

Ipswich Local News

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LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED • www.ipswichlocalnews.com • July 27, 2022 • VOLUME 3, ISSUE 39

Marino offered 'unprecedented' contract to Nikas

Select board 'no longer has faith' in Ipswich police chief to serve as interim town manager

by Amy Palmer

IPSWICH — Police chief Paul Nikas will no longer serve as interim town manager of Ipswich following the select board's discovery of his "unprecedented" employment contract with former town manager Tony Marino.

The announcement was made in public on Monday evening after the select board held an executive, or closed, session to discuss the matter.

Marino offered Nikas a three-year employment contract at the end of his tenure without "informing or consulting with" the select board.

"In doing so, the town manager offered compensation and benefits to chief Nikas that no other department had received and that are materially inconsistent with the town's long-standing policies and procedures," select board member Sarah Player said.

After the select board informed Nikas they were not aware of the contract, Nikas still refused to rescind it, she said.

According to the select board, the contract will create financial and operational challenges for them.

"Given these circumstances, the board no longer has faith that Chief Nikas can effectively serve as our town manager on an interim basis," Player said. His appointment was set to start on August 1.

Human resources director Mary Gallivan will continue to serve as interim town manager until a new appointment is made.



In stark contrast to the black-and-white photos usually on display, the Naimo Gallery recently held a show featuring the psychedelic artwork of Joseph Shepard (left) and Richard Flynn (center). Also pictured with the artists is photographer and gallery owner Michael Naimo (right) at the show's opening (photo by Dan Mac Alpine).

Ipswich drought now severe, water ban imposed

by Amy Palmer

IPSWICH — The select board moved to declare a severe drought in Ipswich and impose a water ban effective immediately at its Monday night meeting.

In a tweet on Tuesday, the water department said, "Due to the persistent and severe drought conditions, along with increased water usage, the town of Ipswich is now in a severe drought. All outdoor water use is prohibited.

This applies to ALL water users in Ipswich (residential, commercial, municipal, private wells)."

The ban will be enforced by both the water department and the police department.

A severe drought takes place when the storage capacity of the reservoirs is between 40 and 65% of normal conditions, according to Ipswich's drought management plan.

Water and wastewater director Vicki Halmen said the reservoirs are currently 10 million gallons short of total capacity, which is fairly

good, but reservoir storage does not provide a complete picture of the drought's status.

"All the other [drought] indicators from that list are not looking so good," Halmen said. "It's really, really dry."

These other drought indicators include groundwater well levels, precipitation, Ipswich River flows, water storage tank levels, the state drought assessment, and other operation or

see DROUGHT, page 23

Tales from the scanner: Boat wants to break free, road rage

On Wednesday, July 20, at around 10:20 a.m., a Newmarch Street resident said a Ford Explorer had been parked in the area for the last day or more and that the keys were still inside. Police checked up and radioed that there were no issues.

At 3:40 p.m. on Thursday, a houseboat broke free of its mooring and was said to be stuck in the marsh.

At 5:55 p.m., a caller said a van was parked illegally near the new stop signs on High Street at North Main Street. It almost caused a crash, the caller said.

At 8:40 p.m., a caller said an egret flew into the power lines at Pavilion Beach and then fell into the street. The dispatcher updated to say some people were now without power. An update from the police officer on scene said the bird was deceased.

On Friday, at 5:30 p.m., a call went to Rowley about a dog in a car behind the Riverview in Ipswich. The dispatcher was unsure if the dog was in distress.

At 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, the MBTA reported that a passenger on the train was possibly having a seizure. The train was waiting at Ipswich station for an ambulance.

Road rage at Pavilion Beach was

reported at 8:35 p.m. Someone on a motor scooter or dirt bike rider flashed his lights and made gestures at a female driver. He followed her into town but turned off at Town Hill, the dispatcher relayed.

On Monday, at 5:35 p.m., residents reported an odor of burning inside their home on Rosewood Drive.

At 1:15 p.m. on Tuesday, there were several calls for an elderly woman who fell outside near the corner of Central and Mineral streets. She was trying to get up, but one caller said she appeared to be intoxicated. First responders arrived to help her.

Around 2:20 p.m., a man called from the Hood's Pond area to say he thought a woman had been doing drugs all day, was stumbling around, and was in no condition to drive off. The incident was near the Topsfield town line on Linebrook Road, the dispatcher said. In an update, he relayed that the woman was now in and out of consciousness and breathing slowly. The woman, in her 30s and from Georgetown, was taken to Beverly Hospital. Her dog was taken into the care of the Topsfield animal control officer.



Not long ago, Nancy Carlisle sent in a picture of a hawk that settled on her deck for a rest. A few days later, however, the North Main Street resident sent in the picture above. It looks like the hawk liked the deck so much, he (or she) brought along a buddy.

Ipswich woman in court to answer second OUI charge

by Ella Niederhelmen

IPSWICH — A local woman has been given a six-month suspended sentence after she was found guilty in Ipswich District Court of operating under the influence (OUI), second offense.

The case last week before Judge Peter Doyle heard how Karen Costa, 66, of 13 Caroline Ave., struck another vehicle on January 31, 2022, at around 4 p.m., court records said.

Police said the “small motor vehicle accident” on Caroline Avenue involved Costa’s 2008 Nissan Versa and another car.

The Ipswich officer called to the scene, Aaron B. Woodworth, said in his complaint that Costa did not remember striking the motor vehicle.

“Costa had slurred speech and stated she had been drinking just prior to coming out to move her motor vehicle for snow removal,” the police record said.

At the time, “There was a strong odor of alcoholic beverage coming from inside the motor vehicle,” the police report said.

“Costa stated she had been drinking vodka and Kahlua,” it added.

Woodworth then asked Costa if she would complete field sobriety tests. She agreed but then failed to pass, he said. She was taken into custody at 4:15 p.m.

Later that evening, at 8 p.m., Costa was released on a bail of \$250.

Costa now faces a two-year license loss alongside two years of probation.

She was also sentenced to six months, suspended for two years, the court records say.

She faces a fine of \$750 and was ordered to pay \$250 to go to the head injury fund, \$50 toward a victims’ fund, and \$50 for an OUI victims’ fund, the disposition said. Any restitution has yet to be determined, it added.

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Founded in 2019 by John Muldoon and Bill Wasserman.

Ipswich Local News is a 501(c)(3) or non-profit operation. It is published weekly, and 6,600 copies are mailed to homes and businesses in Ipswich; 200 more are distributed locally.

All articles in the newspaper can also be found online at ipswichlocalnews.com.

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Library brings back Vehicle Day after a break for the pandemic

IPSWICH — The public library, “along with public service agencies from all over town,” said it is “very excited to issue an invitation to Vehicle Day for the first time since 2019.”

A new addition to this year’s event, which takes place on July 29, is a visit from the Boston Bruins mascot Blades, who will be available for photos with attendees.

The Bruins have teamed up with libraries across the commonwealth

to encourage kids and teens to keep reading over the summer.

Massachusetts Libraries are also bringing along Olive the Service Dog.

Ipswich police’s Lt. Jonathan Hubbard said their department will bring a police cruiser, the emergency operations trailer, a Safeboat, RIBCRAFT, the Northeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council Bearcat, a SWAT-armored truck,

their K9 unit, and the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

The Ipswich Fire Department will share some vehicles, and Chief Paul Parisi will read at Story Time at 10 a.m.

Salter Transportation will send a school bus, Ipswich Utilities will stop by, and the Ipswich Highway Department will have some construction vehicles as well.

The Ipswich Public Library’s

board of trustees and the Friends of the Library will serve free hot dogs on the front lawn. The Ascension Nursery School will provide Freeze Pops in the parking lot.

No registration is necessary. The event takes place on Friday, July 29 from 10 a.m. to noon in the parking lot of the Ascension Memorial Church at 31 County Street and the Ipswich Public Library at 25 North Main Street.



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Rockport Candle Company, Rockport

Rockport Candle Company owner Christina Willcox pours a fresh batch of scented candles while helpers Emily Corrao and Jacynda Pena create candle labels and help shoppers with their purchases. Inspired by seaside memories and life on the coast, the team creates candles, wax melts, room sprays and soaps in the busy Bearskin Neck shop and offers a DIY Candle Bar experience on the weekends.

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Dog-gone: Kennel is out

John P. Muldoon
Ipswich Local News

IPSWICH — After hearing that all members of the zoning board of appeals were against the idea, the woman seeking to build a dog kennel at 236 High Street has withdrawn her application.

Maggie Hackett went to the board looking to board and train up to 15 dogs on the 3.4-acre lot. She also has three dogs of her own. She had a purchase-and-sales agreement for the property, which is a few doors down from Mile Lane.

The parcel is in the rural residential A district and the water supply protection district. Parts of the land are also in two separate wetlands buffer zones, according to the town's GIS map.

The ZBA feedback came at its meeting last Thursday. A procession of neighbors spoke against the proposal, citing concerns about traffic, noise, and dog-waste pollution. Next-door neighbor Erica Duda also presented a 184-name petition against the kennel.

Hackett, who currently operates The Canine Classroom out of a relative's property on Cherry Street in Wenham, wanted to buy the long, narrow lot. She said she intended to live there, too.

While neighbors were firmly against the idea of living so close to a dog facility, ZBA members tried to soften the blow in their feedback to Hackett.

Vice-chair Benjamin Fierro called her "competent and knowledgeable," and said there is a need for a dog-training facility in town.

However, when he looked at the special permit requirement that the training business be compatible with the neighborhood, Fierro said he could not support the application. He said he hoped Hackett found a more suitable location in Ipswich to run her business.

Chairman Robert Gambale agreed. He said he enquired about Hackett's operation and said people spoke highly of her abilities. "It's not a reflection on you or your business," but number 236 was too close to the neighbors, he added.

Neighbors

"This is not a wise choice, to put a kennel in our neighborhood," said Constance Markos of Mile Lane, whose property backs on to 236 High Street.

Abutter Joe Suslak asked what recourse neighbors would have if the kennels turned out to be a nuisance. "All we can do is complain. I don't want to be that kind of neighbor," he said.

Neighbor Emily Lemieux made a similar point when she said barking would continue after the business closed at 5 p.m. and neighbors would have to call police about the noise.

Fierro agreed when he made his comments later, saying it was not the job of neighbors to police ZBA conditions. "They should not be put in that situation," he said.

Responding to claims that the kennel would set a precedent, Fierro disagreed. Applications for a special permit grant the ZBA discretion and allow it to look at each case separately, he added.

Next-door neighbor Mary Perry said she was concerned about the noise and her own dog, who would have to be kept indoors due to the distraction caused by the kennel.

Duda said she was worried about the smell and potential pollution. She noted that a service called Poop 911 would come every week or so. She said if 15 dogs were on site seven days a week, they would leave at least 105 "waste products."

Neighbor Paul Lightbody was more blunt. "You get 15, 18 dogs. What are you going to do with all that shit?" he asked.

Resident Megan Greenleaf noted that Hackett also proposed to breed dogs. Quoting the ASPCA, she said typical behavior of breeding dogs included "baying, howling, and over-barking."

After the board and neighborhood feedback, Hackett decided to withdraw her request rather than have the ZBA take a vote to deny it.

It marks her second attempt to open a kennel in a residential neighborhood. She applied to the Boxford ZBA in February 2021 for a special permit to do the same thing at 22 Ipswich Road. That request also failed.



From left: Select board chair Sarah Player, Officer Matt Bodwell, and Chief Paul Nikas (photo by Amy Palmer).

Board commends Bodwell for boat rescue last month

by Amy Palmer

IPSWICH — The select board commended police officer Matthew Bodwell on Monday for rescuing five people after their boat capsized a month ago.

On June 25, Bodwell rescued four adults and one 14-month-old from rough waters after their 16-foot aluminum boat capsized near Clark Beach. None of the individuals were wearing life jackets.

“If not for officer Bodwell’s quick response, with his high level of marine unit training, this outcome could have been tragically different,” police chief Paul Nikas said.

“Had he not had the quick and professional response to that capsized vessel, it is certainly easy to

imagine not all five of them would have survived the incident.”

Bodwell evaluated all five people and drove them back to the boat owners’ house after paramedics cleared them.

On behalf of the select board, member Sarah Player presented the commendation award to Bodwell.

“Police officer Matthew Bodwell exemplifies the compassion and professionalism desired in all public safety personnel,” Player read from the plaque.

The room quickly filled with applause as Player handed the plaque to Bodwell and shook his hand.

“I’d like to thank you for a job well done, and I think the people of Ipswich want to thank you for a job well done as well,” Nikas said.

Opponents look to Blanding’s turtle to prevent Essex Rd. 40B

John P. Muldoon
Ipswich Local News

IPSWICH — An endangered turtle with a bright yellow chin and throat is the latest — if most unlikely — participant in the long-running Essex Road 40B saga.

There have been “reports of sightings of Blanding’s turtles on the property. This a very endangered species and would put serious restrictions on development if they were officially spotted,” Ipswich Citizens for Responsible

see TURTLE on page 23

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Running with Birds

The chickadee hides seeds in the forest, singing its familiar song



Photo of chickadee by Carl Jappe.

by Rebecca Pugh

If you are running through the woods or a neighborhood, and you hear a bird singing “*fee bay*,” you can glance up to the nearby branches for the distinctive black-and-white checkerboard face of the chickadee. Chickadees are showing their young how to gather seeds and nuts for the winter and singing from tree branches all around town.

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These tiny birds are part of an intricate network of warning when danger comes to the skies. If there is a hunting hawk overhead, a chickadee warns other birds with a high-pitched “*seet*” call, which is picked up and repeated by additional chickadees, nuthatches, titmice, and jays until the community is warned.

One scientist studied this warning call in 2005 and plotted its speed. They found, as the call traveled from species to species, that it went through the forest at 100 miles an hour, faster than a hawk can fly.

They have a second warning mechanism too: their “*chickadee-dee*” call, which takes on its own cautionary emphasis. They make their call urgent with a longer song — “*chickadee, dee, dee, dee, dee, dee, dee, dee*” — which warns fellow creatures of an owl in a tree or a cat at a bird feeder.

The message is to freeze (or hide or stay away) until the coast is clear.

Squirrels and chipmunks pick it up also, and they spread the word themselves with their own warning

sounds.

Chickadees have another distinctive capability as well: their great memories. A study of chickadees hiding seeds in the late summer found that one individual bird hid some 10,000 seeds ... and then remembered where almost all of them were the next winter.

We are curious as to how they do this, given how hard it is for humans even to remember where a few books have gone in the house. Or a key ring.

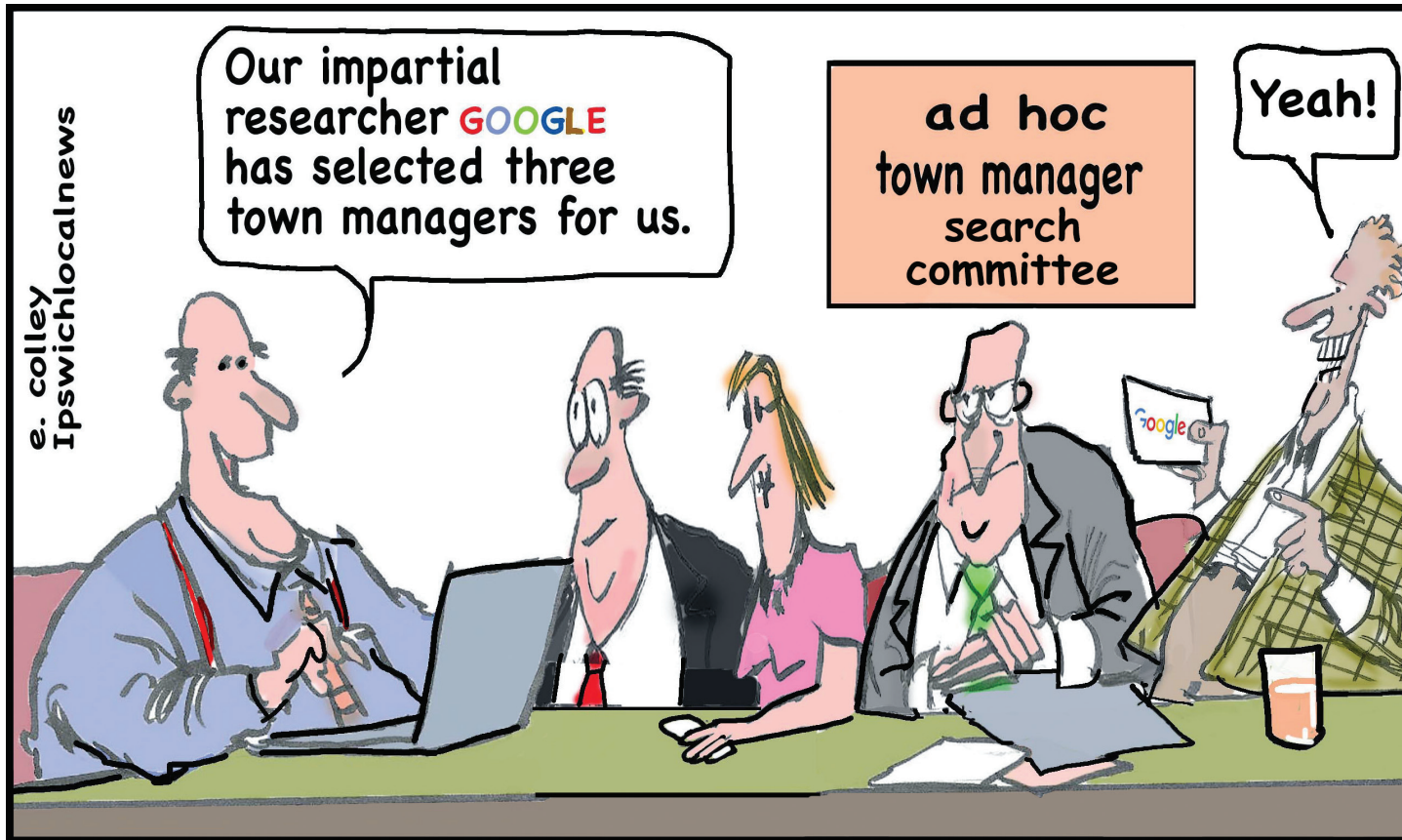
So, if you are running on a trail or a sidewalk, and you hear the melodic “*fee bay*,” you can smile to yourself to think of the cleverness of this bird.

The chickadees are busy helping each other survive, showing their young how to hide seeds for the winter, and generally having a good time with their friends.

You can pick up your pace, knowing that there is an intricate network of intelligence going on right over your head.

You are running with chickadees.

Ed Colley



e. colley
Ipswichlocalnews

LETTER

A Republican inadvertently makes an excellent case for voting for Healey

To the editor:

In her guest column in the July 20, 2022, *Ipswich Local News*, Lori Kelly makes, I suspect inadvertently, an excellent case for voting for Maura Healey for governor in the upcoming election.

Ms. Kelly states that Ms. Healey believes that there is “systemic racism” in our criminal justice system and wishes additional police training.

Anyone following the news in the past several months (years?) has innumerable examples of this. George Floyd is only the most obvious and publicized example.

Ms. Healey believes in downgrading CERTAIN (my word, not used by Ms. Kelly) felonies to misdemeanors. Rachel Rollins in her term as Massachusetts AG demonstrated the value of this approach with NO increase in crime.

Ms. Healey has “consistently” opposed expanding the number of charter schools in the state. This is a critically positive approach to fund

local PUBLIC schools rather than spend public tax revenue on private, often religiously based charter schools.

Ms. Healey wants to partially cancel federal student debt. This is another critical step which would allow young people to not be debt-ridden into middle age so they could then use their acquired education in a positive fashion. This is especially true of students from a poor background.

Ms. Healey wants to establish a “climate chief” and act to reduce the terrible consequences of climate change that we are currently experiencing with heat waves, dry rivers, floods, tornados, and forest fires. These problems will only get worse if we do not act. By mentioning this, Ms. Kelly, I assume, thinks that attention to climate change is a bad idea.

Ms. Healey wants to end total cooperation between state and local officials and federal Immigration officials maintaining some local

control. Has anyone reunited the many infants and children separated from their parents in the recent past? My information is that many are still separated thanks to a recent Republican’s efforts with immigration officials.

It is logical to assume that Mr. Diehl agrees to some degree with Ms. Kelly on these points (and others that I have not mentioned to be concise). If true, this disqualifies him as a candidate for governor in my opinion.

Rather than spend millions and billions on a useless wall, worthless before it was even partially finished (and with a terrible impact on wildlife and Native Americans in the area), and even more billions beyond requests on defense spending, let’s focus our tax dollars on things that benefit our citizens, like teachers in public schools, infrastructure, climate, and diversity in both gender and race.


J. Robert Cassady, MD
Ipswich

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COLUMN

Inflation is here, and it's shrinking boxes of Wheat Thins, car payments ... and our wallets

by Bob Waite

Back in April of 2021, I wrote in these pages about two economists, Laurence Summers and Paul Krugman, who had diametrically opposed views regarding the threat of inflation. Summers predicted it was coming; Krugman (and virtually all of the world's central bank chairs) pooh-poohed the idea.

I thought Summers had it right — and, unfortunately for our wallets, he did.

Having lived through the '70s and '80s, I've seen this movie before. And I am seeing a repeat of some of the distortions created by rapidly rising prices.

For example, there is a phenomenon called “shrinkflation.” This is when a company tries to maintain the same price for something but shrinks the amount you get. Everything, from the number of sheets

in roll of toilet paper to the size of your favorite candy bar, diminishes.

My favorite example is Wheat Thins, the crackers made by Nabisco. They recently reduced their “family size” box from a pound (16 ounces) to 14 ounces. While it is true that the size of the average family is also shrinking, this is not about demographics — it's about profit.

There are also car payments. These were once denominated monthly, then bi-weekly, and now weekly. What's next? Hourly?

Another big issue is product substitution. This happens when people get fed up with rapidly rising prices and switch to a supermarket house brand or a “no name” product.

Back in the '80s and early '90s, I was doing some consulting work for Coca-Cola. At the time, they were obsessed with product substitution. For Coca-Cola, going toe-to-toe with

Pepsi was one thing. Fighting it out with a competitor with a markedly lower cost structure was something else again.

Coca-Cola was particularly concerned about Cott Beverages, a Montreal-based firm founded by Polish immigrants in 1923. If you went to the Crane Beach store in the '50s, '60s, or '70s, you'll remember Cott — it was the only tonic (translation for non-Ipswich readers: “soda” or “pop”) they sold. The company's slogan was, “It's Cott to be good.”

In reality, away from Crane Beach, most consumers seldom knew they were drinking Cott cola or the company's other carbonated beverages — they were sold under various store brands, like President's Choice, Master Choice, or America's Choice.

Cott's was clever when it came to cola — they obtained a license from Royal Crown to use their formula. In taste tests, their product didn't outperform Coke or Pepsi but was deemed okay enough by many.

So what did Coke do? Lowered their price only a little — and upped their marketing budget by a lot.

They cemented brand loyalty by transporting consumers to hilltops in Italy to “teach the world to sing” and strengthened their ties with sports and entertainment franchises. And it mostly worked.

Which brings me to ask a question: Are you loyal to certain brands, even in this time of inflation? Or will you flee to lower-priced house brands and/or cheaper competitors?

Here are some random examples of where I am stubbornly brand loyal:

Ketchup: Heinz. I accept no sub-

stitutes. And restaurants that pour another brand into used Heinz bottles feel my wrath on social media sites.

Mustard: Kosciusko. As best I can recall, I first tasted this brand at a Polish picnic. Ended my rocky relationship with French's.

Mayonnaise: Hellman's, come hell or high water.

Orange juice: Tropicana. Once you leave frozen for fresh, you never go back.

Beer: Sapporo. First had one at a beer garden in the city of the same name. Germany's gift to Japan.

Light beer: Michelob Ultra. My grandfather knew a guy who knew Gussie Busch.

Brats: Johnsonville. As a proud Wisconsin Badger, brats are an essential food.

Runners (sneakers, to the Americans): New Balance. Not that I actually run, but they fit.

And the company is Boston-based.

Cars: Ford. Met my spouse while we both worked there. But I liked it better when Ford owned the Jaguar, Volvo, and Land Rover badges.

Clams: Ipswich. Forget cherrystones, quahogs, or geoducks. I only consume clams at places where I see a blue-and-yellow Ipswich Shellfish truck making deliveries. And I am apparently ridiculously price-insensitive (or so my spouse tells me when I suggested taking out a second mortgage).

And, finally, soft drink: Coke Zero. Unless they engage in shrinkflation.

Bob Waite would be interested to know if readers are loyal to particular brands despite inflation. You can reach him at bob.waite@senecacollege.ca.



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The Outsidah

Did the Outsidah actually see Ray Morley cook an omelette on the East Street pavement?

by Doug Brendel

It was hot last week.

The weather angels have now shut down two Thursday evening Castle Hill concerts in a row — most recently not just because of the threat of lightning, but because of deadly heat.

I would suggest that the weather angels are annoyed because we keep talking about the “weather gods,” when the weather angels are the ones who really have to do all the work.

The weather gods sit in their executive conference room on their throne-like leather chairs and make all the decisions, but they’re detached from the actual machinery of weather-making and have little or no appreciation for what the weather angels go through to execute all the executives’ executions.

The Trustees, who host the weekly summer concert series at the Crane Estate, repeatedly express their hope that “the weather gods will cooperate.” It’s prayer, for all practical purposes.

But it’s misguided, because in reality, the weather gods are not processing the prayers. They’re sipping scotch and smoking cigars and making minimal effort — typical bureaucrats — issuing the most general of instructions to their underlings: “Summer sunshine.” “Warmer today.” “Breezy.” The yeoman weather angels, meanwhile, get little or no oversight from the weather gods, so they ad-lib the actual details of the weather, mostly based on their mood.

And because it vexes them to hear all this beseeching of the weather gods — as if the weather angels

don’t even exist, for heaven’s sake! — they finally get fed up and clobber us.

Like last week.

I have not lived here in Ipswich long, but I have lived here long enough to know the summer heat shouldn’t surprise us. Where I used to live, in a suburb of the Great Sonoran Desert known as Scottsdale, Arizona, heat is the painful

norm. The heat sits down on you in April like Jabba the Hutt — it was 112° F at 4 p.m. one day last week — and doesn’t stand up to stretch till at least November. (In December, Jabba may just lean forward a little to let you breathe, but he doesn’t lean very far, and you don’t get to breathe very deeply before it’s March and the torture begins all over again.)

Here in coastal Massachusetts, it’s different. As I’ve

discovered during my brief time here, Jabba the Heat has more of a rhythm. It’ll hit you, and it’ll go away. But first, it’s gonna hit you.

You’re sitting on your screen



porch in early July, counting your blessings, perhaps noting mentally that the weather has been quite beautiful, when suddenly Jabba swirls in, thunderboomers roiling behind him like boisterous backup singers, and then kapow, Jabba the Heat has plopped into your lap.

You might spill your frozen margarita, except that it’s already so hot, there’s nothing in the glass but tequila soup. And it’s steaming.

So, yeah. It was hot last week.

It was so hot that some kind of lizard knocked on my back door and asked for a drink of water.

It was so hot that high tide on the Ipswich River was lower than low tide, and low tide was gravel.

It was so hot that the new stop signs at the top of North Main Street began drooping toward South Main Street.

It was so hot that kids selling street-corner lemonade on outer

Linebrook Road had to edit their sign to read “just add water.”

Ipswich residents with property in Florida were heading back south to cool down.

Marini’s corn started popping in the fields.

Our fruit trees were producing pies.

It was so hot that Clam Box kitchen personnel were sent home because the clams were frying themselves.

Bottom line: Heed thou mine admonition.

Pray thee to the weather angels, not the weather gods, and things will get better.

Doug Brendel is sitting in his underwear with what’s left of a cool drink somewhere on outer Linebrook Road. At his current lethargic pace, he won’t be hard to track. Start at DougBrendel.com.

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SERVICE DOG PROJECT

Going down stairs is a more delicate maneuver than up for pups

by Carlene White

Hi again ... My name is still Jack, the seven-month-old pup from Service Dog Project — same as it was last week, when I told you about being trained as to help a person get up a flight of stairs.

This week, it is *down* those stairs, which is a much more delicate maneuver.

Stairs, or even curbs, are always a problem to anybody with a mobility issue.

To become a service dog, I have to totally forget the idea of bounding up or down a flight of stairs by myself. Our human partners have only two feet, thankfully, and do not bound anywhere very well.

In addition, humans have a higher center of gravity, which can cause them to fall in any direction. Dogs are more stable, with a leg in each corner.

Much of the work I do to help someone balance is to respond to a tug on my harness in any direction. I have to be ready for surprises.

For a partner with Parkinson's, that tug is often lifting up on my harness as they start to tip backwards. With my weight of 150 pounds, they can pull up all they want. Not one person has lifted me off the ground yet.

Going up the stairs, it helps our partner if we pull them slightly forward.

However, we must never pull



The picture is a little fuzzy, but you can see Bella as her dog, George, matches her step perfectly. Good dog! (courtesy photo).

going downstairs. That's a difficult lesson for a dog.

We've had a lot of practice "on the flat" doing just one step at a time, and that helps with trying to learn how to go downstairs.

I have to brace and stand slightly behind my partner as they reach for the handrail, just in case they get unsteady. At that point, I can help pull them back.

Then on we go. They step down one step, then I step down one step.

By keeping myself slightly behind them, I can provide the anchor to correct any tipsy problem.

You will see all my siblings and me at the Hotel Ferncroft in Danvers, which has some short practice stairs.

We then graduate to the town halls of Georgetown and Topsfield. Both have lovely stairs on which we practice.

Next lesson is into and out of a bus or train.

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LETTERS

The Ipswich Lions Club, regrettably, will not be holding their famous Chowderfest in October this year

To the editor:

The Ipswich Lions Club is most grateful for the support from the community by donating used eyeglasses at the club eyeglass depository, located at the end of the Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church parking area.

The eyeglasses collected were packaged, along with others donated throughout the Lions District covering the North Shore. More than 12,000 glasses were packaged and shipped to Dominican Republic and a social service organization that will distribute to those in need. Thank you, Ipswich, for your part!

The Lions, regrettably, will not be able to hold the club's famous Chowderfest in October. This was to be the celebratory 25th community affair.

Unfortunately, the poll of supporting restaurants gave a clear indication that the pressure on local restaurants is great enough that there are not sufficient numbers of participants to move forward this year.

President Bob Sinclair indicated that the club officers are particularly saddened to hold off one more year but feel comfortable with their decision. The restaurants who sup-

port the club are key to the success of the event. The Lions want those businesses to be strong once again.

Not only has the pandemic and after-effects caused cancelation of many activities, but it has had a profound on membership.

Many service organizations and other types of community institutions have suffered membership loss during months of inactivity.

The local club has been blessed to recently add a new member and is actively seeking others with an interest in community service. Umesh Bhuju of Zumi's is always happy to provide further information as

membership chairman.

The Lions look to offer some exciting fundraising events later in the fall. Support of local scholarships, Mass Lions Eye Research, Lions International Foundation, and others will continue. Support of the low vision group at Council on Aging and providing efficient eye exams for local schools have continued in recent months.

The Lions are alive and well but in need of new, enthusiastic members.

It is great to be a Lion.

Rick Denton
Ipswich

Blanding's turtles are vulnerable and threatened — and they need our help to preserve their habitat

To the editor:

What's helmet-shaped, looks like it spilled mustard down its front, and might be living in a muddy bank near you?

If you answered "Blanding's turtle," you probably grew up catching polliwogs at Baker's Pond or other local wet spots. Of the ten species of turtle living in the state, Blanding's turtle is one you are most unlikely to see. In fact, the species is designated "threatened" under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act.

Mark Grgurovic was in town recently to survey local population. Recognized for his undergraduate research of Blanding's turtles, he was recruited and granted a full scholarship for a master's degree in 1999 by UMass Amherst to continue research instrumental to conservation of the species.

Grgurovic confirmed that Ipswich offers prime Blanding's real estate. Blanding's turtles need to roam. Oddly, he explains, this semi-aquatic turtle is a clumsy swimmer. It is tortoise-like both in shape and in the fact that it spends a lot of time on land. In its lifetime, a Blanding's turtle will seek to roam the incredible distance of 200-300 acres. In a drought year, they will roam even further in their search for adequate nesting grounds and food for survival.

Blanding's turtles nest on dry

ground. They dig in banks and lay clutches of 12-14 eggs. Only 5% of babies survive to adulthood.

It isn't until individuals reach 12 years old that they are large enough to be safe from predation. Then adults have a 98% chance of survival. And, given peace and security, they can live as long as 100 years.

But they have not evolved to evade cars. One mortal car strike of a female seeking to lay eggs represents a severe blow to the species. Blanding's turtles do not reproduce until 16-20 years old.

As their numbers decline, so too does their genetic diversity. Climate change also adds to the pressures they face. Soil temperature determines the sex of turtle hatchlings. The alteration of natural seasonal temperatures could throw the balance of gender in a population.

Grgurovic also points out that the use of bark mulch in landscaping is problematic. They are attracted to the easy-to-dig material and nest in it. But mulch, particularly black bark mulch, heats to extreme temperatures and has been known to literally "cook" incubating eggs. Further, lawn chemicals represent a threat — like bird eggs, turtle eggs are porous and vulnerable to toxins.

These turtles are found in eastern Massachusetts, southern New Hampshire, southern Maine, parts of the Great Lakes, and Canada.

How many Blanding's turtles exist in Ipswich? There is no answer. Not yet. But Grgurovic would like to provide one. "Without very aggres-

sive management, basically [Blanding's turtles] are on their way out."

Helen Weatherall
Ipswich



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LETTERS

Beliefs are not the same as facts, and people should inform themselves and do research before voting

To the editor:

After reading the word salad rant by Brian Curley about his “pro-life” beliefs, I, like Brian, felt compelled to respond, even though I also agree that *Ipswich Local News* is a forum best suited for local news.

Brian wrote, “I firmly acknowledge the fact that life begins at the moment of conception.” That is not a fact — it is your belief.

A fact is $1+1 = 2$.

A Christian belief is that life begins at conception.

A Jewish belief is that life begins at first breath.

My personal atheist belief is that life begins when a fetus has grown to the point where it can exist on its own, without its mother, which is something that happens much later into pregnancy.

Here are some facts reported by the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* in July 2022, a month after Roe was overturned.

Two Texas hospitals reported 28 cases where women less than 23 weeks pregnant entered the hospital with various complications, and all were medically advised to abort the current clump of cells in their

uterus.

Because some of those cells were functioning heart cells, all abortions were delayed for nine days.

When the medically needed abortions were finally performed, 60% had major complications, well over double the average rate.

Of these 28 cases, there were eight live births. Seven died within hours. One born at 24 weeks had severe complications in every organ of its undeveloped body.

Bringing it back to the local news: we vote. We vote every single election as a well informed voter. Do

your research.

When you go to Seth Moulton’s website, there is a banner on the top to be directed to reproductive rights resources and clear statements that he believes the overturning of Roe is setting us up for a dangerous path concerning health care.

Bob May is pro-embryonic life. (I refuse to call people “pro-life” who do not value a full-grown woman’s life.)

I know how I will vote between these candidates. Do you?

Melissa Aleksandrowicz
Ipswich

We are ready to commit the resources to do something wonderful with 55 Waldingfield for the town

To the editor:

This letter is in response to Mr. Abelson’s letter from last week. Mr. Abelson, CEO of Ora Inc., the company that is seeking a special permit to build a corporate facility at 55 Waldingfield Road, asserted that he has never received an “offer” from the Friends of Waldingfield to purchase the property.

This is a correct statement, because neither Mr. Abelson nor Ora, currently owns the property. Mr. Abelson entered into a purchase-and-sales contract to buy the property subject to receipt of a special permit under the GEPD Bylaw.

Where we would like to correct the record is with regard to the outreach we have initiated with Mr. Abelson.

We made several good-faith

efforts to advise him that we have assembled a group of philanthropic neighbors who wish to preserve all the open space on the property (not 62%), in perpetuity, working directly with a local non-profit such as the Trustees and/or Greenbelt.

Our attorney, Dennis Murphy from Hill Law, spoke on the phone with Ora’s project manager, Jennifer Williams, in December 2021, and she said she would get back to him to set up a meeting.

Never hearing from Ms. Williams, Mr. Murphy had an exchange of emails with Ora’s attorney, Chip Nylén, in late December and early January. Again, promises were made to get back to us, but to no avail.

Following those communications, counsel for the Trustees of Reservations contacted Attorney Nylén,

who said Ora was not interested in discussing the project with them.

While I am sure Mr. Abelson did not mean to mislead the public, his letter leaves a different impression.

Mr. Abelson, you have said that you don’t want to be known as “the person who destroys Waldingfield.”

Please meet with us. We are ready to commit the resources to do something wonderful for the town — to preserve the rural character of this scenic area, provide public access

to the property, and keep the roads safe for all recreational users to enjoy.

Friends of Waldingfield is hosting a public discussion on Tuesday, July 26, from 6 to 8 p.m. at True North Ale Company.

Public discussion is a vital part of the special permit process, and we welcome you, Mr. Abelson, to join us or to contact us directly.

Jennifer Eddy, Ipswich
Elisabeth Massey, Hamilton

Healy has unwise and extreme policy proposals

To the editor:

Hats off to *Ipswich Local News* for publishing in its July 20 edition the guest column by Lori Brannigan Kelly entitled “Who’s the extremist in the Governor’s race? Not the Republican!”

Without any bombast or animus, Ms. Kelly laid out the numerous unwise, extreme policy proposals which are the foundation of the platform of Democratic candidate for governor Maura Healey, including “bail ‘reform’ (i.e., elimination),” opposing charter schools, cancellation of student debt at taxpayer expense, a state-mandated end in 13 years to the sale of cars and trucks powered by gas and/or diesel

fuel, and an end to the cooperation between state and local officials and federal officials to enforce immigration laws.

Make no mistake, as Ms. Kelly made clear. If Ms. Healey is elected as governor, the Democratic party in Massachusetts will control all three branches of our state government, and these extreme and unwise policies, the sad results of which we have already seen in other states, will become law here.

Perhaps the *Ipswich Local News* could sponsor a debate between Republican candidate Diehl and Ms. Healey.

Chris Parker
Ipswich

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As Ora's opponents try to stop them, plans move ahead

John P. Muldoon
Ipswich Local News

IPSWICH — As the Ora application draws to a close, opponents continue their efforts to stop the development going ahead.

Ora Inc. of Andover wants to build a corporate center at 55 Waldingfield Road, but many area residents in a group called Friends of Waldingfield (FOW) oppose the idea.

The application has been before the planning board for around a year, and the board started a review of its findings at its meeting last Thursday (July 21).

Meanwhile, the FOW's attorney, Tad Heuer of Foley Hoag, asked the planning board to seek legal permission first because it has no authority to waive a 250-foot front-setback requirement.

If the application is approved, it would be "facially vulnerable on appeal," Heuer wrote.

At the planning board, member Helen Weatherall continued to object to the project on numerous grounds.

Ora is seeking a special permit, which gives the board discretion in the application. Criteria include:

- Social, economic, or community needs that are served by the proposal

- Potential fiscal impact, including impact on town services, tax base, employment

- Traffic flow and safety, including parking and loading

- Adequacy of utilities and other public services

- Compatibility with neighborhood character

- Impacts on the natural environment

Weatherall claimed the benefits to the town would not outweigh the detriments. She doubted if there would be much tax impact and claimed Ora pays just \$5,000 in taxes a year for their Andover offices.

The company leases space at 300 Brickstone Square. That facility is valued at \$64,693,700 by the town of Andover. However, it is not owned by Ora.

The company would own the 40 acres on Waldingfield Road should the plan get approved.

Weatherall said the company would also use a lot of water, including the upkeep of the 10 horses it plans to keep on site. "It is reckless and inaccurate to say there will not be a significant demand on water," she said.

Ora's representatives said they

will use a well to draw water and return it to the ground via a septic system.

Another point of contention for many opponents is traffic on the street. Although there are just nine residents there, Waldingfield Road sees 1,645 trips a day, according to one traffic count.

Draft findings by the planning board said Ora would not create unsafe conditions. "I take absolute issue with this statement," Weatherall said.

But board member Carolyn Britt said once New England Biolabs' new extension is complete, more traffic will be going to its facility nearby.

Citing the possible Bruni development on Essex Road, she added, "There's a whole lot of other things going on in town."

On sustainability, the company said it would be all electric and not use fossil fuels. For water, it would use low-flow fixtures.

Weatherall called the water use "preposterous," adding, "The average Joe going shopping at Home Depot is facing rows and rows of low-flow toilets." That is the very least the company could do, she

argued.

Speaking later from the audience, Jack Whittier said Ora's plans to have a "solar-ready" roof was too vague, and he urged the board to have the company generate surplus electricity.

Abutter and Hamilton resident Elisabeth Massey claimed Ora's application is still lacking detail, and she pointed to a proposal from the Friends to buy and maintain the property as it is.

She said the FOW tried to make that proposal to Ora but were rebuffed. However, in numerous forums, Ora's representatives have disagreed with that statement.

Another resident, Amy Fanning, said, "I am just beside myself in sadness that it may go forward."

She said Ora wants to move into a property on a rural road in a residential neighborhood. She implored planners to, "Listen to reason to someone who is going to preserve this beautiful property,"

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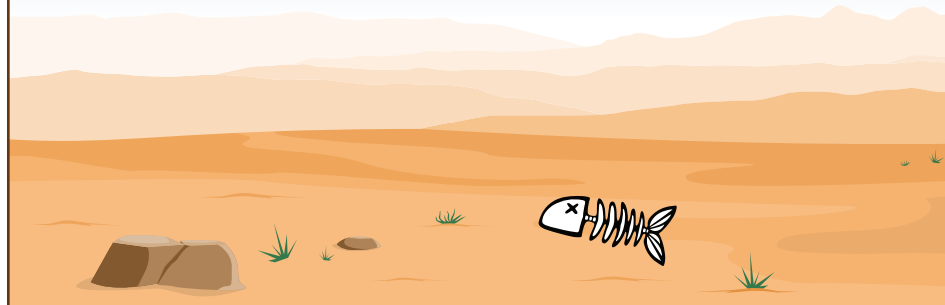
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Librarian Laura Hoffman retires after 17 years of smiles

by Ella Niederhelmen

IPSWICH — The unofficial “concierge for the town of Ipswich,” who has provided Ipswich citizens with books, town recommendations, and smiles, has stepped down from her role at the front desk of the Ipswich Public Library.

Laura Hoffmann, head of circulation and readers advisory, is retiring.

Hoffmann and her family — husband Bob and daughters Erica and April — moved from Minnesota to Ipswich in the 1990s. Soon, the family became constant visitors at the library.

When a part-time opportunity arose, Hoffmann was quick to jump on it.

When Hoffmann needed full-time work just a few years later, she briefly worked at Turner Hill. However, she soon returned to the library in the full-time position she’s held to this day.

Changing the environment

She started with one goal right from the start: to make people smile.

Noticing that children were often scared of the front desk employees, Hoffmann brought in a box of stickers.

“It worked,” Hoffman said. “If someone sees me in town, they say, ‘Mom, it’s the sticker lady,’ or ‘Mom, it’s Ms. Laura, who gives me my stickers. Over the years, that has brought a lot of joy into my life, and I have been here ever since.’”

It’s not the only positive change Hoffmann witnessed at the library



Librarian Laura Hoffmann closed out her last full day at the Ipswich Public Library on July 22. A well known figure in Ipswich, she received the “Employee of the Year” award for the town in 2018 (Ella Niederhelmen photo).

over the years. From innovations and the availability of technology to their “library of things,” there is now something for everyone in town within the bookshelves.

“We have become so much more than just books and movies,” Hoffmann said. “It’s amazing.”

This summer, locals are “constantly” stopping in for beach reading, teen and children’s programs, and for assigned summer reading.

bins to be unloaded or checked in.”

Looking ahead

Hoffmann hopes that her retirement means she can spend time with loved ones — and reading — after years of such difficult work.

“You get to see every great book because it crosses the desk, so you have got a list going a mile long of books you want to read. I envision some beach-time reading,” Hoffmann said.

When she is not helping to care for her parents, she says she’ll spend time baking, gardening, cleaning, and walking her dog.

Even though Hoffmann’s last full day was on July 22, her welcoming presence at the front desk may not be gone completely — Hoffmann has insisted on being on the library sub list.

Connections built

Hoffmann has always tried to coax a smile out of everyone that walked through the library’s front door. No matter how young, old, grumpy, or lively they may be, she was persistent in making their day brighter.

“Seeing that you have made a difference in someone’s life — I am very lucky,” she said.

Hoffmann is grateful for her family, colleagues, and the town of Ipswich.

“We have really good people in this town,” said Hoffmann. “You get to know them, their troubles, their illnesses. You get to see their babies and watch families grow up.”

“There will be other new adventures, but I am going to miss this,” Hoffmann said.

Behind the scenes

Although Hoffmann is mostly known for greeting people at the front desk, she says that the behind-the-scenes aspects of her job actually require a lot of physicality.

“Now that library is in consortia, people order books. We need to find those books, then send them out to other libraries,” said Hoffmann.

“There’s reports that have to be done, books that need to be shelved,



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After 25 years, Ithaki is leaving Ipswich (Tristan Ashlock photo).

Ithaki moving to Peabody

by Tristan Ashlock

IPSWICH — After 25 years in Ipswich, Ithaki is changing locations.

The locally adored purveyor of Greek cuisine will be heading south to set up shop in Peabody.

Billed as a “modern Mediterranean eatery,” the restaurant will officially close its doors on August 14 and plans to open up shop in Peabody sometime in September.

The new location will sit just off Route 1 at the former location of Carrabba’s Italian Grill, adjacent to the Holiday Inn Suites.

Loyal patrons took to social media to share their support for the long-time local business.

“Peabody is not that far! This will be great,” Lyn Marie said. Others reflected on personal experiences from the restaurant.

Ann Orcutt said, “you have brought us grace at our dining tables, excellent food and drink, unequalled hospitality.”

A statement from the restaurant’s Instagram page read, “We are moving! We are so grateful for the last 25 years. Ipswich has been our home, but we are so excited for Ithaki’s next chapter. Same fantastic

food & owner! Different zip code!”
BirchWood

Though Ithaki is leaving town, residents won’t have to wait too long for another restaurant to take its place. Husband and wife duo and longtime Ithaki employees, Jake and Jenni Disilva, will be taking charge of the space this summer.

“We want to do him proud,” Jenni Disilva said of Ithaki owner Petros Markopoulos.

BirchWood Ipswich hopes to offer a more casual dining experience that focuses on American cuisine. Diners can expect to find options ranging from barbeque to fresh seafood on the menu along with a healthy choice of local brews.

A statement from the new restaurant’s Instagram page thanked Petros and his team for their 20+ years of service to the North Shore.

“We are just so thankful for the opportunity to renew the space and leave our culinary mark in this great community,” it read.

The new restaurateurs plan to begin renovations as soon as possible following the end of Ithaki’s lease. Their aim is to open restaurant doors to the public by the beginning of October.

Veteran-run dispensary to open

by Tristan Ashlock

ROWLEY — Representatives of the Joint Operation dispensary spoke briefly at this past Monday’s board of selectmen meeting.

They were there to iron out last-minute details related to the upcoming grand opening at their newly completed Newburyport Turnpike location.

Ryan provided an overview of the day’s events, including — but not limited to — details related to venue security, live music, and vendors on site.

Ryan said, “There will be police detail,” and assured the board that there would be no consumption on site. She also noted that security/crowd manager would be checking IDs at the door.

The grand opening will be completely over-21, and all attendees will need to have valid identification ready to attend.

Joint Operations is a veteran-owned and -operated dispensary. They advertise ideas of education, wellness, and knowledge related to the benefits of cannabis use.

Alongside their informative approach, the group also promotes services and resources aimed toward veterans.

The grand opening marks the end of a two-year-long construction period marred with delays caused by the pandemic. Along with the new Rowley location, a second is currently under construction in Mendon.

The event will host special guests Montel Williams, a Marine veteran and talk show host, and Kevin Harrington of Shark Tank.

The August 20 get-together will last from 12 to 6 p.m. and will include live music, vendors, food trucks, and raffles benefiting veterans.

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What's on this week? Old Ipswich Days, 50+ basketball,

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

— Wednesday, July 27 —

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 more information.

Horseshoe crab monitoring: Bill Sargent leads the project at Pavilion Beach at 3 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person.

Danvers summer concert series: Come to the lawn at the Peabody Institute Library at 7 p.m. to see "killer classic rock" with the Perfect Crime Band.

Grief support: The Immanuel Baptist Church on Central Street hosts a community spousal/partner



Julian Mendoza performed at last week's DownTown Tuesdays on the RiverWalk (Dan MacAlpine photo).

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.

Boss Baby: The \$1 Family Film Series at the Cabot in Beverly continues with this showing at 6:30 p.m.

Ipswich Summer Band: Flight and fancy to captivate a younger audience at 7 p.m. at the RiverWalk patio (no admission charge).

Prima Facie: Captured live from the Harold Pinter Theatre in London's West End, Jodie Comer stars in this award-winning play. Shown at the Shalin Liu Performance Center in Rockport at 7 p.m.

— Thursday, July 28 —

The Little Mermaid Jr.: North

Shore Music Theater's summer program students present this play at 10 a.m. Thursday and Friday at 1 p.m. on Friday.

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 Green Street. All are welcome!

Beer Garden and Concert: The Ipswich Masonic Lodge at 70 Topsfield Road is hosting a beer garden from 6 to 9 p.m. and live music starting at 7. This week, Dead to the Core performs.

West Newbury Summer Concerts: Come hear the original rock of the Gary Backstrom Band at the town bandstand on Main Street at

6:30 p.m. Concerts are free every Thursday through August 25!

A Celebration of Women in Popular Music: A musical journey through the decades to benefit the Women's Fund of Essex County at 6:30 at the Cabot in Beverly.

Castle Hill Concerts: Soul Rebel Project brings reggae to Castle Hill. Bring a picnic! Concert starts at 7 p.m. \$40 per vehicle to enter.

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.

Lyceum Thursdays: Author and professor Mark J. Allman presents "Reading the Signs of the Times: Are We Living in a Pivotal Moment?" at 7:30 p.m. at the Take-Out Terrace on the Riverwalk.

— Friday, July 29 —

Olde Ipswich Days: The annual crafters' fair kicks off at 10 a.m. (until 5 p.m.) on the South Village Green on County Road.

Vehicle Day: Police cars, fire trucks, construction vehicles, and more are in the parking lot of the Ascension Memorial Church at 10 a.m. Stay for the hot dog picnic on the front lawn of the library!

Hamilton-Wenham Farmers' Market: The Community House on Bay Road hosts the market from 3 to 7 p.m. through October 28.

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 (with special guest vocalists) 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.).

Grand Horizons: 50 years into their marriage, Bill and Nancy want a divorce. The Gloucester Stage Company puts on this Tony Award-nominated play with performances at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday and 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Chicago: Come in 1920s garb to see the original, non-musical 1926



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play at Peabody's Black Box Theater on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 3:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m.

Foreigners Journey: The tribute band (no prizes guessing whose music they play) are at the Blue Ocean Hall in Salisbury at 8 p.m.

Music on Meetinghouse Green: Come to 10 Church Street in Gloucester to see the Rhianon Hurst and Quartet at 8 p.m. Non-profit partner is the Open Door. Food vendor Lobster Roller will be on site.

JD Souther: One of the most celebrated songwriters of his generation performs at the Shalin Liu in Rockport at 8 p.m.

Marshall Tucker Band: The southern rock band will rock the Cabot in Beverly at 8 p.m.

Edward Albee plays: The Zoo Story and The Sandbox will be performed together at the Actors Studio of Newburyport at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Comedy Mayhem: The May Flower on Depot Square is the venue for late-night stand-up hosted by Marleah Rose starting at 10 p.m. Five-minute open mic spots are available!

— Saturday, July 30 —

Olde Ipswich Days: The annual crafters' fair continues from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on the South Village Green on County Road.

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.

Acupuncture clinic: Acupuncture Health and Wellness Center on County Street holds a free air clinic for the community starting at 10 a.m.

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

Ipswich Summer Band: Flight and fancy to captivate a younger audience at 4 p.m. at the Ipswich Museum (no admission charge).

The Suitcase Junket: Matt Lorenz builds instruments from scratch and salvage in this one-man set.



Get some early Christmas shopping done at Olde Ipswich Days, an annual craft fair on the South Village Green, this weekend.

Performance is at 6 p.m. at the Cabot in Beverly.

The Game of Love and Chance: Marivaux's comedic farce is free and open to the public at the Maudslay State Park in Newburyport Saturday and Sunday at 4 p.m.

Free Beachfront Concert: Enjoy some fun summer tunes at 7:30 p.m. at the Salisbury Waterfront Stage. This week: Doobie Brothers tribute act What a Fool Believes. Later, at 10:15, there's a fireworks show!

Sierra Hull: The Grammy-nominated mandolin player is at the Shalin Liu in Rockport at 8 p.m.

— Sunday, July 31 —

Olde Ipswich Days: The annual crafters' fair continues from 10 a.m.

until 4 p.m. on the South Village Green on County Road.

Patton Park Concerts: Jim Coyle and Friends bring Americana and bluegrass to Hamilton! The concert (park is on Route 1A) starts 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!

Ronan Tynan: The Irish tenor moves audiences like few others can at the Shalin Liu Performance Center in Rockport at 5 p.m.

Celtic Music Sunset Sail: Set sail with Michael O'Leary and Friends on the schooner Ardelle from 23



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Harbor Loop in Gloucester at 6 p.m.

The Conversation: The screening of the Francis Ford Coppola film is at the Cabot in Beverly at 6 p.m.

Maureen Hancock: The spirit medium presents "Postcards from Heaven" at the Blue Ocean Music Hall in Salisbury at 7 p.m.

— Monday, August 1 —

Brown Bag Lunch: Bring a picnic to hear a talk on a (usually) historic topic at the Ipswich Museum on South Main Street at 12 p.m.

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, August 2 —

Jazz at the May Flower: Jazz is back at the Depot Square restaurant from 6 to 9 p.m.

DownTown Tuesdays: Come for the Far Outs, stay for the poetry of Neal and Kerry Zagarella at the summer concert series at 7:30 p.m. on the RiverWalk.

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Word search: Bugs Bunny and friends!

On this day in 1940, the first animated short featuring Bugs Bunny — *A Wild Hare* — was released. In honor of our favorite wisecracking lagomorph, can you find him and his friends in the puzzle below?

H S E P M D H D N K N F L Y S I J D N O E N B H H K
 H R O R U U R D E A C H S R C U K L A R G U E A L T
 G O D P E E H S M A S Y L V E S T E R S G 9 A Y M E
 U E E A Y T U D R S L T E T L N Y L K S H L K A N H
 P R O N S Y S S L C D C Y A N G N H B K E E Y I 9 A
 E U Q C A L L E H S E U Q C A J E U Q C A L B N P Z
 P Y J D G T O A H C A E O Y A M N O R E D O U Y L U
 É I A R T M R W I C C F T S R N I E R D I H Z W R L
 L S D P E L A L P D D E F S Y G A S S G A J Z L L R
 E L I E I H T R B O E N Y U R B R S S S E O A 9 I M
 P M F E T U E A V W K O A P H E H I T P B P R K Y W
 E Z D S R A R T T I B E N E H A M G F A R A D O R D
 W O A T E O S W O R N P R P K O H A U Y M I H O O V
 G U L Y B L T M E Y O T O O B I F E S O L F S S G D
 I E N R D E F V A V O G H L D E P R N S L B L S B A
 P C B A N R O F A N Y C G E R R D S P E O L T G Y F
 Y C P U A D O I I F I U E N M A I C E M R G I D B F
 K S P E E D Y G O N Z A L E S A O G T I A Y B W C Y
 R T M H I L G O I E S E N P L E R E U T O E H I L D
 O A T U B S G R S C P E R D M I R T N E S I I A O U
 P Y S G U M D N A Y K C O R E E W Y I S Z I P L W C
 R A L P H W O L F N E S H U E V P Y A A S D B O E K
 T D M A C G O R F J N A G I H C I M P M N G I W S F
 E G W L R Z E L U O R Y O L U A E L I I S D O É R I
 U U P E J F O E L M E R F U D D O Y G S S D G E A W
 C L A U D E C A T A M S H U M S S I A O E P N O H I

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Bugs Bunny | Cecil Turtle |
| Daffy Duck | Charlie Dog |
| Elmer Fudd | The Dover Boys |
| Porky Pig | Henery Hawk |
| Foghorn Leghorn | Rocky and Mugsy |
| Yosemite Sam | Michigan J. Frog |
| Sylvester | Claude Cat |
| Speedy Gonzales | Egghead |
| Tasmanian Devil | Goofy Gophers |
| Tweety | Hubie and Bertie |
| Pepé Le Pew | K-9 |
| Penelope Pussycat | Miss Prissy |
| Road Runner | Petunia Pig |
| Wile E. Coyote | Ralph Wolf |
| Granny | Sam Sheepdog |
| Marvin the Martian | Slowpoke Rodriguez |
| George P. Dog | Sniffles |
| Gossamer | Spike and Chester |
| Blacque Jacque Shellacque | Willoughby |
| Beaky Buzzard | Nasty Canasta |

COLONIAL TRIVIA

illustrated by Ed Colley

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere" left out the other riders. Why?



Send your answers to news@ipswichlocalnews.com.

Answer to the last trivia question:

Steerage was the catch-all term for the lowest class of sea travel. Most people traveling in this fashion was desperately poor and unable to pay very much for their transport.

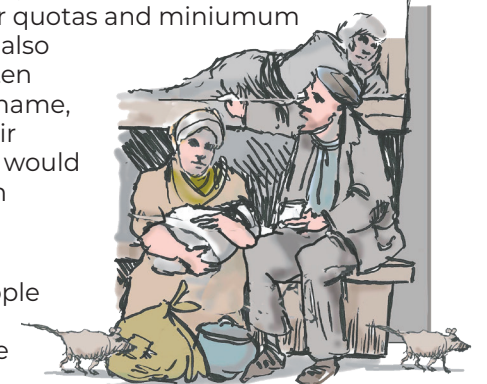
The journey took more than two months across the open ocean, and the passengers were consigned to the "gun deck," a cramped, windowless space between the main deck and the cargo hold. Depending on the size of the ship, several hundred people could be crammed in. It was a cold, wet place for the travelers to spend their days being seasick, sleeping on top of one another in stacked berths with no semblance of privacy.

These conditions allowed diseases like typhoid, cholera, and smallpox to flourish. The only ventilation was through hatches to the upper decks, which were tightly locked during periods of rough seas. The only lavatories were located above deck; during storms, passengers would have to use buckets, which often overturned.

Passengers were often required to bring their own rations for the crossing. Other ships provided only enough food to keep their passengers from starving. Fresh food would have run out just days after setting forth, so they would have eaten salt pork, dried fish, jaw-breaking hard-tack biscuits, and beer (because water would have gone bad during the long voyage). When they set foot in the New World, travelers were malnourished, dehydrated, and possibly suffering from scurvy.

In 1819, Congress passed the Steerage Act in an attempt to improve transatlantic travel with passenger quotas and minimum acceptable provisions. However, it also required that captains kept a written manifest of everyone on board — name, sex, and occupation, as well as their country of origin. This information would lead to quotas and bans on certain ethnic groups.

It also left a loophole open for the "coffin ships" that carried Irish people fleeing the famine of the 1840s. The average mortality rate of these ships was 10 percent.



Rowley Fire Department expands, history is made



New full-time Rowley firefighters Justin Haley and Merissa Titus-Abate were sworn in Monday at the selectmen's meeting (Tristan Ashlock photo).

by Tristan Ashlock

ROWLEY — Friends and family were present at Monday night's selectmen's meeting to see two new full-time firefighters officially appointed.

Department chief Mark Emery noted that Justin Haley and Merissa Titus-Abate would be the first of four new hires for Rowley fire department. Two more will be joining the department in the near future.

Growing department

The new full-timers are part of an ongoing effort to reinforce the department crew following recent retirements and promotions.

Emery said, "Approximately 20 people applied, and these are two of the four that rose to the top." He added, "I am very proud to present both of them to you for appointment."

Titus-Abate and Haley will

officially take their new posts on August 8 and 9 respectively with terms lasting into summer 2025.

Chairman Bob Snow congratulated the new Rowley firefighters.

Referring to Titus-Abate, Chief Emery added, "I would just like to say that you have just appointed your first female full-time firefighter."

Selectmen Clerk Deana Ziev said, "I love it," before the usually quiet hall filled with applause.

And just like that, on a hot July evening, a bit of history was made.

Although Titus-Abate is the first full-time female firefighter appointed in Rowley, it should be noted that other female call firefighters have worked at the station previously.

Town clerk Catie McClenaghan was on hand to officiate the swearing in of the two new appointees.

DAD JOKES

My friend keeps saying, "Cheer up, man. It could be worse. You could be stuck in a hole full of water."
I know he means ... well.



illustration by Ed Colley

TIDE CHART OF PLUM ISLAND SOUND (south end) SPONSORED BY



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DATE	TIDE SET	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE
Wednesday, July 27	one	11:35 a.m.	5:34 a.m.
	two	11:44 p.m.	5:36 p.m.
Thursday, July 28	one	12:16 a.m.	6:15 a.m.
	two		6:18 p.m.
Friday, July 29	one	12:24 a.m.	6:55 a.m.
	two	12:54 p.m.	6:58 p.m.
Saturday, July 30	one	1:03 a.m.	7:34 a.m.
	two	1:33 p.m.	7:39 p.m.
Sunday, July 31	one	1:43 a.m.	8:12 a.m.
	two	2:12 p.m.	8:20 p.m.
Monday, August 1	one	2:24 a.m.	8:51 a.m.
	two	2:53 p.m.	9:04 p.m.
Tuesday, August 2	one	3:08 a.m.	9:31 a.m.
	two	3:36 p.m.	9:49 p.m.

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

Young nature-lover speaks at Rowley selectmen's meeting

by Tristan Ashlock

ROWLEY — The saga of municipal wetland space use continued at the town hall on Monday night (July 25).

Founder and director of the Parker River Community School Jen Rita was on hand to reiterate to the board her students' love and stewardship of the recently vandalized area.

Rita was joined at the podium by her son, Callan, along with nearly a dozen other parents and staff in the audience who have ties to the Parker River Community Preschool.

She communicated a clear case to board chairman Bob Snow, saying that her school's gentle use of the natural space was a valuable part of her students' learning experience and that the recent damage to the municipal lands had greatly affected the preschool community.

Snow was eager to offer alternatives to the now off-limits municipal land, but it was quickly noted that

PRCS lacked the proper transportation required to utilize those spaces.

The chairman also proposed ceasing all use of the land until natural vegetation returned to the area. Rita said that this would be unlikely, given the makeup of the space and its former status as local dumping ground.

Krissy Hathaway, a teacher at Parker River, said that the closest open space available was the town common. Though it is less than half a mile away from the school, it sits on the busy Route 1A, making it a less-than-ideal journey for preschool students.

Important outside time

At the podium, 11-year-old Callan read a letter aloud. In it, he described how his love of nature had grown from his years at PRCS and why the time he spent outside with classmates was so important.

He read, "I love that when I come to Parker River to visit, I know that I will find other children who love nature just as much as me."

He continued, "if you leave the woods open for Parker River students to visit and learn about, you'll be promoting another generation of nature lovers and children who care for nature."

Callan brought some of his own ideas for maintaining the open space while keeping it accessible to the public. He proposed a collaborative effort between the schools and the conservation commission that would see all groups responsible for the space's care.

In closing, Callan urged the selectmen to visit the space and see for themselves what it provides to the community and young learners. "I hope you visit this magical place and consider leaving it open for Parker River and the entire community."

Next steps

Snow noted the importance of

cooperating with the Pine Grove Elementary School, as the municipal land in question is part of their property.

He also suggested finding out the true designation of the pond located on the wetland property from the conservation commission.

The designation of a vernal pool would mean much stricter maintenance of the municipal land — and likely no public use.

In an effort to keep the conversation going, the board recommended that Rita file individual use permits for the municipal space.

The individual use permits would allow the board to chart a path forward through collaboration with the conservation commission and Pine Grove School.

As of right now, it looks like a task the Parker River Community Preschool is willing to take on.

Donate a pint of blood and receive a \$10 gas gift card

IPSWICH — Sometimes they are in town hall, and sometimes they are in the Masonic Lodge. But they are not as scenic as the yacht club, where a blood drive is scheduled in August.

The event is sponsored by Association of Great Neck and will be held on Monday, August 8, 2022, at the Ipswich Bay Yacht Club, 2 Quay Road, Ipswich.

And if you need more incentive than possibly saving a life or two,

all successful donors will receive a \$10 gas card.

Appointments will be available from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and can be made at tinyurl.com/YachtAug8.

If you go, make sure to bring photo identification. Also, ensure that you are well hydrated and that you've had a recent snack.

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Obituary: Jason Russell

Jason K. Russell, age 59, rode off into the sunset on Saturday, July 23, 2022, just short of his 60th birthday.

Born in Methuen on September of 1962, he was the fourth of the five children of Max and Meredith (Laing) Russell of Ipswich.

Jason was raised in Andover and then Ipswich after his family bought Goodale (now Russell) Orchard in 1979.

He lived and raised his family, for the most part of the next 40 years, on the orchard.

He was an integral part of the success of the orchard, offering his problem-solving skills over the years.

Jason was “wicked smaht” and wry with his own very distinct personality. He was a self-proclaimed rebel and had a heart of gold.

He was creative, capable, and kind. He was a subtle person that didn’t seek the limelight, but he was adored by all who met him.

And Jason had “tude.” Even as a kid, he defied the norms. He had swagger. He had charisma. He was a snappy — possibly trend-setting — dresser, even at an early age.

In later years, he settled on the outfit that perfectly captured his personality: black jeans, t-shirt, trucker wallet, and really nice boots.

Jason’s passions included his love

for his family and friends. One of his greatest joys was becoming a Grampy.

He wasn’t your average grandfather, instead showering the kids with fake tattoos, bubbles, bumper stickers, and very unpractical gifts!

He was an avid and accomplished outdoorsman. He loved an open-road ride on his Harley, exploring backroads and hunting down all the great local restaurants. He had a true appreciation for black-and-white classic movies and, of course, rock and roll.

He was gifted in so many ways. As a teenager, he was an extraordinary photographer with a keen eye for his subjects. As an adult, he demonstrated an amazing ability to embrace technology in the early years of the tech revolution.

In recent years, he was the go-to guy to put telephone and internet

and other services in place for movie locations up and down the East Coast.

As always, he made a big impression on the movie crews and, especially, the movie stars.

In addition to his parents and the many people who loved him, Jason is survived most importantly by his children: Crystal Russell-Howes and her husband, Bo; Alex Russell and his wife, Jessalyn, and their children Lennin, Trigger, and Z, all of Ipswich; and Chelsea Gag-

non of Maine.

He is also survived by his “favorite ex-wife” and love of his life,

Maureen (Kelley) Russell; a sister, Laura Russell; two brothers: Matt Russell and his love, Sarah Winslow, of Andover and Doug D. Russell and his wife, Miranda, of Ipswich; his life-long friend, Dave Giroux, and Dollie; many nephews and nieces, great-nephews and great-nieces, and extended family members to whom he gave all his love and time.

Jason was predeceased by his younger brother, Aaron Russell, in 2020.

We will miss Jason all day, every day.

A memorial gathering for Jason will be held at the Ipswich VFW Post #1093 on 110 County Road in Ipswich on Saturday, July 30, 2022, at 1 p.m. The family welcomes all who knew and loved Jason to come and recount memories, tell stories, and celebrate the special and irreplaceable person that he was.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Whittier-Porter Funeral Home of Ipswich.

To leave a condolence, please visit www.whittier-porter.com.



Palombo joins Windhill Builders

Bryan Palombo, born and raised in Ipswich, has found his forever home working with Windhill Builders, the company announced.

Palombo has been in the trades for more than 25 years. He has been involved in every aspect of building, from foundations, trim and millwork, and furniture-making to restaurant and taproom design, build, and operation.

“This vast breadth of experience and problem-solving throughout the years has left



him with extensive hands-on knowledge of how to bring a project together from concept to completion,” Windhill said in an announcement of Palombo’s hiring.

He is a craft beer connoisseur and has traveled extensively. He has lived in Hawaii and at the Grand

Canyon and even owned a gastropub, the announcement said.

In his free time, he enjoys farm-to-table cooking and spending time with his longtime girlfriend and his loyal canine companion.

IPSWICH PROPERTY SALES, July 17 through 23

DATE	ADDRESS	PRICE
7/19/2022	5 Barnside Drive, New Lot 5	\$960,000
7/22/2022	128 High Street, Unit A1	\$850,000
7/21/2022	7 Linebrook Road, Parcel 1-3A	\$475,000

ROWLEY PROPERTY SALES, July 17 through 23

7/22/2022	85 Kittery Ave., Lot 26	\$820,000
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Rotary's Clint Dalton (left) and Ray Morley (center) present a check to Chris Bevilacqua, executive director of the Ipswich YMCA (courtesy photo).

Rotary goes camping ... for a cause

Ipswich-Rowley Rotarians took a recent weekly meeting to Camp Cedar Mill, an Ipswich Family Y youth camp in Rowley.

Rotary's president, Ray Morley, marked the occasion by presenting host, Rotarian, and YMCA executive director Chris Bevilacqua with this

year's Gerry Beauchamp Scholarship donation.

The scholarship, named for the beloved long-time executive director of the Ipswich YMCA and Rotarian, will enable 100 area youths to attend camp this summer.

Camp Cedar Mill sits on 207 wooded acres and features an outdoor swimming pool.

The proceeds from that event funds scholarships to local high school graduates and Y campers as well as other club projects.

"Sadly, Gerry is gone, but his legacy lives on in Rotary and at the Ipswich Family YMCA," Rotary said.



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Obituary: Deborah S. Bouranis

Deborah S. (Perkins) Bouranis, 94, of Newport, N.H., passed peacefully on July 18, 2022, at New London Hospital.

Deb was born February 23, 1928, in Salem to Joseph S. and Elizabeth N. (Spofford) Perkins. She grew up in Salem, graduating magna cum laude in 1945 from Salem Classical and High School.

From there, she trained at Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital in Hanover, N.H., situated on the Dartmouth College campus at that time.

After the three-month capping period, Deb left Hanover. At age 18, the family moved to Boxford's Elm Farm, which was the summer home of her paternal grandparents and was inherited by her father. Her family spent summers there previously.

In 1956, she married Ipswich native George Bouranis and they settled on Warren Street within walking distance of the downtown.

When her children were in school, she attended school board meetings and expressed her opinion through letters to the editor sent to the *Ipswich Chronicle*.

Numerous volunteer jobs occupied her time, including driving special-needs students to Gloucester High School.

She enjoyed her favorite afternoon soaps along with political fare on C-SPAN.

Deb was a voracious reader throughout her life and was particularly drawn to romance novels. She also enjoyed crossword puzzles.

Deborah leaves five children,

including sons Scott Bouranis and his wife, Sue, of Claremont, N.H.; Ted Bouranis and his wife, Rebecca, of Statesville, N.C.; Terry Bouranis and his wife, Dana, of Camarillo, Calif; and daughters Deb Senig of Nashua, N.H., and Lisa and her husband, Jerry Kennedy, of Ipswich; eight

grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; a brother, Joseph Perkins Jr., of Danvers, and sister Anne Desrosier of Kissimmee, Fla.; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A memorial celebration of Deborah's life will be held at a later date at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Boys Town, 14100 Crawford Street, Boys Town, NE 68010.



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TURTLE from page 5

Growth said.

One member, Chris Florio, said neighbors have seen the reptiles in the area.

The turtle is native to central and eastern parts of the United States and is an endangered species, according to an entry on Wikipedia.

“An endangered species is a species that is very likely to become extinct in the near future, either worldwide or in a particular political jurisdiction,” the online encyclopedia said.

The reptile’s possible existence was raised at Wednesday’s conservation commission meeting, where a new wetlands delineation was discussed.

A new survey of the area showed the wetlands have expanded up to around 60 feet into the property. The commission voted to accept the new delineation. No project work was proposed at the time.

Owner John Bruni has applied to build 191 units under the state’s 40B law, which bypasses local zoning if affordable housing is provided.

With wetlands protected by buffer zones up to 100 feet, the new delin-

eation means Bruni’s team will have to redraw site plans.

Confirmation needed

When the Blanding’s turtle was introduced at the conservation commission meeting, chairwoman Jennifer Hughes said the existence of the turtle would need to be confirmed by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.

“Right now, the area is not mapped for rare and endangered species,” she said.

The rare-species map maintained by the state says the Blanding’s turtle has not been officially spotted in Ipswich. However, it has been seen in surrounding towns. The most recent sighting was in 2019 in Boxford, the state map said. The turtle was also seen in Rowley in 2011.

The citizens’ group said it consulted conservation expert Mark Gr-gurovic. He has researched for the Parker River Clean Water Association and did his master’s thesis on

Blanding’s turtles, the group said.

“He confirmed that the wetlands on and around the Bruni property is a likely environment for the Blanding’s turtle,” it added.

The opponents called for a turtle survey “next spring, when the turtles are active (they are mostly dormant this time of year).”

Wikipedia said the turtles typically has an upper shell length of between 7.1 and 9.1 inches. “Blanding’s turtle is of interest in longevity research, as it shows little to no common signs of aging and is physically active and capable of reproduction into eight or nine decades of life,” it said.

“Although folks can’t add rare species directly to the MassWildlife viewer, they can submit records of rare species observations to MassWildlife through our Heritage Hub system,” said Jesse Leddick, chief

of regulatory review when asked about the process.

“Our conservation biologists review submitted observations and, if accepted, the observation record is entered into our database and used to help guide conservation efforts,” he added.

Tell us about it.



send opinion pieces, letters, and news items to

news@ipswichlocalnews.com

**TOWN OF ROWLEY
PUBLIC AUCTION OF
SURPLUS SUPPLY
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ROCKING CHAIRS**

Rowley Board of Selectmen

The Rowley Board of Selectmen is auctioning the following surplus supply:

Lots of 30 Virco brand Zuma rocking chairs of varying colors and sizes. The chairs are gently used and are being sold in “as is” condition. The chairs have been deemed surplus property and are being publicly auctioned on www.municipalbid.com.

The auction listing can be found by searching “School Rocking Chairs” or the following listing numbers: 45761308, 45760955, 45760601, 45760236, 45759883, 45759530, 45759177, 45758572, 45757757, and 45756755 on www.municipalbid.com. The auction will begin on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, at 9 a.m. and end on August 10, 2022, at 5 p.m.

Each lot will be individually awarded to the responsive bidder offering the highest price. Upon winning the auction, the winning bidder must submit a signed non-collusion form to the jurisdiction prior to the receipt of the supply. The winning bidder must also forward a certified check made payable to the Town of Rowley within five (5) business days to the Office of the Board of Selectmen. The chairs are being sold “as is” without expressed or implied warranties regarding the condition. Removal of the chairs by the successful bidder to be scheduled with the town, but not to exceed ten (10) business days after receipt of payment. The awarding authority reserves the right to reject any and all bids if found to be in the best interest of the town.

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maintenance circumstances, according to Halmen.

Halmen added that the Ipswich River is at the lowest level in history.

“My feeling was that [a water ban] probably needed to be done this week,” Halmen said.

Prior to this point, water restrictions were in place. Those allowed limited outdoor use of water.

**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, August 3, 2022, at 7 p.m.** relative to a filing by Joshua Cummings for work at **26 Turkey Shore Road** shown on Tax Map: 42A Lot: 51 for a NOTICE OF INTENT for landscaping patio and deck board replacement in jurisdictional areas.

Conservation Agent
Ipswich Conservation Department

**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, August 3, 2022, at 7 p.m.** relative to a filing by Nathaniel Hockenberry for work at **2 Riverside Drive** shown on Tax Map: 42B Lot:036 for a NOTICE OF INTENT for construction of addition to single family dwelling in jurisdictional areas.

Conservation Agent
Ipswich Conservation Department

LEGAL NOTICE

This notice corrects a typographical error in the legal notice published in the July 6 and 13 Local News as it pertains to Article 1 and specifically d), below. The Planning Board-initiated amendment under d) would permit drive through facilities in the GB, HB, and PC Districts, not the CB District. The Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Article 1 as described below.

The Ipswich Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on August 11, 2022, at a meeting beginning at 7 p.m. in Room A in Town Hall, 25 Green Street, Ipswich, MA, on one proposed zoning warrant article for the October 18, 2022, Town Meeting. The article would amend the Ipswich Zoning Bylaw as follows:

1. Article 1: a) Amend Section IX.A. OSPZ by limiting the yield plan for lots within the Water Supply Protection District and by prohibiting encumbrances on the open space associated with the built portion of projects; b) Amend Section IX.U. Detached Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) by requiring the property owner to reside on the property associated with the ADU; c) Amend the Table in Section V. Use Regulations by allowing retail and personal consumer service establishments by-right in the PC District; and d) Amend Section III. Definitions by adding a new definition of “Drive Through Facility”, and amend the table in Section V. Use Regulations by inserting a new accessory use for “Drive Through Facility” and allow them in the GB, HB and PC districts.

Patrick J. McNally
- attorney at law -



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