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Wednesday, March 19, 2025 - Vol. 21, No. 21

**FREE**



*The Pink House in Newburyport, Mass., on the Road to Plum Island, Meets Her End (Photo: Ben Zackin, Instagram @Zackin\_wildlife)*

## Off With Her Crown – Iconic, Beloved Pink House's Last Sunrise

by Stewart Lytle  
and Ava Moeckel

PLUM ISLAND – Last Tuesday, the Pink House's final morning, several trucks, a huge excavator and a giant crane arrived before dawn under a heavy fog to begin taking down the house.

Four Newbury police officers came to manage traffic on the Plum Island Turnpike, and if necessary, to control any citizens who might show up to express their rage at the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service for tearing down the

icon that so many artists and photographers cherished.

Former Plum Island resident Bonnie Duvall, who joined dozens of Pink House fans, lamented, "It welcomed you in the morning and bid you goodnight in the evening." Her adult daughter, Maddie Duvall, sadly agreed, "There'll be nothing there."

The Pink House, built 100 years ago, ultimately to house an unwanted daughter-in-law and her son, was torn down by the federal agency because it believed the house did not mesh with its mission of nurturing the Great Marsh.

Standing alone on dry ground at the marsh's edge, the Pink House attracted a variety of birds that perched, often at sunrise, on its roof and cupola. Its lonely visage, in turn, attracted humans who made the Pink House one of the most admired, photographed, sketched and painted sites in New England.

"Yesterday, the house we've been fighting to save for the community of artists, visitors, residents and admirers over the past nearly 10 years was senselessly torn down by U.S. Fish & Wildlife," wrote Allison Odle, president of the non-profit Supporters of the Pink House (STPH).

"Throughout the horrific scene, she kept her dignity, hiding herself in the early morning mist."

The removal of the house's cupola proved problematic and slowed the demolition as phone calls were made, according to one source, to F&WS to confirm that the cupola was not to be saved.

The demolition crew had cut away the wooden cupola, giving supporters of the Pink House hope that the plan was to save it. An anonymous donor, who offered at least \$1 million to save the house from this fate, had requested

Continued on page 4



*Front of Home Slowly Chewed Apart in the Early Fog (Photo: Stewart Lytle)*



*While Crowd Remains on Roadway, a Few Get a Closer, Last Look (Photo: Stewart Lytle)*

## 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.

editor@thetowncommon.com  
978-255-3015

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

# Rowley's Chris Thornton Steps Down from Planning Board as Rowley Farms Advances

By Ava Moeckel, Reporter

**ROWLEY** – Planning Board members must fill some big shoes at this critical time in the town's development.

Last week, Chris Thornton, a chair and member of the Planning Board for more than 10 years, resigned to avoid a potential conflict of interest with Rowley Farms.

"The town of Rowley needs a strong, informed and independent board to navigate ... upcoming meetings and decisions," he wrote in his resignation letter. "Despite my

considerable experience and expertise, I will be sidelined from participation."

Thornton, a resident of the Rowley Farms development near the Rowley Country Club, has entered into an agreement that prevents him from opposing the proposed plans for the new complex.

Thornton, an attorney, wrote that his decision was based on careful consideration that Rowley Farms will have to submit subdivision and special permit applications for approval of the Planning Board. The board's deliberation could create a conflict

with his Rowley Farms' agreement.

The Village at Rowley Farm, a new development led by Ted Speros, will bring a mix of businesses, homes and an expanded golf course to the area. The project will also include hiking trails, athletic fields, and a sports complex with indoor and outdoor facilities, creating a space for both residents and visitors to enjoy.

The development, located off Daniels and Dodge Roads, may include a 40B affordable housing project and could also be part of the state's new MBTA 3A housing program.

One of the proposed multi-family zoning districts for the 3A program is a 30-plus acre site at Rowley Farms.

Last fall, Thornton disclosed his conflict at a public hearing on 3A, and he wasn't the only one. Three other board members also disclosed their conflicts. He was ultimately allowed to participate to create a quorum.

"I am confident that the board will move forward continuing to do the necessary and important work serving the good people of the town of Rowley and its posterity," Thornton wrote. ♦

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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	☾
22	Sat	5:44	7.6	6:26	6.5			12:17	1.0	6:40	6:59	☾
23	Sun	6:42	7.6	7:26	6.5	12:26	1.8	1:16	1.0	6:38	7:00	☾
24	Mon	7:42	7.7	8:25	6.8	1:26	1.7	2:15	0.9	6:37	7:01	☾
25	Tue	8:41	8.0	9:19	7.2	2:26	1.5	3:10	0.6	6:35	7:02	☾
26	Wed	9:36	8.3	10:09	7.8	3:23	1.0	4:00	0.2	6:33	7:04	☾
27	Thu	10:28	8.7	10:56	8.4	4:16	0.4	4:47	-0.2	6:31	7:05	☾
28	Fri	11:18	9.0	11:42	9.0	5:06	-0.2	5:33	-0.4	6:30	7:06	☾

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**The Town Common**  
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## Groveland Conservation Stewardship Program

By Michael Dempsey

**GROVELAND** – The Groveland Conservation Commission and the Groveland Recreation Committee are seeking volunteers to help maintain our trails in 2025. This stewardship program is offered annually for any town resident interested in supporting the many miles of trails in our town. You can volunteer for one day, one project, one site or for the whole season.

As a lead volunteer you can be a steward, in charge of maintaining a site for the season

with the help of other volunteers. Trail sites include Meadow Pond Reservation, Town Forest Reservation, Center Street Greenway, Veasey Park, Merrimack River Trails and the Community Trail.

Tasks may include posting trail markers, repairing bridges, building trail signs and cleaning and clearing trails.

If you are interested, please contact the Commission at 978-556-7205 or concomm@grovelandma.com. Be sure to leave your name, contact number and your availability. ♦

## Groveland Veasey Park Flea Market

By Michael Dempsey

**GROVELAND** – The Friends of Veasey Park will be holding their annual indoor flea market this month on Saturday March 29 from 8 am until 2 pm at Veasey Park located at 201 Washington Street. Admission is free and everyone is welcome. The Friends

are expecting at least 60 crafters, many antique dealers, and folks selling all sorts of treasures. Participants can rent a table by contacting Claire Walsh at 978-376-6779 or clairew1401@aol.com. Check out the Flea Market where all proceeds are used by the Friends to benefit and support Veasey Park. ♦

## Groveland Town Government Openings

By Michael Dempsey

**GROVELAND** – It's that time of year again to volunteer for elected and appointed town positions. This year there are several open elected positions including the Board of Assessors, Select Board, Board of Health, Library Trustees, Cemetery Commission, Light Commission, Housing Authority, School Committee, Water and Sewer Commission, Moderator and Town Clerk. There are also several positions open for

appointed positions on town boards and committees.

If you are interested, the first step is to talk to our town clerk at town hall to learn about how to apply for any of the positions. In addition, you can check out the open appointed positions on the town's web site at grovelandma.com. Remember, our town wouldn't be able to operate without the help of volunteers. Your service is incredibly valuable to Groveland, so please consider becoming a volunteer! ♦

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# Triton Middle School

Presents

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BYFIELD - Triton Regional Middle School invites you to back-to-school when students present the smart and ferociously funny musical *Mean Girls JR.* Adapted from the hit movie written by Tina Fey and starring Lindsay Lohan, *Mean Girls JR.* tells the story of student Cady Heron who must learn to navigate the treacherous social hierarchy of high school when her family moves to suburban Illinois from Kenya.

"*Mean Girls JR.* is a hilarious and 'totally fetch' show with some very important lessons about friendship, authenticity, and accountability. Throughout the musical, we watch characters journey from changing parts of themselves in order to belong, to living as the unique and brave shining stars that they are," says Drew Cohen, President and CEO of Music Theatre International. "We hope you'll support these terrific students and their wonderful production," he adds.

*Mean Girls JR.* is a version of the hit musical *Mean Girls* that has been adapted for performance by students. The musical, featuring a book by Tina Fey (30 Rock), lyrics by Nell Benjamin (*Legally Blonde*), and music by composer Jeff Richmond (*Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*), was adapted from Fey's hit 2004 film, which, in turn, was based on the 2002 nonfiction book *Queen Bees and Wannabes* by Rosalind Wiseman. *Mean Girls* opened on Broadway in 2018 and was nominated for 12 Tony Awards. Due to COVID-19, the production played its final Broadway performance on March 11, 2020. ♦

## Ipswich Affordable 3-Bedroom Unit Housing Opportunity: Deadline April 17

**IPSWICH** - Applications are now being accepted for a New Construction, Affordable 3-Bedroom Unit for the purchase at 25 Pleasant Street, Ipswich, MA, being offered via lottery - \$327,400.

25 Pleasant Street is a 4-unit condominium development in two structures - each a duplex - with one 3-bedroom, 3 bath affordable deed restricted unit.

The affordable home is unit 3 in building B closest to Blaisdel Terrace 25 Pleasant Street with 1280 square feet of living area, with an unfinished basement, and two floors of living space.

The home has hardwood floors, quartz countertops in the units and top of the line appliances (refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, microwave). Laundry hookups for stackable machines are provided on the second floor.

The downstairs has the living room, dining room, kitchen (with gas stove), bedroom and full bath. There are two bedrooms upstairs, along with two full baths. The unit has two dedicated exterior parking spaces connected via walkway to the home. There are electric heat pumps and central air conditioning.

The monthly Condominium fee for the affordable units will be \$135/month, which represents a proportional share of the total condominium expenses covering insurance, snow removal, landscaping and other maintenance, and contribution to reserve. The homeowner will also pay monthly real estate taxes. Water, sewer, gas and electricity are separately metered and are billed direct to owner. The Town provides trash service.

Maximum household income limits: \$91,200 (1 person); \$104,200 (2 person); \$117,250 (3 person); \$130,250 (4 person); \$140,700 (5 person); \$151,100 (6 person).

The deadline to apply is Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 1:00PM.

Please contact Jen Pontes at (978) 287-1091 for free language assistance, for any questions or to submit your application. Favor de comunicarse con Jen Pontes en 978-287-1091 para ayuda gratis con el idioma.

Jenicia Pontes  
Regional Housing Services Office  
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(978) 287-1091

[jenp@rhsousing.org](mailto:jenp@rhsousing.org)  
Persons with hearing loss may access TTY/TDD Telecommunications Relay Services by dialing 711.

Applications can be accessed by clicking [HERE](#) or by visiting [sudbury.ma.us/housingtrust/](http://sudbury.ma.us/housingtrust/)

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**Information Session: March 25, 2025,  
6PM, VIA ZOOM**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82301171866>

**Lottery - May 1, 2025 at 12:00PM  
VIA ZOOM**  
*- Details for joining meeting provided to -  
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## 34 Citizens Groups from 34 Communities Supporting Rockport's 2022 Opposition Lawsuit to the MBTA 'Mandate'

By John T. Kolackovsky

On October 5th, 2022, a group of concerned citizens did not believe the State had the right to impose the MBTA "Mandate" Law (3A) on Rockport and filed

a lawsuit opposing it. The lawsuit (Docket No. 2277CV00947) argued that it was unconstitutional since it was in conflict with Home Rule (1965, the State Home Rule Amendment, Article 89) and the Unconstitutional Conditions Doctrine along

with other questionable procedural changes.

Without soliciting support from others, citizen groups from other towns eventually heard about the lawsuit and concurred with the objections in the Rockport lawsuit. As a result, nine (9) separate citizen groups from nine (9) different towns joined the Rockport suit with their individual Motions to Intervene on 5/24/2024. The nine (9) groups are from Rowley, Malden, Wayland, Marblehead, Danvers, Gloucester, Millbury, Wakefield and Winthrop. This was the First Wave of municipalities Motioning To Intervene supporting the 2022 Rockport Lawsuit as a Class Action Lawsuit.

On 8/2/2024, the Second Wave joining in the Class Action Lawsuit were submitted. There were nine (9) in this Second Wave and they were from Needham, Sudbury, Marshfield, Acton, Newton, Duxbury, Maynard, Plymouth, and Hanson.

On 12/3/2024, the Third Wave joining in the Class Action Lawsuit were submitted. There were seven (7) in this Third Wave and they were from Marlborough, Wenham, Dracut, Westford, Wayland, Halifax, and Hamilton.

On 3/11/2025, the Fourth Wave was submitted. There were nine (9) in this Fourth Wave and they were Manchester, Chelmsford, Belmont, North Reading, Lexington, Reading, Carlisle, Wilmington, and Franklin.

In total we will have 34 municipality Citizen Groups joining in the Class Action Lawsuit supporting the Rockport's Suit against the State's MBTA "Mandate"(3) Law. If this growing movement were made more public from the very beginning, there would probably be quite a few additional groups joining in by now.

As this conflict becoming more obvious, many more towns and their citizens are opposing this over reach and seizure of municipalities zoning rights by the Governor, Attorney General and the State.

The opposition to the State is growing despite the States' threats of withholding grants listed in the law and other grants not specified in the law.

The opposition to the State is still growing despite the State offering unsolicited grants as bribes for compliance. This is a risky tactic by the State since they are financially broke and I would suspect that some towns are now seriously looking at the yearly increased costs resulting from accepting this law versus the potential one-time limited grants being offered.

Serious economic studies should be considered before any municipality votes on this Mandate. In fact several towns have requested audits from the State Auditor to determine if this Mandate is an Unfunded Mandate. On February 21st the State Auditor notified those inquiring towns that 3A is indeed an Unfunded Mandate. This latest ruling causes even more economic and legal problems for the State. Please look into this possibly permanent town altering Mandate and decide if it is right or wrong for your town. The future well being of your town is really up to you and your fellow citizens. Please don't leave that decision to those who might not be taking the best interest of your town to heart. ♦

## Whittier Receives Financial Literacy Grant

**Haverhill** – Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School received a \$3,200 Massachusetts Financial Literacy Grant to help the school host a financial education fair, known as Credit for Life Fairs, for their students.

Seventeen schools received this additional funding to bring financial education to

students. Other local communities included Andover High School (\$3,200), Dracut High School (\$3,200), and Methuen High School (\$3,263). This program is funded by the Division of Banks through a settlement over alleged unlawful lending practices and is administered by the State Treasurer's Office of Economic Empowerment (OEE). ♦

## The End of the Pink House

Continued from page 1

that the cupola be preserved.

But after an hour's delay, the word came down, according to one source, "The feds say the demolition is taking too long."

The giant crane, which was to lift the cupola, was towed away. The huge excavator, a Caterpillar 360E, owned by the demolition contractor, Atlantic Coast Dismantling, began tearing the house apart piece by piece. Its jaws, resembling those of a Tyrannous Rex walking the marsh, bit repeatedly into the house. It hammered and pushed against the roof and walls to break the pink wood into a pile of rubble.

When the excavator pulled the cupola to the ground, a scream of pain erupted from those who loved the house.


Only minutes more and the rubble was lifted in pieces into a dump truck and

driven away. The drivers of trucks and cars, which were stopped by the police officers on the highway, honked and waved in tribute. Supporters stood and watched and cried.


"It is done," wrote Sandy Tilton, an STPH board member, with an emoji of a broken heart. "Our Pink House was doing all she could to show her beauty & strength to the heartbreaking end. I have never been so disappointed in a FWS decision & shall not forget."

Others on social media questioned the demolition from a practical perspective. John Macone wrote: "I wonder how much taxpayer money it cost to get to this point - buying the land, all the legal and staff time expended, studies conducted, hearings and meetings held, paperwork shuffled, demo costs, etc. It was probably well north of \$1 million. What a waste of time, money and public trust." ♦

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Gloucester, Mass.	Salisbury, Mass.
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Noted artist Edith Heyck [and we apologize for misspelling her name last week], is shown above as she stood before the Pink House a week prior to its destruction at a vigil for the community. She holds a framed painting she created that captures the "pink ballerina" in better times. (Photo: Stewart Lytle)

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### Upcoming Events

#### AMESBURY

PACT Presents: "Stand Up Sober" 2025 w/ Amy Tee, Corey Manning & special guest! Free Community Comedy Night w/ Mocktail bar to normalize sober socialization

When: Friday, March 21st 2025 - doors open at 6:00PM, show is 7:00-9:00PM

The Space @ ZFDM 6 Chestnut Street #118, Amesbury, MA 01913

Adults & Youth 13+ Cost: FREE! \*Donations to Amesbury High School Grad Night, a free, all night, substance free, SURPRISE event for the graduating class are welcome!!!

Partnership of Amesbury Community and Teens (PACT) is thrilled to present the 2nd annual "Stand Up Sober" event featuring the talented Amy Tee, Corey Manning, and a very Special Guest (as seen on TikTok). These hilarious humans use humor as a platform to share their experiences and break down stigmas related to substance use and mental health. We encourage Amesbury adults to come socialize sober over some mocktails and get ready to laugh!

#### AMESBURY

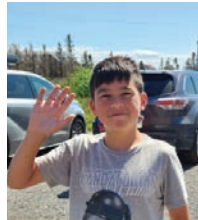
Business & Breakfast, Friday April 4 8:30 - 10 a.m. - Amesbury Chamber of Commerce - Breakfast and presentation by Essex Heritage about Trails & Sails and Rev250. Info at: <https://members.amesburychamber.com/public-events/>

#### GLOUCESTER

BACH BIRTH DAY CONCERT with organist Heinrich Christensen and hte Jubilate Chamber Choir under the direction of Mary Jodice. March 21, 7:30 p.m. \$35, students with ID \$5, children under 12 free. More information at: [gloUCESTERmeetinghouse.org](http://gloUCESTERmeetinghouse.org).

#### GROVELAND

Hello, my name is Myles Booth and I am a sixth grader at the Bagnall School. I am here to tell you about Shrek, our spring play. Once upon a time, in a far-away swamp, there lived an ogre named Shrek whose precious solitude was suddenly shattered by an invasion of annoying fairytale characters. They were all banished from their kingdom by the evil Lord Farquaad. Determined to save their home, not to mention his, Shrek cuts a deal with Farquaad and sets out to rescue Princess Fiona to be Farquaad's bride. Rescuing the Princess may be small compared to her deep, dark secret. The story is based on William



Myles Booth (Photo: Mike Dempsey)

Steig's book published in 1990.

The play will be presented 3 times: Friday March 28 at 7 pm, and Saturday March 29 at 11 am and again at 1:30 pm. Tickets will be available soon at Bagnall DOT prsd DOT org or by calling the school at 978-372-8856. Come and see the performance!

Oh, I forgot to tell you. You must come and see it to find out who is playing Shrek.

#### GROVELAND

Veasey Park Flea Market

The Friends of Veasey Park will be holding their annual indoor flea market this month on Saturday March 29 from 8 am until 2 pm at Veasey Park located at 201 Washington Street. Admission is free and everyone is welcome. The Friends are expecting at least 60 crafters, many antique dealers, and folks selling all sorts of treasures. Participants can rent a table by contacting Claire Walsh at 978-376-6779 or [clairew1401@aol.com](mailto:clairew1401@aol.com). Check out the Flea Market where all proceeds are used by the Friends to benefit and support Veasey Park.

#### MAGNOLIA

Jump Into Spring Art Show - Reception March 29 - doors open at 4 pm. more than 100 paintings for sale by local artists will help raise funds for the Magnolia Library from March 29 - April 5. Magnolia Library and Community Center, 1 Lexington Ave., Magnolia. More info at: [magnolialibrary.org](http://magnolialibrary.org).

#### NEWBURYPORT

Repair Cafe - Sat. April 5, 2025 - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Newburyport Senior/Community Center, 331 High Street, Newburyport. Repairs offered: Chair Caning, Bike Repair, Mechanical Clocks, Jewellery, Knife Resharpener, Knit/Woven Items, Lamp Repair, Textiel Repair, Stuffed Animal Repair, Small Appliances, Small Wooden Items. Details, updates at: <https://repaircafenbpt.org/>.

The repairers tackle simple repairs that can be done in 20 minutes or so. You can watch while your item is repaired or possibly assist with the repair. Repair services are free unless new parts/materials are needed, in which case there may be a small charge. We welcome donations. There are donation jars at the registration and exit tables.

#### NEWBURYPORT

Saturday, Mar 22, 2025 from 8:00am to 2:00pm Fishing Show at Hope Church, 11 Hale Street: Plum Island Surfcasters 27th Annual Fishing Show - Fishing Seminars

11:30 am: Ryan Collins  
9:00 am: Susan Daignault  
Chasing the Big One Striper Secrets and More  
Raffles & Auctions  
Cost: \$10.00 Free admission to new members joining PISC at the door (\$45.00 annual dues, cash or check only, no credit cards) Free admission for all children and teens 16 years old and under

#### SALISBURY

Superhero Event at the Carousel in Salisbury - March 22nd!

Calling all heroes! Get ready for a fun-filled superhero event at the Carousel in

Salisbury on March 22nd! Bring the whole family for a day of excitement, including:

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- Superhero moves lesson
- Storytime
- Photo ops

\$20 for kids | \$10 for adults  
Every child must have a chaperone, and each chaperone can bring up to 5 children.

Don't miss out on this action-packed day - RSVP now and get ready for a superhero adventure! Register at: <https://salisburybeachcarousel.org/event/super-hero-party/>

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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&c%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

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73328284	SLD	129 Whitehall Road	Amesbury, MA	AN2670	Detached	2	\$525,000	\$540,000
73322557	SLD	22 Drew St	Newburyport, MA	AN6420	Detached	1	\$650,000	\$625,000
73328078	SLD	7 Hoyt Ave.	Amesbury, MA	AN6420	Detached	2	\$675,000	\$685,000
73319274	SLD	24 Estes St	Ipswich, MA	AN5941	Detached	2	\$675,000	\$675,000
73334908	SLD	234 E Main St	Georgetown, MA	AN8916	Detached	2	\$689,000	\$707,000
73324730	SLD	13 Dix Road	Ipswich, MA	AN7144	Detached	3	\$799,000	\$850,000
73329819	SLD	5 Fille St	Ipswich, MA	AC2087	Detached	3	\$858,000	\$970,000
73326359	SLD	17 Robin Rd	West Newbury, MA	AN6888	Detached	2	\$899,000	\$900,000
73331081	SLD	100 High Rd	Newbury, MA	AN6886	Detached	2	\$899,900	\$1,000,000
73317334	SLD	219 Low St	Newburyport, MA	AN5155	Detached	2	\$949,900	\$900,000
73329502	SLD	21 Highwood Ln	Ipswich, MA	BB5919	Attached	4	\$1,100,000	\$975,000
73292965	SLD	8 Harbor St	Newburyport, MA : Plum Island	AC2360	Detached	2	\$1,250,000	\$1,200,000
73292840	SLD	97 Main Street	Topsheld, MA	AN1223	Detached	3	\$1,299,000	\$1,265,000
73328685	SLD	4 Riverside Drive	Ipswich, MA	C95171	Detached	3	\$1,395,000	\$1,250,000
73292672	SLD	18 Pheasant Ln	Topsheld, MA	AN0125	Detached	4	\$1,499,000	\$1,499,000

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## Two Scholarships for Local High School Students - Deadline to Apply: April 4

**REGIONAL** – The Newburyport Horticultural Society is offering two different scholarships to local high school students. The Deb Lambert Scholarship is for students of Whittier Tech and Essex Tech who are interested in pursuing a degree in an agricultural field of study. This scholarship is made possible thanks to Corliss Bros. Gardening Center in Ipswich.

The Newburyport Horticultural Society is also providing a scholarship for high school seniors interested in pursuing a degree related to horticulture, who are currently from the following schools: Newburyport, Amesbury, Triton Regional, Pentucket Regional, Georgetown, Essex, Whittier Tech and Essex North Shore Agriculture & Technical high school.

Scholarship applications are found at each of the high schools' scholarship application

website. The scholarship application deadline is April 4.

Submissions should be sent via email attachments to: Kathy Pischke-Winn at: kpischke-winn@comcast.net.

For more information, call or text Pischke-Winn at 630-300-4615, or visit: www.newburyporthort.org

The Newburyport Horticultural Society, Inc. is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) public charity under the Internal Revenue Code. All donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law. Our tax-exempt EIN is 86-1835539. Our mission is to stimulate and promote the knowledge and love of gardening, advocate for the natural beauty of the community, and encourage the conservation of natural resources. Our mailing address is PO Box 294, Newburyport, MA 01950. ♦

## Taking Off Pounds Sensibly - Find Your Local Chapter

Devices that collect fitness metrics aren't just for Olympic athletes and marathoners. Activity trackers like Fitbits, Apple Watches, and Garmin Smartwatches have become more commonplace over the last decade.

TOPS Club, Inc. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly SM), the nonprofit weight-loss support organization, with a "Real People. Real Weight Loss.®" philosophy, recognizes that fitness trackers can be a source of motivation, encouragement, and accountability—all qualities that are necessary to lose weight through healthy habits like regular exercise.

But how helpful are fitness trackers when trying to take off a few pounds? The following are a few tips to help you use your smartwatch or Fitbit to your advantage:

Choose the right fitness tracker

When it comes to smartwatches or other activity trackers, there are hundreds of options from which to choose. What you purchase depends on what data you are seeking.

The most popular measurements include how many steps you've taken and how many

minutes you've been active. If you want to increase your activity level, these two metrics are useful, and you can probably opt for a low-cost device. Top-of-the-line trackers report more specific data like heart rate and stride length but are more expensive.

Set realistic goals

A new smartwatch or Fitbit is exciting, and its purpose is to help you achieve certain goals. However, avoid setting too many goals at once or goals that may be too difficult to achieve.

Wear the watch for a week without any expectations in mind. See how it feels, and pay attention to how many steps you take daily and how many minutes of activity you partake in. Then, set goals based on those numbers.

Most activity trackers give you a goal of 10,000 steps a day. But if you're only averaging about 1,000, adding 9,000 more steps daily is not an immediately achievable goal. Check your progress throughout the day and spend a few minutes before bed reviewing your goals. Adjust accordingly. Remember to set yourself up to succeed and increase your goals as time

goes on.

Be kind to yourself

It can be easy to get caught up in the data and take drastic actions to close your Apple Watch rings or get to 10,000 steps a day on your Fitbit. Remember that your numbers today, tomorrow, or yesterday have no bearing on who you are.

Get Social

Grab your friends, family members, or peers at a TOPS chapter near you and socialize while improving your health! TOPS Club is the original weight-loss support and wellness education organization. Founded in 1948, TOPS is the only nonprofit, noncommercial weight-loss organization of its kind.

Visitors are welcome to attend their first TOPS meeting free of charge. Membership is affordable, starting at \$70 per year, plus nominal chapter fees. The longer you're a TOPS member, the more you save through reduced renewal rates. Visit www.tops.org or call 800-932-8677 to learn more about TOPS and to find a local chapter (including Amesbury, Georgetown-2, Hamilton-2, Hampton N.H., and Haverhill). ♦

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