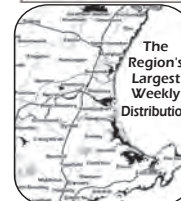


Local News Means the World to Us...

The Town Common

LARGEST DISTRIBUTION ACROSS THE NORTH SHORE OF MA & COASTAL NH

Post-50c
U.S. Postage
PAID
North Attleboro, MA
Permit No. 51
Postnet Customer



www.thetowncommon.com

Wednesday, May 13, 2026 - Vol. 22, No. 29

FREE



Cecilia (Photo provided by the band)

Belleville Brings Back Cecilia

By Stewart Lytle, Sr. Reporter

NEWBURYPORT – If you are looking for an evening of Celtic music that lifts you with its blend of jazz, swing and classical influences, plan now to spend Saturday night with Cécilia at the Belleville Congregational Church for its next roots concert.

Recognized as three of Canada's finest musicians, Cécilia's Timi Turmel,

Erin Leahy and Louis Schryer honor their shared heritage with high-spirited sound.

"It is a delight to witness how much joy they take in playing together. It's a sound that feels both deeply rooted and refreshingly new, like a centuries-old reel that suddenly learned how to dance in a Paris café," the Belleville news release states.

A favorite at last year's Lowell Folk

Continued on page 4



The burned back half of the historic home at 7 Lower Green. (Photo by Stewart Lytle)

Newbury Historic Home Damaged by Fire

By Stewart Lytle, Sr. Reporter

NEWBURY – A few days before the town of Newbury designated the small neighborhood surrounding the Lower Green as a historic district, the back rooms of one of the new district's most prominent historic homes were damaged by a fire.

On April 30, the Newbury Fire Department, assisted by several North Shore fire crews, extinguished the fire quickly in the 18th century home at 7 Lower Green. The state Fire Marshall is not expected to rule the offi-

Continued on page 4



WE HONOR TROOPER KEVIN TRAINOR

Like so many churches, businesses, and residents, *The Town Common* and the extended *Town Common* contributors pause to honor the life and service of Mass. State Police Trooper Kevin Trainor. May his family find comfort.



Store Shout-Out: Cumberland Farms Ipswich

Johnathan Jodoin (L) and Andy Homas (R), manager of Cumberland Farms Ipswich display a recent copy of *The Town Common* which they make available to customers. Drop by say "Hey, I saw you in *The Town Common*!"

(Photo by Julianne DeSantis)



Amesbury Student Earns Bishop Fenwick Student-Athlete Award

Congratulations are extended to Bishop Fenwick High School Student-Athlete of the Month for March: Senior Brittney Figulski, Basketball from Amesbury.

Brittney is a Senior three-sport athlete and a captain of Fenwick's 2026 State Championship basketball team. Starting all 25 games this season, Brit-

Continued on page 4



At meeting one hour before Town Meeting, Selectman Mike Donahue introduces motion to hold future meeting to discuss actions/policy. (Town Common Photo)

Georgetown TA's Extensive Outside Work Questioned

By Stewart Lytle, Sr. Reporter

GEORGETOWN – For years, some visitors to town hall and present and past town employees have recounted incidents where they heard Town Administrator Orlando Pacheco brag that he used his salary as what they called his "play money."

This week, the SelectBoard was scheduled to meet at Town Hall to

consider accusations that Pacheco has violated terms of his Georgetown contract by working for the town of Shirley and possibly a private employer, Inovia Energy.

The SelectBoard is also being asked to review the administrator's decision to hire a law firm without board approval and to review Inovia's contracts with the town.

Continued on page 7

Going to an event in your community?
Share your photos with The Town
Common. We love to print your photos!



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

**REACH BEYOND
YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD.**

www.TheTownCommon.com
978-255-3015
editor@TheTownCommon.com

Advertising

**Reserve Your
Space/Size by
7 P.M. each Thursday
with Final Copy by
Sat. Noon**

advertise@thetowncommon.com
(978) 255-3015

Nate Allard - Sales Consultant
978-270-5219

Julianne DeSantis - Account Mgr.
978-626-7443

Brenda Ernst - Account Mgr.
978-810-5078

How to Submit Content to the Editor:

Send your organization or
group notices, birth or engage-
ment announcements, photos, arti-
cles, and Letters to the Editor (limit
250 words, and include a telephone
number for verification) to:

editor@thetowncommon.com

Or postal service:

The Town Common
9 Hamilton Terrace
Georgetown, MA 01833

Publisher/Editor
Lonnie Brennan

Lonnie@thetowncommon.com

Marc Maravalli, B.S., R.Ph.

Founder/Publisher/Editor 2004 - 2024
Advisory Board Member: 2024 - present

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 2004-2026 The Town Common® Broadside Communications -
All Rights Reserved

Ipswich Fire Dept. Receives \$9,326 Grant

IPSWICH - The Ipswich Fire Department will provide proven fire safety lessons and resources to both students and seniors this year thanks to \$9,326 in state grant funding.

Ipswich Fire will receive a \$6,381 grant to fund the SAFE program, and a \$2,945 grant to fund the Senior SAFE program from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The SAFE program teaches students fire and life safety, with protection education lessons that increase in complexity with each grade level. The program teaches students to recognize the dangers of fire, and the fire hazards of tobacco products through 23 key fire safety behaviors. Since it began in 1995, the program has been linked to a 79% decrease in child fire fatalities.

Senior SAFE is a similar program that aims to reduce fire-related deaths among senior residents. Fire and life safety programs are shared at senior centers and councils on aging, and at home visits, and can include services like smoke and carbon monoxide alarm replacement, fall prevention education, and more.

Grant funds will be used in Ipswich to supply equipment, workbooks, training and wages for the SAFE program, and equipment, smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms, training and wages for the Senior SAFE program.

**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 **Route 286, Seabrook Beach, NH** *Call Ahead*
Open Fri, Sat, Sun & Holidays **603-474-3331** *Take Out*
Nov 15th - Apr 1st

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			
13 Wed	9:10	7.9	9:33	8.6	3:02	0.7	3:20	0.7	5:22	7:57	☾
14 Thu	10:02	8.1	10:20	9.1	3:54	0.2	4:08	0.5	5:21	7:58	☾
15 Fri	10:53	8.2	11:07	9.6	4:44	-0.3	4:55	0.3	5:20	7:59	☾
16 Sat	11:43	8.4	11:56	9.9	5:34	-0.8	5:43	0.2	5:19	8:00	☾
17 Sun			12:34	8.4	6:25	-1.1	6:32	0.1	5:18	8:01	☾
18 Mon	12:46	10.1	1:25	8.4	7:16	-1.2	7:23	0.1	5:17	8:02	☾
19 Tue	1:37	10.2	2:18	8.4	8:08	-1.2	8:16	0.2	5:16	8:03	☾
20 Wed	2:31	10.0	3:12	8.3	9:02	-1.0	9:13	0.3	5:15	8:04	☾

YOUNG'S
PLUMBING • HEATING • AC
Licensed & Insured **978-535-4888**
www.youngsplumbingma.com

**REACH BEYOND
YOUR TOWN.
LET THEM SEE YOU IN...**

The Town Common
Come Home to Community News
advertise@TheTownCommon.com **This ad: \$49**

Groveland Garden Club - Plant Sale Sat. May 16

GROVELAND - The Groveland Garden Club invites you to their Annual Plant Sale to be held at The Little Red Schoolhouse, located at the corner of Broad and Main Street in Groveland, on Saturday, May 16, from 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon!

**The Friends of the Newbury Town Library
in Byfield Plant Sale, Sat. May 16**

BYFIELD - The Friends of the Newbury Town Library is hosting a Plant Sale on Saturday, May 16, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the library, 0 Lunt St., Byfield.

The fundraiser typically attract hundreds of plant enthusiasts and gardeners. Drop by to check out the hundreds of plants that are available for sale - and support the library at the same time.

For those rearranging or thinning out gardens for the spring, please consider donating plants to the sale. The Friends are looking for donations of perennials, annuals, vegetables, herbs, fruit plant and small shrubs. Donations will be accepted May 13-15.

Donations can also be dropped off prior to the sale on May 16, at 8 a.m. at the library, or can be picked up by volunteers by contacting friendsofnewburytownlibrary@gmail.com.

Georgetown Peabody Library

SATURDAY, MAY 16 at 10 AM Hands-on Pruning Workshop

Join Instructor Jennifer Kettell, consulting arborist from Radiant Leaf Pruning, for a hands-on workshop on pruning using the bushes in the landscape at the library. Flowering shrubs can be a bit more complicated than pruning trees. When shrubs have been improperly pruned or just left to their own devices, they begin to resemble what we refer to as "The Green Helmet." Learn how to avoid The Green Helmet and maintain shrubs' natural habits with selective and timely pruning.

Registration required - limited to 15 people. Register at www.georgetownpl.org/events

SATURDAY, MAY 16 at 11 AM Author Visit by Elizabeth de Veer

Please join us as Georgetown local Elizabeth de Veer discusses her newest novel, The Blazekeeper of Bowmore House.

Wildwood Books will providing copies of her latest novel for the occasion! Elizabeth's first novel The Ocean in Winter, was published by Blackstone Publishing in 2021. The Blazekeeper of Bowmore House was released in March 2026 by Sea Crow Press. Elizabeth encourages readers to follow her on social media to make sure they have all the latest news and updates.

West Newbury GOP Meets Wed. May 20th 7 PM

Please join us at the Merrimac Brewing Company on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 7 PM for a WNRTC Meeting and Social. Please bring your friends.

Beer on tap from the best brewer in town. Donations to the West Newbury Republican Town Committee for the room are greatly appreciated. Merrimac Brewing Company, on the second floor of the Carriage House building in the back of 12 Maple Street, West Newbury, MA. For more info, call Rich Baker at 978-257-4101.

MOVING SALE/GARAGE SALE SAT. MAY 16th

RAIN OR SHINE:

10 AM THRU 3 PM, 3 Larkspurk Circle, GEORGETOWN

What are we selling? If it's not listed here "we probably don't got it." We do have a good variety of "stuff."

BEDROOM STUFF: A one-year-old DELUXE KING SIZE BED (sadly we must part with it because we are downsizing and must move to a smaller home). Your head can be moved to your most comfortable position and utilize any of 3 massage settings. No more struggling to clean under the bed because there are 6 storage drawers that extend down to the floor.

LIVING ROOM/DINING ROOM /KITCHEN STUFF: 6 piece including 3 recliners, sofa set, dining room set with 6 chairs, and 2 additional leafs, kitchen tables and chairs, dishes, plates, pots and pans, wine rack, large mirror, TV tray tables.

AROUND THE HOUSE STUFF: Glass door hutch with cabinet base, 4 deluxe folding chairs, 6 metal folding chairs, card tables, leg exercisor (pedal machine), vases, 2 desks.

OUTSIDE AND GARGE STUFF: Folding lounge chair, camp chairs, grocery carrier, coolers, storage utility cabinet, hammock.

DON'T FORGET - To be on the time is too late, but to arrive too early you have to wait! (just saying)

FRANK BERTOLINO



FrankHomeTeam@gmail.com

978.255.4735 office - 978.270.0365 mobile



Opening the Georgetown food bank are from left: Tracey Friedman, Joanne Kimball, Kyle Lemire, Kristin Crockett, Greg Ezell and Christine Candia. (Photo provided by ONT)

Our Neighbor's Table Opens New Food Bank in Georgetown

By Stewart Lytle, Sr. Reporter

GEORGETOWN – Our Neighbors' Table (ONT) has opened its fourth free integrated market in partnership with the Georgetown Council on Aging, providing more healthy food for residents struggling with food insecurity.

The Georgetown market is open Mondays and Wednesdays and is available to anyone in Georgetown and neighboring communities, not just seniors. The partnership with ONT allows the pantry to source its food directly from it through the Greater Boston Food Bank with weekly deliveries.

"To make sure no one is slipping through the cracks and going without enough nutrition, it's important we provide multiple layers of access to the food they need," said ONT Executive Director Tracey Friedman. "Working with food provider partners like First Parish Newbury Food Pantry, Nourishing the North Shore and the Georgetown Council on Aging, residents of Georgetown and surrounding communities now have several options to access the food they need."

Our Neighbors' Table's grocery program serves an average of about 2,000 people across 12 communities in Northern Essex County every week, providing access to fresh foods like milk, eggs, meats and fresh produce.

Residents of these communities are eligible to shop at ONT's free grocery markets in Amesbury and Salisbury once per week. ONT also supplies fresh food to "integrated markets" at senior centers in Groveland, Merrimac, Salisbury and now Georgetown,

giving older residents easier access to groceries to supplement their food budgets.

The Georgetown market is the result of two years of planning and advocacy on the part of Georgetown COA executive director Kristin Crockett. The pantry includes a new refrigerator to store fresh foods and added storage space.

Our Neighbors' Table is a regional food access organization committed

to establishing a community that provides for the whole person with nourishing food, kindness and dignity. Founded in 1992 in the parish hall of a church in Amesbury, Mass., Our Neighbors' Table today provides more than 1 million meals each year. It currently operates a warehouse and free grocery market in Salisbury, a second free market in Amesbury, a weekly Community Meal in Amesbury and

Continued on page 4

Special Extended Deadline
The Town Common
 GET YOUR AD SPACE RESERVED BY THIS FRIDAY FOR NEXT WEEK'S EDITION!
 Advertise@TheTownCommon.com

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



F. S. ROBERTS & SON FUNERAL HOME
A Tradition of Service. A Legacy of Trust

We Offer:

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

14 Independent St., Rowley, MA
 www.fsrobertsandson.com
 office@fsrobertsandson.com
978-948-7763

Jeffrey E. Megna, CFSP
 Licensed Funeral Director/Embalmer (Type 3), Owner

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




PORT GUTTERS

**On-site Custom Fabrication and Installation of 5" & 6" Seamless Gutters*
**Aluminum & Copper Gutters*
**Leaf Screen Installations*
 Call for a free Quote
978-465-1844
 Located in Salisbury, MA
 follow us @portgutters | www.portgutters.com
 Custom gutters, precise installs, zero stress

MERCURY®
REPOWER PROMOTION!



BUY a 50-150 HP outboard engine and receive Repower Financing as low as 4.99% for 60 months (for qualified consumers) **OR**

BUY a 50-115 HP outboard engine and receive a FREE Lowrance 9" Elite FS 9 with Active Imaging 3 in 1 — a \$1,099 value! **OR**

BUY a 150 HP outboard engine and receive a FREE Lowrance 10" HDS PRO 10 with Active Imaging HD — a \$2,399 value!

Pike Marine
 MAKING WAVES

Backorders do not qualify. Offer good through May 30, 2026.

80 Main Street, Essex • 978 768 7161
 www.pikemarine.com

New England Intellectual Property

Helping inventors obtain patents for 25 years. Call Rich Baker
 978-257-4101
 www.newenglanip.com

The Town Common
 Fall in love with local news...
 LARGEST DISTRIBUTION ACROSS THE NORTH SHORE OF MA & COASTAL NH

NEWBURY FIRE

Continued from page 1

cial cause of the fire for another week, but Newbury Chief Dave Evans said it appeared to have been started by an overheated machine.

Evans said the crews arrived quickly and contained the fire. The house was empty and no one was hurt, Evans said. There appears to be a lot of smoke damage, but the front rooms, the original home, were not burned, and the crews tried not to cause damage by water and broken windows, he said.

The house was sold in January by Realtor Casey Peicott with Keller Williams Evolution to new owners from western Massachusetts, who were among six bidders for the house, listed at \$950,000. The new owners are living in Newburyport while renovations

were being made, including newly stained flooring.

The Newbury commission to oversee the new district, which was approved on a vote of 188 to 19 only on Tuesday night, has not yet been formed.

Built originally in 1728, as the Seddon Tavern that served locals and guests traveling between Boston and Portsmouth, NH, the 2,356-square-foot home once sat in the path of what today is State Rte. 1A.

Then owner Florence Bushee, a conservationist and philanthropist who was the daughter of a Boston banker, moved the house in 1933 to its current site facing the Lower Green, which has one of the nation's last remaining single-room schoolhouses.

In her 50-plus years in Newbury, Bushee dedicated herself to preservation. In addition to renovating this

home, she also renovated the 1715 Dole-Little House, and she donated more than 200 acres of the estate to the Trustees of Reservations to create Old Town Hill, a 3-mile network of trails near her home on Newman Road.

The fire was not the house's first. Portions of it burned in the 1940s, and Bushee hired restoration carpenter, Roy Baker, who rebuilt Sudbury's Wayside Inn for industrialist Henry Ford.

Adjacent to the house, just minutes from the Parker River, is the Newman Farm Pasture, which was donated to the Greenbelt, after local residents raised \$500,000 to keep it from being developed.

The previous owners, Dr. and Ms. Gerald Minton, who purchased the house in 2004, disassembled a building that housed a barrel maker shop in

South Berwick, ME, and reassembled it as an addition to the house, complete with original flooring and stairs.

It was the area where the two structures joined that the fire occurred, Evans said.

In addition to the protections provided by the new historic district, the home is subject to restrictions enhanced by covenants with The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

Assisting the Newbury Fire Department were fire crews from Amesbury, Newburyport, Salisbury, Georgetown and Rowley, as well as Cataldo Ambulance. The Groveland, Ipswich and West Newbury departments provided station coverage and responded to two medical emergencies, Chief Evans said. National Grid was on scene to assist in the shut-off of electricity to the home. ♦

AMESBURY STUDENT-ATHLETE

Continued from page 1

they established herself as one of the top defenders in the state while serving as a steady and respected leader. In the classroom, she has earned either President's or Principal's List honors every marking period since ninth grade while taking a rigorous schedule of AP and Honors courses. Brittney previously attended IC Newburyport and will continue her academic and athletic journey at Clemson University this fall.

Student Athlete awards are presented to students who are committed, hardworking, and inspiring, and an example for their peers both academically and athletically.

NEW GEORGETOWN FOOD BANK

Continued from page 3

the Seacoast Regional Food Hub, a developing project to improve capture and distribution of food to providers in 17 communities across the Lower Merrimack Valley. Learn more at ourneighborstable.org.

Cutline: Opening the Georgetown food bank are from left: Tracey Friedman, Joanne Kimball, Kyle Lemire, Kristin Crockett, Greg Ezell and Christine Candia.

NEWBURYPORT CELIA

Continued from page 1

Festival, Cécilia features a remarkable interplay of instruments and voices, with accordions and violins, piano and foot percussion.

"What sets Cécilia apart is their fearless musical curiosity," the Belleville release states. "A traditional French-Canadian tune might slip seamlessly into a jazzy improvisation, then pivot into a swing rhythm that feels straight out of a smoky Montreal club. Just when you think you know where the music is headed, they take a joyful turn—and invite you along for the ride!"

As part of the Belleville Church 501(c)(3) organization, Belleville Roots Music depends upon the generosity of both the local business community and individuals to help us bring these artists to Newburyport and to keep ticket prices affordable. All proceeds benefit the maintenance and restoration of the historic buildings. Your tax-deductible sponsorship or contributions will help ensure that it continues this tradition.

Donations at any level can be made by mailing a tax-deductible donation to: Belleville Roots Music Series, 300 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950. For more info about Belleville Roots, visit bellevilleroots.org or email at bellevilleroots@gmail.com

WANTED TO BUY



A ranch-style home in Newbury or Rowley in any condition.

Will pay fair market price

"as is" without the need for any repairs nor improvements. Not an agent, not a gimmick.

Call/Text: 978-432-9669



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

New Office
15 Friend Street
Amesbury, MA
(Near Barking Dog Rest.)
(978) 792-8101

Free Consultation! 978-792-8101

Calvin E. Cockman

Calvin E. Cockman, 79, passed away on Thursday, April 30, 2026.

He was the husband of Suzanne (Stankus) Cockman.

Calvin was born in Salina, Kansas on March 18, 1947. He was the son of the late Willie and Eva (Goens) Cockman. He was employed as a line worker in the food service industry. Calvin was also a supervisor of the Recycling Center in Rowley.

He was a United States Navy Veteran of the Vietnam War. Calvin enjoyed fishing and attending Red Sox games with his granddaughter.

Besides his wife, he is survived by three daughters, Christine (Cockman) Clogston and husband John, Stephanie Cockman, Caren Cockman, a son, Scott Cockman, a brother, John Cockman, beloved granddaughters, Alicia and Haylee Clogston. He was predeceased by two sisters, Vernia Carley and Elizabeth Cockman.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend a graveside service on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 11:00 a.m., at Rowley Burial Ground, Main Street, Rowley.

In lieu of flowers memorial gifts may be given to Living Faith United Methodist Church, 31 North Main Street, Ipswich, MA 01938.

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 ~



DEATH NOTICES The loss of loved ones in our communities, compiled exclusively for The Town Common by Michelle Leininger.

Name	City/State Live	Funeral Home
Mass. State Trooper Kevin Trainor	Georgetown/Salem, MA	Wake to be held at St. James Church, Salem, MA on Wed.
Margaret E. "Maggie" Beals	Danvers, MA	CR Lyons & Sons Funeral Directors, Danvers, 978-777-7900
Michael C. DiDonato	Beverly, MA	Campbell Funeral Home Beverly, 978-922-1113
Donald J. Killam	Wenham, MA	
Donald W. Lambert	Beverly, MA	
Guy Zaccone	Georgetown, MA	Conte-Giamberardino Funeral Home, Georgetown, 978-352-8700
Maria D. Alexandrou	Peabody, MA	Conway Cahill-Brodeur Funeral Home, Peabody, 978-531-0472
Robert Alfred LeBrun	Peabody, MA	
Kathleen C. Madruga	Dracut, MA	
Julio P. Carones	Peabody, MA	
Captain Richard M. Bettencourt Sr. (Ret.)	Peabody, MA	
Margaret A. "Peggy" Brewer	Peabody, MA	
Frank A. Moschetto	Haverhill, MA	Driscoll Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Haverhill, 978-374-0000
Hanna A. (Sakovich) Bukhouka	Haverhill, MA	H.L. Farmer & Sons Funeral Home, Haverhill, 978-372-9311
Stanley "Stan" Joseph Wegryn, Jr.	Ipswich, MA	Morris Funeral Home, Salem, 978-744-0497
Stephen Edward Woodbury	Topsfield, MA	O'Donnell Funeral Home, Danvers, 978-744-6600
Beverly Elaine Degan	North Hampton, NH	Remick & Gendron Funeral Home, Hampton, NH, 603-926-6500

SHORE presents

THE ARMED MAN: A MASS FOR PEACE

Karl Jenkins
conducted by **Abigail Frost**
with the **PRESTO! FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA**

SATURDAY, JUNE 13
7:00 PM

SUNDAY, JUNE 14
2:00 PM

DOLAN PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
IPSWICH, MA

ACCOMPANYING VIDEO INCLUDES WAR IMAGERY THAT SOME VIEWERS MAY FIND UNSETTLING.

GENERAL ADMISSION \$18
REDUCED TICKET PRICES FOR THIS CONCERT THROUGH DONOR GENEROSITY

CHORUSNORTHSHORE.ORG

REACH BEYOND YOUR TOWN. HAVE YOUR AD SEEN IN

The Town Common
Come Home to Community News

GEORGETOWN QUESTIONS

Continued from page 1

Selectman Mike Donahue last week presented the board and The Town Common with more than 50 emails between Pacheco and Shirley town officials regarding green energy projects that the administrator appears to have been working on for Shirley. Most of the emails sent to town and state officials about the projects were during office hours.

Donahue's conclusion from a review of the emails was "there is a clear and overwhelming pattern of non-compliance as he was conducting outside business during Georgetown business hours."

Pacheco, who has been Georgetown's town administrator since Jan. 10, 2020, did not respond to Donahue's accusation, saying only that anyone could file a complaint with the Massachusetts State Ethics Commission. In response from The Town Common, he wrote that he would address Donahue's accusations with the board when they meet.

It is not clear how the SelectBoard, as newly constituted after the election this week, will view Donahue's accusations.

The package of emails shows that Pacheco's first email was sent on Sept. 15, 2024 and continued until April 8, 2026. Virtually all of the emails initiated by Pacheco were during office hours.

Shirley's deputy town administrator Logan Bries, who appears to be Pacheco's primary point of contact, did not respond to an emailed question from this newspaper, asking for details of Shirley's contract with Pacheco.

Pacheco's employment contract with Georgetown requires that he devote his full time to the "effort and attention to the business of the Town of Georgetown will not engage in any other business during office hours, except with the express written approval of the (Select)Board."

The Town Common reported in 2023 that the SelectBoard had approved Pacheco working as a consultant for the city of Haverhill, but only on Fridays when Georgetown Town Hall is closed. It is unknown if he also received approval from the SelectBoard to work for Shirley, where he had been a consultant.

His consulting for Shirley involved the Green Communities Competitive Grant support (application revisions, submissions, errors, meetings, award follow-up, post-award planning with net metering/on-bill repayment), building audits, and energy efficiency projects.

The emails from Pacheco to Shirley town officials included town administrator Bryan Sawyer and Bries. They also included Kelly Brown, the central regional coordinator for the state Department of Energy Resources (DOER), and Andres Correa, energy manager for several towns, including Groton, Harvard, Ayer and Shirley. Georgetown is in the DOER north-east region.

There were also emails to Gabriel Andreson, president of Inovis Energy, and employees of National Grid.

Pacheco is paid a salary of \$165,000 a year by Georgetown and has standard vacation and sick leave.

The minutes of the Shirley SelectBoard meeting on the Feb. 24, 2024, report that Sawyer praised "energy consultant Orlando Pacheco" for finding "a potentially advantageous electric rate contract for town offices," the town minutes state.

"The agreement proposes securing the rate at 0.1224, effective until February and spanning just under a three-year term (2028). (SelectBoard chair) Brian Hildebrand queried the nature of Pacheco's engagement and compensation. Mr. Sawyer explained that while Pacheco is not personally remunerated by the town, his service charges are inclusive within the contract frameworks.

"Consequently, Brian Hildebrand moved to empower Bryan Sawyer, as town administrator, to negotiate and finalize the contract with Orlando Pacheco, ensuring optimal electric rate benefits for the Town of Shirley. (Board Clerk) Debra Flagg fully seconded this proposal."

The minutes do not specify how much Pacheco's service charge in this agreement is. However, in a similar electricity aggregation agreement,

Pacheco signed on behalf of the town of Shirley, the consultant's compensation was 0.001 per kilowatt hour purchased by participating residents of the town. Its population in 2020 was 7,400 residents.

In multiple emails between Pacheco and Bries, on Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024 at 9:32 a.m., 9:43 a.m., 2:57 p.m., 3:24 p.m., 3:57 p.m. and 4:26 p.m. Pacheco advised that in the town's submission for a Green Communities grant, there was a \$5,000 administrative cost. He instructed a staff person, named Jane, to "re-open the portal or notify Kelly Brown."

On Monday, Oct. 21, 2024 at 8:35 a.m., 8:40 a.m. and 9:46 p.m. an email to Bries (Re: Submission error/Grant), he wrote: "Clarified the additional \$5K was administrative costs; confirmed correct total - \$137,580; verified updated/revised documents sent."

Pacheco often responded to issues on the same day and acts as liaison across town staff, state agencies and contractors. He also consistently followed up on errors, eligibilities, market risks and grant compliance.

The SelectBoard may also be asked to consider Pacheco's relationship

Continued on page 8

LEGAL NOTICE

ROWLEY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

A public hearing will be held on Wednesday, **May 20, 2026 at 7:00 PM** to act on an application received **April 15, 2026** from **Nelson Mendoza**. Applicant(s) is requesting a **Special Permit for a Home Occupation**. The property is located at **75 Glen Street** in the **Outlying** district and is shown on **Assessors' Map 21, Parcel 12**. The meeting will be held at Town Hall, 139 Main St in the second-floor auditorium. 5/6, 5/13

BOXFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

You are hereby notified that a **Public Hearing** will be held by Zoom videoconference on **May 21, 2026** at 7:00 or such other time when posted to consider the **Request for Determination of Applicability** by applicant **Tim Hooker** for the property located at: **15 Azalea Way, Boxford: Map 25, Block 4, Lot 7.6, to approve a vegetation management plan within 100' feet to Wetland Resource Area.**

The Zoom videoconference information will be posted on the Town website in advance of the meeting. This is a joint meeting under the requirements of MGL Ch. 131, Sect. 40, as amended, and Boxford's Wetlands Protection Bylaw and Regulations. To view application materials, call (978) 887-6000, ext. 506.

For the Commission,
Ross Povenmire, Director of Conservation

5/13

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Coady's Towing Service 139 Marston Street, Lawrence, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L.c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell or junk the following vehicles on or after **May 21, 2026 starting at 10:00 am** by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

- 2008 Acura TSX JH4CL96808C012339
- 2011 Audi S5 WAUCVAFR1BA052547
- 2019 Chevy Equinox 3GNAXHEV8KS681739
- 1990 Chevy GMT-400 1GCDK14K5LE249348
- 2007 Dodge Ram 1D7HU18257S164366
- 1996 Honda Accord 1HGCD5638TA133721
- 2011 Honda Pilot 5FNYP4H57BB015270
- 2007 Honda Fit JHMGD386X7S017642
- 2003 Honda Accord JHMCM56303C034148
- 2002 Honda CRV JHLRD78872C075555
- 2004 Honda Civic 2HGES16524H580153
- 2008 Honda Accord 1HGCP26708A085860
- 2012 Hyundai Sonata 5NPEC4AB4CH445174
- 2006 Jeep G. Cherokee 1J4HR58N76C114312
- 2011 Mazda 6 1YVHZ8BH8B5M07090
- 2014 Mercedes C300 WDDGF8AB7EA939813
- 2016 Mitsubishi Outlander JA4AD3A32GZ017031
- 2011 Nissan Maxima 1N4AA5AP4BC842230
- 2015 Toyota Avalon 4T1BK1EB9FU138829

Vehicles are being stored at Coady's Towing Service and may be viewed by appointment only.

Signed
Coady's Towing Service

4/29, 5/6, 5/13

GEORGETOWN PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is given that the Planning Board shall hold a Public Hearing in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40A, Section 11, and the provisions of **Article XIII – Special Permits and Site Plan Review, as further provided in §165-83** of the Town of Georgetown Zoning Bylaws and **Ch. 57 Erosion and Stormwater Control**. The Public Hearing will be for both a Stormwater Permit and Site Plan Approval for redevelopment of a single-family home to create new mixed-use buildings at **55 West Main Street, Town Assessor's Map 6C-168** in Zoning District CA.

This public hearing shall be held remotely on **Wednesday, 27 MAY 2026 at 7:30 P.M.**, in accordance with the Executive Order waiving certain provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A, sec. 20 during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was extended to JUNE 30, 2027 by action of the General Court and signed by Gov. Healey. Interested persons are invited to participate in the above-cited hearing, via computer, tablet, smartphone by connecting to the following:

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89823016032> Meeting ID: 89823 016032
Passcode: 371535

The above-cited remote meeting connection information will be included on the 27 MAY 2026 meeting agenda, which will be posted on the Town of Georgetown website no less than 48 hours prior to the meeting. Further, the meeting will be broadcast live on the Georgetown Local Access Cable TV. Video recordings of this meeting, and all Georgetown Planning Board meetings may be found at www.georgetownma.gov by choosing Cable TV option. Full and complete copies of the above-cited Site Plan application, together with the associated Plans, are available upon request by emailing the Town Planner at FOConnor@GeorgetownMA.gov or by clicking here: https://georgetownma.gov/government/boards___commissions/planning_board/index.php#outer-5136

Any person interested in being heard on this application needs to appear at the time and place designated, herein. Please note that written correspondence will be accepted and read into the record of the hearing if it were received before Noon on the day of the hearing. Persons needing special accommodations may send an eMail to FOConnor@GeorgetownMA.gov

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

5/6, 5/13

GEORGETOWN PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is given that the Planning Board shall hold a Public Hearing in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40A, Section 11, and the provisions of **Article VI – Groundwater Protection District, as further provided in §165-39 & §165-40** of the Town of Georgetown Zoning Bylaws and **Ch. 57 Erosion and Stormwater Control**. The Public Hearing will be for both a Stormwater Permit and Site Plan Approval for redevelopment of a single-family home to create new mixed-use buildings at **430 Andover Street, Town Assessor's Map 1-1 & 1-2A** in Zoning District RC.

This public hearing shall be held remotely on **Wednesday, 27 MAY 2026 at 7:25 P.M.**, in accordance with the Executive Order waiving certain provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A, sec. 20 during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was extended to JUNE 30, 2027 by action of the General Court and signed by Gov. Healey. Interested persons are invited to participate in the above-cited hearing, via computer, tablet, smartphone by connecting to the following:

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89823016032> Meeting ID: 89823 016032
Passcode: 371535

The above-cited remote meeting connection information will be included on the 27 MAY 2026 meeting agenda, which will be posted on the Town of Georgetown website no less than 48 hours prior to the meeting. Further, the meeting will be broadcast live on the Georgetown Local Access Cable TV. Video recordings of this meeting, and all Georgetown Planning Board meetings may be found at www.georgetownma.gov by choosing Cable TV option. Full and complete copies of the above-cited Site Plan application, together with the associated Plans, are available upon request by emailing the Town Planner at FOConnor@GeorgetownMA.gov or by clicking here: https://georgetownma.gov/government/boards___commissions/planning_board/index.php#outer-5136

Any person interested in being heard on this application needs to appear at the time and place designated, herein. Please note that written correspondence will be accepted and read into the record of the hearing if it were received before Noon on the day of the hearing. Persons needing special accommodations may send an eMail to FOConnor@GeorgetownMA.gov

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

5/13, (5/20)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Trombly Bros., Inc. of 141-153 Sutton Street North Andover, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L.c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after **May 21, 2026 beginning at 10:00 am** by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keeper's lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale. Vehicles are being stored at Trombly Bros., Inc.

1. 2017 Land Rover Discovery VIN SALCR2BG1HH662040
2. 2016 Audi A4 VIN WAUBFAFL5GN001928

Signed,
Mark Trombly
Trombly Bro., Inc. 4/29, 5/6, 5/13

GEORGETOWN QUESTIONS

Continued from page 7

with Inovis Energy and its contracts in Georgetown that involved lighting projects and the installation of a dozen electrical vehicle chargers in town.

Mark McClellan, Inovis' vice president for marketing, wrote that it has completed several projects with Georgetown that he said has saved the town about \$65,000 annually. The projects include lighting projects at two schools and a heat pump upgrade at the Perley Elementary. In addition, we have installed a total of 12 public electric vehicle charging stations at three locations.

"Orlando has been our main point of contact for these projects, with the Town of Georgetown being our customer. National Grid introduced us to Orlando several years ago as we are a contractor for National Grid. Orlando does not work for us, nor has he been paid anything for selecting us to complete this work."

Donahue initially made his accusations about Pacheco's outside employment at a SelectBoard meeting on May 4 to discuss the upcoming Town Meeting in a small conference room at the Middle/High School.

Donahue made his motion for the board to investigate Pacheco for working during office hours for Shirley at Georgetown Town Hall. The motion, made before the SelectBoard meeting was officially opened, failed for lack of a second. After member Rachel Therrien told chair Robert Hoover that the

meeting was not yet open, Hoover opened the meeting and began discussing items on the warrant for the upcoming Town Meeting. [Editor's Note: Donahue asked if the chair would like him to re-introduce his motion, and was told "no."]

There was no discussion of Donahue's accusations against the Town Administrator.

Donahue also has asked the Board to investigate Pacheco's hiring of a law firm without approval of the SelectBoard. Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lahane was hired to render an opinion on whether the administrator can fire employees without approval of the

SelectBoard.

The firm of K&P Law has been Georgetown's law firm on retainer for years. Pacheco told The Town Common he hired Murphy, Hesse because of its expertise.

Donahue pointed out that Murphy, Hesse was hired by the Georgetown School Department as its attorney around the time it rendered the opinion to Pacheco.

Pacheco has not made public the opinion he received, but recently fired the town's conservation agent, Michele Grenier, without consulting the SelectBoard or the Conservation Commission, which hired her. ♦

**Pelvic Floor + Orthopedic Rehab
+ Dry Needling + Cupping**



THE MOVEMENT SOLUTION

978 693 5672
TheMovementSolutionPT.com

RESERVE YOUR AD SPACE!
Reach the Region
advertise@thetowncommon.com

The Town Common 2026 - 2027 Publisher's Club of supporters of this paper

PUBLISHER'S CLUB \$1,000 or more
The Aulson Family - Georgetown, MA
Frank Bertolino - The North Shore Realty Group - eXp Realty
Lonnie Brennan - Georgetown, MA

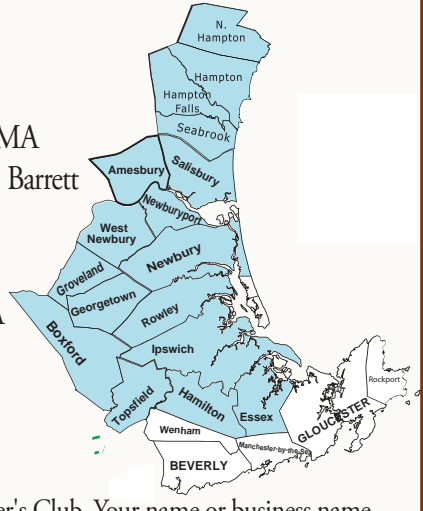
COMMUNITY NEWS HERO \$500 or more
Rich Baker - West Newbury, MA

MEDIA PATRIOT \$250 or more
Your Name Here

BENEFACTOR \$100 or more
Anonymous - Georgetown, MA
Beth Gandelman - Realtor, J. Barrett
Deb Tyler - Rowley, MA

SPONSOR \$50 or more
James Gage - Amesbury, MA

NEWSIE \$25 or more
Brian Leahy - Georgetown, MA



Join the 2026-2027 Publisher's Club. Your name or business name published in 52+ editions from date of joining. See form on page 7.

The Town Common
www.thetowncommon.com

REFRESH
A DIGITAL AGENCY

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

Start Creating.
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

**Better Shelves.
Custom Solutions.**

Say goodbye to clutter and frustration—wherever it lives. From kitchens and pantries to bathrooms and laundry rooms, **ShelfGenie® custom pull-out shelves** bring smart, accessible storage to every space in your home.

FREE EXPERT DESIGN CONSULTATION
A \$250 VALUE

ShelfGenie®
EVERYTHING WITHIN REACH™
a neighborly company



Schedule Now by Calling
1-844-807-0030

© 2025 ShelfGenie SPC LLC. All rights reserved. Locally owned and operated franchise. Offer valid at participating locations only. Limit one offer per household. *Applies to Classic and Designer line. EXP 6/30/2026. HIC # 212231.

AULSON ROOFING
Est. 1974

978-975-4500
AULSONROOFING.COM