

# The Town Common

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Wednesday, Jan 17, 2024 - Vol. 20, No. 12

FREE

## Vote Tuesday On Whittier's New Building

By Stewart Lytle, Reporter



Photo provided by buildingthefutureofwhittier.org

Whittier Lower Entry Rendering

REGIONAL – Voters in 11 North Shore cities and towns will go to the polls Tuesday, Jan. 23, to decide if they are willing to pay for a new \$444.6 million building for Whittier Vocational Technical High School.

In recent weeks, as municipal leaders have become aware of the building's costs and impact on their taxpayers, the opposition to the project has become more public. The growing tension over the project was characterized by Newburyport Mayor Sean Reardon as "a war of words" between Whittier Supt. Maureen Lynch and himself.

Lynch, who has made numerous meetings with local officials and community members, declined Reardon's invitation last week to an informational meeting at the Nock Middle School auditorium that drew an overflow crowd.

Voters residing in the Whittier school district come from Amesbury, Georgetown, Groveland, Haverhill, Ipswich, Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport, Salisbury and West Newbury.

The Ipswich School Committee voted six to one last week to support the project, but most community leaders have expressed concern or strong opposition to the project.

Ipswich School Committee chair Kate Eliot said "it's kind of crazy" that students at a vocational-technical school go to school in a building that was built in 1973. She voted for the

new building, but said, "I'm frustrated with how we heard about — or didn't hear about it — for so long. I'm frustrated with the communication around the whole project."

In a public letter, Reardon wrote, "While I absolutely agree we need to improve the Whittier facility, I have voiced my opposition to the project based on the current cost and my concerns that the Whittier School District has not thoroughly considered other options that would be more financially feasible for the member communities."

Reardon and other city and town leaders urged residents of the 11 communities to vote no on Tuesday and force Whittier to come up with a "more reasonable plan."

Lynch responded, "Let me be clear: a no vote will not allow the project to move forward, and we will not be able to receive any reimbursement from the state."

"In fact, a no vote would forfeit \$161.6 million in funding from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, \$5.4 million in rebates from Mass Save and \$10 million from federal direct payment funded through the Inflation Reduction Act."

The vote will be district wide with the majority of all voters in the 11 communities deciding the issue.

The Rowley SelectBoard members unanimously opposed the project, citing these

Continued on page 2

## Changes Will Not Compromise Safety

By Ava Moeckel, Reporter

SEABROOK, NH — NextEra, which owns the Seabrook Station nuclear power plant, said its plan to alter its emergency personnel will not compromise the public's health and safety.

The company has asked the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to approve the proposed changes to its emergency plan for Seabrook and three other nuclear plants it owns in Florida and Wisconsin.

According to Massachusetts U.S. senators and a non-profit watchdog group, the plan would consolidate some emergency personnel in an office building 1,300 miles away from Seabrook in Juno Beach, FL, in an effort to reduce operating costs.

In a statement to The Town Common Newspaper, Bill Orlove, the company spokesman, wrote, "The company's top priority is protection of public health and safety, which will not be compromised. These changes do not alter the number of full-time employees at Seabrook Station or at any of the company's other nuclear facilities."

"All employees at the company's nuclear facilities play an emergency response role. The company will always ensure its facilities have appropriate staffing in everyday operations and in an emergency situation."

On Dec. 21, Massachusetts U.S. Sens. Ed Markey and Elizabeth Warren wrote to the NRC that the plan "could compromise the ability to respond effectively to emergencies, putting the safety of the surrounding communities at risk. In light of these concerns, we urge the NRC to thoroughly evaluate the potential consequences of NextEra's LAR (license amendment request) and avoid approving any new plan that will increase safety risks to nearby communities."

In response, Orlove wrote, "These changes will improve emergency preparedness through better deployment of the company's highly skilled team members at Seabrook Station, as well as the company's other nuclear facilities, by supplementing on-site responders with personnel from across our company, which would improve the ability to coordinate resources and cooperation among personnel."

Continued on page 3

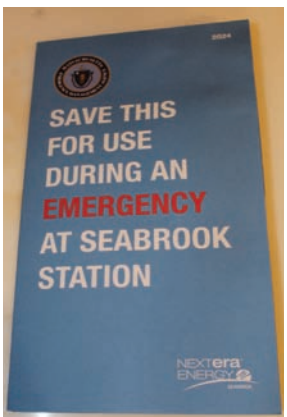


Photo by Stewart Lytle Seabrook Station's emergency response brochure

## Actors Studio: In Its New Home

By Stewart Lytle, Reporter



Photo by Stewart Lytle

Marc Clopton at the new home of the Actors Studio

REGIONAL -- Marc Clopton calls the Actors' Studio's circuitous path from the Tannery Marketplace in Newburyport, where it operated for more than two decades, to its new home on the border of Amesbury and Salisbury "a sojourn."

"I never dreamed it would take so long," the veteran acting coach, director and producer said.

The Actors' Studio, which has been teaching locals to act and write for 30 years, has been looking for new space since it closed its studio during Covid-19. It moved several times until it has found a permanent home in the Crossroads Plaza, a retail strip center in Salisbury amid pizza shops, driving school, yoga, fitness studios and UHaul trucks.

"The longer we have been here, the more I love it," Clopton said.

In adding to its administrative office at the Tannery, the new 62-seat theater at 1 Merrill St., Unit #3, gives the popular Actors Studio a higher profile, surrounded by Salisbury, Newburyport, Amesbury and Seabrook, Kimm Wilkinson, the executive director, said. Because it is close to two highways, the studio is even marketing into Hampton and Rye, NH, she said.

The new studio has 2,000 square feet of open space, which allows Clopton and Wilkinson to produce shows and offer classes and have two rehearsals happening at the same time. There is plenty of parking for students and audiences.

And it is on street level with a front door and a large back door that makes it easy to load sets.

With almost \$20,000 raised through

Continued on page 3

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Marc Maravalli, B.S., R.Ph.  
Publisher/Editor, The Town Common

Letters to the Editor provide a useful way of communicating concerns, issues, or suggestions to all members of the community.

The Town Common encourages all citizens to submit letters concerning issues of interest and concern to the local community.

Letters selected for publication may be edited for length and clarity. Some letters may serve as a catalyst for other articles or coverage, and community leaders and agencies will be offered an opportunity to respond to letters concerning their areas of responsibility.

All letters must be signed and include a daytime telephone number.

Letters may be submitted to:

The Editor  
c/o The Town Common  
77 Wethersfield St.  
Rowley, MA 01969

or preferably via e-mail to:  
editor@thetowncommon.com.

The Town Common deadline is 5pm Wednesday (except when a federal holiday necessitates an earlier deadline).

The Town Common serves the communities of the Upper North Shore of Mass. & Coastal New Hampshire and welcomes your participation. Send your Organization or Group Notices, Birth or Engagement Announcements, Photos, Articles and Letters to the Editor, by mail, phone, or e-mail to: 77 Wethersfield St., Rowley, MA 01969 Phone: 978-432-9669 E-mail: news@thetowncommon.com

## The Town Common

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Liz Ichizawa, '04-05 Reporter (1956 - 2005)  
Jim Wilson, '20-22 Publisher/Editor (1954-2022)

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17 Wed	3:47	8.8	4:11	8.4	10:02	-0.3	10:25	-0.4	7:08	4:37	☾
18 Thu	4:43	8.8	5:11	7.9	11:04	-0.2	11:22	0.0	7:08	4:39	☾
19 Fri	5:41	8.8	6:14	7.5			12:07	-0.1	7:07	4:40	☾
20 Sat	6:40	8.7	7:18	7.2	12:20	0.4	1:11	0.0	7:06	4:41	☾
21 Sun	7:39	8.6	8:20	7.0	1:20	0.7	2:13	0.0	7:06	4:42	☾
22 Mon	8:36	8.6	9:17	7.0	2:19	0.8	3:11	0.0	7:05	4:44	☾
23 Tue	9:29	8.5	10:08	7.0	3:13	0.9	4:03	0.0	7:04	4:45	☾

## Demystify Your Finances

Thursday, Jan. 18, 7PM - Virtual

January is the perfect time to focus on the future and lay the foundation for financial success. Ariel Nathanson, Certified Financial Education Instructor and the founder of Finance for Feminists, will help program participants expand their understanding of personal finance with practical advice and useful tools. Mindful spending, budget frameworks, investment basics – and more – will be explored during this supportive, judgment-free dialogue about money.

Registration is required for this webinar. To sign up to watch online, visit the Rowley Public Library web site at [www.rowleylibrary.org/calendar](http://www.rowleylibrary.org/calendar). You will receive an email with the link to the webinar.

For more information on this or other programs, check our web site at [www.rowleylibrary.org/calendar](http://www.rowleylibrary.org/calendar), or call (978) 948-2850. The Rowley Library is located at 141 Main St. in Rowley.

## Whittier

Continued from page 1

and other reasons:

- At \$444.6 million, the project will be the third most expensive school construction project in the country and the most costly in the state.
- The existing building, which was declared structurally sound, would be demolished, requiring a new building, athletic fields and an access road. The building's roof was replaced in 2010 for \$3.3 million.
- The new building is not projected to serve more students than the 1,280 students it currently serves.
- Why was the building allowed to "fall into a state of disrepair," while many deficiencies were identified almost a decade ago? the Rowley SelectBoard asked.

Reardon and other leaders, including Amesbury Mayor Kassadra Gove, the Rowley SelectBoard and members of the Salisbury SelectBoard, have questioned why the Whittier project was not contingent on the passage of a debt exclusion under Proposition 21/2.

City and town leaders have said they may have raise taxes or cut services to pay for the Whittier building.

In Rowley, the SelectBoard said paying for Whittier would be "fiscally ruinous to the town." If approved, the town would not be able to add overnight fire coverage or pay its part of Triton's new building. Rowley has 700 students attending Triton, but only 23 at Whittier.

Lynch disputed assertions that the Whittier School Committee and its building committee have not been transparent. "From January 2022 to December 2023, the Whittier Tech School Building Committee held 36 school building committee meetings and four community forums."

Reardon did not attend any of those meetings, but did attend others, although he did not express any concerns, she wrote.

The Rowley SelectBoard lamented that the agreement governing Whittier "is broken" and cannot be amended because it takes only one community to stop change. The city of Haverhill, which sends the largest number of students and is home to Whittier, would be expected to oppose any change.

The leaders of the Whittier cities and towns have also complained in recent weeks that a political consulting firm "with connections to the mayor of Haverhill" has been retained to promote the building project among voters.

The campaign is being funded by the consulting firm, Consigli, and several trade unions that may be hired to build the new Whittier.

The Rowley SelectBoard letter wrote, "A spokesperson for the Yes for Whittier Campaign has been quoted as saying that it is a 'normal practice for construction companies and labor unions to fund campaigns promoting school building projects that they're involved with.' While that assertion may unfortunately be accurate, it is a sad commentary on our conflict of interest laws."

The vote will be held from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday. Early voting was not allowed under state law.

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Some rehearsals may be moved to  
TTS Ipswich 31 County St. Ipswich, Mass  
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based on cast availability.

### SHOW DATES/TIMES (3 SHOWS)

Friday, May 3, 7 p.m., Saturday, May 4, 2 p.m.  
and Sunday, May 5, 1 p.m.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Mike at (978) 476-6053 or email [coachmikefay@gmail.com](mailto:coachmikefay@gmail.com).

Like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/TTSPlayers](http://www.facebook.com/TTSPlayers)

# Changes

Continued from page 1

“Essentially, the company has the capability to increase its response from several hundred employees to several thousand employees.

“This is how the company operates and collaborates among its nuclear facilities during everyday operations and it should be no different in an emergency. It is similar to how the company scales up in response to severe weather events. The changes also bring depth (or “bench strength”) to all the company’s emergency roles by providing flexibility and bringing in the right expert to support an emergency from any of the company’s nuclear facilities, should it be necessary.”

In the case of an emergency, the company’s emergency operations centers will remain the focal point of any response efforts, Orlove wrote. For Seabrook, the emergency center is in Portsmouth, more than 10 miles away from the company’s plant. The company’s other locations will provide assistance, if necessary, in person or remotely.

The NRC is expected to act on

NextEra’s request soon, followed by a public comment period.

Entitled “Common Emergency Plan,” the NextEra proposal would impact seven reactors at the four nuclear power plants in New Hampshire, Wisconsin and Florida.

Four of the seven reactors are more than 50 years old and operating beyond their originally designed lifespan. One reactor at Seabrook Station is enclosed in severely compromised concrete.

In two meetings in 2022 prior to the formal submission, NextEra stated that the response times from emergency staff will increase by 50 percent, from 60 to 90 minutes, according to the C-10 Education and Research Foundation. Weather and internet outages could make these response times even longer, C-10 stated.

Sarah Abramson, C-10’s executive director, said these aging reactors “call for more robust, not reduced, emergency resources to ensure the health and safety of the people residing and working in the communities surrounding them.”

For more information please visit [www.SeabrookStation.com](http://www.SeabrookStation.com) or visit [www.c-10.org](http://www.c-10.org)

# Actors Studio

Continued from page 1

Giving Tuesday and its Annual Appeal, the studio is being renovated, designing light and sound capabilities, adding a technology booth in the back of the audience, hanging new darkening curtains and black curtains over mirrors that will be useful in the future. The stage is being extended and a partition is being built to separate the lobby and the audience.

If a bank loan comes through, the plan is to buy mobile risers and staging to host meetings, dance performances and anything that may not need a stage.

The new theater is also handicapped accessible, which was the challenge that killed their dreams of finding a home at the Amesbury Theater. After leaving the Tannery, the studio relocated with much enthusiasm to the theater, built in 1912 as the Strand Theater. In downtown Amesbury, it had 753 seats and could serve food and alcohol.

But it turned out to be “a nightmare,” Clopton said. It had holes in the roof, which leaked **Continued on page 5**

## Letter to the Editor - Rowley Board of Selectmen on the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical Building Project

On December 13, 2023, the unelected members of the Whittier District School Committee voted to hold a “district-wide” election on their \$444.6 million dollar proposal to rebuild the Whittier facility. The election will be held on January 23, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Thus, all registered voters residing in the Whittier school district (consisting of Haverhill, Rowley, Ipswich, Georgetown, Groveland, Newbury, Salisbury, West Newbury, Newburyport, Amesbury, and Merrimac) will soon have the opportunity to vote “yes” or “no” on this proposal.

While we all support the concept of vocational education, there are many reasons to dislike this proposal:

(1) the project cost, currently estimated at \$444.6 million dollars, will make the project the third most expensive school construction project in the country and the most expensive in Massachusetts;

(2) as proposed, the existing building, which has served Whittier well over the years, and was declared structurally sound in Whittier’s assessment of the building, would be demolished, resulting in the need for a new building, athletic fields, and an access road; the demolition will occur even though the building’s roof was replaced in 2010, at a cost of approximately \$3.3 million;

(3) the new building is not projected to serve more students than the current facility;

(4) while the existing building will require code upgrades if the project is not approved, one can reasonably question why school officials allowed the building to fall into a state of disrepair, especially since many of the deficiencies were identified in the 2015 facilities assessment;

(5) under the terms of the Whittier

District School Agreement, Rowley and the other member communities not named Haverhill will be required to unfairly subsidize the City of Haverhill for its use of the new building (almost 70% of students at Whittier come from Haverhill); this subsidy will continue until 2058 for the life of the bond;

(6) Although the fact is not stated in the ballot question, a “yes” vote will result in the approval of a project which has not been funded. Unlike the vast majority of municipal and school public building projects approved in Massachusetts, approval of this project will not be contingent on the passage of a debt exclusion under the provisions of Proposition 2 and 1/2. This means that the member communities will be required to pay the costs of the borrowing out of their existing budgets i.e., by cutting services. In Rowley, passage of the proposal will likely result in across-the-board cuts to town services, and will be fiscally ruinous to the Town.

(7) Approval of the project will divert scarce dollars away from other pressing needs in Rowley, including overnight fire coverage, as well as the Triton regional school system (which is also in need of renovation). Rowley sends over 700 students to Triton each year. Last year in 2022 we sent only 23 students to Whittier.

(8) It has become evident that the existing agreement governing the Whittier school system is broken. Adopted in 1967, before the enactment of Prop 2 and 1/2 in 1980, the agreement does not reflect the real-world conditions faced by Rowley and the other member towns/cities. The agreement can theoretically be amended, but amendments can be blocked by a single member, even if that member (Haverhill) has a vested

interest in perpetuating the status quo. The agreement also does not give the member towns any role in the appointment of their representatives to the district. We would be unwilling to give Whittier the authorization to borrow close to a half-a-billion dollars until these problems with the existing agreement have been corrected.

(9) We have recently learned that a high-priced political consulting firm with connections to the Mayor of Haverhill has been retained to deliver a “yes” vote for Whittier. According to published news reports, the consulting firm’s contract has been funded by local trade unions and “the general contractor on the Whittier School Project, Consigli Construction”. A spokesperson for the “Yes” for Whittier Campaign has been quoted as saying that it is a “normal practice for construction companies and labor unions to fund campaigns promoting school building projects that they’re involved with.” While that assertion may unfortunately be accurate, it is a sad commentary on our conflict of interest laws. Rowley voters should bear in mind that they will be stuck with the bill for this project long after Consigli Construction has moved on to the next project.

For these reasons, we, the undersigned members of the Rowley Board of Selectmen, respectfully urge the registered voters of Rowley to go to Saint Mary’s Church on January 23, 2024, from 11:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M., and vote against the proposal. Say “No” to Whittier.

Sincerely,

The Rowley Board of Selectmen  
Cliff Pierce, Chair  
Christine Kneeland, Vice Chair  
Deana Ziev, Clerk  
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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BOXFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

You are hereby notified that a Public Hearing will be held via Zoom videoconference on Thursday February 1, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. or such other time when posted for the

**Notice of Intent** By Applicant: **Frederick Habeeb**  
for the property located at: **10 Old Killam Hill Road, Map 20, Block 3, Lot 4**

**to install stormwater controls, remove concrete pad, and conduct landscaping, grading, and tree removal within 100-feet of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland.**

The Zoom connection information will be posted on the Town of Boxford website prior to the meeting. This is a joint hearing under the requirements of MGL Ch. 131, Sec. 40, as amended, and Boxford's Wetlands Protection Bylaw and Regulations. For more information, contact Ross Povenmire at [rpovenmire@town.boxford.ma.us](mailto:rpovenmire@town.boxford.ma.us).

For the Commission, Ross Povenmire, Conservation Director

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## Rowley Housing Forums

Join fellow residents & Town staff to discuss housing needs in Rowley. There will be presentation on these topics followed by a Q&A session.

Tuesday, January 9th  
MBTA Communities

Learn more about the State's MBTA Communities Zoning Regulation and Rowley's requirements for compliance.

Tuesday, January 16th  
Housing Production Plan

Provide feedback on strategies that can be used to diversify housing stock & increase affordable housing options.

Please RSVP at [event.mvpc.org/RowleyHousing](http://event.mvpc.org/RowleyHousing)

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Bowling Alley	Fri - 4-11pm
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## Letters To The Editor

### Cantemus to Present *Annelies*, Based on Anne Frank's Diary



The Cantemus Chamber Chorus

Photo provided by the Cantemus Chamber Chorus

On January 20 and 21, the 33 members of the Cantemus Chamber Chorus will perform "Annelies," the only major choral-orchestral work based on excerpts from the internationally bestselling book "Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl." British composer James Whitbourn completed the work in 2005, having worked for three years with librettist Melanie Challenger to distill two years of diary entries.

Cantemus Artistic Director Jason Iannuzzi: "This work of haunting beauty evokes the harrowing story of Anne and her family hiding from the Nazis during the Second World War, in a 'secret annex' in Amsterdam. Why this work, and why now? Cantemus' objective is, of course, to entertain its audiences, but we also want to present works of social relevance. I proposed this work last spring. At the time, we could not foresee just how relevant its theme would be today."

"Annelies," which was Anne's full first name, is based on the teenager's own words, written between 1942 and 1944. Otto Frank, the only member of the family who survived the camps, dedicated his life to bringing his daughter's diary to the world's attention. It was published in Europe in 1947 and first appeared in English in 1952.

A born writer, in the spring of 1944, just months before her capture, Anne wrote: "I want to go on living even after my death!"

The voice of Anne will be sung by Lynn Eustis, soprano, who is Chair of Voice and Associate Professor of Voice at Boston University. She was the title soloist at the work's U.S. premiere in 2007. Jeffrey Mead, who is Cantemus' accompanist, is featured on piano. Elizabeth Whitfield on violin; Jane Sheena on cello; and Stephen Bates on clarinet complete the chamber quartet.

The 14 movements of "Annelies" include "The Capture Foretold," "Devastation of the Outside World" and "The Capture and the Concentration Camp." That last movement, which Anne did not write about, is based on contemporary news reports. Their chilling drama is balanced by lyrical melodies with more reflective words

of love, compassion and even humor, including "Courage," "The Passing of Time" and "Anne's Meditation."

Artistic Director Iannuzzi: "At times haunting, frightening, humorous and hopeful, 'Annelies' goes straight to the heart, and Anne's hope in the face



Lynn Eustis, soprano.

of her circumstances is inspiring."

As Anne wrote in the diary: "Where there's hope, there's life. It fills us with fresh courage and makes us strong again."

Cantemus' performances in late January coincide with International Holocaust Remembrance Day on January 27. On Saturday, January 20, they will perform at St. Paul's Church in Newburyport at 7:30pm. On January 21, at the Congregation Shirat Hayam synagogue in Swampscott, at 4pm.

For more information about the program and to purchase tickets, visit [www.cantemus.org/concerts](http://www.cantemus.org/concerts). Tickets may be also be purchased at the door.

Cantemus is currently seeking additional Tenors and Baritone/Basses to join the group in the spring. For information about scheduling an audition, singers may visit [www.cantemus.org/about-us/auditions](http://www.cantemus.org/about-us/auditions).

cantemus.org/about-us/auditions.

Cantemus gratefully acknowledges funding support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and from the Local Cultural Councils of Groveland, Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport, Salisbury and Rowley. Cantemus is a member of Chorus America; MASSCreative.org; and the Greater Boston Choral Consortium, a cooperative association of diverse choral groups in Boston and the surrounding area.

Cantemus members come from across the North Shore and New Hampshire:

Amesbury: Gary Lubarsky, Beverly: Paul Kelly, Karen Kepler, Richard Salandrea, Marjorie Short, Braden Willenbrock\*. Bradford: Mern Ebinger. Danvers: Carrie Evanchik. Durham, NH: Sydney van Asselt. Essex: Betsy Vicksell. Georgetown: Patty Clark. Gloucester: Roger Garberg. Hamilton: Pamela Morris, Andrea Welty Peachey. Haverhill: Doug Guy. Ipswich: Elizabeth Krafchuk, Anne Maguire, Stephen Miles, Chris Reif. Lexington: Izzy Baron\*, Deniz Dokmecioglu\*, Artistic Director Jason Iannuzzi. Manchester: Isabella Bates, Kate Lawrence, Caroline Royer, Byron Winn. Melrose: Accompanist Jeffrey Mead. Newburyport: Richard Blumenscheid, Claire Cayot. Rockport: Brittany Betts. Roslindale: Deborah Lemont. Wenham: Jeremy Satchell. West Newbury: Jamie Cabot, Melissa Lugo, Susan Nash.

\* Cantemus Choral Interns from Beverly High School and Lexington High School

### Intro to Libby: Part of a Tech Help Series

Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2PM - Drop-in- no registration required

Want to get free books for your Kindle? Try Libby, the app from Overdrive that provides ebooks and audiobooks FREE with your library card.

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Can't make it but still have questions? Call us to set up a 30 minute 1-on-1 appointment with one of our staff.

For more information on this or other programs, check our web site at [www.rowleylibrary.org/calendar](http://www.rowleylibrary.org/calendar), or call (978) 948-2850. The Rowley Library is located at 141 Main St. in Rowley.

# Health & Wellness



By J. PETER ST. CLAIR, DMD

## Brighter Smiles... SWEET TOOTH

insufficient home care, and salivary flow are all contributing factors.

With regard to beverages specifically, as described in the JADA article, the main carbohydrate additives to note are sugar, lactose, high-fructose corn syrup, sucrose, fructose, glucose, maltodextrin, and honey. The beverages to watch for containing these are milk – yes milk, flavored milk, 100 percent fruit juice and vegetable juice, soda, juice drinks, sports drinks, flavored water, flavored tea and coffee, energy drinks, smoothies, and nutritional supplements.

People usually consume multiple beverages daily. As I have described in past columns, one of the worst things you can do is to drink these kinds of beverages slowly throughout the day. Constant introduction of carbohydrates over a prolonged period feed bacteria and never allow the saliva to neutralize the oral environment. If you have decreased salivary production, this makes the situation much worse.

Here is a list of recommendations as stated in the JADA article:

1. Consume these types of beverages at meals only
2. Limit these types of beverages to once per day and to 12 ounces
3. Consume these beverages within a 15-minute time frame

4. Using a straw is preferable
5. Replace these sugary beverages with artificially sweetened or unsweetened beverages. \*\* I would add to that preferably non-carbonated
6. Brush teeth with fluoridated toothpaste 20 minutes after intake
7. Chew sugar free gum immediately after intake
8. Rinse mouth with water immediately after intake

Dental decay is preventable. Following the guidelines above, and practicing good oral hygiene can prevent the most common reasons for decay. It is important to note that most people have plenty of room for improvement with their oral hygiene. Brush your teeth right before your next dental appointment and then ask your hygienist or dentist to assess how well you are doing at plaque removal. You may be surprised at what you're missing.

*Dr. St. Clair maintains a private dental practice in Rowley dedicated to health-centered family dentistry. He has a special interest in treating snoring, sleep apnea and TMJ problems. If there are certain topics you would like to see written about or questions you have please email them to him at [jpstclair@stclairdmd.com](mailto:jpstclair@stclairdmd.com)*

commerce event.

"Everyone seemed very excited that we had moved to town," she said. "Since moving to Salisbury, our donations are up, our volunteers are coming back, and we are starting to collaborate with new and familiar partners," Wilkinson said.

The studio has already hosted a weekend of short plays, titled Coming Home. "You could feel the energy in the room. Everyone was so happy to be back. The shows were sold out and during intermission and after the show was over, people stayed to tell tales of when they started acting at The Studio and the joy that it brought them. They cannot wait to start working with us again."

On Feb. 16 through 25, the Studio will host OUTSIDE MULLINGAR by John Patrick Stanley, a heartwarming, 90-minute Irish play that has been greeted with rave reviews.

To join in the fun, visit [www.newburyportacting.org](http://www.newburyportacting.org).

## Actors Studio

Continued from page 3

during performances. The Achilles heel was its lack of an elevator, which the landlord agreed they could install, but reneged six months later after it produced a couple of plays.

"We put a lot of money, time and effort into it, but it didn't come to fruition," Clopton said at the time.

Wilkinson said, "We still were able to perform at the Firehouse and Zach Fields Studio, but no matter how well we publicized the events and where we were going to be, ultimately someone would miss our show because they arrived at the wrong location. Like most people, we all like to nest, and we needed a home."

The new space is affordable, Wilkinson said. And because all local theater companies have trouble finding space to rehearse, she and Clopton are able to rent out some of its space at an affordable price.

With the new space, the Actors Studio can resume its regular schedule that includes six story slams, published and locally written plays and performances, plus youth performances. Clopton is most excited that the new space will reinvigorate the Northside Readers Collaborative, Writers and Actors Ink and the Workshop Product Series, all vehicles to develop and promote local talent.

Salisbury, which may not have ever had a theater, has welcomed the Actors Studio warmly. Wilkinson said she and Clopton were invited to a chamber of

## Newburyport to Host Information Meeting on Community Center Proposal

NEWBURYPORT – Mayor Sean Reardon and the City of Newburyport invite residents and community stakeholders to a community presentation on plans for the new Newburyport Rec Center.

The meeting will be held on Thursday, Jan. 18, at 6:30 p.m., in City Hall Auditorium.

The Recreation and Youth Services Department (formerly NYS) has needed a new home since the heating system at the former Brown School became unusable in 2021. The City purchased the former National Guard building site at 59 Low St. in 2022 as a potential site.

City officials will share conceptual plans developed by EGA, PC Architects of Newburyport. Ample time will be allotted for questions and answers.

"We are excited to share with the community the latest designs, stemming from months of careful consideration of program needs, site constraints, budget considerations and support for our youth and Newburyport residents," Mayor Reardon said. "Please join us to hear about the project and see a 3D walkthrough of the proposed space."

## New Life Community Church Event

Join us on January 20th from 5PM to 8PM for our fundraiser dinner at New Life Community Church, 186 E Main St in Georgetown.

We will be serving pasta, salad, and dessert! Children under 12 eat free.

This will benefit the Lottie Moon Fund supporting international missions. Suggested donation \$10.

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:**  
♦ Moderate ♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!  
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**Salome's Stars**

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) The new year holds promise for all you Lambs who know how to take advantage of the opportunities out there. The key is keeping a positive attitude.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Over the course of this new year, you beautiful Bovines will continue bulldozing the barriers that stand between you and the success of your long-term plans.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) The new year kicks off with a major decision about a job change that could involve a lot of travel. The choice you make could influence other decisions down the line.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Familial relationships continue to have a strong influence on whatever long-term decisions you make involving both your career and your personal life.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Any decisions that you put off making last year should be confronted and dealt with as soon as possible. You need to clear away the past and make room for the future.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Last year's disappointments are history. Expect to see more opportunities opening up and waiting for you to use them to your advantage.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) You still have some trouble spots lingering from last year. Resolve them so that you can move on to tackle more rewarding situations.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Developments in the year ahead can be more challenging than you had expected, but the rewards will be well worth your efforts.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) You are the Philosopher of the Zodiac, and your wisdom will go a long way in helping you deal with the challenges of the upcoming year.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Take stock of what you propose to do in the new year and get started as soon as possible. On another note, last year's critics turn into this year's admirers.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) This year, the typically gentle Water Bearer can reveal a hidden streak of steel that few people suspected you had; they will be surprised to see how you use it.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Although new friends open up different social vistas, your penchant for privacy is still strong and allows you the quiet time you need to indulge in your creative gifts.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have deep reservoirs of strength that give you extraordinary staying power amid the most difficult conditions.

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**The Spats**  
by Jeff Pickering

**PUZZLE ANSWERS**

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

**Super Crossword** **CALCULATING CHARACTERS**

- ACROSS**  
1 Pet doc  
4 "Come again?"  
8 Treats maliciously  
14 Tennis player Borg  
19 Narcissist's problem  
21 Actress Address  
22 Ate, as prey  
23 Football Hall of Famer Bronko  
24 Arrive on wheels  
25 Frankie or Cleo of song  
26 Start of a riddle  
29 Noise in a comic book gunfight  
30 Exotica singer Sumac  
31 "The Human Stain" novelist Philip  
32 Cure-all  
37 Race of people in an H.G. Wells novella  
39 Some sorority letters  
40 Donations to the destitute  
44 Riddle, part 2  
48 Like much greasy food  
49 See 83-Across  
50 Corp. leader  
51 Skip over, as a vowel  
52 World War II film, when tripled  
53 Charged bit  
55 Place — (be active on eBay, say)  
57 Cheap cigar  
58 Riddle, part 3  
63 Simile middle  
66 Chaney of film  
67 Song-beltin Merman  
68 On a pension, maybe: Abbr.  
69 Military draft gp.  
70 Riddle, part 4  
75 ZZ Top album whose name is Spanish for "The Crazy One"  
76 Hamm and Farrow  
77 Neither's partner  
78 Tingly feeling  
82 Totally tired  
83 With 49-Across, touter of green eggs and ham  
84 "Yes" vote  
86 Early arcade giant  
87 End of the riddle  
93 — -Flush (bathroom brand)  
94 Architect I.M. —  
95 Made angry  
96 Florida fruits  
97 R&B great Marvin  
99 Not at all new  
100 Golf club  
102 Riddle's answer  
111 Stalin-era labor camp  
112 Polecat's kin  
113 Urge against  
114 Muscat native  
115 Do over  
116 Office squawker  
117 Fender dings  
118 Mimics a mad mutt  
119 Helper of Frankenstein  
120 Inventor Whitney
- DOWN**  
1 "—, vidi, vici"  
2 "The Keep" novelist Jennifer  
3 Forum wear  
4 Angel's instrument  
5 Drunk  
6 Writer Gogol  
7 Third-largest city in Israel  
8 Ride a wave  
9 Eighth-brightest star in the sky  
10 Like a hajji's religion  
11 Second-largest city in Oklahoma  
12 Charles Lamb's alias  
13 Bay Area California city  
14 Equivalent of A sharp  
15 Lee Tracy's "Bombshell" co-star  
16 Like praiseful poetry  
17 Gossipy Barrett  
18 Bakersfield-to-Boise dir.  
20 Letters before 39-Across  
27 Swiss watch brand  
28 Clueless  
32 Fizzle sound  
33 Sleek, informally  
34 Hair removal brand  
35 Top squad  
36 Mooer's mouthful  
38 On the — (fleeing)  
39 "— say more?"  
41 Actresses Vivien and Janet  
42 In — res (mid-plot)  
43 Clay pigeons to be shot, informally  
45 Three x three  
46 Frozen spear  
47 Eats away at  
53 "Were — it all over again ..."  
54 "It can't be!"  
55 One of the Three Musketeers  
56 Nickname for singer Justin, with "the"  
57 Derisive smile  
59 One of the three Furies  
60 R&R alone  
61 "— boy!"  
62 Pisa's river  
63 Nuclear trials, for short  
64 Class of antimicrobial drugs, in the British spelling  
65 Actress Sorkin who once hosted "America's Funniest People"  
71 Like animals that don't roam  
72 So-called "fifth taste"  
73 Apartment near the super's, perhaps  
74 Mesh well  
79 Piquancy  
80 Ontario tribe  
81 Cat's warning  
83 Pittsburgh footballers  
84 "Chances —"  
85 "Catch my drift, bro?"  
86 Pie-mode link  
88 1974 CIA parody film  
89 More lacteal  
90 Not cardinal, as a number  
91 Plundering  
92 Writer Sábato  
98 Patronage  
99 "— Loompa"  
101 Half-diameters  
102 Journalist Brit  
103 Zing  
104 Lucy Liu's "Kill Bill" role  
105 Insect traps  
106 Exploiter  
107 Mongrel mutt  
108 Frilly material  
109 Shrine figure  
110 Moore of "G.I. Jane"  
111 Shrine figure

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Many people believe their timeshares cannot be cancelled, but they often can be. Our founder and CEO, Chuck McDowell, has successfully helped over 30,000 families get rid of their timeshare and he can likely help you too. If you were misled, lied to, or pressured, you may have an easy exit with a 100% money back guarantee.

**How Does the Cancellation Process Work?**

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- If we see that the circumstances of your situation qualify you to exit the timeshare, you'll be assigned a specialist to walk you through the process.
- Our Resolution Department works quickly to have your timeshare and all related fees permanently terminated.

We've been able to help many timeshare owners that contact us. You could be one phone call away from complete peace of mind.

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— Chuck McDowell, Founder & CEO

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