

Another glorious week of...

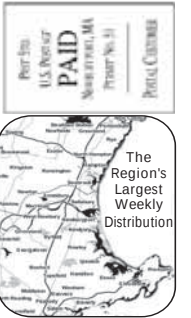
The Town Common

LARGEST DISTRIBUTION ACROSS THE NORTH SHORE OF MA & COASTAL NH

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Wednesday, July 29, 2026 - Vol. 22, No. 40

FREE



Olivia Riley before the performance DREAMCOAT last week. (Photo by Stewart Lytle)

North Shore Musical Theater Opens Doors for Future Stars

By Stewart Lytle, Sr. Reporter

REGIONAL – Olivia Riley caught the acting bug at Amesbury Middle School, when she performed in *The Little Mermaid*, the school musical. She sings in its choir and plays the trumpet in the school band.

This summer she got an extraordinary opportunity to be a cast mem-

ber in the North Shore Music Theater's production of *JOSEPH AND THE TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT*. The sixth grader is one of 24 young people from the North Shore who make up the choir and are on stage at the award-winning theater for about one-third of the show and sing off-stage for the rest of the show.

She auditioned for the chance

and heard from the professional staff about a week later that she was selected. She and the other chosen performers rehearsed at the theater for two months before joining the professionals for another week of rehearsals.

"The best part is getting to work with the professionals," Riley said. "I am so lucky."

Parks and Recreation and Highway Department Work Together to Deliver Interim Swimming and Fishing Docks at American Legion Park

GEORGETOWN — Georgetown Parks and Recreation Commission Chair Mike Donahue announced this week that an interim solution is now in place at American Legion Park on Pentucket Pond, restoring usable public docks for both swimming and fishing.

Parks and Recreation Commission successfully worked with Peter Durkee and the Georgetown Highway Department in combining sections of the existing older docks with the newly purchased smaller docks to create sep-

arate, functional areas for swimmers and anglers. The interim configuration went into effect this past week.

"I want to publicly thank Peter Durkee and the entire Highway Department for their practical expertise and willingness to roll up their sleeves," said Donahue. "Peter's knowledge of the materials, measurements, and on-the-ground conditions made it possible to put together a safe, usable solution quickly and at minimal

Continued on page 2

Groveland News: Valley Screw Part 2



By Mike Dempsey

Last year we featured a story about the former Valley Manufacturing Products facility at 64 Washington Street known locally as Valley Screw. The facility stopped production in the 1990's and eventually was abandoned.

The company still owns the site and building. The site and surrounding properties were the subject of a Superfund cleanup by the Environmental Protection Agency. As we reported, the owners of the company allowed hazard-

ous waste and organic chemicals to be regularly dumped into the ground rather than be disposed of properly. These actions risked the health of nearby residents. Part One of our story ended when the EPA took over the cleanup. In 1982 the EPA placed the site on its National Priorities List and later designated the area as a Superfund Site. What happened after 1982 and what is going on now?

According to EPA documents, in late 1987 and early 1988, the company used a small groundwater treatment system to remove contaminants from soil at the Valley Screw property, however, these systems were ineffective. The EPA later designed

Continued on page 8

Feds May Help River Sewage Problem

By Stewart Lytle, Sr. Reporter

REGIONAL – After years of banging on crumbling sewer pipes to get Washington's attention about the sewage in the Merrimack River, the disaster this month of dumping millions of gallons a day of raw sewage into the river just before the 250th anniversary of Independence Day seems to have

been what was needed.

The disaster occurred when Haverhill hired a contractor to replace two collapsed portions of a 42-inch concrete line with two 24-inch mains. An accident released 8 million gallons of raw sewage into the Merrimack, which resulted in days of closed beaches.

With beaches closed, the House Committee on Transportation and

Infrastructure agreed to a request from U.S. Reps. Seth Moulton and Lori Trahan to raise the amount of funds from \$40 million to \$50 million.

In addition, Trahan and Sens. Edward Markey and Elizabeth Warren introduced a bill, the Water Emergency and Technical Assistance Act, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act

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CORRECTION: We printed in this spot last week in an article quoting ConCom chair (for one year) and 14-year member of the ConCom, and outgoing Selectwoman Rachel Therrien a note about former Selectman David Twiss which was not completely correct. To clarify, we are told that the former selectman Twiss abstained from the vote to appoint Orlando Pacheco to the position of Georgetown town administrator.


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NSMT STARS

Continued from page 1

The program for giving North Shore youth the chance to be in the cast for major productions has part of the theater's education program and being in the production is the culminating event.

Olivia, 12, gets to work with Kyla Moulton, the theater's education



director, and Simon Byrne, the musical director, as well as the adult actors. "It gives the young people the opportunity they never could have otherwise," Jen Riley, her mother, said. "It opens the door for a lot of young people."

The Riley mother and daughter credited the school and several of teachers for encouraging her in pursue the North Shore Musical Theater opportunity. Specially she cited her choir instructor, Johanna Kimball; her band teacher, Daniel Fijalkowski, and her math teacher, Mark Rinaldi, for helping her pursue her dream of acting.

North Shore Music Theatre offers year-round educational programs for both adults and children, as well as a three-week summer intensive and the opportunity to audition for shows like JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT.

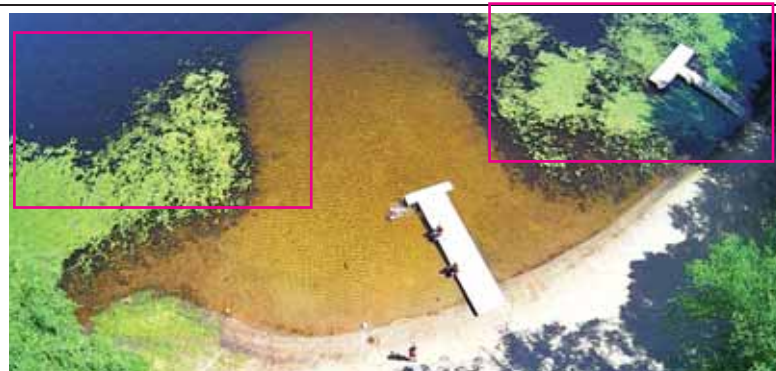
JOSEPH ran from July 8-19.

"They joined the adults two and a half days into rehearsal," Moulton is quoted. "The adults had already staged Act 1 at that point, and one of the coolest things on that day was seeing the [children's] reactions when they heard Olivia Valli sing for the first time. They really look up to her so much."

Getting to perform with and learn from professional actors like Valli, who plays the narrator, and Nikita Burshtey, who plays Joseph, is a unique opportunity that spawns dreams in the young people.

Olivia has been invited to perform in the Cinderella Youth Edition, a North Shore Music Theater production, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 21.

For Olivia, her dream is huge. Asked if she was thinking of being on Broadway one day, she said, "YES!" ♦



Pond weeds along the shore of Pentucket Pond. Manual clearing of the town's swimming beach has shown above, between overgrowth. Some areas of the pond (West Side) is extensively compromised by the growth (Town Common Photo)

Kayakers Cautioned: Weed Entanglement Conditions!

by Lonnie Brennan

GEORGETOWN – Kayakers and paddleboard users are again cautioned to stay clear of the extensive weeds that are growing in Pentucket Pond.

Last summer, Katelyn Barusso alerted the town that a kayaker had become entangled in the overgrowth and a near life-threatening incident occurred.

"My husband and I were sitting on our deck when I noticed that a kayaker suddenly was not on his kayak any more. I went to get binoculars to take a closer look when he started screaming for help," she related in an e-mail to the Town.

"My husband and I promptly took our kayak and paddleboard out to assist the man to the shore. As it turned out, his inflatable kayak had popped and he was now tangled in weeds. Despite wearing a life vest, he was unable to free himself."

The stubborn pond weeds have NOT been treated as an "Order of Conditions" with the Mass. Department of Environment Protection had expired.

Park and Recs. Chair Mike Donahue inquired on the status of the weed treatments and as of last year, Town Administrator Orlando Pacheco replied that the matter was being han-

dled.

This year, after The Town Common published aerial photos of the swimming area around the new dock (see prior article), we received several comments not only about the dock purchasing debacle, but also the overgrowth of pond weeds.

In June, Barusso wrote again to the town, noting that "the summer season is upon us and as such the milfoil and lily pads have fully grown in, worse than last year."

Donahue's reply to his latest inquiry to the town admin. on status was not what he expected: He was told via e-mail that the pond was not on the schedule to be treated. Pacheco wrote in part: "Apparently the Conservation Agent never sent them the Conditions or Notice to Proceed, which was supposed to be done in the winter." Pacheco fired the conservation agent in March of this year, after she insulted him. In her termination letter, Pacheco cited the insult, and accused the agent of trying to hide the transcript of the insult from him. See prior articles. Her attorney has placed the town on notice for wrongful termination, etc.

Kayakers and paddleboarders are urged to use extra caution, and always go out in pairs. ♦

DOCK FIXES

Continued from page 1

impact to the taxpayers. This is a great example of town departments working together for the community."

Donahue also expressed appreciation to the local Boy Scouts who assisted with assembly of the new dock components purchased by the Town.

"On behalf of the Parks and Recreation Commission, I want to thank the budding Eagle Scout who stepped up to help assemble the new docks," Donahue said. "The Scouts hard work and community spirit made a

real difference, and we are grateful for their contribution to improving this important public space."

Officials will continue to monitor the setup and explore longer-term options as needed.

Residents are reminded that American Legion Park is open from dawn to dusk, swimming is at one's own risk (no lifeguard on duty), and all park rules remain in effect. For more information, contact the Georgetown Parks and Recreation Commission or visit the Town of Georgetown website. ♦



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Advisory Board Member: 2024 - present

In loving memory of

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

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Date		High				Low				Rise	Set	Moon
		AM	ft	PM	ft	AM	ft	PM	ft			
28	Tue	11:37	7.0	11:45	8.4	5:32	0.6	5:32	1.4	5:30	8:08	☾
29	Wed			12:17	7.2	6:13	0.5	6:14	1.2	5:31	8:07	☾
30	Thu	12:25	8.5	12:56	7.4	6:51	0.3	6:55	1.1	5:32	8:06	☾
31	Fri	1:05	8.5	1:34	7.7	7:28	0.2	7:35	0.9	5:33	8:05	☾
1	Sat	1:44	8.6	2:13	7.9	8:05	0.2	8:17	0.7	5:34	8:04	☾
2	Sun	2:25	8.5	2:53	8.1	8:43	0.2	9:01	0.6	5:35	8:03	☾
3	Mon	3:08	8.3	3:36	8.3	9:24	0.3	9:49	0.5	5:36	8:01	☾
4	Tue	3:56	8.1	4:22	8.5	10:09	0.4	10:42	0.4	5:38	8:00	☾

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Focus on Real Estate

New Plum Island Gateway

By Stewart Lytle, Sr. Reporter



PLUM ISLAND — Residents and visitors to Plum Island next spring will have a new gateway to the beaches when Cobalt Development finishes building two-story condominiums at 2 Plum Island Blvd., designed for year-round living.

The two luxury condos, built on the site of the old Plum Island Grille, will be 2,040 square feet with three bedrooms and two and a half baths each.

To take advantage of some of the best island's best views, each condo will have two covered porches overlooking the Great Salt Marsh.

One deck is off the primary suite and another off the secondary bedrooms.

Heather Rogers, the listing agent with Gibson Sotheby's International Realty, said these full-time, year-round condos are rare on Plum Island. They could also be used by the new owners as part-time rentals. They will have easy access to Plum Island Turnpike.

"Due to its height above the ground and the quality of the construction, these units will be turn key/worry free for the buyers!" Rogers said.

Scott Brown, the architect, designed the homes in what Rogers described as a coastal modern style.

On the first floor is a eat-in kitchen, living room, laundry and mud room. The large covered porches, which are not counted in the square footage, are off the second-floor bedrooms. "The buyer will appreciate both sunrise and sunset experiences!" Rogers said.

The homes, built on pilings, will have rebuilt dunes and wetland plantings. Nautical ropes at the front edge of the property reflect the island's heritage.

Rogers said, "The buyer will be someone looking to enjoy Plum Island in every aspect without worry about flooding or erosion."

The new development will improve traffic. Instead of cars for the 125-seat PI Grille and 160-seat Sunset Club, the condos will generate little more than four or eight cars.

The dune on the site will also be restored with beach grass. And the parking and sidewalk area near the intersection will be improved for dog walkers and beach goers will enable people to walk to the beach without being exposed to traffic.

Gone will be the 12,000 square feet of pavement that the restaurant used for parking. It is being replaced with pervious material, improving the drainage on the property that will help reduce puddling on the turnpike.

The MassDOT is working on plans



Renderings of the new Plum Island condos (Top) and Heather Rogers (inset photo by Stewart Lytle)

that may improve the intersection traffic flow, possibly with a rotary at the boulevard and Sunset. The sidewalk on the north side is expected to be repaved and raised for the many dog walkers and beach goers walking to the beach.

The property was sold to Cobalt by Frank Bertolino of The North Shore Realty.

To gain more information about the units, contact Heather Rogers at 978-621-1607 or heather.rogers@gibsonsir.com

SEWAGE, POLITICIANS

Continued from page 1

and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide technical and financial support to water treatment facilities during emergencies in hopes of preventing and mitigating threats to public health.

The funds are not guaranteed. According to Moulton's office, a future appropriations bill would also be required before the city can receive the additional federal support.

In addition, the city of Newburyport is looking at its legal options for recovering lost revenue from the accident for businesses and the city.

"Haverhill's sewer system is one of the oldest in the country and a temporary bypass is not an acceptable solution," Moulton said, "These CSOs are polluting our environment and compromising public health, and we need to work across all levels of government to find a permanent solution. The funding that is authorized by my amendment, if funded by appropriators, will make sure we finish the job once and for all. No family in Massachusetts should have to wonder if their beach is safe to swim at again."

Trahan said, "Haverhill showed us what happens when a century-old system fails and the federal government is nowhere to be found. Cities were left to fight sewage flowing into the Merrimack with local dollars and borrowed time. Our bill

fixes that. It puts real federal money on the table the moment an emergency like this hits, so no community has to face it alone."

Trahan also introduced the bipartisan Stop Sewage Overflow Act to grow federal investment in combined sewer overflow (CSO) projects to \$500 million annually and secured direct community project funding for such work in Haverhill, Methuen and Lowell.

"Water system emergencies spell disaster for their communities—they're expensive, bad for business and dangerous to public health. Our communities deserve clean water and quick access to support in response to emergency situations that put their health and economies in danger," Markey and Warren said in a joint statement. ♦



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LOCAL HAPPENINGS

WED. JULY 29

Hampton Beach
Fireworks at dark.

Rowley
6:30PM: Music! , Rowley Library.
Bring a blanket or chair and relax on their beautiful front lawn while enjoying great local musicians. Free frozen treats will be provided. In case of inclement weather, the events will be held indoors at the library, 141 Main St.

Salisbury
Christian Concert Series 6:30 - 9PM
Oceanfront Stage - free.

THURS, JULY 30

West Newbury
Summer Concert Series at the Bandstand Every Thursday, 6:30pm-8pm
*All shows are "Shine Only." Rain dates August 20th and Aug 27th.

FRI, JULY 31

Salisbury
Friday Night Beach Parties w/ Ralphie B (Rock & Roll Oldies)

SAT, AUGUST 1

Salisbury
Free Saturday Night Concerts on the Oceanfront Stage
FIREWORKS! 10:15 PM

SUN AUGUST 2

Georgetown
Concert. 5- 7 pm, free, American Legion Park. Free concert. Great time. Food available for sale. Bring a blanket or a chair. Come meet friends old and new!

MON, AUGUST 3

Georgetown
The Georgetown Republican Town Committee will be meeting Monday night, August 3, at 7pm at the Knights of Columbus, 87 East Main Street, Georgetown, MA
Guest speakers will include Dan Kelly, candidate for State Representative in the 2nd Essex District (VoteDanKelly.com). Hope to see you there! - Lenny Mirra

TUES, AUGUST 4

Ipswich
Downtown Tuesday, 6-8 pm, Free TakeOut Terrace Truss & Stage

FRI, AUGUST 7

SALVATION ARMY NEW WATERFRONT SUMMER SOIRÉE
The Salvation Army of Newburyport "Sailabration" event encountered an unforeseencircumstance for their July 24 boat cruise and has now pivoted to a celebration on land at:
Custom House Maritime Museum & Lawn
25 Water Street • Newburyport, Massachusetts - Friday, August 7 • 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM
DJ Joe Carson • Dinner • Dancing • Door Prizes • Silent Auction • A Night of Community and Giving Back
Tickets already purchased for the July 24 event will be honored at the August 7 event.
There are a limited number of new tickets available for the August 7 celebration for \$75 per person.
Ticket site is: salvationarmyma.org/sail

Robert C. Ash, Jr.

Robert C. Ash, Jr., 64, of Haverhill, MA, passed away on July 8, 2026, in Bridgeton, ME, surrounded by family after a short, yet courageous battle with lung cancer.

Bob was born on December 31, 1961, in Beverly, MA, the son of Patricia (Nicoll) of Beverly and Robert Ash, Sr. of Topsfield. He graduated from Masconomet Regional High School in 1980. In 1988, he purchased a home in Haverhill, MA with his former wife, Barbara Ash, where he built a welcoming home for his family.

Bob dedicated his career to the optics industry, most recently serving as manager in diamond turning at AMF Optical Solutions in Woburn, MA. He was known for his expertise, commitment, and mentorship.

An outdoorsman at heart, Bob loved boating, fishing, hunting, and spending time in the company of friends on the water or at the pool table. His love for these activities was only matched by the time he spent with his family.

He is survived by his daughter, Stephanie Ash, and her husband, Tyler Avila, of Billerica, MA; his son, Brian Ash of Derry, NH; his partner, Darlene Belmer of Seabrook, NH; his parents, Patricia Ash and Robert Ash, Sr. of Topsfield, MA; and his siblings, Ronald Ash of Derry, NH, Deborah Moran of Sandown, NH, and Barbara Norris of Newbury, MA. Bob also leaves behind many nieces and nephews who will miss him dearly.

A Funeral Service was held Friday, July 24, 2026 at F. S. Roberts & Son Funeral Home of 14 Independent Street, Rowley, MA, with Rev. Adam Randazzo officiating. Burial followed at Pine Grove Cemetery in Topsfield, MA.

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 Lived	Funeral Home	City/Town
John P. Cunningham	Bedford, MA	Berube-Comeau Funeral Home	Plaistow
Christa M. Cameles	Danvers, MA	CR Lyons & Sons Funeral	Danvers
Marilyn E. Rolfe	Danvers, MA	Directors	Danvers
David E. Patch	Boxford, MA	Campbell Funeral Home	Beverly
Grace (Stewart) Farrow	North Andover	Conte Funeral Home	North Andover
Joseph M. Piotte	North Andover		
David R. Kellogg	North Andover		
Helen Donahue	North Andover		
Christina Damianakos	Peabody, MA	Conway Cahill-Brodeur Funeral Home	Peabody
Albert "Dick" Pace	Peabody, MA		
Frances Diamantopoulos	Peabody, MA		
Niki Mavrakos	Peabody, MA		
James "Jim" Webster	Ayer, MA	Driscoll Funeral Home and Cremation Services	Haverhill
James L. Johnston	Newbury, MA	ES. Roberts & Son Funeral Home	Rowley
Jeffrey L. Zoulis	Haverhill, MA	Kevin B. Comeau Funeral Home	Haverhill
Louise E. Riviezzo	Haverhill, MA		
Patricia Marie Howard	Malden, MA	Mackey Funeral Home	Middleton
Jennie Mary (Przybylo) Wysocki	Ipswich, MA	Morris Funeral Home	Ipswich
Lisa A. Cormier	Merrimac, MA	Paul C. Rogers & Sons Family Funeral Homes	Merrimac
Lee Taylor	Seabrook, NH	Remick & Gendron Funeral Home	Hampton
Lori Brown-Leary	Hampton Falls, NH		
Sandra E. "Sandy" Weddell	Hampton, NH		



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James Lloyd Johnston

James Lloyd Johnston, 82, died peacefully at his home in Newbury, Massachusetts, on July 20, 2026, surrounded by the love of his family.

Born in Ottawa, Ontario, on December 21, 1943, Jim was the beloved son of James Aloysius Johnston and Rita (Latreille) Johnston. He later became a proud citizen of the United States, where he spent the latter chapters of his remarkable life.

Jim graduated from the University of Waterloo in 1969 with a degree in Electrical Engineering. Throughout a career spanning more than five decades, he continually embraced new challenges. He began as an electrical engineer in Ontario's mining industry before moving into the petrochemical industry in Sarnia, where he advanced into leadership roles. Later, he owned and operated a custom cabinetry business in Virginia. Even after "retirement," Jim simply found new ways to work, first in retail and later returning to kitchen and bath design, where he continued working full-time until the week before his passing.

Jim was a deeply intelligent, private man with a quiet sense of humor and a generous heart. He loved solving problems, fixing things, and working with his hands. Whenever he found himself immersed in a project, family members knew to listen for the familiar sound of him whistling as he worked.

He was an accomplished trumpet player in his youth and loved music throughout his life, especially the great big bands. As a young musician, Jim played in the band that performed at Ottawa Rough Riders football games, beginning a lifelong love of football that eventually found its home with the New England Patriots. Family stories also tell of a young Jim sneaking out to play jazz clubs in Montreal—an adventure that perfectly reflected both his independent spirit and his lifelong love of music.

Jim also had a lifelong fascination with trains. Whether it was real trains, model trains, train whistles, or songs about trains, they never lost their magic for him. He never minded stopping at a railroad crossing to watch a passing train and was always happy to share that sense of wonder with anyone willing to listen.

Jim enjoyed reading and following current events. He held strong convictions, but above all he valued family, loyalty, and home.

His greatest love was his wife, Sheila. Married in 1990, they built a life together grounded in unwavering devotion. Jim affectionately called her "Sheila, my love," and in countless quiet ways demonstrated what enduring love looks like. Whether through the countless projects he completed, the problems he solved, or simply his steadfast presence, he spent a lifetime caring for the person who mattered most to him.

Jim also cherished the companionship of their beloved cats, Toby and Sam.

He is survived by his loving wife, Sheila; his sons, Casey and Timothy; his stepchildren, Kristen, Kimberly, and William ("Billy"); his grandchildren, Liberty ("Libby"), James Cooper, James, Isabella, Jacob ("Jake"), and Emily; and his siblings, Joan, Judy, John, Janet, and Jerry.

Jim's family takes great comfort in having been able to spend meaningful time with him during his final days. They are especially grateful to the compassionate team at Care Dimensions, whose exceptional Hospice care allowed Jim to remain comfortable at home while surrounded by those he loved most.

In keeping with Jim's wishes and his quiet nature, a private family Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Jim worked very hard in this world to ensure that the sum of the little things made a difference for the people he loved. Through every chapter of his life, he met each new challenge with quiet determination, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to those he loved. That steadfastness—shown not through grand gestures but through a lifetime of hard work, loyalty, and enduring love—will remain his lasting legacy.

He showed all of us that love is found not only in what we say, but in what we choose to do, day after day, for the people who matter most.

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

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Garden Tip
#11: Stay safe and save money: Forget the stores, start your lettuce every week! Get a good rotation going now until frost. Alternatively: buy at a local farm that you know grew it.

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CONCERT
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WED. JULY
29:
FREE**

WEDNESDAY
NIGHT concerts
at Salisbury Beach
Waterfront Stage!
6:30 - 9 PM
Come early, browse
through the shops.
Take in the views,
enjoy a great
Christian Concert
sponsored in part
by ChristianMedia
Productions.org

Go to Salisbury Beach and check out the shops and eating places at least three times in August!

Super Crossword

Q2 REPORT

ACROSS

- 1 Pet plagues
5 Keg party
dispensers
13 Iranian
city with a
1,200,000+
population
16 Brainpower
stats
19 Cries of awe
20 Having hay
fever, say
21 Italian "a"
22 Bring to court
23 More pro-
ficient than
anybody else
26 Tch'r.'s union
27 Figure
skating leap
28 Sauna setting
29 Photo lab
blowup: Abbr.
30 Barbie or Ker-
31 "He wouldn't
hurt —"
33 Farly often
38 Kung —
chicken
39 Extremist
sect
40 Female
graduates
41 Bal hitter in
certain court
47 Center or
glottis lead-in
48 Old JFK jet
51 Tallinn locale
52 — Christian
Andersen

- 53 She sang
"Skyfall!"
55 Grandma,
in Italy
57 Sri Lankan
monkey with
a hatlike
whorl of hair
62 Nosy sort
65 Yuletide
poem
opener
67 Skip out (on)
68 Business
attire
69 French "the"
70 Dental
buildup
73 Joked
around
75 Cooler
cubes
76 Competent
78 Gallivant
79 Doubt-free
80 Deep-seated
82 Cartoon short
featuring a
bird who was
a precursor
to Tweety
85 Lamp cover
88 Sheer
89 Goopy
cheese
91 Designer with
the fragrance
Lucky Wish
95 Quaint suffix
with poet
96 Reply to
"Are you?"

- 99 Dropping
extra work and "acting
your wage"
- 101 Wicca's
realm
- 103 Jethro —
(rock band)
- 104 Excavate
- 105 NHL team
that became
the Colorado
Avalanche
- 111 Saintliness
- 113 Draws upon
- 114 Nutrition fig.
- 115 Debt memo
- 116 Tear apart
- 117 — Lady of
Fatima
- 118 Algebraic
statement
graphed as a
parabola
- 125 Bi- plus one
- 126 Poet's dusk
- 127 Counterpart
of digital
(Var.)
- 128 Norway port
- 129 Kong, for one
- 130 1950s prez
- 131 Actor Clint
- 132 "Sheesh,
close call!"
- DOWN**
- 1 Hittler Gehrig
- 2 Tiny particle
- 3 "Calm down!"
- 4 Suffix similar
to "ish"

- 5 Joan of folk
6 Letter after
 key
7 English
 cathedral city
8 Necessary:
 Abbr.
9 Have faith in
10 Visibly awed
11 Relative of
 risotto
12 —-fi
13 Latin for “five”
14 A single block
 of sugar, say
15 Irate
16 Playground
 comeback
17 Subdue
18 Serta rival
24 Stage actress
 Hagen
25 Have a hunch
30 Genetic stuff
31 Vaulted
 church area
32 E-help pages
33 Sacred book
 of Islam
34 Suffix with
 form
35 Hanker (for)
36 Disloyal type
37 Seminal ‘40s
 computer
39 Goatee spot
42 Top-shelf
43 Pig’s noise
44 Doha locale
45 Pizza chain,
 informally
46 Attv.’s title

- 48 Costume spangle
49 Channel for excess water
50 Move like a seesaw
51 Govt. lawyers
56 "Shaq —!" (O'Neal memoir)
58 Lift rival
59 Makes lighter
60 Sch. close to Harvard
61 Heady drink
62 Dental buildup
63 Disproves
64 Land specks in the sea
66 Bank bought by Chase in 2008, in brief
71 Financier Onassis
72 "Apollo 13" director Howard
73 Andrews of "Mary Poppins"
74 Failed to
77 Dallas-to-Nashville dir.
79 Assistant on iDevices
81 Uncluttered
83 In a — (very quickly)
84 — Dhabi (emirate)
86 Schleps

- 87 Deep blue dye
90 Dying rebuke from Caesar
92 Course part, in an eatery
93 Course part in school
94 — Azalea (“Fancy” rapper)
97 Like built-up interest
98 Ordinary
99 Div. of an NBA game
100 “— Sera, Sera”
101 Drs. who deliver babies
102 Washful
105 Sales target number
106 Seize illegally
107 Hair-raising
108 Pop diva Ross
109 Teensy bits
110 Thick cover
111 Item in a pod
112 Being pulled
116 Regretted greatly
118 End-of-proof abbr.
119 TV actress Charlotte
120 Dairy beast
121 Psyche part
122 Status —
123 Corrida cry
124 This minute

DOWN

- 1 Hitter Gehrig
- 2 Tiny particle
- 3 "Calm down!"
- 4 Suffix similar to "-ish"

[illegible]

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Amber Waves

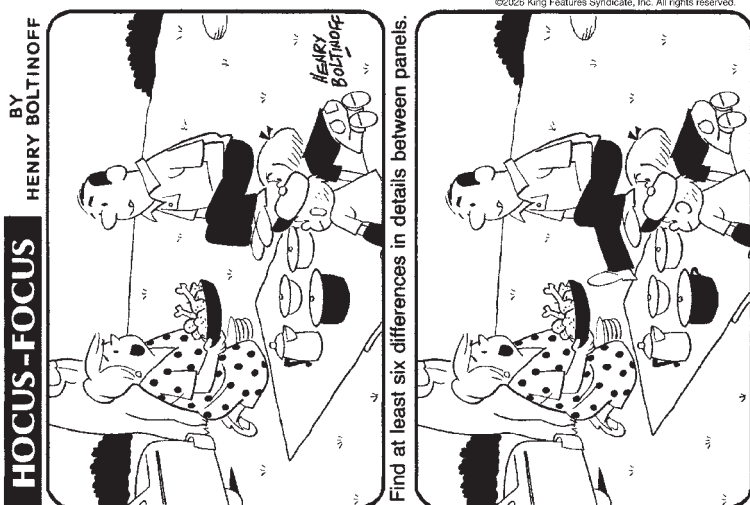


by Dave T. Phipps

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

BY
HENRY ROIT

HOCUS-FOCUS

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Pocket is missing. 2. Ear is different. 3. Handle is added to pot. 4. Leg is moved. 5. Bush is smaller. 6. Blanket is smaller.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



Weekly SUDOKU

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

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.



CLASSIFIED ADS

HOUSE WANTED

Wanted: A house in Georgetown, fair price. Condition not important. Land a plus but not necessary. Cash purchase.

Contact Alan Aulson, Sr (508)451-1987

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MISC.

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ITEMS BOUGHT / SOLD & REPAIRED!

Generators, Outboards, Lawn Mowers, Snow Blowers, Tune ups, etc., pick-up and delivery available, Call Gary at (978) 376-4214

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Perfect for pt college student

No driving necessary - must be able to lift 50+ lbs. Mondays & Fridays, other days may be needed.

Either position, please email:

ktr1998@hotmail.com

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Lonnie Brennan: editor@TheTownCommon.com

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Atari • SNES • N64

GameBoy • DS • Wii

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POKÉMON:

Buy/Sell/Trade

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Rowley, MA, 01969

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HELP WANTED

The Town Common seeks an accounts manager to follow-up phone calls, e-mails, leads, and reach out to local businesses and groups. This is an ultra-flexible job: You work where you want, when you want, how you want. Start by dedicating a few hours each week to these tasks and build up your income with each well-paid commissioned sale. You earn with each new ad campaign or sponsorship and continue to earn residuals with each renewal you manage. Your income continues to grow uncapped. Of course, if you wish to work more hours – go for it! The more accounts you manage, the more you earn! Call me: Lonnie Brennan - Nights after 7:00 p.m., weekends any time: 978-609-4183

Hard to ignore this little box. Imagine if your classified ad was here?



PUZZLE ANSWERS

L	1	E	9	G	7	Z	6	8
4	9	6	Z	L	8	1	9	E
9	8	Z	1	E	6	9	L	7
1	6	9	L	8	9	7	E	Z
Z	7	L	E	6	1	8	9	9
E	9	8	7	Z	9	6	1	L
8	E	9	9	1	Z	L	7	6
9	Z	7	6	9	L	E	8	1
6	L	1	8	7	E	9	Z	9

SALISBURY SIGN:

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Happier than a seagull with a french fry."

Pratt

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Tuesday-Friday 12 - 6 PM

Saturday 10:30 AM - 4 PM

978-352-2234

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This is a custom made outdoor shower that will transform your beach house, lake house or backyard into a natural shower experience. Showers are made from 100% sustainable cedar/doug fir and are 4' x 4' x 7' or 3' x 5' x 7'. Shower is completely assembled with piping and ready to use. The source of both hot and cold water comes from your home and is easily connected to the shower controls or we can supply a propane fired HW heater (additional costs).

Delivery within 25 miles of 03865 is \$125 or free customer pickup.

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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 August 12, 2026 starting at 10:00 am by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

2002 Acura MDX VIN 2HNYD18893H517606

1993 Chevrolet Lumina 1GNDU06D3PT125378

2006 Dodge Dakota VIN 1D7HW48N06S502485

2010 Ford Edge VIN 2FMDK4KC5ABB26019

1990 Ford Fusion VIN 3FAHP0HA4BR101806

2005 Honda Accord VIN 1HGCM56775A007856

2002 Honda CRV VIN SHSRD78432U13317

2014 Honda CRV VIN 5J6RM4H52EL067475

2005 Hyundai Elantra VIN KMHDN46D25U044520

2014 Infiniti Q50 VIN JN1AV7ARXEM701790

2006 Jeep Grand Cherokee VIN 1J4GR48K16C201179

2012 Mercedes Benz GClass VIN 4JGBF7BE2CA767643

2008 Toyota Corolla VIN 2T1BR32E28C904135

2006 Acura TL VIN 19UUA66286A058002

2018 Chevrolet Traverse VIN 1GNEVGKW8JJ109164

2013 Dodge Dart VIN 1C3CDFBA0DD333411

2013 Ford Explorer VIN 1FM5K8D88DGC52991

2002 Ford Escape VIN 1FMYU02112KA05997

2013 Ford Focus VIN 1FADP3F28DL272460

2012 Ford Focus VIN 1FAHP3F22CL351512

2015 Honda Accord VIN 1HGCR2F50FA255107

2003 Honda CRV VIN SHSRD78803U154222

1998 Honda Accord VIN 1HGCG1655WA014255

2004 Honda Pilot VIN 2HKYF18624H523206

2006 Honda Civic VIN 2HGFA16556H510463

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

Signed

Coady's Towing Service

7/22, 7/29, (8/5)

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 August 20, 2026 starting at 10:00 am by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

2003 Acura MDX VIN 2HNYD18893H517606

2010 Honda Odyssey VIN 5FNRL3H27AB059927

2003 Honda Element VIN 5J6YH28563L010651

2014 Jeep Patriot VIN 1C4NJPBA4ED714764

2016 Jeep Patriot VIN 1C4NJRBB6GD782801

2012 Lexus IS VIN JTHBF5C22C5177320

2006 Nissan Altima VIUN 1N4AL11D16N460188

2002 Nissan Xterra VIN 5N1ED28Y22C511979

2001 Toyota Sienna VIN 4T3ZF13C41U333252

2000 Toyota Corolla VIN 2T1BR18E0YC350119

2007 Toyota Prius VIN JTDKB20U873229634

2003 Toyota 4Runner VIN JTEBT17R030002602

2012 Toyota Highlander VIN 5TDBK3EH9CS151553

2007 Toyota Sienna VIN 5TDZK23C87S096146

2012 Volkswagen Jetta VIN 3VW1K7AJXCM346764

2013 Infiniti JX35 VIN 5N1AL0MM7DC323728

2007 Toyota Prius VIN JTDKB20U977616847

2010 Audi A4 VIN WAUFFAFL0AN020654

2019 Chevrolet Equinox VIN 2GNAXTEVXK6169580

2008 Honda Civic VIN 2HGFA15538H500163

2007 Honda Accord VIN 1HGCM66557A099735

2021 Volkswagen Jetta VIN 3VWC57BU0MM057774

2009 Honda Civic VIN 19XFA16559E009233

2020 Mercedes Benz GLE Class VIN 4JGFB4KB3LA095111

2014 Nissan Altima VIN 1N4AL3AP7EC27447

215 Subaru Outback VIN 4S4BSALC6F3257469

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

Signed

Coady's Towing Service

7/29, (8/5), (8/12)



FREE MINI NEWSPAPER RACKS

to share The Town Common

Lonnie@thetowncommon.com

BOXFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

You are hereby notified that a Public Hearing will be held by Zoom videoconference on **August 6, 2026** at 7:00 or such other time when posted to consider the **Request for Determination of Applicability** by applicant **Ian Doherty** for the property located at: **68A Rowley Road: Map 21, Block 1, Lot 17**, for a proposed fence construction.

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, email wkoneval@boxfordma.gov or call (978) 887-6000, ext. 506 or visit the Conservation Office at Boxford Town Hall during office hours M-Th 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

For the Commission,
Will Koneval, Conservation Agent

7/29

LEGAL NOTICE
ROWLEY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

In accordance with the Town of Rowley Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Bylaw, as amended, a remote Public Hearing will be held on **Tuesday, August 4, 2026** at 7:45 PM, to consider an Amendment to Stormwater Management Permit SMP #58-2023 filed by Gateway II Realty Trust of 1997 for proposed expansion of parking area and conversion of landscaped area for additional parking at 58-66 Forest Ridge Drive (Map 7, Parcel 10, Lot 5-8) and **51 Forest Ridge Drive** (Map 7, Parcel 10, Lot 8) in Rowley, MA. Additional site disturbance is approximately 17,000 sq. ft.

Daniel Shinnick, Chairman
Rowley Conservation Commission

7/29

LEGAL NOTICE
ROWLEY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

In accordance with the Wetlands Protection Act, Mass. G.L. 131, Section 40, as amended, and the Town of Rowley Wetlands Protection Bylaw, a remote public hearing will be held on **Tuesday, August 4, 2026** at 8:00 PM to consider a Notice of Intent application filed by TAKJ LLC c/o DiLuigi Food for proposed extension of existing bituminous concrete parking lot, stormwater drainage infrastructure, and grading possibly within 100' Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands at **58-66 Forest Ridge Drive** (Map 7, Parcel 10 Lot 5-C) in Rowley, MA.

Daniel Shinnick, Chairman
Rowley Conservation Commission

7/29

LEGAL NOTICE
ROWLEY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

In accordance with the Wetlands Protection Act, Mass. G.L. 131, Section 40, as amended, and the Town of Rowley Wetlands Protection Bylaw, a remote public hearing will be held on **Tuesday, August 4, 2026** at 8:15 PM to consider a Notice of Intent application filed by Rob McVoy Redline Properties, LLC for proposed driveway crossing filling 786 sq. ft. of wetland with replication of 810 sq. ft., clearing, grading within Bordering Vegetated Wetlands and the associated 100' Buffer Zone with clearing for future storage at **431 Newburyport Turnpike** (Map 23, Parcel 35) in Rowley, MA.

Daniel Shinnick, Chairman
Rowley Conservation Commission

7/29

LEGAL NOTICE
ROWLEY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

In accordance with the Wetlands Protection Act, Mass. G.L. 131, Section 40, as amended, and the Town of Rowley Wetlands Protection Bylaw, a remote public hearing will be held on **Tuesday, August 4, 2026** at 8:30 PM to consider a Notice of Intent application filed by Rob McVoy Redline Properties, LLC for proposed grading with erosion controls for construction of a building and stormwater management devices possibly within 100' Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands at **431 Newburyport Turnpike** (Map 23, Parcel 35).

Daniel Shinnick, Chairman
Rowley Conservation Commission

7/29

LEGAL NOTICE
ROWLEY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

In accordance with the Town of Rowley Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Bylaw, as amended, a remote Public Hearing will be held on **Tuesday, August 4, 2026** at 8:45 PM, to consider a Stormwater Management Permit application filed by Redline Properties, LLC for proposed construction of a building with grading, stormwater management devices and tree clearing at **431 Newburyport Turnpike** (Map 23, Parcel 35) in Rowley, MA. Total site disturbance is approximately 258,790 sq ft.

Daniel Shinnick, Chairman
Rowley Conservation Commission

7/29

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
GEORGETOWN PLANNING BOARD

Notice is hereby provided that the Town of Georgetown Planning Board will conduct Public Hearings pursuant to M.G.L. c.40A, Sec. 5, on potential amendments to the Zoning Bylaw. Hearings will be to amend **Article XVIII Solar Energy Facility** and consider adding language to **\$165-42 through \$165-155 for Battery Energy Storage Systems**. The purpose of the hearings is to obtain public sentiment so that proper revisions can be made regarding possible Warrant Articles proposed by the Georgetown Planning Board.

The Public Hearings will be on **Wednesday, 19 AUGUST 2026**. The hearing to amend \$165-42 through \$165-155 will begin at 7:30pm. The hearing will be held virtually via Zoom, at which time all interested persons may appear and be heard in relation thereto. The link to the Zoom meeting will be available on the Planning Board's agenda which can be found on the Town's Calendar of Upcoming Events at www.Georgetownma.gov 48 hours prior to the Public Hearing. The full text of the proposed amendments and potential changes are on file and available for inspection during normal business hours at Town Hall in the Planning Office, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA and can be viewed online at: https://cms5.revize.com/revize/georgetownma/government/boards___commissions/planning_board/index.php#outer-5382

The above-cited remote meeting connection information will be included on the **19 AUGUST 2026** Planning Board meeting agenda, which will be posted on the Town of Georgetown website no less than 48 hours prior to the meeting. Further, the meeting will be broadcast live on the Georgetown Local Access Cable TV Channel 9. Video recordings of this meeting, and all Georgetown Planning Board meetings may be found at www.georgetownma.gov by choosing the Community TV option.

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87439828747> Meeting ID: 87439 828747
Passcode: 169406

For more information about these Public Hearings or if you were unable to attend the hearing and would like to communicate your concerns or questions about this application, please send an eMail to the Town Planner at FOConnor@GeorgetownMA.gov. Written correspondence received before Noon on the day of the hearing will be accepted and read into the record.

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

7/29, (8/5)

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
GEORGETOWN PLANNING BOARD

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 VII Open Space Residential Development \$165-47 to \$165-59 and 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 an OSRD Special Permit, a Stormwater Permit and Site Plan Approval to create more than ten dwellings at One Lull Street, Town Assessor's Map 17, Lot 86 in Zoning District RB.

This public hearing shall be held remotely on **Wednesday, 19 AUGUST 2026 at 7:20 P.M.**, in accordance with the Executive Order waiving certain provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A, sec. 20, which was extended to JUNE 30, 2027. 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/87439828747> Meeting ID: 87439 828747
Passcode: 169406

The above-cited remote meeting connection information will be included on the **19 AUGUST 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/current_projects.php#outer-5363

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

7/29, (8/5)

Ucoming Maudslay Arts Center Concerts

“Summer is just a brief season here in New England,” MAC Director Nicholas C. Costello said, “so come out and enjoy wonderful music at affordable prices in a spectacular natural setting.”

Saturday evening at 7 p.m. come hear the Ken Clark Organ Trio (KCOT), which has been performing around New England and the eastern U.S. for the past 32 years.

“Organist Ken Clark, guitarist Mike Mele, and drummer Steve Chaggaris lean on the beat, they build dynamic climaxes sprinkle in jazz solos and deliver the goods,” wrote Owen Cordle in Jazz Times. “Clark controls the B3 like a master: hip bass lines, sizzling chordal washes, feel-good riffs, funky blues lines and syn-copated accents figure in the mix.

“The groove, the sonic power of the organ and a soulful message are a forceful combination for reaching the people, all the way from the church to the dance floor. Can’t beat the feeling.”

Come back on Sunday at 2 p.m. for the MAC season special event concert Chris Smither. Smither grew up in New Orleans where he first started playing music as a child. His music draws deeply from the blues, American folk music, and modern poets and philosophers.

He won an Oscar in 2026, when he made his acting debut in the independent film “The Singers,” which won the Academy Award for Best Live Action Short.

Saturday concerts begin at 7 p.m. including Ken Clark Organ Trio on Aug 1 and Breakin’ Strings on Aug. 8. Sunday afternoon performances begin at 2 p.m. including Chris Smither on Aug. 2, The Mystix Unplugged with Danielle Miraglia on Aug. 9, and Alex Lee-Clark and The 8tet on Aug. 16.

Saturday performances start at 7 p.m., with gates opening at 6 p.m. Patio seating (tables and chairs) is \$40 while lawn seating (bring your own chairs or blankets) is \$35. Children 12 and under are free.

Sunday performances start at 2 p.m. with gates opening at 1 p.m. General admission is \$30 with open seating on the patio and lawn. Tables and chairs are provided on the patio. Special group rates may be arranged by calling (978) 388-2552. Children 12 and under are free.

The Chris Smither Concert on Sunday, Aug. 2, is a special event. General admission is \$45. The first 100 tickets sold are guaranteed seats in the performance hall in case of rain.

For the complete summer schedule, to purchase tickets online, or for further information about the performers, visit the MAC website at www.maudslayartscenter.org in mid-June. Tickets also may be purchased at the gate (check, cash or Venmo only) or by calling (978) 388-2552. There is no reserved seating, but large groups will be accommodated with advance notice. Gift certificates also are available. MAC participates in the MCC Card to Culture Program.

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COMMUNITY NEWS HERO \$500 or more

Rich Baker - West Newbury

MEDIA PATRIOT \$250 or more

Elizabeth Carter & Donald Saviory - Rowley

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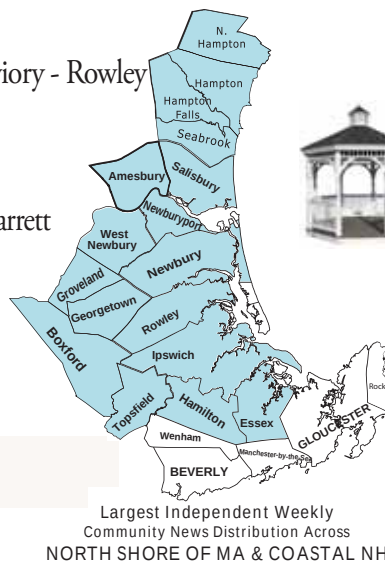
Anonymous - Georgetown
Beth Gandelman - Realtor, J. Barrett
Deb Tyler - Rowley

SPONSOR \$50 or more

James Gage - Amesbury

NEWSIE \$25 or more

Anonymous - Newbury
Brian Leahy - Georgetown



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Donald L. Kent

Donald L. Kent, lifetime resident of Rowley, passed away peacefully on July 7, 2026, at the age of 94 with his children at his side. He was the devoted husband of 67 years to Virginia Ann Iglehart Kent, who preceded him in death just one year ago. This loss was soon compounded by the passing of his beloved youngest daughter, Mary Katherine Kent Cierpich.

Donald was born in Ipswich, MA on September 23, 1931, son of the late Anna O. and Howard L. Kent. He began publishing the Rowley News, a small weekly newspaper, at just 13 years old from the basement of his home. With the support of his mother, he wrote local news and incorporated syndicated current events. The Rowley News was published from 1944 to 1951 and again from 1954 to 1957.

After graduating from Newburyport High School in 1949, Don served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War from 1951 to 1954. His assignments included service aboard the USS Putnam (DD-757); with Subgroup 2 of the Atlantic Reserve Fleet at the U.S. Naval Base in Philadelphia, PA; and at the Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet (CINCLANTFLT) Printing Plant in Norfolk, VA.

Following his honorable discharge from the Navy, Don returned home to marry Ann, whom he had met while stationed in Norfolk, VA. He resumed his career in printing, lithography, and publishing, and founded the well-known local business, Rowley Printing, Inc. For the next 35 years, he worked alongside his wife and their two sons to build and operate the family business.

Don was a tireless volunteer and philanthropist who devoted countless hours to serving his community. A committed member of the Rowley Fire Department, he served as Assistant Chief and helped lead an S&H Green Stamp fundraising campaign that provided the department with a new fire engine. As Master of the Rowley Grange, he played a key role in recruiting and hiring Rowley's first physician. Don also served as Chairman of Rowley's Salvation Army branch, working to ensure that elderly members of the community had the essential resources needed for daily living. In addition, he was a proud member and steadfast supporter of the Rowley VFW.

In retirement, Don especially enjoyed spending time with family and friends aboard his treasured houseboat, Rebel Yell, moored off Sandy Point in Ipswich, MA. He loved watching the Boston Red Sox and talking baseball with his grandsons. A true jack-of-all-trades, Don could fix just about anything and was always willing to lend a helping hand.

Don was the brother of the late Barbara Gaspar of Newbury, MA, and the late Richard Kent of Rowley, MA. He is survived by his younger sister, Marlene Norton of Hampton, NH. He was the adored father of five children, all of whom loved him dearly: John M. Kent and his wife, Louise; Donna K. Twombly and her husband, Bret; and David S. Kent and his wife, Marie, all of Rowley, MA; Sharon K. Cone and her husband, Dale, of Midlothian, VA; and the late Mary K. Cierpich, wife of Mark Cierpich, of Charlton, MA.

He was also the proud grandfather to ten grandchildren: Sara Twombly, Michelle Twombly Lojko (husband, Mark), Matthew Cone, Ryan Kent, Mitchell Cone, Michael Cone, Tyler Cierpich, Alyssa Kent, Julia Cierpich, and Annelise Cone. He also delighted in visits from his one great grandchild, Ellis Lojko.

Don will be remembered for his unwavering dedication to his family, his generosity to his community, and his remarkable ability to solve almost any problem with patience and ingenuity. Whether serving his country, building a family business, volunteering in his hometown, or simply sharing time with those he loved, he lived a life defined by service, kindness, and integrity. His legacy will endure in the family he cherished, the community he helped shape, and the many lives he touched.

A Memorial Mass was held on Wednesday, July 15, 2026, at Immaculate Conception Church of Newburyport, Massachusetts.

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 ~



GROVELAND NEWS

Continued from page 1

and constructed a much larger groundwater treatment facility. The facility, built on the Archdiocese of Boston property located at 62 Washington Street, began operation in April of 2000 with the EPA overseeing operation until 2011 when the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (Mass DEP) assumed control. Additional activities done during this period included the removal of abandoned underground storage tanks and a former underground disposal system, and removal of contaminated soil from the site.

In 2010, despite 10 years of treatment, groundwater and soil contamination levels remained above cleanup goals on the Valley Screw property and surrounding areas. To address this, the EPA funded the construction and operation of a system known as Electrical Resistive Heating, which operated from August 2010 through February of 2011. Due to the combined effectiveness of the new system and the older treatment method, by 2014 the contamination was reduced to such an extent that active groundwater treatment was no longer necessary. This resulted in the shutdown of both systems in May 2014. The EPA declared the contaminants removed to safe levels and our water supply no longer at risk. Monitoring wells throughout the 850-acre surrounding area remain and are regularly measured to assure contaminants remain below desired levels.

Meanwhile, to reopen Groveland's water supply, a new well was built along the Merrimack River. Well number four was built with half a million dollars in funds paid to the town by Valley Screw owners during their initial settlement in 1980. During the early 2000's well number one was reopened. This was after careful monitoring by EPA, a new filtration system at the well, and regular testing for hazardous chemicals in the water.

In 2020 the large brick filtration building behind Valley Screw under control of Mass DEP was decommissioned. All the filtration systems hardware was removed, and the building was turned over to the Boston Catholic Archdiocese, owners of that land parcel. The Valley Screw building itself continues to sit abandoned and falling apart after 44 years.

What will happen to that building and the brick filtration building? How about the surrounding land with restrictions placed on it by the EPA? We will try to get those answers for our next segment, stay tuned. ♦

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