

Math medley
at Edgartown school **B6**

Martha Vanderhoop's
elegant jewelry **B10**

MV Times

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Martha's Vineyard Medical to launch Tick Center

Independent practice wants to set 'national standard' for care of tick-borne conditions as hospital plans to open up-Island tick-bite clinic.

BY HAYLEY DUFFY

A new medical initiative plans to expand care, especially through holistic approaches, to serve Islanders who experience health issues caused by ticks.

Martha's Vineyard Medical announced Tuesday that the practice will open the Tick Center, a specialty center for patients who suffer from tick-borne illnesses and alpha-gal syndrome, in May. The aim of the center is to provide tools to manage symptoms, immune dysfunction, nutritional challenges, and impacts to a person's quality of life.

"The Tick Center pairs clinical medicine with a coordinated team of integrative health providers, offering a model of whole-patient care for tick-related health conditions not previously available on the Vineyard," a press release from Martha's Vineyard Medical said.

Plans for this center come as tick-borne conditions increasingly become a public health crisis on the Island, where the press release said nearly half of alpha-gal tests are positive; alpha-gal is an allergy to mammalian products like meat and dairy, triggered by the bite of a lone star tick.

This new medical initiative also corresponds to other efforts, such as those by Tick Free MV, to reduce the number of tick-borne diseases and allergies on Martha's Vineyard, especially through management of the Island's abundant deer population, and the state Department of Public Health's decision to make alpha-gal a reportable condition. Deer often serve as hosts for ticks, and are seen as a vector through which tick-borne conditions spread.

It was also revealed *Continued on A8*



COURTESY VINEYARD CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Earth Day: Remembering what it's all about

Islanders of all ages fanned out Wednesday across beaches from Edgartown to Aquinnah, and down nature trails from Sengekontacket (as shown in this photo) to Squibnocket, to roll up their sleeves and clean up trash in honor of Earth Day. Launched in 1970, the day of action now pulls together over a billion people in more than 200 countries to focus on the plight of the planet from pollution and the consequences of climate change. Read our editorial about why it is important to remember what the day is supposed to be all about. *Page A4.*

Judge hands Vineyard Wind a victory over GE, at least for now

Huge turbines keep turning while legal battles continue to spin.

BY HAYLEY DUFFY

A federal judge gave officials at Vineyard Wind 1 what they wanted late last week and, potentially, Massachusetts residents the energy they need, when he ordered the project's central contractor GE Vernova to stay on the job, and not be allowed to break their contract on the offshore wind farm.

Judge Peter Krupp, associate justice of the Suffolk County Superior Court in Boston, granted officials at Vineyard Wind 1 a preliminary injunction and temporary restraining order, which means GE Vernova can't terminate, at least for now, a contract that guarantees the company provides service and maintenance to the project's 62 turbines

Continued on A9

Chilmark voters show up

Residents packed the town's library to meet select board candidates, but one did not show. BY NICHOLAS VUKOTA

A large crowd packed into the Chilmark library on Monday evening to hear from candidates running for a seat on the town's select board, just over a week before the town's annual election.

The candidates' forum, hosted by the League of Women Voters of Martha's Vineyard, gave candidates in town a chance to introduce themselves. Most residents attended in anticipation of getting to know the select board candidates, ask them questions, and hear their ideas head-to-head, but one candidate, who launched an 11th hour write-in campaign, was not there.

In attendance was Rebecca Haag, who is well-known in her leadership roles at Island Grown Initiative and as board chair of the Martha's Vineyard Hospital and elsewhere. She is on the town ballot for the select board. She introduced herself at the meeting and stood before the packed audience, answering a barrage of questions from residents.

Not present in person was Katherine Carroll, who wrote a statement which was

Continued on A9



NICHOLAS VUKOTA

More than 40 residents packed the Chilmark Library for a candidate forum.



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M.V. Family Campground acquired by national resort company

The purchase is the latest in a string of family-owned and local businesses that have recently shuttered or changed hands.

BY SARAH SHAW DAWSON

The Island's only family campground, with 180 campsites and dozens of cabins and RV sites that pepper the woods in Tisbury during the summer, was acquired last Wednesday by a holding company that has a wide portfolio of campsites and resorts across the country.

Northgate Holdings, a Michigan-based holding company that Northgate Resorts operates under, purchased Martha's Vineyard Family Campground, located at 569 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road, last week. The news of the acquisition comes just a month after the death of longtime operator Dan Feeney, the son of the founders of the campground.

Chelsea Bossenbroek, general counsel for Northgate Resorts, told The Times that the purchasing agreement was in place before Feeney's death.

"Northgate hopes to build on the amazing legacy of the Feeney family," Bossenbroek said. "We were very sorry that he passed away prior to the sale closing."

Northgate is a family-owned company, just like the campground, Bossenbroek said. She added that the group isn't planning on making changes to the campground for the upcoming summer season.

"Whenever Northgate acquires campgrounds, especially campgrounds that have been owned and operated by the same family in some cases, for generations, we make changes in a thoughtful way. As such, we do not have any immediate plans to make changes this season," Bossenbroek said.

The new ownership is the latest in a trend of the loss of locally owned businesses. Is-

land Music, the Tisbury location of Mocha Mott's, Phillips Hardware, and Grey Barn are just a few in the past year alone. Some of these closures represented a cultural shift as well as a physical one, such as Island Music, which was a hard pill to swallow for local musicians, who spoke about the implications for the music community. Others, like Linda Jean's closure, created a gap that was recently filled, in this case by the newly established Highlands General.

Now the campground has joined these ranks, although the effect of the change in hands is yet to be seen. The Feeney's were not immediately available for comment.

"Martha's Vineyard is one of those rare places that families return to year after year, and for decades, the Feeney family poured their hearts into building a destination that generations of campers have come to love," Zachary Bossenbroek, chief executive officer of Northgate Resorts, and Chelsea's brother, said in a press release.

The M.V. Family Campground land was purchased in 1960 by Charles and Jeanne Feeney, and was officially opened to the public in 1972. Back then, it was one of three public campgrounds. In 1988, Dan Feeney took over day-to-day management from his parents. He oversaw the company until his death this March, when the campground went to the next generation, according to his obituary.

The use of the campground has varied over the years. Some Vineyarders have resided on the campsites as one response to the "Island shuffle," a phenomenon where locals are unable to find year-round rentals



An RV parked at the M.V. Family Campground.

SARAH SHAW DAWSON

and have to move out of their homes in the summer months.

For the Island specifically, hospitality is a huge economic driver, according to a 2023 statistical report from the Martha's Vineyard Commission. In Tisbury, specifically, leisure and hospitality make up 11 percent of the establishments in the town, and employ a monthly average of 12 percent of local workers, according to commission data from 2022.

Many facets of the hospitality industry thrive primarily in the summer, especially lodging. Hotels, motels, campgrounds — even short-term rentals from individual homeowners — all peak in the warmer months.

Camping is a \$66 billion industry in North America, with a swell in participation during and immediately after the COVID-19 pandemic that has remained slightly elevated since, according to a report by Kampgrounds of America, Inc., an organization that collects campground data in the U.S. and Canada.

"We are hopeful that Northgate will be a welcome addition to the Martha's Vineyard community as the next family-owned operator and steward of this special place," Chelsea Bossenbroek told The Times. **MVT**

news in brief

Monomoy enters SSA service

It's been a long wait, but the MV Monomoy, last of three sister vessels converted by the Steamship Authority (SSA) to be used as a freight ferry, entered service on Friday.

According to a press release from the SSA, the Monomoy arrived at the Hyannis terminal at 11:30 am, where it loaded 10 cars, seven trucks, and a school bus before departing for Nantucket. The vessel arrived at the Nantucket terminal at 2:45 pm, and a brief commissioning celebration was held on the island, where SSA General Manager Alex Kryska performed the ceremonial christening before the vessel was reloaded for its next departure.

"The MV Monomoy entering service is an important milestone for the Steamship Authority's four-year project to modernize its fleet with the purchase of these three vessels," Kryska said in the release. "Having three like-new vessels with an identical design provides significant operational upgrades for our operation, including the interchangeability of spare parts and commonalities in crew training. They will provide reliable, efficient service to our customers and the islands for decades to come."

The Monomoy is one of three vessels purchased by the SSA in 2022 from Louisiana-based Hornbeck Offshore Services. The Monomoy was converted at Alabama Shipyard, as were the Aquinnah and the Barnstable, which were commissioned in 2024 and 2025, respectively. According to the release, the conversion costs were partly



STEAMSHIP AUTHORITY

The Monomoy entered Hyannis on April 17 for its first day with the SSA.

covered by an agreement with the Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority that "yielded \$28.1 million in federal funding."

Still, the ferry line faced troubles when funding the project. The cost of converting the three offshore supply vessels exceeded the Steamship Authority's estimate of \$9 million per boat, with the lowest bid coming in at \$20 million. The ferry line was able to negotiate the price down to \$13.7 million each for the Aquinnah and the Barnstable and \$17 million for the Monomoy.

The Monomoy first arrived in Massachusetts in January at the SSA vessel

maintenance facility in Fairhaven, where it remained berthed for its final outfitting and U.S. Coast Guard inspections until 8 am on Friday.

The release states the Monomoy had been "bisected and its midbody removed," resulting in its current length of 245 feet. The vessel has two Caterpillar engines, each rated at 2,000 horsepower, two controllable pitch propellers, and three 950-horsepower thrusters to "allow greater maneuverability."

"The vessel also boasts state-of-the-art

Continued on A3

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Will cell towers come to Chilmark?

Voters will also decide on overrides, new holidays. **BY EUNKI SEONWOO**

Chilmark voters may have the opportunity to usher in infrastructure for better cellular connectivity soon.

Chilmark has 34 warrant articles to consider for its upcoming annual town meeting, which is scheduled to be held on April 27 at the Chilmark Community Center, starting at 7 pm.

Among these articles is a set of seven ballot questions, three of which involve asking voters whether cellular infrastructure should be allowed in the town to improve coverage, such as permitting “traditional macro cellular telephone towers.” The other two questions ask for more specific measures for cellular infrastructure, such as installing a cell site at Peaked Hill near the existing tower

used by the U.S. Coast Guard, and other first responders. Another question pertains to building and leasing up to two macro cellular tower sites.

Spotty cell phone connectivity has long been an issue in Chilmark, even being raised as a public safety concern by first responders. But the installation of cell towers was banned in the town around 15 years ago, forcing companies to use other options.

While there was a proposal from Verizon to boost connectivity in town, the proposal was rejected by the Chilmark Select Board in January because it was deemed an unfair advantage to Verizon and its customers over other carriers. That led Verizon to file a federal lawsuit against the town last

month in an attempt to reverse the decision.

Even if the ballot questions are approved at town meeting, voters will need to again approve them during the annual town election on April 29 at the Chilmark

Community Center.

The remaining four ballot questions involve override requests, which also need to be approved by voters in the town election. These include \$252,210 to partially cover costs of up-Island re-

gional schools, \$48,283 toward the town’s share of the the Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School budget, \$43,427 for an additional full-time EMT, and \$24,044 to extend operational hours of the Chilmark library.

The Chilmark Select Board held a public hearing about the overrides on Tuesday evening. Tim Carroll, town administrator, highlighted that the overrides are needed to cover rising costs of ser-

vices and salaries. They would also keep the budget increase to around 6.1 percent over last year. The town is proposing a \$16.31 million budget for fiscal year 2027; the budget for fiscal year 2026 was \$15.38 million. Carroll also said during the hearing that Chilmark tends to utilize overrides every three years to cover increased costs of services.

Meanwhile, the majority of the rest of Chilmark’s warrant articles include expenditure requests, including regional services like \$90,951 to Dukes County programs. The town is also looking to spend \$60,000 for a rapid food-waste recycler to be placed at the local drop-off station.

Additionally, the town is proposing to add Juneteenth and Indigenous Peoples’ Day as holidays observed by the town.

Chilmark is also considering updates to some of its by-laws, including the wetland protection bylaw and the short-term rental bylaw. **MVT**



A Verizon truck driving down Beach Road in Tisbury.

EUNKI SEONWOO

news in brief

Continued from A2

radar, communications, and navigation systems, two marine evacuation systems and a rescue boat, and an interior passenger area with seating for approximately 80 passengers,” the release states. “The vessel can carry the equivalent of approximately 50 automobiles per trip.”

The vessel was named the Monomoy after a 2022 naming contest, which received more than 8,000 entries. Laura Wulfson of Boston, who suggested the winning Monomoy name, was selected as the winner of a \$250 SSA gift card.

Bourne Bridge to be reduced to single lane

Islanders who need to drive to Boston or return home can expect delays if the route includes the Bourne Bridge.

According to a press release from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ (USACE) New England District, “critical maintenance work” will reduce the bridge to a single lane in each direction starting April 27. The lane restrictions are expected to be in effect until “no later May 20, 2026.”

The work on the bridge includes replacement of the pavement surface, repairs to steel joints damaged from snowplowing during the winter, and maintenance to the roadway lights and drains. The sidewalk on the bridge will also be closed for around a week at the start of construction.

“Motorists planning to use the Bourne Bridge should expect travel delays likely to occur during the morning and afternoon

peak travel periods each day,” the release reads. “Traffic signs, cones, message boards, and police details will be used to delineate the work zones.”

According to USACE, the maintenance work is critical to maintaining the structural integrity of the Bourne Bridge, “a vital component to the transportation system of Cape Cod, the Islands, and Southern Massachusetts.”

Travelers can also try their luck over the Sagamore Bridge, which is just under 10 minutes away. No work is currently planned for the Sagamore Bridge; the state plans to start construction work to replace the aging bridge starting in the winter of 2027.

SSA student art contest underway

There’s still time for Vineyard students to submit artwork for the Steamship Authority’s (SSA) annual art contest.

The SSA is accepting entries for its 11th annual “Sail into Imagination” art contests for students, from kindergarteners to high school seniors, living on Martha’s Vineyard, Cape Cod, and Nantucket, and in Fairhaven or New Bedford. Entries are due by May 29.

The contest theme is “The Sea and Me,” and students are asked to “share their connections to the sea and the Steamship Authority,” according to a press release from the ferry line. Artwork must feature an SSA ferry, but otherwise artists have freedom in how they interpret the theme.

“The annual student art contest is one of our most popular traditions, and I’m thrilled to see the creative talents of our local students on display,” Alex Kryska, SSA

general manager, said in the release.

The winning pieces of art will be featured in the 2027 SSA calendar, and displayed on the SSA’s website and some ferries. Winners will also be awarded gift cards for passenger travel aboard ferries. All entrants will be entered into a grand prize drawing for a \$150 Visa gift card. Winners will be announced on the ferry line’s website later this year.

Students can submit artwork by mail, or by dropping off their submissions at a Steamship Authority terminal. Entries submitted by mail should be directed to the SSA’s Communications and Marketing Department, 228 Palmer Ave., Falmouth, MA 02540.

For official contest rules, entry instructions, or to download a contest/entry/release form, visit steamshipauthority.com/sailintoimagination.

Chief nurse named at the hospital

The Martha’s Vineyard Hospital has announced that Renee Clancy, the longtime executive director of nursing, was appointed the new chief nursing officer.

The role was previously held by the new president and chief operating officer, Claire Seguin. Clancy has been a member of the hospital’s nursing leadership team for six years, according to a press release this month.

“What makes the nursing community at Martha’s Vineyard Hospital so extraordinary is the heart behind the work,” Clancy said in the release. “My vision is to ensure Martha’s Vineyard Hospital is not only a place where nurses deliver exceptional care, but also where they feel empowered, inspired, and proud to grow their careers. The future of nursing here is incredibly bright, and I’m excited to lead what comes next.”

Clancy has over 20 years of experience in the healthcare field, having worked in two other Massachusetts hospitals prior to joining the Martha’s Vineyard team.

Clancy is from Dover, and started her career as a perioperative nurse at Lowell General Hospital, where she was later promoted to nurse manager of perioperative and procedural services.

A few years later, Clancy was the nursing director of adult and pediatric gastroenterology services and the interim nursing manager of the outpatient surgery service at Newton-Wellesley Hospital. She then joined the staff as nursing director for perioperative services at Martha’s Vineyard Hospital, “where she led significant improvements in clinical opera-



COURTESY MARTHA’S VINEYARD HOSPITAL

Renee Clancy, the new chief nursing officer at Martha’s Vineyard Hospital.

tions and invested in developing emerging leaders to ensure continuity and sustained performance,” the release states.

“Beyond her professional strengths, Renee is deeply committed to this organization, the people we serve, and the Island community,” Seguin said in the release. “She understands our culture, our challenges, and our opportunities, and she shows up every day ready to do the work in collaboration with all team members. She leads with both accountability and heart.” **MVT**

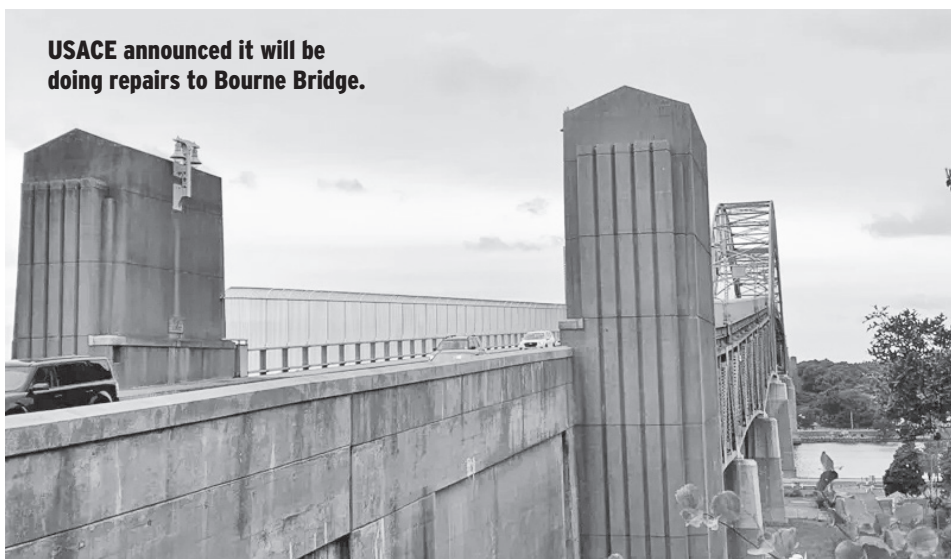
corrections

In the story “Island family stranded in Canada after visa renewal denial,” it was stated that the ICE operation on the Island occurred in March 2025 due to an editing error. It occurred in May 2025.

In the story “Big issues loom, but few seats are contested in town elections,” Joanna Jernegan is not the current administrative assistant in the Tisbury town clerk office. She retired in October.

In the story “High school building costs for year-rounders sharpen into focus,” it was stated that the debt service added to the \$333.5 figure for the high school building project is \$47 million. That number is actually an estimated \$188 million. The \$47 million amount is the difference between a level debt and level principal-repayment model, not the total debt service overall.

USACE announced it will be doing repairs to Bourne Bridge.



EUNKI SEONWOO

EDITORIAL

Earth Day: Remembering what it's all about

We've lost the plot, and there is no better day than Earth Day to remind us what really matters among the contentious legal battles around Vineyard Wind. What really matters is how offshore wind can serve us all as a tool for the climate crisis and the imminent energy crisis.

There's just too much focus, on the part of both offshore wind developers and news organizations, on the numerous courtroom dramas brought on by the federal government, multinational corporations, and contractors on the project. None of us can seem to remember why efforts to put 800-foot turbines in the seabed started in the first place.

Amid all of the billable hours, the unpredictable politics of the Trump administration, the lack of transparency by Vineyard Wind, and the pass-the-buck approach of the GE contractor, we want to make sure we see that offshore wind is all about how renewable energy can help the planet. No matter how one feels about Vineyard Wind, we need to support renewable energy and wean ourselves off the use of fossil fuels. We need to rely rather on power from sources like wind, solar, and hydro, that replenish faster than they are consumed.

In a courtroom in Boston last Thursday, a superior court judge, after arguments between attorneys from Vineyard Wind and GE Vernova, which manufactured and installed the blades on the project and now wants to leave the contract, said, "Let's not miss the big elephant in the room."

For the judge, associate justice of the Suffolk County Superior Court Peter B. Krupp, the elephant in the room was how much money Vineyard Wind believes GE Vernova owes it (as much as \$850 million) because of a two-year delay caused by the blade failure in 2024.

But that's not the real elephant in the room. It's not the millions of dollars that one wealthy company thinks the other owes. The elephant in the room is that every day, temperatures and sea levels rise and weather becomes more extreme, as people pollute the Earth and expend more and more of our finite resources.

Earth Day, which took place on Wednesday, April 22, was established in 1970 to demonstrate support for environmental protection, and we'd like to highlight the efforts of Islanders to make a difference, even a small one, here on the ground.

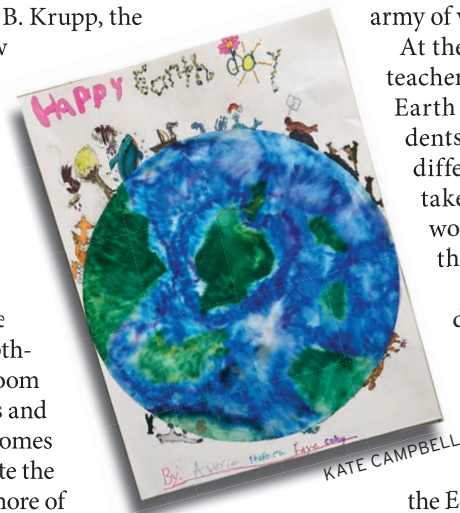
This past weekend, locals of all ages rolled up

their sleeves, donned gloves, and carried trash bags to clean beaches across the Island as part of a coordinated effort by the Vineyard Conservation Society. At Eastville Beach in Vineyard Haven on Saturday, the shore was littered with containers, cigarette butts, wood planks with rusted nails, and bright balloon strings, all of which were picked up by a small army of volunteers.

At the Edgartown School, art teacher Nicole Shank marked Earth Day and helped students make posters depicting different ways they could take care of the Earth. That work now hangs around the school's hallways.

"We want students to understand the importance and value of taking care of our school, our town, our Island, and the Earth's environment," Kate Campbell, principal of the Edgartown School, said.

The Island is known for its fierce spirit of conservation, and these are but a few examples of this tradition. We hope that even amid the polarization of the times we live in and the seemingly endless legal battles surrounding the offshore wind industry, we remember that the Earth belongs to all of us, and we need to take care of it.



LETTERS

Thank you for Howes House funding

To the Editor:

The Up-Island Council on Aging (UICOA) board was reconfigured in 2023, with three appointed members from each up-Island town. A strategic planning subcommittee was formed at the first meeting. The board engaged the Gerontology Institute at UMass Boston in 2024 to conduct a community assessment. The staff and board held a daylong retreat to identify challenges and opportunities, and define the UICOA's vision. We have been working with Bethany Hammond, the director of the UICOA, on developing a three-year strategic plan for the Council on Aging that can meet not just the present needs of our seniors and their families, but also the future needs of our communities.

One of the first goals was to improve transportation for our seniors. To that end, Bethany successfully applied for a Massachusetts Department of Transportation grant for a mobility manager, and the use of a handicapped-accessible van for the council.

This month, West Tisbury approved a warrant article to fund minor changes to Howes House to create a safer, more welcoming environment, and make staff spaces more accessible to the public.

Because of the importance of the strategic plan, we will be seeking public input in each of the towns; we look forward to hearing your ideas and concerns.

Beth Kramer
West Tisbury UICOA representative

Concerned about finding housing that's affordable in Tisbury?

To the Editor:

If you're concerned about finding housing that is affordable in Tisbury, we urge you to make your voice heard and vote count at the Tisbury Town Meeting, April 28, 7 pm, Tisbury School.

Here are the bare facts: Tisbury has 4,900-plus residents, 1,900 households, 3,121 housing units of which 53 percent (1,668) are occupied by residents (that's 232 fewer than the number of households), and 47 percent (1,458) are unoccupied (used seasonally, short-term, or empty). Between 400 and 700-plus of non-resident occupied units are used for short-term rentals.

Dukes County Regional Housing Authority has a certified-eligible waiting list of 357 tenants; 122 (nearly a third) of those tenants are from

Tisbury. DCRHA currently rents nine units in Tisbury, of a total 102 Island-wide.

The median sale price of a home in Tisbury in 2024 was \$1,500,000. Annual rental-rate data ranges from \$3,600-plus to \$15,000-plus per month (skewed by short-term rates).

The annual Town Meeting has warrant articles that will:

1. Ask the town to adopt a Massachusetts law that allows towns to provide a property tax exemption or reduction (like the residential exemption) for property owners who rent their properties annually to tenants who meet criteria for affordable housing (STM No. 7).
2. Ask the town to change the zoning bylaw approved at the Dec. 17, 2024, Special Town Meeting by removing the limit on the number of nights a property can be rented on a short-term basis. It is now 75 nights per year (STM No. 24).
3. Has a variety of articles that fund the Tisbury Housing Trust, and Dukes County Regional Housing Authority, at the same levels approved in previous town meetings.

The Tisbury affordable housing committee (TAHC) proposed to expand affordable housing

opportunities by making it attractive to use existing nonresident housing for annual rentals.

Using existing but underused housing stock is less expensive and more immediate than building new units on difficult-to-find lots. Therefore, the TAHC urges voters to:

1. Support Special Town Meeting article 7 to adopt Massachusetts General Law allowing property-tax exemptions for properties rented on an affordable basis. A tax break to add 20 year-round rentals would only mean a reduction of about \$60,000 in total tax revenue.

2. Reject Special Town Meeting Article 24, which allows unlimited use of short-term rental properties by removing the 75-night limit approved at STM in December 2024. This provision encourages further erosion of Tisbury housing to STR, and benefits mainly the nonresident owners (two-thirds of total) of STRs in the town.

3. Support Special and annual Town Meeting articles that fund DCRHA rentals and Tisbury Housing Trust, to expand affordable housing opportunities for residents.

Victor Capoccia, chair
Tisbury affordable housing committee

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Note to Readers

The Times welcomes Letters to the Editor on subjects of interest to Islanders. Each letter must include the name, address, and phone number of the writer. No exceptions, no anonymous letters, no pen names. All letters are subject to editing for style, taste, sense, and conciseness. A thousand words is the outer limit. We publish most letters, but not all. The editor chooses. Letters will normally be published in the week they are received, but not always. The Times accepts letters by mail, e-mail, and posted online at mvtimes.com (click on Submissions link). **MVT**



MVTimes mvtimes.com

Join us for a publisher's forum marking World Press Freedom Day on Sunday, May 3 from 4 to 6 pm

Meet members of our staff, ask questions, and hear from Charles Sennott, the publisher of The Times, about the state of local news at our office at 30 Beach Road. Weather permitting, we'll head over to Boch Park next door.

Enjoy refreshments and a free T shirt.

Please RSVP by sending an email directly to publisher@mvtimes.com, with the subject heading "Local News Matters."

VINEYARD GALLERY



KRISTÓFER RABASCA

ESSAY

Vote yes for a new high school

BY JEAN HAY

In the MV Times edition of April 2, there were two articles of interest — one focused on the evolving changes in the English offerings at the high school, and one about the creative work-study program that helps high school students explore areas that excite them, alongside their academic studies. These articles give us an awareness of how much our public high school offers its students. It is now past time for all of us to examine and then vote on June 2, regarding the very real and immediate need for a rebuild of the current high school building, which, as noted in a Vineyard Gazette article dated Feb. 25, “was first built in 1959, and has long-outdated heating and air handling equipment, dilapidated roofs that leak, and classroom space that no longer meets education codes. Some of the core systems are old, and very expensive to maintain. There is asbestos and mold, and a variety of deteriorating factors.”

My daughter is a Tisbury resident who grew up on the Island, attended both the Tisbury School and MVRHS, and now has her own child in the school system. She gave an immediate YES as soon as she heard that there were environmental problems in the high school’s existing building. “We know we need a better school, and

I hope we can provide that to the students and educators as quickly as possible,” was her succinct summary of this situation. I, too, was inclined toward yes, but I wanted to learn as much as possible, for my own understanding and so I can be an advocate in my conversations with my fellow community members about this project.

Since January, our M.V. Regional High School Building Committee has been holding public presentations to give us an understanding of why and what our high school needs. I have attended three of these presentations, and am concerned about the low attendance. It occurred to me that perhaps many people in our community believe that this project will be included in the upcoming town meetings, and they can learn and ask questions at that time.

However, the high school committee has chosen a different path for this vote, in the hope of avoiding the recent situation faced by the town of Tisbury. In that town in 2018, the original proposal to renovate the elementary school, which included a substantial amount of state funding, was narrowly voted down at the ballot after it passed in town meeting. Unfortunately, the necessity of addressing the growing needs of the student community and rehabilitating the unsafe health conditions in the building remained. Tisbury ultimately voted favorably in 2021 for a rebuild that was much more expensive, due to rising construction costs and no state funding.

Our high school committee

did not want to risk losing state funding. It also believes this is an all-Island project deserving an Island-wide vote on June 2. A majority vote in favor means that the project will move forward, and we will retain the \$71 million available in state funding.

The high school building committee has been working for many years on this proposal, with dedication and thoughtfulness. Just a few examples of their efforts: The building committee has worked intensively with architects to bring the project size down to the minimum square footage possible; they plan to do the renovations in phases, so that students and teachers do not have to relocate to trailers and no additional costs will be incurred; they have spent years working to secure the \$71 million in state funding from the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

We live on an Island and experience both the benefits and challenges that come with this. The wide scope and cost of this project is partially because we have a comprehensive high school, which means that our school prepares students both for college and for careers they can begin right out of high school. This is unusual, but is a direct response to our community’s unique needs. Off-Island, there are separate technical high schools, but here our one school provides college prep, arts, technical education, music, special education, and athletics. This allows as many students as possible to be supported in their educational experience here in our community.

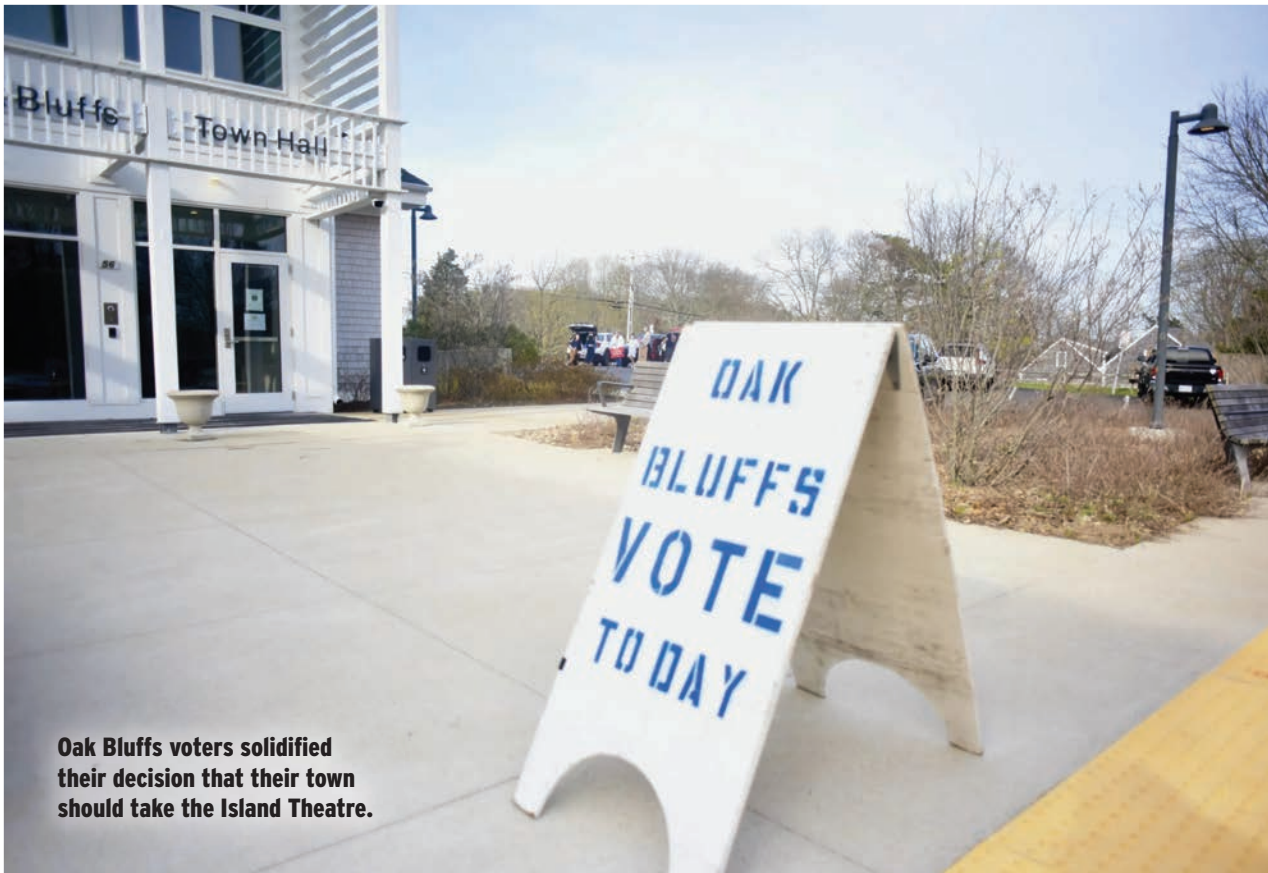
I do appreciate that the money required from each town to fund this project is staggering, and will impact each of us who own property. I am a Tisbury resident on a fixed income, and the increase in my property taxes is daunting. I am grateful for the residential tax reduction programs that several of the Island towns have implemented, but there is no avoiding the fact that this project will increase our annual taxes. However, I believe that education is a cornerstone of our community and our democracy, and the students, educators, and administrators of our high school deserve a safe and supportive environment in which to work and learn.

If you want more information, there are many ways to do this. Go to mvrhsbuildingproject.info for a comprehensive resource of the plans, the process, a tax-estimate tool, and a list of the upcoming community info sessions. You can also visit both of the Island newspaper’s websites and search for their numerous articles about this project, and all of the related community concerns.

I am asking our Island community to go to the polls on June 2 and vote YES for this much-needed high school renovation.

Jean Hay is a resident of Tisbury.

We invite all viewpoints regarding the replacement of the high school, a critical infrastructure project that will impact the Island for years to come. If you want to submit an essay or letter for consideration, send it to editor@mvtimes.com.



SARAH SHAW DAWSON

Oak Bluffs voters solidified their decision that their town should take the Island Theatre.

Island Theatre ballot question approved in landside; Miller wins West Tisbury

Overrides were approved in three towns during the annual town elections. **BY EUNKI SEONWOO**

Oak Bluffs voters have solidified their decision that it's time their town intervene and take control of the Island Theatre.

Throughout the day last Thursday, voters across three towns — Oak Bluffs, Edgartown, and West Tisbury — cast their votes for various, mostly uncontested races and ballot questions at annual town elections.

In Oak Bluffs, ballot question No. 4, allowing the town to advance a debt exclusion to raise property taxes to fund up to \$5 million for an eminent domain process to seize the Island Theatre, was approved 451-162 in the election held at the town library. The \$5 million includes various costs

associated with the eminent domain process, such as initial improvements, legal fees, planning, and demolition of the theater. The actual development of the property is not included. According to the warrant article from the annual town meeting and the ballot question, buying the theater isn't off the table, and brothers Brian Hall and Benjamin Hall Jr., who own the property, said the asking price has been \$2.8 million. Even if the building is taken by eminent domain, the Halls would need to be compensated by the town.

The Island Theatre has sat empty on Circuit Avenue since 2012, and has been a source of frustration for the town. It was labeled as

unsafe in 2016, leading to court-ordered work to make the theater structurally sound in 2017. Meanwhile, the Halls have said that various factors, including wastewater limitations deterring potential investors, left the property in limbo.

The Halls own various properties on the Vineyard, the most noticeable being the properties that have long stood without tenants, such as the Island Theatre in Oak Bluffs and the Capawock Theatre in Tisbury.

It is not yet certain what the town plans to do with the building, although any proposal would require voter approval. The Halls can also challenge the town's decision in court. And they aren't

strangers to eminent domain; the Halls unsuccessfully tried to block Edgartown's 2017 decision to take the Yellow House in court. That building in Edgartown is now a Lululemon store.

Approval of the ballot question came after an April 15 vote during the Oak Bluffs annual town meeting's second night, when voters approved 164-31 for the town to proceed with the eminent domain process to take the Island Theatre. It was then approved at the polls on April 16.

Benjamin Hall Jr. told The Times after the vote that they are still reviewing the article's language and "whether there's enough public purpose described." Hall said

people interested in possibly acquiring the theater have reached out to him with "hopes we would work with them over the town." But Hall again highlighted that there wasn't enough wastewater flow available for the building at this time, and it was likely that only the town would be able to provide the needed flow.

"If the building is torn down without a plan for immediate rebuilding of something there, I fear the public will continue to look at the perhaps worse look of the side of the neighboring building, which is likewise aged and needs reconstruction," Hall said. He added that the owners' plans had been to "endorse the best project done privately that would enhance the town community," and that the theater's location at the heart of Oak Bluffs deserves to be a "grand project."

Three other ballot questions also passed in Oak Bluffs: 455-166 for a \$1.9 million override to fill a gap in the town budget, 473-132 to borrow up to \$1 million for flood-resiliency improvements for the pump station on Dukes County Avenue, and 476-133 to borrow up to \$825,000 to design and engineer wastewater upgrades and a sewer extension in the Lagoon Pond watershed.

And 457 Oak Bluffs voters elected Bill Cleary as a new select board member. He ran uncontested.

"Looks like there's been a good turnout," Cleary said at the library, holding a sign. "There's a lot of big articles that the voters are really thinking about, and it's awesome to see them come and support the town, and I'm looking forward to doing the job."

Meanwhile, in Edgartown, 389 voters elected a new select board member, Julia Tarka, at their election in town hall. Town officials noted voters submitted a large number of

write-in candidates.

"Sometimes people write in the name but [do] not fill in the circle," Karen Medeiros, Edgartown town clerk, said. "We will hit every single ballot, so even if the [voting] machine doesn't count it as a write-in, we will."

Edgartown voters also approved two ballot questions: 370-79 for a \$900,090 override to fill a gap in the town budget, and 352-99 to allow the town to assess an additional \$500,000 in real estate and personal property taxes to purchase the Boys and Girls Club building on 4 M Daniels Lane.

In West Tisbury, the majority of voters, who cast their ballots at the town's Public Safety Building, decided to keep the status quo in the select board race between incumbent Jessica Miller, who won 461 votes, and political newcomer Garrison Vieira, who received 212 votes.

Miller previously said this will be her last term on the board.

"It feels good," Miller told The Times. "I worked really hard at it over the past four years, so it feels good that people like what I'm doing and trust me to continue doing it."

Vieira, who was at the Public Safety Building on Thursday evening, congratulated Miller for her victory.

"It's not two separate teams," Vieira said. "We're not competitive, at each other's throats. We want the same intentions for the town, and [we're both] putting those efforts forward."

West Tisbury voters also approved two ballot questions: 436-241 for a \$3.49 million override to fill a gap in the town budget, and 481-194 for a \$2 million override to repair or replace the HVAC system at the town's police station. **MVT**

Nicholas Vukota and Sarah Shaw Dawson contributed to this report.

OAK BLUFFS WATER DISTRICT HYDRANT FLUSHING PROGRAM

The Oak Bluffs Water District will be flushing the system April 21-April 30, 2026

This is a biannual procedure to remove accumulated sediment in the water mains, ensure all hydrants are operating properly and improve water quality. Flushing will be conducted Monday-Friday from 8:00 am-4:00 pm.

Customers are advised that some discoloration of the water may occur if you draw water while we are flushing near your home. If this occurs, you should wait until we are out of your area and then run cold water for several minutes until the discoloration abates.

Customers are advised to check their water for discoloration prior to washing laundry. The OBWD bears no responsibility for discolored or ruined clothes.

You may experience a partial drop in pressure while the hydrants are flowing. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Water District office: 508-693-5527.

Thank you for your patience during the ongoing maintenance of the water system.

Oak Bluffs Water District Board of Water Commissioners

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obituaries

Catherine Merwin Mayhew



Catherine Merwin Mayhew (“Kay”) died peacefully after a long, fulfilling life, on the afternoon of Sunday, April 12, 2026.

Kay was born in 1939 in Torrington, Conn., and grew up in Winsted, Conn., daughter of Garwood and Marie Merwin. Marie was originally from England, instilling Kay with a strong sense of culture from “across the pond.” Kay graduated from the National Cathedral School in Washington, D.C.

She married Donald Gifford Mayhew, a native Islander, in Winsted in 1961. They lived in Providence, R.I., where she worked for Brown University, his alma mater, and later as private secretary to a local lawyer and state senator. The couple later moved to the D.C. area when her husband began work for the U.S. Government. There she was active in the League of Women Voters, and lobbied briefly in Congress for a presidential vote for D.C. residents.

They settled in Bowie, Md., a suburb of D.C., where they raised their children and where she worked for the Prince George’s County schools. Donald had always wanted to move back to the Vineyard where he was born, and after he took early retirement, they relocated to Vineyard Haven. He predeceased her in 2019.

During her first years on the Island, Kay became a member of the West Tisbury Congregational Church, in which Donald’s family had always been active, and where Kay participated in the annual Christmas fairs. She became good friends with the minister, the Rev. Cathlin Baker, who was very supportive of the family as they moved through the final weeks.

Soon after moving to the Island, Kay became a two-term president of the M.V. League of Women Voters, which is now included in the M.V. Chamber of Commerce phonebook. She was appointed and worked for years as a registrar of voters in Tisbury. She regularly met with a small group of Black and white women discussing solutions to problems faced by each group. She began to work for the Tisbury Business Association (TBA), bringing Santa to the Island, who gave out gingerbread cookies made by the M.V. Regional High

School culinary arts students. Early on, for Christmas the TBA had suggested businesses use white lights, creating a winter fairyland in town, and began wagon rides between Main Street and the Tisbury Marketplace, and created the first chowder contest.

In the 1970s, Kay had done a great deal of genealogical work in Maryland. Once she moved to the Vineyard in the 1980s, she worked as an award-winning genealogist for the M.V. Museum, then known as the Dukes County Historical Society. She was happy to connect off-Islanders to their Island ancestors, including a large Mayhew family in Alabama. She was an editor of the published “Luce Genealogy,” now available in the museum. She was a member of several genealogical societies, including the New England Historic Genealogical Society, the National Genealogical Society, and the Connecticut Society of Genealogists. She is also a member of the M.V. chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Her epitaph will read, “History Matters.”

While working at the Beach House, now at the corner of Main and Spring streets, she enjoyed the friends she made there, especially the owner, Jane Chandler, and her family. Of course, Kay also enjoyed the wonderful friends she made on this Island over the years, many of whom called and visited in her last weeks, when her room was always filled with bright-colored flowers and upbeat cards, and her calendar was filled with potential visitors. In her time on the Vineyard, Kay enjoyed meeting weekly with both a Tuesday and Thursday quilting group. The latter evolved into a summer “early supper on East Beach” gathering for many years. She was also a member of the Island’s Want to Know Club.

Kay later joined the meditation group at the Unitarian Church, which became very important in her life, and even more so during COVID. At that time our Vineyard Haven library commended her as a “most prolific reader,” because there were always more books she wanted to read. (Even at this writing, there are a very large number of books that need to be returned.) She participated in a writing group at the Oak Bluffs library. She enjoyed writing the Tisbury column for The M.V. Times for 39 years, which included her famous section, “Heard on Main Street.” The paper says that she was the longest-serving columnist at the paper thus far.

The family would like to thank Hospice of Martha’s Vineyard for providing materials, prescriptions, and equipment necessary to support peaceful end of life, and for their unwavering support, compassion, and empathy.

Kay leaves a daughter, Laurel Mayhew, and husband Kevin Olson of Chaplin,

Conn.; and a son, Craig Mayhew, wife Laura, and two granddaughters, Rory and Fiona, of Westborough.

Donations may be made to the West Tisbury Congregational Church, online at wtcongregationalchurch.org/pledge-form, or the M.V. Museum, online at bit.ly/MVM_Donate, or to a place of your choice.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 2, at 3 pm, at the West Tisbury Congregational Church.

Roy Scheffer

A celebration of Roy Scheffer’s life will take place at the Martha’s Vineyard Agricultural Hall on Saturday, May 2, at 2 pm. All are welcome. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations be made in Roy’s honor to the M.V. Shellfish Group (online at mvshellfishgroup.org/donate-now), an organization that was near and dear to him.

Shirley Craig



Shirley Jane (Prada) Craig, a renaissance woman with lifelong passions for music, art, travel, and adventure, died peacefully on Jan. 5, 2026, at the Martha’s Vineyard Hospital, surrounded by family.

A third-generation native Islander, Shirley was born on July 13, 1935, to Albert and Genevieve Prada of Edgartown. Shirley attended the K-12 Edgartown School. Her French teacher spoke often of his interest in competitive fencing, sparking her curiosity about the sport.

Shirley attended Boston University’s Sargent College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences, and while studying to become a physical therapist joined Salle Elde, a private fencing club nearby. There she met the love of her life, Philip Craig, a top fencer on the Boston University team. One night, Phil agreed to take over the class when the teacher was absent, and he and Shirley literally met over crossed swords.

They were married on Dec. 10, 1957, in Phil’s hometown of Durango, Colo. While living out West, Shirley worked as the only physical therapist on the Navajo reservation in Farmington, N.M., and later ran the physical therapy department at Durango’s Mercy Hospital.

Shirley was adamant that her children be regarded as

true Vineyard natives, so traveled back to the Island to have her first child, Kimberlie, in October 1959. In January, Phil was accepted into the University of Iowa’s Writer’s Workshop, and the family moved to Iowa. They returned to Martha’s Vineyard, where her son, Jamie, was born in April 1962. A few years later the family settled in Hamilton, where they would remain for more than 30 years. Phil taught at Wheelock College in Boston, and Shirley worked as a substitute teacher in the Hamilton and Wenham public schools, and as a special-needs teacher at schools in the North Shore area.

Phil took a sabbatical in 1973, and the family traveled throughout Europe and North Africa, then drove across the U.S. Phil created a college course that included an annual trip to England; Shirley would accompany him and his students each year. She and Phil became well-known in many small pubs in England and Scotland, where they made lifelong friends. They began to travel often, visiting more than 43 countries.

Summers were spent on the Vineyard in an old cabin in Ocean Heights, which until the late ’60s had no electricity or running water. Friends would gather at their house for lavish clambakes every summer.

After Phil retired in 1997, they moved to the Vineyard year-round. Shirley was active in the Friends of Sengekontacket. She and Phil sang together in the Island Community Chorus for many years.

Phil succumbed to a fast-moving cancer in 2007, passing a few months before the couple’s 50th wedding anniversary. Shirley took his place on a planned trip with Jamie to Jordan and Egypt, and the entire family completed a trip to the Yucatan Peninsula, which Phil had long planned.

Shirley remained active in the Community Chorus and other endeavors until health issues began to restrict her. While cognitive decline and health issues made her later years difficult, she continued to enjoy the company of friends new and old, and made sure that her family knew how much she loved them.

As her memory faded, what remained steadfast in her mind and heart was that so very long ago, she met the love of her life by crossing swords with him. One of her final requests was for Jamie to make her a picture of crossed swords with a heart in the center. She received that picture for Christmas.

Shirley was predeceased by her parents, Albert and Genevieve Prada of Edgartown, and her husband, Philip R. Craig of Edgartown. She leaves her sister, Joyce Goldfield of Inverness, Calif.; children, Jamie Craig of Edgartown and Kimberlie Craig Schwartz and her husband Steve of Durango,

Colo.; grandchildren, Jessica Ipson and her husband Blake of Erie, Colo., Peter Harmon and his wife Sam Kasper of Wichita, Kansas, Bailey Lynch of Durango, Colo., and Riley, Amelia, and Griffin Craig of Edgartown; and great-grandchildren Frankie and Finneas Ipson of Erie, Colo.

A celebration of life will be held at the Edgartown Rod & Gun Club on Saturday, June 13, at noon. All are invited.

To read the complete obituary, go to mvtimes.com.

Eben Choate Clark Jr.



Eben Choate Clark Jr (“Ben”) passed peacefully on the sunny spring morning of April 28, 2025. He was at home, surrounded by his loving daughters. His 81 years on earth were filled with many adventures, achievements, tinkering about, and lots of “Clark humor.”

Ben was born in Boston, on Dec. 14, 1943, to Eben Choate Clark and Margaret Stevens Clark. Ben was a curious boy at heart, observant of the natural world around him and genuinely fascinated by how machines worked. His childhood was filled with backyard sledding and tromping through the woods with his four siblings.

Ben graduated from the Fessenden School (’58), Milton Academy (’62), and the University of Vermont (’69). At Milton he excelled at sports and was the captain of the football team, and he played hockey at UVM.

Ben enlisted in the Army during the Vietnam War, and was part of Army Intelligence. He went to language school in Monterey, Calif., and then was stationed in Okinawa, Japan. On his days off, Ben’s curiosity and itch to know Okinawa had him exploring around the island in Tuggles, his blue Land Cruiser, beachcombing for glass buoys, scuba diving, and indulging in the local cuisine.

Growing up, Ben’s family spent summers in Harthaven in Oak Bluffs. He always looked forward to spending time in the ocean and sailing in Farm Pond with his family and friends. In the late ’70s, Ben met “a cute brunette” named Joan living next door in Harthaven, whom he eventually married and started a family with in Pilot Hill. They had four daughters in a house that he proudly built. He worked hard and enjoyed his career as a carpenter, ham-

mering away and completing many projects with his close friends Tucker and Sandy.

Having a family and being a father of four daughters was by far one of Ben’s most prideful and important adventures. Raising Virginia, Allie, Elizabeth, and Katherine definitely softened some of his rough edges, especially after spending a month in tight quarters traveling around New Zealand in a camper-van with them! He was a dedicated and proud sports fan, and could be found at all his daughters’ games, often leaving work early to attend them. He was always present, encouraging and challenging them to give their all. Ben was patient and took his time teaching and explaining, many times at great length, to his children the numerous projects he was working on, like rebuilding his car engine or repairing the lawnmower. Oftentimes he would have one or all of his daughters as his assistants on these projects. His daughters learned an enormous amount of life and practical skills from him.

The love he had for his daughters was only outshone by his love for his four granddaughters, Nyah, Hazel, Kira, and Winnie. They enjoyed listening to the many adventures he had experienced, from sailing across the Atlantic to working on a cattle ranch in Sheridan, Wyo., canoeing down the Danube River, and zooming around Europe for a month on a motorcycle with his close friends. “Baba,” as he was affectionately called, always had a funny story or important life lesson to give, and his silliness was second to none.

Ben loved the simple things in life: watching the birds, doing projects with his daughters, a good book, a hearty family meal — and of course, eating ice cream! He lived his life staying positive, stoic, and maintaining his sense of humor, with his unforgettable laugh. Ben will be deeply missed and forever remembered by all who knew him.

A small celebration of his life was held last fall. This spring, take a moment to stop and watch the birds, search for ladyslippers, and take in the beauty of the natural world around you, just as Ben would during this magical time of year.

Robert L. Burnham



Ticks, transportation, access: Top priorities for health officials

A new plan by the Martha's Vineyard Hospital illustrates its focus for the next three years. **BY SARAH SHAW DAWSON**

Islanders have long grappled with the health implications of living separated from mainland amenities, and hospital officials are eyeing ways to bolster accessibility to care in the place thousands call home.

The Martha's Vineyard Hospital announced earlier this month the release of its "2025 Community Health Implementation Plan," which lists health issues the organization wants to prioritize over the next three years. While some of the goals are long-term, others are already underway, such as more mental health providers and a new tick clinic.

Many of the goals align with the findings of an earlier report released in partnership with Island Health Care last fall called the "2025 Community Health Needs Assessment," which relied on data and the surveys by Islanders. The report included qualms by Vineyard residents regarding access to care, mental health concerns in the off-season, fears regarding the rise in tick-borne diseases that induce meat allergies and harrowing symptoms, and concerning rates of substance use.

The plans by health officials point to a wide array of unmet needs of the local population, despite substantial efforts by existing and emerging medical care facilities. Traveling off-Island for care and specialty appointments has been a necessity for many Vineyarders, which is time-consuming and costly. The hospital said this makes reinforcing

their services locally much more important, and pushes transportation efforts to the top of its list.

"In conjunction with the Mass General Brigham system, but here locally, we are committed to build a strong health system that meets the needs of our patients here, close to home," Claire Seguin, president of Martha's Vineyard Hospital, told *The Times*.

The Martha's Vineyard Hospital isn't the only healthcare center on the Island, but it is the largest. The hospital's implementation plan shows not only the organization's goals but also Island-wide emerging health priorities. Seguin said of all the issues Islanders have faced in recent years, tick-borne illnesses and access to primary care are the top two that stand out to her.

Lyme disease, for example, is not new on the Island, and the hospital boasts some of the most up-to-date testing for the tick-borne illness, which is treatable. But the disease can lead to long-term health consequences if not diagnosed quickly enough. Additionally, the rise in alpha-gal, which gives people an allergy to mammalian products, and the abundance of ticks found on the Island, have been alarming for health officials. "It really has jumped up, to me, as a top priority," Seguin said.

Seguin also confirmed Wednesday that the hospital purchased the Medical Office Building at 449 State Road, West Tisbury, which it plans to use, in part, as a tick clinic this summer as well as

express care and ophthalmology and audiology services.

Efforts to combat the tick population have expanded through a new nonprofit, Tick Free MV. The group recently conducted a drone survey of deer, which are one of the top tick carriers. However, preventive measures are the most effective ways to combat the many tick-borne illnesses, and this spring, there has already been a surge of the small, parasitic arachnids.

The state recently deemed tick-borne illnesses a reportable health condition, which Seguin said could streamline information and solutions. But ticks and the diseases they transmit aren't the only health issue locals have been facing.

Islanders are often required to travel for care, from emergency boat reservations to helicopter rides in the most dire of circumstances. Health access is an urgent need, both on and off the Island. The question Seguin said she and hospital leadership are asking is, "How do we get them access to that care?"

The hospital does provide some funding to GoGo-Grandparent, a transportation program through Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard that transports Islanders over the age of 65 to and from medical appointments. But the implementation plan for the hospital includes more transportation goals to reach for, including expanded access to off-Island rides for appointments.

The transportation short-

ages are just one branch of a larger web of needs. The Community Health Needs Assessment pointed out that Dukes County is federally recognized as a health-professional shortage area. This means there's not enough primary care, dental, or specialist providers for the population, which is about 20,000 strong in the off-season, but rises to nearly 100,000 in the summer.

According to the needs assessment, 21,061 year-round Islanders are a medically underserved population by similar metrics. While Martha's Vineyard Medical and Island Health Care have stated goals of providing more primary care appointments, the hospital has had efforts underway for years as well. In 2025, *The Times* reported that there was a backlog of 1,500 on primary care waitlists at the hospital alone.

However, affordable housing and cost-of-living have historically been hurdles to the hiring of needed health providers. Many of the specialists and nurses at the hospital are hired with accommodations, such as commuting or living on the Vineyard for only a few months at a time.

Seguin also said mental health and substance use, which have long been regarded as top concerns by local health officials, are under the umbrella of "primary care, as we also have a need — and a focus — on behavioral health and mental health."

The Martha's Vineyard Hospital has reportedly added a full-time psychiatrist and two social workers to its staff this year. Because of the Island's separation from the mainland, the hospital often doubles as a crisis center for severe mental health episodes, especially if someone is referred off-Island for treatment.

Seguin said the hospital partners with Martha's Vineyard Community Services, an organization that provides counseling, therapy, and psychiatry to Vineyarders, because of the overlap in mental health services.

"But it's still not enough," Seguin acknowledged.

While it's not known if there's been a rise in mental health crises on the Vineyard, *The Times* has reported on multiple public episodes in the past year. A man jumping from a Steamship Authority boat, and a Tisbury Select Board member who faced multiple charges, have been cited as mental health issues. And nationally, mental health conditions have been diagnosed more often in younger generations (ages 18 to 29).

The implementation plan highlights addressing alcohol use disorders and substance use treatment as big goals for the hospital moving forward, especially for what the hospital referred to as "special populations," encompassing older adults, those with intellectual disabilities, and Brazilian residents of the Vineyard.

Concerted efforts to address mental health crises have occurred already, such as the introduction of the psychiatrist and social workers, but Seguin said there's more to be done.

"Every life matters," Seguin said. "I think especially on an Island — and we know the Cape and Islands in particular with our seasonality — we just have a lot of risk in that area." **MVT**

Alpha-gal day of learning for restaurant owners and staff

On Monday, May 4, from 2 to 4 pm, at the Oak Bluffs Town Hall, boards of health are holding a best practices seminar for creating an alpha-gal-friendly kitchen for restaurant owners.

Alpha-gal syndrome (AGS) is a potentially life-threatening allergy triggered by eating mammalian products such as beef, pork, or lamb, or consuming animal-derived products, and is primarily linked to tick saliva from the lone star tick, now found in every town on the Island. Martha's Vineyard has one of the highest rates per capita of the allergy in the nation.

People with alpha-gal research restaurant menus carefully to see whether

there is anything they can eat. If not, they move on to another restaurant. For restaurant owners, providing alpha-gal-friendly (AGF) choices is something to take seriously, not only for the welfare of the Island community and visitors, but also because it is a business opportunity.

During the best practices session, the boards of health will cover what your kitchen needs to know, including recognizing hidden triggers, using dedicated utensils and surfaces, and training staff to take AGS requests seriously. The boards of health are also proposing a uniform AGF designation for the Island, requesting that Island restaurants and caterers use a "AGF" mark on their menus.

Martha's Vineyard Medical to launch Tick Center

Continued from A1

in a candidate forum for the town of Chilmark on Monday that Martha's Vineyard Hospital purchased the Medical Office Building at 449 State Road, West Tisbury, that it plans to use, in part, as a tick clinic this summer.

"The building is currently undergoing renovations and the Department of Public Health approval process, and we anticipate opening before the summer season begins," Claire Seguin, president and COO for Martha's Vineyard Hospital, said in a statement. "This location will offer Express Care, a tick-bite clinic, as well as ophthalmology and audiology services. We are pleased to expand access to state-of-the-art care for up-

Island communities."

Led by Dr. Gerald Yukevich, medical director at Martha's Vineyard Medical, as well as integrative health providers Katie Friedman and Aubrey Stimola Ryan, the Tick Center, located at 364 State Road, Vineyard Haven, is an assemblage of partners that can offer specialized care for patients with tick-borne illnesses and allergies, especially for alpha-gal patients.

"An increasing number of people are living with chronic tick-borne illnesses or alpha-gal syndrome," Jeff Levy, CEO of Martha's Vineyard Medical, said in the release. "At the Tick Center, we are rethinking what care

can look like, utilizing a functional, whole-patient approach that integrates clinical medicine with nutrition, mindfulness, medication safety, and other supportive protocols. Our goal is to set a national standard for coordinated, whole-patient care for those suffering from these long-term conditions."

"The Tick Center starts where Martha's Vineyard Medical ends," Levy told *The Times*.

Martha's Vineyard Medical's Tick Center can treat people who have a rash, and can make a diagnosis and prescribe medication, like doxycycline. But the idea is that the center can pick up where traditional clinical

medicine drops off and treat long-term symptoms and the "whole patient," Levy said.

A single prescription or dietary restriction can't always fully address a lot of these tick-borne ailments, Yukevich said in the release. But the center will coordinate an approach between conventional medicine and integrative therapies, he added. They will be able to care for patients of nine tick-borne conditions, such as Lyme disease, tularemia, and babesiosis.

Services will include "clinical evaluation and diagnosis, specialty laboratory testing through TickReport and Labcorp, individualized counseling, auricular acupuncture, medication safety, and ingredient transparency for patients," the press release said. It will also mean

mindfulness and stress support from providers such as owner of Wholesome MV Jason Mazar-Kelly, known as Yogijay to many. Other partners for the center include Vineyard Complementary Medicine, Vineyard Nutrition, Pill Clarity, which helps patients identify medication ingredients and find allergen-free options, and Labcorp.

All feedback and data points about a patient can be shared across the center's electronic record to all providers, and a brief monthly questionnaire called the THRIVE Index can track how patients in the center function "across the physical, emotional, and daily-life domains most affected by these conditions," the center's website reads.

Martha's Vineyard Medical, formerly Vineyard Medi-

cal Care, has expertise on care for tick-borne illnesses and allergies. It was under Michael Loberg, who formerly ran the practice as Vineyard Medical Care, that the Martha's Vineyard Tick-Borne Disease Initiative as well as the MV Tick Fund were founded. Levy wanted to "extend this legacy," the press release said, through expanded services and the new Tick Center.

To schedule an appointment or learn more, people can email tickcenter@mvmed.org or visit mvmed.org/tickcenter. Appointments can be scheduled for May, and no referral is needed. It is a cash-pay practice; the center doesn't bill insurance directly, but can provide a bill upon request to submit for potential out-of-network reimbursement. **MVT**

Chilmark meets its candidates

Continued from A1

read aloud by town resident and a friend of Carroll's, Alicia Knight. Carroll, who owns and operates the Menemsha Texaco and serves as chair of the Chilmark board of health, said she was unable to attend due to an off-Island family obligation.

"Chilmark doesn't change easily, and that's exactly what I love about it. But loving a place means showing up for it — which is why I am asking for your write-in vote for select board," Carroll's statement reads.

Some residents expressed disappointment at Carroll's failure to show up, as several had prepared questions for her and wanted to hear her answers.

Edward Miller, a Chilmark resident, pointed out that the select board, which has three members, may face a challenge if Carroll ever needed to recuse herself due to conflict-of-interest guidelines provided by the State Ethics Commission. This is pertinent considering her husband, Marshall Carroll, is on the town's finance committee, and her brother-in-law, Tim Carroll, is the town administrator.

Miller's question was put to Carroll after the meeting, and she replied, "In a small town, you often find that there are these types of overlaps, and I am really good at compartmentalizing and not seeing Marshall as my husband and Tim as my brother-in-law at the table. We have worked well together over 30 years, and I feel like it wouldn't have an impact on how I treat the well-being of the town of Chilmark."

At the forum, Haag, who

has lived in Chilmark full-time for 11 years, and on a part-time basis for 35 years, said she wants to run for the select board because she "gets things done" and highlighted that she has no conflicts of interest, saying, "So I can serve you all in a very balanced way."

"We can get housing done, we can get telephone access for people — I think that's a public safety issue — we have a tick problem, we have a problem with the water quality in our town, and I think the role of the select board should be to work with various groups around town to find solutions to those problems," said Haag.

Describing herself as innovative and focused on consensus-building, Haag said she is all about "bringing people together from the inside and the outside," as she gestured to the residents who did not find a seat inside the library and had to listen from the outside. The crowd laughed as many residents viewed the packed meeting from outside window panes, hallways, and doorways.

On housing, Haag recalled when voters approved the Peaked Hill Pastures project four years ago at the annual town meeting, but said that progress has slowed. She also pointed to her experience building six housing units on her own farm.

"There are people on the Island that we can work with, and that's what I do," said Haag. "I'm about bringing coalitions together. I have a track record of getting things done, and Peaked Hill needs to get done."

In response to questions



Rebecca Haag speaks to Chilmark residents at a Chilmark Candidate Forum.

PHOTOS: NICHOLAS VUKOTA



Alicia Knight reads a statement for Carroll left, with Rebecca Haag on the right.

from residents, Haag also voiced support for local farmers, championed Island Grown Initiative's efforts in schools to teach children about growing food, and honored Chilmark's tradition of being a dry town. Haag also highlighted that as chair of the hospital board, she has advocated for issues that Chilmark faces, such as tick-borne diseases.

Haag announced that the hospital recently purchased the building next to Conroy & Co. Real Estate, and plan to turn it into a local clinic, with two ophthalmologists and one audiologist.

Haag said, "We want to have a tick clinic there this summer, so that if people get tick bites, as opposed to having to drive all the way to the hospital, we actually have something right there where they can come see a nurse practitioner immediately."

Carroll, a longtime member of the historical commission, described the town in her statement as at a "pivotal crossroads" and needing to balance maintaining tradition and meeting modern demands.

Carroll's statement to the gathering addressed head-on criticism that her write-in

candidacy came late in the process: "You are correct, I didn't pull nomination papers during the standard filing period ... I wasn't planning to run. But after conversations with many of you, I realized that sitting on the sidelines wasn't really an option."

Carroll also highlighted her involvement in developing PFAS testing programs and organizing the attention of town leadership on issues like tick-borne diseases, climate change, pond health, and other environmental concerns.

"This isn't about being 'anti-progress'; it's about taking a breath to ensure our infrastructure can support the current pace and the changes we choose to make align with our vision. We need to prioritize integrity and grow at a pace that al-

lows us to retain our town's unique character, not whittle it away," said Carroll.

"I also believe we cannot call ourselves a complete community if our young families can't afford to stay. Housing efforts like Peaked Hill Pastures matter," she said in her statement.

Additionally, voters will decide on a number of uncontested races, including seats on the board of assessors, board of health, planning board, cemetery com-



Residents watch the packed candidate forum from outside.

mission, and the trustees of the public library. Ballot questions include proposals for additional funding for up-Island schools, the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School, one additional full-time EMT, and funding to increase hours of operation for the Chilmark library. Question 5, 6, and 7 ask voters whether the town should allow or pursue macro cellular telephone towers to improve coverage and service.

The town election is scheduled for April 29, and Haag and Carroll are competing to fill the select board seat currently held by Marie Larsen, who is not seeking re-election. Polls will open at noon on Wednesday at the Chilmark Community Center, and close at 8 pm. **MVT**

Judge hands Vineyard Wind a victory over GE, at least for now

Continued from A1

over the next five years.

GE Vernova planned to walk out on its obligations on April 28 over alleged payments withheld by the off-shore wind developer worth more than \$300 million. Vineyard Wind said it withheld the funds because significant flaws in the blades cost the project time and money. GE Vernova issued a notice to Vineyard Wind about the payments nearly two months ago, and said it had 60 days to pay up.

"We are pleased with the decision, which ensures Vineyard Wind can continue delivering much-needed energy to Massachusetts customers and the New England grid," Craig Gilvarg, a spokesperson for Vineyard Wind, said in a statement to The Times.

There were 55 turbines, as of Thursday, April 16, that can generate power, though not at full capacity. Sans GE Vernova's work and proprietary information, Vineyard Wind officials said in court

documents, they feared their decade-long project would become a "dormant wind farm graveyard."

The decision by Krupp was published Friday, a day after attorneys on both sides argued why each company owed money to the other party.

GE Vernova sent the wind farm developer a termination notice at the end of February for withheld payments north of \$360 million that date back as far as September 2024. But Vineyard Wind attorneys said that they have claims against GE Vernova that surpass that number, as much as \$850 million, after a blade failure in July 2024 caused a two-year delay in work, and replacements were required on 72 blades already installed.

Among disagreements on contract language and clauses, attorneys also argued about the reliability of the enormous blades, which are 351 feet.

The blades and turbines are unprecedented in their size, and untested in the elements.

They are on their maiden run, Frances Bivens, attorney for Vineyard Wind, said.

"They've never been used before on a wind farm," Bivens added. "They have never been taken to an operational standpoint. And these were the first blades." The root analysis by GE Vernova on the blade failure, Bivens said, found meters-long gaps in the adhesives that held two halves of the blade together, "almost like a razor clamshell" except the length of a football field.

She highlighted that a project in the U.K. called Dogger Bank Wind Farm, which uses GE Vernova's Haliade-X turbines, also experienced similar problems.

But David Lender, attorney for GE Vernova, didn't acknowledge the blade failures, and said that the amount owed to them is in excess of 5 percent of the contract price.

"This is a self-inflicted issue for them. If they want to pay us, we have been clear. We will continue to perform as long

as I get it down below the 5 percent," Lender said in court.

Lender said the energy company's sent dispute notices to Vineyard Wind since September 2024, but didn't want to terminate the contract until after all the turbines were installed.

"We understand this is an important project. We wanted to finish the work of installing the blades, which is what we've done," Lender said. "We replaced all the blades ... and now we're at the last step, where we can turn this project over to somebody else to finish the last stage if they choose not to pay us."

Now that all the blades are replaced and installed, the last stage means the turbines are commissioned and can operate commercially and make power at a commercial rate, which is when Massachusetts ratepayers could start to see relief in their bills.

Currently, the turbines aren't "reliable to commercial standards, and they need to be

in order for this project to be viable," Bivens said, both for ratepayers and for the power purchase agreement between Vineyard Wind and the state.

She added that the contract guarantees that the turbines, for the first five years of operation, are 97 percent operational. It's only GE Vernova, she said, that can get them there. "These are Haliade-X blades. They're designed and developed by GE. GE has never had them become operational anywhere. So Vineyard Wind is the beta test for these blades, and GE is saying they can just leave now. They don't work yet, to commercial standards, to commercial rates," Bivens told the courtroom.

All the proprietary information on the turbines is owed by GE Vernova, she added. Bivens said that there's a list of 160 vendors, such as Siemens and other competitors of the energy company, that GE Vernova suggested to take over their role.

"The idea that they're going to hand over to Siemens their proprietary information about their turbines so that Siemens can come in and do the com-

missioning work instead of GE is just almost an insult to our collective intelligence that that could possibly be the case," Bivens said.

Krupp granted the motion in Vineyard Wind's favor Friday, and both parties are set to meet for another hearing on May 1. "To pretend that VW could go out and hire one or more contractors to finish the installation and troubleshoot and modify [GE Vernova's] proprietary design without [GE Vernova's] specialized knowledge is fanciful," said Krupp.

While GE Vernova continues to pursue the money they say is owed to it, the company stands by the work that's already been done.

"We are proud of successfully completing the installation of all 62 wind turbines at the Vineyard Wind Farm, and will continue to work to remedy the delinquent outstanding balances due from Vineyard Wind for work performed," a GE Vernova spokesperson said in a statement to The Times. "GE Vernova stands by our performance and our contractual obligations for pay-




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ANTICIPATED OPENING GRADES 7-12 MATH AND SCIENCE TEACHER

The Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School seeks a Full-Time Math and Science Teacher. Must hold a BA/BS; teaching experience and licensure preferred. Please email resume, letter of interest, and completed application to Peter Steedman, Director, psteedman@mvpccs.org. Applications can be found on the school website at MVPCCS.org.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

The Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School seeks a Full-Time Assistant Director to start July 1, 2026. We are looking for a creative leader, an excellent communicator, and someone interested in working within our project-based learning curriculum. We offer exciting opportunities for professional development in a supportive work environment with a competitive salary and benefits. Must hold a BA/BS; administrative experience and licensure preferred. Please email resume, letter of interest, and completed application to Peter Steedman, Director, psteedman@mvpccs.org. Applications can be found on the school website at MVPCCS.org.

HELP WANTED

CARROLL'S MVRT SEEKS CLASS A CDL DRIVER FOR FULL-TIME, YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT.

Primary duties would include pick-up and drop-off of trailers between several island stores to company warehouses and the boat. Competitive pay and benefits. Request for an application can be sent to applicant@carrollsmv.com.

CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN

If you believe libraries can be transformative, imaginative, life-shaping places—and you're ready to make that happen every single day—this is the job for you. The Edgartown Public Library is seeking a full-time Children's Librarian who brings energy, creativity, and vision to everything they do. This is more than a job—it's an opportunity to build something meaningful for young people of all ages. In this role, you'll lead the charge in creating a dynamic, welcoming, and inspiring space for children, teens, and families. You'll shape collections that spark curiosity, design programs that draw people in and keep them coming back, and provide the kind of thoughtful, attentive service that turns a library visit into something memorable. From toddler programming to teen engagement, from caregiver connections to school partnerships, your work will ripple throughout the community. You'll also supervise a full-time Library Assistant, helping to guide, support, and develop the team that makes this work possible. You'll be building on a strong foundation—this role has been shaped with exceptional care, creativity, and deep commitment over time, and this is a rare chance to build on and continue to grow this cherished community space.

HELP WANTED

You'll thrive here if you're someone who:

- Brings ideas to life and isn't afraid to try something new
 - Is passionate about connecting kids with books and promoting literacy
 - Balances creativity with strong organization and follow-through
 - Connects easily with kids, teens, and adults alike
 - Is comfortable navigating technology and working in a fast-paced, detail-oriented environment
- Qualifications:**
- Bachelor's degree in a related field (MLS preferred)
 - 3-5 years of progressively responsible library experience, including some supervision (or an equivalent mix of education and experience)
 - Strong computer skills and sharp attention to detail; can develop and implement systems to stay organized
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- Details:**
- Full-time, year-round position (37.5 hours/week)
 - Salary: \$34.99-\$46.07/hr (8-step scale; pay scale to increase on 7/1/26)
 - Full benefits package
 - A chance to do work that matters in a community that values its library
- To apply, send a cover letter, resume, and Town of Edgartown application to Lisa Sherman at director@edgartownlibrary.org or mail to Edgartown Public Library, 26 West Tisbury Rd, Edgartown, MA 02539. Job description and application are available at edgartownlibrary.org. Applications received by May 8, 2026 will receive priority consideration. The Town of Edgartown is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

HELP WANTED



Delivery Team - Come join our Warehouse team at Vineyard Decorators. Assembly and heavy lifting required. Start immediately. Valid driver's license required. Come fill out an application at 35 Airport Road & ask for a manager. 508-693-9197.

Part-Time Office Assistant - Vineyard Decorators is seeking a Part-Time Office Assistant to support our Bookkeeper with daily administrative tasks, including scanning, filing, copying, and general organization. Must be highly organized, detail-oriented, and proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, and Google Suite. Must be available to work Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Opportunity for growth into a full time Operations Assistant role for the right candidate. Please email resume to sophia@vineyarddecorators.com

Senior Interior Designer (housing available) - we are looking for an experienced Senior Interior Designer. Qualified candidates will have a bachelor's degree in Interior Design or Architecture and a minimum of 8 years of experience in construction based design. Strong project, time & client management skills are required. Ability to lead projects. Must be proficient in AutoCAD. Full-time, year-round position with benefits. Check out details about our team and company on our website. Please email your resume to sophia@vineyarddecorators.com



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Martha's Vineyard Bank and Martha's Vineyard Investment Advisors are excited to be adding a Financial Advisor to our investment team. This position is responsible for developing and maintaining client relationships while actively promoting strategic financial solutions for individual and institutional clients. Investment licenses are preferred but willing to support individuals who have the desire to obtain licenses.

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Help Wanted

HELP WANTED



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TOWN OF EDGARTOWN – EMERGENCY MEDICAL PROVIDER/FIREFIGHTER

(FY 26 EMT/FF or Paramedic 34.99-46.07/hr, Paramedic/FF 37.63-49.50/hr) (FY 27 EMT/FF or Paramedic 37.05-52.72/hr, Paramedic/FF 43.66-62.15/hr) The Edgartown Fire Department is seeking EMS professionals interested in a Firefighter/Emergency Medical Provider position. Applicants should have a current MA EMT-B or Paramedic certification in good standing. Firefighter experience will be considered but not required at time of hire. High school diploma/GED required. 40 hour/week, full-time benefitted position. Application and Job Description available at the Edgartown Fire Department administration offices, 167 Upper Main St, Edgartown, MA or may be sent via email at request to efd@edgartown-ma.us or 508-627-5167 ext. 101. Applications are due at the Edgartown Fire Department administration office no later than 12:00pm May 15th, 2026. Salary commensurate with certification level at time of hire. Town of Edgartown is an EOE.

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The Town of Edgartown Highway Department is looking to fill the following positions:
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 Applications, position requirements, and full job descriptions are available at edgartown-ma.us or in the Human Resource Office. Please send completed applications to HR@edgartown-ma.us or P.O. Box 5130 ATTN: Human Resources, Edgartown, MA 02539. The Town of Edgartown is an equal opportunity employer. Positions are open until filled.



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 Survey captains returning from offshore. Must be able to ID big game fish. P/T thru Oct. \$35/hour for 2 to 4 hour assignments. Apply online at quantech.com

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 East Chop Beach Club is seeking a dedicated supervisor, activities director/senior beach staff, and lifeguards for the summer of 2026. Visit our website for more details: EastChopBeachClub.com.

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You will need to be:
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 • Friendly, resourceful, and able to juggle multiple tasks with ease
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 • Someone who finds putting things in the correct order both fun and satisfying
 This position is responsible for day-to-day library functions. Library experience is highly desirable. Proficient PC-based computer and database skills are essential. Perks include working with a dynamic and enthusiastic staff, engaging with our Edgartown community, and solving new puzzles on any given day. The details: 18 hours/week, non-benefitted, year-round schedule, includes Saturdays. \$28.17/hr. Interested applicants are encouraged to submit a town application, resume, and cover letter to Library Director Lisa Sherman at director@edgartownlibrary.org, or mail to Edgartown Public Library, 26 West Tisbury Road, Edgartown, MA 02539. Full job description and application are available at edgartownlibrary.org. Application packets will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Edgartown is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



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Do you love helping families thrive? We're seeking a compassionate and resourceful Service Navigator to support families in identifying resources, solving problems, and building strong community connections. Join a team that values family strengths, diversity, and self-direction across the lifespan. Experience preferred but paid on the job training may be provided. Apply at: mvcommunityservices.org/employment

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HELP WANTED

SEEKING RECEPTIONIST FOR BUSY MEDICAL PRACTICE, SUMMER OR YEAR ROUND, PART TIME WORK MONDAY- THURSDAY.

Must be prompt, detail oriented, patient and kind with elderly persons, and have computer skills. Summer students welcome. Contact Michelle @ 508-560-1174.

SUMMER SITTER – CHILMARK (LATE JULY-AUGUST)

Family with 2.5 year old and newborn seeking a fun sitter for the toddler (pool, beach, games); occasional newborn support; light household help. Mon-Fri, flexible hours, \$25/hr Please text Nora, 202-288-8362

THE GREAT PUT ON IS SEEKING AN ADMINISTRATIVE/OFFICE ASSISTANT TO HELP WITH SHIPMENTS, ONLINE ORDERS, PHONE CALLS, AND ENTERING/RECEIVING ORDERS.

Must be organized and detail-oriented. If interested, email thegreatputonmv@gmail.com or call 508-560-9821

WEST TISBURY SCHOOL

invites applications for the following 2 positions of **Custodian** Competitive pay based on experience full benefits including health/dental & retirement Starting immediately To apply please visit our website at: www.mvyps.org under (Employment > new jobs) or call 508-693-2009

SEASONAL GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

Up-Island residential community is looking for a seasonal worker to join a crew. Must speak English and have a valid driver's license. Duties include lawn mowing and general grounds maintenance. Please call 508 693 0016.



We are looking for a Human Resources Generalist

The Human Resources Generalist will perform the daily functions of the Human Resources (HR) department including interviewing and hiring staff, administering pay, benefits, and leave, and enforcing company policies and practices.

Under the Direction of the Director of Human Resources, key responsibilities include:

- HR Administration & Compliance
- Onboarding
- Payroll & Recordkeeping

Bachelor's degree in Human Resources, Business Administration, or a related field required; equivalent related experience may be considered. This position is full-time, 40 hours/week, with a salary range of \$65,000 - \$75,000/year.

For full job responsibilities and to apply please check our website or scan the QR code: mvcommunityservices.org/employment



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MVTimes

Real Estate

LAND-CHILMARK

CHILMARK GRANDFATHERED LOT .37 ACS FOR SALE

Comes with plot plan, surveyed, and septic designed. \$495K call bob 772-584-9481.

HOUSES-OAK BLUFFS



\$1,790,000 CALL OR TEXT ALAN SCHWEIKERT 508-221-1708 OR MICHAEL SCHWEIKERT 774-563-9112

Oak Bluffs: Waterfront Property at Vineyard Haven Outer Harbor** This is an exceptional opportunity to acquire a stunning white sandy beach property on Vineyard Haven Harbor. This charming island cottage boasts breathtaking panoramic views of the harbor and sound, showcasing magnificent sunsets each evening over the West Chop Peninsula. You can enjoy the lively boating scene, with yachts from around the globe and ferries arriving at port, all in the company of your favorite guests. This picturesque setting is enhanced by the delightful scent of vibrant rugosa roses that adorn the sandy landscape. Experience the unique convenience of storing your paddleboard, kayak, windsurfer, and other watercraft right in your backyard, allowing you to indulge in refreshing swims at your leisure. There is potential for mooring a motor or sailboat, pending approval from the Harbormaster. This property epitomizes the classic Martha's Vineyard experience—creating timeless memories. Additionally, it has a solid rental history. Please note, our information suggests that the adjacent lot is unbuildable; however, we recommend verifying this with the town.



HOUSES-OAK BLUFFS



\$2,250,000 MARILYN MOSES OCEAN PARK REALTY 617-462-0381 NEW CONSTRUCTION

Welcome to Lagoon Ridge, Oak Bluffs' newest and most sought-after neighborhood. Build your 3-bedroom dream home in this elevated enclave, set 95 feet above Lagoon Pond and capturing sweeping sky views, colorful sunsets, and refreshing sea breezes. This exceptional home site represents one of the final opportunities in this thriving new community. To be built — The Naushon — features 3 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, and over 2,400 square feet of thoughtfully designed living space. A grand wrap-around covered porch provides a welcoming entry and the perfect place to enjoy morning coffee or cool evening breezes. Inside, the open-concept floor plan connects the chef's kitchen with spacious living and dining areas, ideal for entertaining family and friends. Each bedroom suite includes a tiled en-suite bath with customizable fixtures and finishes, and the second-floor suites may offer private balconies for added relaxation. Classic Oak Bluffs cottage architecture meets modern comfort and energy efficiency, making The Naushon an ideal year-round or seasonal retreat. Lagoon Ridge offers direct access to conservation lands with walking and biking trails, and nearby Lagoon Pond invites kayaking, sailing, and shell fishing. All utilities—electric, town water, and a private, state-of-the-art Amphidrome wastewater system—are located at the street. This innovative system serves the entire neighborhood, providing convenience and peace of mind. Lagoon Ridge is a covenant-protected community with architectural review and professional management by First Property Management Co. This beautiful home site is ready for the construction of your Vineyard dream home. Eleven lots have sold—only two remain available. Call for details!

HOUSES-OAK BLUFFS



\$500,000 SOLD BY MARILYN MOSES 617-462-0381 .. WONDERING WHAT YOU COTTAGE IS WORTH? CALL OR TEXT ANYTIME!

Experience the charm of 21 Rock Avenue, nestled in the Historic Martha's Vineyard Camp Meeting Association. This year-round cottage features 1 bedroom and 1 bath, and is just moments away from Oak Bluffs Harbor, ferry ports, sandy beaches, art galleries, and delightful restaurants. Recent exterior enhancements include cedar fencing, refreshed house trim, new paint, and an upgraded roof. Please note that the heating system is currently not functioning. Enjoy the convenience of on-site parking. This cottage is also featured in both the Eisenstaedt and Painter Ladies books, adding to its unique appeal.



\$895,000 22 MONTGOMERY SQUARE OAK BLUFFS MARILYN MOSES | 617-462-0381 OCEAN PARK REALTY, INC.

Charming year-round renovated Victorian cottage in the historic Martha's Vineyard Camp Meeting Association, located in the heart of Wesleyan Grove in Oak Bluffs. This 3-bedroom, 1-bath home features shiplap walls, knotty pine ceilings, original wood flooring, and sun-filled interiors throughout. The updated kitchen offers quartz countertops, a farmhouse sink, stylish lighting, and newer energy-efficient appliances. Improvements include Marvin wood windows, a newer roof, hot water tank, and energy-efficient heat pumps for AC and heat. Enjoy a welcoming front porch with colorful gardens and a slate patio with fenced garden space for outdoor dining and relaxing. Just steps to Circuit Avenue, Oak Bluffs Harbor, and nearby beaches.

HOUSES-OAK BLUFFS



IMPROVED PRICE \$700,000 CALL OR TEXT MARILYN MOSES 617-462-0381

Welcome to Lagoon Ridge.....Oak Bluffs' newest and most sought-after neighborhood! Build your 3-bedroom dream home with M Duffany Builders on this lofty setting, 95 feet above Lagoon Pond, featuring sweeping sky views, colorful sunsets, and refreshing salty sea breezes. This exceptional building lot is among the last of the remaining opportunities in this thriving new community. Utilities are already at the site, including town water, electric; and a private Amphidrome wastewater system that will save you the cost and inconvenience of a septic system. Lagoon Ridge borders acres of pristine conservation land with abutting access to scenic biking and hiking trails providing the perfect blend of privacy and outdoor adventure. Located in desirable Oak Bluffs, and central to all down Island towns, this is an active and vibrant community with plenty of construction momentum—don't miss the opportunity to become part of this attractive neighborhood! Easy to show — contact us today for a private tour of this exceptional offering! Price is for lot only, home pictured is a sample of home to be built..call for details.



IMPROVED PRICE: \$1,795,000 CONTACT MARILYN MOSES AT 617-462-0381 FOR MORE DETAILS!**

OCEAN PARK REALTY Discover the beauty of **THE PRESERVE AT THE WOODLANDS** in the highly coveted Oak Bluffs community! This is your chance to own one of the last remaining building lots in this prime location, just moments away from town, beaches, harbor, ferry ports, and the Farm Neck Golf & Tennis Club. Underground utilities are already in place, making this rare offering perfect for developing your dream family compound. Enjoy a peaceful and private setting, surrounded by conservation land and trails ideal for hiking, walking, and biking. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to embrace the Oak Bluffs lifestyle!



NEW LISTING IN OAK BLUFFS \$999,000 ALAN SCHWEIKERT OCEAN PARK REALTY 508-221-1708

Oak Bluffs: Home Sweet Home Situated on over a quarter acre of beautifully landscaped, level grounds with colorful perennial plantings and mature trees, this sun-filled ranch offers a perfect blend of comfort and charm. The open kitchen, dining, and living areas feature cathedral ceilings, classic vertical knotty pine walls, and a cozy brick fireplace. Enjoy a convenient first-floor bedroom and a spacious second-floor primary bedroom with a private deck. The finished basement provides additional living or hobby space. Updates include a 2017 oil burner and Roth oil tank. An inviting outdoor shower completes this well-maintained home, offered furnished and ready for your personal touches. Located in a quiet residential neighborhood close to all that Oak Bluffs has to offer.

HOUSES-OAK BLUFFS



ONE LOT AVAILABLE 35 DOUBLE OX \$700,000 CALL OR TEXT MARILYN MOSES 617-462-0381

FARM NECK GOLF & TENNIS CLUB : The original 1780 Farmhouse was tastefully restored in 1985 to honor the land and legacy of Farm Neck. This serene 3.7-acre oasis of rolling greenery with a variety of mature trees and lots of natural privacy has an up Island feel with the down Island convenience to fine dining, shopping, ferry, airport, bike paths and includes Stockholder Membership in the popular Farm Neck Golf Club. This exceptional property is situated between the 7th and 8th fairways and is just a short walk to the clubhouse restaurant, tennis courts and pro shop. For water enthusiasts there is the opportunity to have a mooring, with Harbor Master approval, off the private beach on Sengekontacket Pond giving you direct boating access to Nantucket Sound. Although this historic home features 5 bedrooms with 4.5 bathrooms and lots of intimate spaces, there is still plenty of room on the property for expansion of the main residence..... with the existing detached garage/ apartment, this country estate is truly an Island treasure that will provide lots of recreational enjoyment for family and friends throughout the years.



PRICE ADJUSTMENT,NOW \$2,600,000 COMMERCIAL B-2 OR RESIDENTIAL OFFERED BY RENE' BEN DAVID/ REALTOR @, OCEAN PARK REALTY INC. 23 Circuit Ave Extension Cell 508-847-4864

3 bedrooms/1 bathroom, Rare Opportunity with Endless Possibilities – Unmatched Harbor & Vineyard Sound Views. Location, Location, Location! A truly rare offering in the heart of Oak Bluffs, where properties like this seldom become available. Positioned directly across from the iconic Oak Bluffs Harbor, this property boasts unobstructed harbor views and sweeping vistas of Vineyard Sound—a setting that captures the very best of island living. From your front yard, watch ferries come and go, boats drift through the harbor, and enjoy the stunning backdrop of open water stretching toward Vineyard Sound. This is a property that puts you right in the middle of everything, while still offering the charm and character of a classic island home. Zoned B-2 Commercial, the opportunities are truly endless. Continue the legacy of a successful tourist-oriented business like the longtime Anderson Bike Rentals, create a new commercial venture, or reimagine the property as your personal dream home. Whether you renovate the existing structure or build from the ground up, you'll benefit from one of the most visible and vibrant locations in Oak Bluffs. Walk to everything—ferries, beaches, the marina, restaurants, movies, shopping, Ocean Park concert s, the OB fishing pier, and the beloved Oak Bluffs Fireworks. This is a must-see, legacy property with rare potential in a location that can't be beat. Very easy to show. Pre-approval or proof of funds required with all offers.

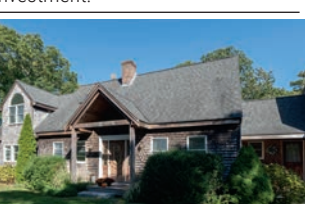
HOUSES-OAK BLUFFS



PRICE IMPROVEMENT 46 KENNEBEC AVENUE OAK BLUFFS, MA \$1,495,000

CALL OR TEXT ALAN SCHWEIKERT 508-221-1708 OR MICHAEL SCHWEIKERT 774-563-9112 OCEAN PARK REALTY

This exquisite Victorian home, lovingly preserved by the same family for over a generation, stands in outstanding condition and is perfectly situated in the vibrant heart of Oak Bluffs Center. Enjoy the convenience of being just steps away from the Public Beach, Steamship Authority, Oak Bluffs Harbor, a supermarket, and a variety of charming restaurants and shops that contribute to Oak Bluffs' allure as a premier summer destination on Martha's Vineyard. This delightful three-season cottage has been carefully modernized over the years, offering a rare investment opportunity. Located within the highly sought-after B1 Zone, this residence has been cherished as a family home while also providing the potential for commercial endeavors. The property features a well-designed floor plan that includes four bedrooms-one conveniently located on the first floor-along with a full bathroom, two half bathrooms, a laundry storage area, an eat-in kitchen, and a cozy living room. The home is adorned with stunning wood flooring throughout, bright and airy rooms with original windows, a new hot water on demand system, and a charming front porch, perfect for leisurely afternoons. With its four bedrooms and prime in-town location, this property offers substantial rental potential, making it an exceptional opportunity for both personal enjoyment and investment.

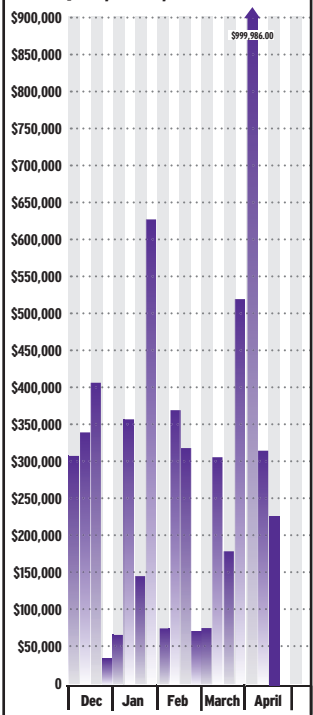


PRIVACY MEETS CONVENIENCE IN OAK BLUFFS JAYNE ISFORD | 203-962-4317 \$1,795,000

Nestled at the end of a quiet street, this roomy and spacious Cape-style home offers privacy and convenience just a short distance to the Oak Bluffs School, town center, and within walking distance to the Lagoon. Sun-filled main level with open floor plan, large windows, and a generous kitchen with ample counter space, opening to the dining area. Sliders lead to a back deck, yard, and bluestone patio ..perfect for entertaining or relaxing. Radiant heated floors in the primary suite and lower-level playroom. Two-car garage with bonus space above. Beautiful stonework driveway. Updated furnace (2020) and water heater (2024).

LAND BANK WEEKLY INCOME

FY 2026, Year to Date: \$16,423,012.77



Real Estate Transactions April 13 - 17, 2026

Aquinnah

April 14, Donald Widdis sold property off 0 Moshup Trail to the Martha's Vineyard Land Bank Commission for \$9,648.

Edgartown

April 14, John Burke and Christopher Violandi sold 0 Harborside Inn Condo Unit 406 Week 26 to Gregory J. Wipf and Barbara L. Wipf for \$29,400.
April 16, Timothy E. Brown II and R. Kristin Finley Brown sold 67 12th St. South to Alisan Lohan-Conway, trustee of 67 Twelfth Street Realty Trust, for \$845,000.
April 16, Truman French sold 36 Boylston Drive to Amanda Rose for \$435,000.
April 17, Lindsey Mercier sold 400 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road to Rhonda Faust for \$915,000.
April 17, Michael L. Stock sold 90 Schoolhouse Road to Vasily Zhulin and Genie Zhulin for \$1,775,000.

Oak Bluffs

April 13, Katherine Schowalter, trustee of 2008 Jane G. Schowalter Residential Trust, transferred

12 Harvester Way to Katherine Schowalter, Mary Raser, and David Schowalter for \$1.
April 15, Long Pond Capital LLC sold 35 New York Ave. to Workforce Housing LLC for \$3,050,000.
April 16, U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as owner-trustee of RCF2 Acquisition Trust, Edward Malley, and Tracy Flyer-Malley, transferred 44 Carole Ave. to SAQO LLC in a foreclosure for \$705,000.
April 17, William S. Sanfilippo and Denise C. Sanfilippo sold 70 Carol Lane to Ana Bessa for \$1,070,000.

Tisbury

April 14, Brian B. Stark, trustee of Stark Family Trust, sold 185 Sandpiper Lane Unit 12 to Julie Jaffe, trustee of Julie Jaffe Revocable Trust, for \$1,150,000.
April 15, Robert M. Stenz and Willard S. Stenz sold 124 Skiff Ave. Unit D-10 to Pays To Be Good LLC for \$550,000.
April 17, Judith A. Salosky and James S. Pepper sold 63 Crowell Lane to Elizabeth P. McCandless and Steven F. McCandless for \$2,485,000.

See What You Can Build for 33% less!

Schedule Your Free In-Person or Video Walk Through Today!

YOU CAN AFFORD TO BUILD ON MARTHA'S VINEYARD

Save 1/3 off convention building methods. New homes and additions. High-end home shells are custom designed, constructed in a controlled environment, and delivered to your MV site for about \$135/sq.ft. (Estimated price for finished house: \$550/sq.ft.) Packages include: Custom design, post and beams, roof and walls, doors and windows, siding and trim, insulation and floors. The pre-construction wall and roof panels go up in about 3 weeks. View model in Aquinnah by appointment. (508) 645-3572 Broker participation invited Posner@MVPostAndBeam.com

Real Estate

HOUSES-OAK BLUFFS



SOLD
\$839,000 CALL OR TEXT MARILYN MOSES 617-462-0381 OCEAN PARK REALTY

Just steps from the iconic Tabernacle and Trinity Park, this charming cottage is nestled in the heart of the historic Martha's Vineyard Camp Meeting Association—a designated National Historic Landmark District. Surrounded by colorful gardens and picturesque pedestrian walkways, it offers an easy stroll to Oak Bluffs Harbor, beaches, ferries, art galleries, restaurants, and all the vibrant charm of town. This delightful two-bedroom, one full bathroom cottage blends historic character with thoughtful updates, making it an ideal 3-season or extended seasonal retreat. With additional insulation under the house, a buyer could potentially make it suitable for year-round use. An expansive wrap-around farmer's porch with classic gingerbread trim invites you to relax and soak in the community's unique atmosphere. Inside, painted wood-beam ceilings, arched windows, and timeless built-in details enhance the welcoming living spaces. A versatile bump-out area offers flexible use as a guest sleeping nook or office, with direct access to the porch for summer breezes. The dining room provides an inviting space for dinner parties and entertaining, while the kitchen with adjoining laundry and pantry adds convenience and charm. The cottage comfortably sleeps seven, including two bedrooms, a single bed in the bump-out, and a sleep sofa in the living room. The property is partially insulated and features propane forced hot-air heat in the kitchen, bathroom, dining room, and one bedroom, with a new furnace installed in 2019. Additional features include an electric stove, refrigerator, washer, dryer, garbage disposal, 50-gallon propane hot water heater, and approximately 200 sq. ft. of storage. Mature gardens and lawn with irrigation further enhance this special offering. Best of all, the cottage is offered TURNKEY and FULLY FURNISHED, ready for you to enjoy from day one.

SOLD
\$4,075,000 CALL OR TEXT JAYNE ISFORD 203-962-4317

Spectacular waterfront home with stunning water views from every room. Situated in a private location in the Sengkontacket Association, this is an exceptional property in a rare setting. In addition to the breathtaking water view of Major's Cove and of Felix Neck throughout the home, the front of the property faces serene pastoral views. This home offers four bedrooms with a main floor master and ensuite, exquisite craftsmanship throughout and a unique setting on the water. Great care was taken in the planning of this home to ensure maximum enjoyment of the tranquil surroundings and views. Each of three bedrooms on the second floor has a water view. The quality of materials used in the construction of this home is outstanding. As you walk through the property, the landscaping and gardens are impeccable and have been featured in MV Magazine. The back yard gently slopes down to the water. Carefully planned by the owners, this home was constructed to follow net zero design principles which provide an energy-efficient retreat. Completely renovated in 2014 and lovingly maintained, this property is a true one-of-a-kind sanctuary on the Vineyard.

HOUSES-OAK BLUFFS



SOLD
OAK BLUFFS SENGEKONTACKET \$1,995,000 CALL OR TEXT JAYNE ISFORD 203-962-4317

This delightful home is on a scenic lot nestled within the Sengkontacket Association. Every room in the home is filled with natural light and beautiful views. It is a very short walking distance to the community boat dock and kayaking, as well as the walking trails of Sengkontacket. Updated in 2008 by the architect owner, this home has 3 bedrooms in the main house and a lovely bedroom and bathroom in the studio that is attached to the main home by a stunning overhead trumpet walkway. Cathedral ceilings in the main family room and kitchen with light from every angle. The renovated kitchen, living room and addition of a screened porch complete the main floor of the home. The lower level of the home has 3 sets of sliding glass doors that walk out to the gardens. There are 2 large bedrooms, one full bathroom and a separate washer and dryer room. The top floor has a completely updated and very large master and ensuite with lovely views of the property and surrounding woodlands. This property has an intimate feel because of the care taken with the design but also allows for everyone to have their own private space for relaxation due to the large square footage and open floor plan. There is also an outdoor fire pit and large wrap around deck off of the main floor. Solar panels on the main home. Family members and friends leave after their visits to 26 Box Turtle each year saying, "When can we come back". A special home in a special location. The Sengkontacket Association has an active group of pickleball and tennis residents who will welcome you on the courts. Owners will offer a 1997 Island Jeep Wrangler to be included in the sale of this property with roughly 55,000 miles.



SOLD \$815,000 AND CLOSED IN LESS THAN 30 DAYS MARILYN MOSES 617-462-0381

Welcome to 17 Siloam Avenue, a delightful cottage nestled in the historic Martha's Vineyard Camp Meeting Association, offering spectacular sunset views of Sunset Lake and the distant harbor from its inviting porches. The current owners have cherished this home year-round for 13 years, and it's easy to see why. This spacious residence features an open living and dining area that seamlessly flows into a beautifully renovated kitchen, perfect for both family gatherings and entertaining. The first floor also includes a delightful partially renovated bathroom adorned with attractive painted wood beam ceilings, adding a touch of elegance to the space. Venture to the second floor, where you'll find three comfortable bedrooms filled with natural light thanks to the abundant windows. Located just steps away from the harbor, beaches, ferry ports, and all the vibrant attractions that Oak Bluffs has to offer, this cottage is the perfect retreat for those seeking both tranquility and adventure. Don't miss your chance to own a piece of this picturesque location! Most of the furniture is included and personal items will be removed prior to closing.

HOUSES-OAK BLUFFS



SOLD
\$899,000 NEW SPRING LISTING CALL OR TEXT MARILYN MOSES 617-462-0381

Experience the charm of this exquisitely renovated Victorian Gingerbread Cottage, nestled within the historic Martha's Vineyard Camp Meeting Association. Just moments away from Oak Bluffs Harbor, ferry terminals, art galleries, restaurants, public beaches, and vibrant shopping areas, this cottage offers an unparalleled location next to all of Oak Bluffs' picturesque parks. This rare gem features two side yards adorned with vibrant landscaping, enhancing its curb appeal. Step inside to discover a breathtaking chef's kitchen, designed with chic shiplap walls and custom cabinetry. Recent updates include a brand-new roof, modern electrical and plumbing systems, a state-of-the-art HVAC system, and energy-efficient, high-quality Blomberg appliances. The cottage showcases gleaming hardwood floors throughout, complemented by a fresh coat of paint and designer finishes that add a touch of elegance. This three-season home is move-in ready, making it the perfect place to enjoy a fantastic location where everything is within walking distance.



SOLD & CLOSED IN 30 DAYS \$1,995,000 CALL OR TEXT MARILYN MOSES 617-462-0381 HOUSE & STUDIO ABOVE GARAGE~

Welcome to 26 Tia Anna Lane! This exquisite residence is immaculate, stylish, and fully renovated, ready to welcome its new owners! Situated on a beautifully landscaped 0.30-acre lot adorned with vibrant plantings, the home boasts pristine conditions both inside and out, featuring newer Hardi Plank siding. The inviting farmer's porch, complete with Mahogany decking, sets the tone for this charming property, while a lovely pergola graces the back of the house. Upon entering, you are welcomed by a whitewashed wood with high ceiling that enhances the warm ambiance. The flooring throughout the home is first-growth Southern Pine, meticulously crafted with pegged and bunged details. The expansive entrance leads into the living and kitchen areas, which are bathed in natural light, creating an airy atmosphere. Uncover the charm of the wood-burning stove nestled in the family room, equipped with a circulating fan adds warmth, efficiency and focal point for gatherings. Culinary enthusiasts will appreciate the kitchen, which is outfitted with stainless steel GE Cafe Series appliances, attractive quartz countertops, walk in pantry and ample cabinet space to store all your cooking essentials. The screened porch offers an ideal setting for entertaining guests or enjoying a peaceful morning coffee amidst the lush surroundings. All bathrooms in the home have been meticulously renovated, ensuring modern elegance and functionality, while custom window treatments elevate the aesthetic. Additional updates include, a hot water heater (installed in 2020), pull-down stairs to a fully insulated attic (upgraded in 2021), energy-efficient heat and air conditioning with mini-splits, in ground sprinkler system for easy maintenance and a forced hot water boiler for optimal comfort throughout the year. The beautifully landscaped yard provides ample space for outdoor enjoyment, and deeded access to the Lagoon from Gull Landing opens up opportunities for kayaking, swimming, fishing, boating, clamming or simply savoring the picturesque waterfront scenery. Call now for your private tour!

HOUSES-OAK BLUFFS



SOLD
BEING OFFERED BY RENE BEN DAVID/OCEAN PARK REALTY INC. CELL 508-847-4864 \$1,250,000 11 ONONDAGA AVE, OAK BLUFFS OPEN HOUSE

Comfortable Island Home on a Quiet Dead-End Road in Oak Bluffs: Welcome to 11 Onondaga Avenue, the second home on the left on a short, quiet dead-end road in a well-established Oak Bluffs neighborhood enjoyed by both year-round and seasonal residents. This well-cared-for 3-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom home offers space, comfort, and a truly inviting island lifestyle—just a short walk to the Oak Bluffs Sailing Camp Park and beach, where beautiful sunsets over the water await. Inside, the open-concept layout connects the kitchen and dining area to the living room, creating a bright and functional space perfect for both entertaining and relaxed daily living. An inviting deck off the dining room extends your living space outdoors into a serene landscaped setting ideal for enjoying meals in the fresh Vineyard air. The home is set on a peaceful lot with both front and back yards offering a sense of seclusion and space to enjoy. Upstairs, the primary bedroom features an en suite with a shower, providing a comfortable and quiet retreat. Two additional bedrooms and a full bath complete the upper level, and a half bath with washer/dryer is conveniently located on the main floor. The full basement includes both indoor and outdoor access, offering flexibility and additional potential. A finished room in the basement is ready for your creative touch—whether as a media room, home office, playroom, or guest overflow. The property also includes a spacious storage shed and a driveway that easily fits three to four cars. A new roof installed in 2023 adds peace of mind and value. Located minutes from downtown Oak Bluffs, local beaches, ferries, and all the charm the Vineyard has to offer, this home is ready to be your island getaway, year-round residence, or next investment.

HOUSES-OAK BLUFFS



SOLD
BEING OFFERED BY RENE' BEN DAVID, REALTOR @ AT OCEAN PARK REALTY INC. CALL OR TEXT 508-847-4864. \$999,999.00

Location, Location, Location! This unique property on the beautiful island of Martha's Vineyard presents an incredible opportunity for the buyer with vision to complete and personalize a home full of potential. The original residence, built in 1920, offers 2 bedrooms and 1 bath and has been expanded with a substantial newer addition, creating increased living space and a finished garage area suitable for storage or future use. Above the garage, another 2 bedrooms and a full bath await final town approvals — providing the perfect framework for an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) or additional living quarters. With creativity and planning, this property could be transformed into a spacious single-family home or a multifamily residence. Set on a large corner lot within walking distance to town, the ferries, and the harbor, the location alone makes this a must-see. The property also features a newer 4-bedroom septic system installed in 2006, which has already been inspected and passed. After being lovingly cared for by the same family, the three siblings who inherited the home are now ready to pass it along to new owners who can bring their own vision to life. This year-round residence is truly a property you need to visit in person to fully appreciate its possibilities. Seller is offering buyer's broker compensation.



SOLD
COASTAL CHIC CONDO PRICE IMPROVEMENT \$1,149,000 SENGEKONTACKET WATERFRONT COMMUNITY | MARTHA'S VINEYARD

Stylish, sunlit, and superbly located — this architecturally designed end-unit townhouse offers 2 bedrooms, a flexible third-floor loft, and 1.5 baths across 1,323 sq. ft. Enjoy a sleek chef's kitchen with stone countertops, custom built-ins, and a 288 sq. ft. private deck ideal for entertaining. With upgraded flooring, windows, systems, and a successful rental history, this property is perfect for year-round living or as a strong investment.

Community amenities include:

- Access to fresh & saltwater ponds
- Ocean access dock + boat ramp
- Clubhouse, tennis/pickleball courts
- Kayak storage + potential mooring
- Minutes to Farm Neck, bike paths & beaches

Offered \$1,149,000 Exclusively by: Marilyn Moses | REALTOR®
 617-462-0381 | marilyn@oceanparkmv.com

HOUSES-VINEYARD HAVEN



SOLD \$2,400,000 Marilyn Moses 617-462-0381, Michael Schweikert 774-563-9112, Alan Schweikert 508-221-1708 15 Main Street Vineyard Haven \$2,900,000

Prime Commercial Building — Main Street, Vineyard Haven Exceptional opportunity in the heart of downtown Vineyard Haven. This well-maintained mixed-use property offers over 3,100 sq ft of versatile space, featuring two ground-floor retail storefronts with excellent street visibility and two updated 1-bedroom apartments above—ideal for staff housing or rental income. A full basement provides flexible storage or utility space, and deeded rear access allows for deliveries and logistical ease. Recent updates include plumbing improvements and a fully renovated apartment. Whether you're an investor seeking steady income, a business owner looking for a flagship location, or a developer exploring mixed-use potential, this property delivers exceptional value in one of Martha's Vineyard's most desirable commercial corridors.

HOUSES-WEST TISBURY



WEST TISBURY \$1,485,000 CALL OR TEXT MARILYN MOSES 617-462-0381

This coastal contemporary residence is located on a private 1.60-acre lot in West Tisbury, with convenient access to Long Point Wildlife Refuge. The home features four bedrooms and two full bathrooms. On the first floor, you'll find two bright bedrooms, a modernized bathroom, and sliders from the living area that lead to a new AZEK deck and enclosed fenced gardens, perfect for outdoor enjoyment. The open floor plan includes attractive beadboard ceilings that create a sense of space and light. Recent upgrades feature a remodeled kitchen with a tiled backsplash, granite countertops, and an LG induction stove along with matching stainless-steel appliances. The first-floor bathroom has been fully renovated with a tiled shower and glass door, tiled floor, new toilet, vanity/mirror, rainfall showerhead and all new hardware. Additional updates include a newer roof, Azek window trim, an outdoor shower enclosure, and gutters with leaf guards. The basement has a 9-foot ceiling with four windows, providing potential for further finishing with town approval. Other improvements include updated plumbing and electrical systems, a new well pressure tank, new Culligan Water Filtration and Conditioning system, and a Generac whole-house generator installed in 2022. Partially furnished and with additional updates available in the documents, this property is well cared for and ready for new owners. Potential to be a STRONG RENTAL PROPERTY.

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EMAIL VALERIE@MVTIMES.COM, OR CALL 508-693-6100.



Classifieds

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

COMMERCIAL CONDO FOR RENT/SALE AT TISBURY MARKET PLACE

600 sq ft. First floor unit. Call Leslie for details 508-333-1000.

FURNISHED OFFICE SPACE VH

600 SQ FT. Suitable for office use only. Includes conference room, 2 offices & reception area. Utilities not included. Includes 2 parking spaces. 508-221-0858.

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE AT WAKEMAN CENTER, 57 DAVID AVE, VINEYARD HAVEN.

3 rooms, 387 sf, \$2400. Must qualify as non-profit or public organization that conserves land, water, preserves scenic views, open spaces, performs land use planning, performs research related to protection, conservation or supports agriculture or recreation. Contact Wakemancenter@gmail.com

OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE AVAILABLE VINEYARD HAVEN

11 A Evelyn Way. 675 square foot unit, bathroom, back deck, plenty of parking. Year-round lease. All electric heat and utilities. \$3500 a month, available immediately. First and last month rent & security deposit required. Contact Chris 508-627-2895 for appointment.

SUMMER RENTALS

CUSTOM ARTISAN CRAFTSMAN CARRIAGE HOUSE IN WEST TISBURY FOR MONTHLY RENTAL WITH UPPER LEVEL LIVING SPACE

One bedroom with king size bed and large loft area with full size bed. Beautiful woodworking throughout home. Conveniently located and close to shopping and beaches. July and August \$11,000 per month. June and September \$6,000 per month. 508-221-2796

EDGARTOWN: 2 BEDROOM/2 BATH COTTAGE W/STUDIO

Sleeps 6. Wks in August & September available. Close to village & State Beach. \$3800/week Oak Bluffs waterfront: Classic cottage 3 Bedrooms/1 Bath Sleeps 6; access to Pond for kayaking, canoeing -July & August wks available \$3800/week. Call 508 308 0900



APARTMENTS/ROOMS

1 BEDROOM APARTMENT AVAILABLE NOW

Weekly, monthly rates. Possible year round. Near OB school, short walk to town. Inquire at 9GoodeSt@gmail.com

YEAR ROUND

Studio, one person only, full-time, day-worker preferred. West Tisbury. No smokers, no pets. Partially furnished or not. Start April-1st. \$1,750. Utilities included. Application & references, first/last/security. 508-693-9199.

PETS & LIVESTOCK

HORSE AVAILABLE FOR HALF LEASE

Enzo, a stunning 18-hand chestnut with beautiful floating gaits and excellent movement. Son of the Olympic dressage sire Glock's Johnson. Available May 1 through next winter at a beautiful farm in Vineyard Haven, currently training with a well-known trainer off-island with access to an indoor arena. Enzo also jumps beautifully. Also available is Diamond, another large 18-hand chestnut, Enzo's companion, offered for an inexpensive full lease for pleasure riding. Suitable for advanced riders only. Lease is \$1,000/month each (negotiable). Owner pays board, vet, and shoes - an exceptional opportunity to ride truly stunning horses. Text (310) 213-5472 for videos and more information.

ARTICLES FOR SALE

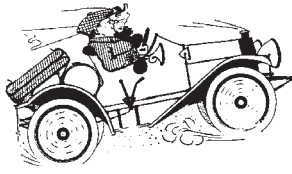
FOR SALE CHEAP!!!

Love seat, matching sofa, end table, wicker chair and stool in good condition. Must go! Oak Bluffs- Call 973-885-2961 leave msg.

BOAT SALES

12' LUND SKIFF

9.9 Mercury 2 stroke oars, gas tank, anchor. \$2500 or best offer. Eric 508-939-0529



BOAT SALES



2005 28' GRADY WHITE CENTER CONSOLE 283.

Twin Yamaha 225s(1430 hours) Garmin electronics, deep-V hull, trailer, head, collapsible spreaders, live well. Great fishing boat and comfortable day cruiser. \$65,000 Text or email: matt.nerney@gmail.com, 617-416-6029



MARSHALL SANDERLING 18' SAILBOAT - CLASSIC CENTERBOARD CATBOAT WITH TILLER.

Sails beautifully in shallow water and can be beached - the quintessential Cape Cod/Martha's Vineyard boat. Includes trailer, sail, cushions, life vests, bronze step - fully equipped and ready to enjoy. Stored under tarp; needs wash and fresh bottom/cockpit paint. \$6,400 OBO. Vineyard sale preferred. Must pick up; seller cannot transport. Text for details (407) 625-1475

SERVICES

MY HANDYMAN SERVICES/PROPERTY

PAINT, DUMP RUN, TILE/STONE WORK, CARPENTRY, WINDOWS/DOORS, SHINGLES, GUTTER CLEAN-UP, DECK REJUVENATE, POWER WASHER, ROOFS, BASEMENT/GARAGE CLEAN UP, Certified Mold Inspector & Remediator, French Drain Installation. 508-684-0242., RENATO myhandymanimv@gmail.com

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT INVITATION TO BID SALE OF SURPLUS VEHICLES EQUIPMENT #2026-01

The Martha's Vineyard Transit Authority (VTA) is requesting sealed bids for the sale of one (1) 2016 Ford Transit Van, one (1) John Bean Tire Balancer, one (1) Ranger Tire Machine and one pair (1) Ideal Column Lifts.

The above vehicles and equipment have been taken out of VTA service and will be sold in "as is" condition with no warranty expressed or implied. The VTA urges prospective bidders to view the vehicles and equipment before submitting a bid. The above vehicles and equipment will be available for inspection by APPOINTMENT ONLY at 11 A Street in the Airport Business Park, Edgartown, MA, by calling (508) 693-9440 ext. 125 or emailing info@vineyardtransit.com. No walk-in inspections will be allowed. Sealed bids must be accompanied by a certified bank check in the amount of the bid for EACH vehicle or equipment being bid on. All bids must be received at the VTA Administrative Office no later than 12:00PM on Monday, April 27, 2026, and must be submitted on the forms supplied in the bid package by the VTA.

The VTA reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids, and to waive informalities and irregularities as it deems in its best interest. Complete instructions are contained in the bid package available from the VTA at this email address: info@vineyardtransit.com or online at https://www.vineyardtransit.com/bids.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD

DRAFT FFY 2027-2031 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC) Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) has released the Draft FFY 2027-2031 TIP for 21-day public review and comment period at its April 15th, 2026, JTC meeting.

The public comment period will end at 5:00 PM on Wednesday, May 6th, 2026.

Please send written comments to Michael Mauro via email at: mauro@mvcommission.org or to:

Joint Transportation Committee P.O. Box 1447 Oak Bluffs, MA, 02557

Copies of the document are available for review on our website at http://www.mvcommission.org, and/or upon request. A HYBRID public meeting of the MVC and Martha's Vineyard MPO advisory committee, the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC), is scheduled for May 20th, 2026, at 10:00 AM. Please contact Michael Mauro at 508-338-7315 for further information.

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. DU26P0046EA

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court

Estate of: John Henry Randolph, III

Also known as: John H. Randolph, III

Date of Death: 03/18/2026

Dukes Probate and Family Court

PO Box 237 81 Main Street Edgartown, MA 02539 (508)627-4703

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Kimberly R. Araujo of Oak Bluffs MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Kimberly R. Araujo of Oak Bluffs MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond

LEGAL NOTICES

in unsupervised IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding.

To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/12/2026.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Susan L. Jacobs, First Justice of this Court.

Date: April 09, 2026 Daphne DeViles, Register of Probate

LEGAL NOTICES TISBURY

TOWN OF TISBURY OFFICE OF PLANNING BOARD

PO BOX 602 VINEYARD HAVEN, MASSACHUSETTS

WWW.TISBURYMA.GOV

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to MGL Ch. 40A, s. 9; and section 06.06.08 of the Tisbury Zoning Bylaw, the Tisbury Planning Board will hold a hybrid (zoom link below) public hearing on May 6th, 2026 at 5pm at the Town Hall Annex at 66 Highpoint Lane and via zoom at a regularly scheduled meeting to consider a change of operator for the food establishment located at 13 Beach St Ext.

and to consider exterior changes to the outdoor seating area and other landscaping changes.

Locus: 13 Beach St Ext., Tisbury, MA - Assessor's Parcel 09-C-01 Property Owner: FLOWERWOOD LLC

Applicant: Junior De Olivera Join Zoom Meeting https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83837295409 Meeting ID: 838 3729 5409 Passcode: 504871

A copy of the application and plans are available to review. Please send an email to tisburypanningboard@tisburyma.gov with your request. Interested parties are invited to send comments and/or attend the virtual meeting.

TOWN OF TISBURY OFFICE OF PLANNING BOARD

PO BOX 602 VINEYARD HAVEN, MASSACHUSETTS

WWW.TISBURYMA.GOV

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to MGL Ch. 40A, s. 9; and section 07.16 of the Tisbury Zoning Bylaw, the Tisbury Planning Board will hold a hybrid (zoom link below) public hearing on May 6th, 2026 at 5pm at the Town Hall Annex at 66 Highpoint Lane and via zoom at a regularly scheduled meeting to consider a change of wireless communication equipment located on the roof of a commercial building.

Locus: 190 Beach Rd., Tisbury, MA - Assessor's Parcel 10-A-01 Property Owner: Tisbury Marine Terminals LLC

Applicant: Tim Greene (AT&T) Join Zoom Meeting https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83837295409 Meeting ID: 838 3729 5409 Passcode: 504871

A copy of the application and plans are available to review. Please send an email to tisburypanningboard@tisburyma.gov with your request. Interested parties are invited to send comments and/or attend the virtual meeting.

LEGAL NOTICES TISBURY

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PO BOX 602 VINEYARD HAVEN, MASSACHUSETTS

WWW.TISBURYMA.GOV

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to MGL Ch. 40A, s. 9; and sections 05.11, 05.12, 05.12.01, 05.13 and 13.02 of the Tisbury Zoning Bylaw, the Tisbury Planning Board will hold a hybrid (zoom link below) public hearing on May 6th, 2026 at 5pm at the Town Hall Annex at 66 Highpoint Lane and via zoom at a regularly scheduled meeting to consider a resumption on an application to renovate and add onto an existing commercial structure in the BI District to accommodate mixed use development consisting of fourteen (14) residential units (one Affordable at 80% AMI, one Community at 150% AMI, eight (8) year-round workforce, and four (4) market rate unrestricted units) and three (3) commercial units. Plans include the construction of a four-story addition in the rear of the building, along with exterior building repairs and overall property development.

Locus: 4 State Rd, Tisbury, MA - Assessor's Parcel 09-A-06 Owner: 4 STATE ROAD MCV LLC Agent: Xerxes Aghassipour Join Zoom Meeting https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83837295409 Meeting ID: 838 3729 5409 Passcode: 504871

A copy of the application and plans are available to review. Please send an email to tisburypanningboard@tisburyma.gov with your request. Interested parties are invited to send comments and/or attend the virtual meeting.

Locus: 13 Beach St Ext., Tisbury, MA - Assessor's Parcel 09-C-01 Property Owner: FLOWERWOOD LLC

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BargainBox

4 HI FI SPEAKERS 10 X18

\$25 Each 508-627-0602

5' X 10' DOG KENNEL

Free. 508-693-0674.

75 LB. MUSHROOM MOORING, \$75

Danforth fluke anchor, \$85

13 blue French jelly jars, \$25

2 USCG 1965 maps of Nantucket, \$20 each 508-693-7558

FREE BED FRAME

Adjustable metal frame for queen or king mattress sets. Excellent condition. Pic on request. 508-326-2500. text or call.

GE UNDERCOUNTER FRIDGE,

WHITE, ENERGY STAR

Very good condition. 33"; tall, 20"; deep, 18.5"; wide \$100 OBO. West Tisbury Text 508-560-0260

JIGSAW PUZZLES SCRABBLE, PARCHEESI, ETC.

Good/Excellent condition. \$3-\$12. 508-693-7472 -Call anytime, 7:30am-12:30pm is best.

Bargain Box ads are free; call and renew after 2 weeks
24 words maximum • Maximum sale price is \$100 • Prices must be listed with each item.

BUSINESSES MAY LIST FREE ITEMS ONLY. NO LISTINGS FOR ANIMALS.
LISTED FLOWERS, GARDEN PLANTS, FIREWOOD, AND MANURE MUST BE FREE.

SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS MEANS ADVERTISING LOCAL TOO



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Legal Notices



Tisbury voters to consider elimination of short-term rental cap

Overrides and various bylaw amendments will be before voters at town meeting.

BY EUNKI SEONWOO

Tisbury voters will be considering potential amendments to zoning bylaws, one of which proposes the elimination of a cap on short-term rentals, at the town meeting next week.

Tisbury is scheduled to hold its annual and special town meetings on April 28 at the Tisbury School

gymnasium at 7 pm.

Among the articles is a town proposal to eliminate the 75-night limit on short-term rental units. This was proposed by Roy Cutrer, a select board member in Tisbury, as a way to boost revenue for the town. But other town officials, including those on the affordable housing com-

mittee, have raised concerns about how to enforce the bylaw, if enacted, and the potential disruptions.

The town is also proposing a series of amendments to bylaws related to accessory dwelling units (ADUs), including clarifications to plumbing and what conditions would allow wastewater systems to

connect to an ADU.

Several citizens' petitions will be considered by voters, including a proposal to expand the select board from three members to five and a proposed opposition to the widespread deployment of automatic license plate recognition technology to protect drivers' privacy.

Another warrant article submitted by Tisbury residents asks voters to consider whether the town should formally condemn U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for "violations of local zoning and inhumane treatment of detainees."

Meanwhile, the town is

requesting it be allowed to collect funds through real estate and property taxes, including a \$1 million override to fund in part the town's and Tisbury School's operating budgets and to pay for the \$3 million sewer collection system expansion in the State Road sewer district. These requests are ballot questions, so even if voters approve them at town meeting they will need to be approved again at the annual town election on May 12 at the Tisbury Emergency Services Facility.

Tisbury's proposed town budget for fiscal year 2027 is \$43.81 million, an around 5 percent increase from the fis-

cal year 2026 budget of \$41.45 million. But the town is also facing great financial pressures, as stated in a February report compiled by UMB Collins, as deficits grow and Tisbury looks toward implementing various capital projects, such as upgrades to its wastewater management system and its share for the replacement of the local high school.

The warrant also has a slew of expenditure requests from the town, including spending \$85,000 to remove an abandoned vessel named Seeker and borrowing \$12 million for a new water tank. **MVT**

Continued from A7

obituaries

Robert L. Burnham, 85, of Edgartown, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on April 13, 2026.

Robert was born on the Island on Dec. 10, 1940. He lived in Edgartown his entire life, and attended the Edgartown School. Robert married his wife Yvonne, also of Edgartown, on Sept. 9, 1961.

"Grampy" was a man of quiet strength, unwavering dedication, and deep love for his family. He will be remembered for his warm presence, his strong hands, and the steady way he moved through life, always with purpose, always putting those he loved first.

He had a wonderful voice and was rarely without a song, often whistling or singing his favorites as he went about his day. Though he didn't have pets in recent years, he found joy in the birds he fed and watched so closely, treating them as his own.

He was the hardest-working person we knew. A true craftsman, he put a hammer in hand and a pencil on his ear without hesitation. He was the town assessor in Edgartown for 27 years, and the chairman of the water commission in Edgartown, as well as on the building committee that helped build the Edgartown School. He also built many homes over the years, and was more recently a caretaker in Edgartown. Time spent learning from him wasn't just about the work — it was about witnessing his skill, his patience, and his pride in doing things right.

Grampy was fearless in ways that made us both laugh and admire him. He would come home from work sometimes with blood on his hand, unaware of when he'd been hurt, brushing it off as just another day. He was the one we turned to for advice, the one who grounded us. Strong in every sense, he was affectionately told he was "made of steel," yet his love was gentle and constant. He devoted himself fully to his family, especially to his beloved wife of 65 years, whose partnership with him remains an enduring example of love and commitment.

Grampy lived an active life. He was always on the move, always fixing, building, or improving something. He loved

fishing, and proudly held onto the memory of a winning bass he caught in the Derby. He enjoyed golfing, encouraging and supporting every effort with quiet pride.

He was both teacher and companion — the one who would sit down to talk through life's challenges, even finances, and the one who stayed up late playing cards, laughing over games of bid whist. He also enjoyed participating in the family fantasy football league, preparing carefully with handwritten notes, and taking every pick seriously.

Robert is survived by his wife, Yvonne Burnham; his children, Melissa Kuehne (David), Amy Lucier (Scott), Jennifer, and Christopher Burnham (Lisa); grandchildren, Megan Panek (William), Amanda, Tayla, Skylar, Jason, Brady, and Anabelle; and by his great-grandchildren, Augustus and Harper. The memories he created, the lessons he shared, and the love he gave so freely will live on through them. Robert was predeceased by his sister, Alma West; and his parents, Bertha and Elmer Burnham.

He will be deeply missed and forever loved.

A celebration of life will be held at a date to be determined. In lieu of flowers, please make all donations to the Martha's Vineyard Center for Living, online at bit.ly/MVCL_Donation.

Patricia Bergeron

A graveside service for **Patricia Bergeron** will be held on Friday, May 1, at 12:30 pm in the Sacred Heart Cemetery, on Vineyard Ave., Oak Bluffs, where Tricia's ashes will be laid to rest alongside her beloved son, Eric, honoring the unbreakable bond they shared.

Carl J. Lawrence

Carl J. Lawrence, 85, died on April 14, 2026, at his home in Oak Bluffs. He was the husband of Molly Mattoon, and brother of William Lawrence. His memorial service will be held at a later date, and a complete obituary will follow in another edition of this paper. Visit chapmanfuneral.com for online guestbook and information.

Stephen Searle



Stephen Searle ("Steve") died peacefully on April 16, 2026, at Navigator Homes in Edgartown, with his sister Georgia Morris and brother-in-law Len Morris at his side. He was 81 years old.

Steve grew up in Ocean City, N.J., with Georgia and their parents, Jane and Herbert Searle, formerly of Vineyard Haven. The sound of rolling ocean waves accompanied him most of his life; he grew up at the seashore, and spent his last 20 years on the Vineyard. Steve always had a love of sports, and survived a lifelong passion for the ups and downs of the Philadelphia Phillies. He played on the Island softball league, graduating to scorekeeper, and was featured by The Martha's Vineyard Times in a photo captioned, "Affable Steve Searle keeps the score."

Steve graduated with a degree in philosophy from Wake Forest University, and had varied work experiences, from sports journalism in his 20s to work in a newspaper-printing business to periods of travel, and finally work at the Tisbury landfill, instructing residents where to distribute their recyclables.

Steve is survived by Georgia and Len; his nephew Sam Morris, and Sam's fiancée Nathalie Biddle; niece Lily Morris and her husband Gavriel Cohen; and great-nephew Zev. Steve had many friends on the Vineyard, living in Vineyard Haven, and at Windemere and Navigator Homes, where he was surrounded by loving care. Donations in Steve's memory can be made to Martha's Vineyard Community Services, online at mvcommunityservices.org/donate, which has helped him in his life's journey.

Howard W. Leonard Jr.



Howard W. Leonard Jr. ("Howie"), 74, of Palmyra, Pa., passed away peacefully with family by his side on Sunday, March 22, 2026. He was born in Oak Bluffs to Howard W. Leonard Sr. and Marjorie (Jackman) Leonard. He is survived by his loving wife and best friend of 50 years, Helen (Tam) Leonard.

Howie was a graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and went on to be a CPA and partner of an accounting firm in Keene, N.H. After moving to Pennsylvania, he worked for a CPA firm in Hershey, Pa., for several years. He volunteered for many community organizations, especially in the New Hampshire area.

Howie enjoyed running, so much so that he ran approximately 60,000 miles before he was 71 years old. He also was a semiprofessional clown who enjoyed entertaining children. More than anything, he enjoyed coaching children, and being there for his kids' and grandkids' activities.

Howie is survived by his loving wife and best friend of 50 years, Helen (Tam) Leonard; his children, William, and Kem (and husband David); four grandsons; two brothers; four sisters; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be held on Saturday, April 25, at 11 am at Oak Grove Cemetery in Oak Bluffs.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in Howie's memory to Hospice of Central PA, 1320 Linglestown Road, Harrisburg, PA 17110, or to any organization dedicated to the research of ALS, or to any charity of choice.

Madeleine Perry



There will be a celebration of life for Madeleine Perry ("Cookie") on May 9, 2026, at the Ritz Café, 4 Circuit Ave., Oak Bluffs, from 1 to 4 pm.

Marsha Susan Gagnon



Marsha Susan (Brown) Gagnon of Dreamers Way, Oak Bluffs, passed away at home, surrounded by loved ones, on April 16, 2026, due to a lengthy illness. She had been in the care of the Hospice of Martha's Vineyard at home for some time.

Marsha was born in Arlington on March 31, 1949, to Anne Beatrice (Yelland) Brown and Ralph "Buster" Brown. She was the paternal granddaughter of Captain St. Claire and Elizabeth (Moorehouse) Brown of Edgartown, and maternal granddaughter of Elwin and Ethel (Elwell) Yelland.

Marsha attended Fitchburg State College. She married Leo Joseph Gagnon on March 16, 1972, in Hudson, N.H. Leo was always her compass in life; his wisdom and guidance were not to be denied. "He is my best friend," she would tell her children fondly. They were an exceptional team in any endeavor they took on.

Marsha got her energy and peacekeeping abilities from her lifelong trips to the beaches

of Martha's Vineyard, where she would go between school years and eventually end up settling. She worked for a time for Polaroid, Sanders Associates, and the Nashua School District before relocating to Oak Bluffs. She enjoyed art, antiques, furniture restoration, home remodeling, and being creative through self-expression. On her path of creativity, with the help of her sister Pam Quimby's talents, the two joined forces and began their own decorative painting and wallpapering business. Many homes in southern New Hampshire were blessed with their insights.

Marsha found her love for life through her husband Leo, and her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She always looked at situations as "the glass is half full" so as not to focus on all the negative aspects there are in the world.

She would usually greet the day with a happy or silly song that seemed to be meant for you only. Her apparent goal in life was to be the best possible mother and caretaker for her family that she could. Marsha would be your biggest fan. Her zest for her children and life led her down many roads — one being a cafeteria manager for Fairgrounds and Bicentennial elementary schools in Nashua, N.H.

Marsha was also a big animal lover. From the first family pet to the last, her kindness extended to rescuing those that desperately needed a warm, safe, and loving home. Her King Charles Cavalier, Bandit, lay by her side for days until she passed.

Marsha is survived by her sisters, Sandra (Brown) Cournoyer and Pamela (Brown) Quimby, both of Oak Bluffs; her devoted husband of 54 years, Leo Joseph Gagnon; daughters Jennifer (Gagnon) Whitney and her husband Joseph of Vero Beach, Fla., and Alyson Gagnon of Nashua, N.H.; grandchildren Chelsea Sylvain of Wauregan, Conn., Sheridan (Sylvain) Ali and her husband Santiago of Manchester, N.H., and Connor Gagnon of Nashua, N.H.; and great-grandchildren, siblings Bryce Gagnon and Quinton Legacy, and Ahzira Ali.

Services will be held at a later date this fall. **MVT**

Girls' tennis prepares for another promising season

The Vineyard team defeated state champions Dover-Sherborn this month.

BY NICHOLAS VUKOTA

The Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) girls' varsity tennis team remains undefeated so far this spring season after defeating Falmouth 5-0 on Thursday at the Island's Ned Fennessy Courts.

The Vineyarders, who finished as Division 3 state runner-ups last year, improved their record to 7-0 this season on Thursday. Despite graduating three key players from last year's team, Ellie Pennington, Ella Moran, and Clementine Zander, they have impressive depth in their roster.

Head Coach Bill Rigali praised the team's performance on Thursday, noting several players had to step into different lineup positions. Junior Leah Thomson delivered a strong showing at third singles, while junior Maple Martone performed well and took the win at first doubles alongside junior Zoe Treitman. Junior Leela Khelalfa and freshman Gabriella Schilling in second doubles also took the win, and Laina Dubin battled at first singles for

the victory. Freshman stand-out Josey Johns was the final match of the day; she battled for hours but took the win in two sets. Assistant Coach Ed Stahl praised her steady style of play and fundamental skill.

Rigali described Laina as the spirit of the Vineyard team. She led the Vineyarders in first singles to a state championship last year as a sophomore.

"She drives it," said Rigali. "When the kids see her battling out on the courts, whether or not she wins or loses, she's out there fighting, and that sends a strong message to the other team, and it sends a strong message to our other girls that we're here, and we're gonna be in a fight."

Laina earned a commanding 6-2, 6-0 win over Falmouth's Maia Ledwell, avenging two losses from the same opponent last season. Laina said she always enjoys her rivalry matches against Maia, but the highlight of her day was seeing her entire team win.

The Vineyarders also

avenged last year's state championship loss, defeating Dover-Sherborn on Saturday, April 11, 3-2 in a close rematch.

In the match, Laina pushed Dover-Sherborn's Leah Hills — whom she lost to 6-3, 6-2 in the state championship last year — to match point, before Laina hit the net cord to lose the match as she tried to spike the ball for the win.

Stahl said the coaching staff is already working with Laina for the next time they meet Dover-Sherborn, though they aren't scheduled for a rematch in the regular season. But they could see them again in the playoffs.

"It was definitely a lot closer than the finals last year," said Laina of the match against Leah. "She kind of changed her game halfway through and started playing long rallies with me. I think just working on finishing the points earlier and coming to the net and putting away my volleys would definitely help me in the next match if we play again."



Freshman Josey Johns serves in second singles against Falmouth.

PHOTOS: NICHOLAS VUKOTA

Rigali said this season the team is focused on the process, not the prize. "There's so many good teams, and things have to line up the right way, but we can't control all that. What we can control is our attitude, how hard we work in practice. Are we ready to

play? Are we taking care of ourselves? And if we do those things, then we'll get the most out of our season," he said.

"I like where our girls are right now. I like that we've been able to play nine or 10 players for varsity points, and that gives us some

depth," he added.

The Vineyarders are on April break this week, and the girls will face Monomoy on Wednesday, April 29, away. Rigali said their plan is to have a couple of solid practices after vacation before they face their opponents. **MVT**

Vineyard softball battles through losses

Despite a rough start to the season, the girls are showing fight and improvement.

BY NICHOLAS VUKOTA

The Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) girls' softball team showed a new level of tenacity on Saturday, April 11, falling to Brockton High School 13-10 at the MVRHS softball field in a nail-biting match.

After a tough start to the season that included several mercy-rule losses, the Vineyarders (0-6) trailed throughout the game against Brockton, but refused to fade. Down multiple runs in later innings, junior captain Kelly Pacheco, an "energy bus" for the Vineyard team,

delivered an inside-the-park home run that ignited the team's spirit and excited the crowd, keeping them guessing until the final out.

"[That felt] phenomenal," said Kelly after the game. "This team, we've worked so hard right from the get-go. We might have had some mistakes out there, but we really bounced back, and it really, really goes a long way, because that just shows us and shows everybody what type of team we are. We're the team that just bounces back and rallies together."

Head Coach Tiffany McCarty said despite some fielding challenges early in the season, they came together for a meeting before the game, and they all agreed they would battle every inning from there on out.

"Today was a completely different team — we've really been struggling in the field, and defensively if we have one bad inning, it just kills

the flow of the team," said McCarty. "We've only played seven [innings] twice now, because it's just gotten to them, and last week, we had a big team meeting and said, 'We're not doing this anymore, we're going full seven, we're gonna give it our all.' And they really gave it their all today."

The Vineyard team's goal for the season is clear: Make it to the playoffs. Pacheco said they were close last year and is hopeful the team can improve enough to compete in the postseason this year.

"A big goal that we have this year, and it's definitely reachable... is to make it into the playoffs," said Kelly. "We were really close last year, and this year, I feel like we can make it in and really get some good games in there."

McCarty highlighted that the Vineyard team improved notably in one area on Sat-



Senior Kylee Brasefield pitching against Brockton High School.

urday: defense. The team has also dropped fewer fly balls. The team has adopted a mantra, "Team No Drops," applying the same focus that McCarty stresses to the MVRHS cheerleading squad she coaches.

The Vineyard team has

another mantra, "Play for your why," said McCarty. "Why are we playing this game? What is our 'why'?"

"It was great to have them come out, be ready to play, and this is the most energetic I've seen them," said McCarty. "The most

coming-together as a team... they stopped playing for themselves and started playing for the Vineyard."

The softball team's next game is against Mashpee High School at home on Tuesday, April 28, starting at 3:15 pm. **MVT**

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THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026



MATH MEDLEY

Exploring the wonder of numbers at Edgartown School. **SEE B6**

ALLISON ROBERTS

{ ISLANDERS WRITE }

A chronicler of Vineyard history.

Tom Dresser

BY ABBY REMER

Tom Dresser, the author of 18 published books about Martha's Vineyard and another on the way, has chronicled history for much of his life. Dresser's first foray began at 11 in 1958: "My brother, two neighbors, and I started the Springdale News, a handwritten, four-page monthly newspaper. We kept doing it for a hundred months, until I went off to college at Boston University. We had about 300 subscribers, and printed it in our game room."

Writing and history have run through Dresser's various careers. As a third-grade teacher for 10 years, he says, "I thought writing was very important, so I did a newsletter with the kids." After he left education in 1980, Dresser went into nursing home administration. During the next two decades, he had families of residents write biographies at the facilities where he worked, including Windemere when he moved to the Vineyard in 1997.

Dresser wrote for both Island newspapers and participated in many different writing groups, trying his hand at playwriting, poetry, magazine writing, and even fiction. Interestingly, it was the latter that led him to become the Island's most prolific historian.

Dresser says, "I really wanted to write fiction. I thought I could imagine a story and put it together. I struggled with about eight different teachers." One of these was Stan Hart. Dresser remembers, "He said, 'Tom, your fiction is like cardboard characters.

They don't stand up.'"

Mystery novelist Cynthia Riggs, took him aside. "She said, 'You can do better if you stay with nonfiction.' She told me about this beautiful young actress who was murdered on Martha's Vineyard in 1920 in Edgartown, and that they never caught the person who did it." Dresser took Riggs at her word, but upon research, he says, "I discovered the beautiful young actress was 72 years old, with her hair all in rollers, and her teeth in a jar, who was murdered right near the East Chop Beach Club in the 1940s. And they had a very good idea of who the guy was who murdered her." Dresser wrote up the corrected version of the story, which landed him back in nonfiction.

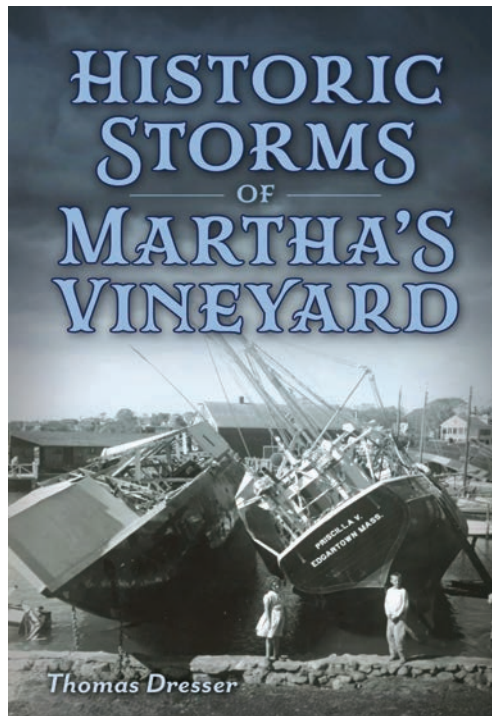
He connected with his current publisher, the History Press, when it reached out to Riggs and author John Hough, asking for a recommendation for a historian writing about the Island. They recommended Dresser, who submitted the mystery manuscript, and "Mystery on the Vineyard: Politics, Passion, and Scandal on East Chop" was published in 2008.

Dresser thought it was a one-off. Eighteen books later, he has covered many topics, including tourism, music, the

Wampanoag tribe, women, and African Americans on the Island. The latter of these has sold some 8,000 copies.

Once Dresser has his subject, he mines various sources for his research, including articles from the Gazette, archives at the Martha's Vineyard Museum, and books from the towns' libraries.

Whenever possible, he interviews people with firsthand knowledge, and consults experts. For his newest book,



"Historic Storms of Martha's Vineyard," Dresser reached out to paleotempestologist Jeff Donnelly, who works at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute.

Dresser's aim with this new book was to cover 400 years of recorded storm history, starting in the 1600s. He had originally believed the 1938 hurricane was the earliest of note: "When I found out about the 1635 one, that was a big deal." This was the Great

Colonial Hurricane, which struck Narragansett Bay and then swung east to pummel the Pilgrim settlements. Dresser writes, "Wind gusts were estimated at 130 miles per hour, and the storm surge approached 20 feet along the Massachusetts coastline."

Dresser's book goes on to cover storms in the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries: "I had to decide which were the most dramatic. I lined up the possibilities, and selected 10 storms that were very impressive, and you had enough information to write about them."

"Historic Storms of Martha's Vineyard" details each storm; accompanying archival photographs immediately convey the depth of the damage each one wrought. Dresser discusses six storms in the 20th century, filling the chapters with Islanders' memories. One way he secured them was by posting on Facebook, asking people to share their memories of Hurricane Bob in 1991. "I must have gotten 50 or 60 responses," he recalls. One person described so many trees knocked down on Middle Road that the incessant sound of chainsaws was overwhelming.

Asked what happens if he discovers mistakes after the book comes out, Dresser says

it doesn't happen often: "It's mostly when I write what I know at the time, and then things change after publication. This happened with the culinary book, which I wrote with my wife Joyce, where three things in the book factually changed between the time we submitted it for publication and when it came out." Interestingly, one was that their son-in-law, who had worked at Life at Humphrey's, had moved on to a new job as a chef at the West Tisbury School by the time "Culinary History of Martha's Vineyard" was published in 2024. "When you don't know something that's going to happen, it's beyond your power to make changes," he points out.

Because History Press usually has small print runs, Dresser can correct spelling errors and name changes in subsequent editions: "But to be honest, I don't think I've had to do that more than two or three times. It gets edited, reviewed, and proofread.

"I never planned to write 19 books," says Dresser. "I enjoy the writing and the publication process. Then you have to promote it. I have book talks coming out of my ears for 'Historic Storms of Martha's Vineyard.' Sometimes two in a day — but it's a fun problem. [After all,] it doesn't do any good if it sits on my shelf." **MVT**

Tom Dresser's books are available at Edgartown Books, Bunch of Grapes, and the Cottage Museum in the Martha's Vineyard Camp Meeting Association Campgrounds, as well as his website, tomdresser.com.

To read or not to read

Prof. Phil Weinstein's "Shakespearean Explorations."

BY NICOLE GALLAND

Today, April 23, is William Shakespeare's birthday. Shakespeare wrote the world's most famous play, which has inspired everything from Maggie O'Farrell's "Hamnet" to Disney's "Lion King." Among other masterpieces, he also wrote "King Lear," which inspired Jane Smiley's "A Thousand Acres" and Akira Kurosawa's "Ran."

But before any of those adaptations were the plays themselves — written documents that predate even the performance of them. And starting May 6, Prof. Phil Weinstein wants to share

them with us. He'll be giving a series of talks, "Shakespearean Explorations," at the Tisbury library; participants will read two of the best-known plays over the period of a few weeks, while guided by his thoughts and insights.

"It's just that I think they're the best thing ever written and I want to get back to them," he says. He notes that almost everyone is exposed to Shakespeare during their school years, and might later encounter the stories on stage or screen, "but I suspect very few of them have read any recently, and he's hard to read. I think people want to read it — they think,

'Y'know, I should know this guy's work' — but they're a little resistant to do it on their own. I hope this will be a pleasure for them."

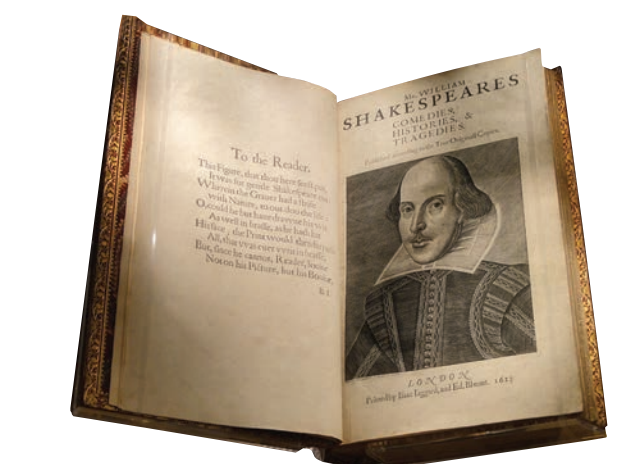
Weinstein will begin the first session by "just opening up how different [reading a play] is from reading novels, how things operate differently." He'll also present some historical context: the great age of Elizabeth and Jacobean theater, which is "an almost magical period of 40 years — and then it's gone."

Weinstein's undergraduate thesis was on Shakespearean and French tragedy, and he was especially drawn to the Bard's work: "I felt then that there's nothing better — English has nev-

er been used with greater power and suggestiveness." But he ended up studying fiction in graduate school at Harvard, and went on to a respected four-decade academic career at Swarthmore, rarely dipping into the Shakespeare canon: "I'm in my mid-80s and I want to see what it looks like now; I want to go back to what I think of as the top, and see what experience I'll have reading him. But in addition to that, I think it's viable [to do it with others]."

Weinstein realizes this could be a tall order. "I mention trepidation because, as an English professor, this is the most written-on, daunting writer. Blank verse is such a powerful but overfilled medium, and most of my audience probably doesn't read poetry."

But from long experience, he knows how to hold his audience's attention, even if it's never been on this subject before. On May 6, the evening will focus on the first three acts of "Hamlet": "I'll spend 45 minutes or an hour talking about 'Hamlet.' I ask people to read through and think



about it with me." Then there will be half an hour for questions and answers; his goal is to convey a sense of how much is going on. For the second meeting, two weeks later (May 20), he'll expect everyone to have read the whole play for a similar discussion and talkback, which will focus more on the coherence of the story. Weinstein will repeat this process with "King Lear" on June 3 and 17. He's been rereading both plays and jotting down notes, because "you never master it."

The focus throughout will be on the text itself, rather than how it might work on

the stage. Weinstein mentions a project associated with "Othello," another Shakespeare masterpiece: The same scenes were filmed repeatedly "just to show how infinite the scenes are, depending on who's putting it on. The point is that it's reinvented every time it's put on."

The text itself, however, remains consistent, and speaks to the ages. If you'd like to have it speak to you, join Professor Weinstein on his "Shakespearean Explorations." **MVT**

For more information, please contact the library at vhpl_programs@clamsnet.org or 508-696-4211.

Writing From The Heart

BY NANCY SLONIM ARONIE



The separation of church and state.

Still a good idea

A magazine just came in our mail called “Church and State.” I asked my husband if he had bought a subscription. He said no, but he’d donated to it. Anyway, the magazine has been sitting on the coffee table in plain view for a few days. I haven’t opened its pages, but there must be some powerful subliminal energy going on, because just now, unprompted, without any provocation, I started singing a song we sang in elementary school every

Thanksgiving. A song I hadn’t sung probably since 1952, when I was 11. Too bad I can’t sing it for you, but here are the words of the first stanza:
*We gather together to ask the Lord’s blessing;
 He hastens and chastens His will to make known;
 The wicked oppressing, cease now from distressing
 Sing praises to His name, He forgets not His own.*
 It goes on, with many references to the Lord and to the divine and to God. I remem-

ber singing it loud and clear, so proud to be an American. I asked my husband if the separation of church and state was in the Constitution or the Bill of Rights, or what its origin was. He said it’s in the First Amendment. He’s usually right about these things. But just to be sure, I stopped singing and I Googled. Here’s what I learned from Wikipedia, although not exactly in Wikipedia’s words: The separation of church and state is a legal and philosophical doctrine in the U.S. that maintains, in Thomas Jefferson’s words, “a wall of separation between church and state,” meaning between religious organizations and the government, to ensure religious freedom. Derived from the First Amendment, it forbids the government from creating an official religion or favoring any specific faith. That must have been as reassuring for the Founding Fathers, who were largely the descendants of people fleeing religious persecution in England, as it was for my ancestors escaping Nazi Germany. What a relief to be in a country where you were free to worship (or not worship) as you pleased. When Project 2025 was endorsed by the Republican Party, my husband went nuts. He had to push me into reading information

Project 2025 is an extremist religious movement that believes America was founded as, and must remain, a Christian country.

about it so that I’d go nuts, too. Project 2025 is an extremist religious movement that believes America was founded as, and must remain, a Christian country, and that our laws and policies must ensure that white Christians hold on to power and privilege. Christian nationalists want to impose their religious beliefs on all of us, end LGBTQ rights, ban all abortions, and control people’s bodies, and use the education system to indoctrinate our children. When Trump ended his speech with “Glory be to God,” and then when he made his announcement about bombing Iran to smithereens and ended that post by saying “Praise Allah,” I wondered, How is he allowed to say those things? And should I be worried? It never occurred to me when I was 11 that it was a Christian god we were singing about, and that the separation of church and state was even a thing. I was a kid. And challenging any authority would have been out of the question anyway. Just now, my impulse was to call my sister and say, Do you remember singing that

Thanksgiving song (and I would have sung it to her over the phone), and she would have said, Yeah I remember, and I would have said, Did the parents know that we were singing a song about Jesus? And she would have said, Babe, they probably had no clue, plus they were trying to assimilate, blend into the woodwork, to hide, to become as Americanized as white bread. The last thing they wanted was to call attention to our being Jewish. It was not spoken, but as children, we got the message that we were not to make waves in a Christian world. So forget about complaining about Christmas carols and no Hanukkah songs. I needed to have that whole conversation about that Thanksgiving song with my sister, but alas, she is no longer with us. So, who to commiserate with? Whom can I share my anxiety with about where we are right now? You all. You are my substitute sisters (and brothers). I think we are going backward. Personally I’ve felt safe (being Jewish) for decades, but now, with our own Speaker of

the House having well-documented ties to figures and networks that adhere to the “Seven Mountains” mandate (look up “Seven Mountains” if you’re curious) (and please be curious), and Elon’s Nazi salute, and Trump ending a speech with “Glory be to God,” yes, I’m worried. Are we in a time when we’re favoring a specific faith? Remember this quote from the German Pastor Martin Niemöller?
*First they came for the Communists, and I did not speak out — because I was not a Communist.
 Then they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out — because I was not a Socialist.
 Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out — because I was not a trade unionist.
 Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out — because I was not a Jew.
 Then they came for me — and there was no one left to speak out for me.*
 Please, people, let us speak for each and every one of us now! **MVT**

C O M M U N I T Y N O T E S

‘No Bones: A Comedy Festival of Humerus Proportions’

From Wednesday, May 6, through Sunday May 10, Circuit Arts will be presenting “No Bones: A Comedy Festival of Humerus Proportions.” Martha’s Vineyard Playhouse in Vineyard Haven and the Strand Theatre in Oak Bluffs will be the venues. The event is a co-production with Abby Bender Schmantze Theatre, and promises to be “a festival of the weird, the wired, and the wonderful.” The eclectic lineup of talent from Martha’s Vineyard, New York City, and beyond include headliners Susan Rice and NPR personality and true comic’s comic Ophira Eisenberg.

The festival will include a clowning workshop, the group TBD Improv, and multiple variety shows featuring local talent. “After years of exploring the intersection of movement and humor through a Comedy in Dance Festival I used to run in the city, I’m crazy excited to bring that spirit here,” says Abby Bender, No Bones curator and artist, and co-founder of the riotously popular Built on Stilts. “Comedy comes in countless forms, and this festival feels like a joyful collision of all those worlds. Laughter is the emotional override we all need right now, and I’m thrilled to be in such great company as we bring that to our Island audience.”

All performances are for people ages 18 and up. Tickets are pay-what-you-can, unless listed otherwise. Tickets and full details can be found at circuitarts.org/nobones. A full listing of Circuit Arts events can be found at circuitarts.org/events.
Mother’s Day portraits
 On May 3, from 1 to 3 pm, photographer Lynn Christoffers will offer free portraits to all grandmothers, mothers, and families in honor of Mother’s Day. Lynn will take photos in the Children’s Room of the West Tisbury library, and will send participants a JPEG via email. Bring your own mother, or grandmother, or children, or whoever is special to you,

to help celebrate Mother’s Day. (No pets, please.) This event is free and open to the public. Lynn Christoffers has exhibited her photography and mixed-media installations since 1988, both in New York and on Martha’s Vineyard. She is a graduate of the New York University Master of Arts program in studio art and photography. Her photos appear in The Martha’s Vineyard Times, Martha’s Vineyard Magazine, Cape Cod Life and Home, the Boston Globe, ASMP Bulletin, Vineyard Style, and Arts & Ideas. Book projects include more than 300 color photos in “Victoria Trumbull’s Martha’s Vineyard” and “Cats of Martha’s Vineyard.”

For more information about this event, please email wt_mail@clamsnet.org.
‘Shattered Assumptions’
 On Saturday, May 2, at 3:30 pm, the West Tisbury library is hosting a discussion with Susan Desmarais, a retired grief counselor and end-of-life doula. Change is inevitable — and our lives are impacted. How we respond, how our friends and community respond, makes a difference. This discussion will offer insights into our reactions and our processing of the event. Drawing on insights from “Shattered Assumptions” by Ronnie Janoff-Bulman and “The

Other Side of Change” by Maya Shankar, along with her own experience as a counselor, Desmarais will lead a talk on how to better support our loved ones and fellow Island residents. For more information about this event, please email wt_mail@clamsnet.org.
Maypole celebration
 Join the Friends of the West Tisbury Village on Saturday, May 2, at 11 am for a Maypole celebration on the Field Gallery lawn. Snacks and crafts will follow on the West Tisbury library porch. All ages welcome! For more information about this event, please email wt_mail@clamsnet.org. **MVT**



Engage with writers and publishing professionals for discussions about the art, craft, and business of writing.

July 15 for our kick-off event at 7:30 pm and all day July 16 at Featherstone Center for the Arts.



Free to attend! For more details scan here or visit: islanderswrite.com



TOWN COLUMNISTS

Tisbury



By Kay Mayhew

Kay Mayhew, who passed away on April 12, was the longest-serving writer of *The Martha's Vineyard Times*, as the Tisbury town columnist since early 1987. We've been honoring her legacy by sharing past excerpts of her signature "Heard on Main Street" observations. This week, we share with you what we believe to be her first-ever column. (She might have begun the week before, but that issue eludes us.) Here is a slice of life from Jan. 15, 1987.

Violin playing delights patients.

Barbara Barstow played her violin to the delight of the patients in the Long Term Care Unit at the Martha's Vineyard Hospital during Happy Hour last Thursday. Her obvious pleasure in sharing her music increases the enjoyment of her audience.

Barbara also volunteers with Shirley Adams to deliver a moment of sunshine and a hot meal to shut-ins for Meals on Wheels. More neighbors who care are needed. If you have a car and can give two hours a week, please call Kay Kenney or Fran Carter at 693-4393.

"I have spent 61 Christmases in the town of Tisbury, and never has it glowed as

beautifully as it has this year," began the thank-you note received by the Tisbury Business Association from Kathryn Stewart.

"Thank you for making it such a special time of year!" This thank-you should really go to the whole town, because it was truly a community effort that created the winter wonderland in Tisbury this season. The merchants began it, but the volunteer firemen and others

trip to the West, spending Christmas with their son Peter and his wife Diane and 5-year-old grandson Jared. They then visited cousins in Los Angeles; Jack's sister Betty Harper in San Diego; Jane's cousin Dorothy Dunlap in Tucson; and spent the last five days with Sim and Ann Hyde in Albuquerque, N.M. Sim is a schoolmate of former years of Jack Ware's, and the Hydies are summer residents

the pleasant lunch break, a slide show followed by soup and a sandwich at the Baptist Parish House. The programs are Jan. 26, Phyllis Meras sharing anecdotes of her traveling career; Feb. 2, Phoebe Eshleman discussing post-Impressionists in France; Feb. 9, Marian Halperin showing artifacts of the Dukes County Historical Society; and, Feb. 16, Dr. Malcolm Dunkley speaking on his recent trip to Nepal.

will be distributed between 8:30 am and 6 pm at various Island food stores.

The information has been gathered by a committee of the League of Women Voters of Martha's Vineyard after they surveyed Island health needs. Publishing funds were provided by Colonial Nursing, Inc. Look for your free copy in February.

Heard on Main Street: The 1987 ferry schedules are available in mail-in forms for those of you who like to plan ahead. The new proposals of the Steamship Authority to ease the problems of the past sound very promising. The SSA is scheduling two days, Jan. 31 and Feb. 1, for individuals to make reservations for personal use. The SSA states that only three round-trips may be reserved in person at one time. **MVT**

Heard on Main Street: The new proposals of the Steamship Authority to ease the problems of the past sound very promising.

in town carried it on. Thank you, Mrs. Stewart, for getting into written words the comments heard all over town.

Jane and Jack Ware have returned from a three-week

of Vineyard Haven.

The Tisbury Museum fundraiser, Past and Repast, is scheduled for four Mondays beginning Jan. 26.

Only 50 people can enjoy

Call 693-1371 for tickets.

The new guide to health and social services for Islanders, "Vineyard Help," will be given free to Islanders the week of Feb. 9. It

Edgartown



By Marnely Murray
marnely@gmail.com

Oh, what a week! Attending my first Town Meeting was incredibly insightful, as I was quickly launched into campaigning for a position on the board of trustees for the Edgartown library. Thankful for the 114 write-in votes I received, and congratulations to my opponent, but you'll absolutely

see my name printed on the ballot next year!

Aside from local town politics, spring has officially bloomed in Edgartown — the forsythia is so bright and beautiful, the light rains we have received making the grass greener on both sides. It's one of my favorite months on the Island, as the energy shifts

from sleepy to wide-awake, and I'm here for it. If you're still feeling a bit drowsy, may I also recommend you try the Miso Caramel Latte at Rosewater Market? It'll put a pep in your step in the most delicious way possible.

April still gives us some time to get in as much rest and respite as we can, so the following two mentions in-

clude books and yarn, two hobbies that allow us to take some time for ourselves and slow down.

April 25th is Independent Bookstore Day, and Edgartown Books will have two Island authors signing in-store that day. Nicole Galland will be from 11 am to 1 pm, celebrating the paperback release of her latest

book, "Boy." And from 2 pm to 4 pm, Emma Brodie, this month's Reese's Book Club choice, will be signing her new book, "Into the Blue."

On April 28 and 29 from 10 am to 3 pm, head to the Council on Aging for its Yarn Sale; cash and checks accepted. Proceeds will go to the Friends of the Council on Aging, in support of

the work they do!

And again on the 29th, stop by the Edgartown library's circulation desk to pick up a copy of a poem, carry it in your pocket, and share it with others. Poems by local writers will be included in their selection, which is such a fun initiative!

Happiest of birthdays to Crispin Haskins on April 24 and Ann McDonald Tyra on April 30 — two of my favorite Edgartown-loving people! Thanks for reading; if you have any birthdays, anniversaries, business updates, and more, please email me directly at marnely@gmail.com. **MVT**

If you're still feeling a bit drowsy, may I also recommend you try the Miso Caramel Latte at Rosewater Market? It'll put a pep in your step in the most delicious way possible.

Oak Bluffs



By Joanne Lambert
joannelamber@gmail.com

"When you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, you'll start having positive results."

—Willie Nelson

We will celebrate the amazing life of Roy Scheffer on May 2 at the M.V. Agricultural Hall at 2 pm. Please join Roy's family and friends as we all try to absorb the loss of Roy and Tricia Bergeron this year. There will be a raw bar and BBQ;

bring dessert if you like.

Featherstone Center for the Arts is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year! As part of the celebration, 52 Island artists have contributed to the show "30 x 30," which is showing through April 26. Then, on April 30, there will be a Silent Disco party at the Gallery from 7 to 9 pm with DJ Vincent Patricola.

Up next is my favorite: "Art of Flowers," opening on May 3. Artists who want

to participate can drop off their creations at Featherstone on April 27 and 28, from 10 am to 4 pm.

If you love our library, it's time for Dine to Donate at Offshore Ale on Tuesday, April 28. With the coupon that you get from the library (either through email, or stop in and grab one) you can enjoy a delicious Offshore meal and 20 percent of all food sales will benefit the wonderful programs of the library. We are very lucky to have such a creative library staff, offering programs like the summer

reading programs for all ages, arts and crafts every week, musical and dramatic programs, dance and fitness classes — all for free for all of us! So get out on the 28th, and there will also be a silent auction with amazing items and gift certificates.

Vineyard Montessori is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year; join to celebrate on Friday, May 8, at its annual "Big Night Out" party at the P.A. Club from 7 to 10 pm. This will be a FREE community event, with light bites, cash bar, dancing to DJ Smooth B,

and a live auction. The auction is actually online now for bidding — you can find it at vineyardmontessori.com. See you there!

April 24th brings birthday celebrations for one of my favorite and most adventurous pals, Judy Murray. Judy shares her day with James Moreis, Sharisse Scott-Rawlins, and Barbara Coles Oberfest.

I hope Donna Pacheco takes the day off for her birthday on April 25th! Vanessa Vento will celebrate her day on the 26th. Happy birthday to Sam Oslin on

the 27th! Bunches of balloons go to Melanie Rivers and Tabitha Clark on the 28th. They share the day with author Harper Lee. Beth Glynn and Elizabeth McMahon celebrate on the 29th. Happy birthday to Brian Ditchfield and Penny Wong on April 30! They share the day with Willie Nelson.

May birthdays begin with a shout-out to Michael Johnson on the 1st! Courtney Campbell celebrates on the 2nd, along with Megan Farrell and Amy Coffey. May the fourth be with Skip Campos on his Star Wars birthday! One of the Angels who help animals, Leslie Hurd has her special day on May 6! Sarah Henry also celebrates on the 6th.

Send me your news! **MVT**

If you love our library, it's time for Dine to Donate at Offshore Ale on Tuesday, April 28.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Julian Arthur Carlomagno

Meredith Grossman and Kim Carlomagno of Edgartown announce the birth of a son, Julian Arthur Carlomagno, on April 13, 2026, at Marta's Vineyard Hospital.

Show your support this school year!
Become a sponsor of
The High School View
MVTimes.com
Email adsales@mvtimes.com to learn more.

O W N C O M M U N I T Y S

Aquinnah



By Kathie Olsen

aquinnahcolumn@gmail.com

This week will find our Island emptier than usual, as people take advantage of spring break and go off in search of adventures. We send them off with wishes for safe and happy travels, creation of good memories, and maybe even a chance to take a real break and get some rest and relaxation.

This is also Earth Week, a time when people around the country take a moment to celebrate and learn about

the joys and needs of our planet. Here in Aquinnah, we kicked off the week with the BeachBeFriends cleanup at Philbin and Moshup beaches. Ruth Folchman reports that it was “a very sweet turnout” at Philbin, with six cars of neighbors participating. They gathered a big pile of trash, including 15 of those “dangerous to wildlife” helium balloons.

This was followed on Tuesday by a visit from Felix Neck Education Coor-

inator Sydney Pigott, who gave a youth program about the shorebirds here on the Vineyard to kids at the Aquinnah library.

On Thursday, April 23, at the Aquinnah Town Hall, the Aquinnah library has coordinated a presentation on climate resilience and emergency planning. The first part, at 3 pm, is a panel discussion guided by Sakiko Isomichi, climate resilience planner with the M.V. Commission, with emergency management officials who

will share details about the Island’s emergency network and offer practical advice to help residents stay safe during weather events. The second part begins at 4 pm, when Rich Couse, program director at Biodiversity-Works, will give an engaging and practical presentation on how everyday landscapes can play a powerful role in building climate resilience. This exploration of how your planting choices can help improve ecosystem stability, support pollinators and

birds, and help landscapes adapt to changing conditions is the one for you as you organize for spring planting.

Then on Saturday, April 25, the Aquinnah Cultural Center and the Aquinnah library team up to present a presentation by Brad Lopes (Aquinnah Wampanoag) and Mary Amanda McNeil (Mashpee Wampanoag), “Confronting Colonialism in Conservation.” In this presentation, Lopes and McNeil will explore how conservation and colonialism are intertwined.

Centering on Martha’s Vineyard, they will highlight Wampanoag peoples’ ongoing efforts to uphold their responsibilities as caretakers of their homelands, as well as the steps the public can take toward reconciliation and solidarity. This one also takes place at the Aquinnah Town Hall, and begins at 6 pm.

On Sunday, April 26, you can wind up the week with the wise Roxanne Kapitan, who will be presenting a free class at Beetlebung Farm beginning at 1 pm. The class is on creating a food forest in your own backyard. Sign up for this on the Martha’s Vineyard Agricultural Society website.

Happiest birthday to Sammy Kausch, whom we celebrate on April 28. **MVT**

Here in Aquinnah, we kicked off Earth Week with the BeachBeFriends cleanup at Philbin and Moshup beaches. Ruth Folchman reports that it was “a very sweet turnout.”

Chilmark



By Claire Ganz

cganz@live.com

The flowers are peaking, and the schools are on April break. Wishing everyone safe travels, and looking forward to hearing about adventures.

“Did you know a group of children walking in pairs is called a crocodile?” I asked my sister, son, and mother. “Of course,” my mother, Anne Hotchkiss Ganz, said, “it was one of the first things you learned at boarding school in Scotland. All 36 girls had to

line up in what was called a crocodile. The girl I was paired with said, “They told us in an all-school meeting we had to be nice to the new girl from America. I’m not going to.” Yikes. When Anne came back at 16 to Vineyard Haven and Tisbury High with a Scottish brogue, she quickly learned to drop the accent. But she can still turn it on.

Anne Hotchkiss wants to know how many of her Tisbury High School class of 1956 are around.

Stanley Larsen says his Menemsha Fish Market is open for the season, 11 am to 5:30 pm.

Beetlebung Farm is hosting a free talk: “Create a Food Forest in Your Backyard,” with Roxanne Kapitan on Sunday, April 26, from 1 to 2:30 pm at Beetlebung Farm. Registration is helpful, and you can sign up on their website.

I buy the New York Times Sunday paper for the book review section and the magazine’s crossword. This week the crossword ques-

tions didn’t match the grid. It never occurred to me that there was something wrong. I just figured it was a really hard one, and spent way too much time trying to figure out how to do this puzzle.

They printed a correction on page 25, and if you cut out the new grid exactly on its borders, it tapes perfectly into the magazine, leaving all the clues readable.

The Chilmark Library will be holding a Wool Fair and Yarn Swap on Saturday, May 9, 11 am to 2 pm. If you are interested in being part of

swapping your stash of yarn, books, materials, or supplies that are no longer serving you, please sign up at bit.ly/EFPL_YarnSwap. Everyone will have four feet of table space, to give away, trade, or barter supplies that need a new home. There will also be a project share-out during this time.

Town Meeting is Monday, April 27, at 7 pm in the Chilmark Community Center.

In-person voting is noon to 8 pm on Wednesday, April 29.

I appreciate Katherine Carroll deciding to enter the

select board race. Knowing what has worked and hasn’t in the past, and appreciating the impact changes that have come and will come to have on a community isn’t easy and is important.

Jay Mccloud writes, “The new Aquinnah Cliffs VTA bus shelter project is about a month away from dedication and christening. Tim Laursen has finished the black locust pillars, elbows, and 16-foot horizontal roof pieces, all preassembled in his work barn. Tim Laursen’s shelter design, when finished, will be a close cousin to his fabulous work on the restaurant pavilion directly above the new shelter. Our new VTA shelter is going to be a great Aquinnah Cliffs gateway, and the most novel bus shelter on the entire Eastern Seaboard.”

MVT

Anne Hotchkiss wants to know how many of her Tisbury High School class of 1956 are still around.

West Tisbury



By Hermine Hull

hermine.hull@gmail.com

What a shame the weather turned dreary and cool for the weekend.

Last week was a series of perfect spring days, one after another, warm enough for shorts and a thin shirt. Town looks resplendantly golden with forsythia and daffodils. The pink cherry trees at Polly Hill’s can be seen from the road, as can the star magnolia in front of the Olsens’ house. I’m

so glad none of them were touched by a late frost. Everything really is beautiful in our little part of the world.

Town meeting was long and contentious. Several articles were tabled after much discussion, but we

got through all 56 in about 4½ hours. Mike and I had eaten something before we left home, and the pillow I brought to sit on was a great comfort. Still, we were both a bit stiff when we tried to stand up.

Then the election on Thursday. Congratulations to Jessica Miller, who was re-elected to the select board, and the override passed. My admiration for Garrison Vieira, who ran a good campaign, and who, I hope, will run again.

This week is school vaca-

tion, so don’t be surprised to see kids around town during what otherwise would be the school day. There will be free soup and bread lunches at the library through this Friday, 11:30 to 1. Rose Coloured Glasses will perform at 2 on Sunday afternoon. The Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School Building Committee will be at the library on Wednesday afternoon, April 29, at 4:30 pm, to speak and answer questions about the building project we will vote on in June. Come to a free CPR

training class with Alan Ganapol on Thursday, 1 to 2:30 pm. The library will be closed next Friday morning, May 1, for staff training, then open at 12:30.

Did I just write May 1?

I had been meaning to visit Ginny Jones’s garden, so took the opportunity one morning last week. Ginny’s garden is always spectacular this time of year. She has loads of daffodils of all different varieties, and I especially wanted to see her hellebores. Ginny and I had been nutty about hellebores for a few years before she died, and she planted several in her last year.

Everett’s girlfriend, Zephy, was out in the yard when I arrived. She most graciously took the time to give me a garden tour. She was particularly well-informed

about those hellebores. They not only made it through the winter, they were all in bloom. Deep rose. Black, although really a dark, dark purple. Single and double whites. They were all showing their best among the daffodils and “the blues,” scilla and chionodoxa that had carpeted garden beds and lawn alike over the years.

I love that quality about old Vineyard gardens, how things grow where they are happy with a rambly-scrambly vigor. Mike’s Aunt Janice had a garden like that, too, filled with plants that came from friends’ gardens, or from some plant she admired and bought, or just dug up a piece. Everything sort of tumbled together. I hope someone someday will find that pleasure in mine. **MVT**

There will be free soup and bread lunches at the library through this Friday, 11:30 to 1. Rose Coloured Glasses will perform at 2 on Sunday afternoon.



A Monthly Newsletter from your local **Councils on Aging** and the **Martha’s Vineyard Center for Living**

Find helpful information on Veterans Services, Travel News, Activities, Individual Town Councils on Aging and more!

To place your ad email, adsales@mvtimes.com or call 508-693-6100

Math Night at Edgartown School has been a long-standing tradition on the Island. A K-8 event, the night includes games and activities for the kids, prizes, and opportunities for community service for the upper-school classmates who volunteer to help out at the event.

The 2026 Math Night was held on April 13. The evening began with a pizza dinner in the cafeteria at 5:30 pm. The gym opened at 6 pm; several math stations were set up, and at the end of the night, people congregated back in the cafeteria for prizes and cookies.

"This family event is intended to engage students and their families in fun, hands-on math activities. There are eight main stations that are split into beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels, as well as an estimation station, and a math fluency Kahoot Game," says K-4 math specialist Gail Lachapelle.

Math isn't everyone's cup of tea, and some kids (and adults) find it intimidating. But playing math games makes the learning process more fun, removes the pressure of wrong answers, helps kids discover patterns, shapes, and measurements, and learn how relevant math is to everyday life.

"This is a nice opportunity for everyone," Principal Kate Campbell adds. "Kids can go to any station they want and practice fractions, patterns, telling time, and we even have a fun selfie station."

In the lobby, volunteer students, parents, and teachers manned the two welcome stations. On both tables were containers holding various objects, like puzzle pieces. "The kids estimate the amount of the different objects in the jars," teacher Mary Ellen Guyther explains. "The kids win



MATH MEDLEY

Exploring the wonder of numbers at Edgartown School.

BY ALLISON ROBERTS



"This family event is intended to engage students and their families in fun, hands-on math activities." -GAIL LACHAPELLE



1. Many volunteers and staff helped make Math Night a success. **2.** Math Night attendees met in the cafeteria for a pizza dinner. **3.** Students were eager to master the math challenges. **4.** Eight-year-old Lowen Shaw, left, and seven-year-old Josie Bicknell played math probability games together. **5.** Detective and School Resource Officer Zach Townes kept a few energetic students engaged with a wrestling match. **6.** Eight-year-old Ira Guzman successfully created a polygon on his pegged board.

prizes for guessing correctly, but we also have prizes for all the kids, and we send families home with dice and cards so they can continue playing math games together."

The math stations were led by teachers who volunteered their evening to help out. "The kids can choose beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels at each station," Lachapelle says. Having these options allowed kids of all ages to partake in the activities.

Activities at the stations included working on angles, word problems, tic-tac-toe, telling time, addition and subtraction, measuring, dice counting, bingo, and a particularly popular station, overseen by Chip Story: Kids paired up or played solo, and signed into an iPad. On a large screen, various math questions came up, with four answers to choose from. Story started out offering easier math problems, like addition and subtraction, and worked up to more advanced questions. The team/person who answered the most questions correctly won. There were loads of excitement and energy coming from both the kids and Story, who was as exuberant as a 10-year-old.

Student Callen Foster said that Mr. Story's station was his favorite. "It was really fun and not boring. I like math," he says. When asked what he wants to do when he grows up, he said that he wants to be a hockey player for the Boston Bruins. Though he may not realize it yet, there are several ways math is used in hockey. According to EBSCO, a source for research context, math comes into play through statistics (percentages, ratios, averages), calculating game geometry (angles, distances), and exploring physics (speed, force).

Given the level of excitement among the kids (and adults), I'd say Math Night was a roaring success, and perhaps even sparked a future mathematician or two. "I really like math," student James Lebbond noted. "There is always an answer to a question. You always know for sure." **MVT**

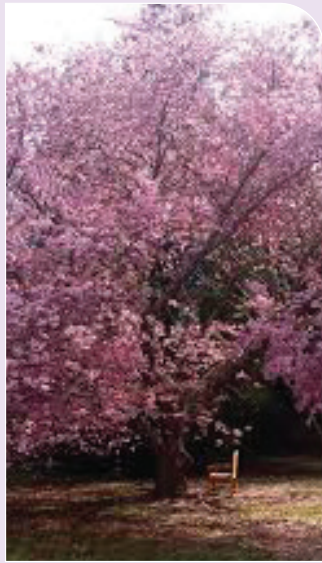
calendar

Event spotlight for the week of 4-23 - 4-29

FRI 4/24

Arbor Day at Polly Hill

Celebrate Arbor Day at Polly Hill Arboretum (PHA). PHA staff will lead participants on a tour of some of the notable trees in the collection. A tree-planting demonstration will take place afterward. Meet at the Polly Hill Arboretum Visitor Center. From 1 to 2 pm, free and open to all. 795 State Road, West Tisbury. Registration not required. bit.ly/PHA_ArborDay.



MV TIMES

SAT 4/25

Signing: 'Boy' by Nicole Galland

Independent Bookstore Day, established in 2013, promotes, celebrates, and highlights the value of the independent bookstore community. Ring in the day with a book signing by critically acclaimed author Nicole Galland. Her novel, "Boy," is a vibrant and thought-provoking historical tale of love, political intrigue, and gender swapping set in the theater world of Elizabethan London. Galland is known for richly detailed, charac-

ter-driven historical fiction that brings the past vividly to life. She resides on Martha's Vineyard. From 11 to 1 pm, Edgartown Books, 44 Main St., edgartown-books.com.



SUN 4/26

'Food Forest in Your Backyard'

Forest gardens provide a unique opportunity for growers to incorporate perennial food plants into their gardening methods. In this demonstration, participants will learn how to account for shade, approach fencing, and minimize soil disturbance while making a food forest. They will learn to interplant fruits, vegetables, herbs, medicinal, and pollinator plants to create a living community of food-producing plants. 1 to 2:30 pm. Free



and open to all, 1 to 2:30 pm, registration required at bit.ly/MVAS_FoodForest. Beetlebung Farm, 410 Middle Road, Chilmark.

MON 4/27

Online 'Balance' with Kanta Lipsky

The West Tisbury library is hosting an online "Balance" series led by Kanta Lipsky. In this class, partic-

ipants will explore ways to strengthen their connection to the Earth and increase their bodies' ability to maintain good balance. No yoga mat needed, but a chair will be necessary for some of the movements. Classes will meet virtually through Zoom on Mondays and Fridays from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. Free and open to the public. Email wt_mail@clamsnet.org to sign up. In person and virtual. West Tisbury library, 1042 State Road, West Tisbury.

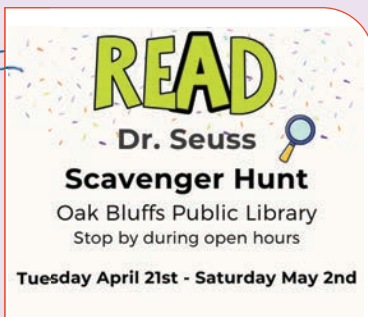


TUES 4/28

Dr. Seuss scavenger hunt

Let your kids loose and watch them enjoy searching for Dr. Seuss characters

hidden around the Children's Room. Find all the characters and get a small prize. Kids of all ages are welcome. Oak Bluffs library, 56R School St., Oak Bluffs, 10 am to 5:30 pm.



WED 4/29

High school building tours



The Martha's Vineyard School Building Committee is hosting informational tours of the existing high school, providing the community with an opportunity to learn more about the proposed renovation and addition project. These tours offer a chance to

explore the school and gain a better understanding of the project's scope, goals, and next steps, while engaging directly with members of the project team. 100 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road, Vineyard Haven, 6:30 to 8:30 pm, mvrhs-buildingproject.info/upcoming-events.

Events

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

Dance Fitness and Strength Training with Kris Martin

7-8 am, Airport Fitness, West Tisbury. A creative blend of rhythmic resistance, cardio conditioning, manageable mobility and core strength exercises all set to crazy-FUN music. 508-696-8000, info@airportfitnessmv.com

Virtual Kripalu Flow Yoga

7:30 am, West Tisbury Library. On Zoom with Yogijay. Sign up for free by emailing wt_mail@clamsnet.org. 508-693-3366, wt_mail@clamsnet.org

Mindfulness & Meditation

Open Practice Group
8-9 am, Aquinnah Town Hall. Mindfulness & meditation practice group, open to anyone interested in being more intentional and practicing with others. 413-575-0110, ruthfolchman@me.com

Kaiut Yoga

8:30-9:30 am, Peaked Hill Studio, Chilmark. Kaiut Yoga works through chronic pain and injuries, general aches and stiffness, and is good for the inflexible, hyper flexible and the aging body. 774-563-8282, valerie@peakedhillstudio.com

Balletics

9-10 am, Up Island Council on Aging, West Tisbury. Total body conditioning, learning body's strengths & weaknesses, how to prevent injury. coa-staff@westtisbury-ma.gov, 508-693-2896.

Fit for Flow with Maggie Bucci

9-10 am, Stillpoint, West Tisbury. This fitness class, led by Maggie Bucci, is designed to get you fit to flow with the journey of life. info@stillpointmv.org

Pancakes and Cartoons

9:30-10:30 am, West Tisbury Library. Free pancake breakfast with old school cartoons! WT Library 4/23 9:30-10:30am 508-693-3366, hburbridge@clamsnet.org

Thursday Play Kitchen and Store

10 am-12 pm, Oak Bluffs Library, Oak Bluffs. Come enjoy watching your kids be creative and solve problems! For ages 2-6. Drop in between 10am-noon. 508-693-9433, mlynych@clamsnet.org

Dr. Seuss Scavenger Hunt

10 am-5:30 pm, Oak Bluffs Library, Oak Bluffs. Have fun searching for Dr. Seuss characters hidden around the Children's Room. Find all the characters and get a small prize. For kids of all ages. 508-693-9433, mlynych@clamsnet.org

Wiggle with the Words Storytime

10:30-11 am, Edgartown Library. Fun props and interactive stories. Geared for ages 1-5, but all are welcome. No sign-up. programs@edgartownlibrary.org, 508-627-4221.

Tech help

11 am-1 pm, Up Island Council on Aging, West Tisbury. Free tech help 508-693-2896, coa-staff@westtisbury-ma.gov

Spring Spectacular Show

11 am-4 pm, Louisa Gould Gallery, Vineyard Haven. Annual Spring Group Show. Sean Roach, Christie Scheele, Teek Eaton-Koch, Julieann Jarreau, and Paul Beebe. 508-693-7373, louisagould@gmail.com

Fun with Toy Trains

11 am-1 pm, Chilmark Library. Fun with toy trains 508-645-3360, chilmarklibrarykids@gmail.com

Free Soup & Bread Lunch

11:30 am-1 pm, West Tisbury Library. All are welcome! The soup will be Alpha Gal friendly, vegan and gluten free. 508-693-3366, wt_mail@clamsnet.org

Red Dragon Mah-Jong

1-3 pm, Oak Bluffs Library. Come join us for a fun weekly Mah-jong meetup! Bring your board or use one of ours, subject to availability. 508-693-9433, cphelan@clamsnet.org

Community Knitting Circle

1-3 pm, Chilmark Library. Join us for a relaxed afternoon of knitting in the Martha's Vineyard Room. Our knitters love to share their knowledge and beginners are welcome! 508-645-3360, chil.programs@gmail.com

Classic Children's Animated Storytime Videos

1:30-2:30 pm, Chilmark Library. Children's animated storytime videos 508-645-3360, chilmarklibrarykids@gmail.com

Virtual Art History: The Remarkable Life & Career of Lee Miller

2 pm, Vineyard Haven Public Library. Explore the remarkable life of Lee Miller, from fashion model and photographer to fearless WWII correspondent. Led by art historian Tosca Ruggieri. 508-696-4211, vhp_l_programs@clamsnet.org

Chef Look Cooks - Patron Favorites: Bubble Bread

2-3:30 pm, Edgartown Library. Bubble bread can be sweet or savory and made with everything from homemade dough to store-bought biscuits 508-627-4221, programs@edgartownlibrary.org

Earth Week at the Aquinnah Library:

Climate Resilience Symposium

3-5 pm, Aquinnah Library. For more information, contact gwillbur@clamsnet.org or call (508)-645-2314.

Creating a Signed-Language Friendly Community on Martha's Vineyard

3-4:30 pm, Chilmark Library. Professor Jody Cripps of Clemson University & his students share research & projects to make MV a signed-language friendly community once again. 508-645-3360, chil.programs@gmail.com

Ukulele Jam

3:30-5 pm, West Tisbury Library. All ages and abilities. The library has ukuleles to borrow, or bring a guitar or banjo, or come to sing. wt_mail@clamsnet.org, 508-693-3366.

Naptime with David Stanwood

3:30-4:30 pm, Stillpoint, West Tisbury. Experience the calming effect of harmonic vibration, with pianist and acclaimed piano technician David Stanwood. info@stillpointmv.org

Anime and Manga Club

4-5 pm, Oak Bluffs Library. For kids and tweens is grades 4th-7th Come talk about your favorite anime and manga! Draw and

snack. Take a look at our manga collection. 508-693-9433, mlynych@clamsnet.org

Common Thread Social Needlework Meetup (formerly Stitch Society)

5-6 pm, West Tisbury Library. Thursdays from 5:00pm to 6:00pm, for the Common Thread: Social Needlework Meetup 508-693-3366, lhearn@clamsnet.org

Table Tennis

5 pm, Tisbury Senior Center, Vineyard Haven. Table tennis for all ages and skill levels. 508-728-5898, raeobmv@gmail.com

DIY - Bees Wax Food Wraps

5-6:30 pm, Oak Bluffs Library. DIY - Bees Wax Food Wraps 508-693-9433, cphelan@clamsnet.org

Pilates Flow with Camille Beauzile

5:30-6:30 pm, Stillpoint, West Tisbury. This upbeat Pilates class blends preventative medicine, mind-over-matter focus, and joyful movement info@stillpointmv.org

International Film Night

6-8 pm, Edgartown Library. Once a month on Thursdays. Visit website for details. 508-627-4221, programs@edgartownlibrary.org

Delightful, magical, and mystical “The Mountain” playing at M.V. Film Center.

BY ABBY REMER

The towering peak in actress Rachel House’s directorial debut, “The Mountain,” opening at the M.V. Film Center on April 24, gets star billing when the credits roll. New Zealand’s great, dormant, 8,261-foot volcano, Mount Taranaki, shrouded in mist, plays a central role in this coming-of-age drama about three young friends, with madcap humor, a sense of drama, a touch of sadness, and a good deal of heart.

We meet the youth and the mountain immediately. As funky music plays, Sam (Elizabeth Atkinson), dressed in a T shirt, sweatpants, and a knit cap covering her bald head, kicks and karate-chops across the screen. After a few quick push-ups, she addresses an enormous poster in front of her, saying, “I think we can both see I’m pretty much a warrior woman, which can only mean one thing. That I belong to you, Mount Taranaki. We can have a good talk about it when I get there.”

Sam begins her journey by stealthily escaping from what turns out to be a hospital, trailing huge, inflated gift-store balloons behind her. Before releasing them into the dark night sky in the hope that they reach the mountain, we see the notes she has tied to the end of each balloon’s string. The phrase “Let me live” appears on each. Sam has cancer, and is determined to climb what, in Maori belief, is considered to be an “ancestor” for healing. The Maori concept that nature is a living, interconnected kinship system in which humans,

land, and all creatures and natural elements share a genealogical connection weaves throughout the film. As another friend, the precociously wise Bronco (Terence Daniel), who is Maori, says at one point, “Trees, leaves, rocks, moss — we’re all family.” Bronco is angry that his father, a recently promoted policeman, never seems to have time for him, and he is thus happy to join the adventure to Mount Taranaki.

The third friend on the journey is Mallory (Reuben Francis), a slightly overweight, kindhearted soul, who has recently lost his mother to cancer. Mallory, who mourns her deeply, asks his father to hike the mountain in honor of her birthday. His father refuses, insisting they move forward and ignore the pain. So he joins the duo on their quest for emotional and physical healing.

As the imaginative twists and turns of the story unfold, the youths’ relationships with one another — and with themselves — deepen in authentic ways that reflect sophisticated performances despite their tender ages.

The stunning cinematography by Matt Henley of the spectacular, lush Taranaki region, inventive use of animation, spirited music, and the infusion of Maori language, belief systems, and culture make “The Mountain” a special experience. **MVTR**



“The Mountain” screens at the M.V. Film Center starting on April 24. For tickets and information, visit myfilmsociety.com.

Continued from B7

Events

Jazz at Sweet Life with Jeremy Berlin
6:30-8:30 pm, Sweet Life, Oak Bluffs.
Jeremy Berlin plays jazz piano every Thursday at the Sweet Life starting at 6:30
617-835-3756, emhaggerty@gmail.com
Chilmark Preschool Art Opening
Chilmark Library, Preschool Art Opening Reception
Friday, 4/3 @ 3PM. Exhibit open all month.
508-645-3360, casey@chilmarkpreschool.com

FRIDAY, APRIL 24
Cardio and Conditioning with Alyson Parker
7-8 am, Airport Fitness, West Tisbury.
Cardio and strength work with weights and conditioning using your own body weight for resistance. 508-696-8000, info@airportfitnessmv.com
Pumped Up Intervals with Maria McFarland
8:30-9:30 am, Airport Fitness, West Tisbury.
A class alternating cardio intervals and weight work intervals using heavier weights,

body bars, loops bands, and weighted balls.
508-696-8000, info@airportfitnessmv.com
Dr. Seuss Scavenger Hunt
10 am-4:30 pm, Oak Bluffs Library. Have fun searching for Dr. Seuss characters hidden around the Children’s Room. Find all the characters and get a small prize. For kids of all ages. 508-693-9433, mlynch@clamsnet.org
Carnegie Heritage Center Opening Weekend
10 am-3 pm, the carnegie heritage center, Edgartown. Carnegie Heritage Center reopens Easter weekend, Friday and Saturday, 10 AM - 4 PM. Admission: \$5 (ages 12+). vineyardtrust.org/events/774-549-9107, thecarnegie@mvpreservation.org
Painting Still Life with Liz Taft
10 am-1 pm, Featherstone Center for the Arts, Oak Bluffs. This class is about learning to see things simply and translating that into a painting. Open to anyone who has done a little bit of painting. 508-693-1850, featherstone@featherstoneart.org

Mermaid Tales with a Twist
10:15-10:45 am, Oak Bluffs Library. Enjoy story-time with Luna Tide, the Oak Bluffs Mermaid! For kids ages 3-5. Come for the Mermaid, leave with new evidence-based reading practices. 508-693-9433, mlynch@clamsnet.org
Kid’s Music Class
10:30-11 am, West Tisbury Library. Sing fun songs and play instruments with friends! Ages 0-5 508-693-3366, hburbridge@clamsnet.org
Seasonal Kids Crafting
10:30 am-4:30 pm, Oak Bluffs Library. Seasonal craft projects for ages 3-11. New craft each week! Drop in. 508-693-9433, mlynch@clamsnet.org
Mini-Maker Craft Club
10:30 am-2 pm, Edgartown Library. A different-themed craft will be offered every week 508-627-4221, programs@edgartownlibrary.org
Vineyard Haven Library Story Circle with Aria
10:45 am, MV Family Center, Vineyard Haven. Weekly story circle with Children’s Librarian Aria on Tuesdays and Fridays – now at the MV Family Center on Greenwood Ave following 9:30am playgroup. 508-696-4211, vhpl_programs@clamsnet.org

Arbor Day at the Polly Hill Arboretum
1-2 pm, The Polly Hill Arboretum, West Tisbury. Join the Polly Hill Arboretum for a celebration of trees in honor of Arbor Day! PHA staff will lead a tour and tree planting demonstration. Free. 508-693-9426, info@pollyhillarboretum.org
West Tisbury Book Sale Donations
1-2 pm, Friends of West Tisbury Library Shed. Donate your lightly used books for the annual Friends of the West Tisbury Library Book Sale. 617-543-7898, westtislibraryfriends@gmail.com
Family Orgami
3-4 pm, Oak Bluffs Public Library. Learn how to do this fun ancient art form! There will be simple and more advanced options. Pre-register - call 508-693-9433 email mlynch@clamsnet.org
Crystals and Chakras
3:30-4:30 pm, West Tisbury Library. Learn how crystals form, what different crystals are used for and what/where chakras are! 508-693-3366, hburbridge@clamsnet.org
Build It, Build It Better: Online Poetry Workshop with Donald Nitchie
4:30-6 pm, Edgartown Library, Edgartown. Via Zoom. To register, visit the calendar at edgartownlibrary.org. 508-627-4221, programs@edgartownlibrary.org
Music Series: Phil DaRosa Curated Night of Music
7-9 pm, PathwaysArts at the Chilmark Tavern. Phil DaRosa, Wolfrap (Bailey Mae Gardener & Miguel Samuel), known for a vintage, folk-rock sound. Alex K & Friends. Doors open 6:30 / Limited seating 508-645-9098, tanya4pathways@gmail.com
Chilmark Preschool Art Opening
Chilmark Library, Preschool Art Opening Reception Friday, 4/3 @ 3PM. Exhibit open all month. 508-645-3360, casey@chilmarkpreschool.com

Kaiut Yoga
9-10 am, Peaked Hill Studio, Chilmark. Kaiut Yoga is works through chronic pain and injuries, general aches and stiffness, and is good for the inflexible, hyper flexible and the aging body. 774-563-8282, vsonenthal@gmail.com
Pony Rides-April Vacation
10 am-12 pm, Misty Meadows, West Tisbury. April Vacation Pony Rides volunteer@mistymeadowsmv.org
Seasonal Staff-Led Tours at the Polly Hill Arboretum
10-11 am, The Polly Hill Arboretum, West Tisbury. Appreciate the early spring landscape of the Polly Hill Arboretum on this staff guided tour. Included with \$5 admission. Free for PHA members. 508-693-9426, info@pollyhillarboretum.org
April Vacation Pony Rides (Saturday)
10 am-12 pm, Misty Meadows Equine Learning Center, West Tisbury. Enjoy a 15-minute pony ride on our beautiful property! Each child must be booked into a separate time slot for a ride, and our weight limit is 150lbs. 508-338-7198, info@mistymeadowsmv.org
Graphic Design Basics Using Canva
10 am-1 pm, Haven, Vineyard Haven. Learn basic design principles and create visuals 508-693-9222, info@acemv.org
Dr. Seuss Scavenger Hunt
10 am-3:30 pm, Oak Bluffs Library, Oak Bluffs. Have fun searching for Dr. Seuss characters hidden around the Children’s Room. Find all the characters and get a small prize. For kids of all ages. 508-693-9433, mlynch@clamsnet.org

Spring Spectacular Show
11 am-4 pm, Louisa Gould Gallery, Vineyard Haven. Annual Spring Group Show: Sean Roach, Christie Scheele, Teek Eaton-Koch, Julieann Jarreau, and Paul Beebe. 508-693-7373, louisa.gould@gmail.com
Book Signing: ‘Boy’ by Nicole Galland
11 am-1 pm, Edgartown Books. Celebrate Independent Bookstore Day with a book signing by critically acclaimed author Nicole Galland for novel ‘Boy’. 508-627-8463, info@edgartownbooks.com
Storytime
11-11:30 am, Chilmark Library. We’ll read classic and current children’s literature, and sing, move, and play together. Ideal for ages 3-6. adubno@clamsnet.org, 508-645-3360, chilmarklibrarykids@gmail.com
Chain Reaction: Kid’s Building Activity
12:30-2:30 pm, West Tisbury Library. Create a contraption where one objects movement triggers another at the West Tisbury Library 4/25 12:30-2:30 508-693-3366, hburbridge@clamsnet.org
Pokemon Club
1-2 pm, Oak Bluffs Library. Bring your Pokémon cards to show to others! This is a club to talk about Pokémon, look at cards, and draw! Ages 5-11. 508-693-9433, mlynch@clamsnet.org
Pokemon Club
1-2 pm, Oak Bluffs Library. Bring your Pokémon cards to show to others! This is a club to talk about Pokémon, look at cards, and draw! There is no trading allowed. Ages 5-11. 508-693-9433, mlynch@clamsnet.org
Shibori Dyeing with Indigo Workshop
1-4 pm, Featherstone Center for the Arts, Oak Bluffs. Explore the Shibori technique by making a beautiful and unique set of four linen napkins to keep or gift! 508-693-1850, featherstone@featherstoneart.org
All Ages Chess Club
2-3:30 pm, Oak Bluffs Library. Join us in a fun and welcoming environment. oakb_mail@clamsnet.org, 508-693-9433.
Weaving Generations Multi-Generational Panel on Conflicts in Workplaces
2-4 pm, Oak Bluffs Library. Join a multigenerational conversation about how generational experiences shape how we live, work, communicate and connect. 2pm on 4/25 at OB Library 508-693-2999, consumer@mvmediation.org

MARTHA'S VINEYARD film society The MV Film Society • Now celebrating 28 years • 1999-2026		
Thurs 4/23	THE GARDENER THE AI DOC: OR HOW I BECAME AN APOCALOPTIMIST	4:00 PM 7:30 PM
Fri 4/24	THE GARDENER THE MOUNTAIN	4:00 PM 7:30 PM
Sat 4/25	THE AI DOC: OR HOW I BECAME AN APOCALOPTIMIST LAST SHOWING THE MOUNTAIN	4:00 PM 7:30 PM
Sun 4/26	THE GARDENER Sponsored by MV Garden Club with reception in lobby beforehand THE MOUNTAIN	4:00 PM 7:30 PM
MON & TUES, APRIL 27 & 28 - FILM CENTER IS CLOSED -		
Wed 4/29	THE MOUNTAIN DOUBLE INDEMNITY (1944) FILM NOIR series with Paul Karasik	4:00 PM 7:30 PM
Thurs 4/30	THE GARDENER THE MOUNTAIN	4:00 PM 7:30 PM
WINNER BEST ARTS AND CULTURE ORGANIZATION 2025 Voted by the Vineyard Community <small>The MV Film Center is open to the public and masks are optional for all individuals. Please join us for an in-person movie experience soon!</small>		
<small>Information & Schedules</small> mvfilmsociety.com 508.696.9369		

Continued from B8

Events

Puzzles Galore

2-3 pm, Oak Bluffs Library. Our Program Room will be filled with great puzzle options for all ages. One 400 piece community puzzle will allow different ages to collaborate. 508-693-9433, mlynch@clamsnet.org

Book Signing: 'Into The Blue' by Emma Brodie

2-4 pm, Edgartown Books. Celebrate Emma Brodie's new book 'Into The Blue' with a signing on Independent Bookstore Day at Edgartown Books. 508-627-8463, info@edgartownbooks.com

The History of Energy and Electricity on Martha's Vineyard: Vineyard Power

2-3 pm, Edgartown Library. Join Hollis Kelly and Thamis Marta from Vineyard Power 508-627-4221, programs@edgartownlibrary.org

Jazz Film Screening

3-4:30 pm, West Tisbury Library. Presented by MZY Radio's Dave Kish. This month's film: "Sonny Criss & the L.A. All-Stars/The Les McCann Trio." 508-693-3366, wt_mail@clamsnet.org

Confronting Colonialism in Conservation

6-7:30 pm, Aquinnah Library. Presenters Brad Lopes (Aquinnah Wampanoag) and Mary Amanda McNeil explore links between conservation, colonialism, and Wampanoag stewardship. 508-645-2314, gwilbur@clamsnet.org

Pathways Finale: OS NAFTALINAS Brazilian 80's Rock 'n Roll

7-10 pm, PathwaysARTS at the Chilmark Tavern. Brazilian 80's Rock 'n Roll: Eladio Falcao on vocals, Ramon Carvalho on drums, Andy Herr on lead guitar and keys, and Miguel Picacio on rhythm guitar. 508-645-9098, tanya4pathways@gmail.com

Chilmark Preschool Art Opening

Chilmark Library. Preschool Art Opening Reception Friday, 4/3 @ 3PM. Exhibit open all month. 508-645-3360, casey@chilmarkpreschool.com

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

Spring Spectacular Show

11 am-4 pm, Louisa Gould Gallery, Vineyard Haven. Annual Spring Group Show: Sean Roach, Christie Scheele, Teek Eaton-Koch, Julieann Jarreau, and Paul Beebe. 508-693-7373, louisagould@gmail.com

Sunday B-Side Brunch

11 am-2 pm, Martha's Vineyard Museum, Vineyard Haven. Sunday B Side Brunch: 11-2 at First Light Café. Great food, views, and soulful vinyl by DJ Vincent Patricola. Free and open to all. 508-627-4441, rpierce@mvmuseum.org

Meditating With The Body, Turning Toward The Heart

11:30 am-12:30 pm, Stillpoint, West Tisbury. An Exploration of Somatic Meditation, breathwork, and visualization practices, that focus on tending and listening to the heart. jenna@awakeningthewildheart.com

Highfield Kitchen Meet the Create a Food Forest in Your Backyard with Roxanne Kapitan

1-2:30 pm, Beetlebung Farm, Chilmark. Create a Food Forest in Your Backyard with Roxanne Kapitan at Beetlebung Farm 508-693-9549, programs@mvgasoc.org

Rose Coloured Glasses Concert

2 pm, West Tisbury Library. Spanning genres from rock, jazz, pop, country, to deep cuts and hits, Rose Coloured Glasses presents a show that will have something for everyone. 508-693-3366, wt_mail@clamsnet.org

Cup of Karma Cafe

2-3:30 pm, Stillpoint, West Tisbury. All are welcome to these gatherings, which are stress-free, peaceful, and for those who are interested in celebrating the journey of life. info@stillpointmv.org

Chilmark Preschool Art Opening

Chilmark Library. Preschool Art Opening Reception Friday, 4/3 @ 3PM. Exhibit open all month. 508-645-3360, casey@chilmarkpreschool.com

MONDAY, APRIL 27

Dance Fitness and Strength Training with Kris Martin

7-8 am, Airport Fitness, West Tisbury. A creative blend of rhythmic resistance, cardio conditioning, manageable mobility and core strength exercises all set to crazy-FUN music. 508-696-8000, info@airportfitnessmv.com

Virtual Chair Yoga with YogiJay

7:30-8:30 am, West Tisbury Library. Accessible to all levels and ages. Sign up for free by emailing wt_mail@clamsnet.org. 508-693-3366, wt_mail@clamsnet.org

Core Stability, Strength and Balance with Alyson Parker

8:30-9:30 am, Airport Fitness, West Tisbury. A class featuring core stabilization, strength and balance; we target all major muscle groups and include some intermittent cardio. All levels welcome 508-696-8000, info@airportfitnessmv.com

Pint-Sized Picassos

10:30-11:30 am, Edgartown Library. Drop-in painting. Children under 8 must have adult present. 508-627-4221, programs@edgartownlibrary.org

Spring Spectacular Show

11 am-4 pm, Louisa Gould Gallery, Vineyard Haven. Annual Spring Group Show: Sean Roach, Christie Scheele, Teek Eaton-Koch, Julieann Jarreau, and Paul Beebe. 508-693-7373, louisagould@gmail.com

Online Balance with Kanta Lipsky

11:30 am-12:30 pm, West Tisbury Library. To strengthen our connection to Earth and maintain balance. To sign up, email wt_mail@clamsnet.org. 508-693-3366

West Tisbury Book Sale Donations

1-2 pm, Friends of West Tisbury Library Shed. Donate your lightly used books for the annual Friends of the West Tisbury Library Book Sale. 617-543-7898, westtislibraryfriends@gmail.com

Drop-in Mah Jongg

1-3 pm, Edgartown Library. Mats, tiles, and cards provided. No formal instruction. programs@edgartownlibrary.org. 508-627-4221.

Switch Games for kids and teens

3-5 pm, West Tisbury Library. Switch club Mondays from 3-5pm in the Community Room 508-693-3366, lheart@clamsnet.org

Sound Bath

5-6 pm, The Red House PRSC, Vineyard Haven. Relaxing Immersive sound of sound experience promoting deep rest and balance 508-693-2900, jtau@mvcommunityservices.org

Chilmark Preschool Art Opening

Chilmark Library. Preschool Art Opening Reception Friday, 4/3 @ 3PM. Exhibit open all month. 508-645-3360, casey@chilmarkpreschool.com

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

Cardio and Conditioning with Alyson Parker

7-8 am, Airport Fitness, West Tisbury. Cardio and strength work with weights and conditioning using your own body weight for resistance. 508-696-8000, info@airportfitnessmv.com

Kaiut Yoga

8:30-9:30 am, Peaked Hill Studio, Chilmark. Kaiut Yoga works through chronic pain and injuries, general aches and stiffness, and is good for the inflexible, hyper flexible and the aging body. 774-563-8282, valerie@peakedhillstudio.com

Pilates Flow with Camille Beauzile

9-10:15 am, Stillpoint, West Tisbury. This upbeat Pilates class blends preventative medicine, mind-over-matter focus, and joyful movement info@stillpointmv.org

Jewish Meditation Circle

9-9:45 am, Vineyard Haven. Jewish Meditation Circle Prayers, chants & spiritual teachings w/Batya Diamond, last Tues each month 9-9:45am. Please register; info@batyadiamond. info@batyadiamond.com

Little Naturalists

9:30-11:30 am, Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary, Edgartown. Spark your child's curiosity at Felix Neck's Education barn with hands-on free play-water play, sensory bins, experiments, and more. 508-627-4850, felixneck@massaudubon.org

Play Kitchen and Store

10 am, Oak Bluffs Library. Come enjoy watching your kids be creative and solve problems! For ages 2-6. Drop in between 10am-noon. 508-693-9433, mlynch@clamsnet.org

Dr. Seuss Scavenger Hunt

10 am-5:30 pm, Oak Bluffs Library, Oak Bluffs. Have fun searching for Dr. Seuss characters hidden around the Children's Room. Find all the characters and get a small prize. For kids of all ages. 508-693-9433, mlynch@clamsnet.org

Free Range Fun

10:15-11 am, West Tisbury Library. Enjoy a room filled with parachutes, scarves, bubbles, music and more to explore! Recommended for ages 0-5 508-693-3366, hburbridge@clamsnet.org

Drop-in Play-Doh Group

10:30 am-12 pm, Edgartown Library, Edgartown. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult caregiver. 508-627-4221, programs@edgartownlibrary.org

Work From Home, From The Library

11 am-12 pm, West Tisbury Library. Get help working remotely with child watch at the library. 11-12pm on 2/3, 2/17, 3/10, 3/24, 4/7, 4/28, 5/12, 5/26 508-693-3366, hburbridge@clamsnet.org

Spring Spectacular Show

11 am-4 pm, Louisa Gould Gallery, Vineyard Haven. Annual Spring Group Show: Sean Roach, Christie Scheele, Teek Eaton-Koch, Julieann Jarreau, and Paul Beebe. 508-693-7373, louisagould@gmail.com

SQUAD FITNESS with Triva Emery • BeWell-MV

11 am-12 pm, Oak Bluffs Library, Oak Bluffs. SQUAD FITNESS with Triva Emery • BeWell-MV 508-693-9433, cphelan@clamsnet.org

Half day beading program

1-2 pm, West Tisbury Library. Half day beading program for kids 6+ 508-693-3366, lheart@clamsnet.org

Movie and Crafting

1-2:30 pm, Oak Bluffs Library. Join others after school on this school half day for the 2025 sequel to Zootopia and crafting! There will be snacks. 508-693-9433, mlynch@clamsnet.org

Mah Jongg

2-4 pm, Chilmark Library. Multiple tables for all levels and ages. Instruction on first Tuesday of the month. chil.programs@gmail.com. 508-645-3360.

Lego Club

2:45-4 pm, Chilmark Library. Kids Lego Club 508-645-3360, chilmarklibrarykids@gmail.com

SINGING & PERFORMING CLASS

3:15-4:45 pm, Aquinnah Town Hall. Singers choose a song to cover and develop for a stage performance over the course of the 8 week session, with a performance on the last day.laurajordandecker@gmail.com

SINGING & PERFORMING CLASS

3:30-5 pm, Aquinnah Town Hall. Singers choose a song to cover and develop for a stage performance over the course of the 8 week session, with a performance on the last day.laurajordandecker@gmail.com

Drop in for our Teen and Tween Art & Craft Class

3:30-4:30 pm, West Tisbury. Teen and Tween Art & Craft Class at the library-meets every Tuesday from 3:30-4:30pm. ages 10-18, supplies provided. 508-693-3366, lheart@clamsnet.org

Movie at the Library - Earth

4-6 pm, Oak Bluffs Library, Oak Bluffs. Movie at the Library - Earth 508-693-9433, cphelan@clamsnet.org

Staff Picks Book Club

4-5 pm, Edgartown Library. For more info, visit the calendar at edgartownlibrary.org. 508-627-4221, programs@edgartownlibrary.org

ASL Practice Group

4:45-5:45 pm, Oak Bluffs Library, Oak Bluffs. Want to learn ASL? Come drop in on our conversational practice group! No experience necessary. 508-693-9433, sschofield@clamsnet.org

Knitting Group

5-6 pm, West Tisbury Library. Creativity and conversation. Use supplies provided or bring your own. Adults and teens. No sign-up. wt_mail@clamsnet.org. 508-693-3366.

Community Sing

5-6 pm, Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School, West Tisbury. Sing easy to learn songs from around the world with song leader Roberta Kim. No experience necessary. Free! 774-563-0318, roberta@bewellsing.com

Bunch of Grapes Book Club: Theo of Golden

5-6 pm, Bunch of Grapes Bookstore, Vineyard Haven. Join us for an informal discussion about the bestselling novel Theo of Golden. All are welcome. 508-693-2291, molly4books@gmail.com

Table Tennis

5 pm, Tisbury Senior Center, Vineyard Haven. Table tennis for all ages and skill levels. 508-728-5898, raeobmv@gmail.com

Growing Herbs and Edible Flowers with Rosemary Confalone

5:30-7 pm, Agricultural Hall, West Tisbury. Growing Herbs and Edible Flowers with Rosemary Confalone at the Ag Hall 508-693-9549, programs@mvgasoc.org

ART NIGHT! Rug Mug

5:30-7:30 pm, Featherstone Center for the Arts, Oak Bluffs. Come learn how to rug hook during this fun introductory workshop and make your own 5"x5" coaster - everything you need to get started is included! 508-693-1850, featherstone@featherstoneart.org

Chilmark Preschool Art Opening

Chilmark Library. Preschool Art Opening Reception Friday, 4/3 @ 3PM. Exhibit open all month. 508-645-3360, casey@chilmarkpreschool.com

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

Dr. Seuss Scavenger Hunt

8 am-4:30 pm, Oak Bluffs Library, Oak Bluffs. Have fun searching for Dr. Seuss characters hidden around the Children's Room. Find all the characters and get a small prize. For kids of all ages. 508-693-9433, mlynch@clamsnet.org

Barre Fusion with Maria McFarland

8:30-9:30 am, Airport Fitness, West Tisbury. Ballet styled flows, barre work, balance and weights using disks, loop bands and Bender balls. Come with sneakers, barre sox, or bare feet 508-696-8000, info@airportfitnessmv.com

Play Reading at Tisbury Senior Center

9 am-12 pm, Tisbury Council on Aging, Vineyard Haven. Play Reading for Artistic, Literary and Dramatic Pleasure 201-207-7568, monahennessy@gmail.com

Poem in Your Pocket Day

10 am-6 pm, Edgartown Library. Stop by the Edgartown Public Library's circulation desk to pick up a copy of a poem 508-627-4221, programs@edgartownlibrary.org

Oak Bluffs Public Library Storytime

10:15-10:45 am, Oak Bluffs Library, Oak Bluffs. A fun-filled story time with stories, songs, scarves, and a parachute. Stories are geared toward kids 1.5 to 5 years old; all ages welcome. 508-693-9433, mlynch@clamsnet.org

Children's Storytime

10:30-11 am, West Tisbury Library. Join Hannah for silly songs and stories. Ages 0-5 508-693-3366, hburbridge@clamsnet.org

Vineyard Haven Library Story Circle with Aria

10:45 am, MV Family Center, Vineyard Haven. Weekly story circle with Children's Librarian Aria on Tuesdays and Fridays - now at the MV Family Center on Greenwood Ave following 9:30am playgroup. 508-696-4211, vphl_programs@clamsnet.org

Spring Spectacular Show

11 am-4 pm, Louisa Gould Gallery, Vineyard Haven. Annual Spring Group Show: Sean Roach, Christie Scheele, Teek Eaton-Koch, Julieann Jarreau, and Paul Beebe. 508-693-7373, louisagould@gmail.com

Mah Jong

1-3 pm, Up Island Council on Aging, West Tisbury. Come join us for Mah Jong every Wednesday from 1-3:00 @ The Up Island Council on Aging . 1042 State Rd West Tisbury 508-693-2896, coa-staff@westtisbury-ma.gov

Hands Only CPR

1-2:30 pm, Up Island Council on Aging, West Tisbury. CPR class- Learn to save a life 508-693-2896, coa-staff@westtisbury-ma.gov

West Tisbury Book Sale Donations

1-2 pm, Friends of West Tisbury Library Shed. Donate your lightly used books for the annual Friends of the West Tisbury Library Book Sale. 617-543-7898, westtislibraryfriends@gmail.com

Virtual Reality for Tweens & Teens

3-5 pm, West Tisbury Library. For ages 10-18. Each participant's time depends on the turn-out. lheart@clamsnet.org. 508-693-3366.

Drop-in Knitting Group with Cindy Bonnell

3-5 pm, Edgartown Library, Edgartown. All levels are welcome to bring their projects for support and inspiration. programs@edgartownlibrary.org. 508-627-4221.

Kids Drawing Club

3-4 pm, Chilmark Library. Kids drawing club 508-645-3360, chilmarklibrarykids@gmail.com

Kids Crafts - Bird Wreaths

3:30-5 pm, EMS Building, Vineyard Haven. Make a spring wreath or a swing with a cute faux bird

EMS Building across from the Tisbury School. Sponsored by the Vineyard Haven Public Library 508-696-4211, jrapano@clamsnet.org

Portuguese Language and Culture Club

3:30-4:30 pm, Oak Bluffs Library. Join Brazilian Portuguese educator Ms. Maria, for a fun four week club. Grades 2-5. Guarantee your spot - mlynch@clamsnet.org or call 508-693-9433

MVRHS Building Project Community Information Sessions

4:30-5:30 pm, West Tisbury Library. Representatives from MVRHS and the building project team will share the latest design updates, outline next steps, and answer questions from attendees 518-369-6224, mary.korba@mvvps.org

Música Do Circulo/Music of the Circle

5-6:30 pm, Peaked Hill Studio, Chilmark. **MÚSICA DO CIRCULO is: playful, singing, improvisation, games, rhythm, melody, harmony, connection, movement, fun, FREE and JOYFUL! Led by Roberta Ki 774-563-0318, roberta@bewellsing.com

Memoir Book Club

5:30 pm, West Tisbury Library. We will be reading & discussing The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating. 508-693-3366, wt_mail@clamsnet.org

Silent Book Club

5:30-6:30 pm, Bunch of Grapes Bookstore, Vineyard Haven. Come spend a relaxing hour reading in companionable silence after hours at Bunch of Grapes 508-693-2291, molly4books@gmail.com

Quilting Circle

6-7:30 pm, West Tisbury Library. All are welcome. For details, email Wendy at wgnierenberg@yahoo.com or call the library at 508-693-3366.

High School Building Tours

6:30-8:30 pm, MVRHS - Library, Vineyard Haven. The Martha's Vineyard School Building Committee is hosting informational tours of the existing high school 518-369-6224, mary.korba@mvvps.org

Free English Classes

7-8 pm, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day saints, Vineyard Haven. Free English Classes offered by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Basic conversational classes offered. To register text 774-563-0460. 774-563-0460, brentbrown81@gmail.com

Adult Board Game Night

7:30-10 pm, Oak Bluffs Library. Adults are welcome to join us at the Barn and Bowl Bistro for a variety of board games and socializing. 508-693-9433, cphelan@clamsnet.org

Chilmark Preschool Art Opening

Chilmark Library. Preschool Art Opening Reception Friday, 4/3 @ 3PM. Exhibit open all month. 508-645-3360, casey@chilmarkpreschool.com

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

Dance Fitness and Strength Training with Kris Martin

7-8 am, Airport Fitness, West Tisbury. A creative blend of rhythmic resistance, cardio conditioning, manageable mobility and core strength exercises all set to crazy-FUN music. 508-696-8000, info@airportfitnessmv.com

Virtual Kripalu Flow Yoga

7:30 am, West Tisbury Library. On Zoom with Yogijay. Sign up for free by emailing wt_mail@clamsnet.org. 508-693-3366, wt_mail@clamsnet.org

Mindfulness & Meditation Open Practice Group

8-9 am, Aquinnah Town Hall. Mindfulness & meditation practice group, open to anyone interested in being more intentional and practicing with others. 413-575-0110, ruthfolchman@me.com

ServSafe® Food Protection Manager Class & Exam

8 am-2 pm, American Legion, Vineyard Haven. 855-478-7246, rachel@hrfoodsaf.com

Kaiut Yoga

8:30-9:30 am, Peaked Hill Studio, Chilmark. Kaiut Yoga works through chronic pain and injuries, general aches and stiffness, and is good for the inflexible, hyper flexible and the aging body. 774-563-8282, valerie@peakedhillstudio.com

CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The simple elegance of Martha Vanderhoop's jewelry.

BY ABBY REMER



Aquinnah Wampanoag tribe member Martha Vanderhoop.

PHOTOS: DENA PORTER



Martha Vanderhoop's hand-hewn recycled silver clay jewelry is ornately detailed.

Martha Vanderhoop's stunning jewelry, created in the distinctive, eco-friendly medium of silver metal clay, holds meaning far beyond its beauty. It is imbued with cultural significance, tied to both her Aquinnah Wampanoag and Japanese heritage. Referring to the Vineyard, she says of her unique designs, "I draw inspiration from my beautiful Island home. I love translating its seaweed, sand dunes, and animal life into my jewelry. My work is also influenced by the simple elegance of Japanese aesthetics and my lifelong connection to the ocean."

Vanderhoop's father was a sea captain, born in 1921 at the Gay Head Lighthouse, where his father was the first and only Wampanoag principal keeper. "My dad loved his childhood in Gay Head [the former name of Aquinnah]. Even though the town was far more isolated then, there were still tourists who came to see the Lighthouse and clay Cliffs. When he was a child, my father sold handmade pottery from the Cliffs to some of these tourists. As an adult,

he became a sea captain, sailing all around the world and serving in the Merchant Marines. After World War II, he met my mother in Japan, where I was born." When Vanderhoop was 4 years old, the family returned to her father's homeland.

Vanderhoop's parents opened Hatmarcha Gifts on the Aquinnah Cliffs in 1974, when she was in college: "Every summer, I came home to help them sell scrimshaw, wampum, clothing, and other gifts. My father loved entertaining customers with tales of his maritime travels and stories of the Island's past. My mother had always dreamed of opening her own business, and worked tirelessly to make Hatmarcha Gifts a success." Vanderhoop took over the store after her parents retired, greeting visitors herself every summer.

Vanderhoop always loved jewelry, and first began doing beadwork. But she says, "About 20 years ago, I heard about metal clay, and it sounded fun. I took a couple of classes, and just love the medium."

Vanderhoop works with nearly 100 percent silver metal clay, which was developed in Japan in the 1990s. This unusual medium begins as a soft, workable substance composed of tiny recycled-metal particles mixed with an organic binder and water, forming a claylike material. Vanderhoop shapes it by hand or uses molds embed-

"The transformation is particularly meaningful because it becomes strong and enduring through fire, [which] feels symbolic of resilience and of continuity of us as Wampanoag people."

-MARTHA VANDERHOOP

ded with her designs. After drying, she can carve, sculpt, and sand the clay into her desired forms. The piece is then fired in a kiln. During firing, the organic binder burns away, and the water evaporates, leaving behind a solid metal piece.

Vanderhoop polishes the raised elements, and sometimes darkens the recessed areas. The resulting tactile images call out to be touched. At times, she also uses the ancient Korean technique of keum-boo, in which she fuses high-karat gold onto the silver to create rich contrast and depth. Similarly, she sometimes adds semiprecious stones to introduce color, balance, and individuality to each piece.

Traditional silversmiths use sheet silver

"I fell in love with this medium," she says. "Working in metal clay allows me to build forms in an intimate and tactile way — shaping, carving, and refining each piece by hand before I fire and transform it into metal. I'm responsible for every little piece of it, not taking a sheet of hard silver and cutting it. I'm creating it from its very base form."

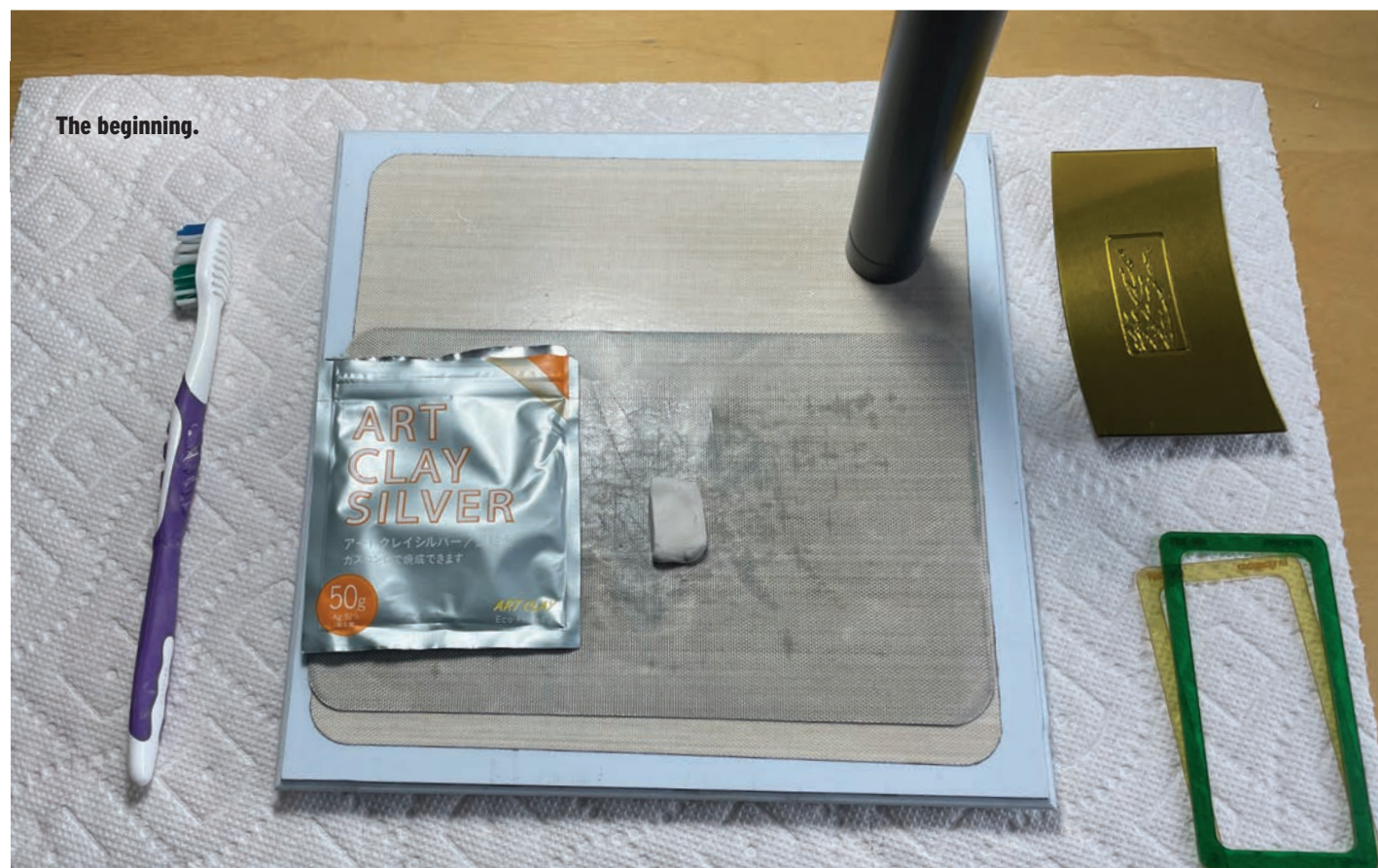
Silver metal clay has been around for nearly 30 years, but Vanderhoop isn't sure why it isn't more popular or well-known. She conjectures, though, that it has to do with the techniques' differences. Traditional silversmiths use hard sheet silver, which is typically cut into pieces and soldered together. The silver metal clay starts out as moldable and needs to be fired at 1,500° to 1,600° to become hard, which is too hot for sheet metal to withstand. Vanderhoop observes, "If you're a traditional silversmith, you can't mix the two techniques together." The Jewellers Academy has praised the medium for being ecologically sustainable.

Vanderhoop says of the silver metal clay, "I love the hands-on nature of the material. It starts soft and sculptural, and after firing, it becomes solid metal. That transformation is particularly meaningful because it becomes strong and enduring through fire, [which] feels symbolic of resilience and of continuity of us as Wampanoag people, and of the ways our culture and identity are shaped over time."

"Both my Japanese and Wampanoag perspectives naturally find their way into my designs through an attention to nature, balance, and story. From the Japanese aesthetics, I'm drawn to simplicity and asymmetry, and the quiet beauty found in natural forms. From my Wampanoag roots, I carry an awareness of connection to [our] land, story, and ancestral craft." We see this combination, for instance, in her beach-grass design, which carries the elegance of a Japanese composition while the subject matter is directly connected to Wampanoag coastal areas.

Vanderhoop notes, "I like my pieces to have some kind of meaning. I hope to create small, personal objects that carry quiet significance. A piece of jewelry can be more than an adornment; it can be a connection to place, memory, and my heritage. My intention is to create work that invites the wearer to feel that connection and to carry a small story with them. I want people to walk away with a piece of the story about Aquinnah and how our people survived through hundreds of years. We have grown and changed, but we are still here on our land." **MVT**

For more information, visit hatmarchagifts.com. Hatmarcha Gifts will be open at the Aquinnah Cliffs starting on May 1.



The beginning.

Captions by Martha Vanderhoop:

1. "Seastars": I found this perfect beauty during one of my beach walks under the lighthouse in Aquinnah. I made a mold from it.
2. "Wandering Seaweed" represents the carefree adventures I had as a kid, wading through the thick seaweed and digging for clams with my bare feet. The design comes from copper plates. I love the simplicity, but also the contemplative nature of the design.
3. "Beachgrass" is my favorite design. Beachgrass is an anchor for the sandy dunes you find across the Island. The slim green stalks blow in the wind, but remain firmly embedded in the sandy earth of our Island. This is an original design that I duplicate with the photopolymer plates.
4. "Sperm Whale Lost in Seaweed": This necklace honors whales, which Wampanoag people consider our relatives. Whales have played a crucial role in our history, sustaining and feeding us for generations.
5. Stormy captures the beautiful but unforgiving power of the ocean and wind around Martha's Vineyard. This is an original design transferred to a photopolymer plate where I am able to duplicate the design.



PHOTOS COURTESY: MARTHA VANDERHOOP

From left: Original "Beachgrass" design, using mold made from a photopolymer plate. "Hurricane": showing gale-force winds and stormy waters often found around Aquinnah. "Sperm Whale Tail," using "Wandering Seaweed" design, with a tiny scallop hiding in the seaweed. "Sperm Whale Lost in Seaweed," using original whale-tail mold.

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Mia Esparini drizzling glaze on scones.

PHOTOS: ALLISON ROBERTS UNLESS NOTED

IN THE KITCHEN WITH Mia Esparini

BY ALLISON ROBERTS

Easy to make, delicious to eat –
Lemon Poppy Seed Scones.

For this month’s “In the Kitchen with,” we decided to focus on baking instead of cooking. This decision made me insanely happy, because I’ve never met a dessert I didn’t love. West Tisbury resident Mia Esparini, a bookkeeper and IT coordinator at South Mountain Co., is a fabulous baker. “I started enjoying baking in high school,” Esparini said. “After college, I got even more into it. I like to feed people. It’s my love language.”

Esparini had dreams of opening a café and coffee shop when she lived off-Island for a spell. She would have named it the Humble Cookie Co.: “It’s not a dream for me now. I’m very happy where I am — happy that baking is something I can enjoy as a hobby, and not as a job that I could potentially burn out on.”

Baking is a bit of a family affair. Esparini’s 10-year-old daughter, Ada, also caught the baking bug: “She likes to bake without

me helping, so it’s 100 percent hers. She takes what she bakes and shares it with neighbors and friends. She really likes to bake cookies, which is what I generally like to bake, as well as scones.”

Did I hear the word “scone”? Scones are one of my all-time favorite treats — tender, flaky interior, golden-brown crust, and rich in flavor. They can be tricky to make, especially if you are making scones for someone who is dairy- and gluten-free, like me, but when a baker finds the perfect balance between biscuit and cake, it’s a win. For our bake, Esparini decided to make lemon poppy seed scones, and suggested that I bake the gluten- and dairy-free version, while she baked a regular batch.

“This is a great recipe, and can easily be made dairy- and gluten-free,” Esparini said. “There’s not a lot of advance prep, and a lot of the time people already have these ingredients in their home.”



MIA ESPARINI



MIA ESPARINI

Top and above, Ada Esparini takjijng stirring and mixing to a whole new level.

This recipe doesn’t call for butter, plant-based or otherwise, but uses cream instead. Esparini explained that the key to a scone’s appeal is in the cold fat (butter or cream) that creates steam pockets. “Grating frozen butter is fiddly, but makes for great, fluffy scones,” she continued. “But this recipe is easy, and has become one of Ada’s favorites, so I make them a lot.”

For my scones, I used a plant-based heavy whipping cream, while Esparini used dairy-based. We stood side by side, measuring and combining our ingredients in separate bowls. We gently mixed and folded the dough — rather than kneaded it — which



Mia Esparini holding finished scones.

ensures that the dough doesn’t get too dense and chewy. Next, we cut the dough at a diagonal, making eight triangles, and put the scones in the freezer for 15 minutes. “The fat in the cream will get cold, then when it goes in the oven, the steam will help get a rise,” Esparini explained.

When they came out of the oven, the whole house smelled wonderful. I wanted to eat one immediately, but we still had to glaze them with a sweet, lemony glaze while they were warm. Once cooled, I dug in. Delicious. Tasty. Marvelous. My sugar-baby self was happy. Plus, I got to take the rest of mine home to enjoy later on. **MVT**

LEMON POPPY SEED SCONES

Dough

- 2/3 cup** (132 g) granulated sugar
- zest of 2 lemons
- 2¾ cups** (330 g) King Arthur unbleached all-purpose flour, or King Arthur gluten-free “measure for measure” flour
- 1½ Tbsp.** (14 g) poppy seeds
- 2 tsp.** baking powder
- 1 tsp.** table salt
- 1½ cups** (341 g) heavy whipping cream, or plant-based heavy whipping cream
- 1 Tbsp.** lemon juice

Glaze

- 1¾ cups** (199 g) confectioners’ sugar, sifted pinch table salt
 - 2½ Tbsp.** (35 g) lemon juice
 - 1 Tbsp.** heavy whipping cream, or plant-based heavy whipping cream
- Preheat the oven to 400°F with a rack in the center. Line a baking sheet with parchment, or lightly grease it.

To make the dough:

In a large bowl, rub the sugar and lemon zest together until the sugar is moist and fragrant. Add the flour, poppy seeds, baking powder, and salt, and whisk to combine.

Make a well in the center of the dry ingredients, and pour in the heavy cream and lemon juice. Stir with a flexible rubber spatula until the dough is evenly moistened and holds together when squeezed, with a few bits of dry flour remaining. Transfer the dough to a lightly floured work surface, and knead just enough to incorporate the dry bits and form a cohesive dough.

Pat the dough into a rectangle about 8 by 6 inches. Cut crosswise into three roughly even rectangles. Stack the rectangles and pat into another 8- by 6-inch rectangle, about ¼ inch thick.

Divide the dough in half lengthwise and then crosswise, yielding four rectangles. Halve each rectangle diagonally to form eight triangles.

Transfer the scones to the prepared baking sheet. For the best rise, freeze the scones on the baking sheet, uncovered, for 15 minutes.

Bake the scones for 25 to 28 minutes, or until light golden brown. Remove from the oven and allow to cool slightly while you prepare the glaze.

To make the glaze:

In a medium bowl, whisk together the confectioners’ sugar and salt. Add the lemon juice and cream, and whisk until a thick glaze forms. While the scones are still warm, working one at a time, dip the top of each scone into the glaze to coat thoroughly, allowing any excess glaze to drip back into the bowl. You can also drizzle the glaze with a teaspoon if you want a little less. Return the scones to the baking sheet, and set aside briefly to allow the glaze to set.

Dig in while the scones are still warm. Store any leftover scones in an airtight container at room temperature for up to two days.



Scones done and ready to be served.

MARTHA'S VINEYARD

COMMUNITY TELEVISION



In a 2025 interview, Trip Barnes regaled Ann Bassett with hilarious tales of Vineyard life, celebrities, and fishing.

PHOTOS: DENA PORTER

Freedom of expression in the digital age. **BY ABBY REMER**

If you have an idea and wish to share it, Martha's Vineyard Community Television (MVTV) offers everything you need to get on the air.

Island residents control and operate this 501(c)(3), established in 2001 and fully funded by Comcast and a \$25 membership fee. Instructor and Access Coordinator Michelle Vivian-Jemison says, "Our goal and mission is to provide digital media literacy to the community by way of freedom of speech and freedom of expression." Vineyarders can create any kind of programming they want, whether it's sharing a special interest in the arts or educating the community about local historical or environmental issues. Scout their offerings, and you'll see, for instance, a show about ospreys, narrated coverage of an MVRHS boys' or girls' basketball game, and a town finance committee meeting, to name just a few.

You don't need any digital experience, only an idea for a program. MVTV welcomes newcomers, and guides them from concept to broadcast. The process starts

with an orientation session. Vivian-Jemison explains, "It helps you understand how public access works. We are content-neutral, meaning it's about freedom of speech and freedom of expression, but within broadcast television regulations. You cannot slander anyone, advertise, or sell anything, on a show, or use unauthorized copyrighted material." She adds that during orientation, "You also hear about the classes we offer, who works here, who our board members are, and who covers things like the board of selectmen meetings."

Next comes the camera class, where you learn to use the equipment for on-location work. This includes the Panasonic HC-X2, Canon HF M30, and DJI Osmo Pocket 3, as well as smaller cameras for younger people. In the editing class, you work with Adobe Premiere Pro. "You can also learn easier ones, like iMovie or Rush, if you're not doing anything complicated. We're always getting new equipment and upgrading, making sure we're ahead of the game," Vivian-Jemison says. MVTV covers skills for back-end control-room and tech di-

rector positions, including operating the lights and cameras.

There are also courses for the video podcasting studio and the kitchen studio, where anyone can showcase their cooking skills. Their main studio features a green-screen wall or a black velvet curtain backdrop, making it perfect for interviews.

There are opportunities to learn how to cover something on location. It can be at home, sharing your poetry or a book club, or covering outside events. "So many nonprofits call here wanting to document

"WE WANT PEOPLE TO REALLY UNDERSTAND THAT WE ARE HERE FOR YOUR DIGITAL MEDIA STORYTELLING."

—MICHELLE VIVIAN-JEMISON, MVTV INSTRUCTOR AND ACCESS COORDINATOR



Access Coordinator and Instructor Michelle Vivian Jemison installed a mic onto presidential candidate Andrea James' lapel as show host Dr. Robert Tankard looked on.

their events. People have covered library events, and also gathered extra outside footage to augment a production."

Any project can be broadcast, whether it's a one-off or a series, as long as it's edited and your name is on it. Shows can be viewed on Comcast Xfinity's channels 6, 8, and 9, and accessed on MVTV's home page, as well as their video on demand. Vivian-Jemison explains, "You take responsibility for your own media. But we give you everything you need and all the support in the world, from the very beginning to the very end, including help with personal branding, byline, logo, and music."

MVTV conducts an impressive amount of community outreach. For instance, Vivian-Jemison works with students from many of the Vineyard schools, including training them for MVRHS's "The Grapevine," which has its own YouTube channel. This weekly student-produced news broadcast informs the school community about upcoming events, school news, and activities.

She likewise helps with an oral history project with MVRHS and Charter School students. It is a collaboration between MVTV, the M.V. branch of the Association

for the Study of African Language and History (ASALH), and the M.V. Diversity Coalition Living Legends Project. "We pick someone who has made a significant contribution, and the students conduct research about them. They meet with the person to get to know them, we compose the questions together, and then they come to MVTV to conduct the interview." She adds, "Any instructor on Martha's Vineyard who wants to include digital media, I will go and train their students."

"Right now," she says, "we're super-excited because we will have new branding and a new website so that community members really understand that they have access to MVTV." There will be an open house soon to launch the endeavor. "We want to make it easier for everyone to navigate our website and have more interactivity. We want people to understand that we are here for your digital media storytelling." **MVT**

MVTV, 58 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road in Oak Bluffs; 508-696-9760, mvtv@mvtv.org. Information about the open house will be announced shortly.



Screenshots, below, from filming during Featherstone and MVTV Filmmakers Summercamp 2025 - Let's Talk - Podcasts at MVTV Studios.



Jacob and Owen, talking exercise and basketball.



Ethan and Matthew, "The Problem" podcast, talking airport security.



Hazel and Sienna, talking pet care.



Show host Dr. Robert Tankard thanked presidential candidate Andrea James for coming to the talk show.



Former MVRHS student Natalie Wambui hosted her own cooking show at MVTV in 2024.

Garden Notes

BY ABIGAIL HIGGINS



And planting your own asparagus – yay!

Arbor Day

As the hopeful saying goes, April showers bring May flowers. However, spring is also often brush-fire season. Fire awareness is the order of the day for outdoor work and activities. The mid-month mini-heat-wave was a reminder that things can become hot and dry, very fast.

The spectacular flowering cherry, *Prunus 'Accolade'* at Polly Hill Arboretum, beckons across the fields on State Road. Flowering cherries, magnolias, and early spring flowers are PHA highlights just now.

Our special Island flower

The Vineyard's native habitat does not produce eye-catching displays of early spring ephemerals, unlike Polly Hill Arboretum. Ours are more likely to be unshowy, such as skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*) and modest, such as the ground-covering rue-anemone, *Thalictrum thalictroides*, or the shy trailing arbutus, *Epigaea repens*, also called mayflower.

Traditionally, the sweetly fragrant mayflowers were gathered, until the plants themselves became truly endangered, through careless pulling and plucking. Their habitat too became endangered.

For many years, the Martha's Vineyard Garden Club, along with the Vineyard Gazette, campaigned for respect for the Island's mayflowers: If they were to be gathered, to please use scissors to sever the tough little stems carefully. Now, due to changes in land use and development, it is unusual to find mayflowers anywhere on the Vineyard.

Earth Day

"Stand up for what you stand on." Earth Day, the one day per year officially dedicated to health of Earth, our planet, has come and gone.

Those who garden are probably as Earth-aware a demographic as can be found anywhere. This is a good thing: We can model the behaviors we want to see and encourage.

Of the major possible themes of Earth Day, awareness of plastics and plastic reduction in our lives and environments has become a leading focus. Individually, it can be dispiriting to attempt to reduce plastics. Their use and prevalence keep increasing. Rejecting the onslaught becomes almost impossible. This — even while we know that microplastics infest almost every area of the globe, even space, and while in our bodies, affect human health harmfully.

Even though we are swamped with the green industry plastic that many

of us resent having to deal with, resourceful gardeners sometimes can get additional successive uses before the items hit the landfill. Even the packaging that mushrooms and chicken pieces arrive in might have a use in growing or propagation.

Take good care of trays, containers, and other plastics that break down under UV, and get as many repeat uses from them as possible. There is no "away," as in the act of "throwing stuff away." Everything goes somewhere.

"Everything is connected to everything else. Everything must go somewhere. Nature knows best. There is no such thing as a free lunch." —Barry Commoner's "Four Laws of Ecology"

Also, Arbor Day

A community is formed not only of people but also of surroundings. The damages inflicted on trees during the storms of the winter past removed many old friends, known and venerable trees — leaving gaps and blank spaces and sky they had previously filled.

Arbor Day, celebrated in Massachusetts on April 24, the last Friday in April, almost in conjunction with Earth Day, is a day to plant a tree, dream of a tree you would like to plant, or read up on trees that might enhance your life and surroundings, or replace a tree.

Trees make life on Earth possible. Trees and forests are the lungs of our planet, giving our atmosphere precious oxygen. Trees are the stores of carbon that are exchanged for that oxygen, which creates the thin layer of topsoil that all life on Earth is dependent upon.

Trees are the structure and underpinning for much if not most of the rest of life on Earth that we share our time with. On this Arbor Day, find a tree to plant, or plant a tree's seed. For links to important tips for tree planting, see bit.ly/GP_TreePlanting.

Growing asparagus

Asparagus season is upon us — yay!

There is a notion that to have a nice asparagus bed the best plan is to buy roots, to get a jump-start on ac-



PHOTOS: ABIGAIL HIGGINS

Clockwise from top left: Plant a tree. Asparagus season starts. Spring brings much yellow.

There is no "away," as in the act of "throwing stuff away." Everything goes somewhere.

tually harvesting spears as soon as possible. Whether roots ("crowns," as they are often called) or seed-sown, plants must be allowed to bulk up before harvest can commence. Three years is the time usually suggested. I am not disagreeing: I have done it both ways, roots and seed-sown. However, time flies in the life of a garden; by way of encouragement, seed-sown asparagus I grew has matured to harvestable size.

Asparagus plants are dependent upon a supply of well-drained, rich soil to support the continued production of spears over the course of harvest. Preparing the bed with the richest, most fertile soil, and then top-dressing annually thereafter, is the best guarantee of a reliable crop.

To allow crowns to replenish themselves, around the end of June, maybe a little later, the final spears are allowed to sprout and "fern" for the rest of the growing season.

If interested in more asparagus background, read Wikipedia's lengthy and informative article on its long history at en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asparagus.

In the garden

Spring brings much yellow. Daffs and forsythia brighten Island gardens in splashes of sunshine yellow now. For those who desire a softer, more muted yellow, or who find forsythia's yellow too emphatic, consider the *corylopsis* family of flowering shrubs. Two understory species are well suited to semi-shaded conditions:

Corylopsis spicata and *C. pauciflora*.

Compared with in-ground direct-sown, growing in modules offers advantages for transplant outdoors when conditions hit optimum, but they must be looked after to avoid setbacks, such as drying out or overheating. Remember to harden off.

Plant lettuce, seed potatoes, and peas. Push/pull hoe: An ounce of weed control now will pay off later. Trim or pinch phlox, Montauk daisies, and other perennials to induce bushiness and reduce need for staking. Lift, divide, and reset divisions of spreaders such as *rudbeckia*, *coreopsis verticillata*, or *asters*. Check wisteria vines for runners; prune them off.

Tick check, every night. **MVT**

FIND THE SPRING/SUMMER ISSUE ON NEWSSTANDS!



VINEYARD VISITOR

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