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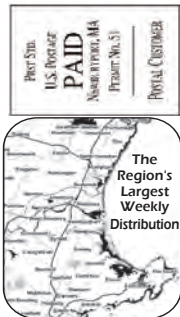
The Town Common

LARGEST DISTRIBUTION ACROSS THE NORTH SHORE OF MA & COASTAL NH

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Wednesday, August 5, 2026 - Vol. 22, No. 41

FREE



Photos from Past Newburyport Homecoming Parades

Georgetown 4-H Club Awarded BOOST Grant from the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation



The Massachusetts 4-H Foundation recently awarded the Langwater Farm Barnyard Buddies 4-H Club of Georgetown a BOOST (Building Opportunity and Organizational

Strength Together) grant of \$2,500 for jump equipment for horseback riding.

"The BOOST grant has had a tremendous impact on our Langwater Farm Barnyard Buddies 4-H Club," said Teagan Gaeta, Club Leader. "This funding is helping us purchase

adjustable schooling jumps that will become a permanent part of our educational curriculum, giving youth hands-on opportunities to learn safe horse handling, course design, equine conditioning, and progressive horsemanship skills....Because this equipment will be used for weekly club activities, clinics, and community

Continued on page 2



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

**ROWLEY'S
MAGIC DOGLAND**

PAGE 2

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Helping SelectBoard Chair Wendy Reed cut the ribbon were (from left) Parks and Recreation Chair Doug Mead, SelectBoard member Barry Fogel, Parks and Recreation Commission members Wendy Willis and Casey Fallon and Town Manager Jennings. Not shown in the photo was Highway Supt. Richard "Butch" Hills.



Tegan Fallon (left) and Rhea Ruark (right) enjoying the new courts.
(Photos by Stewart Lytle)

A New Use for West Newbury's Middle Street Bridge Granite

By Stewart Lytle, Sr. Reporter

WEST NEWBURY — Pickleball courts seem to be springing up at any vacant spots as this sport solidifies its popularity with North Shore residents.

But none of them have a granite wall reclaimed from the historic Middle Street Bridge, which connected Newburyport and West Newbury over the Upper Artichoke Reservoir since the 19th Century.

The granite repurposed as a wall outside the new courts "is probably more valuable than the courts themselves," Town Manager Angus Jennings said.

The two new courts, at Action Cove playground, cost \$175,000.

Welcoming players is a granite stone with a plaque, created by Marcia Schoeder, that reminds visitors that the stones are from the bridge, which was closed eight years ago when it partially collapsed.

Due to the nature of the collapse and the materials originally used, none of its granite was salvageable for use in the bridge replacement.

Both West Newbury and Newburyport, which owned the bridge, divided the granite removed from the bridge for use in future projects. ♦

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4-H Foundation

Continued from page 1

demonstrations, it will provide educational opportunities for youth for many years to come. We are incredibly grateful to the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation for investing in the growth of our club and the next generation of horsemen and horsewomen."

"The BOOST Grant Program reflects the Foundation's deep commitment to strengthening the Massachusetts 4-H community by investing directly in the creativity and capacity

of our clubs, fairs, and advisory councils," said Robert Kordenbrock, Executive Director of the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation. "This year, we're proud to distribute \$35,000 to 18 recipients across the Commonwealth — each grant representing a powerful vision for youth development. These grants are not just financial support; they are votes of confidence in the next generation of leaders made possible thanks to the generosity of donors who believe in and support 4-H, and we are deeply grateful for their continued partnership."

The Massachusetts 4-H Founda-

tion launched its BOOST grant program in 2024. This year, 18 4-H entities, including 4-H clubs, advisories and fairs, were awarded grants totaling \$35,000 in the areas of general operating, capacity building, and community outreach.

The Massachusetts 4-H Foundation is an independent nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization committed to the mission of enriching and advancing of 4-H youth development programs throughout the Commonwealth. Established in 1955, the Foundation generates and provides resources to help expand the 4-H program in Massachusetts.

Massachusetts 4-H is a youth development program open to all young people ages 5 through 18 throughout the Commonwealth. It is part of a nationwide system connected to each land-grant institution of higher education and as such, has access to a wealth of resources and curriculum. In Massachusetts, 4-H is based at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and offers programming to youth in every county in the state. ♦



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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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5 Wed	4:48	7.8	5:13	8.6	10:57	0.6	11:38	0.4	5:39	7:59	☾
6 Thu	5:45	7.6	6:09	8.7	11:51	0.8			5:40	7:58	☾
7 Fri	6:46	7.4	7:08	8.8	12:38	0.3	12:49	0.9	5:41	7:56	☾
8 Sat	7:50	7.3	8:11	9.0	1:42	0.2	1:51	0.9	5:42	7:55	☾
9 Sun	8:54	7.4	9:13	9.2	2:45	0.0	2:53	0.8	5:43	7:54	☾
10 Mon	9:54	7.6	10:12	9.5	3:46	-0.2	3:54	0.6	5:44	7:52	☾
11 Tue	10:51	7.9	11:08	9.6	4:43	-0.5	4:51	0.3	5:45	7:51	☾
12 Wed	11:44	8.3			5:36	-0.7	5:46	0.0	5:46	7:49	☾

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LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT:

ROWLEY's Magic Dogland



This series of local businesses to encourage customers to shop local, and make people aware of the services, and talents, that we have surrounding us! Please shop local!

by Kay Lee Ogden

This week's business spotlight: Magic Dogland of Rowley, Mass, run by owner Kim Lewis and her daughter Desiree Lewis.

Kim has a passion for the love of dogs, and to make them happy. Four years ago, Kim envisioned owning her own business and decided that she wanted a dog care center for dog sitting – a loving and caring space for dogs to visit.

In 2022, she saw a For Lease sign on the existing property. Kim signed her lease in November of 2022, and she started designing her dream project. She worked extremely hard, manually clearing the land and refining it. She built a new office, painted and fixed and maintained all the buildings to where it is today. Kim also worked with a 10+ year animal officer, Megan Sousa, a wonderful lady that helped Kim with the legalities of operating a dog care center.

Meanwhile, Kim took many courses on how to train dogs and has a CPR dog certification. In the future, she's planning on expanding the area with more playroom and more turf.

Kim is not someone who just loves pooches; she is a dog whisperer: she trains dogs that have anxiety and aggression. She uses a method of being calm, not yelling or loud voices. She also believes you do not want to tell your dog, but instead keep eye contact – that's the best way to train. The dogs intuitively know how to do this. It's 'no-speak' training method. Kim trains basic skills: obedience, come, stay, sit, potty, by watching her commands. Training costs are \$75 for 45 minutes per day for two weeks. This is extremely important: learning while training depends on the dog and the owner.

The whisper also does not believe in cages, however, in her care, and dogs care, they go in their cages for two hours to rest at noon. This is important for their health. Kim and her staff also have the compassion and understanding of what your dog needs. That's what makes her business special.

Her daughter, Desirre, as well as other employees, watch and play with the dogs diligently, to make sure every poop is picked up, that there's plenty of water in their bowls, that they are entertained, playing tug of war, ball games, and that they are happy!

They also use well water only. The company uses pools, not tiny slippery plastic ones, but heavy-duty rubber, measuring 10x16x16 inches and 6x1x1 inch deep for smaller dogs. Dogs do not fight, they play and get exercise, because they are happy. Most of the area the dogs play in is soft turf, so the doggies' feet are always comfortable. Very important!

Magic Dogland and Kim Lewis take their reputations seriously: they have cameras, live streaming, so the clients can watch their pooches! Also, with no escapes since she opened her business.

Magic Dogland is located at 104 Newburyport Turnpike, Rowley, Mass. Phone: 978-382-2521. E-mail: MagicDogland@gmail.com. Web: www.facebook.com/purrandgrslove.

Hours: Drop off 6 am – 9:30 am, M-F; Hours: 6 – am – 6:30 pm; Sat 9 am – 4PM; Sunday pickup only. Magic Dogland is also open in the winter.

Her prices are: Half-day visit: \$30, 5-day pass: \$190, overnight: \$65, and more. Magic Dogland is offering a free day for you and your dog to visit. Call, book, and go see for yourself! I can say, Larry and I have brought our dogs there since she opened. We go away with confidence and never worry. She sends pictures to assure us, and her daughter and employees do an excellent job! I highly recommend this business!

The Town Common

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Newburyport's Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church to Benefit from Shaw's Re-usable Bag Program

NEWBURYPORT – The St. Basil’s Meal Ministry of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church has offered a weekly free Monday meal for many decades. The program has been selected as a nonprofit partner in the Shaw’s GIVE BACK WHERE IT COUNTS Reusable Bag Program for August 2026. **This means the St. Basil’s Meal Ministry will receive \$1 for every \$3.00 GIVE BACK WHERE IT COUNTS Reusable Bag sold throughout the month of August 2026 at the Shaw’s at 45 Storey Avenue in Newburyport.** The meal is offered every Monday from 11:30am to 12:30pm at the church located at 7 Harris Street in Newburyport. Guests can dine in or takeout a complete meal. For more information visit the church website at www.annunciation.ma.goarch.org.



Newburyport Chamber Music Festival 25th Anniversary

The Newburyport Chamber Music Festival (NCMF) proudly announces its 2026 Summer Festival, marking 25 years of bringing world-class classical music to the North Shore. This milestone season features a repertoire balancing canonical masterpieces by Haydn, Mendelssohn, and Shostakovich with the contemporary creative brilliance of new works by Composer-in-Residence Jon Deak. The milestone season features a distinguished roster of guest artists, including the Grammy Award-winning Miró String Quartet, legendary Metropolitan Opera soprano Lucy Shelton, and elite classical pianist Kenny Broberg, laureate of both the Tchaikovsky and Van Cliburn international competitions, who will be performing the Open Night Concert at St. Paul’s Church on Saturday, August 8th. Festival highlights include: The Return of Jon Deak & Lucy Shelton concert on August 13th presents a theatrical night of music highlighting a cartoon-score performance of Cathy Berberian’s Stripsody, Aaron Copland folk classics, and a highly anticipated reprise of Deak’s The Jury, based on a poem by local icon Rhina P. Espailat. The 25th Anniversary Finale concert on August 15th marks a long-held directorial vision by staging Mendelssohn’s breathtak-

Continued on page 8

Dynegy Energy to Supply Newburyport Electricity

By Stewart Lytle, Sr. Reporter

NEWBURYPORT – Dynegy Energy Services is the new supplier of residential electricity for Newburyport. Its Community Choice Power Supply Program is a municipal aggregation which enables local government to combine the purchasing power of its residents and businesses to save money by providing residents with an alternative to National Grid Basic Service. This Program only affects the supply portion of your monthly bill. It will not affect the delivery portion of your monthly bill. The current rate until next January for the city’s program is \$0.13747 per kilowatt hour, compared to National Grid’s rate of \$0.17185 per kilowatt hour. ♦

Newburyport Public Library August Events

Monday, August 10th at 7 PM: "Act Worthy of Yourselves" with author Salina B. Baker (VIRTUAL). Author Salina B. Baker will be discussing her book, "Act Worthy of Yourselves: A Novel of Dr. Joseph Warren and an American Rebellion". This historical biographical novel brings Bostonian Dr. Joseph Warren to life in vivid, intimate detail. Virtual registration required.

Tuesday, August 11th at 5:30 PM: Charcuterie Basics (IN PERSON). This hands-on workshop will teach the components of charcuterie, how to choose ingredients, and tips and tricks to style a charcuterie board like a master. All materials will be provided, and participants will take home their own mini charcuterie box to enjoy! Registration required.

Saturday, August 15th at 10 AM: Crop Swap (IN PERSON). Join the Newburyport Public Library and Our Neighbors' Table for our first ever Crop Swap event! Participants are invited to bring their home-grown produce, herbs, and cut flowers to the swap to be shared with others, entirely free of charge. Any leftover items at the end of the swap will be donated to Our Neighbors' Table to go to families in need. No registration required.

Tuesday, August 18th at 12 PM: Free Energy Bill Check-Up Session (IN PERSON).

SON). Is your energy bill feeling too high? Sit down with your city’s Energy Advocate and get real, specific help with your bills. Bring your gas and electric bills with you. This is a drop-in event, so come by any time between 12 and 2pm. No registration required.

Thursday, August 20th at 3pm: Classics Book Group (IN PERSON). The Classics Book Group meets in-person on the third Thursday of every month in the Director’s Room. This month’s title is "The Sound of Waves" by Yukio Mishima. Registration required.

Monday, August 24th at 6 PM: Maker Monday: Aroma Stones (IN PERSON). This simple craft lets you create solid, scented molds in fun shapes and colors to bring fun scents to your home. Participants will be able to choose from one of 5 scents and create one or more stones to take home. Registration required.



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Timothy Southall

Timothy Southall, 89, passed away peacefully on July 26, 2026, surrounded by the love of his family.

Tim was born on October 12, 1936, in Baltimore, Maryland, and spent his childhood growing up in several communities throughout Pennsylvania. In 1955, he met the love of his life, Barbara. Their friendship blossomed into a lifelong partnership, and they were married in 1959, sharing 67 years of love, faith, and devotion. Tim attended Gordon College before he and Barbara settled in Rowley, where they built their family home in 1964. There, they lovingly raised their three children: Mark (Jeannette), Sandy (Brian), and Tim (Laurie).

For more than two decades, Tim was a dedicated sixth-grade teacher at Pine Grove School, serving from 1964 to 1985. He was passionate about helping young people learn and grow, both in the classroom and on the playing field. In addition to teaching, he coached baseball, basketball, and other sports, leaving a lasting impact on generations of students. He dedicated more than 35 years to Rowley Baseball, helped organize the summer recreation program, and 4th of July races on the town common.

After retiring from teaching, Tim began a second career as a carpenter, working with skill and pride until 2005.

Tim's greatest joy was his family. He is survived by his beloved wife, Barbara; his children, Mark (Jeannette), Sandy (Brian), and Tim (Laurie); his grandchildren, Ryan (Kirsten), Alysa, Amy, Rachel, and Ty; and his cherished great-granddaughters, Madison and Liana.

A man of deep Christian faith, Tim lived his life with kindness, humility, and quiet strength. He was gentle in spirit, generous with his time, and always willing to lend a helping hand. His unwavering faith guided the way he loved his family, served his community, and treated everyone he met with compassion and respect.

Tim will be remembered as a devoted husband, loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather, faithful friend, gifted teacher and craftsman, and a man whose life reflected grace, integrity, and love. His legacy lives on in the many lives he touched, and he will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Calling hours were held Thursday, July 30, 2026 at the F. S. Roberts & Son Funeral Home in Rowley.

*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 -



'Forced-Out' ConCom Staff Cry Out for Change in Town Leadership

By Stewart Lytle, Sr. Reporter

GEORGETOWN – For much of the last five years, there has been almost continuous turmoil in the staffing of one of this town's most critical regulatory body – the Conservation Commission.

The commission, known as the ConCom, protects the town's natural resources, including endangered species; regulates wetlands – ponds, lakes, rivers – and manages open space. This volunteer board oversees environmental health through permitting, planning, and land stewardship.

Orlando Pacheco has been the Georgetown Town Administrator for 4 years and 7 months, having started on January 1, 2022. His boss, the SelectBoard, is elected.

The last three ConCom staff personnel have either been fired or claim they have been pushed out of office, including Michele Grenier, the most recent conservation agent, who says she is planning to file suit against the town for what her lawyer terms unlawful firing. She was fired by Pacheco by email for allegedly withholding a transcript of a Zoom recording of a ConCom meeting that was never held (she was arranging per directions of the chair to inform members that the meeting was cancelled until a future date). He also stated she was fired for saying she was thinking about telling him he should do his (explicative) job.

Conservation Agent Steven Przyjemski resigned in January of 2023 after serving the town for 17 years. He claimed Pacheco had created a "toxic environment" for him at town hall. Following being shouted at by Pacheco, according to a witness, Przyjemski filed a police report about Pacheco's actions against him.

Julie Cantara, the ConCom administrative assistant for three years, resigned in 2023, telling then SelectBoard chair Amy Smith, "Orlando and his buddies all did everything in their power to take me down. Me. A single mother."

Michele Grenier – Conservation Director from Nov. 27, 2023 to March 18, 2026

Her attorney, Simon Mann, wrote to Pacheco, "Ms. Grenier was subjected to unlawful employment practices including discrimination, retaliation, improper reduction of wages and hours, and wrongful termination, in violation of Massachusetts law, including but not limited to M.G.L. c. 149 § 148 and M.G.L. c. 151B.

Ms. Grenier was hired after three rounds of interviews at a salary of \$65,000 for 32 hours per week, reporting to the Conservation Commission. She has stated that shortly after she began, the Town Administrator imposed an arrangement requiring her to work in the Town of Essex, something that members of the Commission stated they were unaware of. When that assignment ended in June 2024, Ms. Grenier expected to return to her full role in Georgetown.

Instead, her hours and salary were cut to approximately 24 hours and \$38,000, without her agreement. She

and her supervisor refused to sign off on this change, and stated that no other department heads were treated similarly.

From that point forward, Ms. Grenier stated that she was singled out and subjected to ongoing hostile and unequal treatment. She claims she was held to standards not applied to others, publicly reprimanded, and denied support in difficult and confrontational situations encountered in the field. Her repeated concerns about pay inequity and workplace treatment were, she states, ignored.

She was also suspended without pay under what were termed questionable circumstances and said she was subjected to continued harassment that the Town failed to address. Despite her experience and workload, her compensation remained significantly below that of her peers, she claimed.

In May 2025, the Town changed its reporting structure to place her directly under the Town Administrator, removing the independence of her role and worsening the conditions she faced, she stated. Her employment was ultimately terminated on March 20, 2026, based on what she states were inaccurate and pretextual claims, shortly after she raised concerns about her treatment.

In her lawyer's letter of notice to the Town, he stated that "the Town's actions have caused Ms. Grenier significant financial harm and emotional distress and constitute clear violations of Massachusetts law under M.G.L. c. 149 § 148 and M.G.L. c. 151B. As a result, we demand one (2) years of severance pay to resolve this dispute. Please provide a timely response to this letter of demand within thirty (30) days, or we will file a formal complaint and pursue all available remedies in court."

Grenier also had her letter about her American with Disabilities Act protection apparently removed from the town personnel file, she claims. Pacheco administers the ADA for Georgetown.

Julie Cantara – Conservation Administrative Assistant from August 2020 until April 2023.

In a letter to Amy Smith, she wrote: "Dear Amy, I'm writing because as you know, I gave my resignation on Monday, and as of Tuesday I was locked out of access to be able to do my job. I want to make sure that I'm at least being paid for this past Monday that I worked, and any other time that isn't accounted for.

"I would also like to express my disappointment, not just with Georgetown, but with you personally. You sat back and watched everything being done to Conservation for years. You came to me before you became Chairperson, and you kept telling me to wait until May, and things would get better. Now, because of how compliant you have been with Orlando, you and he have now successfully crippled an entire department.

"I had Orders of Conditions (permits) that needed to be sent out, on top of many other things that needed to be done prior to my leaving. I felt

relieved when you became the Chair, and I truly believed you when you said things would get better. Instead, you did everything Orlando told you to do or say, all while he was staging a farce felony and tried framing me for it.

"You did NOTHING when Orlando and his buddies all did everything in their power to take me down. Me. A single mother, earning 20% less than I should've been (refer to the wage evaluation study and equal pay law), doing more work than any other admin, going through personal health issues, and never complaining.

"Orlando successfully broke me down, targeted and harassed me, destroyed my reputation, all while you sat back and watched it happen. I expect an answer about my pay, and I will be looking into the legality of that - especially given that at least 2 employees have left within the last month, and they weren't forced to leave abruptly or go without pay!

"I am honestly stunned that after everything, you went by what Orlando said about me, rather than what you knew to be true on your own. You and I had always had a nice relationship, and I truly thought that you, as a woman, would be able to cut through this mob style mentality that Orlando continues to showcase.

"I pray for Georgetown and its residents. I loved my job there. I loved working with the people, and I was making a difference in helping to streamline things to make the application process smoother for everyone. Now it will be run by whomever Orlando decides to put there, and if he has his way, he'll gut the bylaw. I hope you remember this in 10 or 20 years, when everyone's properties are flooding because of the development that will happen once Orlando gets his hands on Conservation.

"Trust that he'll be long gone when the residents are dealing with the back end of what he does to the town you live in!"

Steven Przyjemski, Conservation Agent until January, 2023.

In a letter to Carl Shreder, who was the ConCom chair for almost 25 years, and posted on Facebook, Przyjemski wrote: "Dear Chairman Shreder, Being my last day on the job, and as exit interviews seem to be out of fashion at least here in Georgetown, I would like to bring to your attention my reasons for leaving Georgetown, a town that I have served with respect, integrity and regard for 17 years.

"Throughout the years I could not HAVE BEEN more impressed by the professionalism and class of my colleagues on the Town Hall staff. We worked together as a committed team and ALWAYS found a path forward that honored the vision and needs of the residents of the town, despite the issues and differences of opinion that can arise in the fray of small-town politics.

"In recent years, Georgetown's Selectboard and Town Administration SEEM to have changed the direction of the town in troubling ways

Continued on page 8

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
Laurie Mae	Plaistow, NH	Berube-Comeau Funeral Home	Plaistow
Eric McGregor Summerton	Hampstead, NH		
Maria Tofalo	Danvers, MA	CR Lyons & Sons Funeral Directors	Danvers
Julie Ann Spadorcia	Danvers, MA		
Paul G. Fournier	Amesbury, MA	Campbell Funeral Home	Beverly
Barbara Louise Cooke	Topsfield, MA		
Scott D. Apitz	Andover	Conte Funeral Home	Andover
Joan (Driscoll) Keegan	North Andover		
Francis R. Kozdras	North Andover	Conte Funeral Home	North Andover
Edward R. McCarthy III	Danvers, MA		
John Preston Adams	Peabody, MA	Conway Cahill-Brodeur Funeral Home	Peabody
Edward Rostosky	Haverhill, MA		
Robert George Turner	Haverhill, MA	Driscoll Funeral Home & Cremation Services	Haverhill
Tina George	Epping, NH		
Timothy David Southall	Rowley, MA	E.S. Roberts & Son	Rowley
Gail Rath Feigenbaum	Andover, MA		
Donna Frances (Pazzanese) O'Brien	Haverhill, MA	H.L. Farmer Funeral Homes & Cremation Services	Bradford
Dominga Rivera	Haverhill, MA		
Constance Louise (Joy) "Connie" Cronin	North Andover, MA	John Breen Memorial Funeral Home, Inc.	North Andover
Sonia E. Medina	Lawrence, MA		
Roberta Jean Dirks	Danvers, MA	O'Donnell Cremations-Funerals-Celebrations	Danvers
Richard A. Baker	Newburyport, MA		
Richard F. Bernard	Merrimac, MA	Paul C. Rogers & Sons Family Funeral Homes	Amesbury
Susan Jane Jones	Plymouth, MA		
Gerald J. "Gerry" Windemiller	Hampton, NH	Remick & Gendron Funeral Home	Hampton
Sheila Pevear	Portsmouth, NH		



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Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Don't be sheepish about asking questions and demanding answers. You not only gain needed information, you also respect your steadfast search for the truth.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A money problem that shows up early in the week is expeditiously resolved by savvy Bovines, who know how to turn a momentary financial lapse into a monetary gain.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) It's a good time to shed negative energy-draining forces and develop a positive approach to handling current — as well as upcoming — personal and/or professional situations.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your urge to do your best on a current task is commendable, but don't let it become all-consuming. Spend some spiritually restorative time with those you love you.
LEO (July 23 to August 22) This could be a good time for all you Leos and Leonas to take your bows for your recent achievements. Then go off to enjoy some fun times with your prides and joys!
VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A negative response to a well-intentioned suggestion could communicate a sense of distrust that you might later find hard to refute. Think carefully before reacting.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your loving attention comforts a family member who's feeling a bit out of sorts. But be careful to prioritize your time so that you don't neglect your work duties.
SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your curiosity might be resented by some, but those who know you will support your penchant for never settling for less than the truth. So, stay with it!
SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A pesky situation from the past recurs, albeit in an altered form. Deal with it promptly before it can go from merely irksome to decidedly troublesome.
CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Don't wait too long to submit your proposals after giving them a last look over. If necessary, you should be able to defend any portion that gets called into question.
AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A bid to use your workplace dispute-settling skills in another situation is tempting. But be careful, as you might not have all the facts you'll need if you agree to do it.
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A sense of self-doubt is so untypical of you that you should have no qualms in shaking it off. Remind yourself of all you've done and can do, then do it again.
BORN THIS WEEK: Your ability to charm others without sacrificing sincerity is what makes people want to follow your leadership.

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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:

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2005 Honda Accord VIN 1HGCM56775A007856
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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

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 **\$165-142 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, AUGUST 19, 2026 at 7:30 pm**. The hearing to amend \$165-142 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 **AUGUST 19, 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

GROVELAND
Statement of
Robert E. Valentine
Retiring Fire Chief

GROVELAND – “In November of 2024, during a visit to my doctor for a seasonal respiratory infection, my doctor found inconsistencies with my chest X-ray, and I was referred to a pulmonologist. At the follow-up appointment, which included scans and blood testing, I was diagnosed with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis, a chronic, incurable progressive lung disease. After serving for nearly 50 years as a firefighter, my body was starting to show the telltale signs of my career.

“I informed the Town of Groveland of my diagnosis, and I was cleared by my doctor to return to work with medication to manage the progression of the disease. Until recent weeks, I had every intention of remaining in the job I love through at least my 65th birthday. I continued to respond to virtually every call for service in the Groveland Fire Department, and as has been well-documented, I have put myself out there in contention to advance my career.

“In June 2026, within a week of Father's Day, I responded to and worked at two structure fires as a mutual aid responder – one in Georgetown and one in West Newbury. I became progressively sicker after each fire, and my wife – who generally has my well-being in mind much more than I do – made an appointment for me to visit again with my pulmonologist.

“At the doctor's appointment on July 16, I was handed a letter from my doctor informing me that she deemed my career in the fire service to be over effective immediately, due to the sudden progression of my lung disease. My doctor informed me that she determined that continuing my career would be 'counterproductive' to the treatment of my disease.

“This was devastating news. I am a stubborn firefighter. It is my life's work, and I had no intention of leaving the job I love.

“I notified the Groveland Town Administrator on the following Monday morning, July 20, and was placed on sick leave at that time, pending my retirement.

“I notified the Groveland Fire Department members on Tuesday, July 21.

“That evening, the firefighters moved me to tears when they had me make my final radio call over the airwaves, and then they drove me to my home in Groveland aboard Engine 3, the newest fire truck in our fleet, where more than a dozen of my fellow fire chiefs were waiting.

“The fire service is a noble calling, staffed by good and decent human beings who, regardless of whether they are career, call or volunteer firefighters, respond day in and day out to all manner of emergencies in our communities. It has been the honor of a lifetime to serve alongside these dedicated men and women for the past 47 years, and I will miss reporting for work every day.

“Thank you to the citizens of Groveland for your support and warm hospitality welcoming me into your community nearly eight years ago, and thank you to the members of the Groveland Fire and Police Departments for your professionalism and commitment to our town.

“While this chapter has ended sooner than I expected, I leave knowing I was fortunate to spend nearly five decades serving others in a profession I loved.”

LEGAL NOTICE
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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
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2012 Volkswagen Jetta VIN 3VW1K7AJXCM346764
2013 Infiniti JX35 VIN 5N1AL0MM7DC323728
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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)

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 at 7:30 pm**. 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



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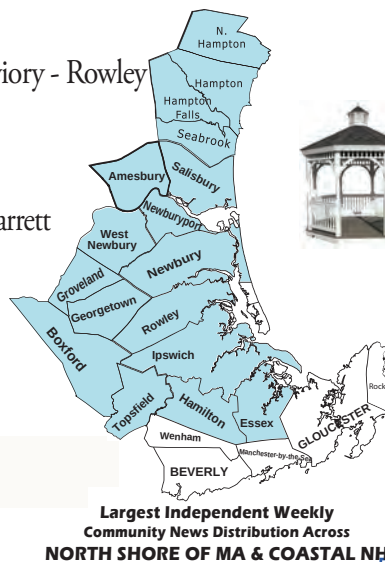
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CONCOM EX-EMPLOYEES

Continued from page 4

that were not revealed in the ostensibly transparent ways often talked about on camera.

"In particular, for almost a year now, it has been beyond obvious to everyone, minus a select few, that there has been an all-out attack on the Conservation Commission. Two commissioners with a combined 16-plus years of service to the Commission, were treated with blatant disrespect at a Selectboard meeting, then removed for no legitimate cause, based up unsubstantiated statements designed to serve a private agenda.

"I am sure my concerns will just be written off as complaints from an irate, disgruntled employee, easily ignored. The truth is, I am concerned that the political system in Georgetown is being manipulated against the best interests of the town and its residents. I hope every reads this is also 'disgruntled.'"

"The same town officials spew the same misstatement at every opportunity, as if repeating something often enough makes it fact. The bullying, targeting and harassment at the hands of the current leadership towards the Commission is not how Town officials should be conducting themselves.

"The waste of hundreds of hours of staff time, and what I can only guess at being thousands of dollars of taxpayers money for 'witch hunt' is beyond count. These misstatements and unfounded accusation amount to nothing short of lying and manipulation in support of private agendas.

"My parting wish for the town is extremely simple. I hope Georgetown, the amazing and beautiful place I have come to love, keeps up the mission of preserving the town as a place

that people want to move to, a community of dedicated residents.

"I encourage all residents to pay attention to how a very select few decide what your town will look like. When leadership does not listen to and actively ignores residents' and staff-voice concerns, as they have been doing, every citizen should be very concerned."

Notes:

The two veteran ConCom members mentioned in Przyjemski's letter were Rebecca Chane and Laura Repplier (now a SelectBoard member).

The witch hunt Przyjemski refers to was Pacheco's accusation that there was "vast payroll fraud" in the ConCom. The town hired private detectives to prove it, but no evidence of payroll fraud was found. The state Inspector General also found no evidence of this accusation.

The "farce felony" Cantara referred to involved the alleged theft of a computer from the ConCom office. She was accused of stealing the computer, although she was not in Georgetown at the time of its mysterious disappearance. ConCom vice chair Rachel Therrien was then accused of stealing it, but an investigation found she could not because she did not have an office key. The computer was later 'magically' returned by another (unnamed) town employee.

Amy Smith, whom Cantara addressed her letter to, this spring was appointed by the SelectBoard to replace veteran ConCom member Rachel Therrien. Smith is the second former SelectBoard chair to be appointed to the ConCom in two years. She joins former SelectBoard Chair Daryl Lamonica, an ardent vocal critic of the ConCom, now sits as chair of the ConCom. ♦

NEWBURYPORT MUSIC

Continued from page 3

ing Octet in Eb Major (the "Mocktet"), paired dynamically with Shostakovich's Two Pieces for string octet (the "Shockett"). The performance features a world premiere by Composer-in-Residence Jon Deak and Poet-in-Residence Rhina P. Espailat, performed by Lucy Shelton and the Miró String Quartet.

In addition, there are two Hausmusik, a "Nachtmusik" in St. Anna's Chapel (a concert held in complete darkness), a fundraising Salon concert in a private home, Open Rehearsals, and so much more. These events sell out, so purchase your tickets now at newburyportchamber-music.org. Questions? Call 978-701-4914.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

WED. AUGUST 5

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, AUGUST 6

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, AUGUST 7

Salisbury

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

SAT, AUGUST 8

Newburyprt

Newburyport Chamber Music 25th Summer Festival Open Night Concert at St. Paul's Church on Saturday, August 8th. See article on page 3.

Salisbury

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

SUN AUGUST 9

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!

TUES, AUGUST 11

Ipswich

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

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YES, please also send me a magnetic bumper 'sticker' (as shown above).

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