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Wednesday, March 12, 2025 - Vol. 21, No. 20

**FREE**



## Community Snapshot: Georgetown

Georgetown's Lieutenant James Rodden (left), Highway Surveyor Peter Durkee (center), and Chief of Police David P. Sedwick (right) pause for a *Community Excellence Snapshot*. The trio had just completed an early morning setup and reboot of a mobile digital display in front of the Georgetown Public Safety Building – one of many tasks that often go unseen by many members of our community. (Photo: Lonnie Brennan)



Edith Heyck stands before the Pink House with a framed painting she created that captures the "pink ballerina" in better times. (Photo: Stewart Lytle)

## Saying Goodbye Is Hard

by Stewart Lytle  
and Ava Moeckel

**PLUM ISLAND** – Edith Heyck was one of dozens of painters and photographers and fans who came to honor the Pink House at a sunset vigil on Sunday. Joe Cmar held his handmade model of the Pink House up to the sunset light for all to see.

Dozens of photographers with long lenses recorded what most think may be the last time they can shoot the iconic house that stands between the highway and the marsh. And cars and trucks honked their goodbyes

Seventy-five to 100 hardy lovers of the Pink House gathered in a fierce wind along the Plum Island Turnpike to say a sad farewell.

"I can't imagine driving to Plum Island and not seeing it," said Heyck, who manages the Market Landing Park downtown on the Merrimack River. Carrying a framed painting she did of the house, she said, "I see her as a pink ballerina in a tattered tutu."

One fan, wearing a pink hat who came to help park cars in the borrowed lot behind Bob's Lobster, handed out an anonymous essay he had written in tribute to the Pink House.

"The opportunity to add potentially hundreds of productive acres to its land portfolio by trading the house and it's one unproductive acre, USF&WS realizes that trade is a no-brainer. It's like trading Fred Flintstone to get Ted Williams," he wrote in the essay, asking not to attach his name.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, which owns the Pink House and will contract, probably starting this week, to tear it down, worked with the Supporters of the Pink House (STPH) and its legions of fans and lawyers and contractors to trade hundreds of acres of wetlands for the vacant house and the 9 acres of dry land it sits on. An anonymous donor even offered to donate \$1 million if the federal agency would not demolish the house.

The F&WS declined, saying the house did not fit with its mission of protecting wetlands and their inhabitants.

As the sun set on the house, car and trucks on the highway honked their goodbyes, and people, many dressed in pink, stood across the highway holding LED candles.

Asked how she was feeling, the usually loquacious Sandy Tilton, who helps run the non-profit organization STPH, could muster only one word, "Sad."

Deb Levine said, "I don't know of anyone who will benefit from its being demolished. There's no point." In fact, she said, the government would not have to spend the money to tear it down.

Steven Lindsay drove from Keene, N.H., to pay tribute to the house he saw every time he visited Plum Island. He said, the Pink House, which he described as one of the icons of the seacoast culture, "makes it special to come here."

The F&WS is expected to replace it with a bench to view the marsh. ♦

## Town of Wrentham Files Legal Action Over Unfunded State Mandate

**WRENTHAM** – The following is a recent statement from the Wrentham Select Board and Town Manager Michael King

This afternoon, the Town commenced legal action against the Commonwealth, seeking relief from enforcement of the so-called MBTA zoning law.

The Town had previously exercised its rights to seek a determination from the State Auditor that the MBTA zoning law constitutes an unfunded mandate. Ultimately, the Auditor, through its Division of Local Mandates, agreed, declaring that the law constitutes an unfunded mandate and directing the Commonwealth's housing agency, EOHL, to provide required information on the fiscal impact of the law including

Continued on page 3

## Statement About the Future of Northshore Recovery High School

**BEVERLY** – The following is a statement from Northshore Education Consortium (NEC) Executive Director Francine H. Rosenberg:

"It has come to our attention that concerns have surfaced regarding the future of the Northshore Recovery High School.

"We assure you that the school will remain open for the rest of the school year, and next year, the 2025-26 school year.

"For many years, there have been serious problems with how the Commonwealth funds recovery high schools in Massachusetts. Our administrators have advocated for changes to state funding, but those pleas have gone unanswered.

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## How to Submit Letters to the Editor



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  
The Town Common  
9 Hamilton Terrace  
Georgetown, MA 01833  
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.

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Marc Maravalli, Founding Publisher / Editor  
editor@thetowncommon.com

Graphic Design Services  
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In loving memory of

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

## Clement "Pete" Dole, Jr.

May 24, 1929 - March 3, 2025

Clement Huntington Dole, Jr., of Charlotte, passed away peacefully on March 3, 2025. He lived an adventure-filled 95 years.

Clement, better known as Pete, and belovedly as Bumpa, was born May 24, 1929 in Georgetown, Mass., to Clem, Sr. and Dorothy Dole. Georgetown is also where he met the love of his life, Gerry, whom he married in 1950. Pete and Gerry raised four children at their home on Pond Street, across from his parents' farm, and Pete opened his butcher shop - The Meat Block - in town.

In 1977, Pete and Gerry headed north and built their dream home on a beautiful acreage in Camden, ME, where the family would gather for holidays and enjoy evenings on the porch. Here, Pete served as the meat department manager at the local IGA, tended to a bountiful garden, served with the Shriners, and was named Grand Master of the Masons. In 2004, the Doles retired to Huntersville, NC.

Pete was an exceptional outdoorsman and hunter throughout his life and his prized trophies filled his home and amazed his grandchildren. His greatest prize was "Bill" - a snow white mountain goat from the Yukon - that he claimed on one of his many hunting excursions. He also loved snowmobiling, traveling across the U.S., the Atlanta Braves, fried clams, and ice cream.

Pete was preceded in death by his sister, Carol, and his daughter Catherine. He is survived by his wife of 74 years, Geraldine Dole, their children: Russell Dole (Darcy) of Swanville, ME, Robin Hazen of Huntersville, NC, and Carol Dole of Scarborough, ME, son-in-law Stephen Byrnes of Cushing, ME, grandchildren: Jared, Peter, Susan, Benjamin, Dominic, Carrie, Zachary and Abby, great-grandchildren: Grady, Lucy, Sophia and Cooper, brother: Ronald Dole of Boxford, MA, many extended family members and dear friends.

Pete will be laid to rest near his hunting camp in Allagash, ME, at a private ceremony.



## Letters To The Editor

### Small-Town Women-Owned Businesses in the Center of Georgetown

To the Editor:

Small-town woman-owned businesses in the center of Georgetown: There are many women businesses that I think are awesome. We all work together. Peace Love Thrift, Georgetown Barber Shop, Hatter's Tea Shoppe, Humble Warrior Yoga Studio, Bent Emporium, Scala Jewelry, and more ...

Kim Therrien, Georgetown



### Newburyport Community Improvement Society

The Community Improvement Society is a 501(c)(3) organization that was founded for the purpose of preserving and improving the public spaces of Newburyport. Our efforts focus on the beautification, maintenance, repair and improvements of existing public spaces, parks grounds and facilities in the City of Newburyport.

While we do not actively distribute funds as a donor, we identify small projects and, when possible, work with the city and contractors to have them completed. Learn more at <https://www.newburyportcis.org/>

### Groveland Fire Department Responds to Brush Fire on West Newbury Town Line

GROVELAND — Fire Chief Robert Valentine reports that the Groveland Fire Department extinguished a brush fire caused by a downed power line on the Groveland/West Newbury line: On Friday, March 7, at approximately 1:25 p.m., the Groveland and West Newbury Fire Departments were notified of a brush fire in a remote area under high tension power lines in the area of Center Street and Webster Way on the town line.

Firefighters from both departments located an approximately half-acre of brush that was burning as a result of a downed high-tension power line. A large pine tree was blown down by high winds and took down the power line as it fell, sparking the fire.

A forestry firefighting team from the state Department of Conservation and Recreation also supported efforts to extinguish the fire. Firefighters from Georgetown covered Groveland stations during the fire.

National Grid was called to the scene and deenergized the power line, at which point firefighters brought the blaze under control at 2:31 p.m. There were no reported injuries.

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13 Thu	11:51	8.3			5:42	0.5	6:09	0.2	6:56	6:48	☾
14 Fri	12:15	7.9	12:31	8.2	6:23	0.4	6:45	0.3	6:54	6:50	☾
15 Sat	12:52	8.0	1:10	8.1	7:02	0.3	7:20	0.4	6:52	6:51	☾
16 Sun	1:27	8.1	1:47	7.9	7:40	0.3	7:55	0.5	6:51	6:52	☾
17 Mon	2:02	8.2	2:25	7.7	8:18	0.3	8:31	0.7	6:49	6:53	☾
18 Tue	2:39	8.1	3:05	7.5	8:58	0.4	9:09	1.0	6:47	6:54	☾
19 Wed	3:18	8.0	3:49	7.2	9:41	0.5	9:51	1.2	6:45	6:55	☾
20 Thu	4:02	7.9	4:36	6.9	10:29	0.7	10:38	1.5	6:44	6:57	☾
21 Fri	4:51	7.7	5:29	6.7	11:21	0.9	11:30	1.7	6:42	6:58	☾

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### Fighting the MBTA Act

Continued from page 1

on Town services and infrastructure.

To date, the Commonwealth has refused to do so and has emphatically declared that it will enforce the law, including the requirement that Wrentham pass a complying zoning bylaw by July 14.

Wrentham voters overwhelmingly defeated an article concerning a zoning bylaw amendment at the December Special Town Meeting by a vote of 53 to 542, in large part due to a concern over unfunded obligations. Under the Act, the Town would be required to zone for a minimum of 750 multi-family units at a gross density of 15 units per acre across a minimum of 50 acres. This increase in density would require substantial investment in municipal infrastructure, including educational, public safety, and public works services.

The Wrentham Select Board determined that the most practical and fiscally responsible way to compel the Commonwealth to provide the necessary financial information on impacts to education, public safety, and public works was to file suit in Superior Court. The legal action also seeks to relieve the Town from the duty of complying with the statute until the Commonwealth provides funding to cover the increased budgetary costs of compliance.

The Select Board remains committed to obtaining important fiscal impact information on MBTA zoning compliance and believes that the Commonwealth's financial analysis is necessary for voters to make an informed decision at Town Meeting on whether to adopt an MBTA Zoning bylaw. ♦

### Beverly's Recovery School

Continued from page 1

"Our collaborative has received the same grant allocation every year since the Recovery High School opened in 2006, and obviously costs have increased since then.

"This year, enrollment has decreased, for reasons that are unclear. As in any of our programs, fluctuations in enrollment may lead to the consideration of budget cuts.

"The NEC Board is incredibly proud of the role we have played in creating one of the Commonwealth's first recovery high schools in 2006. Thanks to a dedicated and talented staff, our school has positively impacted hundreds of young people struggling with addiction. Our Principal, Michelle Lipinski, has been a vocal advocate for this model, and has been a highly regarded trainer, speaker, and consultant on the issue of adolescent recovery.

"The Board is committed to Recovery High School through the 2025-26 school year and will establish a process to study these issues in greater depth before any long-range decisions are made." ♦

### Triton Approves New Graduation Rules

By Stewart Lytle, Reporter

**REGIONAL** – While the governor's task force decides what requirements students must pass to graduate from high school now that passing the MCAS tests are no longer the standard, Triton Regional School District has updated its own path to graduation to align with the new Competency Determination (CD) requirements – at least for students in 2025.

The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education last week reviewed new regulations on the CD graduation process and put them out for public comment. In the absence of approved regulations, Triton and other districts are enacting specific coursework, credits and attendance requirements as part of local graduation requirements.

The competency determination is no longer tied to a single-point-in-time standardized test, due to the passing of Question 2 last November. Rather, districts will certify students have met competency in the same high standards based on completion of coursework that meets the same standards.

"We have always had a comprehensive and rigorous graduation requirement for our students, and that will not change as we adapt our standard to meet the revised CD requirements," said Triton superintendent Brian Forget.

Triton School Committee, which serves students from Newbury, Rowley and Salisbury, approved last month two paths for

students who graduate this spring to achieve their CD.

Triton students, and most have, must have acquired 22 credits to graduate – four credits of English and math, three of lab-based sciences, which may be engineering technology, three years of history, two years of the same global language, 1.55 credits of physical education, two credits of the visual or performing arts, which may be one credit in practical arts, and a half year of financial literacy, starting in 2027.

This year, as Triton is in transition from the end of the MCAS requirement, students can earn their CD by demonstrating competency in English 9 and English 10 or the equivalent, Algebra I and Geometry or the equivalent and Biology, Physics, Chemistry or Technology, unless they passed the 10th grade MCAS prior to December 5, 2024.

Students that have transferred from out of state may request a transcript review by the Director of Guidance to show they have met the competency determination through previous coursework.

Former students, who did not meet the competency determination by passing MCAS prior to December 5, 2024 and were denied a diploma, may ask the director of guidance to review their record. If a diploma is denied, students may appeal in writing to the high school principal.

Special education students may have their graduation status reviewed with their special education team. ♦

### Pentucket Regional Middle High School Fine Arts Teacher Receives Massachusetts Art Education Association Award

**WEST NEWBURY** – Pentucket Superintendent Justin Bartholomew and Fine and Performing Arts Department Chair David Schumacher are pleased to share that Pentucket Regional Middle High School fine arts instructor Marcia Nadeau has been honored by the Massachusetts Art Education Association (MAEA).

Nadeau – who has worked with the district for 28 years – was awarded the MAEA's Distinguished Service Within the Profession Award.

The award is designed to recognize outstanding achievements, contributions, and service in previous years to the field of art education.

"I am honored to be among the recipients of the 2025 MAEA Awards," Nadeau said.

During her tenure as Pentucket's Department Chair of the Fine and Performing Arts, Nadeau began numerous community outreach efforts, bringing opportunities for her students and the community to engage in the arts.

She secured bus transportation to and from Mass College of Art & Design in Boston, offering enrichment at one of the oldest collegiate art schools in a city that serves as the cultural center of New England. Pentucket students participated in Saturday Studios, fueling their passions under the guidance of expert faculty and student teachers.

She also designed and installed "The Voice Within," an interactive art exhibit where written exchanges of ideas connect community members and student artists. Last year, Nadeau offered what turned out to be a highly successful, multi-generational Community Art Club that met one night a week for six weeks at PRHS and culminated with an evening exhibit for the community.

"Congratulations to Marcia on this well-deserved honor," said Schumacher. "We are lucky to have her as a dedicated and passionate member of the Performing Arts Department here at Pentucket."

About MAEA  
An affiliate of NAEA since 1975, MAEA is Massachusetts' professional association for art educators. The mission of MAEA is to advance high-quality visual arts education throughout the state by empowering art educators to excel in the practice, instruction, promotion, and celebration of visual art. Recipients exemplify highly qualified individuals active in the field of art education today: leaders, educators, students, scholars, researchers, and advocates who make significant contributions to the profession. For more information, please visit the MAEA website at [www.massarted.com](http://www.massarted.com). ♦



### A New Roadblock for Whittier Move

By Stewart Lytle, Reporter

**REGIONAL** – If Whittier Regional Vocational Technical School is going to receive state funding for a new building on the Northern Essex Community College campus, the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) is insisting that all 11 municipalities in its district agree to amend its governing agreement by July 21.

The MSBA has tentatively invited Whittier to apply for its funding program that could allocate as much as half the costs of a new high school. But that eligibility has strings attached.

Whittier must have each of the chief

executives (mayors or Select Board chairs) to sign a letter that agrees to "amend, as may be needed, the existing Vocational Regional School District Agreement."

Some changes, such as the location of the school, would be relatively easy for all 11 communities to approve. But others, particularly the reallocation of funding for the school's operations and capital improvements, would be a tall ask.

Most communities, except Haverhill, which has the largest student enrollment, would like to see a change in the funding allocation, including building a new school.

If the 11 communities cannot agree

Continued on page 8

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# Should Fluoride Be Added to the Water?

By Ava Moeckel, Reporter

**NEWBURYPORT** – This city held a meeting last week to decide whether to continue adding fluoride to the water for its 18,000 residents. Most of the nearby towns on the North Shore do not.

A small amount of fluoride has been added to the city's drinking water since 1969 in hopes of reducing cavities and promoting a healthy mouth. Some studies have suggested that fluoride is a metal that can build up in the body.

The hearing at city hall auditorium Thursday night drew a crowd of about

50 residents, among them three who said they were from Amesbury, which stopped adding fluoride to its water in 2009. The powdered fluoride clogged the system, and officials struggled to identify the residue that remained.

The Newburyport Board of Health is expected to consider the issue of fluoride in the public water system in the next few weeks.

Several North Shore towns include fluoride in their water supply, including Ipswich, Newburyport, parts of Newbury served by Newburyport Water, and West Newbury, which also receives water from Newburyport.

In addition to Amesbury, the towns of Boxford, Georgetown, Merrimac, Rowley and Salisbury do not add fluoride to their water systems.

The attendees at the meeting were nearly evenly divided, with half supporting the addition of fluoride to the water and the other half opposing it.

One attendee, Elizabeth, expressed her support for fluoride, stating that she views it

as beneficial for oral health. She noted that not everyone can afford fluoride products, and removing it from the water supply would lead to an increase in cavities.

Another attendee, Margaret, shared her personal experience, explaining that she had poor dental health as a child. However, after fluoride was introduced to her water, she noticed a significant improvement in her teeth.

A dentist emphasized the importance of checking reliable sources and not believing everything one reads online. She expressed concern that removing fluoride water supply could lead to significant increases in cavities.

Erin, an opponent of fluoride, argued that as times change so does our understanding of health risks. She compared the use of fluoride to smoking, pointing out that people once thought smoking was safe.

Several of the speakers, including Megan, the mother of three, asked why fluoride was added to the public water supply if it is potentially harmful. She said people should have the right to make their own decisions about whether or not to ingest fluoride. ♦

# Rockport Police, Fire, and MSP Bomb Squad Respond to Discovery of Possible WWI Ordnance

**ROCKPORT** – Police Chief John Horvath reports that the Rockport Police Department, along with the Massachusetts State Police Bomb Squad and Rockport Fire, responded to the discovery of a possible World War I era ordnance on Cleaves Street.

At approximately 4:33 p.m. on Sat., March 8, an individual cleaning a cottage on Cleaves Street came across what appeared to be a decommissioned 75mm artillery shell. The Massachusetts State Police Bomb Squad was notified and responded to the scene, where they conducted an X-ray analysis of the object. However, the results were

inconclusive.

Out of an abundance of caution, the Bomb Squad made the determination to conduct a controlled detonation at the Rockport Police Department gun range, located off Piggery Crossing. The detonation was successfully completed without incident.

Rockport Fire Department, Rockport Fire Department Ambulance and Beaufort Ambulance stood by as a precaution during the detonation.

There is no ongoing threat to the public, and no charges have been filed in connection with this incident. ♦

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# Newburyport Charitable Foundation Awards \$2,500 to The Chase Home for Children

**NEWBURYPORT** – The Newburyport Bank Charitable Foundation has provided a grant of \$2,500 to The Chase Home for Children. The funds will pay for fees and capacity to develop the content, record, engineer, and produce a 10-episode podcast

series featuring staff, subject matter experts and participants to help bring awareness to Chase programming.

“When it comes to protecting at-risk children in our communities, The Chase House leaves no stone unturned,” stated John Burke, President of Newburyport Bank. “They offer exceptional programs, and all of them address the need to develop the life skills necessary to experience more stability in life. Those necessary skills serve our youth today, and will become even more beneficial in the future. Our Charitable Foundation is proud to participate in such important work.” ♦

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Local Winter 2025

# Photos of People/Groups Photo Contest

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**WE HAVE CORRECTED THE DATE, AND WANT TO EMPHASIZE: PEOPLE PHOTOS PLEASE!**

For the "Local Winter" contest, we seek photos of local people/groups/activities including restaurants, sports teams, barbers, law offices, assemblers, shops, bankers, firefighters, police, medical, scouts, you name it!

We're looking to print YOUR photos taken in our growing readership area!

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Boxford, Mass.	Groveland, Mass.	Manchester-by-the-Sea	Rowley, Mass.	West Newbury, Mass.
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## Upcoming Events

### AMESBURY

Grief Care Breakfast is for those dealing with death of a loved one and will be held on Saturday, March 15 from 9:30 – 11:00 am hosted by the Market Street Baptist Church, 37 Market Street, Amesbury. The program is free.

Speaker: Pastor Steve MaGee is the pastor of Exeter Presbyterian Church. He and his wife Candyce lost their son to suicide 17 years ago. All are welcome. Come to meet and connect. Parking is available behind the church and in the BankProv lot next door. Please RSVP: the office at 978-388-0930, office@msbcnews.org

### BEVERLY

Live DJ at the Pickled Onion! Thurs. March 14, 9 P.M. - 1 A.M. - Enjoy great Irish Music and more.

### GEORGETOWN

#### BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Georgetown Peabody Library will be having their Annual Spring Book Sale starting Thursday, March 13 through Sunday, March 16.

The sale will be held at 2 Maple Street, Georgetown during the following hours: Thursday, March 13 from 10 AM to 5 PM; Friday, March 14 from 10 AM to 5 PM; Saturday, March 15 from 9 AM to 1 PM; Sunday, March 16 from 1 PM to 4 PM. On Sunday, it will cost \$8 to fill a bag (bags are provided). Proceeds from the book sale benefit library programs and museum passes.

### GEORGETOWN

Join us for an Irish Experience - Corn Beef and Cabbage Dinner at the New Life Community Church, 186 E. Main St., Georgetown, March 15 at 5 P.M. Free - Donations welcome.

### HAVERTHILL

Where We've Been and Where We're Going: Envisioning a Better Future  
This discussion panel and poetry performance taking place on Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 7pm at Buttonwoods Museum, (240 Water St, Haverhill),

bringing together a diverse panel of speakers and poets, including the renowned historian and professor, Edward Carson; labor and community organizer, Shoshana Bollinger; Haverhill Poet Laureate, Dan Spears; State of Maine Beat Poet Laureate, Claire Conroy; and the founder of the New England Poetry Renaissance, Jeremiah Walton, will take a deep dive into the state of our society and world today, and discuss a vision of how we as a people can create a better society, based on equity and inclusion, that puts the needs of the people over the greed of corporations.

This discussion, moderated by our host, Mark Lipman, will be non-partisan in nature and will strive to lift up the best ideas brought forward.

Additionally, this event will be filmed by HC Media, as part of a larger Haverhill Cultural Council and Massachusetts Cultural Council project, Endless Horizons, a poetry adventure television program, which is being developed by Mark Lipman, with his Poetry Bus which he'll be using to tour the region and country to connect communities, using poetry and the arts to spread a message of peace and social justice.

The Poetry Bus will also be present at Buttonwoods Museum, as it's first official public appearance prior to the start of the indoor event.

For more information, please contact, Mark Lipman at: escalatepeace@gmail.com

### NEWBURYPORT

Songs of Freedom & Hope Sing Along, Central Congregational Church 14 Titcomb Street, Newburyport. Sunday, March 16, 2:00 - 4:00PM. Central Congregational Church will host Songs of Freedom & Hope, open community sing, on Sunday, March 16, 2025, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Come join in and sing Songs of Freedom & Hope! Bring your smile and your voice for an open community sing.

Singing circles exist in all religions and in all nationalities, gathering voices together to share song. The whole circle sings together, and everyone takes part in the music. No experience is necessary for this free musical experience. Singing is about building community, uplifting hearts, sharing joy

and enjoying friendships. We hope to see you at Songs of Freedom & Hope Sing-Along, Sunday, March 16, 2025, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM.

### NEWBURYPORT

Traditional Irish Session - An evening of Irish Standard, featuring the cast of Once.

Friday, March 14, 7:30 - 930 PM Firehouse Center for the Arts, 1 Market Square, Newburyport. \$25. <https://firehouse.org/event/trad/>.

### ROWLEY

Rowley's Veterans Lunch - Tuesday, March 25th, 12 P.M. at the Council on Aging. Contact the COA to rsvp by March 17th. Lunch catered by Piatto Cafe.

### NEWBURY

Town of Newbury Announces Launch of Community Choice Power Supply Program

Newbury signed an 18-month contract with Direct Energy Services. Beginning with the April 2025 meter reads, Newbury's Program will offer three products with varying amounts of renewable energy content.

Learn more: Monday, March 17, 1 p.m. at Council on Aging, 12 Kent Way, Byfield, or visit [colonialpowergroup.com/newbury](http://colonialpowergroup.com/newbury) or call 866-485-5858 ext. 1.

### WILMINGTON

Castleberry Spring Craft Festival Shriners Auditorium, Wilmington, March 15 & 16. Sat: 10 AM - 5 PM, Sun. 10 A.M. - 4 P.M. \$10 entry. Kids under 14 free.

Send your events to:

[editor@TheTownCommon.com](mailto:editor@TheTownCommon.com)

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73328793	SLD	22 Penn Brook Ave	Georgetown, MA	AN8161	Detached	1	\$369,900	\$390,000
73324338	SLD	19 S Pleasant St	Merrimac, MA	AN0337	Attached	2	\$414,900	\$415,000
73296253	SLD	16 Old Killam Hill Rd	Boxford, MA : East Boxford	C95243	Detached	2	\$495,000	\$450,000
73307611	SLD	11 Del Logan	Salisbury, MA	AN6888	Detached	1	\$499,999	\$450,000
73267461	SLD	19 Rabbit Road	Salisbury, MA	G62134	Detached	2	\$515,000	\$510,000
73330270	SLD	23 SCHOOL STREEET	Rowley, MA	AN8807	Detached	1	\$525,000	\$580,000
73314369	SLD	418 Main Street	Groveland, MA	AN4339	Detached	2	\$599,900	\$585,000
73321576	SLD	10 Birchwood Terrace	Groveland, MA	AN7827	Detached	2	\$679,000	\$660,000
73320356	SLD	522 North St	Georgetown, MA	AN3418	Detached	3	\$699,000	\$699,000
73328482	SLD	201 Main St	Rowley, MA	AN8447	Detached	2	\$799,000	\$799,000
73302553	SLD	11 Oakland St	Newburyport, MA	AN2589	Detached	2	\$799,000	\$762,500
73330412	SLD	15 Hillview Dr	Groveland, MA : South Groveland	AN0949	Detached	3	\$799,900	\$825,000
73319238	SLD	20 Stage Coach Rd	Boxford, MA : East Boxford	AN5981	Detached	3	\$799,999	\$760,000
73278102	SLD	102 King St	Groveland, MA	AN6958	Detached	1	\$900,000	\$900,000
73321145	SLD	18 Riverfront Dr	Amesbury, MA	AN8750	Detached	3	\$935,000	\$910,000
73315463	SLD	23 Woodwell Circle	Amesbury, MA	AN8750	Detached	3	\$1,050,000	\$995,000
73284007	SLD	114 Stiles Pond Rd	Boxford, MA	AN6888	Detached	4	\$1,595,000	\$1,435,000
73302347	SLD	25 Washington St	Newburyport, MA	C95098	Detached	4	\$1,799,000	\$1,740,000
73287376	SLD	526 Merrimac St	Newburyport, MA	AN2383	Detached	8	\$2,999,500	\$2,820,000

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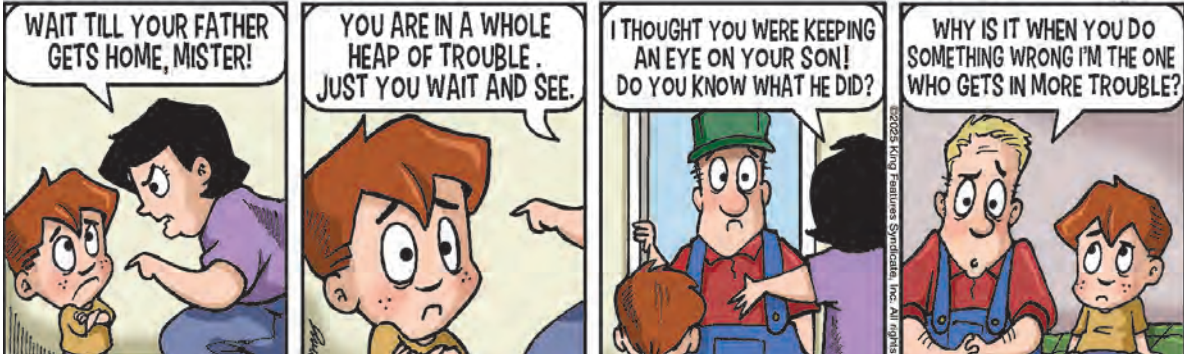
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# Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



### Weekly SUDOKU

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

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) You find yourself making sheep eyes at someone who seems receptive. While the situation looks promising, you might not be ready for a long-term commitment.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) The delay in getting your task done leaves you pawing the ground in frustration. Be patient. The reason for the holdup will soon become apparent. Meanwhile, an opportunity to travel comes from an unexpected source.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Your usually sharp instincts about people should be right on the cutting edge in regard to a major decision. You might want to hold off on a commitment until (or unless) you feel like both the person and project are trustworthy.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Resist the impulse to tell tales about a co-worker. Even if your motives are sincere, they'll be seen as self-serving. A personal situation remains unstable. Wait for things to settle down.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) You love to lap up compliments. But be wary of someone at work who is drowning you in an outpouring of praise. In your personal life, pay more attention to your spouse or partner.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) A perplexing romantic situation turns out to be less complex than you thought. A simple explanation soon clears up all misunderstandings.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Try to remain balanced as you cope with two emotional people. They

want your advice — but at a price to your equilibrium.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Avoid being goaded into making stinging remarks you could later regret. Best advice: Walk. Don't talk. There'll be time later to deal with the situation in a way that makes you look good.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) A family matter becomes too demanding as it overflows into several areas. Try to narrow your focus to where it will do the most good with the least drain on your time and energy.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) It's fix-up time. Make plans to get things repaired and repainted around your home. A relationship could also stand some patching up before the damage is beyond repair. Schedule a physical checkup.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) A job that seems to offer everything you've always wanted might require moving to a new city. Your family offers support no matter what you decide to do. Other options will also require some hard decision-making.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Get back into the social swim. Enjoy some fun time with old friends and be open to making new ones. A previous health problem recurs, but prompt attention makes everything all right.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a deep reservoir of strength that you can draw from to help you get through difficult times. Your compassionate nature allows you to offer support and comfort to others. You are artistically gifted in many areas.

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### The Spats



### PUZZLE ANSWERS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57
58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76
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96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114
115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133
134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152

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# Super Crossword

### SONG TITLES

- ACROSS**
- 1 Teenage witch played by Melissa Joan Hart
  - 8 Breakwater embankment
  - 15 Nintendo title plumber
  - 20 Germ-free
  - 21 Singer with the 2018 hit "Boo'd Up"
  - 22 Put up, as a building
  - 23 Patti Smith
  - 25 Flat, as cola
  - 26 One of the two Pro Bowl gps.
  - 27 Rankle
  - 28 Notices
  - 30 Hero type
  - 31 Nina Simone
  - 39 Napoli's nation
  - 41 Alien-seeking proj.
  - 42 City near Disney World
  - 43 Manicure tool
  - 46 Oxidizes
  - 49 Put the kibosh on
  - 50 Missy Elliott
  - 53 Dir. from Miss. to Mich.
  - 56 Pre-CIA gp.
  - 57 Ad featuring Smokey Bear, e.g.
  - 58 "Science Guy" with multiple Emmys
  - 59 Honorable
  - 60 Busy airport
  - 63 George Strait
  - 69 World capital in the Andes
  - 74 '60s war zone
  - 75 2010-14 Mets member
  - 76 Britney Spears
  - 79 Plane ticket detail
  - 80 Large musical disk
  - 81 Encyc. unit
  - 82 Tosses out of the game, for short
  - 85 "Law & Order" spinoff, in brief
  - 88 Busy insect
  - 89 Bessie Smith
  - 97 Plane ticket detail, for short
  - 98 Mafioso John
  - 99 Narrates rather quickly
  - 104 "This Is Life" journalist Lisa
  - 106 Totally in favor of
  - 107 Chuck Berry
  - 112 "Casablanca" woman
  - 113 "Dies —" (Latin hymn)
  - 114 — Schwarz
  - 115 Peculiar
  - 118 Just making, with "out"
  - 120 Liza Minnelli
  - 127 Roaring cat crossbreed
  - 128 Remove loose coverings from
  - 129 "Tartuffe" playwright
  - 130 Thick
  - 131 Ancient Jewish ascetics
  - 132 Slung mud at
  - 13 Thin streets
  - 14 "In this way"
  - 15 Spanish for "month"
  - 16 Skilled crafter
  - 17 Go further in the book, say
  - 18 Apple digital storage service
  - 19 Verdi opera
  - 24 Mess up
  - 29 Hercules player Kevin
  - 32 Afflictions
  - 33 Natural talent
  - 34 Greet loudly
  - 35 Architect
  - 36 Double — (Oreo option)
  - 37 Wife on "The Addams Family," casually
  - 38 Big to-do
  - 39 Lowdown
  - 40 Mai — (rum drinks)
  - 44 Track circuit
  - 45 Mag staffers
  - 47 Ex-Yankee
  - 48 James Bond genre, in brief
  - 51 Ox of Tibet
  - 52 "Doggone it!"
  - 53 Punishment for a tube watcher
  - 54 "Me neither"
  - 55 Rival of Ben & Jerry's
  - 59 Nibble (on)
  - 60 Suspend
  - 61 Scanned market ID
  - 62 Busy insect
  - 64 With one flat, musically
  - 65 Brief snooze
  - 66 Biotech-created food
  - 67 Atop, in verse
  - 68 Japanese salad green
  - 69 Links gp. for women
  - 70 Club for a 69-Down member
  - 71 Small fortune
  - 72 Letters of invitation?
  - 73 American assn.
  - 77 Margarine, quaintly
  - 78 Adobe Acrobat suffix
  - 83 Fourth of a yr.
  - 84 That girl
  - 85 Large yellow bloom
  - 86 Put the kibosh on
  - 87 KGB's land
  - 89 Paree "to be"
  - 90 Native New Zealander
  - 91 WWII battle town in France
  - 92 Glue — (brand of adhesive in a tube)
  - 93 Hog sound
  - 94 Tesla auto, e.g.
  - 95 String necktie
  - 96 Quiet stretch
  - 97 Fuel gases
  - 100 Off-track
  - 101 New film type in the 1920s
  - 102 What "@" is
  - 103 Rotational force
  - 105 Big blunders
  - 108 Man-goat deities
  - 109 Marsh plants
  - 110 Capture
  - 111 Campus buildings
  - 116 Have the guts
  - 117 Made blond, maybe
  - 119 Test for college srs.
  - 121 Prior to, in sonnets
  - 122 Indian flatbread
  - 123 Not closed, in verse
  - 124 — -pah band
  - 125 Heady brew
  - 126 Day, to Diego

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#### LEGAL NOTICE

##### ROWLEY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

A Public Hearing will be held at the Rowley Town Hall, 139 Main St. on Wednesday,  
**March 19, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** to act on an application received **February 24, 2025**  
 from **Michael & Ruth Clark**. Applicant(s) is **Requesting a Special Permit from RZPB**  
**section 6.1.3.1 for an addition.** The property is located at **513 Haverhill Street** in the  
**Outlying** district and is shown on Assessors' Map **8 Block 82**. At the public hearing,  
 members of the public may ask questions and present evidence that supports either the  
 approval or denial of this petition.

Thomas Heidberg, Chairman  
 Zoning Board of Appeals

3/5, 3/12

#### LEGAL NOTICE

##### ROWLEY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

A Public Hearing will be held at the Rowley Town Hall, 139 Main St., on Wednesday,  
**March 19, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.** to act on an application received **February 19, 2025** from  
**Benjamin Roberts c/o Mead Talerma & Costa, LLC** on behalf of **Todd's River View**  
**Farm, LLC**. Applicant(s) is **appealing a permit denial and Requesting a Special Permit**  
**from RZPB section 5.2.** The property is located at **275 Main Street** in the **Central,**  
**Outlying** district and is shown on Assessors' Map **26 Block 25 Lot 3**. At the public  
 hearing, members of the public may ask questions and present evidence that supports  
 either the approval or denial of this petition.

Thomas Heidberg, Chairman  
 Zoning Board of Appeals

3/5, 3/12



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#### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE UPDATE GEORGETOWN PLANNING BOARD

Notice is hereby provided that the Town of Georgetown Planning Board will conduct  
 a public hearing pursuant to M.G.L. c.40A, Sec. 5, on proposed amendments to the  
 Zoning Bylaw **\$165-104 Age and occupancy restriction** as well as **\$165-112 Number**  
**of dwelling units per development.** The purpose of the hearing is to consider public  
 comments regarding a Warrant Article proposed by the Georgetown Planning Board.  
 These proposed changes will remove a discrepancy in the bylaws and help increase the  
 Town's Subsidized Housing Index.

The public hearing will be held on **Wednesday, 26 MARCH 2025 at 7:15 p.m.** This  
 hearing will be held virtually via Zoom, at which time all interested persons may appear  
 and be heard in relation thereto. The link to the Zoom meeting will be available on the  
 Planning Board's agenda which can be found on the Town's Calendar of Upcoming  
 Events at [www.Georgetownma.gov](http://www.Georgetownma.gov) 48 hours prior to the Public Hearing. The full text  
 of the proposed amendments and potential map are on file and available for inspection  
 during normal business hours at Town Hall in the Planning Office, 1 Library Street,  
 Georgetown, MA and can be viewed online at:

<https://cms5.revize.com/revize/georgetownma/Potential%20BYLAW%20Updates%20Sec165-104%20&%20165-112%20MAY2025.pdf>

The above-cited remote meeting connection information will be included on the 26  
 MARCH 2025 Planning Board meeting agenda, which will be posted on the Town of  
 Georgetown website no less than 48 hours prior to the meeting. Further, the meeting will  
 be broadcast live on the Georgetown Local Access Cable TV Channel 9. Video recordings  
 of this meeting, and all Georgetown Planning Board meetings may be found at [www.georgetownma.gov](http://www.georgetownma.gov) by choosing the Community TV option.

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86873284557>

Meeting ID: 868 7328 4557 Passcode: 390837

For more information about these Public Hearings or if you were unable to attend  
 the hearing and would like to communicate your concerns or questions about this  
 application, please send an eMail to the Town Planner at [FOConnor@GeorgetownMA.gov](mailto:FOConnor@GeorgetownMA.gov).  
 Written correspondence received before noon on the day of the hearing will be  
 accepted and read into the record.

Frank O'Connor, Jr.  
 Planner for Town of Georgetown

3/12 (3/19)

#### LEGAL NOTICE - PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING GEORGETOWN COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, March 18, 2025**

The Georgetown Community Preservation Committee will hold a Public Informational  
 Hearing on Tuesday, **March 18, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** to provide the community with an  
 opportunity to learn and comment about projects to be considered for **recommendation**  
**of funding by the voters of Georgetown at the May 2025 Annual and Special Town**  
**Meeting.** The Hearing will be held in person at the Georgetown Town Hall (1 Library  
 St) and remotely via Zoom.

Join the Hearing at: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89204612088>.

Meeting ID: 892 0461 2088 Passcode: 449172

**Projects to be discussed for recommendation include but are not limited to:**

- Annual Reservations to the CPA Core Categories and Administrative Reservation
- Community Housing Category—Affordable Housing Trust Block Grant
- Community Housing Category— Hazardous Tree Removal
- Recreational Category – American Legion Park benches, docks, and bathroom rehabilitation
- Recreational Category – Replacement of scoreboard at American Legion Park
- Recreational Category – Fitness court additional funding
- Recreational Category – Equitable Access to Perley School Playground
- A review of the Community Preservation Plan which will identify short and long term goals and needs for town recreational, historical, and housing resources.

If approved by the voters, certain projects will be paid for with the funds available to  
 Georgetown as defined in M.G.L Chapter 44B, the Community Preservation Act. For  
 more information, visit the Community Preservation tab of the Georgetown website at  
[www.georgetownma.gov](http://www.georgetownma.gov).

The Community Preservation Committee welcomes any questions and comments  
 regarding these projects. If you are unable to participate in this meeting, please send your  
 questions or comments to [arasp@georgetownma.gov](mailto:arasp@georgetownma.gov).

The Community Preservation Committee would like to thank the residents of  
 Georgetown for their continued support.

Alicia Raspa,  
 Chair, Georgetown Community Preservation Committee

3/5, 3/12

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## Whittier's Spending Woes

Continued from page 4

with the changes, the state legislature and governor or the courts would mostly have to step in.

After the municipalities voted down the proposed construction of a \$440 million new building a year ago, they created a Whittier Task Force, made up of representatives from the municipalities, to try to find a way to fund a new building and allocate costs of operations more equitably.

That would probably require they agree on a new governing agreement. The smaller cities and towns would like to fund Whittier based on students from each community attending, rather than all of their school-age students.

But after two meetings, the task force hit the pause button when Haverhill opposed changes in the current agreement.

The letter from each municipality must

also agree to support and fund a feasibility study for Whittier as it studies whether to move the high school to the NECC campus or stay in its current location. Both sites are in Haverhill.

Several of the municipalities, including Rowley, have been adamantly opposed to the current agreement. Rowley voted not to join the Whittier task force.

Newburyport Mayor Sean Reardon, who supported the merger of Whittier and NECC, wrote in an email, "I think 10 out of the 11 communities would like to see the current agreement changed before even thinking about committing to a NECC/Whittier partnership."

The key issues under discussion are:

- Reapportioning the operating and capital costs based on the number of students enrolled at Whittier from each municipality. Haverhill has the largest number of students at Whittier. Operating costs are divided among the number of students from each

municipality. Capital costs are based on enrollment of all students residing in a municipality and attending schools from grade one through 12.

- Change the way amendments to the agreement are approved to a two-thirds majority of the cities and towns, not all municipalities. That way Haverhill could not control the amendment process.

- Change the number of signatures of registered voters required to initiate an amendment, which is currently at 5 percent.

- Formalize procedures for incurring debt.
- Allow a municipality to withdraw from the Whittier district if two-thirds of the member municipalities agree. Currently, all municipalities must agree.

- Require a two-thirds majority to approve the operating budget.

The working group meets again this month to hear a presentation by the University of Massachusetts Donahoe Institute regarding the merger of Whittier and NECC. ♦

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