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Wednesday, April 16, 2025 - Vol. 21, No. 25

FREE



Hampton United Methodist Church, 525 Lafayette Road, Hampton, NH: Join us to Worship together with song, prayer, scripture, children's time, and a message from Pastor Sue Frost. Come join us on Easter, April 20, 2025 in our Sanctuary for a traditional Easter Service beginning at 10 am.



Photo: Courtesy Ipswich Police Department

Ipswich Police Department to Hold Annual Drug Take Back Day and Touch-A-Truck Event

IPSWICH – The Ipswich Police Department, in collaboration with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency and community partners, will hold an event to collect prescription drugs on Saturday, April 26.

The annual Drug Take Back Day will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Ipswich Middle High School, 130 High St. It will

be combined with the annual Touch-a-Truck event, giving younger residents the opportunity to explore police, fire, EMS and construction vehicles. The event is free to attend.

National Drug Take Back Day encourages the public to remove unneeded medications from their homes as a measure of preventing

medication misuse and opioid addiction from ever starting.

Those who cannot attend are encouraged to dispose of their unwanted medication at one of two drop boxes, in the lobby of the police station, 15 Elm St., or at Town Hall, 25 Green St., outside the Council on Aging. ♦

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE – APRIL 20

- Salisbury Beach by the Jetty at 6am

EASTER SUNDAY – APRIL 20

- Morning Worship at 10am

The Market Street Baptist Church, 37 Market Street, Amesbury will be holding Easter services that are open to all. Easter Sunrise Service 6:00am on Sunday, April 20. Join us at Salisbury Beach Reservation (by the Jetty) for a sunrise service. Dress warmly! Easter Worship 10:00 am on Sunday, April 20. A special service to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Coffee hour to follow.

Georgetown Candidate's Forum: NEW DATE!

GEORGETOWN – The Town Common invites all contested and uncontested candidates for the upcoming election to kindly participate in a televised forum on **Wednesday, April 23 from 7:00 P.M. (sharp) to 8:30 P.M.** The event will take place in the third floor meeting room at Georgetown Town Hall.

Each uncontested candidate who chooses to participate will be asked to provide a three-

minute summary of why they are running for office and share any priorities for the coming year/years.

In addition to a three-minute closing statement, candidates for the contested race for Housing Authority will be asked three questions:

- Question #1: Share with us what you see as the priorities of your position.
- Question #2: What can you provide for Georgetown residents?
- Question #3: What changes do you see for the housing authority and the residents?

In addition to a three-minute closing statement, candidates for the contested race for Select Board will be asked three questions:

- Question #1: Share with us what you see as the priorities of your position.
 - Question #2: Share with the voters your thoughts on town spending.
 - Question #3: Why are you running?
- The Town Common's Senior Reporter Stewart Lytle will be addressing the candidates and seeking any clarifications should such a need arise. Lonnie Brennan will serve as time
Georgetown Forum, continued page 8

Easter Happenings:

- 4/18 7pm Good Friday Service
- 4/19 8am Easter Egg Hunt @American Legion Park
- 4/20 5:45am Sunrise Service @Plum Island
- 4/20 9am Easter Breakfast
- 4/20 10am Easter Service



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The Town Common serves the communities of the Upper North Shore of Mass. & Coastal New Hampshire and welcomes your participation.



Marc Maravalli, B.S., R.Ph.
Founding Publisher/Editor

How to Submit Letters to the Editor

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 short 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. Send your Organization or Group Notices, Birth or Engagement Announcements, Photos, Articles and Letters to the Editor.
The Town Common
9 Hamilton Terrace
Georgetown, MA 01833
or preferably via e-mail to:
editor@thetowncommon.com.

The Town Common

EDITORIAL

Lonnie Brennan (978) 255-3015
Lonnie@thetowncommon.com

Advertising

Brenda Ernst (978) 810-5078
Brenda@thetowncommon.com
advertise@thetowncommon.com
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In loving memory of

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

Ipswich Hosts Dental Clinic

IPSWICH – Director of Public Health Colleen Fermon is pleased to announce that the Ipswich Public Health Department will host a dental clinic for Ipswich residents.

The clinic will be held on Thursday, April 24, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., at Ipswich Housing Authority, 1 Agawam Village, in the Community Room.

Adults and children will be able to receive dental screenings, cleanings, sealants and fluoride. Services will be provided by appointment only.

Services will be provided by Polished Teeth, a team of experienced dental professionals who provide preventive dental services to local communities.

Polished Teeth bills to MassHealth. Patients without MassHealth will be charged \$80 for their service, \$25 for the exam and \$55 for the cleaning.

Regular dental cleanings are crucial for maintaining oral health, and preventing tooth decay, gum disease and other health issues.

"Receiving dental care is extremely important in protecting your oral health, as getting an exam and having your teeth cleaned can help detect and treat issues before they have a chance to be detrimental," said Fermon. "Book an appointment for yourself, your children, your family — dental care is a necessity for everyone."

For questions or to schedule an appointment, residents can call or text Ellen Gould at 508-237-5378 or email at ellengould@polishedteeth.com. ♦



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		AM	ft	PM	ft	AM	ft	PM	ft			
16	Wed	2:06	8.3	2:38	7.4	8:31	0.3	8:37	1.3	5:57	7:28	☀
17	Thu	2:46	8.2	3:21	7.2	9:13	0.5	9:19	1.5	5:56	7:29	☀
18	Fri	3:29	8.1	4:08	7.0	9:59	0.6	10:06	1.6	5:54	7:30	☀
19	Sat	4:18	8.0	5:00	6.9	10:50	0.8	10:59	1.8	5:52	7:31	☀
20	Sun	5:12	7.9	5:56	6.8	11:45	0.9	11:56	1.8	5:51	7:32	☀
21	Mon	6:09	7.9	6:53	7.0			12:41	0.8	5:49	7:34	☀
22	Tue	7:09	7.9	7:51	7.3	12:57	1.6	1:38	0.7	5:48	7:35	☀
23	Wed	8:09	8.1	8:45	7.8	1:57	1.3	2:33	0.5	5:46	7:36	☀
24	Thu	9:07	8.3	9:36	8.4	2:56	0.7	3:25	0.2	5:45	7:37	☀
25	Fri	10:01	8.6	10:25	9.1	3:51	0.1	4:14	0.0	5:43	7:38	☀

Come home to community news
The Town Common
Great, exciting expansion of The Town Common in 2025:
Newbury, Newburyport, West Newbury,
Salisbury, Seabrook, Hampton, Hampton Falls, North Hampton,
Haverhill, Merrimac, Groveland, Byfield, Boxford, Topsfield,
Georgetown, Rowley, Ipswich, Essex
Beverly, Hamilton, Wenham, Gloucester ... and more!



Town of Boxford
Massachusetts

Boxford Officials Seek Voter Approval of \$16 Million New DPW Facility

BOXFORD – The Town of Boxford is pleased to announce that it has received competitive bids for the construction of the new Department of Public Works (DPW) facility. Seven general contractors submitted bids for the project, with the lowest bid coming from BW Contracting at \$16,514,121 – approximately \$3 million below the final cost estimate provided by the project's design team.

With additional project costs including construction oversight by the design consultant team, services from the Town's Owner's Project Manager, a contingency allowance, and the demolition and disposal of the existing DPW facility, the total project cost stands at \$18.99 million.

The Town will seek approval from residents to fund the project through a debt appropriation article at the May 13th Annual Town Meeting, followed by a debt exclusion vote on May 20th.

"This is an exciting milestone," said Margaret Chow-Menzer, Chair of the Permanent Building Committee and the Select Board. "The PBC is pleased to receive so many competitive bids for this project. Over the last two years, we've held dozens of public meetings to develop a project that meets the needs of a modern DPW operation. We've been laser-focused on getting the best value for residents while keeping costs as low as possible."

Chris Olbrot, DPW Superintendent and Town Engineer, highlighted the practical significance of the new facility: "This project is about ensuring that our public works team can continue to maintain roads, respond to storms, and support critical town infrastructure safely and efficiently. The current facility is outdated and undersized. With the support of a strong project team, we've developed a solution that will serve the town's needs for decades to come. I'm very encouraged to see the bids come in

under budget, and I believe this proposal strikes the right balance between long-term durability and responsible financial planning."

Boxford Town Administrator Matt Coogan added, "This has been a major undertaking, and I want to recognize the hard work of everyone involved in designing and value engineering a project that meets the town's needs while keeping an eye on cost. Residents will be asked to consider a project at Town Meeting and at Town Election that is fully permitted, shovel-ready, and backed by actual construction bids – not estimates."

Included in the overall project cost is a line item to fund the demolition and disposal of the existing DPW facility, once the new facility is built. Should voters approve funding for the project, the current DPW site will become available for reuse. Located in the heart of one of Boxford's major athletic field complexes, the site holds strong potential for expanded or enhanced recreational use. The Town is also pursuing funding at Town Meeting to undertake a Recreation Facility Master Plan, which will help determine how best to incorporate this land into Boxford's broader recreation strategy.

Assistant Town Administrator and Finance Director Brendan Sweeney noted that the Town's financial leadership is working to minimize the tax impact. "The Finance Committee and Select Board are in the process of finalizing the financing plan for this project. Our goal is to utilize as many funding sources as possible to reduce the additional taxes necessary to fund this project," said Sweeney.

More information about the project – including site plans, building renderings, cost breakdowns, and recordings of public meetings – can be found on the project website: www.boxfordma.gov/NewDPW. ♦



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Georgetown School Committee Chair Michael Hinchliffe at his March 27, 2025 meeting

Who Sent the \$6 Million Override Letter?

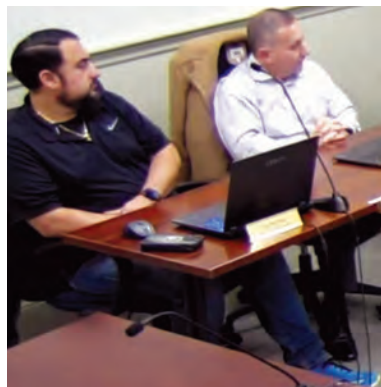
By Lonnie Brennan

Some residents of Georgetown received what has been called a “near-anonymous letter” urging them to vote for the upcoming \$6+ million Proposition 2 1/2 tax increase/override next month. The letter stated that it came from “Fund Our Future Georgetown.”

As the expenditure of funds by an organization to affect a municipal ballot question falls under the purview of the Massachusetts Office of Campaign and Political Finance (OCPF), we contacted OCPF and were directed to secure a copy of the mailer’s organization form from the town clerk.

School Committee Chair Michael Hinchliffe, M.E. Hinchliffe@gmail.com, 978-989-3019 of 93 West Main Street is listed as the treasurer of the organization responsible for reporting of all funds.

The chair was joined by fellow member Joseph Maribito Jr of 17 Pillsbury Lane, jmaribito@yahoo.com, 508-560-6410, and Georgetown Education Foundation Board Member Tara Reed of 2 Ilene Circle, 978-430-8081 and David Millman of 56 Baldpate Road, 617-410-4490.



Georgetown School Committee Member and Fund Our Future Georgetown President Joseph Maribito Jr (left)

If a person had not gone to the town clerk’s office they would not know that key members from the schools had sent the mailing. Why they chose not to place their names on the mailing is a matter of some discussion in the community, with questionings of “transparency” and such. Perhaps an oversight by the school members.

We readily shared the image of the group’s public disclosure form with all who have asked, and it has since appeared in various social media.

Fuzzy Math

But, what has received some poignant discussion is the math used both in the mailing as well as in online postings.

Continued on page 4

Art Needed for “A Lasting Impression: The Printmaking Show”

TOPSFIELD – Slow River Studio invites area printmaking artists to submit up to three pieces of art for inclusion in its May 2025 show, “A Lasting Impression.”

The deadline is Friday, April 25, and artists can submit their works at slowriverstudio.com/gallery.

The show will feature works from the public and Slow River students and staff. Works can be multimedia, but printmaking must be the dominant art form. (All works must be for sale.)

The show will run from May 4–25 at Slow River Studio, 17 Main Street, Topsfield. A reception will be held at the



studio on Sunday, May 4, from 4–6 p.m.

Slow River Studio offers art classes to adults in painting, drawing, sketching, printmaking, collage and mixed media, and creativity. For more information, call 978/491-1272 or email jess@slowriverstudio.com.

AMESBURY: FIBER ARTS FAIR



Saturday, May 3, 2025
9AM to 3PM

St. James Episcopal Church
120 Main Street, Amesbury, MA

Just before Mother’s Day, see amazing works of art with quilts, weaving, rug hooking, knitting, crocheting and hand-sewn items. Some for sale, and some for display only. We will have demonstrations on Silk Ribbon Embroidery, Wool Applique and spinning sheep’s wool into yarn. Learn sewing and stitching methods, or take home a small wool applique pillow that you make

yourself (supplies provided).

Shop at the Yard Sale table to find patterns, ribbons, fabric, lace + much more!!

(accepting donations for this table!)

An area for kids will be available for simple ‘learn to sew’ projects! Beginners can try hand-sewing a small patchwork pillow or sachet (supplies provided).

Hope to see you there!!

Any questions, please call or text our Coordinators:

Barbara Gould at 978-204-7724 or Marilyn Wintheiser at 413-977-8225

A High-Tea themed light lunch will be available to purchase!



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LOCAL CHURCHES

Friday, April 18 - Good Friday
8:00 am - Our Lady of Good Voyage, Gloucester
3:00 pm - St. Mary’s, Rowley
3:00 pm - Saint Joachim, Rockport
7:00 pm - New Life Church, Georgetown
7:00 pm - All Saints Church, Ipswich
Stations of the Cross
12:00 pm - Saint Agnes, Topsfield
12:00 pm - Saint Rose of Lima, Topsfield
6:30 pm - St. Mary’s, Georgetown

7:00 pm - All Saints Church, Amesbury
7:00 pm - St. Ann Church, West Newbury
7:00 pm - Immaculate Conception, Nbpt.
Saturday, April 19 - Easter Vigil
7:00 pm - All Saints Church, Amesbury
7:00 pm - Immaculate Conception, Nbpt.
7:00 pm - Our Lady’s, Hampton, NH
7:00 pm - St. Ann Church, Rockport
7:30 pm - St. Mary’s, Georgetown
8:00 pm - St. Rose of Lima, Topsfield



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Continued on page 4
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The Town Common

PEOPLE/GROUP PHOTOS LATE-WINTER PHOTO CONTEST



Rowley Docks Installation Volunteer Crew - Beth DiMento



Local Basketball - Peter McClelland



Chorus North Shore - President of Chorus North Shore



Override Mailings

Continued from page 3

In short, the mailing, for some, obfuscates \$255 per year with \$1,980 per year.

The Mailing Details

The mailing states that the Georgetown Tax rate is below the average rate for Essex County, citing an Essex County rate of \$11.40 per \$1,000 of house evaluation, vs. Georgetown's \$11.06 per \$1,000. One concludes that the implication is that Georgetown residents should be taxed more: an additional 34 cents per \$1,000 of property assessment.

The mailing places the cost of the override alongside that assessment declaration at \$165 per month for a home assessed at \$750,000.

The 34 cents increase on the tax rate is not detailed, but the math is simple: it would yield \$255 PER YEAR, but the override seeks a minimum of \$1,980 PER YEAR.

Moving Forward

Leaving aside the strange comparisons, and claims online that the increase in property taxes that many received this year of approximately \$1,000 would increase another \$2,000 when the override passes, and increase also with the application of the Community Preservation tax, some have done the math and estimate that property owners can expect to pay an increase ranging from \$200 to \$400+ extra per month.

Tax Estimators?

An online tax estimator posting was taken down off one Facebook page, and some have charged that similar deletions of questioning of aspects of tax increases have occurred.

The cost of the override can be determined at: <https://georgetownbudget.com/> (more on that website later in this article). Residents, however, are also directed to calculate their total tax levy using the town assessor's website which states: "To calculate your FY 2025 tax liability, divide your property value by 1,000 and multiply the result by \$11.06. For residential property, there is an additional 3% surcharge for CPA (Community Preservation Act) calculated on the value minus \$100,000." (CPA is not charged on the first \$100,000 of a property's value.)

Mass. Teacher's Association

Last week, the Massachusetts Teachers Association weighed in, mailing postcards to residents warning that failure to increase taxes will result in "families move out. New ones stop moving in," and that "crime rises, response times slow - safety goes down," and that homeowners can expect slower response times from the fire department. The MTA mailing states: "It's our town becoming less safe, less desirable, and less valuable - **almost overnight. It will be devastating.**"

The MTA concludes with "No funding, No future."

Save Your House Foundation

Earlier this year, Georgetown Selectman Chair Daryle J. Lamonica rang a similar alarm bell, noting that if residents did

not add two requested new firefighters they should not be surprised if it takes the firefighters 45 minutes to show up to save your foundation. He urged "educating residents" on the dangers of not passing the override.



Georgetown Selectman Chair Daryle J. Lamonica running a meeting earlier this year

No Override for Another 3-5 Years

Vice Chair of the town's Finance and Advisory Committee, Alicia Raspa, earlier this year presented an interactive spreadsheet modeling the divergence of increase spending vs. income and projecting widening deficits showing that changes have to be made.

According to the town's finance committee, as well as the school leaders' mailing, if the override passes, the current as well as new spending (hires and future raises) and new commitments will not require another override for "3-5 years."

Additionally, the board and others have noted that if the \$6 million override is not passed, the town will have to cut \$800,000 from the budget, resulting in layoffs of school staff, and lowering of services.

14.2% Solution Promoted on Public Relations Firm Website

The Finance and Advisory Committee's recommendations for an override are reflected as a 14.2% budget increase proposal as viewed at <https://georgetownbudget.com/town/>. The site is apparently engaged to educate voters with information on the budget. The site is maintained by the John Guilfoil Public Relations firm.

For the Future

Fin Com Chair Edward Dobie noted in his meeting of January 15, 2025 (the meeting held to make a decision to seek an override or take other actions) that "we all believe in the town. We may have disagreements ... but we all agree that we want the best town possible, not just for us but for the people who come after us, we don't want to leave a mess."

"I don't want people to be afraid at night that if they get ill and they make a phone call, no one is going to come," he said.

All Fin Com members appear unified in either promoting the override, or urging residents to learn more about the override and town spending.

More information about the override is expected be forthcoming each week as the voting dates become closer, as residents are urged to learn more, participate, and vote. ♦



Georgetown School Committee Member and 'Fund Our Future Georgetown' President Joseph Maribito Jr (left), Georgetown School Committee Chair Michael Hinchliffe (center) and Georgetown Town Moderator (and appointee of all finance advisory members) David Surface in the audience at the public January 15th Finance and Advisory Committee meeting. (Photo: Screenshot Georgetown public television)

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Upcoming Events

It is Important to Read

By Stewart Lytle, Reporter

GREATER NEWBURYPORT – For the last 20 years, spring here has been a time to celebrate books and readers. From Friday, April 25 through Sunday April 27, this year will be no different as the Newburyport Literary Festival celebrates “The Importance of Being a Reader.”

The festival that attracts hundreds of avid readers will feature a strong lineup of authors and poets appearing in-person on Friday night and all day Saturday, while steaming authors from here and around the world on-line on Sunday.

Vicki Hendrickson, the genius who started and built the festival, is handing the torch to the next generation, which includes her children.

Leslie Hendrickson, the chair of the programming committee who will interview her historian/journalist father Dyke Hendrickson for his memoir, *Fading Ink*. Drew Hendrickson, an excellent tennis player himself, will interview Christopher Clarey, the West Newbury biographer of tennis greats Roger Federer and Raphael Nadal.

Jill Gross and Paula Breger have stepped up to be co-chairs of the festival, bringing new ideas as well as celebrating the past two decades of organizers and sponsors.

To honor Vicki Hendrickson, the festival has created a contest to award a \$1,000 college scholarship.

In its first year, 16 students have applied for the scholarship, writing essays about becoming a reader, Jill Gross said. Vicki Hendrickson is reading the essays and will select the winner that will be announced at the high school's Scholarship Night on May 21.

In addition, Sue Little, founder and owner of Jabberwocky Book Store in the Tannery, will be honored for her years of promoting books, in general, and the festival in particular. This year, she is handing the reins of her iconic store to Eric Hoel, her son, who is an author himself and a neuroscientist.

The festival also plans to expand beyond one weekend. It has started hosting events, designed to raise funds for the festival and keep the excitement about books and reading going all year, Gross said.

Its first event on March 16 drew 60 people to the second floor of the Joy Nest restaurant in the Tannery to listen to Catherine Newman, the *New York Times* bestselling author of the memoirs *Catastrophic Happiness* and *Waiting for Birdy* and other books for a variety of ages.

Gross said she expects to offer several similar events in the coming year, providing space for enthusiastic readers to gather in “a beautiful place” to talk about books and writing.

The 20th festival will open at 6 p.m. on Friday night at the Firehouse Theater with Dawn Tripp discussing her book, *Jackie, A Novel* with Kate Clifford Larson. Dinner will be at The Grog, 13 Middle St., for \$25, the only event that is not free.

Tripp, who writes from a first-person perspective about Jackie Kennedy Onassis' many lives, public and private, will be joined in conversation by historian Kate Clifford Larson, the author of *Rosemary: The Hidden Kennedy Daughter* and an upcoming biography of Ethel Skakel Kennedy, Jackie's sister-in-law and Bobby Kennedy's wife.

Saturday opens at 8:30 a.m. in the Central Congregational Church with the annual Breakfast with the Poets, featuring the Powow River Poets, Al Basile, Mary Hills Kuck and Anton Yakovlev reading their works with Owen X. Grey moderating.

Six venues in downtown will host the authors who include Robin Bernstein, *Freeman's Challenge: The Murder that Shook America's Original Prison for Profit*; Alison Espach, *The Wedding People*; Courtney Sullivan, *The Cliffs*; Alan Lightman, *The Miraculous from the Material: Understanding the Wonders of Nature*; Joan Wickersham, *No Ship Sets Out To Be A Shipwreck*; Martin Espada, *Jailbreak of Sparrows*; and Rachel Hadas, *Ghost House*.

The festival takes on several far-reaching topics, including the roles black and white women have played in society. There will be a rousing panel discussion about banning books at 2:30 p.m. at Jabberwocky Book Store, moderated by Sue Little. Authors Dana Alison Levy, *Not Another Banned Book*, and Kirsten Miller, *Lula Dean's Little Library of Banned Books*, look at the issues around free speech and who can read what.

Women as entrepreneurs will be the topic of discussion led by Debra Michals, an associate professor and chair of the Department of Humanities at Merrimack College. A 20th century women's historian, her published work includes *She's the Boss: The Rise of Women's Entrepreneurship Since World War II*.

The award-winning *Newburyport Black History Initiative* will conduct a walking tour of the interpretive signs installed downtown that tell the stories of Black Americans, including domestic servants, mariners, barbers, soldiers, lawyers and activists in Newburyport from the pre-Revolutionary War era to the early 20th century. The tour, led by Geordie Vining and Cyd Raschke, two of the three co-founders of the Initiative, will begin at 3 p.m. at Brown Square, across from City Hall.

Close out Saturday at the Firehouse at 7 p.m. to Celebrate the Importance of Being a Reader.

“Join us for an evening of readings and conversation to celebrate two decades of bringing authors and book talks to Newburyport. Festival founder Vicki Hendrickson and Sue Little will be honored for their years of community service, and we will hear readings from local authors and by the late short-story master Andre Dubus,” the web site states.

After a long day walking on Saturday, kick up your feet on Sunday and enjoy more stimulating presentations that can only be accessed on Zoom. Be sure to register at the festival website.

A complete list of events and authors can be found on the festival website: <http://newburyportliteraryfestival.org>.

www.thetowncommon.com

AMESBURY

Enhancing Workplace Safety with the CRASE program. Thurs. May 8, 8:30 - 10 am, Amesbury Chamber of Commerce

DANVERS

The community theater group, the North Shore Players, presents the classic American drama *The Skin of Our Teeth*. The play, by Thornton Wilder (*Our Town*), won the Pulitzer Prize in 1943. Wilder chronicles the 5,000-year marriage of George and Maggie Antrobus as they endure the Ice Age, Biblical floods and wars. The show runs three hours. It's at Hogan Regional Auditorium, 450 Maple St., Danvers. Curtain is at 7 p.m., May 2 and May 3, and 2 p.m. on May 4. Tickets and other information at www.northshoreplayersma.org.

HAVERTHILL

Earth Day with the Legend of the Three Sisters! The Buttonwoods Museum, Tuesday, April 22, 11am to 12pm: This event is designed for kids kindergarten through fourth grade. The cost is \$5 per child. No pre-registration required! Buttonwoods Museum, 240 Water Street Haverhill - www.buttonwoods.org

HAVERTHILL

The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, April 17 at 11:00 a.m. The agenda includes updates on the commission's activities and is available at the MVPC website www.mvpc.org. For questions or details of this meeting contact Jodie Furey at jfurey@mvpc.org

IPSWICH

Dental Clinic on Thursday, April 24, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., at Ipswich Housing Authority, 1 Agawam Village, in the Community Room. Adults and children will be able to receive dental screenings, cleanings, sealants and fluoride. Services will be provided by appointment only. Services will be provided by Polished Teeth, a team of experienced dental professionals

who provide preventive dental services to local communities.

Polished Teeth bills to MassHealth. Patients without MassHealth will be charged \$80 for their service, \$25 for the exam and \$55 for the cleaning. For questions or to schedule an appointment, residents can call or text Ellen Gould at 508-237-5378 or email at ellengould@polishedteeth.com.

NEWBURYPORT

Greater Newburyport Adult & Community Education classes. <https://newburyportadulted.org/shop/>

NEWBURYPORT

Saturday, May 17, 10-11:30: How to Transform History and Your Family's Origin Story Into a Compelling Narrative That Catches Readers' Imaginations. Instructor: Karen Kirsten. Cost: \$75.

50% of the registration fees will be donated to this year's Festival. Each workshop will be 90 minutes in length and accessible via Zoom.

Register at newburyportliteraryfestival.org/workshops.

NEWBURYPORT

4K Run & Walk to benefit North of Boston Cancer Resource. More info at bit.ly/NBCR5K.

NEWBURYPORT

“Jubilate!” Newburyport Choral Society Friday May 2 2025 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM Sunday May 4 2025, 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM Immaculate Conception Church 42 Green St, Newburyport, MA 01950 www.newburyportchoralsociety.org

SALISBURY

Save the date: May 22nd for a Women in Business Luncheon & Panel Discussion, 12:00 - 2:00 PM, Sin a Loa Tacos and Tequila, Salisbury. Salisbury Chamber of Commerce event. Ticket Price: \$20 for Members | \$25 for Non-Members.

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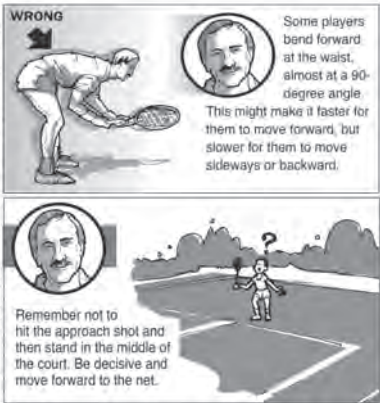
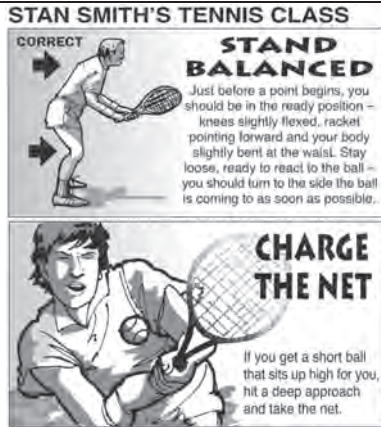
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Weekly SUDOKU

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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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Super Crossword FULLY STATED

- ACROSS**
- 1 Despises Rafael
 - 7 Tennis great
 - 12 Loutish guy
 - 15 Drop- (declines)
 - 19 Corned beef sandwich
 - 20 Kind of daisy
 - 21 Bullring shout
 - 22 Perfume bottle
 - 23 Baseball's "Iron Man," fully stated?
 - 26 Western U.S. gas brand
 - 27 Hit sketch show since '75
 - 28 Atop
 - 29 Move, as a seedling
 - 31 Stitch clothes
 - 32 Statistic of a chemical element, fully stated?
 - 39 Protein in egg white and milk
 - 41 Panther
 - 42 2010s dance move often done with the Whip
 - 43 Tropical vines
 - 44 —'s razor ("keep it simple" principle)
 - 47 Fallon's network
 - 49 Singer Ora
 - 50 Irritability, fully stated?
 - 53 — Lingus
 - 55 Some racing autos
 - 56 Evil "Get Smart" group
 - 57 Tyro, in gaming lingo
 - 58 Actor Cage, informally
 - 60 Sneeze noise
 - 62 Prefix with tourism
 - 63 "Aladdin" monkey
 - 65 Auto-cleaning site, fully stated?
 - 69 "I knew it all —!"
 - 71 Once surnamed
 - 72 "Thank you, Yvette!"
 - 73 Lode of unrefined metal, fully stated?
 - 78 — -di-dah
 - 79 .001 inch
 - 82 Singer Cherry
 - 83 Hoppy drink
 - 84 UConn women's basketball coach Auremma
 - 86 Radiohead title track of 2000
 - 87 Prone (to)
 - 88 British islet
 - 90 Bible of the Southwest
 - 101 Grads
 - 103 Ear-busting
 - 105 Mistaken
 - 106 Annual beauty contest, fully stated?
 - 111 Sorority letter
 - 112 Motif
 - 113 Solitary
 - 114 Uproar
 - 117 At the drop of —
 - 119 "Mystic River" actor, fully stated?
 - 125 Christ, in Italy
 - 126 CPR expert
 - 127 French ice cream
 - 128 Focal point
 - 129 Punta del —
 - 130 Enzyme suffix
 - 131 Useful thing
 - 132 Believers in God, of sorts
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Circle bits
 - 2 Coffee bit
 - 3 Uproar
 - 4 Kabuki sash
 - 5 Sports official
 - 6 — -Caps (candy brand)
 - 7 Not for Windows
 - 8 Truism
 - 9 Country singer Carter
 - 10 Scottish port
 - 11 Luau gift
 - 12 Certain cola container
 - 13 Hebrew "A"
 - 14 Rail against
 - 15 Egg cells
 - 16 Initial performance on Broadway, say
 - 17 Inked cheek image, e.g.
 - 18 Period when sales slump
 - 24 Destroy
 - 25 Baby buggy, in Britain
 - 30 Airport agcy.
 - 33 North African capital
 - 34 Muscat's land
 - 35 Soup with tofu
 - 36 Junk email
 - 37 Kind of wrestling
 - 38 Always
 - 39 Comparable
 - 40 Pale purple
 - 44 Bear, in Baja
 - 45 Alternative to vanilla, informally
 - 46 Native of Habana
 - 48 Part of B.A.
 - 51 Overwhelm
 - 52 Stranded
 - 54 Cattle locale
 - 59 Dogma suffix
 - 61 Some film FX
 - 63 Hilo "Hello!"
 - 64 "— voyage!"
 - 66 Abode: Abbr.
 - 67 Ounce, e.g.
 - 68 Writer Levin
 - 69 Birthday topic
 - 70 Hair stiffener
 - 73 Running riot
 - 74 Buffs again
 - 75 Devotee
 - 76 Put in writing
 - 77 Trial balloon
 - 79 Criminals
 - 80 Boise locale
 - 81 Cutting beam
 - 85 Anti's vote
 - 86 Tree knots
 - 89 Body of water west of Liverpool
 - 91 "Movin' —" ("The Jeffersons" song)
 - 92 German auto
 - 93 "Citizen —"
 - 94 Impressionist
 - 96 "Mom" has two
 - 98 Weather conditions
 - 102 Tiny criticism
 - 104 Uncork, e.g.
 - 105 Judith with two Tonys
 - 107 Looks as if
 - 108 Arm bones
 - 109 For the — (temporarily)
 - 110 Map blowup
 - 115 Cut calories
 - 116 Boaters' tools
 - 118 Mon. follower
 - 120 Links gp.
 - 121 Letters before 96-Down
 - 122 PC readout of a sort
 - 123 Winning sign
 - 124 Singer DiFranco

Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Professional relationships grow stronger, but you still might need to ease some problems with someone in your personal life. One way could be to try to be less rigid in your views.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You might be too close to a perplexing personal situation to even attempt to make a rational decision about it right now. Stepping back could help you gain a wider perspective.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Being asked to choose between the positions of two friends is an unfair imposition on you. It's best to reject the demand and insist that they try harder to work things out on their own.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A change of mind about a workplace decision might be called for, once you hear more arguments — pro and con. A personal event suddenly takes an unexpected (but pleasant!) turn.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Romance once again looms large for single Leos and Leonas, with Cupid favoring Taurus and Libra to inspire those warm and fuzzy Leonine feelings. Meanwhile, expect another workplace change.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A surprise gift with no strings attached could happily come just when you need it to avoid a delay in getting your project done. Expect education to dominate the week.

LIBRA (September 23 to Octo-

ber 22) Someone close to you might ask for your support as they face a demanding personal challenge. Offer it, by all means, but be careful that you don't neglect your own needs at this time.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) An unexpected development could put your relationship with a partner or spouse to an emotionally demanding test. But your determination to get to the truth should save the day!

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A recent agreement appears to be coming apart over the surfacing of unexpected complications. You might need to get expert advice on how to resolve the situation.

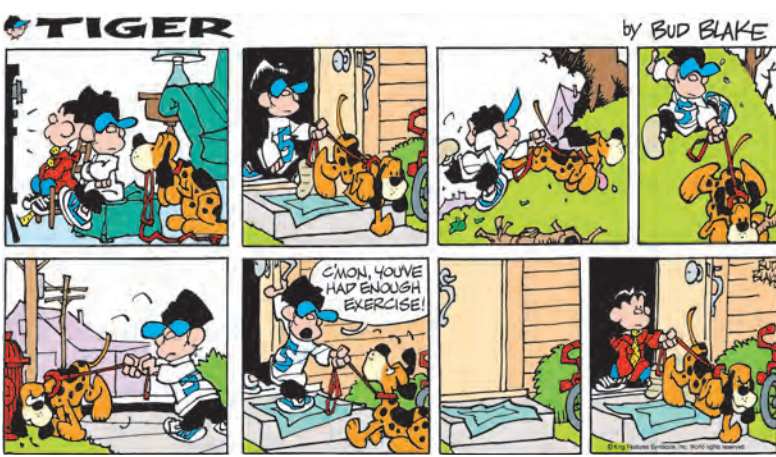
CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Your keen business sense helps you get to the truth about a suspicious business deal. Expect to have many colleagues rally to support your efforts in this important matter.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Someone who once moved in and out of your life through the years might now want to come back in on a more permanent basis. Give yourself a lot of time to weigh your decision.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Showing frustration over a delayed workplace decision might get someone's attention — but not necessarily make them move any sooner. The best advice would be to be patient and wait it out.

BORN THIS WEEK: You are drawn to excitement and thrilling adventures. You also enjoy fast tempo music — the more brass, the better.

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LIST NO	STATUS	ADDRESS	TOWN	LIST	SF TYPE	BATHS	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE
73338659	SLD	8 Tilton St	Newburyport, MA	NH0049	Detached	1	\$600,000	\$675,000
73312782	SLD	168 Orchard St	Newbury, MA	AN8279	Detached	1	\$799,900	\$775,000
73330279	SLD	29 Dove St	Newburyport, MA	AN7537	Detached	2	\$850,000	\$785,000
73338726	SLD	15 Johns Ln	Topsfield, MA	C95098	Detached	2	\$800,000	\$800,000
73328549	SLD	157 King Street	Groveland, MA	AN6205	Detached	3	\$825,000	\$815,000
73332756	SLD	191-B SCOTLAND RD	Newbury, MA	AN8827	Attached	3	\$850,000	\$850,000
73336810	SLD	22 High Rd	Newbury, MA	AN8279	Detached	2	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000
73342011	SLD	21 Batchelder Rd	Bosford, MA	AN2383	Detached	3	\$1,089,000	\$1,300,000
73328891	SLD	253 High Rd	Newbury, MA	AN8279	Detached	4	\$1,549,000	\$1,550,000
73302425	SLD	360 N End Blvd	Salisbury, MA	C95022	Detached	3	\$1,999,000	\$1,700,000
73259477	SLD	16 Great Pond	Bosford, MA : East Bosford	AN6191	Detached	7	\$2,200,000	\$2,050,000

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Commercial & Residential

Candidate Forum

Continued from page 1

moderator and facilitator.

The Town Common hopes this forum will provide a good opportunity for residents to learn a little more about various elected positions in town and get to know straight from the candidates where they stand and why they seek your vote.

Uncontested Races 2025:

- TOWN CLERK (3 years)**
Karri A. McManus
- MODERATOR (3 years)**
Charles David Surface
- ASSESSOR (3 years)**
Bret L. Moyer
- HIGHWAY SURVEYOR (3 years)**
Peter J. Durkee
- SCHOOL COMMITTEE (3 years)**
Cheryl A. Lachendro
- LIGHT COMMISSIONER (3 years)**
Michael Carl Anderson
- WATER COMMISSIONER (3 years)**
Stephen M. King, Jr.
- LIBRARY TRUSTEE (3 years, 2 positions)**
Susan K. Clay
Susan Lee Clohocy
- LIBRARY TRUSTEES (2 years)**
Erin Hathaway Wormell
- PLANNING BOARD (5 years)**
George William Comiskey
- PLANNING BOARD (1 year)**
Kara Lynn Peters
- Contested Races 2025:**
- HOUSING AUTHORITY (5 years)**
Gail Leslie Forsythe-Vail
Kevin Richards
- SELECT BOARD (3 years)**
Michael William Donahue
Eric Viele

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A message from the Rockport Police Department

Rockport Police Charge Gloucester Man with Enticement of a Minor



ROCKPORT – Police Chief John Horvath reports that the Gloucester Police Department arrested a Gloucester man on a warrant obtained as a result of a Rockport Police investigation.

Jason Rutkauskas, age 46, of Gloucester, was arrested and charged with:

- Disseminating Obscene Matter to Minors
- Enticement of a Child Under the Age of 16

In mid-March, the Rockport Police Department was notified that an individual identified as RUTKAUSKAS was communicating with minors via social media, and that the communications were potentially inappropriate. A subsequent investigation determined that RUTKAUSKAS was allegedly sending sexually inappropriate messages to multiple minors.

Rockport police subsequently sought and obtained an arrest warrant for RUTKAUSKAS from Gloucester District Court. That warrant was served on Wednesday, April 9 without incident by the Gloucester Police Department.

RUTKAUSKAS was arraigned in Gloucester District Court.

These are allegations. All defendants are innocent until proven guilty. ♦

MANCHESTER/ESSEX

Dore & Whittier Selected as Project Manager for School Building Project

The Manchester Essex Regional School District and the School Building Committee have selected Dore & Whittier as Owner's Project Manager (OPM) for the Essex Elementary School Building Project.

Dore & Whittier's selection was approved by the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) at its Board of Directors meeting on Monday, April 7.

Dore & Whittier, with offices in Newburyport and in Burlington, VT, has been providing owner's project management services for more than 30 years. The company has supported dozens of construction and renovation projects such as Pine Grove School in Rowley, and West Parish Elementary School and East Veterans Elementary School in Gloucester.

Dore & Whittier will provide project management services including advice and consultation with respect to design, value engineering, scope of the work, cost estimating, scheduling, construction and more.

In November 2022, consultants Habeeb & Associates publicly shared its needs assessment of both Essex Elementary and Manchester Essex Middle High School. The study identified that Essex Elementary, which opened in 1957, has passed its useful life and requires about \$9 million in capital investment.

As the District continues through the Feasibility Study Phase, a designer will be selected for the project. The OPM and selected designer will then document the educational programming, generate an initial space summary, document existing conditions, establish design parameters, develop and evaluate alternatives, and recommend the most cost-effective and educationally appropriate preferred solution to the MSBA for consideration.

Timeline:

- The School Building Committee will develop a request for design services by April 22.
- The District will hold kickoff meetings with Dore & Whittier on April 22-24.
- Architect proposals are due on June 18.
- The District will meet with the MSBA Designer Selection Panel on July 15 and select the architect no later than July 29. ♦

[Editor's Note: Massachusetts does not have uniform school building designs for various size communities (i.e., option A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, J, K, L, M, N). Instead, each school district and the state undergo extensive expenditures in architectural activities specific to each school construction, in addition to the obvious site-specific requirements of land and utilities.]

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