltbox in East Gloucester, set on 4.49 acres. 3DB, 2BD main house, carriage house.

Scott Smith | Realtor 617-750-2793



8 Orchard Road Gloucester | \$1,795,000

Orchard Estates by the Sea is a unique residential project featuring single-family townhouses that boast unparalleled comfort and luxury in an optimal location in East Gloucester. Designed and executed by a team of architects, designers and builders, each residence offers chef's kitchen open concept living and dining area with primary first & second floor bedroom suite.

Michelle Mineo | Realtor 978-471-9178



6 Lattof Farm Circle Rockport | \$1,495,000

Impeccable Colonial on private cul-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



33 Way Road Gloucester | \$3,895,000

Stunning East Gloucester estate with impressive ocean views. Carriage, barn, and paddocks on 28+ acres.

Scott Smith | Realtor 617-750-2793





184 Western Ave Essex | \$1,989,000

Stunning new construction with sophisticated flair throughout 3 sunfilled levels. Boasts 6 bedrooms & 3 full baths. Grand 2-story light-filled family room with dramatic fireplace leads to expansive outdoor stone patio. Thoughtful floor plan with stylish chefs' kitchen & designer finishes, quartz waterfall island, gas cooktop and stainless-steel appliances—all ideal for entertaining.

Michelle Mineo | Realtor 978-471-9178