

Ipswich Local News

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Latest Ora hearing: water, bunnies, horses, traffic

John P. Muldoon
Ipswich Local News

IPSWICH — There would be no animal testing, but the location would be Ora's corporate headquarters after all.

In a long meeting last Thursday devoted solely to the Ora application, the planning board touched on a lot of topics, including water, traffic, fiscal impacts, animal testing, and another discussion about a possible conflict of interest.

Asked about plans for its Andover location, Ora's senior project manager, Jennifer Williams, said the company plans to drop its lease there. It can handle around 120 employees, she said.

"That doesn't mean all the people that used to go there on a daily basis will be going to the Ipswich property on a daily basis," Williams said. For example, the clinical staff would move to a medical office, she added.

The company is completely changing its approach to office-based work, and employees would be mostly remote, Williams said.

Animal testing

Ora's opponents recently pointed to U.S. Department of Agriculture inspection reports from Ora's Andover facility.

Resident Chris Florio called the infractions "egregious." However, resident Joni Soffron said they had been resolved and the employee involved was let go.

The long-time owner of Wolf Hollow, she added that she had dealt with both the USDA and PETA, the animal-rights group that publicized the USDA reports.

Soffron said the group is "extremist," and urged the equestrians opposed to Ora to beware of PETA. "They don't like you, either," she noted.

Ora's attorney, Chip Nylen, said the board could make a permit conditional on there being no testing.

Fiscal impact

Opponents said they wanted more information from Ora on the potential fiscal impact. Nylen said it could bring \$200,000 in taxes if all three phases are built.

However, resident Jennifer Eddy

see ORA, page 23



Felix Mavroides, his brother Theo, and Izzy Poirier prepare to board a fire truck with Kendall Buhl and Jeremy Dalton of the Ipswich Fire Department for a blazingly exciting ride to school. The IFD donated rides to and from the Winthrop and Doyon schools to help raise money for Friends of Ipswich Elementary Schools at their spring prom fundraiser (Kim Mavroides photo).

Neighbors line up to oppose proposed kennel

John P. Muldoon
Ipswich Local News

IPSWICH — The prospect of a dog kennel nearby has lined up residents opposing the prospect.

"This is not a commercial area. This is residential. It's quiet and peaceful," said Emily LeMieux.

"It would be a noise nuisance," said James Brown.

"Residential means residential. I'm sorry, I don't want to be a bad

neighbor, but I don't want to listen to barking dogs constantly," said Ted LeMieux.

The comments came in response to the application by Maggie Hackett to open a dog-training and boarding business at 236 High Street.

The area is zoned residential, and Hackett applied to the zoning board of appeals (ZBA) for a variance from local zoning. The first hearing on the matter was held last Thursday.

Hackett's attorney, William Bowl-

er, said Hackett has an incentive to be a good neighbor since she plans to live there. "If there's noise, she's going to have to hear it and deal with it," he said.

However, Erica Duda pointed to other problems. The house, two doors down from Mile Lane, is in the water supply protection district, she said.

Noting that Hackett's application said she would use a service called Poop 911 to pick up after the dogs,

Duda said that clean-up is unlikely to be done every day.

"That tells me she'll wait for a week or two weeks," said Duda, who lives next door. With her house 20 feet from the property line, she claimed she would not be able to sit in her backyard due to the smell.

Asked how many dogs would be on the property, Hackett said

see KENNEL, page 23

Tales from the scanner: Making his way to Maine on foot

Around 4:15 p.m. on Wednesday, June 15, a suspicious man was reported at Bialek Park. He was said to be sitting on the swing and yelling at people. People knew who he was and sought to get him home.

Around 8:40 a.m. on Friday, a motorcycle and car were involved in a crash near the intersection of County and Essex roads. No injuries were reported.

At 9:10 a.m., a car hit a parked trailer at Depot Square and left the area.

At 10:40 a.m. a car occupied by two elderly women was said to have

lost an axle on Topsfield Road. It was stuck in the travel lane and had to be towed.

At 11:15 a.m. a fox was said to be roaming around the Winthrop School playground.

On Saturday, at around 10:50 a.m., a riding lawnmower caught fire near a building on Bush Hill Road. Police got there first and radioed the fire appeared to be out but the machine was still smoking.

At 12:05 p.m., there was a hit-and-run on a parked car at Bialek Park.

At 7:10 p.m., dogs were said to be “jumping all over people” at White’s

Farm. They were described as a chocolate lab and a golden retriever.

On Sunday, at 10:55 a.m., a man was reported walking along Route 1. A car pulled in front of him, and he spoke briefly with the occupant before the car pulled away.

Around 8:25 p.m., a call from a Topsfield resident about a man in a plaid shirt on Linebrook Road near Route 1 driving a motorized scooter. The caller was worried for his well-being, as “he was slumped over.” An officer asked dispatch to check with Topsfield police because they had to deal with someone similar earlier. A few moments later, the dispatcher said they spoke with

a man in a plaid shirt pushing a cart. He refused to ID — “He refuses any and all help, and he is very headstrong in the idea of walking to Maine.”

On Monday, at around 7:25 p.m., a man driving on Leslie Road said he got into an altercation with another man using a leaf blower in the middle of the street. The leaf-blowing individual kicked his vehicle and caused damage.

At 7:35 p.m., a woman pulled over on Clark Road and was said to be pacing up and down. When people approached to see if she needed help, she yelled at them and flipped them off, the dispatcher relayed. She was gone when police got there.

Explosion wakes Estes Street

IPSWICH — Estes Street residents were jolted awake early on Saturday (June 18) by a loud bang and a fire. No injuries were reported.

The first call came at around 1:05 a.m. for a fire on the sidewalk at the EBSCO building.

The dispatcher said the fire may have been preceded by an explosion.

Residents also told the *Ipswich Local News* later on Saturday that

they heard an explosion.

At the time, the dispatcher said the fire was described as being size of a large campfire.

No buildings or cars were threatened, he added.

Police arrived first and said the fire appeared to be in the road but was larger than a campfire.

Around 1:37 a.m., police radioed for the DPW to clean up the mess, which was “a bunch of miscellaneous stuff.”

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A Medflight was needed to evacuate a motorcyclist involved in a crash on Linebrook Road on Monday evening.

Serious injury in Linebrook Road motorcycle crash

IPSWICH — A medical helicopter has evacuated a patient following a motorcycle accident on Monday afternoon.

The single-vehicle crash, involving a Harley Davidson motorcycle, happened around 5:10 p.m. just west of the fire station on Linebrook Road. The dispatcher called it out as a motorcycle accident.

Police later said the driver was traveling westbound.

Less than two minutes later, medics on scene had requested a Medflight, the dispatcher said.

The helicopter landed at Veterans Memorial Field on Mile Lane, where it was met by Action Ambulance. Medics spent some time working on the patient before he was taken away by the aircraft at around 6 p.m.

Meanwhile, police kept Outer Linebrook Road near Route 1 closed until around 6:25 p.m.

Police said after initial investigation, speed or operator error may have been factors in the accident. However, the incident is still under investigation.

Ipswich Bay areas closed to shellfishing due to red tide

IPSWICH — All areas in Ipswich Bay have been closed to shellfishing until further notice.

The move came on June 16 after tests from the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries showed the shellfish to be unsafe.

It followed a DMF notice issued on June 14 that paralytic shellfish poison (PSP, or “red tide”) made it unsafe to consume blue mussels.

“Blue mussels are sampled and tested first, as they tend to show

signs of PSP early and also cleanse themselves quickly after the harmful algal bloom subsides,” Greg Betten-court, an environmental analyst with DMF, said in an email.

“PSP toxin was first tested in soft-shell clams on June 14, with a result below the test’s detection limit. Just two days later, tests on softshell clams resulted in already concerning levels of PSP,” he added.

The DMF closed areas N1 (Salisbury) through N14 (Rockport and

Gloucester), according to the Ipswich shellfish web page.

An automated message from Ipswich Shellfish Constable Scott LaPreste said shellfish harvesting is closed until further notice.

The closure is likely to last at least two weeks, since clams are tested once a week for PSP. PSP levels must decrease for three tests in a row for harvesting to be declared safe.

“Red tide is caused by a ‘population explosion’ of toxic, naturally

occurring microscopic plankton,” according to the DMF website.

“After ingestion, this poison immediately affects the nervous system, with symptoms usually occurring within 30 minutes,” DMF said.

Initial symptoms are tingling in the lips and tongue, then the face, neck, fingertips, and toes, followed by headache, dizziness, and nausea. In severe cases, muscular paralysis and respiratory difficulty occurs within five to 12 hours.

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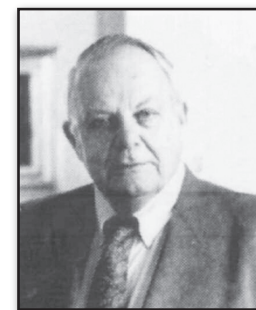
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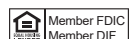


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School committee okays 11 Paine Grant applications

by Amy Palmer

IPSWICH — The public schools continue to reap the benefits of a donation made in 1660.

In 1660, William Paine gifted the 36 acres that are Little Neck to benefit the public schools of Ipswich. Through this donation, a trust was established that now provides funding for William Paine Enhancement Grants, designed to enrich education at Ipswich public schools. They are awarded every spring.

The enhancement grant committee reviews grant applications and sends approved applications to the school committee for a final decision. If the school committee approves the grant, funding becomes available in July.

On June 16, the school committee rejected one grant application, deferred discussion on another, and approved 11 applications.

“We were provided with an incredible amount of almost \$700,000 ... and we had applications for

\$828,000, so we do have some critical decisions,” said Heather Leonard, chair of the Paine Grant Committee.

The approved grant applications are listed below.

21st century music classroom: \$36,349.13. This grant is designed to create more opportunities in the music department through the creation of a “modern band” class for eighth-grade students that will integrate modern technology and production into the classroom. The funding will go toward instruments, technology equipment, and programs for music production.

Elementary library technology enhancement: \$31,000. Library media specialists from Doyon and Winthrop elementary schools submitted this grant to further incorporate computer science and digital literacy in their instruction. The funding will be used to purchase digital tools, including iPads and support coding programs and video creation.

Place-based learning: \$108,000. This grant, which has been requested repeatedly over the past few years, will work to ensure that all students across the school district

are able to participate in field trips and hands-on learning experiences regardless of their family’s financial situation.

Dual enrollment: \$13,700. High school students will be able to pursue higher education during the school day through this grant. Students will be allowed to dually enroll in a high school class and a local college class. This grant is anticipated to be incorporated into the school budget next year.

Doyon playground project: \$170,906. The current playground at Doyon Elementary School has surpassed its projected life, and many aspects of it have been taken down or closed for safety reasons, according to Heather Leonard, chair of the Paine Grant Committee. This grant will improve the playground by providing an ADA-compliant walking path, replacing the current ground cover, and adding climbing structures. It will be possible to relocate the playground at any time.

Visualizing and verbalizing: \$9,745.89. This grant would enable professional development for special education teachers and speech language pathologists to teach “targeted comprehension skills and

strategies” using visualizing and verbalizing techniques to support students that require targeted instruction at Doyon and Winthrop.

Doyon third grade trips to Plimoth Patuxet Museums: \$6,430. Third-grade students at Doyon will have the opportunity to travel to Plimoth Patuxet Museums this upcoming year through this grant. The funding will go toward the cost for travel and extended staffing to allow students a full day of exploring the museums.

Improving student achievement through adult learning: \$47,392. This grant, which has been requested repeatedly over the past few years, will enable professional development across the district. The funding will allow a student support team at the high school to travel to the American School Counselors Association conference in Texas, ELA teachers at the middle school to travel to the NCTE convention, Winthrop teachers to better support vulnerable students, and Doyon teachers to receive responsive classroom training.

2022 college application boot camp: \$12,250. Rising seniors at IHS will have the opportunity to receive help with college interviews, essays, and the financial application process through this grant.

High school music department England trip: \$128,000. Since 1998, high school students involved in the music department travel to England to perform every four years. This grant will reduce the cost of the trip by 50% for students who meet the free and reduced lunch criteria and for families with multiple children in high school. It will also provide additional funding for rental instruments.

2022 Creating Innovators, Part 2: \$94,500. Following Part 1 from last year, this grant will continue to improve computer science at the middle school by funding a computer science teacher, a technology-enhanced classroom called the “Zoom room,” virtual field trips, and subscriptions to certain services, including Zoom.

Read more about the 2022 Paine Grants on page 12.

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- Washing of exterior building surfaces, parking lots, driveways or sidewalks, except as necessary to apply paint, preservatives, stucco, pavement, or cement
- Filling or refilling of swimming pools



The ash borer cometh ... for our trees

by Tristan Ashlock

IPSWICH — The future of local ash trees looks bleak as the invasive emerald ash borer (EAB) makes a name for itself on the North Shore.

Native to Asia, the invasive species made its landing in the U.S in the late 1990s, likely on cargo shipped in from its original habitat.

It was initially discovered in Michigan in 2002 and rapidly moved across the country. It was first detected in Massachusetts in 2012 but has since spread quickly eastward throughout the state, leaving few ash trees untouched.

Local arborist and Cicoria Tree Service employee Ben Staples said the most common way that EAB is spread is through the transportation of firewood.

When infected trees are taken down, processed, and then used elsewhere, EAB makes its way to trees in this new area. “They hatch out and go on to attack other ash trees,” Staples said.

Signs and symptoms

According to Etymology Today some of the most common symptoms are “thinning and yellowing leaves, D-shaped holes in the bark, and canopy and bark loss.”

However, most damage takes place while the beetle is in its larval stage. “It feeds on the tissue that transports water and nutrients,” Staples said.

Another symptom, known in the tree industry as stag-horning, is the noticeable loss of foliage toward the top of the tree.

Treatment

To salvage infected ash trees, action must be taken quickly. Treatments include injections directly to the tree, bark sprays, and soil injections. Protection via injection will likely guard the tree for around two years, while the spray will last closer to one year.

“You are going to have to treat them, or you are going to have to



A sick ash tree near the Whipple House (photo courtesy Ben Staples).

take them down,” Staples said. As the infection becomes more advanced, removal becomes more costly.

The structure of the tree will become brittle and unable to support the weight of workers. Then, heavy equipment must be brought in to assist with removal, raising the cost.

Homeowners looking to protect their property would also benefit from preventive measures, treating any ash trees before they become infected. “If you have a high value ash tree in your yard, it needs to be treated,” Staples said.

Beech tree disease and the spotted lantern fly

In an effort to curb the spread

of EAB, Essex County has issued a quarantine order for the transporting of any firewood in or out of the county.

Other potential threats introduced by the transportation of firewood come in the form of the spotted lantern fly and beech leaf disease. Both pose huge threats to local agriculture and local flora.

If you have a fallen ash tree on your property or suspect the arrival of another disease, experts recommend that it be processed and remain on the property or disposed of professionally.

Staples says, “Reach out to a certified arborist and decide if it’s worth the cost.”

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Ed Colley



LETTER

We should form Ipswich Athletic Association for sustainability in town sports

To the editor,
I would like to take a moment to thank ALL the youth sports directors, board members, and coaches in Ipswich.

As a former director of Ipswich Travel Softball, I know the dedica-

tion, time, and commitment it takes to make these programs a success.

As volunteers, they are tasked with an enormous amount of work to ensure the young players in Ipswich are being fostered in a nurturing yet competitive environment,

with the goal to foster the love of the sport for every player.

As a second-tier townie — Cable Hospital had closed before I was born — I had the pleasure of playing Ipswich Youth Soccer and G.A.L.S. Softball (now called Ipswich Travel Softball) under the direction of Betty Dorman.

Betty had a vision, and she worked endlessly and tirelessly to ensure Ipswich youth sports programs were a success.

As I think about the future and sustainability of the youth sports programs in Ipswich, I wonder if there is an opportunity to have Ipswich youth sports once again guided under the recreation director or possibly form an Ipswich Athletic Association?

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The Ipswich River Watershed Association (IRWA) held its annual Paddle-a-thon fundraiser this year against the backdrop of the third significant drought since 2016. But Paddle-a-thon was a day to celebrate the Ipswich River. The event was based at the Topsfield Fairgrounds parking lot on Route 97, but activities were spread all along the river. Team Long Haul took top honors again this year — by \$20 — for being the most successful fundraisers. They brought in \$5,630. Meanwhile, Jack Whittier, pictured in the foreground above, won this year's race (picture courtesy of Richard Howard).

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Don't let Ipswich become a news desert

by John P. Muldoon

People who were around at the time say there used to be four or five reporters at the average board of selectmen meeting. They covered the event for competing papers in Ipswich, and for dailies in Salem and sometimes Lawrence.

Now, it's just me. All on my lonesome.

But if it weren't for the *Ipswich Local News*, there would be no coverage of town affairs.

The old *Ipswich Chronicle* sent a reporter, but that stopped after it merged with other papers to become the *Chronicle-Transcript*. Even that stopped printing shortly afterwards.

That situation means towns like Topsfield, Hamilton, and Wenham have no local newspaper. They have become what's known as "news deserts."

It's a frighteningly common occurrence across the country — people have no way to access reliable news short of watching all the meetings themselves on their equivalent of ICAM.

That's not the situation in Ipswich, but we cannot survive on advertising alone.

Please donate to our spring/summer fundraiser to keep the news coming. You can do that at www.ipswichlocalnews.com/donate.

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COLUMN

Environmental disaster or environmental savior? Zen and the art of lawn maintenance

by Bob Waite

There is a huge debate currently underway, with passions high on both sides.

No, it is not about the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Nor is it about Roe vs. Wade or gun control.

It is about lawns.

Lawns, according to one side, are an environmental disaster. In the U.S. alone, they consume three trillion gallons of water annually. Plus, there is all that fertilizer; those noisy, exhaust-belching mowers and trimmers; and the impact grass cutting has on pollinators like bees.

On the other side are those who extoll the virtues of a manicured lawn. No less an authority than the Lawn Institute states that lawns are actually good for the environment.

According to the Institute, pollutants in stormwater runoff can be absorbed by a thick lawn, decreas-

ing the amount that makes it into a sewer system. And the oxygen production of a 50-foot by 50-foot lawn produces enough oxygen for a family of four (as long as they hold their breath during winter months).

Amidst all of this Sturm und Drang, I have a politically incorrect confession to make.

I like lawns.

More than that, I like mowing lawns.

This started at our place on the South Green. We had more than an acre to mow. As soon as I became old enough, I was out pushing around our beast of a lawnmower. It was noisy. It spewed blue-gray fumes. It could cut off your toe if you were not careful.

When you were 12, it was like having your own pet dragon.

The thing about mowing is that it is pretty mindless. Yes, you need to adhere to some sort of pattern. And,

yes, you need to be careful not to cut off your own foot. But there is something Zen-like about it. Unlike, say, skiing, where you need rapt attention every second, mowing allows the mind to wander.

Never was this truer than when I worked at Crane Beach as a member of the crew. I was sometimes assigned the mowing of the allée running from the Great House down to Steep Hill and the sea. Climbing onto the tractor, with its gang mower in tow, guaranteed several hours of daydreaming as I crisscrossed the estate's green expanse.

Sometimes, my thoughts would be about travel to exotic lands or imaginary sports exploits ... or even more imaginary success in wooing a particularly unapproachable female of the opposite sex.

Fortunately, I emerged from these daydreams just prior to hitting one of the statues that line the allée or, when reaching the end, successfully avoiding the plunge down Steep Hill to the rocks and beach below.

Today, we have a home that sits on about a third of an acre in a relatively affluent neighborhood populated by doctors, lawyers, and members of the diplomatic corps. Indeed, many around us have lawn

services. These show up with all manner of equipment, buzz around the property, and leave. It reminds me most of the grounds crews that pop out at Fenway Park mid-inning to spiff things up and quickly disappear.

But no lawn service for us. With a nod to the environment, we have an electric mower. We use little or no fertilizer, water sparingly, and even let the dandelions do their thing before mercilessly beheading them.

My neighbor across the street, sensing my bouts of periodic mowing euphoria, has dismissed his lawn service and purchased an identical electric mower. Another next to us has dispensed with grass altogether and has planted ferns, creating a kind of Jurassic Park (sans dinosaurs).

One of the nearby embassy residences has taken things a step further — they

have a robot that cuts their grass. Think of an outdoor Roomba with blades.

Which raises a Phillip K. Dick-type question: Do robot mowers daydream? Perhaps about other robot lawnmowers? Or travel to distant lawns?

Me? I just continue to have the same old daydreams. I do so now without the fear of plunging down Steep Hill to the beach below (although I do worry about what lurks in our adjacent ferns). As for the robots, they will have to pry my cold, dead hands off the handle of my Black & Decker before I give up my God-given right to mow.

Bob Waite apologizes to Robert M. Pirsig and Phillip K. Dick for shamelessly appropriating their work and to Charlton Heston for stealing his line. You can reach him at bob.waite@senecacollege.ca.



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The Outsidah

In which the Outsidah wonders where have all the chickens gone, long time pecking?

by Doug Brendel

Free-range chickens are technically illegal in Ipswich. But out here on outer Linebrook Road, we are already so overrun with ticks — even this early in the season — I believe the law should be changed so that anyone west of Route 1 is actually required to have free-range chickens.

Chickens eat ticks, it's well known, and chickens roaming free can eat more ticks than cooped-up chickens. Possums also eat ticks, which means that setting the chickens free could presumably cut into the possum population's diet. However, I don't care about starving out the possums, because we're Northerners, not Southerners, so we don't each much possum.

Given the geopolitical divide in our nation these days, I can imagine pushback — claims of malice, “Kill a tick, starve a Republican,” this sort of snark — but I assure you, my goal in releasing the chickens would be nothing more than the freedom to take a simple walk across my backyard without being beset by nasty little parasitic arachnids.

It seems to be the worst tick season in quite a few years. I've gone whole summers in Ipswich without finding a single one of the miniature monsters on my pantleg. But with global warming, the tick population is exploding. Ticks can't mate and reproduce when the temperature drops below 45°F, but we have fewer and fewer such chilly periods. Those refreshingly mild days you pray for and luxuriate in? They're a backdrop for unspeakable

tick debauchery on an unthinkable scale.

Of course, this is not just about the annoyance of tiresome self-examination — flick icky ticks quick — every time you come in from outdoors. It's what happens if you fail to pick off one of these mini-devils in time. Ticks give humans Lyme disease. Since 2010, according to the Infectious Diseases Society of America, cases of tick-triggered Lyme have tripled. Why? More days and hours of tick-sex-friendly temps. And not enough chickens on the job.

We had free-range chickens in our neighborhood for a time, despite the official Ipswich ban. A neighbor had chickens and let them roam.

The rest of us neighbors enjoyed them, and the chickens always went home by day's end, observing a kind of unspoken chicken-curfew. In the meadow between my house and the chicken coop, the chickens ate well, and whole generations of ticks were

annihilated. Even today, tick folk singers sing mournful songs about that tragic era.

For us humans, however, life was grand — that is, until another neighbor loved the chickens so much, or so I heard, that she began feeding them actual food. Big mistake. They began congregating happily at this one house, doing all the chicken things chickens do, like scratching and pecking. Chickens roaming over a whole neighborhood don't make much of a mess because they're spread out and on the move; but so many chickens hanging out in a single yard soon took a toll on the flower garden. The outraged owner — apparently feeling betrayed by the chickens she loved — complained bitterly.

The era of technically illegal but generally accepted free-range outer Linebrook chickens was suddenly over. The chickens are now re-

cooped ... and the ticks are partying.

A whole new cohort of tick singer-songwriters has emerged. No more rueful refrains. It's straight rock-and-roll now.

Yesterday, I walked to the corner of my backyard. By the time I got there, I had a whole tiny rock band attached to the leg of my jeans — guitar, bass, drums, and lead vocals, with three tiny backup singers in matching outfits. I remained calm. I sauntered over to my neighbor's backyard, my steps keeping time with the music, then flicked each member of the band, one by one, into the chicken coop.

Chickens are no fans of rock-and-roll, I guess. They didn't even wait for the song to end.

Doug Brendel wages war against the insect world from his home on outer Linebrook Road. Track his exploits via DougBrendel.com.





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SERVICE DOG PROJECT

Necessity might be the mother of invention, but the DSP is the inspiration of ingenuity!

by Carlene White

With dozens of Danes, the management of poo is a very serious one. At the Service Dog Project, we pride ourselves in the concept of 99.4% — “no odor” and very rarely a case of that “soft step” with which we are all familiar (at least once).

Having tried every known scoop and bag on the market, I had to rethink one of our own.

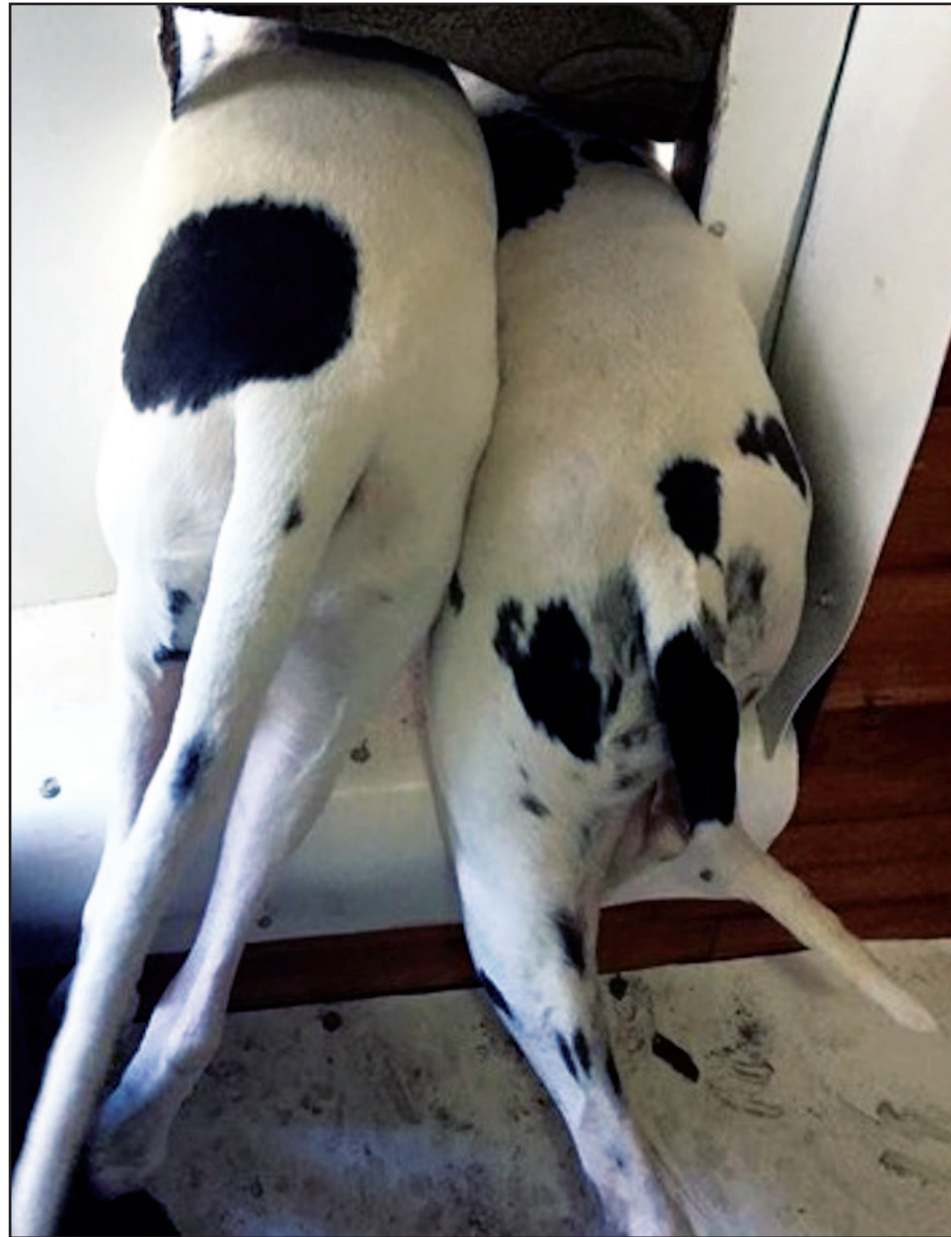
My design has won a very dubious award at a dog convention. I was very proud that I beat out the woman from Great Britain who had a chunky vomit-picker, mainly because at the finish line, I had an odor-free bag ... and she had a smelly picker.

My requirements were that it had to be immediately available at less than zero cost (a benefit of recycling and production by those needing an activity).

So, since we have hundreds of people who watch our seven explore.org cameras, I asked them to contribute \$10 monthly to help pay our payroll.

But I realized there were many people in our community who could not afford the \$10, and I did want everyone to be included, so I asked those people to cut up their morning cereal boxes into 3-by-6-inch rectangles and put an elastic around four of those with a grocery bag — or one that disintegrates — and send them to us.

Special cheerful addition: Many



“That was one heck of a tight doorway. We almost got stuck!” (Photo courtesy Service Dog Project).

people write funny sayings on the back of the cardboard, and sometimes we take them to Alzheimer groups to color them with crayons and rubber stamps.

Super ones include an E-Z wipe. These fit perfectly in the back pocket of a pair of blue jeans, ready for use at a moment’s notice, right there with your cell phone. The slight fuzz of cereal-box rectangles wipes the floor pretty well. Scoop into the plastic bag, tie the top, and drop it anywhere someone with a golf cart can pick it up and get it in the dumpster.

For those of you thinking of installing a doggie door, we have had a few — and we have a favorite concept.

We had a kitchen on an outside wall with an inside cabinet — the kind that’s full of pots and pans you hardly ever use.

We cut a hole behind the cabinet between the studs that was 14 inches wide, 18 inches tall, and six inches off the floor, then hung a loose flap to cut the breeze.

Outside the house, we put a very small “yard” (10 feet by ten feet) surrounded by greenery.

So now to let the dog out for potty purposes, we just open the kitchen cabinet — very uncomplicated, and easily picked up later.

One small addition: If your roof slopes in that direction, you might need a short semi-roof to keep the rain off the dog’s head as they go out to “go.”



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LETTERS

Ora's new construction ignores bylaw restrictions

To the editor:

At the June 16 planning board meeting on 55 Waldingfield, a board member rightly pointed out that under the GEPD bylaw, "newly constructed buildings" are prohibited within 250 feet of the public way.

The historic barn and historic farm house are both within the 250-foot setback, but Ora has proposed new additions to these buildings that will also be within the setback.

Ora is proposing to construct a new addition to the barn and also a "guest house" on the footprint of the farm house (and, in the process, triple its current floor area).

Ora's admits in its June 3 board submission that Phase 1B eliminates all floor area in the "existing farmhouse," and replaces it with 16,000 square feet of "proposed" construction in a new "guest house."

The planning board unanimously agreed that the GEPD bylaw does not allow them to waive this clear prohibition for new construction.

Yet, faced with this conundrum, the planning board decided that perhaps the GEPD bylaw allows newly-constructed additions if they are either attached to existing buildings already within the 250-foot setback, or attached to newly-con-

structed replacement buildings for existing structures.

The Friends of Waldingfield then pointed out to the planning board that "building" is actually a defined term within the protective zoning bylaw (of which the GEPD is a part), and requires that, "The word 'building' shall be construed where the context allows as though followed by the words 'or parts thereof.'"

By definition, any new addition is certainly a newly-constructed part of a building. That's when the planning board decided it table the issue and seek town counsel's advice.

The 250-foot setback is in the GEPD bylaw to preserve existing streetscapes. Certainly, with a scenic road designation, respecting the setback requirement is all the more important.

To date, Ora has simply chosen to ignore this bylaw provision, and 11 months later, their design remains in contravention of the bylaw.

Ora should not be allowed to disregard the clear restrictions and provisions of the bylaw — all there to help protect and preserve important scenic, cultural, and historic landscape features.

Bryan Townsend
Ipswich

Polyester and nylon flags produce caustic smoke

To the editor:

While I was working at the YMCA on June 14, Flag Day, I happened to step outside at the back of the Y to observe a class.

I also observed a group of men, whom I assumed were from the VFW, burning flags in an incinerator. Black, caustic smoke was pouring into the atmosphere.

I decided to Google "flag burning" and discovered it is a legal way to dispose of flags when they are no longer a fitting emblem of the United States. They should never be put into the garbage.

However, polyester and nylon flags should not be burned because they contain dangerous chemicals that can harm the lungs.

One of the women who was exercising came inside, coughing. I also

thought that these men should be wearing masks.

I wondered how many other organizations around the country were burning flags, thereby contributing to pollution.

An alternative way to dispose of flags is to bury them in the triangular ceremonial form in a biodegradable box.

If they are polyester or nylon, they are not biodegradable.

So the solution is to avoid buying those kind of flags and bury the ones made of cotton.

Flags can be donated to various organizations like the VFW, AM-VETS, and police, but you may not know in what manner they are disposed

Mary Blaquiere
Ipswich

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LETTERS

Veterans thank Ipswich for Memorial Day support

To the editor:

On behalf of the American Legion Post 80 and all the veterans of Ipswich, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the citizens of Ipswich for all their support during the recent Memorial Day events.

The donations for veterans' services during the Poppy Drive Weekend, the Ipswich High School Band, the guest speakers at the

various memorials, as well as the participation of so many citizens at the Memorial Day Parade were a tribute to the outstanding character of the town.

The support you showed was humbling and greatly appreciated.

We wish all a happy and safe summer season.

Commander James Graffum
Adjutant John Minter



The Ipswich Bay Yacht Club recently hosted the Ipswich Middle School for an end-of-year evening. Read the thank you letter online at ipswichlocalnews.com (courtesy photo).



Ipswich's Destination Imagination teams in Kansas City. Read the thank you letter online at ipswichlocalnews.com (courtesy photo).

One Paine Grant application rejected, another one tabled

by Amy Palmer

Although 11 applications for Paine Grant money were approved last week at the school committee meeting, another application to transform a fitness room in the middle/high school was rejected (with one committee member opposed).

The application requested \$30,350 to transform the aerobics room to a cardio room for middle and high school students. The money was for renovations and equipment intended to create space for sports teams and students to use after school.

Leonard said the committee was concerned about the logistics and goals of the proposal.

"I don't know that the plan was fully fleshed out to the point the committee felt [comfortable] supporting it," she said.

School committee chair Greg Stevens said he was disappointed that the grant committee didn't recommend the application.

"From what I hear, a lot of kids would like to stick around and use the weight room and have a room like this to use, but we don't have a cardio room ... so they all end up going to the Y," he said.

The committee should look into giving students more opportunities to engage in healthy activities with their peers at school, committee vice chair Kate Eliot said.

Because the grant committee opposed the application five to one, Stevens said he does not feel confident going against the grant committee's vote, though he would encourage the applicant to submit a more detailed proposal next year.

Application deferred

Another application for improvements to middle and high school STEAM innovation learning spaces has been deferred to a later school committee meeting.

The application requested \$263,661 to bring four seventh-grade classrooms and one high

school classroom up to health and safety compliance and to renovate the spaces to include flexible furniture.

Members of the school committee raised concerns about whether the application focuses on enrichment or capital improvement.

According to Leonard, the grant committee struggled with this as well. "We were really torn on this, and there was definitely a lot of confusion and questions about whether or not this felt Paine Grant-appropriate."

School committee member Emily Cannon said she believes the school should be budgeting for health and safety concerns.

"That shouldn't be something that we're relying on a Paine grant [for]," she said.

The district has a five-year capital plan, according to school superintendent Brian Blake, but he said he would prefer to get started on this project sooner.

"We'd rather not wait five years to ... get this into the plan," Blake said. "So that was the thinking — we can do a lot with a Paine Grant to get this process started."

"I think this is a good way to improve and enhance the existing facilities we have to bring our science rooms up to a level that is needed for our program to be competitive," Stevens added.

For committee member Jen Donahue, grouping flexible furniture in with capital improvements strays from the sole purpose of Paine Grants, which is to provide enrichment.

Jeff Poirier, a member of both committees, asked whether they would benefit from revisiting this discussion with more information about the difference between partially and fully funding the grant.

"We'll table this until our next meeting, and we can get some more information on what each of these options looks like," Stevens said.

For chorus director, a life in music

by Tristan Ashlock

IPSWICH — Despite being 60 years at the helm, Chorus North Shore's director Sonja Dahlgren Pryor is preparing for her first concert in more than two years.

The performance billed as *Lux Aeterna: Light in Times of Struggle* will hearken back to the days of the founding of the chorus in 1931, when community members were looking to lift the spirits of those struggling during the lean years of the Great Depression.

"It's a concert based on light," Pryor said.

A different set of obstacles has prevented the chorus from performing or gathering these past couple of years.

Still, the sentiment of hope remains. Now, more than ever, according to Pryor, "It is very important that we carry on this tradition. We did it during World War II, Korea — all these times of strife. So we wanted very much to start again."

Along with its music, Chorus North Shore's long history has allowed it to become an important community institution.

Members are clammers and doctors, nurses, stay-at-home moms, and teachers.

People in the chorus have met, fallen in love, married, and had children ... who then themselves go on to sing in the group.

One member currently represents the third generation of their family to take part.

The upcoming performance will be slightly different than what most who are familiar with the chorus would normally expect.

Based on COVID-19 guidelines from the American Choral Directors Association, singers will be wearing masks and socially distancing, and there will be fewer of them — about half of what typically makes up the group, which usually fluctuates between 130 and 140 performers, according to Pryor.

The show isn't just important because of its unique social backdrop, however. It also marks the first performance in Pryor's 60th year as

director.

"I've been conducting that chorus and the orchestra that comes with it for longer than some of the singers are old," Pryor said. "We've grown



Ipswich resident Sonia Dahlgren Pryor, 90, has conducted Chorus North Shore for 60 years.

up together."

Pryor took the reins in 1961 as a 30-year-old transplant from Detroit. It was there that her family nurtured her love for music.

"I came from a musical family," she said. "Washing the dishes was fun, you know, because we sang."

Early days

Pryor also discovered another type of inspiration typically found among aspiring musicians, "I had a whopping crush on my church choir director — just a schoolgirl crush. So I went to him and sang in his community group as well as church choir."

Not long after, 15-year-old Pryor was founding junior organizations and diving deeper into the world of voice and chorus.

Abandoning all other previous musical preoccupations, she enrolled at Wayne University in Detroit as a voice major.

Her entrance at Wayne would mark the beginning of a long educational journey, one that would eventually lead her to a master's

degree at the University of New Hampshire.

Before settling into education full-time, work in production and on-air talent brought Pryor out to the East Coast, where she worked on such memorable programs as *The Bozo Show* on WHDH. The behind-the-scenes work inspired a change.

"I thought, 'I want to conduct. I want to conduct more.' And the best way to do that, being a woman, would be to get involved in a school situation," Pryor said.

Full-time

Pryor worked as an educator for many years, teaching pupils from kindergarten to university level, eventually serving as director of music of the Hamilton-Wenham school district.

While education was her full-time work, choral work was never too far off. Following her retirement from education, Pryor was able to make choral music her one and only professional focus.

Pryor has been honored and recognized countless times for her work with Chorus North Shore. In 2012, she was awarded the Alfred Nash Patterson Lifetime Achievement Award from Choral Arts New England.

It cited the choral group as one of the outstanding cultural organizations in New England.

Longtime Chorus North Shore member Nancy Tougas said, "She's really the glue." She added, "When we stand in front of her, she just sends out this message of love of the music, joy of the music."

Tom Dugan, a bass singer from the group with a background in music, said he just couldn't pass up the opportunity to work with "Sunny," the nickname most of her pupils know Pryor by.

"It means the world to me and always has," Pryor said. "What can I say? It's been my life."

The concert will take place at Our Lady of Hope Church in Ipswich on Saturday, June 25, at 7 p.m. Masks and proof of vaccination will be required at the door.

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Virginia Eaton retires after 24 years in the IMS art room

by Ella Niederhelman

IPSWICH — A visit from a pony, numerous rhyming raps, festive yearly showings of the movie *Elf*, the construction of a mini sustainable golf course — middle school art teacher Virginia Eaton has done it all.

When Eaton moved to Ipswich, her two daughters attended Doyon Elementary. She began to help out in the art room and fell in love with teaching, so she headed back to school for a master's in education. She subbed at Doyon and was given a job offer at the middle school.

Working with children this age was an opportunity she could not pass up. "Middle-schoolers are intellectually capable of understanding such in-depth, profound ideas, yet they still have that wondering curiosity of a child," Eaton said.

Eaton is everywhere in Ipswich

During her 24 years teaching, Eaton became involved in every



Middle school art teacher Virginia Eaton will retire after 24 years of teaching Ipswich students (photo by Ella Niederhelman).

aspect of the Ipswich Music, Art, and Drama Association (IMADA). She was talent show coordinator, served on multiple professional development committees, presented at two National Education Art Conferences, directed the IMS art club and summer art camps.

Eaton spent ten years painting the scenic backdrops of the high school drama department. She also made a school mascot and dozens of costumes for the middle school plays.

She created two of the most well-known logos associated with the middle and high school — the beloved stationary and the tiger drawn above the wooden gym. The

tiger has since gone on to be printed on one of the local wind turbines.

So Eaton's work has reached every corner of Ipswich — even the wind turbines.

Interdisciplinary art

Outside of IMADA, Eaton dedicated herself to interdisciplinary work both in and out of the classroom.

Working to incorporate scientific and mathematical projects into art and design, Eaton has helped across a variety of subjects, including the seventh-grade golf course projects, original Fibonacci raps that tie STEM and design into her room, and the recent addition of stop-motion into the curriculum.

"So much of teaching is about the essence of simplifying big ideas to where they can make sense of it," Eaton said. "I have worked so hard to try and make a curriculum that excited kids and grows to become more complex and topical to this world around us."

Most recently, she took on the new world of creativity that blossoms from 26 new iPads.

"That has been this explosion of creativity for the kids. Kids that feel like they can't draw to save their lives suddenly feel like they are being so incredibly creative," Eaton said.

Eaton has tied such social issues as women's studies, conservation, and the spread of misinformation to relevant projects.

As one of the many original raps presented in her classroom, Eaton's visual literacy rap reads, "Talking about visual literacy, so you're not gullible about what you see. Television, internet, and billboards, too; media trying to influence you."

Endless love for learning

Her energetic raps attracted students to her classroom, but so did the freedom to express yourself however you pleased.

When a student walks through her door, they are greeted by this message: "Every day bring to class respect, responsibility, and a curious mind."

With this motto in mind, Eaton said that 180 of her 182 days in the classroom each school year were "amazing."

"Teach your passion, your joy of learning, and the discipline will follow," she said.

Looking ahead

Eaton leaves her classroom in the hands of one of the dozens of student teachers she has trained. Her successor, Brianna Stewart, attended Ipswich High School during Eaton's many years at the middle school.

Looking ahead into her retirement, Eaton is eager to start exploring new hobbies. She plans to help raise her grandchildren and care for the land her retirement cottage sits upon while continuing the hobby she first fell in love with back in kindergarten — art.

As her last few days at the middle school come to a close, Eaton reflected on what ultimately made an immense impact on her students.

"Share what you know — your knowledge, your joys, your passions."


For Eaton, teaching has been the "most rewarding career ever imagined." She attributes this to Ipswich's "tremendous" involvement in the arts. "There is an appreciation for nature and beauty that we all share and value in this community," Eaton said. "I feel overwhelming gratitude, and I have never lost it in all these years."

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Ipswich-Rowley Rotary members Doug Shealey and Bob Snow (background) install 90 flags on the Town Common in Rowley. The display will last a month and is part of the organization's Flags for Heroes fundraiser. A similar display remains on the South Village Green in Ipswich.

Flags for Heroes find new home in Rowley

ROWLEY — Last Saturday, members of the Ipswich-Rowley Rotary Club did some decorating and rearranging.

They went to the South Green in Ipswich and took 90 American flags. They then brought them to Rowley where they now line the Town Common.

The move marked Rowley's turn as host for Rotary's Flags for

Heroes project.

People were invited to sponsor a flag for \$50 with the name of a personal hero who made an impact in their lives.

The money will be used by Rotary to fund service projects around the community and to provide scholarships to local graduating seniors in Ipswich and Rowley.



The Doug Woodworth Scholarship Committee and the Woodworth family have announced the winner of this year's scholarship as Ava Horsman, an IHS class of 2022 graduate. Horsman will be heading off to UMass Amherst in the fall to begin her studies in secondary education. Each year, the scholarship is awarded to a current graduate of IHS who is pursuing a career in education and who has shown a strong involvement in extracurricular and community-related activities. The scholarship was created in 2016 and has provided a \$5,000 scholarship each year in memory of longtime educator and coach Doug Woodworth. Pictured with Horsman (center) are members of the Woodworth family: on the left are Justin Woodworth and his fiancée Alex Eddins, and on the right are Maureen and Jena Woodworth.

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With two shows, Arthur Wesley Dow is having a moment

by Phillip Golden

With two area exhibits marking the 100th anniversary of his passing, it's fair to say that Ipswich artist Arthur Wesley Dow is having a moment.

Celebrating the Life and Art of Arthur Wesley Dow: 1857-1922, which recently opened at the Ipswich Museum, and Arthur Wesley Dow: Nearest to the Divine, which runs through July 31 at the Addison Gallery of American Art in Andover, both communicate the originality and durable attraction of Dow's life and work.

The Addison exhibit focuses on Dow's woodblock and photographic works drawn from its own collection and select on-loan works.

The Ipswich Museum exhibit casts a wider net over Dow's creativity as well as his impact on art and art education.

Dow's expertise in photography and painting are well represented, as are his work with more tactile



"Hill and Field" by Arthur Wesley Dow (courtesy photo).

crafts, such as woodblock printing, metalwork, and textile design.

The Ipswich Museum houses the world's largest collection of Dow art and artifacts, says Stephanie Gaskins, museum president and Dow curator.

"Our goal was to present the fullest picture of Arthur Wesley Dow," she said. "Through his art, instructional texts, and his summer art schools in Ipswich, which attracted hundreds of artists each year, he helped to expand the minds of a whole generation of American artists."

While the Ipswich exhibit features some beautiful art, it also digs deep into Dow's creative process.

With a specific work entitled Grand Canyon, exhibit-goers see not just the finished landscape but get a window into his approach.

Viewers might easily imagine Dow, with his easel set up on the canyon's rim, capturing the complex light and geological contours.

But that was not to be. Rather than creating works plein air (on site), Dow used his own photography and created numerous small painted studies and technical drawings to pinpoint where the various colors and contours fell.

Back in his Ipswich studio, he would use the supporting materials detailing the "smoky yellow iridescence, shadow crimson," and other

colors to create his masterpiece.

Woodblock art, which was one of Dow's earliest and most well-known mediums, figures prominently in the Ipswich exhibit.

He considered woodblock as "painting with wooden blocks" and refined his skills throughout his life.

As a young assistant curator of Oriental art at Boston's MFA in the 1890s, he set a foundation for his lifelong passion of synthesizing Eastern and Western art.

The original woodblocks, paired with the final printed works on display, again help exhibit-goers get a first-hand understanding of the artist at work.

In 1900, Dow and his wife, Minnie, a longtime collaborator, purchased the derelict Emerson House above Green Street Bridge to save it from destruction and, ultimately, expand annual summer art school for up to 200 artists each season. (Georgia O'Keefe, a student of Dow's while at Columbia, credited Dow's instruction as instrumental in her artistry.)

In addition to painting, students experimented with fabric design, printing, bookmaking, and metalwork. Examples of these efforts, highlighted by two antique metal punch work lanterns, help to deepen our understanding of Dow — the artist, his influence, and the variety of his works.

Celebrating the Life and Art of Arthur Wesley Dow: 1857-1922 will run through October at the Ipswich Museum at 54 South Main Street. Hours and additional details can be found at ipswichmuseum.org.

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Fireworks set off indoors at Rowley apartment complex

ROWLEY — A Rowley man will be summonsed to court for possessing illegal fireworks after an exploding pyrotechnic brought firefighters and police to his apartment last week, Rowley fire chief James C. Broderick and state fire marshal Pater J. Ostroskey said.

Local police and fire and the State Police Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit assigned to the State Fire Marshal's office, responded to 870 Haverhill Street following an alarm activation on the morning of June 10.

The *Newburyport Daily News* named the man as Charles Mazzella, 20.

The incident was called in for the

three-story Building B in the apartment complex at around 9:12 a.m. after fire alarms were set off.

Police arrived first and radioed that residents had evacuated and that no fire or smoke was showing.

Firefighters entered the building, which was filled with smoke, and radioed that they had been told fireworks were set off.

"Though there was no fire at the scene, witnesses reported hearing the sound of an explosion and a heavy smoke condition," the statement said.

"The investigation revealed that an adult male resident had accidentally ignited a 1.4G mortar shell inside his apartment," it added.

Formerly known as Class-C common fireworks, "The biggest shell available in 1.4G consumer class fireworks is a three-inch shell," according to one fireworks website. "Three-inch shells produce huge bursts that are nearly as impressive as some professional display fireworks," it said.

The man suffered minor injuries attempting to extinguish the fuse before the device exploded, causing damage to the floor and walls in two rooms, the firefighters said.

"Smoke flooded the apartment" and set off working smoke alarms, they added.

"Based on the resident's statements at the scene, members of the State Police Bomb Squad recovered additional live shells from the man's bedroom and, as required by Massachusetts law, seized them for destruction," the firefighters said.

The man will be summonsed to Newburyport District Court at a later date.

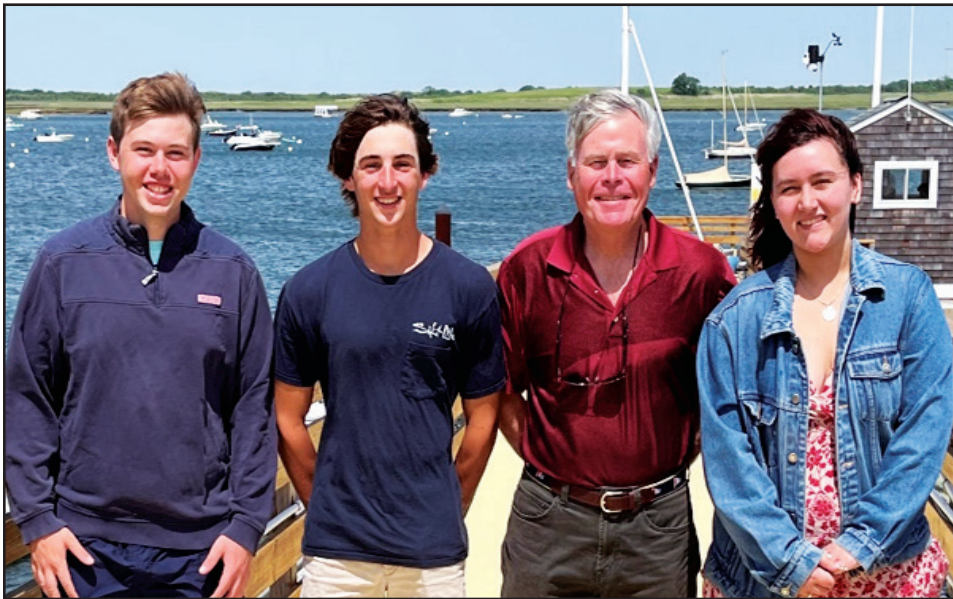
"Illegal fireworks in a residential

setting can be a recipe for disaster," Broderick said. "The residents of this building are fortunate that these illegal items didn't cause more damage."

"The possession, use, and sale of fireworks without a license are illegal in Massachusetts because these items are dangerous," Ostroskey said. "Illegal fireworks can put you, your family, and your neighbors in harm's way, and you could end up in court."

A list of permitted fireworks displays in Massachusetts is on the Department of Fire Services' website. The list is updated weekly.

Massachusetts fire departments reported more than 900 fires related to illegal fireworks between 2012 and 2021. In addition to the 43 fire service injuries and \$2.1 million in damages attributed to these fires, Massachusetts medical facilities reported 31 severe burn injuries extending to five percent or more of the victims' bodies that were caused by illegal fireworks.



Commodore Paul Conboy (second from right) of the Ipswich Bay Yacht Club has "enthusiastically" congratulated this year's recipients of the club's annual college scholarships. Teddy Gray (left) will attend Northeastern University to study political economy; Brad McGowan (second from left) will attend UMass Amherst to study marine biology; and Lili Rataj (right) will attend Salem State University to study psychology.

MERCURY RECOVERY PROGRAM

Mercury is an element that can be harmful to human health and the environment if not disposed of properly.

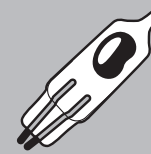
Mercury is found in products such as:



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Mercury Switches



Fluorescent Lamps

Please contact your local Board of Health or Department of Public Works for information on where to safely dispose of these items.

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Word search: Reality TV!

Love them or hate them, they're all over the television. Here are some of the groundbreakers ... "reality" might be a stretch as a modifier, though.

H S I F T A C H I E E M E H O M O H K D L I W S V N A M
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 E O S R A E G P O T E O E K C E D W O L E B S A V U Y R

- The Real World
- Survivor
- The Amazing Race
- Candid Camera
- Fixer Upper
- Diners, Drive-Ins & Dives
- American Idol
- Dancing with the Stars
- Top Chef
- Hell's Kitchen
- Great British Bake Off
- Real Housewives
- Jon & Kate Plus 8
- Toddlers & Tiaras
- Dance Moms
- 17 Kids and Counting
- Naked and Afraid
- Below Deck
- 90 Day Fiancé
- The Bachelor
- RuPaul's Drag Race
- Big Brother
- Project Runway
- The Bachelorette
- COPS

- America's Next Top Model
- Queer Eye
- Guy's Grocery Games
- Kitchen Nightmares
- Man vs. Wild
- Cake Boss
- Say Yes to the Dress
- What Not to Wear
- Top Gear
- Jackass
- Undercover Boss
- The Simple Life
- Flavor of Love
- The Jersey Shore
- Wife Swap
- Mythbusters
- Biggest Loser
- Dog Whisperer
- Teen Mom
- The Osbournes
- Little People, Big World
- Shark Tank
- Catfish
- My Super Sweet 16
- Extreme Makeover

COLONIAL TRIVIA

illustrated by Ed Colley



What happened to Aaron Burr after he dueled with Alexander Hamilton?

Send your answers to news@ipswichlocalnews.com.

Answer to the last trivia question:

Drummers were important players on the battlefield. Not only did they keep time for marching armies, they signaled commands from commanders to their troops — an essential part of the battlefield communications system. Drums were part of the field of battle for hundreds of years. Ancient Chinese armies used them, and the Ottoman Empire introduced the concept to European troops. Of course, the practice emigrated to North America, and drummers were used during the Revolutionary and Civil wars.

Although people romanticize the idea of the "little drummer boy," most battlefield drummers were adult men recruited from the soldiers's ranks. However, the idea of a child in the midst of a battle was seen as poignant and sentimental to artists, and the image proved irresistible. (Who can't immediately bring to mind Archibald Willard's famous painting *The Spirit of '76*, in which a young boy beats a tattoo alongside an older drummer and fife player?)

But there were underage drummers. Because it was seen as a "glamorous" job, boys would sometimes run away from home to join the army, where they were treated as mascots by the adults.

Some notable drummer boys:

Nathan Futrell, said to have been the youngest drummer boy in the War for Independence — he joined a militia in North Carolina at the age of seven.

John Clem — "the drummer boy of Chickamauga" — joined the Union Army at the age of nine during the Civil War. He reportedly shot a Confederate officer who demanded his surrender.

Charles King enlisted in the 49th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry at the age of 12 years, five months, and nine days. He was the youngest soldier killed during the Civil War at the age of 13.



Lauren Lynch headed to Africa on Fulbright grant

Completing her doctorate in natural resources and environmental sciences at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Lauren Lynch of Ipswich is heading to Africa on a Fulbright Scholarship.

She holds a bachelor's degree in biology and in wildlife and fisheries conservation from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst and a master's in natural resource management from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

Her Fulbright grant will take her to the city of Cotonou, Benin, to study the impacts of urbanization on bees and the pollination services

they provide.

Lynch said many families in Cotonou maintain household gardens as a supplementary source of food and income. By measuring the effects of urbanization on the abundance and diversity of bees, her research seeks to contribute to improving food security in West African urban ecosystems and beyond.

As a future professor, Lynch said she aspires to develop an urban ecology research program that would allow undergraduate students to engage in socially and culturally conscious research.



Olivia Whynott awarded Town & Country Garden Club scholarship

The Town and Country Garden Club of Ipswich has announced that this year's scholarship has been awarded to Olivia Whynott, an Ipswich High School 2022 graduate.

"Olivia is a fine young woman with a 4.13 GPA, an accomplished cellist in the IHS orchestra and string ensemble, and an active contributor to the Ipswich community," the club said in a statement.

She is a National Honor Society

member who has received a Seal of Bi-Literacy in Spanish, a Dedication to Music award, and the Theresa Nattie award. She is a member of the Green Team and the Environmental Club at IHS and a member of the YMCA Teen Board.

"On a lighter note, Olivia also enjoys gardening," the club said.

Whynott plans to attend UMass in Am-

herst in the fall to study environmental science.



DAD JOKES

I told the doctor that I can only fall asleep on a pile of old magazines. He told me I had 'back issues.'



illustration by Ed Colley

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DATE	TIDE SET	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE
Wednesday, June 22	one	6:53 a.m.	12:48 a.m.
	two	7:26 p.m.	1:12 p.m.
Thursday, June 23	one	7:53 a.m.	1:48 a.m.
	two	8:20 p.m.	2:06 p.m.
Friday, June 24	one	8:50 a.m.	2:46 a.m.
	two	9:11 p.m.	2:58 p.m.
Saturday, June 25	one	9:44 a.m.	3:40 a.m.
	two	10:00 p.m.	3:48 p.m.
Sunday, June 26	one	10:34 a.m.	4:30 a.m.
	two	10:45 p.m.	4:35 p.m.
Monday, June 27	one	11:20 a.m.	5:16 a.m.
	two	11:27 p.m.	5:19 p.m.
Tuesday, June 28	one	12:02 a.m.	5:59 a.m.
	two		6:01 p.m.

ANTICIPATING THE RISING TIDE? CALL US NOW FOR A QUOTE!

What's on? Walks, prayers, yoga, grief support, concerts!

Please go to our website (bit.ly/iln-events) for more information about each item. If you have any events you'd like us to feature, please send the information to news@ipswichlocalnews.com.

— Wednesday, June 22 —

Wednesday Walks: Meet at the Town Wharf at 9:25 a.m. to explore beautiful Ipswich hikes. Everyone is welcome! Contact Ed Murphy (978 500 9523) of the Ipswich Bay Circuit Trail Committee for information.

Business After Hours: Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce hosts this networking event at Castle Hill on the Crane Estate from 5 to 7 p.m.

Prayers for Peace: Come together at the First Church of Ipswich on Meetinghouse Green at 5:15 to pray, offer music, bring offerings to UNICEF, and share a vigil for peace in Ukraine.

Grief support: The Immanuel Baptist Church on Central Street hosts a community spousal/partner loss grief support group at 6:30 p.m. Call Amy (978 356 4215) or Tracy (978 356 5871) and leave a message if you have questions.

Seussical the Musical: Bring a chair or blanket to watch the Cat in the Hat, Horton and the Whos, Mayzie La Bird, and Gertrude McFuzz at Heritage Park in Amesbury at 6:30 p.m. Shows nightly from June 17 through July 24. \$5 suggested donation; reserve tickets at firehouse.org.

Gloria: A seemingly ordinary day at the office turns out to be anything but in this Pulitzer Prize finalist play at the Gloucester State Company on East Main Street. Performances are Wednesday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. with matinees on Saturday and Sunday at 3 p.m. until June 26.

— Thursday, June 23 —

Action Against Invasive Plants walk: Learn about native woody plants and non-native invasives growing in the Willowdale Meadow on Topsfield Road from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Tall socks or boots and tick repellent recommended. RSVP to actionagainstinvasives@gmail.com.

Morning yoga: Come to High Street Studios at 9 a.m. for Kundalini yoga with Jessie Reid. Donation at



Bottles & Cans performed for the volunteers at the recent Backpacks For Kids bag-packing event to help children taken into foster care (courtesy photo)

the door.

Over-50 basketball: Come enjoy spirited but not aggressive basketball every Thursday from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Ipswich Town Hall on Greet Street. All are welcome!

West Newbury Summer Concerts: The Thomas Machine Works Band plays country/rock at the town bandstand on Main Street. Concerts are free every Thursday through August 25!

Kundalini yoga, meditation, and gong bath: Acupuncture Health and Wellness at the Cable Professional Building (lower level) is hosting a session of Kundalini yoga, meditation, and a deep-relaxation gong bath with Ravi Sirois from 7 to 8:15 p.m. on Thursday evenings.

The Producers: A down-on-his-luck Broadway producer and his accountant cook up a scheme to produce the most notorious flop in history in this Mel Brooks musical. Performances on Sunday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday until the end of the month at 7 p.m. at the Firehouse in Newburyport.

Beethoven and Schubert: An evening of outstanding chamber works at the Rockport Chamber Festival (Shalin Liu). Performance starts at 7:30 p.m.

French Cabaret: A bit of Paris comes to Rockport! Intimate, casual concert featuring the songs of Edith Piaf, Kurt Weill, Francis Poulenc, and more at the Shalin Liu on the third floor starting at 9:45 p.m.

— Friday, June 24 —

Friday Night Wine Down: Mill River Winery on Route 1 in Rowley hosts this weekly event from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

DJ Beach Party: a night of oldies on Salisbury Beach with DJ Ralphie B starting at 7:15 p.m. From 9 p.m., DJ Jeff B plays the music of today and leads kid-friendly activities (hula hoops, bubbles, karaoke, etc.).

Piers Lane: The pianist performs a program of Beethoven and Chopin at the Shalin Liu Performance Center in Rockport at 7:30 p.m.

Hollywood Nights: The Bob Seger Experience tribute show is at the Blue Ocean Music Hall in Salisbury at 8 p.m. (rescheduled from October 15 of last year).

Late-night comedy: Marleah Rose hosts Mayhem at the May Flower with professional comedians Maxwell Shultz, Ian Macdonald, and Mike Gray, followed by an open mic session. The laughs start at 10 p.m.

— Saturday, June 25 —

Group run: Meet fellow runners at Jetties Bagels at Depot Square in Ipswich for a three-mile run from 9 to 10 a.m. Come early or stay after for a free bagel (toppings not included). Four-legged friends and walkers are always welcome.

Om Drum Circle: Drum up a storm at the Ipswich Town Hall at 11 a.m. Rent a drum or bring your own!

Newburyport Craft and Psychic Fair: We're predicting this event

will have crafters galore, including Ipswich's own Rebecca Pearson of Suil Crow. It will be at the Newburyport Elks Club from 1 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Marc-Andre Hamelin and Viano Quartet: The winners of the 2019 Banff International String Quartet competition perform at the Rockport Chamber Music Festival (Shalin Liu) at 5 p.m.

Lux Aeterna: Chorus North Shore presents its reunion concert at Our Lady of Hope Church at 7 p.m. Proof of vaccination is required.

Free Beachfront Concert: Enjoy some fun summer tunes at 7:30 p.m. at the Salisbury Waterfront Stage. This week's performers are Way to the River. Later, at 10:15, there's a weekly fireworks show!

The Zappa Band: Alumni of the original Frank Zappa Band perform at the Cabot in Beverly at 7:30 p.m.

Lenny Clarke: The "Bad Boy from Boston" performs his stand-up comedy at the Blue Ocean Music Hall in Salisbury at 8 p.m.

— Sunday, June 26 —

Patton Park Concerts: This week's concert features 73 Duster's blues, reggae, folk, and jazz. The Hamilton concert (park is on Route 1A) starts at 5 p.m.

Ray Chen: The award-winning violinist performs works by Beethoven, Brahms, Sarasate, and others as part of the Rockport Chamber Music Festival at Shalin Liu in Rockport at 5 p.m.

Sundays at 5: An inspiring, out-of-the-ordinary 30-minute gathering to build community at Ascension Memorial Church on County Street at 5 p.m. Snacks, fun, and games follow!

Kabaka Pyramid and the Bebble Rockers: Blending reggae and hip hop, this Jamaican musician spreads positive messages of spiritual evolution at the Blue Ocean Music Hall in Salisbury at 7 p.m.

— Monday, June 27 —

Food and fellowship: The Dinner Bell staves off hunger every Monday at the Masonic Hall from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Hot, nutritious meals are free to all.

— Tuesday, June 28 —

Jazz at the May Flower: Jazz is back after a second COVID-related shutdown from 6 to 9 p.m.

Obituary: Nathalie Ballard

Nathalie Cameron (Ewing) Ballard, 86, went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, June 16, 2022.

Nathalie was born on May 5, 1936, in Ipswich, the daughter of the late Earl Morton Ewing and Katherine (Cameron) Ewing.

Nathalie excelled in school, earning all As every year from the first grade through high school.

Nathalie was reading the newspaper at age three to her Gramps Cameron and commenced first grade at five.

When black-marketers came into Ipswich because of the war, her dad closed the Ewing Market and moved the family to Weymouth.

Nathalie graduated from Weymouth High School while taking the honors college program. While also studying classical piano for 10 years, she completed her high school honors program in three years, taking four years of Latin, three years of French, and two years of Spanish along with her regular honors curriculum.

She remained treasurer of her high school class despite fulfilling all requirements and graduating in three years. Nathalie was a proud member of the “nifty 50s” of Weymouth High School.

Upon graduation, she declared that her life’s ambition was to be a housewife. In this search, she spotted her future husband, Duel Ryon Ballard Jr., at the First National store in South Weymouth. It was love at first sight! Duel was working part time while finishing his fourth year of engineering prior to graduation.

Duel worked for the National Bureau of Standards, Harry Diamond Labs, the War Department, and Bureau of Aeronautics (Navy) in Washington, D.C., and Virginia for over 34 years, where they raised

their family of four children.

Nathalie commenced college courses in Virginia; however, her growing family was of paramount importance.

Nathalie was an active member of the Order of Odd Fellows Rebecca. She completed all chairs, including being installed grandmaster of the D.C. Chapter Friendship Lodge IOOF-12.

She and Duel enjoyed being members of three square-dancing clubs in the area. Nathalie was an avid reader and had expertise in antiques and antique collection of all forms: glass, china, toys, furniture, and paintings.

What she most enjoyed in her later years, however, was spending time with her family, including her children, 10 grandchildren, and 11

great-grandchildren. Nathalie cherished each as the finest rose in the garden.

She loved playing card and board games with her grandchildren competitively.

She was a longtime summer resident of North Hero, Vermont.

Nathalie is survived by her loving husband of almost 70 years, Duel Ryon Ballard Jr. She is also survived

by her son, Cameron, and his wife, Jill Ballard, of Bryans Road, Maryland; daughter-in-law Lori Ballard of Seaford, Delaware; son-in-law Peter Livesey of Mooresville, N.C.; and numerous relatives from states around the country, including grandchildren (and spouses) Amanda (George), Ryon (Tiffany), Cameron Jr., Taylor (Kristen), Nathalie, Heather (Matt), Mike (Dawn), Samuel (Kristen), Joshua (Patricia), and Justin; and great-grandchildren Vaden, Walker, Kayla, Cameron, Quinn, Autumn, Chris, Heaven, Sawyer, Michelle, and Camryn; as well as sister-in-law Sandee Ewing.

She is also survived by her nieces and nephews (and spouses) Godson James (Gweneth), Linda (Ian), George (Connie), Steven (Laureen), Joan (Kevin), Gail (David), Glen (Jerilyn), Jeffrey (Maria), Donald (Kim), and Robert (Dollene); cousins Timothy (Kay), James (Linda), Jo Boccigrosso; and many grand-nieces, grand-nephews, and friends.

She will be greatly missed by

them all.

She was predeceased by her brother, Earl Morton Ewing Jr.; and by her children Duel Ryon III, Kathy Doris, and Cynthia Jean Livesey.

A visitation for her family and friends will held on Sunday, June 26, 2022, from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Whittier-Porter Funeral Home, 6 High Street, Ipswich.

Her funeral service, with the Reverend Samuel Alberty officiating and deacon James Ballard of Milton, Vt. contributing, will be held in the funeral home on Monday, June 27 at 11 a.m.

Nathalie will then be laid to rest with the ashes of her daughter Cynthia Jean beside her beloved grandparents in the Highland Cemetery, Ipswich.

Memorial flowers will be appreciated as well as memorial contributions in her name to Paul Newman’s Hole in the Wall Gang Camp.

For directions or to leave a condolence, please visit www.whittier-porter.com.

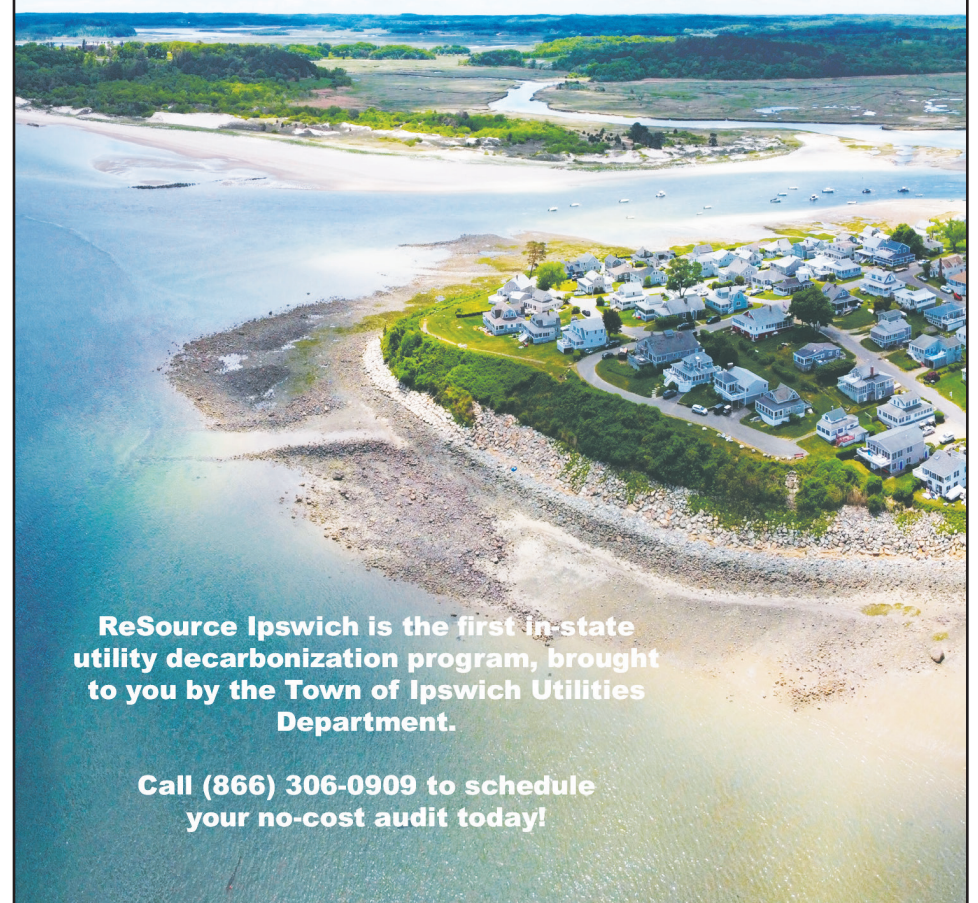


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Obituary: J. Royce Brown

J. Royce Brown of Ipswich and Punta Gorda, Fla., passed away peacefully on Tuesday, June 22, 2021.

He was predeceased by his parents, Harrell R. Brown and Nellie L. (Hunter) Brown, both of Mystic, Conn., and Fairfield, New Brunswick; his sister, Edna M. Phillpotts of St. Catharines, Ontario; and his ex-wife, Eleanor P. Brown, also of Ipswich.

Royce was born on September 8, 1925, and grew up in Mystic, Conn.

He graduated from high school in 1943 and immediately enlisted in the Army Air Corps.

He completed basic training, cadet school at High Point College in North Carolina, then pre-flight, primary, and advanced flight training in South Carolina and Georgia.

He was discharged in 1946, married Eleanor R. Phillpotts of St. John, New Brunswick, in 1947, and moved to Chicago.

There, he attended DeVry Tech-

nical Institute, where he received training in radio engineering and design. While attending school, he was a DJ at WCRW, Chicago.

Upon graduation, he moved back to Mystic and became the chief radio engineer at WERI in Westerly, R.I.

While attending Mitchell Junior College in New London, Conn., he worked for the U.S. Navy Underwater Sound Laboratory, working with experimental sonar.

He then graduated from the University of Rhode Island summa cum laude in 1957 with a degree in electrical engineering and accepted a job at MIT Lincoln Lab at Hanscom Air Force Base in Bedford.

While at MIT, he worked on the ballistic missile defense system. His work carried him and his family to Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands in the South Pacific for three years and then to Montana.

He always said the Kwaj years were the best years of his life.

He also worked in Australia, New Zealand, Saipan, Malta, and Norway.

He, Eleanor, and the family lived in Burl-

ington for 20 years before Royce moved to Ipswich and built a house on Great Neck.

After 30 years at MIT, he retired in 1986 and spent his winters in Punta Gorda, Fla.

Royce was an avid sailor. After he retired, he sailed his sailboat from Ipswich to Florida, where he enjoyed sailing and exploring the west coast of Florida. He also spent a winter on it in the Bahamas. He was also a certified NAUI dive instructor.

He loved his old TV shows — *Gunsmoke* and *Andy Griffith*.

Royce could build or fix anything. He built two houses, including furniture for the first house, and a 20-foot cabin cruiser.

He could draw and sculpt. In his retirement years, he took up woodcarving and copper sculpting. His family and friends have benefited from many of his beautiful pieces of art.

He was a card shark, known to try and run the table in a game of hearts, and he could tell a joke or two.

Even at an older age, he was quite savvy using the internet, email, and “the Facebook.”

He taught himself the guitar and banjo.

He especially enjoyed hearing all the goings-on with his grandchildren. He will be missed by all.

He is survived by his children Garth Brown and his wife, Mary Beth, of Ipswich and Anne Simon of California; and his loving grandchildren: Sarah (Flaherty) and her husband, Dale Jagers, of San Diego, Matthew Flaherty of San Diego, Samantha Brown of Cary, N.C., and Joshua Brown of Ipswich.

He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and dear friends.

A celebration of life service was held on June 3, 2022, at Ascension Memorial Church in Ipswich, and Royce was interred at the Cowles cemetery in Ipswich.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Ipswich Humane Group or the Mystic Seaport Museum.



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ORA from page 1

was skeptical. "They will not be paying anything near as much as they suggest," she said.

The mansion and 39.9 acres bring in \$38,000 in property taxes to the town, she noted.

If Ora buys the property for \$5.5 million and the town valuation changes, it would net \$15,000 more because more of the land would be in a conservation restriction, she said.

But if the sale price was \$4.3 million or less, it would bring in less than current taxes, Eddy argued. The exact price is unknown at this point, because it was one of many redactions in the document submitted to the town.

Nylen disagreed with the Eddy's approach and said the company would spend \$4 to \$5 million renovating the mansion alone.

Resident John Lichten said heavy construction vehicles would damage the road.

Friends' website

Under citizens queries, before the meeting started, town historian Gordon Harris said a number of images and text from his Historic Ipswich website was reproduced on the Friends of Waldingfield site.

He was given credit but said he didn't want people to think he supported the Friends. In fact, he was in favor of Ora's proposal, he said.

Traffic

A recurring complaint is about the amount of traffic that could use Waldingfield Road. Board member Helen Weatherall said she has seen police recently monitoring the road. That indicated to her it was dangerous, she said.

However, Nylen said police frequently change locations and don't like their patrols to be predictable. He said there was one accident per year on the road.

Although there are just nine residents, 1,645 trips per day were counted on the street. Ora estimates it would add another 250.

Resident Elizabeth Townsend said construction and delivery vehicles would have a large impact over the proposed "multiple phases of construction."

Conflict of interest

Soffron raised the issue again of a possible conflict of interest with Weatherall. Her husband, Chris Florio, has frequently spoken against the project.

Soffron said she wasn't suggesting a financial aspect but that the board should review state guidance. She called for Weatherall to recuse herself.

Later in the meeting, Florio said he and Weatherall met with former town manager Tony Marino when the matter first came up. Since then, he has always pointed to his relationship with Weatherall, he added.

"I very, very firmly believe in my right as a private citizen to voice my opinion," he told the board.

"I'll take it up with town counsel and get a definitive answer," said chairwoman Carolyn Britt.

The hearing was continued to July.

KENNEL from page 1

she would board a maximum of five and train at most another 10 during the day. She also owns three dogs of her own, she said.

Resident James Bussing asked how the dogs on site would react once they heard shots and bangs coming from the Ipswich Fish &

Game Association on Paradise Road. "It's just not a fit with the residential nature of this district," said resident Joe Suslak.

He said he often walks past Paws With Inn farther down the street, adding, "All you can hear is the dogs inside all day long."

The hearing was continued to the board's July meeting.

DEATH NOTICE: Charles W. McCarthy Jr.

Charles W. McCarthy Jr., 31, of Rockport, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, June 13, 2022. He was the beloved son of Charles McCarthy Sr. and Michelle Cahill/Altieri.

In addition to his parents, Charles is survived by his loving siblings Cody McCarthy, Caleb McCarthy, Cassie McCarthy, and Liam Altieri. Charles is also survived by his maternal grandparents, Ronald Cahill of Wakefield and Diane Vercollone of Beverly, as well as many cousins, aunts, uncles, and friends.

A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated on Thursday, June 23, 2022, at 10 a.m. at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 111 New Balch Street, Beverly. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited and are asked to bring their favorite tie-dye shirt to wear in the church after the Mass when walking out. Burial will be private.

Visiting hours will be on Wednesday, June 22, from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Morris Funeral Home, 45 North Main Street, Ipswich.



Word on the street is you've got some news you'd like to share. Let us know about engagements, weddings, births, graduations, or anything noteworthy!

LEGAL NOTICE


IPSWICH CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

Please note the Ipswich Conservation Commission, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40 and the Ipswich Wetlands Protection Bylaw, will hold a public hearing via Zoom conference call on **Wednesday, July 6, 2022, at 7 p.m.** relative to a filing by John Bruni for work at **26-44 Essex Road** shown on Tax Map: 54A/54C, Lots: 14A/22, 22A, 23, 24 for an ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF RESOURCE AREA DELINEATION to confirm the boundary of the wetland resources areas.

Conservation Agent
Ipswich Conservation Department

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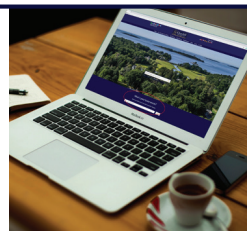


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