

# Ipswich Local News

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## Ora approved, but court action is threatened

John P. Muldoon  
Ipswich Local News

IPSWICH — With a cry of “see you in court” ringing in their ears, the team from Ora left town hall with planning board approval for their project.

The decision was reached on Thursday after Ora won the needed 4-1 supermajority to proceed with its proposal to build a corporate complex on a 40-acre parcel at 55 Waldingfield Road.

Helen Weatherall voted against. Jeff Anderson, Mitchell Lowe, board chairwoman Toni Mooradd, and Carolyn Britt voted in favor.

Under state law, there is a 20-day appeal period after the planning board files its decision with the town clerk’s office. Planning director Ethan Parsons said the decision is likely to be filed in the beginning half of this week.

Any appeal will then go to Massachusetts Land Court or superior court, state law says. The Friends of Waldingfield (FoW), who oppose the

see ORA, page 7



Fun-seekers of all ages flocked to the Polish Picnic on September 24 at the Masonic Temple. From left to right are Sophia Klimarchuk, Madelyn Machaiek, Caroline Irons, Nick Machaiek, Genevieve Irons, and Kenzie Klimarchuk.

## Like the lingering drought, summer water rates hang on

By John P. Muldoon

IPSWICH — The town’s summer water rates, which usually disappear with the swallows, will stay in place for an extra month this year.

“It’s a dire situation still,” Vicki Halmen told the select board on Monday of this year’s water supplies.

Last week’s update from the U.S. Drought Monitor showed that northeastern Massachusetts is stuck in an “extreme drought.” That is the fourth of five steps measuring the severity of water loss.

The town’s water and wastewater director, Halmen appears before the select board twice a year for hearings on adjustments to water rates.

The town’s base rate is \$13.62 for 100 cubic feet of water, or 748 gallons. However, that

doesn’t show up on residential bills.

Instead, residential customers are charged 1.5 times that rate for summertime water between May 1 and Sept. 30. That gives a summer rate of \$20.43 for 100 cubic feet.

In the fall, a winter rate is set. This year, it is likely to be \$5.59 starting Nov. 1.

Meanwhile, businesses pay the same base rate all year and are not subject to the variations. Halmen said 80% of the water departments customers are residential.

The current system was adopted in 2003 to encourage residents to be more careful with water when the reservoir typically runs down, she said.

“Not all customers are sensitive to that price point, but a significant portion are,” she said. “That’s why this program has been successful.”

Halmen said the department has saved 82

million gallons a year on average with the program.

### Don’t go crazy

The hearing was held on Monday, Oct. 3, two days after winter water rates typically come into effect. Legally, however, two hearings are required to change rates. The next meeting will not be held until Oct. 24, meaning the summer rates stay in effect for the month.

“I think the one thing that’s tricky with this is just hearing it now,” said select board chair Willy Whitmore. He asked Halmen to do her best to get the word out. “I don’t want people to start assuming we’re on the winter rate.”

“Fair point,” Halmen replied.

“People might start using more water now,” agreed selectperson Linda Alexson.

“It may still be summer in Ipswich, even though it’s cold,” Whitmore said.

# Select board holds off on reappointing architect to DRB

IPSWICH — In most cases, reappointment to a town committee is a straightforward affair. There isn't much competition, and many are short of members. So the delay of Ken Savoie's reappointment to the design review board (DRB) was out of the ordinary.

The DRB is an advisory group to the planning board. However, its members are named by the select board.

And it was at the select board meeting on Monday that his reappointment hit a snag, when chairman Willy Whitmore expressed concerns about past comments Savoie has made.

Citing remarks Savoie had made to the planning board and his position as a local architect, Whitmore said the reappointee should be invited in for a discussion.

"Normally, these are mostly volunteer boards — they're volunteer positions. I think Mr. Savoie's a little different in this case. He's on the design review board, but he's also a local architect," Whitmore said.

"I have some questions about potential conflicts of interest. I feel like I don't have enough information right now for him to be comfortably reappointed," he added.

"I agree with that," said selectperson Tammy Jones.

The DRB makes recommendations to the planning board, but its suggestions are not binding. At times, both boards have been criticized by developers for issuing conflicting design feedback.

Savoie, of Savoie Nolan Architects in Ipswich, meanwhile, has taken the planning board to task at previous meetings for what he saw as planners overstepping the zoning bylaw.

He said he was "disturbed" and "frustrated" with the board when it wanted developer Kevin Perelli to reduce the number of units at 50-56 Market Street.

"What is it with the planning board that it doesn't look at things objectively and allows their subjective opinion to get in the way of what you are really designed to do?" he asked.

Also a former member of the planning board, Savoie said planners should be looking at zoning regulations and not basing decision-making on opinions.

Perelli wanted to build five new townhouses behind the old building that faces Depot Square. Although the front lawn and historic house

would be preserved, planners worried the rear was too tight.

Perelli also noted that the town's community development plan and housing production plans favor downtown residences.

Savoie said the planning board should have made an engineering case for why the area was too tight

rather than issuing decisions based on opinions.

The application for a special permit failed because it was unable to win a 4-1 supermajority. However, three of the planning board did vote in favor.

Perelli has since appealed the decision.



This family is getting into the Halloween spirit a little early. Where are they?

## Scanner tales: Better call CSI!

At around 5 p.m. on Thursday, a hit-and-run was reported at Riverview Pizza, and the car was said to be taking off down Topsfield Road and then Mill Road. The caller — owner of the hit vehicle — remained behind the vehicle, and police in Hamilton were notified. They later pulled over a Dodge pickup. No injuries were reported, and damage was said to be "nothing major."

Around 3:55 p.m. on Friday, a person was said to be walking down the tracks at Depot Square but was gone by the time police got there.

At around 5:35 p.m., there was a two-car crash on Green Street near Water Street. No injuries were reported, and one car was towed.

On Saturday at 8:15 p.m., a caller complained about a car parked in a Market Street alley that was blocking access.

At 1:10 p.m. on Sunday, two people were reported to be getting into an argument over an unleashed dog at the Mile Lane field. The reporting party was an Ipswich woman, and the dog owner was a man from

Rowley.

At 1:35 p.m., a man hiking in the woods near the water treatment facility said he came across bones. He wasn't sure what they were but thought he should speak with an officer. He came out of the woods just as police arrived and showed the officer a picture on his phone. The officer radioed that they looked like animal bones but would send the picture on to be sure.

At 2:50 p.m., a deer was struck on Argilla Road near Russell Orchards.

Around 2:20 p.m., a caller said a woman was unsteady on her feet while walking along Central Street. He said he asked her if she needed help, and she said she had just taken some medication. The dispatcher then radioed that he got a second call and that the woman had turned around to head in the opposite direction. Although police arrived a few moments later, they were unable to find the woman.

Around 9:45 a.m. on Tuesday, a person was said to be throwing rocks at cars and windows at a car dealer on Route 1.

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# County Street becomes one-way street over the bridge

IPSWICH — After the town was warned, the deed was done. County Street is now one-way.

“It is unfortunate that we have to close the bridge to southbound traffic, but it is an important step in helping reduce the capacity and strain on this bridge,” said DPW director Rick Clarke.

“While the bridge is still safe for travel, we want to amend these structural deficiencies before they

can worsen. We will keep residents updated on our progress as we make improvements and thank residents for their patience and understanding during this time,” he added.

Ipswich was notified by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation that the County Street Bridge has structural deficiencies that will require the bridge to be closed to southbound traffic.

As a result, a section of County Street between Elm Street and the northern end of the County Street Bridge will become a one-way for vehicles heading north.

MassDOT also has revised the weight limit for the bridge with a restriction up to 15 tons. These changes went into effect on Wednesday, September 28.

The bridge will still be open to pedestrians and cyclists in both

directions. The street was closed for around an hour on Thursday while a new crosswalk was painted that guides pedestrians to a protected area of the bridge behind Jersey barriers.

The Department of Public Works is working with TetraTech on design options for the needed repairs while concurrently working with MassDOT to secure funding to assist with the repair work.



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## Open-space development zoning and drive-through change get FinCom approval

John P. Muldoon  
Ipswich Local News

IPSWICH — Although it met with some skepticism from one finance committee (FinCom) member, the group ultimately decided to unanimously recommend one zoning proposal heading to town meeting Oct. 25.

Presenting Article 8 at FinCom's warrant hearing, planning director Ethan Parsons said it has three parts.

One would limit activity in the water-supply protection district. The second removes a "burdensome" requirement on businesses moving into existing space. And the third would restrict where drive-through windows could be built.

### Open space

Open space preservation zoning (OSPZ) gives developers a density bonus if they cluster housing and set aside land as protected open space.

However, when the Linebrook Road development was proposed, planners found saw they could "clean up a few things and make future projects better," Parsons said.

While Linebrook Road is in the rural residence zoning district, which sets a two-acre minimum on housing lots, it is also under an overlaid water supply protection district.

The planning board proposal would take back the density bonus for any houses in the water protection area.

The proposal would also limit septic systems in open space land and prohibit any encumbrances on the open space.

FinCom member Jamie Fay said there are "enormous amounts of land protected" around wells and water, and that one-acre lots are still low-density development. He asked Parsons what the town hoped to gain.

"It's working against our goal of providing more housing," Fay said.

Parsons said part of the Linebrook Road open space is farmland, and planners had to put a nitrogen-loading easement on the agricultural

land.

Planning board member Carolyn Britt said the water department tests for impurities. If it finds elevated levels of nitrogen, it would look to the farm rather than try to figure out what 55 home owners are doing, she said.

Parsons said there are a lot of positives to OSPZ. "Despite whatever shortcomings there are on that project, it does protect 70% of the 100 acres as permanent open space. That would have cost the town an awful lot of money" to buy and protect, he said.

### Commercial

The town has lost potential investment because of a "burdensome" requirement on businesses that move into existing premises, Parsons said.

Zoning says businesses using over 1,000 square feet of space must apply for a special permit, which can be a lengthy process, even if they are moving into space that housed the same type of business.

He called the requirement "very burdensome, and it actually slows down and inhibits economic development."

"A lot of businesses will just go away, and we've experienced that," Parsons said.

The zoning change would allow retail and personal and consumer services by right in the commercial area on Route 1 north of Linebrook Road.

### Drive-throughs

The third part of Article 8 deals with drive-throughs. Those are not defined in zoning now, so a definition will be added.

Drive-throughs will also be banned in the central business district, which is downtown. The article summary on the warrant said it is because they are incompatible with areas that have a lot of pedestrian traffic.

Drive-throughs would be allowed by special permit in the planned commercial area on Route 1 and the highway business district, which is north of the high school on High Street and in the area of Aubuchon on County Road.

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# Role of electric light manager headed to town meeting

John P. Muldoon  
Ipswich Local News

IPSWICH — A select board proposal to have the electric light department (ELD) manager report to the town manager has found no favor among finance committee (FinCom) members.

At its warrant hearing last week, the committee voted 6-0 not to recommend the change, Article 12, to the Oct. 25 town meeting.

Making the case at the hearing, selectperson Sarah Player said having the manager — Jon Blair is currently in the role — report to the town manager instead of the select board could potentially increase efficiencies and reduce rates.

She characterized the proposal as an extra check and balance in town government. The select board would continue to set budgets and rates, she added.

Asked if a position would be eliminated or if two people would be doing the same job, Player replied that the ELD manager would report to the town manager the same way other department heads do.

“Our new town manager has experience running an ELD,” she added.

FinCom member Ken Swenson asked if Blair was consulted on the proposed change.

“No. That’s a fair question, Ken,” Player replied. “We probably should have earlier than we did.”

She said although there are two select board members on the utilities subcommittee, it is “challenging to supervise department heads in this way when you’re not a full-time select board.”

## Subcommittee opinion

A long-time member of the electric light subcommittee, Jim Engel said neither Blair nor the subcommittee had been consulted about the proposed change.

“With little fanfare and even less public discussion, the select board has crafted this warrant article,” he said.

Engel noted oversight of electric light departments is set by Chapter 164 of state law and the town charter.

As such, it needs a two-thirds vote at town meeting. If passed, Article 12 would then have to be approved by both houses of the state legislature.

Engel said the change “presumably demotes” Blair. Naming the town manager as the ELD head “is certainly legal,” he said, but changing supervisory responsibilities of the select board is “arguably not legal.”

“What is difficult to understand is why the select board would choose to treat this highly regarded professional in such an unprofessional manner,” Engel said.

Calling the select board case on time management “not persuasive,” Engel said it is “not reason enough to change an arrangement that has

worked well in the past.”

He said that earlier this year, the “collegial relationship was strained” between Blair and the select board. He said he sat with two select board members and tried to understand the issues.

Asked about the legal issue raised by Engel, Player replied that town counsel George Hall “has been intimately involved in drafting this.”

Engel countered that Hall reviews language to make sure it complies with state law. “It doesn’t suggest support or non-support,” he said.

## Not broken

Also a member of the electric subcommittee, Whitney Hatch said there is “always more that could be done to strengthen our oversight and our communication and our transparency, but there’s nothing fundamentally broken in terms of

our oversight structure.”

The select board proposal is “at best, unclear” and “at worst, potentially destructive to the efficacy of the light department.”

Hatch said running a light department and managing electricity supplies and pricing is a sophisticated business worth \$18 million in Ipswich.

Article 12 would “short-circuit” existing oversight, he said. The proposal “would be dragging our fine, independent enterprise into the area of conflicting town pressures that you are all much more familiar with than I,” he added.

Another electric subcommittee member, Bill Craft, also pointed to specialist talent needed. “It is a more complicated system, and it is

see LIGHT MANAGER on page 31

## Correction, update to town meeting articles

IPSWICH — Town meeting articles are sprouting like weeds these days.

First, the select board tried to be efficient and stuffed a bunch of stuff into a consent agenda. Some people felt that was too ambitious and that the items stuffed into that bunch needed to be treated individually.

In that way, a proposed nine-article warrant became 12 articles.

Then, at the finance committee (FinCom) hearing on the warrant, FinCom members picked and pulled at Article 9, a five-part package of zoning proposals.

The committee didn’t like one suggestion and wanted another changed. But because they were all lumped together, FinCom voted against Article 9.

There have been two developments since then. FinCom chair Michael Dougherty emailed to say the committee ultimately voted in favor of recommending the article to voters at town meeting on Oct. 25.

“Additionally, it has been

brought to my attention that the town moderator intends to split Article 9 on the floor of the town meeting into five different sections,” he said.

That could add another four articles and bring the newly expanded warrant up to 16 articles.

Meanwhile, planning board chair Toni Mooradd got in touch to say there was an error in the reporting on Article 9.

Article 9 seeks to change what planners see as over-dense development on parcels with some wetland. To comply with state regulations, developers must avoid wetland and buffer areas and put all of their units in the dry area.

As it stands, the current zoning bylaw says 70% of a lot’s area must be upland. The planning board wants to make that 100%.

“Further, the planning board, along with conservation commission and the FinCom, are working together to potentially make an alteration that all will support,” Mooradd said.

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## ORA from page 1

project, indicated they would pursue their case in land court.

Ora's plans were filed under the town's great estate preservation development bylaw (GEPD) and come in three phases. The first are known as phases 1A and 1B. They involve work on the buildings near the entrance, the entrance itself, and nearby parking.

One of the buildings will be demolished, rebuilt, and extended. It will be used to house employees staying over.

Horses will continue to live in the barn and will be available to Ora's workers.

Ora will also bring the Italianate mansion up to code so it can be used as collaboration space for employees.

Over the year of planning board hearings, Ora's attorney, Chip Nylen, said there were no definite plans to build phases 2 (an extension to the mansion) and 3 (a wellness center).

There will be parking for at most 90 cars on site. Ora said it arranged with EBSCO to lease 30 extra spaces downtown, and those employees will be shuttled to the facility.

If all three phases are built, there would be around 75,000 square feet of floor space in the new campus. The GEPD caps allowable floor area for that parcel at 125,000 square feet.

### Town benefits

Ora said it is setting aside 28 acres, or 70%, of the land as protected open space. A new, mile-long hiking trail around the property will be open to the public, and more parking will be available.

There is currently room for just a couple of cars at the 59-acre Julia Bird Reservation on Waldingfield Road.

Weatherall said she was "very struck" by the amount of people who attended hearings and wrote letters to the board. Citing the volume of letters and an opposition petition with over 500 Ipswich names, she claimed residents were overwhelmingly against.

"It's not a numbers game," Britt countered. She said the Ora proposal "was a better option than what some of the alternatives are."

Anderson said the board looked at both the zoning bylaw and the

broad view of how the project would affect the town.

"It's not as simple as it may look from the outside," he said of the board's work.

"We got a lot of input from everybody, and believe me, we have listened to everybody's input," Lowe said.

As a result, the project changed "markedly" during the application process, he added.

The main purpose of the great estate bylaw was to preserve the landscape and existing buildings, Lowe said. "I think that will be done here," he added.

The bylaw also tries to provide an alternate to housing subdivisions, he said, and that has also been done.

"It might not be perfect everywhere, but, on the whole, we have achieved these purposes," Lowe said.

A lot of feedback he received from residents was that the project should have been approved a long time ago.

### Vote

As the vote was called, Weatherall insisted that she be given one last chance to outline her objections.

Calling it a "good project in the wrong location," she pointed to one disagreement over the total floor area. The GEPD bylaw (page 90), requires at least 30,000 square feet of existing floor space for a property to qualify as a great estate.

"I am concerned this could be problematic for the town if this is appealed in land court," Weatherall said.

While architect John Harden in previous hearings said there is 30,000 square feet, the FoW's attorney Tad Heuer disputed the calculations and said the town would be vulnerable to an appeal.

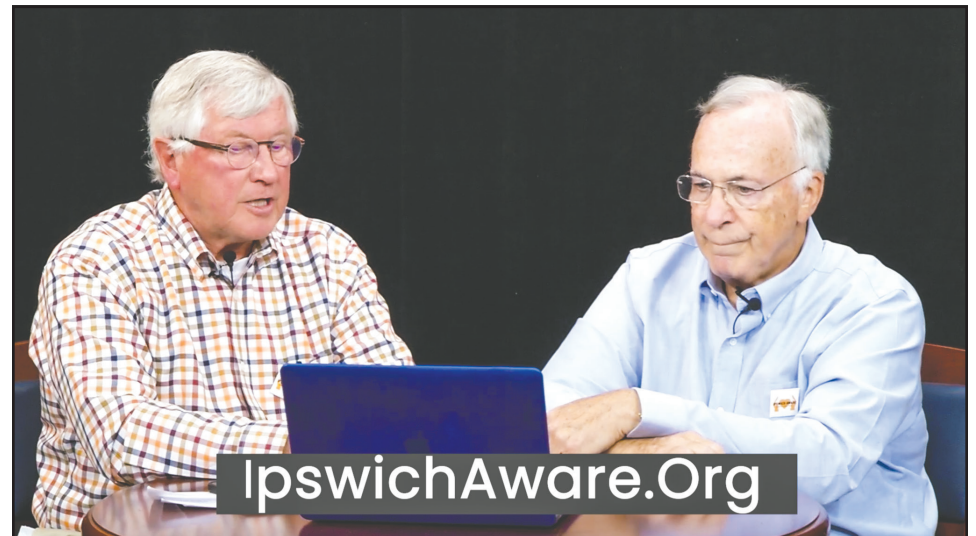
Weatherall also expressed concern about the 250-foot setback, which contains buildings, and disagreed with calling a demolition and larger rebuild an "addition."

"I disagree there'll be no adverse effects on traffic. In fact, I am very concerned that there'll be significant problems," she said.

Traffic counts show that 1,645 vehicles a day use Waldingfield Road. Acknowledging there would be more traffic, the planning board's decisions said, "The project will



Jennifer Williams has been inducted into the Ipswich Lions Club as its newest member. Also shown in the picture is Frank Bertolino, the district governor. Williams was sponsored by Bob Sinclair. An employee of Ora, Williams has worked with the Lions, who use their Spot Vision Screener for free eye health check-ups.



A couple of local doctors are taking to the airwaves to talk about parents talking. In a program called "Ipswich Aware: Youth Substance Abuse & Prevention," doctors Carl Soderland and Steven Barrett encourage parents to talk to their kids to prevent alcohol and drug abuse. The show will air on Sunday at 3:30 p.m., Tuesday at 8 p.m. and Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. on ICAM's education channels Comcast 98 and Verizon 31. The program will also be available online at [icamipswich.com](http://icamipswich.com) (screenshot courtesy of ICAM).

not create unsafe conditions on Waldingfield Road or surrounding intersections and roads."

Ora's traffic impact analysis said there are 136 morning peak-hour vehicles at present. Its project would add 33, or 24.3%, more when built out.

On the afternoon peak, it would add 25, or 14.8%, extra vehicles to the existing 169 peak hour.

### Court

"I disagree that this will enhance

the neighborhood character," Weatherall said. "For all these reasons, I do not feel this project is in the best interest of the town."

After her remarks, the rest of the planning board voted in favor.

Turning to Nylen, Harden, and Ora's director of special projects, Jennifer Williams, Mooradd said, "This concludes our time together."

With the public filing out of the meeting, the parting shot of "See you in court" was heard.

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## Running with Birds

The kingfisher, busily hunting in the river, will soon migrate south

by Rebecca Pugh

If you are running along the river or by the ocean with a tuning fork in your pocket, and you hear a rattling call in the key of F# major, look for a small, bright bird with a sturdy beak and rapid wingbeat.

You might spot its belt. The females, like this one, have a breast-belt of blue and chestnut. The males have a breast-belt of blue. Its wing bars have bands of grey and white, which makes it easy to identify in flight.

By land, the kingfisher perches on a tree branch or telephone wire, surveying — sturdy, calm. By water, it hovers, head down, and then dives, close-eyed, using its other senses to catch a fish. It brings it up out of the water to a tree, smashes it, and eats it headfirst.

Jim Berry notes that this remarkable bird is “all head,” which is another way to identify it: by its head-centric proportion.

Kingfishers have declined by 38% since 1966, according to the North American Breeding Bird Survey, partly because they do not like to be disturbed.

As boat access to quiet waterways increases, they sometimes abandon their nests to search for a more private place.

To support the kingfisher and its neighbors, we would do well to protect the water and respect the quiet spaces on rivers and seas from both human and industrial noises.

Our friend Jason Campos-Keck of the American Indian Movement taught us about the kingfisher in Native American spirituality. It symbolizes protection of the water because of its balance and courage, and it lives a fearless life, not hiding from bigger birds or predators.

In any case, if you are running or boating by a clear patch of water, and you hear the noisy rattling, you can smile to yourself and watch for the crest of feathers that go straight up. You are running with kingfishers.

Rebecca Pugh, author of “Running with Birds,” is a storyteller, musi-



Photo of female kingfisher by Carl Jappe.



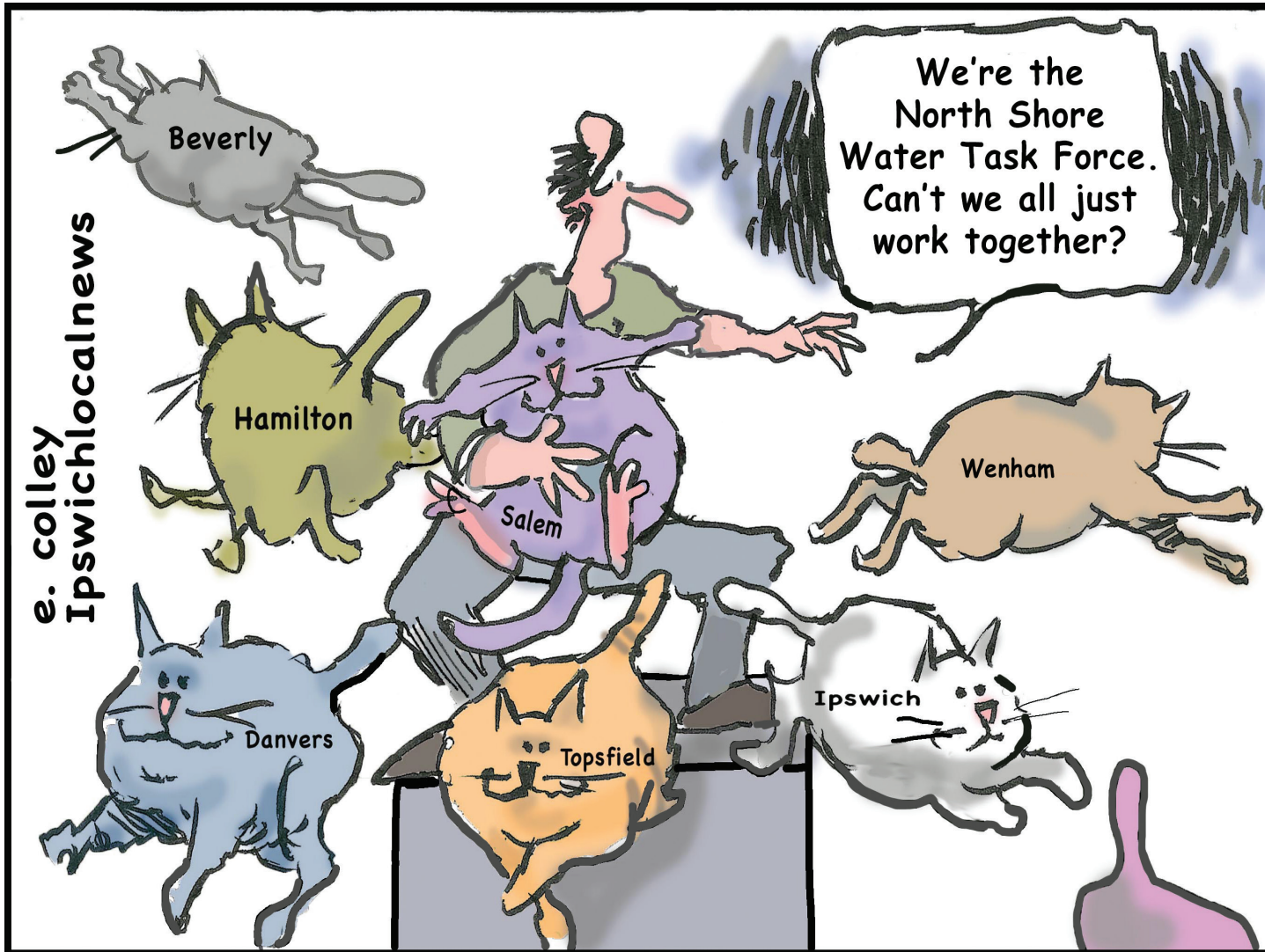
Josiah Blagg (left) holds a kingfisher handkerchief, Jason Campos-Keck (center) of the American Indian Movement, and Zeke Allman (right), who is holding Chief Joseph handkerchief. These original silk-screened bandanas of the kingfisher and Chief Joseph, designed by Jan Berger, are painted by Dr. Crystal Cavalier-Keck. Both pieces, writes Campos-Keck, represent original water protectors and land defenders — the kingfisher for its fierce presence by the water, and Chief Joseph for his work to compel colonial systems to treat the land and its people with respect.

cian, and runner. Her training comes from the Mass Audubon Society, Jim Berry, and her aunt, Pam Goff.

Her research begins with “All About Birds” at the Cornell Ornithological Labs.



Ed Colley



LETTER

How would the town be able to enforce well ordinances on private property?

To the editor:

In response to the article “Farms not the only businesses impacted by ongoing drought” by Tristan Ashlock in the September 21, 2022, issue of *Ipswich Local News*, readers might be interested to know that the town of Ipswich has ordinances that regulate the use of private wells, and that an owner of a private well is not authorized to use well water in violation of the Water Use Ban, as was suggested in the article.

I am not aware of any fines levied against owners of private wells in Ipswich, nor of any case law on the topic, but it would be interesting to see how the town would enforce the ordinances on a well-owner on his or her private property.

If a homeowner installs solar panels for electricity, can the town assert ownership and regulation of the electricity generated?

How would we react if the town decided that the air over the land

of all real estate in Ipswich should be regulated and taxed for the air people breathe there?

Government regulations to protect resources and health are well-intentioned (pun intentional), but where is the line of demarcation between protection, and meddling government intrusion into the pursuit of life, liberty, and happiness by the citizens of the town?

Edward Frost  
Ipswich

Police officer Joe Perna impressed me with his cartwheel demonstration

To the editor:

I was very impressed with police officer Joe Perna as he demonstrated a cartwheel for children at

Southern Heights.

Perna was recruited by Coreen Howland, resident service provider, for the purpose of organizing events

for the children. He hopes to have activities in the future for all ages.

Mary Blaquiére  
Ipswich



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## The Outsidah

### In which the Outsidah remembers newspaperman William Wasserman, the Ed to his Alan

by Doug Brendel

I have no claim to greatness. I realize that. And in this world of 100,000 YouTube channels, it's harder than ever to lay claim to greatness.

The closest you're likely to come is to meet someone great and hope somehow that some residue of that greatness rubs off on you.

You might even fantasize that maybe, somehow, it made a difference for that great person that they met you.

I shook Jimmy Carter's hand once, during his first presidential campaign, and then he won. Coincidence?

I bumped into the newsman Peter Jennings, literally, in a hotel lobby. Then he died. Coincidence? Absolutely. But at least I bumped into Peter Jennings.

The movie star Ginger Rogers

handwrote me a letter. I display it in a frame in my office. Brushes with greatness.

This week we observe the one-year anniversary of the passing of the great man, the longtime Ipswich Chronicle owner Bill Wasserman.

I confess, when I first crossed his path, I didn't recognize his greatness; I was too new to Ipswich to know he was already legendary.

Sitting in the front row at town meeting, I was drawing lame cartoons of the various speakers. Over the course of a few town meetings, Bill came to the citizens' mic and spoke his mind, and I scribbled.

I just thought he was an ordinary mortal — articulate, insightful, clever, but let's face it, also elderly, a bit bent over, curly white hair gone a little wild.

I auto-sorted him into a stereotype and thought nothing of it.

Today, every time the *Ipswich Lo-*

*cal News* arrives in your mail (and you can't stop it even if you want to, because it comes to you via a non-profit postal permit), you have, in large measure, Bill Wasserman to thank.

Even more importantly, and to be serious for a moment, you have Wasserman to thank that there's a newspaper at all.

Certainly, a string of editors, reporters, advertisers, and others served as building blocks over the years, but Wasserman was a cornerstone.

He shepherded the *Chronicle* operation for years; and then, as that paper faded, he came alongside John Muldoon to launch the *Ipswich Local News*.

Wasserman, in his 90s, was out there on the pavement, hawking ads for the fledgling weekly. Some may have had the temerity to snicker, but it was only a coverup for the awe we had to feel.

We were witnessing a kind of greatness. Wasserman supported and promoted the new paper, and look — it succeeded. Coincidence?

He complained from time to time about the "Outsidah." He didn't like my frequent mentions of area businesses if they weren't paying for advertising.

I imagine that if I wrote my columns further in advance, I could have given Bill notice of any businesses I would be naming. He could then drop in on them in a trench coat and a fedora and muscle them

for some advertising dollars.

But there was no such lead-time in my calendar, so countless local businesses were spared the Wasserman strong-arm, and they have my procrastination to thank for that.

Even when he was annoyed, however, Bill was unfailingly gracious. Early in my time of working with him on the paper, in a long string of emails between the great man and editor Muldoon and me, I somehow lost track of Wasserman's first name and referred to him as "Ed."

Wasserman didn't get angry. He got even. He responded simply by proceeding to call me "Alan."

In a week or two, I'll have the joy of delivering my 400th "Outsidah" column. I have served multiple editors.

But Bill Wasserman cast a unique shadow. Too late, I came to realize that the bent, curly-headed shape was the shape of greatness.

Too soon, he was gone. I don't care if he was 94. It was too soon for me. Alan needed more time with Ed.

Doug Brendel lives on outer Linebrook Road in Ipswich, where the ghost of Bill Wasserman occasionally drops in to offer advice. Follow Doug at [Outsidah.com](http://Outsidah.com).



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## COLUMN

## This Newspaper Week, I recall how working as a paper boy (almost) made a man out of me

by Bob Waite

When I was seven or eight, I was given a set of block letters, the kind you could use to print using an ink pad. These came to me from my mom's side via a great uncle, Joseph Heade, who worked for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*.

With this newfound treasure, I promptly composed and printed a newspaper, selling copies to my younger siblings for two cents.

The enterprise failed after two editions. I am not sure which ran out first — my brother's and sister's pennies or my own patience in hand-composing the individual issues.

All of this comes to mind as the U.S. and Canada celebrate "National Newspaper Week" October 2 through 8. Now in its 82nd year, it is meant to get us to reflect on the vital role newspapers and their employees play in fostering a functioning democracy.

Of course, much has changed since 1940, when Newspaper Week debuted. The number of papers has plummeted. Readership peaked in 1984, and decline accelerated with the advent of the internet and streaming services. Today, when I ask students their primary news source, most name Reddit.

One way to understand just how much things have changed involves taking you back to my days as a paper boy.

When I was about 12 or so, I had a paper route. Early each morning, at about 6:30 a.m., I would trundle down to the long-gone Ipswich News Store on Market Street. The News Store was what one would term "atmospheric." The air was heavy with the aroma of pipe tobacco and reverberated with the sounds of its owners barking out commands.

Once you got past the tobacco and the vintage postcards, you found yourself in a spare back room with a long counter. There, you were meant to carefully count out your allotment. I had 54 papers to deliver. The trick was to get things exactly right, as a wrong count meant

returning to the store for a stern lecture ... and a deduction from your week's meager wages.

My route ran from just over Choate Bridge to Southern Heights. It included my own South Green home. The papers were arranged in a canvas bag nestled in an oversized basket attached to the front of my bicycle. This was no Masi Giramondo — a Schwinn, it had just one gear and a coaster-brake.

Even today, when I pass by houses on South Main, Elm, Poplar, Ward, Argilla, Payne, County, Southern Heights, or South Village Green, I can still recall which house got which paper. And there was quite a variety of papers, which complicated matters.

They included the *Boston Globe, Herald, and Record*; the *Lawrence Eagle-Tribune*; the *New York Times*; and the *Christian Science Monitor*. A few customers even received two newspapers, perhaps reflecting differing political sensibilities among household members.

I even recall who tipped well and those who did not. I was fortunate to have several doctors and a judge on my route, including two who tipped a dollar each week — a fortune in the early 60s. (My dad tipped 50 cents, still a goodly amount when most gave you a quarter, a dime, or nothing at all). In an average week, I netted about \$12. To put that in perspective, back then you could get a clam plate for \$3.95 (I had my own peculiar way of

assessing relative value).

Delivering papers very early in the morning was not without its little surprises, such as the time a middle-aged woman appeared at the door of a house on South Main, near the River Walk bridge, wearing nothing more than a smile — an event that advanced my knowledge of human anatomy far beyond what I had gleaned previously from National Geographic and perusing purloined medical texts.

Putting aside the monetary and educational value, delivering papers taught me about the desire my neighbors had to get news from a source they deemed trustworthy.

Today, newspaper boys (and girls) are long gone. To the extent home delivery exists at all, it is typically done by adults driving vintage Datsuns or slightly newer Kias.

All of which is to say that Ipswich is blessed to have a paper delivered

to every home by the U.S. Postal Service. During National Newspaper Week, that is certainly something worth celebrating.

*Bob Waite once took on an afternoon route in addition to his morning one to spell his next-door neighbor. This lasted only two weeks, as both he and his Schwinn eventually collapsed. His new book, Ipswich On My Mind, is available locally at Betsy Frost Design, Market Street, and Zenobia on Essex Road. It can also be ordered as a paperback or Kindle through Amazon.*



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## LETTERS

### Article 12, which would make the town manager also the electric light manager, does not make sense

To the editor:

With little fanfare, and even less public discussion, the select board has placed Article 12 on the warrant for the October 25th town meeting. Article 12 proposes fundamental changes in the governance of the Ipswich Municipal Light Department (IMLD).

Passage of this article, followed by an affirmative action by the Massachusetts legislature, would implement these changes.

Select board reasons for these changes have been vague at best, and the summary provided in the published warrant does little to clarify the intent.

As background, the IMLD operates under the direction of a full-time electric light manager appointed

by the select board subject to the general supervision of the town manager.

What are these proposed changes?

1. To make the town manager also the electric light manager

2. To relegate the select board to general supervision of the electric light manager, as opposed to their present direct supervisory responsibility as electric light managers

3. To eliminate the charter authorization for the select board to separately hire a town manager and an electric light manager

With respect to the above actions, consider the following:

1. Town manager is a full-time position. The electric light manager is a full time position. Some would

argue that both positions are more than full-time. Does it make sense to create an organization wherein two full-time jobs are being shouldered by one person?

2. Since its creation in the late 1890s, the electric light manager has been directly supervised by elected light commissioners (the select board). This allows direct access by the citizens of Ipswich to the activities of the light department through the select board. Does it make sense to weaken this direct connection between the citizens of Ipswich and the light department?

3. An effective town manager requires training and skills distinctly different from those of an effective electric light manager. An effective electric light manager requires

training and skills distinctly different from those of an effective town manager. For one individual to fully qualify for both positions is highly unlikely; compromises detrimental to Ipswich will be made. Does it make sense to create a position that denies the people of Ipswich the opportunity to have both a fully effective town manager and a fully effective electric light manager?

To me, none of the proposed changes make sense. Consequently, I will vote against Article 12. I urge all to do the same.

James R. Engel

Former select board member (15 years), former electric light commissioner (15 years), electric light subcommittee member (20+ years) Ipswich

### Regarding Fair Share Amendment: When one is spending other people's money, there is never enough

To the editor:

Regarding the letter "Fair Share Amendment won't raise taxes for most" (September 28, 2022 by David Russell), I would imagine David does not make over a million dollars.

The word "fair" is a subjective

term. What is fair to you is not necessarily fair to someone else.

The state of Massachusetts is already sending back over \$3 billion in tax revenue this November.

The state received 13% more than was required and yet wants more under the Fair Share Amendment.

When one spends other people's money, there is never enough. If you want more tax revenue for noble causes, increase the size of the economic pie.

The larger the economy, the more tax revenue. The more you tax something, the less you get from it.

The people paying those taxes will make adjustments through legal avoidance. The last administration showed that by reducing taxes, revenue was increased to its highest ever at the federal level\*.

The wages at the lowest social-economic level increased on a percentage basis faster than the

wealthy.

This was a win-win for workers of all stripes and for government coffers.

The word "fair" is thrown around in an innocuous fashion without looking at the economic consequences.

Margaret Thatcher once said, "The problem with socialism is that you eventually run out of other people's money."

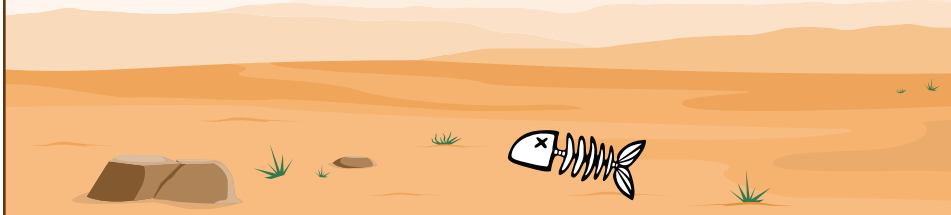
Bob Perkins  
North Andover

\* Editor's note: Federal revenues increase from year to year regardless.

# IPSWICH DROUGHT STATUS SEVERE: WATER BAN

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## SERVICE DOG PROJECT

The doggy version of a Vegas slot machine



It works pretty good if I hold it down with my footsies! (courtesy photo)

by Carlene White

Our ancient “Yuppy Puppy” treat dispenser is the way we teach many of our puppies to think. This particular Yuppy Puppy has to be 20 years old — and been battered at by over 450 puppies.

I am shocked and amazed that it still functions as a perfect learning tool.

It is critical that the treat falling out of the Yuppy Puppy falls into a metal dish so that the sound is part of their learning process. I think I got that idea from the quarters falling into the slot machines in Las

Vegas. I must say it works.

The sequence of a dog’s movement — causing a sound, causing a treat — is very similar to what they call clicker training.

In our case, that battered Yuppy Puppy is also a way of providing a small snack in the middle of the day, because they eventually get tired before they get too full.

It has worked for years.

*Carlene White is founder and president of the non-profit Service Dog Project on Boxford Road in Ipswich. She trains and raises Great Danes to donate to the mobility impaired.*



IPSWICH — Husband-and-wife duo Bob Gram and Gayle Anderson will be performing at Along the Way Coffee House on Meetinghouse Green on Saturday, October 15. The duo has returned to their native New England after living in California for nearly two decades, and they already have booked a busy schedule of appearances around the state. Their previous appearances have taken them from the Canadian Maritimes down through New England and Pennsylvania, out to Texas, and throughout California. The performers cite Kate Wolf, Nanci Griffith, Chris Smither and many others as influences. They have added their own originals to their setlists and have released several CDs together. Admission is \$10 per person at the door. Showtime is at 7 p.m., and light refreshments will be available. For more information, call or text 978-350-2487 or email nbpt.ernie@gmail.com.

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## IPSWICH RECYCLES

### Do you know which common household items are recyclable? Take this quiz and find out!

by Paula Jones

Taking out the trash is simple. Everything goes out together because they have no further use.

Taking out the recycling isn't as simple. Sometimes we forget that recyclables are simply industrial raw materials.

Manufacturers create specifications for those materials so that their suppliers will know what they need and what they won't buy.

With so many products and materials being produced and consumed, there is increasing confusion as to what can be recycled.

When too many of the wrong items are placed in recycling bins, the entire bin or truck can be CONTAMINATED and wind up in a landfill instead of being recycled into new items.

Take this quick quiz and find out if you are an informed Ipswich

recycler!

Can the material be recycled in your curbside bin? YES or NO.

**1. Styrofoam trays**

*No. Styrofoam cannot be recycled in your curbside bin. Because of lack of recyclers for this material, the cost to collect this has become prohibitive. The Ipswich Waste Reduction committee does NOT foresee another collection in the future for residents. It works to write companies that do use it for packing and ask them to use an alternative packing material.*

**2. Glass items (mirrors, drinking glasses, bowls)**

*No. Flower vases, candle jars, mirrors, drinking glasses, and crockery do NOT belong in your recycling bin. These items cannot be recycled because of additives that cause them to melt a different temperature than beverage and food containers (like pasta jars or wine bottles).*

**3. Pizza boxes**

*Yes ... and no. Yes, you can put your EMPTY cardboard pizza box in the recycling. Grease is okay, but not food. But NO to a frozen pizza box. Frozen food boxes have a thin layer of plastic sprayed onto the paper to prevent freezer burn.*

**4. Plastic flower pots**

*No. Since most flower pots are made from a variety of plastic resins and are often dark colors, put them into the trash. Even white pots go should go into the trash. Please find a way to reuse garden pots.*

**5. T-shirts**

*No. Clothes and any kind of textiles do not belong in your recycling bin. Clothes do not belong in the trash, either. Across Massachusetts, residents and businesses dispose of approximately 230,000 tons of clothes and textiles annually, flooding landfills and incinerator facilities.*

*However, effective November 1, 2022, the MassDEP is adding textiles and mattresses to the list of materials (see below) that are banned from the trash.*

*EcoSmith textile boxes located at Ipswich schools' parking lots will accept clothing, footwear, linens, and accessories for donation in any*

*condition, as long as items are clean, dry, and odorless.*

*This includes items with stains, rips, missing buttons, or broken zippers. Textiles can also be disposed at the Red Cross box at the transfer station.*

*Helpsy is a company that works with Ipswich to pickup your textiles at your home. You can complete the pickup request form at [www.helpsy.co/ipswichma](http://www.helpsy.co/ipswichma) or by calling the HELPSY hotline at 877 382 7417.*

*A Helpsy box is being planned for outside the Council on Aging at Town Hall.*

**6. Garden hoses**  
*No. Hoses are known as "tangles." Other "tangles" — such as string lights, ropes, chains, and electronic cords — jam the machinery used to sort recyclables.*

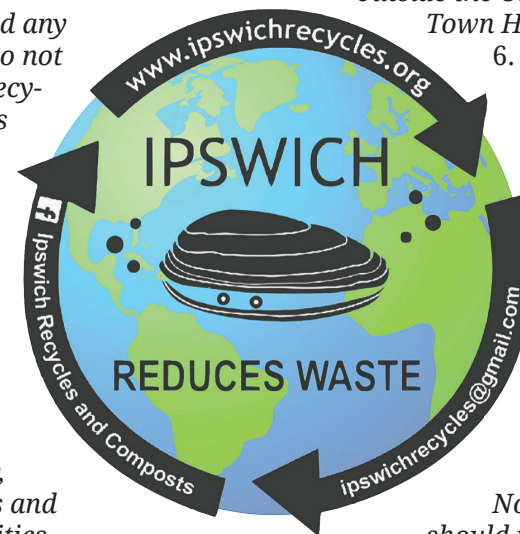
**7. Bubble wrap**  
*No. Bubble wrap should not be put in the bin. Local supermarkets and other retailers accept plastic bags and bubble wrap and other wraps for recycling at no cost.*

**8. Aluminum foil**  
*Yes. Put aluminum wrap in your recycling bin. Just rinse or wipe clean all food or other residue.*

**9. Lids or caps**  
*Yes. Lids and caps should be placed back on the bottle, jar, jug, or tub before recycling. Loose lids and caps will literally fall through the cracks at the recycling sorting facility.*

**10. Tissue paper**  
*No. Tissue paper fibers are too short to be recycled again.*

How did you do on the quiz? Figuring out what can and cannot be recycled is complicated. Go to [recyclesmartma.org/](http://recyclesmartma.org/) for more information on other items' recyclability. Send any questions you have about reducing waste to [ipswichrecycles@gmail.com](mailto:ipswichrecycles@gmail.com) or visit their Facebook page at Ipswich Recycles and Composts.



## A Guide to the Inflation Reduction Act

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# Middle-schoolers learn that Change is Simple in mobile lab

IPSWICH — More than 100 sixth-graders at the Ipswich Middle School climbed on board the giant Change is Simple mobile learning lab last week to learn about sustainability and climate.

The hands-on, interactive activity is part of a Beverly-based environmental education program that is revolutionizing the way kids learn about science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

“Our students are so much more engaged with science and sustainability since they started working with Change is Simple,” said teacher Christine Senechal.

Change is Simple will be working with Ipswich students throughout the school year. The goal is to teach an important lesson in a different way, according to Lauren Belmonte, Change is Simple’s executive director and co-founder.

“Environmental education is all about the animals and the trees and the bugs, which is important, but we really talk about how humans interact with that,” said Belmonte.



Boston 25 News interviews Ipswich sixth-grader Addie Pitner in front of the Change is Simple mobile lab.

“We talk about lifestyle changes that can really help their health, their community, and their environment.”

The curriculum is modeled after an escape room. The students figure out different clues at each station. This is designed to compliment what kids learn in the classroom.

Student Adelaide Pitner thinks it’s important to learn about the issue because “you learn what you can do to help the earth and what you can do better.”

“When I grow up, I am going to want to be in this world, and then my kids will be in this world, so I want them to have a nice life — and I want myself to have a nice life,” said student Lachlan Moulton.

This is an opportunity for students to be educated while having fun. “It’s an age that you’re forming your habits and your values, and you’re so open to the world, and you want to help, and you want to make it better,” said Belmonte.



Brothers and best friends Mikey (left, white/tabby) and Boomer (right, black/white) are 14-year-old cats looking for a foster or forever home. Mikey was recently diagnosed as diabetic, so he needs to get insulin injections twice a day (he doesn’t even notice the shots). Mikey and Boomer are both very affectionate and crave attention. They are very bonded and need a home together. They seem to like other cats. “We’re not sure how they’d be with dogs, and we think they would do well with kids five or older, but we would want the kids to meet them first to make sure,” the Ipswich Humane Group said. Boomer does like to lick and chew plastic bags, so it will be important to keep them out of his reach. If you are interested in fostering these boys (or other cats), fill out a foster application at [www.ipswichhumanegroup.org/volunteer.html](http://www.ipswichhumanegroup.org/volunteer.html) or leave the Ipswich Humane Group a message at (978) 356-6652.

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**From Ora to the Residents of Ipswich, Town Officials,  
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On September 29<sup>th</sup>, the Ipswich Planning Board voted to grant Ora a special permit for 55 Waldingfield Road — a decision nearly two years in the making.

55 Waldingfield is envisioned as a collaboration and innovation space to empower Ora employees on our mission to benefit patients living with vision-related illness. We are also committed to the historic restoration of the property, the conservation of open space, public access, and environmental protection.

As CEO of Ora, I would like to thank everyone who participated in the many conversations, meetings, and lively debates that helped shape such a positive outcome, not only for Ora as a multigenerational, family-owned business, but also for the town of Ipswich.

We at Ora are honored and humbled to be your newest neighbor a role that we take neither lightly nor for granted. We look forward to joining this wonderful community as we work to restore 55 Waldingfield for the benefit of all.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,  
Stuart





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ASSESSOR'S

# Regional water task force hailed as a breakthrough

DANVERS — A new regional water-resilience task force has been heralded as unprecedented — but so were the droughts of 2016, 2022, and the still-lingering drought of 2022.

This year's drought has been so severe that multiple low-flow records continue to be set in the Ipswich and Parker rivers.

But while Ipswich, Rowley, Hamilton, and Topsfield set stringent water restrictions early in the season, it's green lawns all around for some others and semi-serious restrictions for still other communities.

Now, following years of worrying, lobbying, and cajoling, a diverse group of communities from Lynn to Andover to Ipswich have formed the North Shore Water Resilience Task Force.

The task force came together last week in Essex Agricultural and Technical High School to celebrate their agreement of a charter.

"We have been working on this issue for 45 years, if you can believe

it," said Wayne Castonguay, executive director of the Ipswich River Watershed Association (IRWA).

"We have the dubious distinction of being the most flow-depleted river

in New England, but we are also the lifeblood of the region," he said.

"It has been a number of years, and at times it has been slower than we'd like, but we are now sitting here with a framework for the future," said Bruce Tarr, the state senator

who is leading the effort.

The task force will let communities work together "to solve one of the most vexing problems any community can face," he added.

Tarr, whose senate district almost overlaps the Ipswich River Watershed, also credited the "incredible support" of the North Shore legisla-



State Sen. Bruce Tarr shows the list of signatories for the launch of the North Shore Water Resilience Task Force.

tive delegation.

Rep. Jamie Belsito's district includes towns at the end of the Ipswich River. Although the watershed provides drinking water for around 350,000 people, there is little, or nothing, left in the river by the time it reaches the sea.

She said the issue for those towns is one of equity and welcomed the prospect of communities working together. "I'm incredibly thankful for everyone being here today," she said.

### Charter

The task force charter says the group's mission is to understand one another's issues, engage in good faith on ways to achieve regional success, work on the best potential solutions to water supply and ecosystem health, and seek full consensus on actions to support the most promising solutions.

There are 20 members in the task force. Almost all — 18 — are cities and towns. They are joined by IRWA and the Salem and Beverly Water Supply Board. The cities of Salem and Beverly area also members.

Another 27 stakeholders are involved. They include state agencies and the four Cape Ann communities of Rockport, Gloucester, Manchester, and Essex.

Some of the initial questions

the task force will look at include the feasibility of building a reservoir in Topsfield (where land was purchased a number of years ago), MWRA water, desalinization, and an interconnection network.

Other suggestions include a regional water authority, "more consistent messaging and water conservation throughout the region," and how to find and spend federal and state grants.

### Pace of work

Task force decisions will be made by full consensus, "defined as unanimous support." Items that achieve that consensus will become priorities.

Goals for the first three years include finding funds and developing plan of action.

Medium-term goals over five to 10 years include implementing consensus items agreed.

Long-term goals would see communities be able to "reliably deliver water" in times of drought. The task force also hopes to be a model for other water-stressed regions and that the Ipswich River and its tributaries have enough water to support healthy ecosystems.

"This is a historic moment, and it's one that's needed to happen for a very long time," Tarr said.

At the charter launch, Castonguay thanked Hamilton's town manager, Joe Demolowicz, and the Salem and Beverly Water Supply for their efforts.

A recent report commissioned by Hamilton outlined ways to improve water supply by linking local towns to Beverly and Salem's reservoir, which is filled by the Ipswich River during winter months.

### Too much

A large part of the problem is that too much water is being pulled from the river, said Kerry Mackin, an Ipswich select board member and former IRWA executive director.

She called on the U.S. Geological Survey to update its calculations and for the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to review its "safe yield" withdrawal allowances.

"What the DEP did could be called the unsafe yield or water mismanagement program," she said.

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## Rowley's Mill River gets new water gauge and flow meter



George Comiskey wades through the Mill River at Jewell Mill site (Magella Cantara photo).

by Magella Cantara

ROWLEY — Early Wednesday morning at the Jewell Mill site, a couple of people pulled on waders and started plodding through the river.

They were part of a group looking for a good spot to install a new water gauge and flow meter.

The project was run by the Parker River Clean Water Association (PRCWA) with help from the Massachusetts Department of Ecological Restoration (DER) after receiving a \$6,500 grant from UMass Boston.

The PRCWA is a community-based, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the restoration and protection of the waters and environment of the Parker River and Plum Island Sound Watersheds.

“The purpose of collecting this data is to better understand the science behind the data,” said conservation commissioner Ann

Witzig.

Witzig, who lives in Rowley, is a marine scientist and retired career technical education (CTE) environmental science and technology instructor at Essex Agricultural and Technical School. She studied at Louisiana State University’s Center for Wetland Resources to complete her graduate degree.

George Comiskey, who is the vice president of PRCWA, walked upstream to plant the new water gauge. He, accompanied by state hydrologist Kate Bentsen, wanted to know the water levels.

“Understanding the impact of the water, especially in a time of harsh climate change, is critical to better understanding the ecosystem and our water resources,” said Witzig.

“There’s a lot happening behind the scenes,” he added. “I want more people to become aware of what’s happening within their local water resources.”



A man and his castle: Artist Justin Gordon of Groveland takes a break from sculpting the sand creation behind him at the Topsfield Fair on Sunday (photo by Coco McCabe).

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# What's on? Walking tour, Topsfield Fair, cookbook club

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## — Wednesday, October 5 —

**Topsfield Fair:** The fair continues all week until October 10. Check [www.topsfieldfair.org](http://www.topsfieldfair.org) for a list of daily events and tickets.

**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.

### **Solo Parent support group:**

Meet up and support the discuss the challenges and victories of being a single parent at the First Presbyterian Church on County Road at 6 p.m. Questions? Contact Rosemary Miner at [office@fpcnorthshore.com](mailto:office@fpcnorthshore.com).

**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.

**The Thin Place:** Part ancestry story, part ghost story, this play asks how and why we choose what to believe at the Gloucester Stage Company. Performances Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday at 3 p.m.

## — Thursday, October 6 —

**Gardening Day:** Join IRWA staff and other volunteers at their headquarters on County Road at 9 a.m. to keep their gardens looking their best. Come for two hours or just a little bit. Refreshments provided. Bring your tools or use theirs.

**Coffee & Connections:** The Greater Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce hosts a virtual networking event on Zoom from 9 to 10 a.m. Register at [business.capeannchamber.com/events](http://business.capeannchamber.com/events).

**Cookbook Club:** It's what happens when you cross a cookbook with a book group! Check out a copy of the selected cookbook, choose a recipe, and prepare it to share with



Morgan Bennett and Scarlett Radzim were light on their toes as they danced at the Polish picnic on September 24 at the Masonic Temple (photo by Coco McCabe).

the group. Contact Nathalie Harty (978 356 6648, [nharty@ipswichlibrary.org](mailto:nharty@ipswichlibrary.org)) for details.

**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!

**Fall Music:** The Patton Homestead in Hamilton hosts the dreamy acoustic vibes of QWILL (the Bon Iver of Salem) at 6 p.m. \$5 per person, but kids under 10 are free! Bring a picnic or buy at the food truck!

**Kundalini yoga, meditation, and gong bath:** Acupuncture Health and Wellness hosts Kundalini yoga, meditation, and a deep-relaxation gong bath with Ravi Sirois from 7 to 8:15 p.m. on Thursday evenings.

**Moonglow:** A marching band meets midlife attraction in 1967 at the Firehouse Center in Newburyport at 7:30 p.m. through Saturday with performances at 2:30 p.m. over the weekend.

**Shawn Colvin:** The Grammy award-winning singer-songwriter is at the Shalin Liu Performance Center in Rockport at 8 p.m.

## — Friday, October 7 —

**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.

**The Thing:** Watch the classic horror film at the Cabot in Beverly at 7 p.m.

**Molly Tuttle and Golden Highway:** The singer-songwriter performs at the Belleville Roots Music Series at the Belleville Church on High Street in Newburyport at 8 p.m.

**Dirty Deeds:** The AC/DC tribute band performs at the Blue Ocean Music Hall at 8 p.m.

## — Saturday, October 8 —

**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.

**Battle for Newbury:** A week-end-long Revolutionary War encampment brings the past to life at the Spencer-Peirce-Little Farm in Newburyport Saturday and Sunday starting at 10 a.m. Colonial shopkeepers, craftspeople, reenactors, cannon and musket demonstrations, and more!

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

own!

**Myths & Legends:** The North Atlantic Ballet performs to the exquisite scores of Stravinsky and Rimsky-Korsakov at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. at the Cabot in Beverly.

**Celtic Music Sunset Sail:** Join Michael O'Leary and friends aboard the schooner Ardelle out of Gloucester Harbor for a floating céilidh of traditional tunes that begins at 4 p.m.

**Jimmy Dunn:** The Boston-based comedian is at the Blue Ocean Music Hall in Salisbury. The laughs start at 8 p.m.

## — Sunday, October 9 —

**Walking Tour of Historic Ipswich:** Join historian Gordon Harris as he takes you through the historic neighborhoods and shares stories of the houses and the people who lived in them. Tour starts at 2 p.m. at the garden across from the public library.

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

**Ipswich Republican Town Committee:** Discuss the upcoming election at 6 North Main Street at 7 p.m. RSVP at 617 571 2049 or [lbkelly812@comcast.net](mailto:lbkelly812@comcast.net).

**Nosferatu:** Catch the iconic silent horror film at the Cabot in Beverly at 7 p.m.

## — Monday, October 10 —

**Farmers' Market in the Shipyard:** Fill your bags and baskets with veggies, eggs, flowers, crafts, and other goodies, or grab a quick dinner from the Shipyard Grille from 3 to 6 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.

**What Ever Happened to Baby Jane:** It's clash of the titans Bette Davis and Joan Crawford at 6 p.m. at the Cabot in Beverly.

## — Tuesday, October 11 —

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

# What's on? Walking tour, Topsfield Fair, cookbook club

by Magella Cantara

IPSWICH — The dunes at Crane Beach took center stage in the gallery at Hall-Haskell House on Saturday afternoon (October 1).

Artist Brett Gamache is a *plein air* landscape painter from Ipswich. He received his M.F.A from the University of New Hampshire and a bachelor's degree from MassArt.

Throughout his career, he has attended numerous artist residencies, including at the Vermont Studio Center and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts.

He exhibits his artwork at the George Marshall Store Gallery in York, Maine.

“As a New England landscape painter, I work outdoors throughout the year, enduring all weather, striving to capture nature’s ephemeral beauty with paint on canvas,” said Gamache.

“I have found great artistic inspiration painting the vast wetlands from atop the famous Crane Estate as well as deep within the meandering sand dunes that run along Crane Beach.”

Gamache’s hope for his work is that viewers are reminded of the town’s vitally important seacoast. His paintings help shine a light on what is at stake of being lost at such a crucial tipping point in climate change.

“With my painting materials strapped across my back and canvas in hand, I hike by foot to reach my desired painting locations,” added Gamache.

“My favorite time of day is to



Artwork by Brett Gamache, seen here in a screen capture from a YouTube video, was recently on display at the Hall-Haskell House Gallery.



Gamache’s work focuses on the beauty of the outdoors, including the dunes at Crane Beach (photo by Magella Cantara).

work in the late afternoon, when the sunlight casts beautiful blue shadows across beach dunes.”

His new paintings were displayed inside Hall-Haskell House, where locals admired Gamache’s work.

“In my 20 years of connecting to nature, I’ve already seen a lot of evidence of global warming,” he said. “I enjoy capturing the beauty of what’s out there and sharing with the public, so they see how fragile it is.”

Gamache’s next project will be painting on water. He will spend his days on a boat that is climate-friendly and -efficient to bring his next vision to the canvas.

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## POLISH PICNIC • photos by Coco McCabe



Gail Reardon and her mom, Ellie Beecher, head home after a lively afternoon.



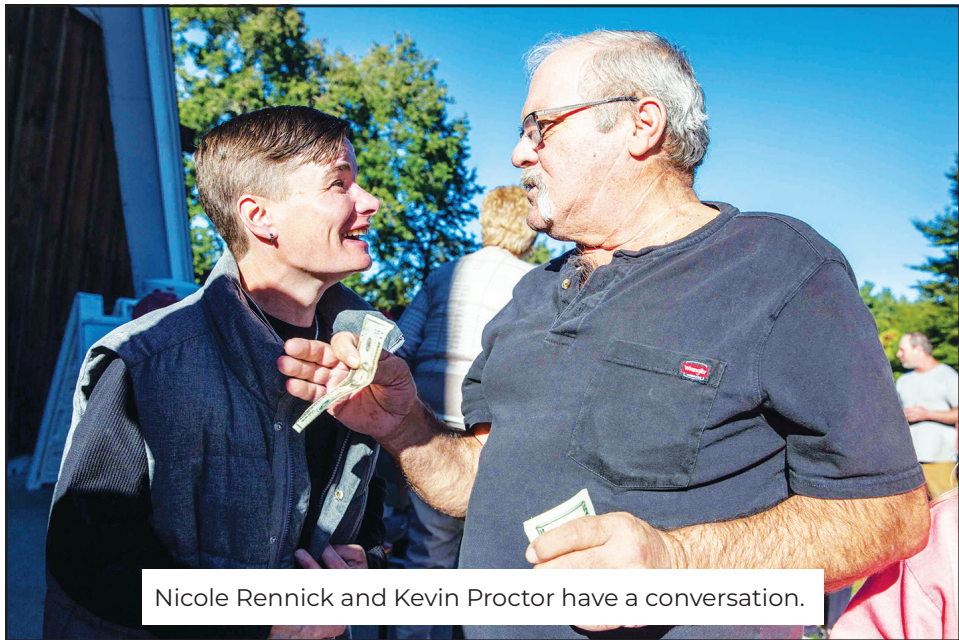
Gerald Roy Gauthier and John Bolles were part of the crowd that turned out.



Maria Radzim and Ellen Tobiasz take each other for a spin on the lawn as the band plays one of its final numbers.



Diana Comeau and Garry Gray came equipped with the right eyewear for a sunny day.



Nicole Rennick and Kevin Proctor have a conversation.



John Surowiec's t-shirt says it like it is.

## 'Don't try to write a best-seller' is best-selling author's advice

by Magella Cantara

IPSWICH — Here's some advice from a best-selling author to aspiring best-selling authors: Don't try to do it.

"I'm not sure that trying to write a bestseller is the best way to write a bestseller," said Lily King at the latest Johnson Author Series talk. "I think being true to yourself is the best way."

Sponsored by the Ipswich Public Library, the event drew more than 100 people to the Mansion at the Hellenic Center last Tuesday evening.

King is the author of five award-winning novels. Her most recent novel, *Writers & Lovers*, was published in March 2020.

Her 2014 novel *Euphoria* won the Kirkus Award, the New England Book Award, the Maine Fiction Award, and was a finalist for the National Book Critics' Award.

*Euphoria* was named one of the 10 best books of 2014 by the New York Times Book Review. It was included in *TIME*'s top 10 fiction books of 2014 as well as on Amazon, NPR, Entertainment Weekly, Publishers Weekly, and Salon's Best Books of 2014.

Her first collection of short stories, *Five Tuesdays in Winter*, was released in November 2021.

She grew up in Massachusetts and now lives in Portland, Maine.

King was in her element talking about when she started to write.

"I started out writing short stories. I didn't start writing novels in high school. I always loved to read, and when I read Judy Blume I thought, 'I want to do that,'" she said.

"It took until I got to high school — that's actually just up the road in Hamilton — and I had an English teacher, Mr. Paulis. He taught creative writing, and he taught it like a

grad school workshop," she said.

"So I kept writing, and I wrote in college. I majored in English, and then somewhere after college, I heard about graduate school in Syracuse, New York."

Once King introduced her writing journey to the audience, she went on to admit that after grad school she'd had no plan. "I mean, what can you really do with a creative writing degree?"

She wrote off to different places and worked as a high school teacher abroad.

Spain  
"I never actually believed I would sell anything, but

I remember thinking I wanted to write a novel when I took a teaching job in Spain."

The *Pleasing Hour* was her first novel. "You can really tell that it is, because it's a bunch of short stories bunched into one," King added. "I felt like, as an English teacher, I had to teach myself how to write a novel."

King said she rarely finds herself writing short stories now.

"I feel like I only write short stories when I'm really stuck. And now I'm going to read from *Five Tuesdays in Winter*."

King knew her some of her audience had come long distances to support her on Tuesday evening, so she ensured she would not disappoint the crowd.

They listened carefully to her words as they entered into her character's world, and it wasn't long before the crowd was swept up from out of their seats into her well-written pages.

After reading, she eagerly answered the audience's questions and motioned for them to meet her at the book signing table, set up right beside the book sale table on the way out the Mansion.



Author Lily King (photo via LilyKingBooks.com)

## Democrat Kassner is quizzed on guns, taxes

IPSWICH — Although some of it sounded like a Democratic rally, there weren't many "rah rahs" in the corner of the room where Dan Kelly sat.

Chair of the Ipswich Republican Town Committee, he introduced himself late in the evening and made an appeal for bipartisanship.

Hosted at Gathr on Friday evening, the event was held by the Democratic Town Committee

as a town-hall-type forum for Kristin Kassner. Organizer Carol Bousquet had invited two high school students, two business people, and two representatives from the Council on Aging to bring their questions.

Kassner is taking on Republican Lenny Mirra in the Nov. 8 election for the 2nd Essex seat in the statehouse.

Businesswoman Ann Orcutt wanted to know Kassner's position on referendum Question 1, which would add a new four-percent marginal tax rate to income over \$1 million.

Orcutt worried about people who have built businesses and are ready to sell and retire or those who inherited money.

"We just work too hard to be hit again with more taxes," she said.

Kassner said the tax is not on businesses but on personal income. In an email after the event, she said a business sale or inheritance would be taxed just once in the year it happened.

Question 1 leaves the current five-percent state income tax unchanged but would tax additional income over \$1 million and earmark the money for education and transportation.

The other businessperson, Chub Whitten, said former Rep. Brad Hill, a Republican, was given an A grade by the NRA.

"My opponent has a pretty good rating, too," Kassner said of Republican Lenny Mirra. The NRA also gave him an A grade, she said.

A student at Pingree, Mackenzie Holian expressed disquiet about potential school shootings. She said holding active shooter drills is the wrong approach and "prioritizes guns over the safety of students."

Kassner agreed and said her approach is, "If it hurts people, why are we doing it?"

### People first

A native of Winchester now living in Hamilton, she said she wrapped up her high school years when school shootings were starting to become more common. She said if the country had gun laws like those in Massachusetts, there

would be 50% fewer shootings.

A student at Ipswich High School, David Seaton, asked Kassner if she would extend the right to vote to 16-year-olds.

Kassner said she would for local elections, adding that she encourages young people to become involved in civic affairs.

Her potential constituency is newly formed due to redistricting after the election. It includes Georgetown, Newbury, Rowley, Ipswich, Hamilton, and Topsfield's first precinct.

The current district is the 4th Essex and is represented by Jamie Belsito of Topsfield. However, redistricting split Topsfield, and Belsito lives in Precinct 2, just a few doors down from Precinct 1.

A Georgetown resident, Mirra represents the current 2nd Essex, but that is set to undergo radical changes, which means he is a new name in Rowley, Ipswich, Hamilton, and Precinct 1 in Topsfield.



Kristin Kassner (courtesy photo)

# IHS golf team gets into the swing of things this year

by Magella Cantara

IPSWICH — The driving swing of a golf club digs into the grass at Ipswich Country Club on a recent sunny Thursday afternoon.

The high school varsity golf team, ranging from freshmen to seniors, competed against Georgetown on September 29.

Coach Gardy O’Flynn encouraged his players to practice before the game at 3:30 p.m.

“Compared to last year, we have already improved,” O’Flynn said. “It’s been great and competitive. We are averaging more point scores of 100 the last four matches. Last year, we only scored 100 once.”

Team captain and leading scorer is junior Charlie Jepsen, who’s been playing golf since freshman year.

“I started off trying hockey and baseball, but I stuck with golf,” he said.

“Golf has been a fun experience growing, improving, and organizing as a captain.”



The IHS varsity golf team has been clocking up high scores so far this season. (photo by Magella Cantara)

“We are a young team. We have one senior, Chase Hanson,” said O’Flynn.

Hanson has also played golf since freshman year — but he only start-

ed to take an interest in the sport in high school. “I had to choose between soccer and baseball, and I ended up playing golf,” said Hanson.

“In comparison to last year, I think we are doing better,” he added. “The incoming freshmen have been great.”

### Games

In the last week of what has been a very active season so far, the Tigers took on Lynnfield, Amesbury, and Georgetown.

On Sept. 27, and for the third straight match, Ipswich scored over 100 points ... but it wasn’t enough, as they fell to a talented Lynnfield team 148 to 103.

Junior Dylan York, with 23, and freshman Connor Wright, with 22, led the Ipswich team.

On Sept. 29, there was a very close game against Georgetown, but the Tigers lost by three points (114-111).

Ipswich had a well-played match with perfect conditions at Ipswich Country Club, but just came up short.

Jepsen had 24 and Wright had 21 points to lead the Tigers.

The Tigers beat Amesbury 105-81 on Sept. 28. The team got 24 points from Jepsen and 20 points from Wright to help lead the team to victory.

The team’s record this season now stands at 5-9.

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# IHS volleyball team adds Generals to their 'win' column



IHS volleyball's Tess O'Flynn prepares to serve.

IPSWICH — In another win of straight sets, the girls' varsity volleyball team defeated "scrappy" Hamilton-Wenham last week.

In the first two sets, the Generals appeared to have the Ipswich's number, as they were able to handle some of the Tigers' big hits.

"Hamilton-Wenham's always a really scrappy team. They do a really good job of keeping the ball up and putting it back on our side," coach Staci Sonke said after the game.

She said that the Ipswich team "struggled a little bit with that in the first set. But once we found our groove and got out of our heads, we did a lot better."

That was reflected in the score — Ipswich fought to win the first set 25-21 but went on to win the next

two 25-11 and 25-9.

"I thought it was a good game. I thought we played really well," said junior Tess O'Flynn, who is often substituted in specially to serve.

Sonke, who uses substitutes a good deal more than many of her opponents, said it is partly strategic and partly a testament to the strength of her roster.

"It's not going to change the way that we play or how or rhythm works. It speaks a lot to the 14 kids I've got on my roster," she said.

Meanwhile, O'Flynn said she is looking forward to some of the non-league games against Marblehead and Wilmington on October 6.

The Tigers' next home game is on October 11 against Newburyport.

The team's season now stands at

7-1, and the MIAA has the Tigers ranked second in state Division 4 behind Nipmuc.

### Stats

Key players in the Hamilton-Wenham game were Grace Sorensen (14

kills and four digs), Carolyn Bailey (11 digs, three aces), Claire Buletza (four kills — 0.429 hitting efficiency), Kendra Brown (12 assists), and Tess O'Flynn (one kill, seven assists, eight digs, and three aces).

## IPSWICH PROPERTY SALES, Sept. 25 through Oct. 1

DATE	ADDRESS	PRICE
9/30/2022	11 Old Right Road, Unit A-2	\$1,799,000
9/28/2022	267 Topsfield Road, Lot 1	\$1,250,000
9/27/2022	67 Skytop Road, Lot 335	\$1,000,000
9/29/2022	21 Mill Road, Lots 24A & 24B-1	\$987,000
9/27/2022	9 Primrose Lane, Unit 9	\$875,000
9/28/2022	10 Kinsman Court	\$690,000
9/29/2022	3 Manning Street, Unit 2	\$665,000
9/29/2022	28 Hodgkins Drive, Lot 21	\$620,000
9/28/2022	13 Hillside Road, Lot 11 & 12	\$600,000
9/30/2022	24 Fellows Road	\$450,000
9/27/2022	40 Argilla Road	\$430,000
9/28/2022	199 County Road, Lot 3	\$345,000
9/30/2022	15 Primrose Lane, Unit 15	\$305,300

## ROWLEY PROPERTY SALES, Sept. 25 through Oct. 1

9/26/2022	865 Haverhill Street	\$850,000
9/28/2022	87 Weldon Farm Road, Lot 21B	\$460,000
9/28/2022	18 Fenno Drive, Lot 3B, 3C, 5A	\$450,000
9/30/2022	16 Wethersfield Street, Lot 4	\$150,000

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## Word search: Orange!

The color is traditionally associated with autumn, but there are more orange things than fall leaves. Can you find them all?

P C T R A O Y C T A T A A E D A M D E P N H C E S  
 E C A R N E L I A N U O S F I Y S A A O S R D C P  
 R H O M R O F I N U N O S I R P T U B I S C H E Y  
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 E H A E A A O Q F L A C P N T T L E U A P Y E S R

- Carrot
- Pumpkin
- Sweet potato
- Marigold
- Daylily
- Circus peanuts
- Bengal tiger
- Oriole
- Ernie
- Koi
- Apricot
- Life vest
- Mango
- Marmalade
- Turmeric
- Curry powder
- Hazmat suits
- Cheddar cheese
- Cheetos
- Doritos
- Tangerine
- Garfield
- Detour sign
- Prison uniform
- Saffron

- Orpiment
- Creamsicle
- Red fox
- Ruddy shelduck
- Pumpkin pie
- Cantaloupe
- Peach
- Amber
- Spray tan
- Carnelian
- Persian buttercup
- Lobster mushroom
- Nasturtium
- Utz cheese balls
- Papaya
- Kumquat
- Persimmon
- Butternut squash
- Monarch butterfly
- Golden lion tamarin
- Traffic cones
- Orangutan
- Clownfish
- Irish setter
- Beeker

## COLONIAL TRIVIA

illustrated by Ed Colley



What was medical care like during the Revolutionary War?

Bonus question:  
Who was Mary Ann Cole?

Send your answers to [news@ipswichlocalnews.com](mailto:news@ipswichlocalnews.com).

### Answer to the last trivia question:

Gather 'round, children, while I spill the tea on the Coercive Acts — or, as they called them here in the Colonies, the Intolerable Acts — of 1774.

I'm sure everyone remembers the Boston Tea Party, during which a group of patriots call the Sons of Liberty destroyed 342 chests of tea in Boston Harbor, from their social studies classes. Well, the British government did not take kindly to this action (apparently, the British soldiers stationed there could not function without this warm beverage), so Parliament passed four punitive and coercive acts to get the colonists to pay for the destroyed tea. Let's examine them one by one:

The **Boston Port Act** was the first one passed. It closed the port of Boston to any commercial traffic because "the commerce of his Majesty's subjects cannot be safely carried on there." The only imports allowed in were necessary goods for the British Army. Colonists objected because it punished the entire city rather than the offenders.

The **Massachusetts Government Act** went even further — it took away the Massachusetts charter and put it under the crown's control. This freaked out the other colonies; anyone could be next!

The **Administration of Justice Act** allowed royal governors to order trials of officials to take place in Great Britain rather than in Massachusetts if they believed the defendant could not receive a fair trial. This meant witnesses would have to travel across the Atlantic — reimbursed for their costs of travel, but not for lost earnings during that period (pretty much ensuring that no one would). The "Murder Act" was what George Washington called it, because it meant that British officials could not harrass colonists with impunity.

And then there was the **Quartering Act**, which meant a governor was required to house soldiers if suitable quarters were not available (although this had been a requirement in a previous act, most colonial legislatures had been a little lax in doing so and frankly didn't bother).

There was a fifth act passed at the time called the **Quebec Act**. Although unrelated on its face, it meant that the free practice of Catholicism would be allowed right next to the Protestant colonists, which was untenable to these fanatics (and also seen as punitive).

As you can imagine, none of this went down well — throughout the 13 colonies, not just in Boston. Britain had hoped that it would cause the American colonists to concede the authority of the crown. Instead, more colonists turned against it.



The IHS girls' cross-country team.

## Cross-country teams fall to Manchester-Essex Hornets

IPSWICH — The boys' and girls' cross-country teams had a very pleasant day out at Crane Beach last week when they took on Manchester-Essex Regional High School.

Both teams, however, were unable to eke a win from the event.

The boys lost 27-30, while the girls' score was 20-37.

In the boys' competition, the first three spots were taken by the Hornets, who clocked up a winning time of 19:43.

Ipswich's took fourth and fifth

places with Keith Townsend (20:35) and Lucas Wilt (20:55).

"Keith Townsend continued to take the lead for the Tigers, with strong support from Lucas Wilt, Toby Adams, Colin Hansen, Max Jones, Theo Goodrich, and Aidan Baran right behind him," coach Sue Markos said.

This was the girls' first loss. They now have a season record of 2-1.

There will be just two more meets this year before the Cape Ann tournament is held on Oct. 29.

## Castle Hill gets \$500k grant

BOSTON — The nation's first and state's largest land conservation nonprofit, the Trustees of Reservations (The Trustees), has received a grant of just shy of \$500,000 from the National Park Service (NPS) and partner agencies to help fund repairs to the Great House at Castle Hill.

The NPS has partnered with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute for Museum and Library Services.

The grant money will be used locally at Castle Hill for critical

masonry repairs to stop the water infiltration damage that threatens the integrity of this national historic landmark.

In addition to being a hiker's paradise that overlooks picturesque Crane Beach, Castle Hill is a hot spot for garden enthusiasts, who marvel at the Italian Garden and its sister, the show-stopping Rose Garden.

Funded through the Historic Preservation Fund, Save America's Treasures has provided \$356 million to more than 1,300 projects between 1999 and 2020.

## DAD JOKES

What's red and bad for your teeth?  
A brick.

What's green and has wheels?  
Grass. I lied about the wheels.



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, October 5	one	8:01 a.m.	1:55 a.m.
	two	8:24 p.m.	2:13 p.m.
Thursday, October 6	one	9:03 a.m.	2:56 a.m.
	two	9:26 p.m.	3:15 p.m.
Friday, October 7	one	10:01 a.m.	3:53 a.m.
	two	10:24 p.m.	4:14 p.m.
Saturday, October 8	one	10:53 a.m.	4:46 a.m.
	two	11:17 p.m.	5:09 p.m.
Sunday, October 9	one	11:41 a.m.	5:34 a.m.
	two		5:59 p.m.
Monday, October 10	one	12:06 a.m.	6:20 a.m.
	two	12:26 p.m.	6:46 p.m.
Tuesday, October 11	one	12:52 a.m.	7:03 a.m.
	two	1:08 p.m.	7:32 p.m.

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

# The ever-changing tradition of Ipswich Illumination

by Ella Niederhelman

IPSWICH — Add the old, traditional view of Ipswich Illumination's bonfires to the new, unconventional way of lighting them, and you get archery.

Now in its 14th year, Ipswich Illumination has returned with even more to offer the town.

Produced by the town of Ipswich and the Essex County Community Foundation's Creative County Initiative (CCI), this free event will consist of dozens of local musicians and ensembles, a cumulative art show, vendors, and traditions.

## The first night

The weekend will start on Friday, October 14 with a movie screening on the Take-Out Terrace at 7 p.m.

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood, a documentary about Mr. Rogers and his career, will be shown.

Starting that evening and continuing through the rest of the weekend, the "shadow dance box" will return to the Hall-Haskell House lawn once again.

## Saturday morning

Saturday, October 15 — day two — is the day of the bonfire.

From 1 to 7 p.m., a new addition to Illumination called "Depth of Field" will run at the Ipswich Town Hall athletic fields.

Produced by Three Phase Productions and CCI, the "open-air market" will comprise a variety of Essex County artists.

"It's an embodied experience," said organizer Kerrie Bates of the Ipswich Recreation and Culture



Tabitha Rodger performs off the Green Street bridge at last year's Ipswich Illumination event (file photo).

Committee.

The Open Door, Ipswich Aware, Citizens for the Arts, and other local non-profits will also be raising money and sharing community information.

Two rotating stages — a main stage and a wandering stage — featuring nine local bands will "ping-pong" back and forth with performances throughout the market, Bates said.

## After sunset

Following this new event, the official evening will begin at 5:59 p.m. — at sunset. At this time, bonfires will be lit across the Ipswich River. However, this year, they will be lit in a different manner.

Ipswich's Carlos Segura — a former member of Mexico's National Archery Team and current children's archery teacher at the Ipswich Fish and Game Club — will light two bonfires with an arrow.

He will light the illumination bonfire from the footbridge at 6 p.m. and then head over to the Green Street Bridge to light a second fire at 6:30.

From the Take-Out Terrace to the Green Street Bridge, live music will be heard throughout the town alongside the Ipswich River's light.

A handful of local bands, including the Ipswich Community Band, will be scattered along the path of the Ipswich River, often paired with the light.

From 7 to 9 p.m., Living Light — a dance rave — will take the stage on Water Street by the Green Street Bridge. Living Light, the stage name for Eartha Harris, is the daughter of local historian Gordon Harris.

As an "internationally celebrated, transformational techno DJ," Bates says, "she is next-level."

## A new addition

A new event will close off the busiest day of the 2022 Illumination season — a science project focused on river herring.

The event, spearheaded by the Cognitive Laboratory of Environment and Arts Research (CLEAR), is brought to Illumination through the Ipswich River Watershed Association.

As a collaborative project with students at Northeastern University and the Fashion Institute of Technology, "their premise is that an information download isn't sufficient to win hearts and minds to change people's behavior," Bates said.

She even found that it was partially funded by Ipswich's own New England BioLabs after researching the program.

"An immersive, powerful, public-embodied experience should go a long way to actually effect change

in people's behaviors," Bates said about the project's goal in helping our local environment.

CLEAR will be gathering residents along the foot bridge and patio of the Ipswich Dam for a quick survey throughout the evening.

## Closing out the weekend

The final day of Illumination will take place at the Take-Out Terrace.

Spoken word poetry will be shared at 1 p.m., and local jazz musician Tom Palance's "Marsh Hoppers" Big Band will be performing from 2 to 4 p.m.

## The tradition of Illumination

This year, collaborating with locals Carla Villa, Kevin Sinowski, and the CCI, Bates sought to maintain — and grow — Ipswich Illumination from its roots.

Bates has been working to plan, organize, and execute Ipswich Illumination for 16 years — with two years spent working to get the original plan into motion.

But now, fourteen years later, it's a tradition.

"Sometimes, I say Ipswich Illumination is Ipswich's signature event — of the people, for the people, by the people," Bates said.

"It's built for the landscape and the people. It's a celebration of ourselves," she added.

Bates knows just what the event means to the town. From stories of first love to marriage, the "magic" of the darkness, and the beauty of the bonfires, Bates believes Illumination to be an "opportunity for the people."

"It's about being present, being in community, taking artistic risks, applauding for the daring of our neighbors, and about people working toward excellence," Bates said.

As the winter approaches, temperatures begin to drop, and the days grow shorter, Bates notes that the tradition has "always been about the bonfire."

"Not only is it traditional because we have been doing it for 14 years, but it's traditional in the human experience — together by the community fireside, telling stories," said Bates.

As Illumination approaches, she hopes that each resident will "be a part of the art."

**Patrick J. McNally**  
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# Ipswich art takes center stage at ICC's annual art show

by Dan MacAlpine

The Ipswich Cultural Council's Art Show and Illumination and might be taking place on different weekends this year, but they share the same ideal: a taste for art and community spirit.

Ipswich artists of many stripes showed their work at the 36th annual art show last weekend, Sept. 30 through Oct 2, at the Town Hall. It featured work from many genres, including two-and-three

dimensional pieces.

Coco McCabe won Best in Show for her photograph entitled "Mending the Beechwood: Pins."

An Award of Distinction went to Mary Woodall-Jappe for her glass work, "Midnight Highway."

Honorable mention awards went to Gail Anderson for "Dreaming" (photograph), Kathy Petitpas for "Season of the Witch" (3-D collage), and Ellie Norris for "Sun & Sails" (watercolor).

Susan Ellis won the People's

Choice award with her pastel entitled "Receding Tide." Second place went to Mark Helton with "Nebula."

There were five entries tied for third place: Alvaro Marques with "38 Days," Mike Smith with "Pumpkin Picking," Rita Pedrick with "Collin's Cove Sunset, Eastham," Dan Lovy's "Bird on a Wire," and "Ipswich Winter" by Karen Keough.

This was the first year the art show and Ipswich Illumination were separated.

The two events were once one,

and the art show was one of the events to attend during Illumination weekend.

"About two years ago, we handed it off to the town" said Michael McGrath, who organized the art show.

"It became too big for just volunteers. We had three or four thousand people."

*All photos accompanying this article are by award-winning Ipswich photographer Coco McCabe.*



A steady stream of visitors came to soak up some Clamtown creativity at the annual Ipswich Art Show on a rainy Saturday.



Marge Lee catches the eye of a friend as the two made their way through Saturday's show.



Walter Harmer and his best friend, Frank, studied Jan Colby's "Puppy Palace" at the art show. "It's always a good show," said Harmer.



Mary Woodall-Jappe, who won the award of excellence for her piece "Midnight Highway," sells some of her handmade fused glass at the show.

## Obituary: James Martel

On Wednesday morning, September 28, 2022, Jim was reunited with his late wife, Barbara Ann (Sklarz), to continue their dance that started over 68 years ago.

Jim was a lifelong Ipswich resident, born on December 10, 1938, the son of the late Arthur R. and Irene (Blanchard) Martel.

He was a gentle soul who cherished family and had a firm understanding of what was important — the simplicity of living a life with, and for, those you love.

His friends and family knew him fondly as “Gentleman Jim” and “Coach” — a kind and thoughtful

mentor who was the best listener, the best coffee date, and the perfect example of how to love unselfishly.

Although suffering from Parkinson’s, Jim was known for his ability to recall and share age-old memories with stunning detail.

He spent his life servicing and befriending local residents through his Martel’s Automotive repair shop and gas stations all across town.

Jim also taught popular auto-repair classes through the Ipswich Adult Education program.

Jim had a celebrated five-decade career as a champion racecar driver

(#14), winning races across eastern and midwestern U.S. and Canada.

He served as vice president of the International SuperModified Association and was inducted into the New England Auto Racers Hall of Fame in 2014.

After retiring from auto racing, he continued to preserve history by restoring racecars and was a member of the board of directors for the New England Racing Museum.

Throughout his life, Jim was a distinguished Ipswich

hockey and softball coach. Jim was a co-founder and president of the Ipswich Youth Hockey program.

He also proudly led the Ipswich High School varsity hockey team to the state finals at the Boston Garden.

He took extreme pride in the extended family he created over the years by shaping young minds, many of whom lovingly refer to him as being a “second father.”

Of all the people he touched, his most proud achievement in life was marrying his lifelong love Barbara Ann Sklarz who supported him in all his glory during his heyday and whom he passionately supported during her last days.

Along with his wife, Jim will now join his late son, Keith A. Martel, and Arthur R. Martel Jr., his brother.

Jim is survived by his children: Cheryl (Chuck) Handley, Marci (Rande) Wile, Lori Martel, J. Scott (Kathy) Martel; grandchildren Amanda Riddle, Colby (Ashley) Gorniewicz, Cassie (Patrick) Cameron, Ashley (Katie) Roes, Caila Gorniewicz, Paige Proctor, Jaime Martel, Brooke Martel; great-grandchildren, Zoe Clarke, Blake Roes, Nolan James Gorniewicz, and Emmet Roes; sister Linda Mueller; many nieces and nephews; and beloved pet companions Lucy and Beau.

A funeral Mass of Christian burial was held on Monday, October 3, 2022, in Our Lady of Hope Church, followed by interment in the Highland Cemetery, Ipswich.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in his name may be made to New England Racing Museum (922 NH-106, Loudon, NH 03307) or Care Dimensions (75 Sylvan Street, Suite B-102, Danvers, MA 01923).

For directions and or to leave condolences, please visit [www.Whittier-Porter.com](http://www.Whittier-Porter.com).



### LEGAL NOTICE

Residents of the Town of Ipswich, the Ipswich Planning Board will hold a public hearing at a meeting on Thursday, October 20, 2022, beginning at 7 p.m. in Room A (and with the option for remote participation using ZOOM with details on the meeting agenda posted with the Town Clerk) on the application by ANFM Realty LLC for a Special Permit for a residential mixed use project (adding 3 units within existing building) at 25 Market Street (Assessor’s Map 42A Lot 211), which is located in the Central Business District, pursuant but not necessarily limited to Sections V.D, VI, VII, IX.I, and XI.J. of the Zoning Bylaw.

The application is on file with the Town Clerk and Planning Office. For more information call 978-356-6607.

### LEGAL NOTICE

Residents of the Town of Ipswich, the Ipswich Planning Board will hold a public hearing at a meeting on Thursday, October 20, 2022, beginning at 7 p.m. in Room A (and with the option for remote participation using ZOOM with details on the meeting agenda posted with the Town Clerk) on the application by ANFM Realty LLC for a Special Permit for a residential mixed use project (adding 7 units within existing buildings) at 21-23 Market Street (Assessor’s Map 42A Lot 212), which is located in the Central Business District, pursuant but not necessarily limited to Sections V.D, VI, VII, IX.I, and XI.J. of the Zoning Bylaw.

The application is on file with the Town Clerk and Planning Office. For more information, call 978-356-6607.

### LEGAL NOTICE

Residents of the Town of Ipswich, the Ipswich Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 20, 2022, at a meeting beginning at 7 p.m. in Room A (the Board also aims to offer remote participation with login information to be provided in agenda posted with Town Clerk and on Town website) on the application of New England Biolabs, Inc. for a Modification of the 3/12/2001 GEPD Special Permit to determine the new allowable floor area using the calculation in Section IX.H.3.b.i of the Zoning Bylaw (which allows new floor area for dwelling lots that could be created under normal application of one-acre zoning) at New England Biolabs, Inc.’s property at 214 & 240 County Road (Assessor’s Map 63, Lots 2 and 7), located in the Rural Residence A District (and on NEB’s GEPD lot).

The application is on file with the Town Clerk and Planning Office in Town Hall and posted on the Town’s website. For more information, call 978-356-6607.

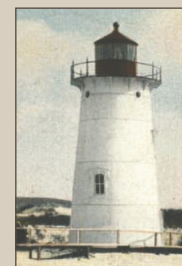
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see LIGHT MANAGER on page 31

one that demands day-to-day attention and skill," he said.

Referring to Articles 11 (approving town contracts) and 12 on the warrant, Craft said, "I get the feeling part of our problem is we don't play well together."

He said town officials could overcome that by keeping themselves better informed and added that the proposal puts the ELD's flexibility and ability to move quickly at risk.

FinCom member Jamie Fay said Article 12 looked like the select board was making the town manager the ELD manager.

If they "feel overburdened by responsibility," they should set up a separate elected committee, as some other communities do.

Player countered that would mean a new organization with its own human resources, IT, and back-end staff, which would lead to rate increases.

"At face value, it makes sense," said FinCom chair Michael Dougherty, but he added that he was concerned about the lack of discussion with Blair and the electric subcommittee.

Since a town charter change is being suggested, he said the town government study committee should also be consulted.

FinCom member Walter Hartford said some of the reporting from the ELD is "insufficient" and that he would like more insight into its finances.

#### Demotion

But, he said, he was not sure change is needed now, adding, "I think Jon does a fantastic job on the operations."

FinCom member Michael Schaaf is also a member of the electric subcommittee, and he also spoke against Article 12.

"This department is a star," he said and contrasted likely electric rate increases of 25% against Na-

tional Grid's 125%.

Schaff said low rates, innovation, and finding federal grants for home energy improvements were all done under Blair.

The ELD also partially pays some of senior town salaries and works closely with officials on bonding and finances, he added.

"It is much more of a business, a social enterprise," he said.

Referring to incoming town manager Stephen Crane's experience with Sen. John Kerry and Rep. Gerald Kleczka over 20 years ago,

Schaaf said, "We're going to put a journalist town manager as the manager of the electric light department? Oh, boy."

"This is a demotion for him — very clearly a demotion," Schaaf said of Article 12's treatment of Blair.

## ROWLEY PLANNING BOARD LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to G.L., c. 40A, §11, and M.G.L., Ch. 40A, §5, and Section 7.8 of the Rowley Protective Zoning Bylaw (ZBL), and the Rowley Planning Board Rules and Regulations, notice is hereby given that the **Rowley Planning Board will hold the following public hearings during a public meeting to be held on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, starting at 7:00 p.m.** in the Town Hall 2nd floor auditorium located at 139 Main Street, Rowley, MA:

**7 p.m.:** Pursuant to ZBL Sections 4.7.3(f) and 7.8 (Special Permits), a hearing for a Special Permit application submitted by Chic Party Carts of 26 River Street, Middleton, MA, on behalf of Gateway Realty Trust, property owner, of 239 Western Avenue, Essex MA, for Warehouse/Distribution to be located in a 1,500 SF unit of building located at 32 Forest Ridge Drive, also identified as Map 7, Lot 9, which is also located in the Business Light Industry (BLI) zoning district.

**7:10 p.m.:** Pursuant to ZBL Sections 4.7.3(f) & (g) and 7.8 (Special Permits), a hearing for a Special Permit application submitted by Michael Massaro of 10 Boardman Lane, Topsfield, MA, on behalf of Gateway Realty Trust, property owner, of 239 Western Avenue, Essex, MA, for Warehouse/Distribution and Self-storage to be located in a 1,500 SF unit of building located at 32 Forest Ridge Drive also identified as Map 7, Lot 9, which is also located in the Business Light Industry (BLI) zoning district.

The applications, plans, and relevant documents are on file with the Rowley Planning Board, and are available for public inspection at the Rowley Planning Board Office, Town Hall Annex, 39 Central Street, during public office hours.

Chris Thornton  
Planning Board Chairman

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Ipswich Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing remotely via Zoom video conferencing on **Thursday, October 13, 2022, at 7 p.m.** to act on the following petitions pursuant to the Ipswich Protective Zoning Bylaw:

**44 High Street:** Ryan McShera, Red Barn Architecture requests a special permit and/or variance pursuant to, but not necessarily limited to Sections XI.J and XI.K and VI.F to tearing down and reconstruct a portion of an existing nonconforming accessory building, all within the same footprint. The subject property is located in the In Town Residential (IR) District and is shown on the Ipswich Assessor's Map 30D, Lot 033.

**50-56 Market Street:** 50-56 Market St, LLC requests a variance pursuant to, but not necessarily limited to Sections and XI.K and VII.B.1 to reduce the number of required spaces to 1.5 spaces per unit which are two (2) bedrooms or less. The subject property is located in the Central Business (CB) District and shown on the Ipswich Assessor's Map 42A, Lot 202.

*The ZBA will participate in this meeting remotely via Zoom video conferencing in accordance with the Governor's March 12 Order suspending provisions of Open Meeting Law and to promote public health and social distancing. Please see agenda meeting notice on the Town's website for remote access and participation. A live link and phone access number will be posted on the agenda meeting notice on the Town's website.*

Petitions may be viewed at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, 25 Green Street.

Robert Gambale, Chairman  
Ipswich Zoning Board of Appeals

## CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON

Pursuant to G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court • Probate and Family Court

Docket # ES22P2720GD

Essex Probate and Family Court • 36 Federal Street, Salem, MA 01970

In the matter of **Kathleen A. Brennan** of Ipswich, MA.

RESPONDENT: Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Mary M. Brennan of New York, N.Y., and John W. Brennan of Charlestown, MA**, in the above captioned matter alleging that **Kathleen A. Brennan** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Mary M. Brennan of New York, N.Y., and John W. Brennan of Charlestown, MA**, (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

**You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10 a.m. on the return date of **10/31/2022**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE: The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.**

**WITNESS, Hon. Frances M. Giordano, First Justice of this Court. Date: September 22, 2022.**



## The North Shore's Premier Real Estate Agency



**Hamilton** **\$3,985,000**  
Savin Hill - Charm and livability throughout this 1919 Georgian-style home on 15 acres plus modern updates, au pair/in-law suite, artisan moldings, 12-foot ceilings. Direct trail access.

Gretchen Berg



**Amesbury** **\$2,900,000**  
Fully renovated, glass-front, waterfront home has 60' boat dock, mooring, 3 lighted decks, 2 distinct living areas, 2 gourmet kitchens and galley kitchen. Spectacular Merrimack River views.

Sheila MacDonald



**Newburyport** **\$2,349,900**  
The Ebenezer Hale House. Lovely period millwork, 5 fireplaces, high ceilings, modern updates, and sprawling living spaces. Open chef's kitchen-family room, master wing and legal 4-room apartment.

Nancy Peterson



**Beverly** **\$1,899,999**  
Elegant east-facing, 1st-floor end unit at Frick Estate renovated by Windover Construction offers 14' ceilings, custom kitchen, reimagined primary suite, private entrance, and gated patio.

Alle Cutler



**Newburyport** **\$1,465,000**  
Luxurious Colonial, completely renovated in 2020 with 5 spacious bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths and custom chef's kitchen. Living room and sunroom with lots of natural light, 2-car garage and close to downtown.

Josephine Mehm Baker



New Construction



**Ipswich** Starting at \$800k's to \$1M+

Farm Village Phase III. Beautiful brand new, architect-designed homes range from 2,300-2,857sf adjacent to 40+acres open space. Near Downtown. Several designs, 2-car garages. Ready in 2023!

e.d. dick group



**Wenham** **\$1,350,000**  
Don't miss out! Last 2 newly constructed luxurious 2-bedroom, 2.5-bath open concept attached homes with deck at 55+ active adult community, Wenham Pines to be completed by end of the year.

Deb Evans & Alle Cutler



**Wenham** **\$1,350,000**  
Stately 5-bedroom, 4-bathroom Colonial has a tennis court, indoor pool, bar, game room, home theater, an updated kitchen, elegant living and dining rooms, office, and a 3-car garage.

Deb Evans



**Danvers** **\$1,100,000**  
Custom Contemporary with direct water access and fantastic views. Complete with 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, soaring ceilings, spacious deck and 2-car garage.

Kristin Kelly



**Danvers** **\$825,000**  
Original Samuel Putnam ca. 1800 Colonial on 1.1 acres has 2 staircases, hardwood floors, storybook treed yard, stone patio. Updated granite-stainless kitchen, 4+ bedrooms, 3 updated baths.

Holly Baldassare



**Gloucester** **\$799,000**  
Stunning Little River views, deeded river rights, spectacular Arts & Crafts kitchen, custom bath, mahogany deck, and luscious yard are some highlights of this unforgettable 3-bedroom home.

Jackelyn Enslow



**Ipswich** **\$774,900**  
Immaculate expanded Cape with 1st floor office/bedroom and fabulous in-law suite offers versatile layout, large family room, eat-in kitchen with exposed beams. Deck, pool, 1-car garage.

Josephine Mehm Baker



**Ipswich** **\$699,000**  
Period details are everywhere in this charming c. 1775 Antique with 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, spacious kitchen, and deck overlooking beautiful .57-acre lot. Option for 1st floor bedroom.

Debbie Aminzadeh

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J Barrett & Company, LLC supports the principles of both the Fair Housing and the Equal Opportunity Acts.

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