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FREE



The Zibell Farm at 214 North Street in Georgetown where a sand mining operation is underway, loading trucks, lined-up, at approx. 5-minute intervals

Large Sand Mining Operation in Georgetown Passing as Farm Prep?

SEE
PAGES 6 & 7



Roberta 'Bobbi' C. Flynn

Roberta Flynn (Photo provided by family)

By Stewart Lytle, Reporter

REGIONAL – The residents of Newburyport and nearby North Shore towns and cities lost one of its most charming, colorful, kind and effective people when Roberta Flynn passed away on, July 7th, after a sudden illness.

Known as Bobbi to friends and family, the 92-year-old Newburyport resident helped many people from the students she taught to dozens of adults trapped by addiction. Mid-career, she returned to school to earn her master's degree in history, followed by a master's degree in Counseling.

She used her counseling skills, working on a suicide prevention hotline for several years. And she acted as a sponsor, mentor and sounding board for many men and women who are sober and productive today because of her.

"She was kind, generous, curious and a delight to be around. Hers was a life well-lived, and she will be missed by many," her obituary states.

For a brief time, she was the nanny to the great-grandchildren of the famous newspaper magnate Joseph Pulitzer. That allowed her to travel to Europe with the Pulitzer family.

She had a special relationship with

Continued on page 3



Corliss Employees: Lexi, Heather, Steven, Scholarship recipient Lilly holding Deb Lambert's Corliss Brothers work jacket, Traci and Andrea.



HORT Scholarship Recipients, Hannah Mae Barter and Colleen Kielbania are seated with HORT members at the HORT annual member garden walk on June 11th.

Newburyport Horticulture Society's Annual Student Scholarships

The Newburyport Horticulture Society (HORT) awarded three (3) student scholarships in May to area graduating senior high school students who are planning a college major in a field that will benefit the environment.

A \$2,500 HORT scholarship was

awarded to both Hannah Mae Barter from Rowley and Colleen Kielbania from Ipswich (seated in the picture below). Both are recent graduates from Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical High School. Hannah was accepted

Continued on page 3

The Blind Can Walk Newburyport's Rail Trail

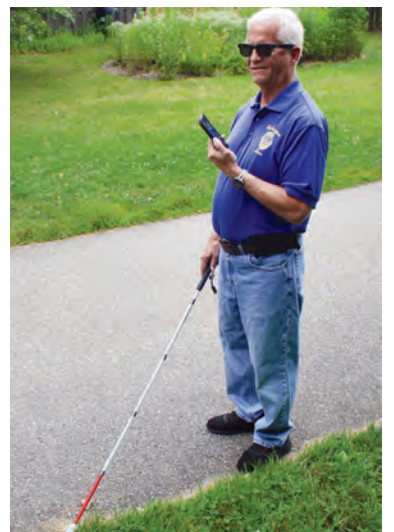
By Stewart Lytle, Reporter

NEWBURYPORT – The beloved Clipper City Rail Trail with its interesting sculptures and interpretative signage is easy to navigate -- if you can see.

Now thanks to new technology being installed by the Newburyport Lions Club, even walkers with low vision will soon be able to feel safe using the trail.

And that is only the beginning of the potential of this technology that is likely to attract widespread attention for Newburyport and the Clipper City Rail Trail.

It is an idea spawned by the Newburyport Lions Club president Barbara Round, who is sighted, and spearheaded by Steve Baran, who has been blind from birth. The 30-member Lions Club, whose mission is to aid the blind, spent \$22,000 buying 17 beacons from an Israeli company, Right-Hear, that, once installed fully, will play



Steve Baran with a beacon at a mile marker on the Clipper City Rail Trail. (Photo by Stewart Lytle)

a message at each location along the trail on a free cell phone app.

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Groveland Announces Police Promotions

Submitted by Annie Schindler
Executive Coordinator
Town of Groveland

GROVELAND – The Town of Groveland is proud to announce the promotion of two distinguished members of



Steven Petrone and Heather Riley

the Groveland Police Department.

Lieutenant Heather Riley has been promoted to the rank of Captain, making her the first person in the department's history to hold this position. Captain Riley has been with the Department as a full-time officer since 2011. Her promotion reflects her continued commitment to public safety, operational excellence, and community service.

Also promoted is Sergeant Steven Petrone, who will now serve as Lieutenant. Lieutenant Petrone has been with the Department as a full-time officer since 2010. His strong leadership and

Continued on page 2

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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.
Founder/Publisher/Editor 2004 - 2024

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

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

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Bobbi Flynn

Continued from page 1

her sisters Rosemary and Joan, and their husbands, George and Charles

Cashman, some of the leading residents of Newburyport. George Cashman was a founder of Yankee Homecoming in 1958. Bobbi was like a second mother to her many

nieces and nephews whom she adored, and who “adored her in return,” her obituary said.

The daughter of the late Dr. William A. Flynn and Rosemary Carr Flynn of Amesbury, she grew up there and attended St. Joseph School, Amesbury High School, Jeanne D’Arc Academy in Milton and Regis College in Weston.

She spent her early professional

career working at the Boston Gas Company, and Studio 350, also in Boston, where she helped organize photography for printed advertising. She often used nieces and nephews as subjects in these photos, which were published in many local newspapers and magazines.

She spent the majority of her career as an elementary school teacher, primarily at the Bagnall School in Groveland, where she taught fifth and sixth grade for 30 years. She took great pride in helping to shape the lives of many school children, and delighted when she would meet them again later in life as adults.

She had a long relationship with the Catholic Church, and was a lecturer, eucharistic minister and member

of various church organizations. She spent countless weekends enriching her faith at remote retreats. She also studied the works of Catholic writers like Thomas Merton and Thomas Keating. “Her faith in the saving power of the Eucharist was complete,” the obituary reads.

A Funeral Mass was held on Tuesday, July 15th, at St. Joseph Church in Amesbury, followed by burial near her parents at St. Joseph Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations in Bobbi’s name may be made to the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center at 2 Harris Street in Newburyport, MA 01950.

Arrangements were by Paul C. Rogers Family Funeral Home, Amesbury. ♦

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		AM	ft	PM	ft	AM	ft	PM	ft			
16	Wed	3:58	8.6	4:31	8.6	10:17	0.0	10:45	0.4	5:18	8:20	
17	Thu	4:53	8.3	5:24	8.8	11:08	0.1	11:43	0.3	5:18	8:20	
18	Fri	5:51	8.0	6:19	8.9			12:01	0.3	5:19	8:19	
19	Sat	6:52	7.8	7:17	9.1	12:44	0.2	12:58	0.5	5:20	8:18	
20	Sun	7:55	7.6	8:17	9.2	1:47	0.0	1:57	0.7	5:21	8:17	
21	Mon	8:58	7.5	9:17	9.3	2:50	-0.1	2:57	0.7	5:22	8:16	
22	Tue	9:58	7.6	10:14	9.4	3:51	-0.3	3:56	0.6	5:23	8:15	

Groveland Police Promos

Continued from page 1

dedication to the department’s mission have earned him the respect of his colleagues and the community alike.

“These promotions reflect the growth and progress of the Groveland Police Department,” said Chief Jeffrey Gillen.

“Captain Riley and Lieutenant Petrone have each demonstrated outstanding service, leadership, and integrity throughout their careers. We are proud to recognize their hard work and dedication.”

The Town extends its sincere congratulations to both officers and looks forward to their continued service in these important leadership roles. ♦

CORRECTION REGARDING GEORGETOWN SELECTBOARD

by Lonnie Brennan

Two weeks ago, in a recap note, I noted the apparent surprise that the chair of the Georgetown selectboard was blindsided by his fellow board members, two meetings in a row. He was only blindsided at his first meeting. ♦



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Dean Charles Black

Dean C. Black, 69, passed away peacefully on July 4, 2025.

He was born in Ohio and moved to Ipswich at the age of 7. After graduating from Ipswich High School, he began his career as a mechanic at Jimmy's Exxon in Ipswich, then became a top Snap-on tool dealer in his territory and later returned to auto mechanics at Tom's Auto in Ipswich. Dean eventually started his own business, Ipswich Marine Services, receiving a Master Mechanic certificate from Mercruiser Marine. He served on the board of directors for the Ipswich Outboard Club for 20 years with 6 of those as Commodore.

Dean enjoyed spending times with friends, skiing in the winter and boating in the summer, and was always ready for a good time. Over time his love of riding and then restoring antique motorcycles grew to be his favorite pastime. He developed life-long friendships within the hobby and the AMCA community. This passion allowed him to combine his mechanical prowess with his appreciation for the mechanical history of these early machines and breathe new life into them. His broad knowledge and his ability to build them from the ground up was well-known in the hobby's circles. He truly enjoyed sharing that knowledge with other enthusiasts especially those of the next generation.

Dean's garage was his happy place as well as a hub of camaraderie, where laughter and encouragement were always present. His closest friends say "Dean was a kind-hearted, gentle soul who helped everyone. He was always positive and made people feel better and encouraged them. He put others before himself right up until the end."

More than anything else, Dean's wife and daughter were always his priority, and he always made sure they were taken care of. Spending quality time with his family was always special. Coaching his daughter's soccer team, creating things his daughter dreamed up, playing board games, and taking many family vacations. Dean and his wife enjoyed a long, loving marriage. They were each other's confidant, supporter and cheerleader. They shared an interest in antiques and history, and she took pride in attending motorcycle meets with him. Over the last few years, they were able to visit places and events that they'd always wanted to.

In addition to his wife, Jeanine and daughter Megan, he leaves his sister, Donna McHargue and her husband John; brother, Crow Black with his wife Hedi and a fleet of nieces and nephews who adored their fun-loving uncle. Dean was predeceased by his parents, Don and Helen Black, who undoubtedly instilled in him the values of hard work and the importance of a hearty chuckle.

He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who had the pleasure of crossing paths with him.

Relatives and friends are invited to Calling Hours held on Saturday, July 19, 2025, from 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., at F. S. Roberts & Son Funeral Home, 14 Independent Street of Rowley, Ma.

The family welcomes your memories & condolences of Dean to be expressed on his Tribute Wall, Dean's e-mail, or by mail

There will be a private burial with a Celebration of Life at a later time. The family welcomes your memories & condolences of Dean to be expressed on his Tribute Wall, Dean's e-mail, or by mail.

In lieu of flowers, donation pledges in Dean's memory can be made to one of his favorite charities, St. Jude Children's Cancer Research Hospital.

To light a memorial candle or to leave a message of condolence, please visit www.fsrobertsandson.com.

~ Arrangements entrusted to F. S. Roberts & Son Funeral Home ~



Georgetown Knights of
Columbus Officer

John Takis to Ride in the 2025 Pan-Mass Challenge to Fight Cancer

We all have varying degrees of challenges in our daily life. Our good health, happiness, and family are most important. Over the past 19 years I have participated in athletic events which I have used to meet my fund-raising goals. It is difficult to ask for your donation and fund-raise every year. We all have someone in our life who has a form of cancer, whether it is a family member, friend, or colleague. This year, I will again participate in the Pan Mass Challenge. With your generosity and compassion, I was able to raise over \$10,000 for last year's event which was 100% donated directly to the Dana Farber-Jimmy Fund. This year I will again ride in honor of friends battling this terrible disease and those who have lost their lives to cancer.

My friend Paul C. was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer one year ago and is receiving treatment at MGH. He has remained in stable condition going about his daily life. Unfortunately, Paul lost his daughter Jessica just five years ago to pancreatic cancer. Jess was just 33-years-old and with a newborn baby and toddler. Paul and his wife Nancy recently informed me that their 33-year-old niece Jenna, who has a two-year-old baby, was diagnosed with breast cancer and is now receiving treatment. Our prayers to Jenna and her family during this difficult time.

These two families are experiencing the devastating effects of cancer, but remain strong as they receive innovative and cutting-edge treatments. I will also place the names of friends currently/formerly receiving cancer treatment on my jersey including Eileen A., Joe S., Carolyn C. Frank A., Bill S., Lou S., and Kristen S. I will also ride in memory of my dear friend Marianne.

Experiencing the agony of chemotherapy and radiation treatment is a painful ordeal. Cancer can strike any of us, young and old, strong and fit, i. It is so heartbreaking to watch children combating any forms of cancer and leukemia. There has been much progress in the fight to cure cancer. New research and development of various drugs and treatments has been effective.

I have committed to raise \$6,500 to the Pan Mass Challenge Ride. Any help in this endeavor would be greatly appreciated. All donations are tax deductible.

Donations can be made at my personal link:

<https://profile.mc.org/HT0014>,

or checks made out to PMC can be mailed to my address below.

God Bless,

John Takis

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Newburyport HORT

Continued from page 1

into the honors program at the University of Maine's Forestry Department and plans to become a Conservation Scientist. Colleen was accepted to the University of Arkansas and plans to become a Flower and Poultry Farmer.

This year, Corliss Brothers Garden Center and Nursery in Ipswich partnered with the Newburyport Horticulture Society to award a new Deb Lambert Scholarship. Deb Lambert was a horticulturalist, environmentalist and a beloved 30+ year Corliss Brothers employee. This

scholarship, in her memory, was granted to a student furthering their education in an environmental field. Lilly Morley from Ipswich was the recipient; she is a graduating senior from Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical High School, who like Hannah, was accepted into the University of Maine's Forestry's honors program at the University of Maine, Orono.

Funds for the HORT student scholarships are raised during the HORT's annual plant sale in May and the Holiday Greens sale in December. Thank you to Corliss Brothers for the Deb Lambert Scholarship funds. ♥



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Newburyport Lantern Festival Thank You

A Glowing Night of Community and Remembrance: Thanks to everyone who made the 15th Annual Newburyport Lantern Festival a Beautiful Success.

Greater Newburyport Ovarian Cancer Awareness (GNOCA) extends heartfelt thanks to the hundreds of community members who joined us on Sunday, June 29th for our 15th Annual Lantern Festival at Bartlet Mall. Rescheduled from Saturday, the evening turned out to be absolutely beautiful, warm, clear, and filled with heartfelt moments, as over 500 lanterns were floated across the Frog Pond in remembrance, hope, and celebration.

The event was brought to life through music coordinated by Donna Ricci, featuring performances by Pam Hallock, Rob Hallock, Neil Hallock, Sharon Schoolcraft, Joe Kessler, and John Tavano, creating a peaceful and moving backdrop as participants decorated and released their lanterns.

A special highlight of the evening

was a moving dance performance by the Fontaine Dubus ChoreoMotion class, featuring dancers Fontaine Dubus, Margaret Kopp, April McDonald, Maria Raskin, and Emily White, whose expressive movement added grace and emotion to the night.

Thanks to the more than 50 volunteers that made the evening possible—setting up tents and tables, assisting with lantern decoration, and supporting every aspect of the festival. We extend special thanks to: Keynote Speaker Kathleen Scanlan, the men of Link House, for their essential help with transport and setup, Musical Director Donna Ricci, Calligraphy Coordinator Sue Dosick, ASL Interpreter Mark Riley, Photographer Lani Shumway, Lola Wesley Marketing, Bartlet Mall Commission, City of Newburyport supporters: Mike Hennessy, Christine

Jackson, and Renee Ward, The Salvation Army, Dingo Creative, and Dave Hill of Fusion Blue Productions.

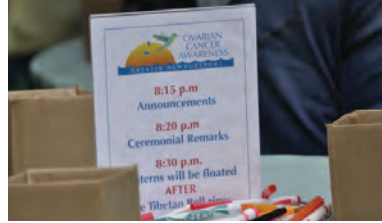
We are deeply grateful to our generous sponsors: Institution for Savings, Jonathan Lamson (in memory of his wife Cheryl), Bortz-Boyer Family Charitable Trust (in honor of Trudy Bortz), Kelly Mahoney Family Charitable Trust, Anna Jaques Hospital, Catherine Green, Paul Flaherty, Debra and Steven French in memory of Joanne Lindmark and the Massachusetts Cultural Councils of West Newbury,

Newburyport, Rowley, and Salisbury.

We invite the community and any interested volunteers to join us for the 15th Annual Jackie Poor/Paula Holm 5K Run/Walk on Sunday, September 28, at 10 am Michael's Harborside, in honor of National Ovarian Cancer

Awareness Month. We look forward to another meaningful gathering!

With gratitude,
Debra Green, Elaine Carroll, Margaret Mahoney, and Maryellen Lawler - Greater Newburyport Ovarian Cancer Awareness



photos by Lani Shumway



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Deb Green gives a hug while working the event



Anne Wilt, Ted Ruetenik, Judy Mouradian, and Susan Patterson work the tables



Fontaine Dubus owner of The Dance Place (brown skirt) with her ChoreoMotion dancers Margaret Kopp, April McDonald, Maria Raskin, and Emily White

Ipswich Veterans Walkway Coming Soon

By Ava Moeckel, Reporter

IPSWICH—A meaningful tribute to Ipswich's military service members is now under construction on South Main Street, where local veteran's groups and volunteers are building a commemorative brick walkway that leads to the town's Veterans Memorial.

The project is part of a broader effort to honor the more than 140 Ipswich residents who gave their lives in ser-

vice during conflicts ranging from the Revolutionary War to the Vietnam War.

The new walkway replaces an older path and will be paved with engraved bricks and pavers, each bearing the name of a local veteran.

Crews began work in early June under the summer sun, with temperatures soaring into the 90s. Despite the heat, progress has been steady. Local mason Dave Keough and his team,

along with community volunteers, have been laying the foundation for what many hope will become a lasting place of reflection and pride.

The walkway will feature standard 4 by 8-inch bricks and larger 12 by 12-inch pavers. Each brick allows space for up to three lines of text, with 16 characters per line.

Installation is expected to continue through July with hydroseeding of the surrounding lawn planned to help the grass recover before the official dedication. That ceremony is scheduled for 1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 27.

Organizers say the event will be a respectful and patriotic occasion and expect many active-duty service members to attend. It will also include a detailed presentation on Ipswich's wartime history, the result of months of research and reflection by those leading the project.

To learn more about the walkway or

to purchase an engraved brick in honor of a veteran, contact the Veterans Services Office at Ipswich Town Hall for further information. ♦



The walkway under construction (Photo by Stewart Lytle)

Newburyport Rail Trail

Continued from page 1

The messages being developed now are largely directional, a first for most rail trails to be inclusive of low-vision users. But it may prove to be just as valuable as an electronic concierge or tour guide for visitors and newcomers to Newburyport as well as solve the challenge of adding more directional signage.

For example, as trail users start north from the MBTA rail station, the message broadcast by a female voice to the app on the cell phone, says:

From the train station face forward straight ahead at 12 o'clock you cross Parker Street. When approaching the crosswalk there are detectable dome warning tiles with a flashing light to your left. Cross diagonal to 11 o'clock to continue on the trail. Once across, continue walking straight, the next beacon will be 528 feet or 230 steps with more directions.

The directional messages are helpful to those with low vision or, as one sighted walker said last week, it will be helpful for those who are directionally challenged. Rounds, who is a strong advocate for inclusivity, said, "If you join the rail trail at Low Street, how do you know which way is the waterfront?"

The beacon also gives different messages that describe the trail's features that would be what a sighted person would see. The message says: There is a bench about 50 feet after entering the rail trail. After the bench is a garden with a pathway. There are sculptures along the trail. The first sculpture, "Sparrows" by Dale Rogers (2011), shows two birds gliding side by side in vertically tilted posture.

Next, the message continues, is The Alchemical Garden and a Little Free Library. Then there is Clyde already waiting for you. "Clyde" is a horse sculpture by James Burnes (2009) made of corten weathering steel and black locust wood.

Geordie Vining, the city's senior planner, who spearheaded the development of the rail trail, wrote, "We have worked from the beginning to make the Rail Trail universally accessible. In practice, that has primarily meant meeting the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) and state Architectural Access Board's requirements for a design that supports those with mobility impairments, as well as hearing, etc."

"Until now, for a number of reasons, we have not been able to do very much about supporting those with vision impairment."

Vining added: "Installing the Right-

Hear beacons on the Rail Trail is a really positive proposal and a really interesting use of technology to make the CCRT more accessible to everyone. I like how the system seems set up to provide real-time orientation information to users, as well as information about various landmarks and facilities as well as hazards. E.g., the interpretive signs; the sculptures, gardens, and murals; the benches, tunnels, bridges, intersections, stairs, side paths, etc."

Approved by the city's Parks Commission, the beacons will be operational by September, Baran said. The Lions Club, which will maintain the beacons, purchased them on a three-year contract with RightHear.

The beacons, installed in clear boxes on the trail's mile markers, deliver the messages in 34 languages. So, if the Greater Newburyport Chamber of Commerce hosts a Chinese delegation to see the new Market Landing Park, the delegation can walk the rail trail and learn about it in their native language.

Currently Baran and his team from RightHear are "getting the bugs out," he said. They are testing the range of the messages broadcast on the cell phone as well as what the words say.

A major test comes on August 12, when Baran has invited the low vision group at the Newburyport Senior Center to walk the trail and hear the messages broadcast on their phone app.

The project was born out of Baran's frustration with so-called Braille Trails, which use guidewires to help low-vision trail users. But the equipment is very expensive, frays and gets hot in the sunlight and benefitted a limited number of people, Round said.

Baran read in a newsletter that the Natural Bridge State Park in Virginia was experimenting with the RightHear beacons. He and his wife, Denise Dodge, drove to Virginia in an ice storm last winter to learn more about the beacons.

"This is just what I am looking for," Baran said.

The RightHear beacons met all of Baran's objectives for the trail project. He wanted it to be easy to use, allow low-vision persons to walk safely and independently, help the most number of people and by broadcasting from existing mile markers, the beacons are non-invasive.

They can also be educational, providing information to the trail users, who don't run or bike too fast and don't have their headsets turned up.

Next step for Round and Baran, install the RightHear beacons in downtown so everyone can learn about the history of Newburyport and know which way to go for shopping or dinner. ♦

SIGNS-BY DOUG

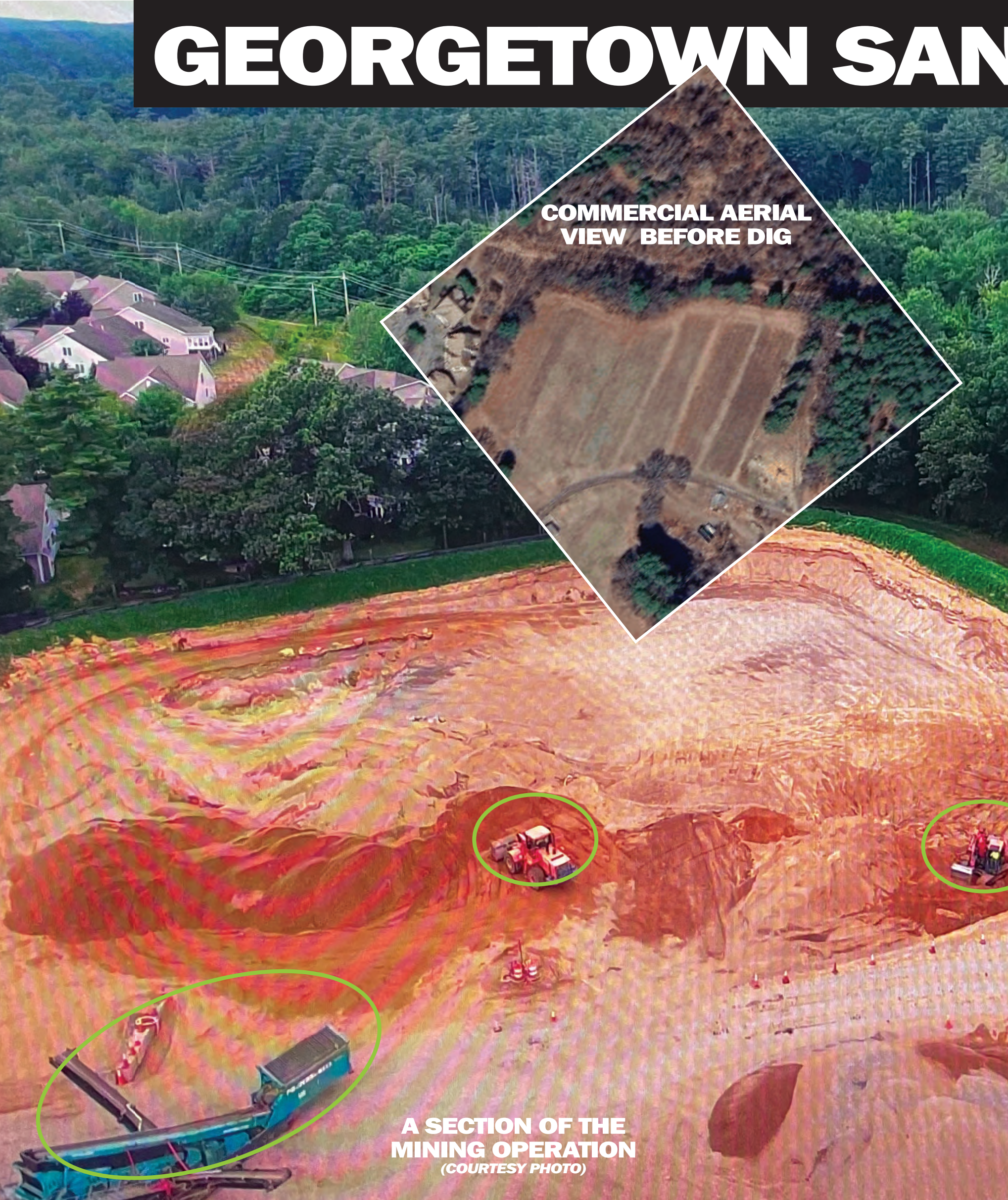
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ID & GRAVEL 2.0?

Is Zebell Farm Being Illegally or Legally Mined for Sand?

By Stewart Lytle, Reporter

GEORGETOWN – The Planning Board is considering whether to issue a special permit for what neighbors say is an “illegal” sand mining operation on the 100-year-old Zibell Farm or ZFarm at 214 North St.

The mining operation, according to the neighbors, started four years ago shortly after John (Pete) Zibell passed away, but the tempo of large dump trucks removing tons of sand appears to have escalated since May, several neighbors testified at a Planning Board public hearing.

They said the very loud trucks arrive at 6:15 a.m. daily and maintain operations until at least 4 p.m. Stacey Groomes, a neighbor, told the board her house shakes most of the day.

Todd Champlain, of Robles Excavating, who was representing Kathy Potter, the current farm owner, told the Planning Board the farm

is removing the soil and plans to replace it with high quality soil to create an organic farm. He said the 30-acre farm is replacing soil 5 acres at a time.

He said the farm’s attorney has advised that the town does not have the right to regulate the agricultural activities. His claim was based on an attorney’s opinion of the town’s “Right to Farm” bylaw plus state and federal laws protecting agriculture, he said.

The Planning Board disagreed. According to chair Harry LaCortiglia, the board believed it has the right under the town’s Zoning laws to require the farm to apply for special permits to remove the sand and to ensure that it is replaced with fill soil that has been certified to be clean by a third party.

One neighbor asked how deep the sand excavation is, but Champlain declined to answer.

Ron Borenstein, an attorney with Johnson & Borenstein of Andover,

who represented farm neighbors, Peter and Beth Gramolini, said the farm has been operating “an unpermitted, illegal earth removal operation.”

“It is hard to accept the story that the activities going on on that farm are to support an organic farm,” Borenstein said. “They have turned a classic farm, 100 years old, into a sand pit.”

Borenstein called the sand removal an “industrial size operation” that is capable of removing “tens of thousands of cubic yards.” And the sand is being replaced with “asphalt millings and loads of contractor debris. It does not add up.”

Another neighbor, Mary O’Malley compared the farm today to a gravel pit, which she said is a very profitable business. “Is that what’s going on here?” she asked.

The Planning Board has scheduled a visit to the farm this week, but Dillon Brown, an attorney for the Parker River Landing condo-

miniums, asked the board to require the farm to discontinue work until the board could see the property.

Several neighbors said they doubt if work will stop, and the mountains of sand that have been excavated will be removed.

The board did not require the farm to stop work, but LaCortiglia asked Champlain to be “a good neighbor” and discontinue temporarily the trucks removing the sand.

According to observers, that request went unheeded. Following the public hearing last Wednesday, dump trucks showed up frequently on Thursday and Friday to be loaded with screened sand.

“It takes about five or six minutes to load a truck,” one observer said.

The Town Common followed one of the trucks to a New Hampshire concrete company, a possible buyer of the screened sand.

The Planning Board will continue consideration of the ZFarm sand mining activities on July 23. ♦

What Does a Sand Mining Operation Look Like?

For neighbors who are unaware of the sources of noise and just see all the trucks lining up and coming and going every 10 minutes or so, this view from less than two weeks ago shows the sand/gravel screener (lower left) - one of the sources of the excavation’s noises and vibrations. Parker River Landing residential homes (built 20 years ago) on the former site of Georgetown Sand & Gravel are visible at far upper left. Large equipment including an excavator deep in one of the pits is shown. Piles of sand and gravel throughout...

Area shown is one portion of farm land now being mined to estimated depths of 20 feet or more.

A small corn field to lower right of the area above is not visible in this, one of many views.

Residents can easily see this nearly-public display of activities from the informal walking path which runs along the back of the property. Out front, each 30-35 yard truck leaving the property yields the owner approx. \$450 according to the town’s conservation commissioner who states that the project is fully allowed by the farm and no intervention by the planning board is required.



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your persistence pays off as the information you demanded starts to come through. The pace is slow at first, but it begins to speed up as the week draws to a close.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) An unwelcome bit of news jolts the Bovine who would prefer that things proceed smoothly. But at its most, it is a momentary setback. Meanwhile, a Leo brings more welcome tidings.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You need to pay close attention to details before making a commitment. Don't accept anything that seems questionable unless you get an answer that can be backed up.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Congratulations on getting a project up and running! But as exciting as it is, don't let it carry you away. Make sure you set aside time to spend with family and friends.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Be sure you're part of a discussion involving your suggestions. Your presence ensures that you can defend your work, if necessary. It also helps you gain your colleagues' support.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A misunderstanding needs to be dealt with, or it can grow and cause more problems later. Be the bigger person and take the first step to clear the air.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Set some strict guidelines for yourself so that your heavier-than-usual work schedule doesn't overwhelm the time you need to spend relaxing with loved ones.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You might feel a little uncomfortable being among people you hardly know. But remember that today's strangers can become tomorrow's valuable contacts.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Reward yourself for all that you've accomplished despite some annoying situations that got in your way. Enjoy a well-earned get-away with someone special!

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Realizing that someone else is taking credit for what you did is bound to get anyone's goat, but especially yours. Be patient. The truth soon comes out.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Forget about opposites attracting. What you need is to find someone who thinks like you and will support your ideas, even if others say they're too radical.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Workplace problems can affect your financial plans. Be prudent and avoid running up bills or making commitments until things begin to ease up in mid-July.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your intuition helps you communicate easily with people. You can understand their needs without having to say much.

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NEW ORDER OF BIRDS

ACROSS

1 They're filled at filling stations

9 Causes of some winter roof leaks

16 Two or three

20 Its capital is Springfield

21 Good time to shop and save

22 1977 hit for Electric Light Orchestra

23 Bird hanging around power-generating structures?

25 Bottom-of-the-barrel bit

26 "Grace and Frankie" co-star Lily

27 Me, in Marne

28 Take a chair

29 Spike for a rock climber

30 Icky food

33 Bird with a pronounced lower back?

36 Elite police unit

41 35mm camera type

42 Holy Week follower

43 Bird with an affliction?

48 Lead-in to lateral

49 It flows through Köln

50 Rocker Ocasek

51 "Ammonium" has three

52 Single's first half

54 Response to "You weren't!"

55 Jazz great Fitzgerald

58 Give a bird a monetary reward?

60 "God Love Us" rapper

61 Pecans and cashews

64 Eggs

65 Slow-moving reptile with a bird on its back?

73 Aussie critter

74 Outer surface

75 911 VIP

76 Waterway full of birds?

82 Billfold bills

83 Employee welfare agcy.

84 Daisy type

85 Daisy of "Li'l Abner"

86 Pull along

88 Old paper sections

89 Bub

90 Share employment hours with a bird?

95 Actress Clarke or Fox

98 Boating blade

99 "Are we out of danger?"

100 Bird starring in "The Birds"?

104 Wise — owl

105 Novelist Loos

106 Two times LI

107 Neighbor of Okla.

109 "You did not just say that!"

115 Will of "The Waltons"

116 Jacket with bird hues?

120 Coastal eagle

121 100% correct

122 Overpraises

123 Old booming jets, in brief

124 Catholic prayer books

125 Pre-release software trial

DOWN

1 Central idea

2 Certain sax

3 Skinny

4 Cash drawer

5 Opposer

6 One who's hardly saintly

7 Tool set, e.g.

8 Guyana-to-Bolivia dir.

9 "Money — object"

10 Escalade carmaker

11 Wood for dartboards

12 Certain belief in God

13 Impromptu

14 Country south of Sicily

15 — admin

16 Extra installations

17 Courage in adversity

18 Big surprise

19 Like the operas "Parsifal" and "Lohengrin"

24 Wee devil

29 Free TV ad

31 Thai tongue

32 Texter's "Yowza!"

34 Website ID

35 Family mem.

36 Run very fast

37 Guitarist's pedal effect

38 Resting

39 That's partner

40 Boatload

41 — -fi movie

44 Tabriz native

45 Stephen of "Utopia"

46 Actress Irving

47 Suffix with cartoon

52 Break off

53 — -Tass

55 Slip-up

56 Allow to

57 Zodiac feline

58 H.S. junior's hurdle

59 Hostess snack cakes

61 — degree or another

62 Consumer

63 Neighbor of Okla.

66 Helen of —

67 Abbr. on a food carton

68 "Dr." of rap

69 It's in bronze

70 Greek goddess of the hearth

71 Doug who is married to Kamala Harris

72 Just one bite

76 Websites' "front covers"

77 Ones taking a close look

78 Awardee, say

79 Texter's "I think ..."

80 Alternate wd. spelling

81 "A mouse!"

83 Circus cries

86 Feeling gratitude

87 Not 'neath

88 Post-Q string

90 Baby's cry

91 "Little piggy"

92 — for Evidence" (Sue Grafton novel)

93 "Hugo" star Butterfield

94 Relative of a wood engraving

96 Petrol units

97 "Give — rest"

101 Gut bacterium

102 Radio knobs

103 Celebrity photographer Herb

104 Even a hint of

108 Spy Aldrich

110 Spanish greeting

111 Shutter piece

112 Short letter

113 God of war

114 "You ... over there ..."

116 Engine wheel

117 Singer Rita

118 Slap cuffs on

119 Fruity quaff

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

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SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

The dangers of bagged salad greens

Sometimes we just want to take the easy path and quickly grab a few things for dinner. Bagged salad greens are often on our list — but it's the last place we should be taking a shortcut in meal prep.

Between contaminated water in the fields and many people involved in the processing, handling and storage, food safety experts are pointing to bagged salads as the item near the top of the list for safety concerns and outbreaks of E. coli. And that makes it a real risk for seniors or anyone with a compromised immune system.

How to avoid the dangers of E. coli? Buy whole head lettuce instead of bagged and throw away the outer leaves. Rinse the lettuce under running cold water and dry it with paper towels. Besides the force of the water during rinsing, the drying with paper towels can also help remove the E. coli contamination. Do the same with other leafy greens such as spinach.

However, if you do want to buy packaged salad greens, the dilemma comes when the package claims that they have been pre-washed. "Triple washed! Ready to eat!" the package will proclaim. The question is: Should you believe it? Or should you go ahead and wash it? The experts, including the FDA and USDA, say not to wash it. The reason, they say, is that we at home are more likely to contaminate the greens ourselves with a dirty sink.

People on blogs across the internet are insulted, however, being told they would contaminate food in their own kitchens. They intend to wash all produce, even if the package says it's not needed and even if it's organic from a farmer's market.

It's difficult to know what to believe, but one thing is a fact: Seniors who develop an E. coli infection can become severely ill. Take care.

By the work one knows the workman



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BOXFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

You are hereby notified that a **Public Hearing** will be held via Zoom videoconference on **Thursday July 24, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** or such other time when posted for the **Notice of Intent** by applicant **Kathleen O'Connell James**, for the property located at **7 Endicott Road, Map 40, Block 5, Lot 11 to construct an addition and patio to an existing residence, an addition and deck to a separate existing structure, and to grade and pave an existing driveway within 100-feet of Bordering Land Subject to Flooding.**

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

For the Commission,
Ross Povenmire, Conservation Director

7/16

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION –
HIGHWAY DIVISION
NOTICE OF A VIRTUAL DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

Project Description: Newburyport – Intersection Improvements at the Intersection of Route 1 and Merrimac Street
Project File No. 608029

A Virtual Design Public Hearing will be hosted on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed project in Newburyport, MA.

WHEN: 6:30PM, Thursday, July 24th, 2025

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed project. All views and comments submitted in response to the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The purpose of this project is for the installation of two traffic signal systems on Merrimac Street at the Route 1 on and off-ramps in Newburyport, MA. The project limits extend along Merrimac Street from Strong Street to Market Street and to Pleasant Street to the south. The Project shall improve the functionality of the Route 1 ramps at Merrimac Street by incorporating adequate sight distance, roadway micro resurfacing and restriping, inclusion of complete street elements including ADA accessibility, pedestrian curb ramps and bicycle accommodations, pavement markings and signage, and associated utility adjustments. Work on the minor streets will be limited to approach work unless drainage or utility elements require further improvements or adjustments.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands. MassDOT's policy concerning land acquisitions will be presented in the hearing.

Project inquiries, written statements and other exhibits regarding the proposed undertaking may be submitted to Carrie E. Lavallee, P.E., Chief Engineer, via e-mail to MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us or via US Mail to Suite 7550, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: Project Management, Project File No. 608029. Statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the hearing transcript must be emailed or postmarked no later than ten (10) business days (14 calendar days) after the hearing is hosted.

This hearing is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (e.g interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, live captioning, videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), TTD/TTY at (857) 266-0603, fax (857) 368-0602 or by email (MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us). Requests should be made as soon as possible and prior to the hearing, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten business days before the hearing.

This hearing will be hosted, or a cancellation announcement posted, on the internet at <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events>.

JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

CARRIE E. LAVALLEE, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER

7/9, 7/16

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FROM MY GARDEN
BY LONNIE BRENNAN

The Town Common
Vegetable Garden Tips
Potato Beetles

There are two ways to help beat the potato beetle: 1. Walk the rows and squish every beetle, and check the underside of the leaves for yellow clusters of tiny eggs. Squish out the eggs. Very time consuming...

2. Straw! Spread a thin covering (very loose, scattered everywhere) around your plants and in the trough between plants. Water the straw. You've just created a great home for spiders and other beneficial insects. Be sure to water the straw when you water your plants, or sprinkle the straw occasionally to provide some moisture. With spiders and beneficial insects, your potato beetle population goes from crazy to barely visible. Remember, only resort to using store-bought products such as Neem oil if you're way behind the infestation and in danger of massive plant damage. Why a solution of last resort? Because even Neem oil will damper or kill-off your beneficial insects. As a side note, Neem oil is a great product for squash plants! Don't grow zucchini or summer squash without checking out Neem oil. ♦

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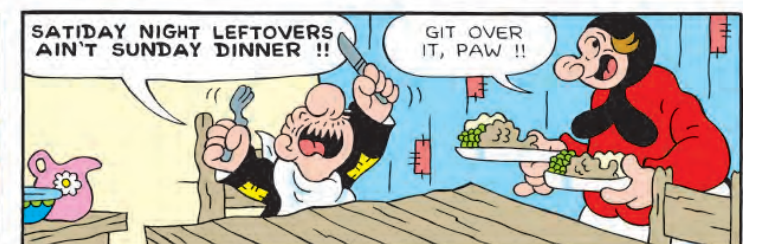
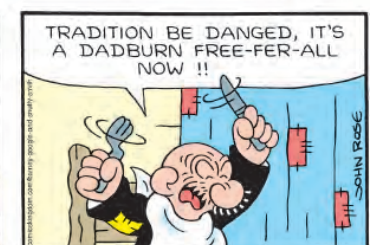
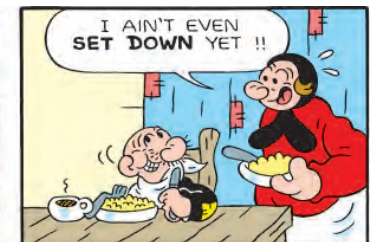
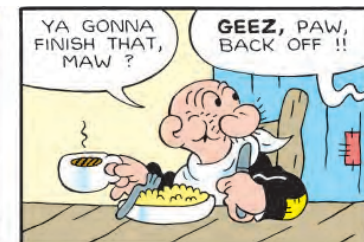
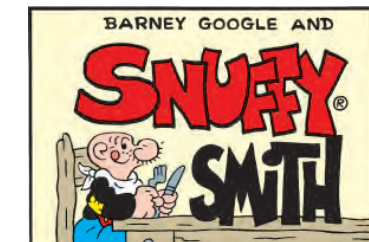
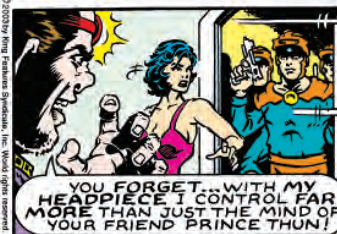
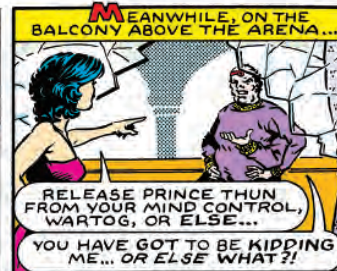
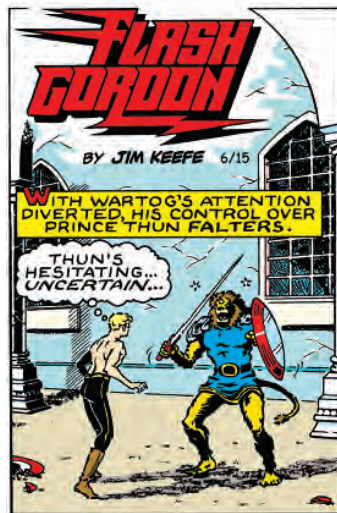
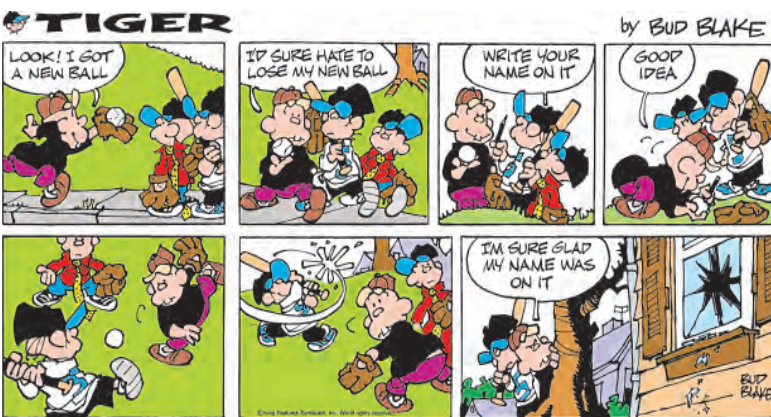
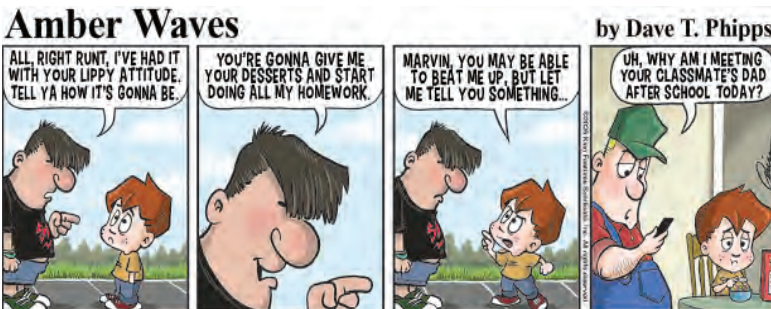


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HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Cap is larger. 2. Hair ribbon is moved. 3. Thumb is moved. 4. Mouth is open. 5. Man is thinner. 6. Tree trunk is wider.

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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: ♦

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RESIDENTS, FARMERS, GROUPS, AND SMALL BUSINESSES:

RESERVE YOUR SPACE
DISPLAY YOUR ITEMS!
FARMERS FREE!

The Knights of Columbus invites residents and small businesses in our service community of Byfield, Boxford, Georgetown, and Rowley to join us on July 26 for a KofC Community Yard Sale.

Any family, group, or business seeking a space at the highly visible location at 87 E. Main Street next to the Georgetown Building Supply; are asked to reserve their slot today. Place your items for sale at a grand Yard Sale event that will attract potential customers that might otherwise not go to your cul-de-sac, apartment, small business, or other location.

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