

Happy 4th of July



# The Town Common

LARGEST DISTRIBUTION ACROSS THE NORTH SHORE OF MA & COASTAL NH

Postage  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Newburyport, MA  
Permit No. 31  
Retail Customer



www.thetowncommon.com

Wednesday, July 2, 2025 - Vol. 21, No. 36

FREE



Colonial-era soldiers parade in front of Gen. George Washington's statue on the Bartlett Mall. (Photo by Stewart Lytle)

## Road to Revolution Parade - Newburyport

In the rain last Saturday, American Revolution era soldiers and sailors marched down High Street to the Bartlett Mall, parading in front of the General George Washington statue.

Amid cheers from the crowd assembled to watch the parade were musket shots and drums announcing the troop's arrival.



Newburyport Mayor Sean Reardon Leads the Parade. (Photo by Stewart Lytle)



Carlton Drive off Rte. 133, Georgetown, gets new surface (Photo by Lonnie Brennan)

## Town Trucks Line Up at Mello's New Roadbed

**GEORGETOWN** – Three Georgetown large dump trucks and two Georgetown pickup trucks were on site last Friday as the entire Carlton Drive roadway - full-width, all the way to a turn-around circle at the future Mello Trash Transfer Station underwent a rebuild.

In addition to the five marked Georgetown vehicles, a grade, a roller, and a large backhoe made steady progress in

dispersal of materials.

The street upgrade was noted as required to allow Mello's trucks and other large transport trucks usage of the hairpin turn roadway which was deemed to have an inadequate base.

Costs to rebuild the roadway for the newly located private business was not available at press time.

Construction at the site progresses. ♦



Rendering of one view of proposed mega-building 'Plaza Landing' (Photo by Stewart Lytle)

## Newburyport's Mega 'Plaza Landing' to be Largest Building

By Stewart Lytle, Reporter

**NEWBURYPORT** – Port Plaza, the site of the now-vacant former Kmart store, has begun the permitting process for what could become the city of Newburyport's largest building.

And though the city of Newburyport is

a partner in the development, don't expect the regulatory process to be swift.

The project, dubbed Plaza Landing, came before the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) last week for the first time. Represented by Lisa Mead, a land use attorney and former mayor of Newburyport, Plaza Landing is expected to raise the amount of affordable

housing in the city to above the state's target of 10 percent of all housing.

The proposal is part of a development agreement signed by Mayor Sean Reardon and Port Plaza owner Richard Kaplan late last year. Kaplan and the city would turn the 3-acre site, which encompasses the

Continued on page 4



Selectwoman Laura Repplier, seated second-to-left, abruptly left the room, went downstairs, and watched the meeting from a live cable feed left open in the town administrator's office, apparently pre-arranged with the town admin. (Chair Robert Hoover was blindsided by the maneuver.)

## Georgetown SelectBoard Ousts ConCom Chair

By Stewart Lytle, Reporter

**GEORGETOWN** – In the ongoing battle over control of the town's environmental agency, three members of the SelectBoard voted last week to oust the current chair because she would not commit to resign as chair.

The SelectBoard was trying to fill three vacant seats on the seven-member Conservation Commission (ConCom), but managed to fill only one with the former SelectBoard Chair Daryl LaMonica.

Chris Candia, who has served as the ConCom chair for a year, was voted off the commission, which regulates development that impacts wetlands and endangered species. Her re-appointment for a three-year new term was defeated by a three-to-one vote.

The vote appears to have created an even deeper division in the town's top agency. But it may have been for naught.

Donald Stampfrier, a resident, has filed a complaint with the state Attorney General that the Town Administrator in announcing the meeting created an Open Meeting violation. Ironically, SelectBoard member Michael Donahue said he voted against reappointing Candia because of Open Meeting Violations.

Stampfrier asserted that "a revised agenda (for the SelectBoard meeting) was uploaded on the day of the meeting,

June 23." It is required to be posted at least 48 hours in advance.

In addition, the original agenda was uploaded without a zoom link, which is included on all agendas, he wrote.

"The Open Meeting Violation is the revised agenda did not give residents reasonable time to join the meeting," Stampfrier wrote. "Therefore, the meet-

Continued on page 4

Sunday, July 13th – 3 to 5 p.m. St. Theresa Parish Center 815 Central Road, Rye, NH

**NEW ENGLAND TENORS**

\$20 per person A Tenor's Broadway Tribute and Ice Cream Social

Special guest sopranos Mary Metivier & Celeste Pellegrino



We Love to Print Your Photos

# The Town Common

**Advertising**  
advertise@thetowncommon.com  
(978) 255-3015  
www.thetowncommon.com

**Copy/Ad Deadlines**  
5 P.M. each Thursday  
Call us with any last-minute requirements! (978) 255-3015

Publisher/Editor  
Lonnie Brennan  
Lonnie@thetowncommon.com



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

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

The Town Common is not responsible for typographical errors or omissions, but reprint opportunities do exist for prompt notification of such errors. Advertisers should notify The Town Common of any errors in ads on the first day of issuance. No credits &/or refunds are offered or implied. All material and content cannot be duplicated without written consent of the publisher. The right is reserved to reject, omit, or edit any copy offered for publication.

Copyright 2004-2025 The Town Common® Broadside Communications - All Rights Reserved

## Mega Development

Continued from page 1

unused 50,851-square-foot building that was the Kmart store, into housing under the Chapter 40B process.

Kaplan plans to build 212 rental apartments, with 25 percent designated as affordable housing. These affordable units would be permanently restricted to residents earning below 80 percent of the area's median income, currently about \$127,000. The remainder of the units would be market-rate rentals for at least 35 years.

Plaza Landing is part of a broader trend across Massachusetts, where former large retail spaces are being converted into housing due to changing consumer habits and the rise of online shopping.

Plaza Landing is also expected to be part of a long-range city plan to develop this gateway area of the city into a more dense urban land use pattern.

The next public hearing on the project is scheduled for July 22.

ZBA chairman Rob Ciampitti said the board will look at all aspects of the proposed building, including wetlands, energy conservation, drainage, sewage, water, traffic, geotechnical and engineering issues.

From the initial comments from the neighbors, the challenge the project faces is primarily its size and the traffic it will generate.

The proposed four-story building would include basement parking and several outdoor plaza areas. To reduce the building's visual impact, the upper floors would step back on the upper floors. The brick design would mirror other developments downtown and throughout the city.

Ciampitti explained to those attending the first meeting that, although the Planning



# DAVID

**24 HR. SERVICE**

## HEATING & COOLING

Furnaces • Boilers • Gas • Oil • HVAC

Service & Installation  
**978-346-4216**  
DavidHeating.com  
Merrimac, MA



# BROWN'S

## Seabrook Lobster Pound

*"A New England Favorite Since 1950"*

Boiled Lobster \* Steamed Clams  
Fried & Baked Seafood \* Sandwiches

Open Every Day from  
Apr 1st - Nov 15th  
Open Fri, Sat, Sun & Holidays  
Nov 15th - Apr 1st

Route 286, Seabrook Beach, NH  
**603-474-3331**  
Call Ahead Take Out

# TIDE CHART

JAY'S PAINTING • INTERIOR SPECIALISTS  
35 YEARS EXPERIENCE W/ REFERENCES  
NEAT, CLEAN & RELIABLE!  
LOCAL • FREE ESTIMATES  
**978-314-0140**

Date		High				Low				Rise	Set	Moon
		AM	ft	PM	ft	AM	ft	PM	ft			
1	Tue	4:28	8.3	5:03	7.9	10:49	0.4	11:14	1.0	5:07	8:27	☾
2	Wed	5:20	7.8	5:53	7.9	11:38	0.7			5:07	8:27	☾
3	Thu	6:14	7.4	6:43	7.9	12:09	1.1	12:27	1.0	5:08	8:26	☾
4	Fri	7:09	7.1	7:34	7.9	1:04	1.2	1:18	1.3	5:09	8:26	☾
5	Sat	8:05	6.9	8:25	7.9	2:00	1.1	2:09	1.5	5:09	8:26	☾
6	Sun	8:59	6.8	9:15	8.0	2:54	1.0	2:59	1.6	5:10	8:25	☾
7	Mon	9:50	6.8	10:02	8.2	3:45	0.9	3:47	1.6	5:11	8:25	☾

## Amesbury Fire Responds after Child is Struck by Waste Collection Vehicle

AMESBURY — Fire Chief James Nolan reports that the Amesbury Fire Department responded after a young child was struck by a trash truck that was collecting curbside waste in the city.

Amesbury Fire and Police responded to the intersection of California Street and California Lane at 8:52 a.m. on Tuesday, June 24, for a report of a person struck by a vehicle. Upon arrival, rescuers located a 9-year-old boy who was suffering from serious injuries.

The boy was conscious and alert and was able to communicate with rescuers. Amesbury Fire Advanced Life Support ambulance transported the boy to Portsmouth Regional Hospital where he was last reported to be in stable condition. The boy is expected to be transferred to a Boston hospital for treatment of his injuries.

The driver, operating a vehicle from G. Mello Disposal Corp., remained at the scene and cooperated with authorities.

The incident is under investigation by the Amesbury Police and Fire Departments with assistance from the Massachusetts State Police Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Section and State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Section. ♦



### Celtic Masonry

978-701-1919  
celticmasonry.net

- \* Construction
- \* Repairs
- \* Restoration

**James Bresnahan**  
25 Year Journeyman  
James.Bresnahan@gmail.com

### MINI-AD BIG IMPACT!

Find Your Customers!

**\$20!**  
advertise@thetowncommon.com



## PORT GUTTERS

- \* Custom seamless aluminum & copper gutters
- \* Residential & commercial jobs
- \* 16 aluminum colors



Call for a free quote  
(978) 465-1844

Follow us on Instagram  
@portgutters

45 Main Street Salisbury, MA  
**portgutters.com**



## SALISBURY BEACH THIS WEEKEND

**JULY 3rd**

**Pre 4th of July Beach party -  
7:15 - 10 PM**

**JULY 4th:**

**PET PARADE Starts at 6 p.m.**

**JULY 4th:**

**Fourth of July Concert  
featuring Ft. Billy D & the  
Rock-Its: 7:30 - 10 PM**

**JULY 5th:**

**Music: Scott Brown and the  
Diplomats 7:30 - 10 PM  
FIREWORKS SHOW**

**10:15 - 10:35 PM**

**JULY 6 : LIVE MUSIC**

**Performers on the Go  
6 - 8:30 PM**

## Summer Concert on the Rowley Library Lawn

The Rowley Public Library is offering a Summer Concert Series: live family-friendly music events Wednesday evenings in the month of July. Bring a blanket or chair and relax on their beautiful front lawn while enjoying great local musicians. Free frozen treats will be provided.

Wednesday, July 2, 6:30PM: The Paul Speidel Jazz Quintet (jazz)

Wednesday, July 9, 6:30PM: Ask Alice (rock)

Wednesday, July 16, 6:30PM: Rooster Sauce (pop and rock classics)

Wednesday, July 23, 6:30PM: Stomp N' Holler (country/country rock)

Get more information on these events and more at [www.rowleylibrary.org/calendar](http://www.rowleylibrary.org/calendar), or call 978-948-2850. In case of inclement weather, the events will be held indoors. The Rowley Library is located at 141 Main St. in Rowley.

## Georgetown: Resident and Small Business Community Yard Sale

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/Flea Market.

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

Join others and pass along your past treasures or other items for sale at the Knights of Columbus Community House and Grounds in Georgetown.

Reserve your spot today: Contact Lonnie Brennan at [Lonnie@justlonnie.com](mailto:Lonnie@justlonnie.com) or call 978-609-4183. A \$20 donation to the Knights of Columbus per family, business, or organization is requested.

Visit  
**The Town Common**  
[www.thetowncommon.com](http://www.thetowncommon.com)

## Nicholas George

Mr. Nicholas "Nick" George, a cherished patriarch, and decorated war hero, passed away peacefully on June 22, 2025, at the age of 96 in Beverly, Massachusetts. Born in Peabody, MA, on November 13, 1928, Nick's journey through life was marked by courage, dedication, and a profound love for his family and community.

A proud graduate of Ipswich High School, Nick's early life set the stage for a man who would always strive for excellence. His commitment to his country was unwavering, as evidenced by his valiant service during the Korean War. As a Gunnery Sergeant in the Marines, Nick not only served with honor but also earned the prestigious Purple Heart, a testament to his bravery and sacrifice. His exceptional skills as a sharpshooter were renowned, and his military legacy remains an inspiration to all who knew him.

After his distinguished military career, Nick transitioned to civilian life with the same sense of duty and excellence. He dedicated 25 years of service to the United Shoe Machine Corporation, where his colleagues respected him for his reliability and strong work ethic. Nick's interests reached far beyond his professional endeavors; he was a talented carpenter, a passion that he often shared with those around him. His craftsmanship was not only a hobby but a way of life, leaving a tangible legacy in the homes and hearts of his loved ones.

Nick's involvement in Greek life and his local church community was a central aspect of his life. He found great joy in the fellowship and service these communities provided, and his contributions to them were significant. His commitment to faith and culture was a cornerstone of his identity, and it brought him immense fulfillment throughout his life.

Family was the heart of Nick's world. He was predeceased by his beloved wife of 44 years, Elizabeth "Betty", whose memory he held dear until his final days. He leaves behind a loving family including his son Brian George and wife Jodie; his grandchildren, Elizabeth George, Courtney Poirier and husband Scott, Mark George and wife Liz, Kate Chiu and husband Jason, and Maggie Cullen and husband Pat; and his cherished great-grandchildren. He was also predeceased by his son Robert George and grandson Matthew George. Nick's long-time friend, Lana Doucette, will fondly remember the joy and companionship they shared.

Those who knew Nick would describe him as handy, courageous, and endlessly interesting. His stories and experiences were as captivating as they were educational, leaving listeners in awe of the life he led. Nick's presence was a gift to all, and his absence will be deeply felt.

In a life so richly lived, Nick embodied the words of Helen Keller: "Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all." Indeed, his life was an adventure of the most extraordinary kind, filled with love, bravery, and an indomitable spirit that will continue to guide and inspire his family for generations to come.

Mr. Nicholas George's life will be celebrated with full military honors, as befits a man of his stature and service. His story - one of resilience, devotion, and unyielding strength - will be remembered and cherished forever.

Calling Hours were held at the F. S. Roberts & Son Funeral Home in Rowley, Mass. Interment followed at Rowley Burial Ground in Rowley, Mass.

In lieu of flowers, donation pledges in Nicholas' memory may be made to Town of Rowley Veterans Committee.

To light a memorial candle or to leave a message of condolence, please visit [www.fsrobertsandson.com](http://www.fsrobertsandson.com).

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

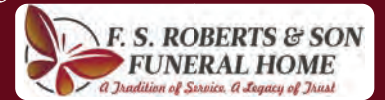


**BUYING**  
**COINS • GOLD • SILVER**  
**978-561-1893**  
**TOPSFIELD COIN & JEWELRY, LLC**  
**PCGS** **NGC** Numismatic Guaranty Corporation AUTHORIZED DEALER  
Topsfield Village Shopping Center  
30 Main St., Topsfield, Mass.

21 YEARS OF COMMUNITY NEWS  
**The Town Common**

**The Town Common**  
**LOYAL ADVERTISERS WITH LOYAL CUSTOMERS**  
[advertise@TheTownCommon.com](mailto:advertise@TheTownCommon.com) 978-255-3015

*Caring, Compassionate, Dignified  
Service when you need it most.*



**We Offer:**

- Personalized and Traditional Funerals
- Cremations • Graveside Services
- Memorial Services
- Advance Planning Options

**Jeffrey E. Megna, CFSP**

Licensed Funeral Director/Embalmer (Type 3), Owner

14 Independent St., Rowley, MA  
[www.fsrobertsandson.com](http://www.fsrobertsandson.com)  
[office@fsrobertsandson.com](mailto:office@fsrobertsandson.com)  
**978-948-7763**

**THE TOBACCO SHACK**  
**ROWLEY, MA**  
**COMFORTABLE SMOKING LOUNGE WITH WI FI**  
**WIDE VARIETY OF NEW CIGAR PRODUCTS**  
**PREMIUM CIGARS AND ACCESSORIES**  
**WE ARE NOW A PROUD RETAILER OF**  
**THE BLACK BOTTLE BEARD CO PRODUCTS**  
**PLUS YOUR FAVORITE TEAMS ON OUR BIG SCREEN**  
162 Newburyport Turnpike,  
Rte 1, Rowley  
Next to Agawam Diner  
**978-948-2417**

 **M Café**  
*On the Ipswich/Rowley line at 330 High Street*  
**OPEN DAILY!**  
**NOW SERVING**  
**COFFEE, TEA, PASTRIES, SWEETS**  
**SMOOTHIES, SANDWICHES**  
**AND ICE COLD BEVERAGES**  
*Check us out on instagram - @m.cafeandbistro*

## Pike Marine Wolfeboro Boats Classic 15

**Powered by Mercury outboards**

**GET 7 YEARS**  
**FACTORY-BACKED COVERAGE**  
When you purchase a new 2.5-400hp Mercury Outboard. Now through 7/10.  
  
 **MERCURY**  
**GO BOLDLY.\***

**Pike Marine**  
**MAKING WAVES**

**80 Main St., Essex, MA**  
**978-768-7161**  
[www.pikemarine.com](http://www.pikemarine.com)



## CONCOM

Continued from page 1

ing should have been postponed. Reasonable time was not provided.”

Asked how he would like to fix the problem, Stampfier said the SelectBoard should redo the meeting on July 14 and post the agenda 48 hours before including the Zoom link. That would mean taking the vote on Candia and other applicants for the ConCom again.

In the meeting last week, SelectBoard member Laura Repplier recused herself from voting on the three ConCom vacancies and left the meeting to wait in Town Administrator Orlando Pacheco's office where she watched the vote on the Community TV channel.

When asked by the Town Common why she was not voting on the appointments, Repplier, a former member of the ConCom, declined to say. Asked again by email several days later, she did not respond.

Her recusal left the board with only four voting members, who were sharply divided.

A town's SelectBoard does not decide who serves as chair of its boards and commissions. For Georgetown, the ConCom elects its own chair, which in his response to the Town Common a few days later he admitted he understood.

During the meeting, SelectBoard member Rachel Bancroft, who serves as vice chair of the ConCom, explained that boards and commissions, not the Selectboard, choose their chair.

Hoover asked Candia the same question three times -- if she would resign as the ConCom chair. She told him that the election of the chair is determined by the board or commission.

In his response to the Town Common a few days after the meeting, Hoover wrote: “Never once did Chris take full responsibility for her answer and tell me what she thought, divorced from anything else. Her answer was always qualified. At first it appeared like Chris was avoiding answering my question by saying, ‘the future is always open.’”

Hoover had told Candia in advance of the meeting that he would vote for

her reappointment, according to sources close to the proceedings

“All Chris had to do was answer my question by saying – yes I would consider giving up the chair. I suspect she thought she did. For me, she did not. That is why I voted no,” Hoover wrote.

He voted to oust her with Doug Dawes and Donahoe, two frequent critics of the ConCom.

Dawes and Donahoe opposed reappointing Candia because of past Open Meeting Law violations, which were filed by a lone Georgetown resident and have since been resolved with the Attorney General. Dawes also said he had heard several years ago that developers

and other companies felt they were not treated fairly in their applications to the ConCom.

Dawes, a Realtor, and Donahoe, a bank officer, have expressed support for more development in Georgetown. LaMonica, who was elected to the ConCom on a three-to-one vote.

Two other applicants for the ConCom did not get three votes. They included Debra Erickson, a music industry executive, who moved to Georgetown several years ago and got involved in the consideration by town boards of G. Mello Corporation's construction of a 500-ton transfer station.

Also rejected was David Twiss, a

former SelectBoard member and a bank commercial loan officer. He was defeated by a vote of two to two with Hoover and Bancroft voting no. Twiss argued that he could use his experience in town government to remedy issues like Open Meeting Violations.

Dawes and Donahoe wanted to bring up an on-going ConCom case on Lakeshore Drive, but were barred from discussing it because it was heard in executive session and the minutes have not been released to the public. ♦

## An Open Letter to the Georgetown SelectBoard

**GEORGETOWN** – Amy Graf-fum, a member of the Conservation Commission, sent this letter to the SelectBoard, complaining about SelectBoard member Michael Donahue's threat to file charges against fellow board member Rachel Bancroft. SelectBoard Chair Robert Hoover read this letter into the record.

Donahue told the SelectBoard he still planned to file the charges against Bancroft with the attorney general, but had not because he had been asked to meet with the police chief first.

“Dear Select Board members, I am writing this to share my concern regards to what happened at the last board meeting on June 9th.

“Mike Donahue utilizing his new position as a board member to threaten to bring charges against a fellow board member is not only an (Open Meeting Law) violation, as it was not on the agenda, but it was an abuse of the position he holds on the select board.

“Regardless of how Mr. Donahue feels about the actions of his fellow board member, during a select board meeting was not the appropriate time, place or way to go about doing what he did.

“Mr. Donahue's rant should not have been allowed to continue as it was harassing and off-topic.

“I have great hopes for this Select Board with its mix of old and new ideas and experiences and I understand there is a learning curve when people step into new rolls – but this indiscretion must be addressed, publicly (as it occurred publicly), as behavior such as this is not legal by Massachusetts General Laws, Open Meeting regulations and it perpetuates the tone of negativity and in-fighting that has become prevalent amongst the Georgetown Boards and Commissions.”

Graf-fum added: “Also Rachel Bancroft should be allowed to serve as the chair of the Conservation Commission should the ConCom wish it so – OR Mike Donahue should immediately step down as chair of the Parks and Rec Commission.”

Town Administrator Orlando Pacheco said it is his understanding that a member of the SelectBoard can also serve as chair of another board or commission as long as another member is appointed to sign all documents. Donahue told the SelectBoard the Parks and Recreation Commission voted last week to follow that advice. ♦



From Left: Selectmen Chair Robert Hoover, Doug Dawes, and Mike Donahue

## Georgetown SelectBoard Chairman Hoover In His Own Words

By Stewart Lytle, Reporter

**GEORGETOWN** – After hearing from several residents about the way SelectBoard Chair Robert Hoover voted on reappointing Conservation Commission Chair Chris Candia, we asked him for a more in-depth explanation.

Here is his response:

“I'm not surprised people questioned my vote. I get that and support their opinion. I voted no because of Chris Candia's answer. Her answer is the reason why I voted no. When you watch the video of our meeting beginning at 41:38, I clearly ask Chris, more than once, if she would consider, not commit, but consider giving up the chair to any new appointee.

“I never mentioned Daryle's name. In fact, at that point in the meeting, we didn't even know who would be appointed. We hadn't conducted

any other interviews. Further, my only reference about the other candidates was “if qualified” and “over a period of time.”

“In my view, never once did Chris take full responsibility for her answer and tell me what she thought, divorced from anything else. Her answer was always qualified. At first it appeared like Chris was avoiding answering my question by saying, ‘the future is always open.’ This was repeated not once, but twice more. I asked the same question and she gave me the same answer. Fast forward to the end of my questioning. I asked once more the same question. Chris replied, “that's up to the commission.”

“All Chris had to do was answer my question by saying – yes I would consider giving up the chair. I suspect she thought she did. For me, she did not. That is why I voted no.” ♦

## PUTTING IT IN PERSPECTIVE - PART 1

### Editor's Notes on the Lastest SelectBoard / Conservation Commission Interactions

**'Clearly the room was stacked:**

**Candia vs. Repplier/Pacheco, Dawes, Donahue, LaMonica, and Twiss, and then Hoover.'**

**GEORGETOWN** – After reading the nearby articles regarding the recent Georgetown SelectBoard's interactions with the Conservation Commission, I felt it warranted to provide the casual reader with a bit of additional context. Some behind-the-scenes notes.

First, we have never witnessed a chair of the board of selectmen reaching down into an appointed board and asking the chair of that board to consider

giving up his or her position during a re-appointment cycle.

Chris Candia has served as the chair of the ConCom for less than a year, (voted in by her fellow ConCom members at their meeting of July 18, 2024 following the sudden resignation of the prior chair, Rebecca Chane).

As Ms. Candia sat before the select-board last week for re-appointment

Continued on page 5



For Direction Only a Lawyer Can Provide...  
...Call Attorney Steven Merritt

- Family Law
- Criminal Law
- Restraining Orders
- Bankruptcy
- Contempt of Court
- Landlord/Tenant
- Civil Litigation
- Special Education Law

Creative and winning solutions stem from life experience

Free Consultation! 978-973-9400

**DAVID** 24 HR. SERVICE  
HEATING & COOLING

Furnaces • Boilers • Gas • Oil • HVAC

Service & Installation

978-346-4216

DavidHeating.com

Merrimac, MA

SAVE \$350 when you transform your patio into an outdoor oasis.



- Instant shade—at the touch of a button.
- Enjoy more quality time with family and friends.
- Up to 10-Year Limited Warranty.



Call 1-866-461-1203 now to  
SAVE \$350 TODAY!

America's #1 Awning!



Upcoming Events

AMESBURY

July 3rd Chamber Summer Series Live Muisic @ Upper Millyard, 6-8 p.m.  
July 4th Fireworks at Woodsom Farm , events from 5:30 - 10 PM

BOXFORD

July 4th Road Race. Registration closes at 7:30 am SHARP to guarantee an on-time race start at 8:00 a.m.. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MA/Boxford/BoxfordJuly4thRoadRace>

GEORGETOWN

Knights of Columbus Yard Sale / Flea Market for all. Saturday, July 26, 9am - 2 p.m. The Kennedy Building Association of the KofC buildings and grounds at 87 E. Main Street adjacent to the Georgetown Building Supply invites all residents and small businesses to display items for sale. Some tables will be available but folks are urged to also bring their own. A suggested donation is \$20 per family/business. Reserve your spot today by messaging Lonnie Brennan at 978-609-4183 (cell/text) or 978-352-5449.

IPSWICH

Dow Summer Arts Program - Tues-Thurs 10 am - 12 p.m. JULY! [www.ipswichmuseum.com](http://www.ipswichmuseum.com).

CASTLE HILL PICNIC CONCERTS  
The 2025 Castle Hill Picnic Concerts:

Thursday, July 10 Entrain (World Music)  
Wednesday July 16 Fortune (Classic Rock)  
Castle Hill on the Crane Estate, 290 Argilla Rd., Ipswich

Thursdays, June 26 – August 28 (excluding July 3), and Wednesdays, July 16 & 23, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Gates open at 5:00 p.m. for picnicking.

Tickets may be purchased online in advance or at the gate (if still available). \$40/car or \$30/car for Trustees Members. [www.thetrustees.org/concerts](http://www.thetrustees.org/concerts) or 978.356.4351 for more information.

NEWBURYPORT

Firehouse Center for the Arts - Legally Blonde the Musical, Friday, July 8 from 7 - 9 p.m., Sat. July 5, 2 - 4 pm and 7-9 pm., and running through July 18. Tickets/info: [firehouse.org](http://firehouse.org)



Maudslay Arts Center - Newburyport's premiere venue for music and special events  
BOX OFFICE: 978-499-0050, Saturday, July 12: Jorgan Trio+, a powerhouse of Hammond organ jazz, blending deep grooves, fiery improvisation, and infectious energy. Featuring the soulful saxophone of

Henley Douglas Jr., the rich textures of Jordan Gravel on organ, the tight driving rhythms of Patrick Gaulin on drums, and the dynamic guitar work of Christopher...

RYE, NH

A Tenor's Broadway Tribute and Ice Cream Social  
Sunday, July 13 - 3 to 5 p.m.  
St. Theresa Parish Center  
815 Central Road, Rye, NH

Tickets: \$20 per person or \$125 for table of seven. Cash or checks made payable to TTS or Venmo Mike-8F.

Talented artists will perform selections from

Broadway's best loved musicals, a three tenor tribute, songs of inspiration and more!

The event is open to the public and all are welcome. Concert goers will be treated to an "Ice Cream Social" at intermission.

For more information, call or text Mike Fay at (978) 476-6053 or email [coachmikfay@gmail.com](mailto:coachmikfay@gmail.com).

Your Listing!

Add your organization's event to our calendar.

Send details to:

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

Caring, Compassionate, Dignified Service when you need it most.



14 Independent St., Rowley, MA  
[www.fsrobertsandson.com](http://www.fsrobertsandson.com)  
[office@fsrobertsandson.com](mailto:office@fsrobertsandson.com)  
978-948-7763



We Offer:

- Personalized and Traditional Funerals
- Cremations
- Graveside Services
- Memorial Services
- Advance Planning Options

Jeffrey E. Megna, CFSP

Licensed Funeral Director/Embalmer (Type 3), Owner

PRICED-RIGHT JUNK REMOVAL

617-504-0045

[PricedRightJunkRemoval@gmail.com](mailto:PricedRightJunkRemoval@gmail.com)

Commercial & Residential

Editor's Notes (Part 1)

Continued from page 4

to the voluntary position of ConCom member, we witnessed Selectwoman Laura Repplier abruptly leave the room stating she would not be participating in the voting.

When questioned a few minutes later as she sat downstairs at the town administrator's desk, watching the live meeting taking place upstairs through live-Zoom on a large monitor, she twice politely declined to share any comment/reason for her unusual, pre-planned departure and non-participation. (Later, in a comment to the board, the town administrator tipped that Repplier had watched the meeting from downstairs. Something presumably no one in the room with the exception of The Town Common was aware of, or admitted pre-knowledge of - as there had been no visible interaction between Repplier and the town admin. at the meeting, yet his live feed was on, and his office accessible to her.)

When questioned after the meeting, the selectboard chair stated he had no pre-knowledge of the Repplier/town admin. actions. This marks two meetings now for the new selectboard chair-

man, and each time a member has blindsided him (see prior editions of The Town Common).

As Repplier sat downstairs watching the selectboard's meeting in a room that is typically locked/secured during meetings, upstairs Ms. Candia was peppered by Selectman Doug Dawes then Michael Donahue who each criticized the ConCom extensively, Dawes repeatedly going back six years in time.

Meanwhile, immediate past-chair of the board of selectmen, Daryle LaMonica sat 'on-deck' - about three feet to the right of Ms. Candia, awaiting his turn to be appointed to the ConCom (which in itself was interesting, as for three years on the board of selectmen he exhibited little interest in saving trees, wetlands, and wetland creatures.)

In this context, Selectman Hoover began his repeated questioning, asking Ms. Candia to consider stepping down in the near future from her less than one-year-long chair role. An informal poll of some attendees post-meeting confirmed they all interpreted Hoover's and the town administrator's actions as either an intentional heavy-handed or unintentional way for the selectboard to impose solid pro-developer control the ConCom. ♦

HELP WANTED - GREAT ADVERTISING PERSON NEEDED!  
ARE YOU THE RIGHT PERSON? WE NEED YOU!!!

- ☐ I'm busy raising a family and have limited time to work.
- ☐ I'm retired. I could use a little extra income, but keep in mind, I'm retired.
- ☐ I just got out of school, and need to get some income going, and experience.
- ☐ I have all the time in the world.
- ☐ I only have an hour a day, 3 days/week.
- ☐ Selling advertising? Yes. Love to! I'm a pro. Let's TALK!

The Town Common

Account Managers set their own hours, work when they want, where they want, and earn a generous commission. They help bring loyal customers to good businesses. They care about quality, details, being responsive, communicating. If you check any of the boxes above and are interested, contact us. (Hint, See Page 2 listing.)

Join us for a Free Kids VBS Camp  
At New Life Community Church  
186 E Main Street,  
Georgetown, MA 01833



JULY 14 -18 2025

9am to 3pm

For kids entering K thru 6th Grade  
Lunch and snacks provided

Register here:



Check us out on Facebook  
@NewLifeNewEngland



Increase Revenue Today!  
Bring your web presence up to code with fresh designs, ads, and more.

Start Creating.  
[refreshstudio.com](http://refreshstudio.com)

Web Development • Web Hosting  
Social Media Marketing • Web Design  
SEM / Pay Per Click Marketing  
Search Engine Optimization (SEO)  
Logo Design • Print Design

Bradley Maravalli  
Owner / Developer  
978-500-9369

SPONSOR A COMMUNITY PAGE!  
[CONTACT\\_LONNIE@THETOWNCOMMON.COM](mailto:CONTACT_LONNIE@THETOWNCOMMON.COM)



The Town Common  
is the friendly place  
to find new customers.

The affordable solution  
for your legal notices,  
and ads for businesses  
and groups  
of all sizes.

Call 978-255-3015  
advertise@thetowncommon.com

BY  
HENRY BOLTHOFF

HOCUS-FOCUS

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

BY  
DAVE T. PHIPPS

Just Like Cats & Dogs

Differences: 1. Word on sign is different. 2. Door is different. 3. Wheel is larger. 4. Box in window is moved. 5. Building is not as wide. 6. That is different.

BY  
JEFF PICKERING

GIN LIAR IT

# Super Crossword

## "YOU'RE FREE TO GO"

**ACROSS**

1 Magic's org.  
4 — about (close to)  
8 Wounded by a bee  
13 Tennis player Stefan  
19 Loc. of Las Vegas  
20 — Reader (eclectic digest)  
21 Tinfoil maker  
22 Cat helping with extermination  
23 Start of a riddle  
27 Difficult duty  
28 Syrup source  
29 "Is it —?" ("Are we on?")  
30 Karmann — (classic Volkswagen)  
31 Riddle, part 2  
35 Antipollution org.  
36 Looks keenly  
37 Preceding night  
38 Ended a fast  
39 Flower part  
41 Hepburn of "Sabrina"  
42 Town crier's cry  
44 Exits quickly, informally  
46 Seniors' gp.

48 Riddle, part 3  
55 Process unit  
58 Android rival  
59 On the briny  
60 Tiny amount  
61 Riddle, part 4  
67 Certain male physique, informally  
69 Month, in Madrid  
70 Cheers for a torero  
71 Lofty poem  
72 Former Swedish car  
74 Shiba — (dog breed)  
75 Clever  
77 Riddle, part 5  
80 Actress and singer  
81 Formerly, old-style  
84 "Candyman" director  
DaCosta  
85 "Ah, OK"  
86 Riddle, part 6  
93 Liability  
94 — a Preacher Man  
95 Alou who played in the 1997 World Series  
99 Power to evoke pity  
103 Mexican of old

105 Neither Rep. nor Dem.  
106 B&B, e.g.  
107 Computer printer brand  
108 Citi Field stat  
109 End of the riddle  
113 Kin of Kong  
114 Like the flesh of an orange  
116 Life sketch, in brief  
117 Folk tales  
118 Riddle's answer  
124 De-intensify  
125 Cinematic swordsman  
126 Two squared  
127 Shapiro of NPR  
128 Unearth, with "up"  
129 Sabers' relatives  
130 Cries noisily  
131 IRS digits

6 Infant's garment  
7 A daughter of King Lear  
8 Pronounce  
9 "Dr. Pimple Popper" airer  
10 Coll. near Beverly Hills  
11 "Beats me"  
12 Strategies  
13 German painter Nolde  
14 Put on, as a garment  
15 Irked  
16 Book read during Purim  
17 Employ again  
18 Oil-covered  
24 Habited sister  
25 Rival of FedEx  
26 Sheep's call  
31 Ho-hum  
32 "Up and —!"  
33 "Puh-leeze!"  
34 Not sick  
36 Insect stage  
40 "Gangnam Style" rapper  
41 Naval fleets  
43 Absorbed  
44 E-journals  
45 To boot  
47 The "13" of PG-13, e.g.  
49 Official helper  
50 Swimming star Thorpe

51 Prefix with life  
52 — strip (geometric curiosity)  
53 Right away  
54 Winona of the Green Party  
55 Fr. resort port near Nantes  
56 Oscar winner Charlize  
57 Neighbor of Montebello, Calif.  
62 The Astros, on scoreboards  
63 States as fact  
64 Little 'un  
65 NFL stats  
66 "So icky!"  
68 Targets of sit-ups  
72 Catch the scent of  
73 Petri dish gel  
76 Distant  
77 "— be great if ..."  
78 Inside dope  
79 — torch (luau light)  
82 Abbr. for three primary colors  
83 Light on fire  
87 Thick Japanese noodle  
88 Winter hrs. in Kansas

89 Movie magnate Marcus  
90 Foot fraction  
91 Prefix with potent  
92 People who pamper  
96 El Capitan's range  
97 Makes precious  
98 — Balls (snack brand)  
99 Rang, as a church bell  
100 Come into view  
101 Sub-Saharan bloodsucker  
102 Was the emcee for  
104 Like some sealable bags  
105 "Same here"  
108 — elbows with  
110 Blood-typing letters  
111 Little quarrels  
112 Ad — committee  
114 — Le Pew  
115 Time past  
119 Embrace  
120 Suffix with script  
121 How- — (DIY books)  
122 Central point  
123 Gibson liquor

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19			20					21				22						
23			24				25					26						
	27					28				29				30				
31				32				33	34		35			36				
37				38				39		40			41					
42			43			44	45				46	47						
			48			49					50			51	52	53	54	
55	56	57				58					59			60				
61				62	63			64	65	66			67	68				
69				70				71				72	73			74		
75			76					77				78			79			
80						81	82	83				84			85			
86				87					88	89	90		91	92				
				93					94				95			96	97	98
99	100	101	102				103	104					105			106		
107						108					109		110	111		112		
113						114					115			116		117		
118				119							120	121			122			123
124							125							126			127	
128							129									130		131

by Dave T. Phipps

WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR DINNER?

by Jeff Pickering

A CAKE WITH A FILE IN IT.

by Gary Kopervas

NEW AND OLD PAYMENT METHODS...

by Dave T. Phipps

UGH, I'M SO TIRED OF EATING FIELD GRASS EVERY DAY. WHAT I'D GIVE FOR A TACO.

by Bud Blake

LOOKIT, TIGER, FROM AN OAK TREE

# Salome's Stars

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) You feel ready to face a major change, although it might involve some risks. A once-dubious family member comes around and offers support and encouragement.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Move forward with your plans, despite discouraging words from those who underestimate the Bovine's strong will. Your keen instincts will guide you well.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) A misunderstanding is easily cleared up. Then go ahead and enjoy some fun and games this week! Meanwhile, a Libra might have ideas that merit serious consideration for the future.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) You might feel as if you're in an emotional pressure cooker, but the situation is about to change in your favor. Take time out for some well-earned fun!

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) A shift in your workplace responsibilities creates resentment among some co-workers. Deal with it before it becomes a threat to your success on the job.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Expect some surprises in what you thought was one of your typically well-planned schedules. Deal with them, then enjoy some lighthearted entertainment.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Be careful: What appears to be a solid financial opportunity might have some hidden risks attached. In addition, a hazy personal matter needs to be cleared up.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) It's a good time to strengthen ties with family and friends. In other news, you might feel unsure about a recent workplace decision, but time will prove that you did the right thing.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Just when you thought your relationship was comfortable and even predictable, your partner or spouse could spring a potentially life-changing surprise on you.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Your usually generous self is overshadowed by your equally strong suspicious nature. You might be judging things too harshly. Keep an open mind.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Love and romance dominate the week. Married Aquarians enjoy domestic harmony, while singles could soon be welcoming overtures from loving Leos.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) An old health problem recurs, but it is soon dealt with, leaving you eager to get back into the swing of things. Also, a favorable travel period starts this week.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have an independent spirit that resists being told what to do. But you're also wise enough to appreciate good advice when you receive it.

©2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.









Last week's patriot parade in Newburyport - the Old North Church signaling Paul Revere (Photo by Stewart Lytle)

**MINI-AD  
BIG IMPACT!**  
Find Your Customers!  
**\$20!**  
advertise@thetowncommon.com

**CLASSIFIED AD -  
Sell a Boat.  
Announce a Yard Sale!  
Find your new customer!**  
**\$10/week 4 WEEKS FOR \$30!**  
advertise@thetowncommon.com

**Parish Road, Georgetown Ask about special financing offer**



**Jason Grzybek** REALTOR®  
**Paul Herrick** REALTOR®  
**HERRICK LUTTS**  
Realty Partners  
office: 978-927-1959 mobile: 978-430-2881  
website: herricklutts.com

**IPSWICH BEVERAGE**

**WINE SPECIALS**  
10% off 6 bottles  
15% off 12 bottles  
Josh WHITE 2 for \$24  
Josh RED 2 for \$26\*

Jack Daniel 1.75L \$40.99  
Evan Williams 1.75L \$26.99  
Jameson 1.75L \$48.99  
Jim Beam 1.75L \$28.99  
Bacardi 1.75L \$21.99  
Kettle One - 1.75 L \$30.99  
Grey Goose 1.75L \$44.99  
Absolut 1.75L \$27.99

\*(excluding some offerings)

**146 HIGH STREET - IPSWICH**  
**978-356-4322**



pi-lit

**James Selevan, M.D.**  
CEO  
Office: +1.949.415.9411  
jim@pi-lit.com  
www.pi-lit.com

**PRICED-RIGHT  
JUNK REMOVAL**

**617-504-0045**

PricedRightJunkRemoval@gmail.com

Commercial & Residential

**DAVID**  
HEATING & COOLING  
**HELP WANTED: 2 POSITIONS**

**HVAC SERVICE TECH**  
3 YEARS EXPERIENCE

**OIL BURNER TECH**  
WITH MASS. OIL LICENSE  
3 YEARS EXPERIENCE

\$40-50 / hr. TOP WAGES TOP BENEFITS  
**978-346-4216 Merrimac, Mass.**  
DavidHeatingandCooling@gmail.com  
*You've Worked for the Rest, Now Work with the Best*

★ **FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE** ★

**JUNK**  
JUNK BABY!  
Unbeatable Junk Removal

**978-810-8424 | junkjunkbaby.com**

★★★★★  
North Shore's Best! Five Star Rating! Fully Insured. Single Item to Full House Cleanout

**A Help Button Should  
Go Where You Go!**



**OUR BEST OFFER EVER!**  
From **\$19.95\*** /month

**GET OUR SPECIAL OFFER NOW:**

- ✓ FREE EXPEDITED SHIPPING\*
- ✓ FREE ONE MONTH SERVICE\*
- ✓ 50% OFF AUTO FALL DETECT\*
- ✓ plus FREE EQUIPMENT TO USE!

**MobileHelp** **1-855-960-5564**


MHPM-01045 Rev. 1  
BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS  
\*For a limited time - promotions available for select systems and subscription plans, please call for specific details. Offers are valid for new customers and for the first year of service and cannot be combined with any other offers. \$19.95 is the monthly subscription price for a MobileHelp Classic (at home and on the go) system available at a higher monthly cost. Most equipment is included at no cost while actively subscribing and must be returned upon cancellation. Free one month of service offer valid with purchase of Annual plan and includes month 13 at no additional charge. Refer to terms and conditions for specific details. Depending on the promotion chosen, you may receive an additional savings of \$5.50 off the \$11 retail price of Fall Detection service. After first year, Fall Detect pricing reverts to discounted price of \$8.25/month when combined with MobileHelp Connect Premium. Fall Detection does not detect 100% of falls. If able, users should push their help button when they need assistance. Fall detection is not intended to replace a caregiver. MobileHelp is a registered trademark, patented technology. Current GPS location may not always be available in every situation on the cellular network at all times. Expedited shipping offer is for Annual plans made prior to 3 PM EST Mon-Fri. Expedited shipping is standard 2-day - no deliveries on Saturdays/Sundays or to Hawaii or Alaska. Shipping delays may occur due to situations beyond our control.  
PF-SPAD0505111658



**SIGNS-BY DOUG**

**L.E.D. SIGNS  
AWNINGS • BANNERS  
CARVED SIGNS  
BOAT/TRUCK LETTERING**

**(978)463-2222**



**HELP WANTED**

**One Good, Solid  
Commissioned Part-Time Contracted Advertising  
Account Manager**

**PERFECT JOB TO FILL  
A FEW HOURS A WEEK - OR WORK FULL-TIME!**

**The Town Common**

Account Managers set their own hours, work when they want, where they want, and earn a generous commission.

Contact us today at **978-255-3015**