

Magnificent Skies Over Poppy Bay Photo by Karen Joyce. Photo by Margie Ross Decter. Photo by Karen Joyce. Photo by Margie Ross Decter. Photo by Karen Joyce. 2 THE PENINSULA REPORTER

President's Report

As in the past I will begin by thanking all who made it to the Annual Meeting on August 10th. We make a real effort to try to cover topics that we think are important to you. We hope we accomplished that this year.



We used the same relative format for our financials as we did the prior year, hopefully providing the right level of detail. We ended 2023 on budget for all the Villages and CAMI. We had a small loss for the Peninsula Council Administration which we addressed with a transfer from reserves and going forward with the modest increase in dues that you approved at our 2023 Annual Meeting. As we anticipated, we had an operating loss for the ARC that we covered with reserves we had accumulated.

The good news is that, for 2024, we are running on plan for all our budget centers including ARC. We are particularly pleased that ARC is on plan because we made a real effort to build a more realistic budget, implement cost cuts and we have been fortunate to see a slight uptick in permits and home transfer fees which is our source of revenue. All in all, we are pleased with where we are year to date.

We work hard to run a lean operating plan with just enough excess to build up reserves for unexpected events and for large projects such as roads and drains. That formula seems to be serving us well.

There was a big emphasis at our Annual Meeting on the extension of our Universal Village Declaration. It expires at the end of 2025 and the votes to extend have to be filed at the Registry of Deeds by 3/31/26 or "poof" there is no more UVD. There is no longer a legal document underpinning the Villages of New Seabury. There is no longer a legal means for the Peninsula Council to bill and collect fees and, therefore, funds to maintain roads, drains, entrances, landscaping, lighting, walking trails, etc. etc. By now, you are probably tiring of hearing about this, but I guess until it's extended we'll keep talking about it. It would be irresponsible for the Peninsula Council not to do everything it can to communicate its importance to get this done. Mike Richardson, Bright Coves Chair Marjorie Clapprood, who also leads our renewal effort, and I have been going to all the Village Meetings this summer to talk about the UVD. We are encouraged by the level of support that we are hearing. I think most of the feedback is that extending this is a "no brainer". We hope so.

As we begin to close out the summer season and I look around, I have to say things look good and feel good. Other than traffic I have not fielded too many complaints. Now if we could only get some closure on the sale of the Club!

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Treasurer's Report

Richard Luskin



I was pleased to present the Treasurer's report at the Peninsula Council's recent Annual Meeting. The Peninsula Council's finances are divided into three distinct areas: Administration and Operations (A & O), Common Area Maintenance and Infrastructure (CAMI) and the Architectural Review Committee (ARC). As predicted, 2023 was a difficult year financially in several areas. Revenue for the ARC comes from project fees and real estate transfer fees. Both were at their lowest level in many years leading to an operating deficit for the year. The shortfall was covered with a transfer from accumulated reserves. A & O also showed an operating loss partially covered by reserves. CAMI was the only bright spot with a surplus allowing a substantial contribution to the CAMI reserve. The CAMI surplus mostly was reflective of a substantial reduction in storm drain repairs for 2023 vs. 2022.

At the 2023 Annual Meeting a \$50 increase in the Admin and Ops fees was approved. This, along with some careful expenditure reductions, has us on budget for the first six months of 2024. The ARC also is on budget with a slight uptick in revenues and a more realistic revenue budget. Similarly, CAMI is on track for a good year in 2024. However, a major drain or road failure or significant storm damage could turn things around quickly . . . which is exactly why we have a healthy reserve for CAMI.

Looking into the future, we face some financial uncertainty. Climate change likely means larger, more intense storms that are likely to further stress our aging road and drain infrastructure. Also, the impending sale of the New Seabury Club and the winding down of development by New Seabury could impact our revenues. However, we are confident that the New Seabury community of almost 2,000 homes recognizes the essential nature of the services the Peninsula Council provides and will continue to provide financial support for our efforts.



CAMI

Common Area Maintenance and Infrastructure

Tom Caston

A fter many years as current Chairman of CAMI and a former Executive Director, it's time to step aside. During the remainder of the year, I will work with the committee to select a new CAMI chairperson. As part of the CAMI committee, I am proud of what we've accomplished. It's been a pleasure to have worked with so many talented people. When the Peninsula Council became more involved after the Bankruptcy, the entire community was in need of a facelift. CAMI has worked to create a place of beauty from one end of New Seabury to the other. We've received many compliments from residents and



visitors, and I know that my CAMI successor will continue to maintain the beauty of our community.

CAMI...A Word From Mike Richardson

Turn out the lights! The party is over! After many years of involvement, Tom has decided to retire from CAMI. Tom was involved along with several others in the creation of CAMI (then called Special Maintenance) when it became clear that our Developer was more interested in building and selling homes than maintenance. Once it was created, it set us up for the future, building funds for roads and drains, and most importantly, bringing all of the New Seabury Villages under the same umbrella - in essence, the road map for the collective future for all New Seabury residents when development cease something that seems more apparent today than back in 2003. We congratulate Tom on his decision, and wish him only the best. I still have his cell phone number and email for those "what the heck" questions.

All that being said, we also have a cadre of folks who have been approached - some new, others having been involved over time to take CAMI into the future. As any community, common areas are those used by everyone; therefore, everyone shares in making sure that those common areas are maintained. We need to get out and about to meet with a few of the "Affiliated Villages" to explain in more detail why their involvement (read funds) is important. The bottom line, and it's quite simple...everyone in New Seabury uses and benefits by the common areas, thus everyone in New Seabury should contribute. The creation and subsequent management of volunteers and long-term strategies, have resulted in a minimal annual contribution of each individual of \$300.00. That covers about seven miles of roads and drains, landscaping, signage, lighting, security, traffic controls, taxes, insurance, beautification, etc. Looking at personal costs for insurance, etc., this is an absolute bargain.

General areas that we cover:

- Roads and Drains
- Common Area Landscaping
- Decorations, Flowers and Beautification
- Traffic Controls and Security
- Walking Paths/Trails
- Taxes and Insurance

The list is even more expandable when you dig into each area deeper. We have the germination of a CAMI committee with a few that have been on board with a few other interested individuals. At present, we have a strong budget and expense management program. Our structure is in good

Executive Director's Report

nother Executive Director report for the **1**Reporter. It used to be easy to come up with something different to write about, since "change" seemed to happen on a regular basis, and I kept wearing sneakers since it was necessary to keep moving at a fast pace. While change is still a challenge, we seem to have been able to structure our operation to "stay the course" even with all that is happening around us. I don't want to live in the past, yet that is important so that we can to a degree predict the future, and predicting with accuracy is what keeps us grounded. Here we are in 2024 doing many of the same things that we did when I first arrived in 1998, albeit differently. As I sit here and type this out, I am wondering, where in heck did those 26 years go?

At the risk of repeating (which I am prone to do these days) when going to school, playing sports, and trying to graduate back in the 60s, I wasn't thinking about landscaping, roads and drains, infrastructure, or even home ownership. I was thinking about playing basketball and baseball and girls, and hitting the beach and really not overly concerned about the future. How quickly that changes in one's life. I never came to Cape Cod. I knew about the Cape league as a friend of mine played here, but that was all I knew (or wanted to know) about Cape Cod. Laconia, NH? Well, I knew quite a bit about that area.

Then, like many, we get jobs, get married, have children, and your days, weeks and years fly by. Then, however, we are totally immersed in family, paying bills for education, trying to understand our kids who were smarter than we..they thought, and before you know it, they are gone, the house is quiet, and you have spent 30-40 years employed. What's next? Retirement, ah that wonderful life of nothing to do but go for a walk, play golf, hit the beach, go to dinner, etc., etc. Then one morning you wake up and there are wrinkles in the skin, white or less hair, a tad larger belt size and the year

is what? What happened? But some of us have opportunity (disguised as volunteerism). That is another one of those surprises. You show up at a meeting the first time someplace around where you live because someone you met suggested you give it some thought. Without any



real understanding of why, you go to a meeting. About ten minutes into it, somebody says something and it grabs you inside and your interest gets peaked and if you're like me, your right arm is twitching because you want to say something.....and you raise it, get recognized, and oh my gosh, now you have to say something....and as a newbie here, I did. That was the beginning of my involvement in New Seabury. What's the old saying "try it, you'll like it?" Well, I did in 1998 and can honestly say that did and I do.

Since then we (Peninsula Council) have worked with multiple management folks at New Seabury, two and possibly coming up to three different owners, the Town of Mashpee, the Board of Managers, and have utilized the brain power of hundreds of volunteers. All of this after a simple question about a tree....Mashpee and New Seabury have both grown substantially in population and quiet old Cape Cod in our area has become quite busy. From horse and carriage to massive fourwheel drive vehicles.

All of the change over the past 20 or so years sneaks up on you, and at some point in time, you realize that it's kept you vibrant (okay, so many of you may disagree with me being vibrant) and inquisitive, and motivated, and challenged. It's not for everybody for sure, but it sure gets my juices going in the morning. It's also very important to those who follow us in this world of ours on the Cape as we have more difficult challenges now than back those many years. Old Cape Cod is a wonderful song, but it doesn't seem to cover what we are dealing with these days.

Our collective group, Officers and Village Committees has many of the same faces over the years. Many Town of Mashpee committees and boards also have similar faces. On the one hand, experience is very important dealing with the challenges out there, but of greater importance is getting younger folks involved. The future needs leaders if we want to maintain and/or improve on what we have created here. Consider a two page black and white photostatic copy of the *Peninsula Reporter* becoming a 52 page multi-color magazine. (Soon to be available using QR code). Those new here will only see the "now" with little understanding of how we got here.

From the standpoint of our day-to-day existence, we know how many roads and drains we have, also the number of lights, traffic controls, miles of roads and line painting. We can also come pretty close to the number of flowers and yards of mulch. In essence, we have a lot of information collected over the years as we manage this community. Knowing the numbers has helped us manage the entire community at a very reasonable cost while at the same time creating a community of beautiful homes and we believe a gracious community. Respect for what we have is also something that we need to focus on, as it relates to trash, dog droppings, speed, noise and those things that are not financially costly, but aggravating and unnecessary. All that being said, we are still pioneers to a degree in terms of what the future brings. The best we can do is to daily and weekly focus on maintaining and improving what we have in preparation for what is down the road, and as important or more, finalize our governing document (Universal Village

Declaration) so that we have that road map to carry us 20 more years, when I will be hen pecking the key board writing another Executive Director report. At least at that time my age and golf handicap will match.

So, this is much less about what we talk about a lot, maintenance, and more about our future. Please give some consideration to offering up some time on your Village Committee, CAMI, events, and Mashpee Town politics. Change has been and is all around us. What we have, we created, caused, and can impact. Pay some attention to the Local Comprehensive Plan developed by the Mashpee Planning Department, and pay extremely close attention to work by the Conservation Committee relative to water quality, flood plain issues, and the Waterways folks' projects We can have the most beautiful place in the world, but if it's surrounded by deteriorating water quality, it's not going to remain beautiful. We owe it to ourselves and those who follow.

Enjoy the rest of our great summer here on Cape, and hope that you attended our Annual Meeting in August. As is the norm, we didn't keep you off the beach or golf course any longer than necessary to cover our present state of the state, highlight our very successful management of expenses and we encouraged you all to help us extend our Universal Village Declaration so you all could leave with that great feeling of having made the right choice of living in New Seabury.

See you all out and about.

CAMI continued from page 5

shape, roads have been reviewed and personally viewed by our contractor, lighting has been upgraded, signage is constantly under review, traffic and safety is an ongoing program, tree and brush trimming and pickup is scheduled, drains are routinely cleaned and are under review for maintenance. In general, the entire New Seabury community is in great shape for one that is almost 70 years old, but most importantly, we need to prepare for the future.

Stay tuned for a News You Can Use announcing our new CAMI committee, and our meeting summary as we further our goals.

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Happy Summer!

Thank you to everyone who has applied for ARC permits and also thanks for your patience at this busy time of year! There's lots going on and the permitting process is running smoothly thanks to all who have been so cooperative; I appreciate it! It's so nice to see your homes in New Seabury beautiful and safe!

While nearly all the contractors who work here in New Seabury are respectful of our guidelines and specifications, there have been several complaints about homeowner-contracted landscapers working well past the approved ARC hours of Monday to Friday 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. and NO WORK ON WEEKENDS. If you have an independently contracted landscaper doing yard maintenance, please remind them of these restrictions. ARC cannot effectively manage every landscaper at every home, every day, every hour. If you have a complaint about any contractor working outside ARC approved hours, please make note of the contactor's name, time of day, date, address and even snap a photo (if you can without causing an uproar) and forward it to me. We are doing our best to issue warnings and reminders to these few non-compliers, but we can always use your help!

For those of you who prefer to visit the ARC in person at 33 Seanest Drive, please know that the ARC office has moved from the top floor to the main floor to be more accessible and easier to find. It is best if you use the parking lot to the right of the building when looking from the stop sign at Fairway Lane, so you don't have to walk all the way around the building. Our office hours are Monday to Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., but often I am out in the neighborhood, so it's always a good idea to call before stopping in. There is also a "dropbox" that is attached to the exterior wall of the building near our entrance that can be accessed any time. Please, do not use the USPS mailbox for any dropped off documents; the mail carrier will just grab it and we may not get it back!

I hope the rest of your summer is safe, happy and healthy!

Best, Gale Pendergast ARC Manager 508-477-8855 ARC@peninsulacouncil.com

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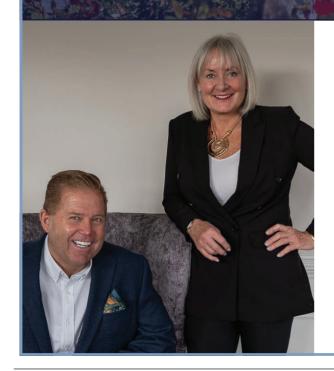
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2024 has started with a low inventory of available homes for sale.

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Village Reports

Bright Coves

Mariorie Clapprood Email: mclapprood@aol.com

V Te've often shared stories in this space about why Bright Coves is so special - and it usually involves the gift of community that we share neighbor to neighbor. I saw that in person this week as people came from all over to say a final goodbye

to an extraordinary woman, Eileen Tve, who was one of the original owners of the first round of Bright Coves residents back in the 60s. She and her late husband, Ray, lived in a beautiful home on the water that resembled a Frank Lloyd Wright mini-masterpiece - all glass and windows overlooking the cove, positioned just perfectly so you can see the beloved Spit Beach from the deck. Eileen Tye's home always lit up like a "warm hug"

homes with Ray - in

Eileen shared several when you reached the top of Waterway.

Boston and Naples, FL, and they traveled widely, but always said Bright Coves was "coming home". They were known for "wave parties" where folks who boated by whether in a little pontoon or impressive yacht - they would wave from their poolside deck and invite you to stop for a cocktail- it was legendary. Eileen tended to a large garden in one of the early open lots and visitors were sent home with baskets of produce. If Bright Coves needed some special work, they were the first to donate to the cause, but never talked about their philanthropy. They just did it. Ray passed away over ten years ago, but Eileen staved wedded to Bright Coves. She did all this

while working full time and running a foundation in Ray's name for children in need of health care - all over the world - and she still found time to welcome the Village to her home for every July 4th kickoff to the summer season. She moved here permanently as her full time residence the past few years as she battled one health challenge after another - because this was where she recuperated best. And she never complained-she'd say "look how lucky we are!" right up to the end.

> Her family, friends and neighbors spent the last few days telling "Eileen" stories and it inevitably came back to her **Bright Coves** family. So, do what I'm doing: Take a page from Eileen's book, and if vou're facing hardship or heartache of any kind, look around vou

Photo by Marjorie by Clapprood

and see indeed how lucky we all are. My hubby Chris Spinazzola observed at her celebration of life service how her beautiful home was like a beacon, especially on dark nights when he's out walking our dog, Jacckt, and they'd come up the hill on Waterway with its cold winds, then seeing Eileen's house on the hill, always lit up, and usually she'd be sitting in her reading chair, and she'd wave and blow kisses, and he'd blow kisses back. He likened the sight to a big warm hug that we'd all miss. "Bright Coves is a little less bright without Eileen," he observed, and indeed it is. But it gives new meaning to the phrase "we'll keep the light on for you". And we will, Eileen. RIP.

Fells Pond

Chris Avis

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Good Day, Fells Pond!

Summer is here, and as I write this it is hot and humid so it will be short and sweet. I'm glad that I have a nice pond to cool off in! So, as of July 14, the status of the pond is very good. It is tested by both Barnstable County and Solitude Lake Solutions. Sadly, some of the other fresh ponds on the Cape are not doing as well. So, if you have yet to try out the pond, go for a swim. It's one of the benefits of having a home in our Village.

We had our Annual Village Meeting on June 29 at the Popponesset Inn. Chris and I were thrilled with the turnout with almost 60 people attending and enjoying a light buffet. The most important item that we discussed was the Universal Village Declaration which is up for renewal in 2025. A big shoutout to our guest speaker, Marjorie Clapprood from Bright Coves, who gave a

presentation and answered questions on the UVD. For more information about the UVD, check out the Peninsula Council web page and we hope that you attended the Annual Peninsula Council Meeting held on August 10 at the Country Club.

Now, for a few housekeeping items. The remaining gas lights are scheduled to be replaced with new solar lights; however, it is a slow process as the company that does this is out of New York. Please inform any contractors you may use that for the months of July and August no work is allowed on Saturday and Sunday. We are working on having trees along the road trimmed now, in addition to the work to be done in the fall. We have a new guard to check resident beach tags. And last, please drive safely! There are lots of people out walking at all hours. If you have guests or renters, please ask them to respect the speed limits and stop signs.

Let's all enjoy the rest of the summer with an eye towards Labor Day and beyond.

Your Co-Chairs, Rick & Chris

GREENSWARD

Darlene Furbush

We are deep into our summer season. It is great to see everyone enjoying life on Cape Cod. Each and every year I say it's busier than the year before. This year is no different. The car, bike and foot traffic seem to have increased more than ever.

I know that I have mentioned this before, however; please, please be careful when driving through New Seabury. This year, there seems to be a huge increase of folks riding bikes. Many of the bikes appear to be electric or battery operated. The riders are "flying" down the roads, pedaling through areas where there are signs to go slow and/or there are stop signs and the riders are not even looking at them. In some cases, they are pedaling on the wrong side of the street straight into the traffic. Believe me; I am speaking from experince as I almost hit a very young boy as he

was coming directly at me.

Parents and grandparents, please remind the family that our streets are busy, especially at this time of the year, and everyone needs to respect the cars and drivers. We want everyone to enjoy their summer, and most of all to be safe.



HIGHWOOD

Julia Gershkovich Email: Gershkovichjulia@gmail.com

I t is HOT, HOT, HOT and HUMID! Summer is here and our neighborhood is flooded with families, friends, friends of their friends, and

just tourists....
There is a steady stream of walkers and bikers loaded with strollers, coolers, chairs, umbrellas, and all kinds of huge floating devices, all racing to the welcoming white sand beaches of

New Seabury and

Popponesset.

On July 27, we had our Annual Meeting which was very well attended. We had a very engaging discussion on the Universal Village Declaration (UVD) which will

Photo by Mark Gerlovin @markgerlovin.com.

be expiring and needs to be renewed by the end of 2025. A draft of the revised UVD can be found on the Peninsula Council Homepage for those who would like to review it: Peninsula Council - New Seabury Homeowners Association. Highwood is one of six villages that are part of the New Seabury Homeowners Association. The UVD is a core document that outlines rules and regulations for our Village and ensures that there is upkeep and maintenance of our private roads and drains, lights, landscaping and a whole host of other things including the ARC guidelines, beyond the Town rules and regulations. There will be more information coming on how the UVD committee plans to collect the signatures.

We intended to do some needed road repair work along Highwood Way, Surrey Place, Paddock Way and Paddock Circle during May and June, but when we received a date of July 10th to start the work, we decided that this would cause a huge disruption to the community during the two busiest months of the year. Instead, we scheduled this work for the fall,

so we will be well prepared for the winter. Repairs to The Hacking Circle will be addressed during the 2nd phase in 2025. The Hunt Circle roads are being significantly impacted by the major construction at 63 Hunt Circle, and this will have to be addressed after this construction is completed. This past spring, Mike Richardson had an expert survey all of the Peninsula Council roads. The expert concluded that, aside from the areas that we plan to repair, Highwood roads are in good condition. Nevertheless, we will continue to closely monitor the status of our roads and will be addressing these issues as they arise. In addition, all

drains were checked in the spring and cleaned and are functioning well.

We are pleased that Pat McKeown was elected and will return to the Board of Directors for a three year term, and the Board appointed Chana Meyer as an Alternate.

After a discussion, we voted to increase the Village annual dues by \$100 starting in 2025 in order to add to our reserve funds and be able to better manage our expenses in the future.

As always, do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Kind regards,
Julia Gershkovich on behalf of the
High Wood Committee continued on page 13



The Mews

Chair: Wayne Luther

Email: wayneluther70351@gmail.com



Dear Mews Patio Homes and Village Neighbors,
We had a great 4th of July with families and friends coming together to celebrate summer in our community. It was great to see Brassie Way, Niblick Lane and Mashie Circle buzzing with activity!

While saying "hello" to familiar and fresh faces, sadly, we also bid "farewell" to one of our own – Mrs. Patricia "Patty" Donohue, who forged many lasting friendships as an active member of the Peninsula Council and Mews Patio Homes Committee.

Always with a smile, she cared for this community and took pride in contributing to its betterment for the enjoyment of all residents. For that we celebrate her life and thank her for her commitment and years of service to our neighborhood.

With sunshine ahead, we are continuing our "Mimosa Sunday" tradition from last summer – these are two-hour

rotating gatherings most Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Neighbors and their guests really enjoy getting together for a bite or a beverage and a laugh. If you see the flag (or bottles) please stop in to say hello!

Neighbors also are continuing construction projects such as kitchen renovations and updating exteriors including new trim, paint, patios, and landscapes. While we ask all homeowners to please review the Mews Patio Homes Guidelines and Regulations, which we'll have on hand at our annual meeting, it's awesome to see all this work because it is not only lovely to look at, but also, it is helping to maintain – and in many cases – improve our property values.

Lastly, our committee has made progress on a large landscaping project in one of our communal areas at the Brassie Way circle. We completed the infrastructure

for lighting and plantings as well as added a cobblestone apron.

We look forward to seeing you at Mimosa Sundays or around the neighborhood. Enjoy the rest of summer!

Anastasia Efstratios on behalf of The Mews Patio Homes Committee.



Popponesset Island

Anne Walus and Karen Jovce-Marie Email: ksjoyce56@amail.com

FLOWER POWER

Popponesset Island (PI) is bursting with brilliant colors and flowers all around the island. We happily welcomed a bumper crop of hydrangeas after a sparse showing in 2023, with bursts of gorgeous blues, pinks, purples and whites! The consistent rain last summer and fall, followed by a mild winter (no flash freezes!), enabled an abundance of buds to thrive. Enjoy this outstanding hydrangea year!

"Flower Power" was also the theme at the 2024 annual Fundraiser for the Heritage Museum and Gardens in Sandwich. The

Flower Power on Poppy Island!

Joyce-Maries got their groove on to support this inspiring non-profit.

PIA SURVEY

We had a 32% increase in participation on our recent PIA survey compared to our 2021 survey! Residents gave clear priorities to the bridge and the roads while maintaining the charm and quaintness of our island. Interest was expressed to learn more about Town happenings and the health of our waterways. Overwhelming support was given to keep a pedestrian walkway on the bridge and work alternatives to minimize damage to the bridge's sides caused by trucks and trailers. Thanks to all those who offered their thoughts and to the many volunteers who are stepping forward to help organize some island social events and help improve our community!

ANNUAL POPPONESSET ISLAND ASSOCIATION (PIA) MEETING

We had a great showing for our annual "Bagels & Business" meeting on a simply stunning morning

> (PC) and Marjorie Clapprood (Bright Coves Chair), who spoke about the Universal Village Declaration (UVD) renewal effort and the impact to PI. Discussion ensued on the role of the PC in maintaining New Seabury's shared roads and common areas and



Photos by Karen Joyce

the role the town of Mashpee plays considering 1/3 of PI is not a part of New Seabury. PIA will establish a working group to explore building up our reserves for future work on our roads and the bridge. More to come!

A key topic raised was the work the town is doing on "Regulation 25" and the impact on PI. Residents expressed strong support for improving and protecting the health of our waterways while balancing the need for residents to thrive in our beautiful community. Residents were encouraged to become familiar with Reg 25 and participate in town discussions to learn more and offer Photo by Karen Joyce. input into its drafting in the next several weeks before the regulation is finalized.

aniel & Karen Marie at the Heritage Museum & Gardens Flower Power Gala with a museum Trustee.

Popponesset Island continued from page 14 neighborhood, did you ever wonder how and who manages our Welcome shadowbox that greets us all? It's a fabulous seasonal greeting to make sure everyone who crosses our bridge is filled with a sense of warmth and whimsy! Wonder no more! Our island residents Madeline and Paul Kruzel dig deep into their imagination to refresh our Welcome Box every few weeks. Madeleine has been adding her special touch since 2020...we think she is hitting it out of the park! We love looking forward to the next version of Madeleine's creativity and hope you do

too. For those not year round, see some of her fan favorites from the off season in the photos.

FUN FACTS

Poppy Island has been the home to many interesting people over the years including a legendary performer who is embarking on a Farewell Tour. Cyndi Lauper, the '80s pop star, went on to become a pop culture icon through her music and her Broadway

hit Kinky Boots, lived on PI not long ago! She played in the Melody Tent in 1999 and was interviewed then about her connection to the Cape: "I used to live in New Seabury. I love the Cape. I love going down there in the winter," Lauper says in a voice that's been around the world, but never really left her hometown of Queens. "I'm a ... what d'ya call it ... a wash-ashore. Or I was. I don't live there anymore". Cyndi Lauper is embarking on her farewell tour and is scheduled for a concert on October 26, 2024 at legendary Fenway Park in Boston.

So, this summer, make a point to meet a new neighbor! Our island is filled with some incredibly interesting folks from all walks of life. You just might be surprised!

CAPE COD TIPS FROM NEIGHBORS

The Mashpee Farmers Market is a weekly market that takes place on Sundays from 11am-3pm in the Mashpee Commons Village Green (across from the library). It

continued on page 16

Save Popponesset Bay's (SPB) 10-year tireless effort to secure the DEP permits for their Longer, Wider, Deeper Channel Project is on the precipice of approval.

Once the permits are complete, they will need significant funds to move forward. Strong support was expressed from the residents, and we all agreed to talk with neighbors to encourage donations and emphasize that a donation to SPB is an investment in protecting Popponesset Bay, the Spit, and



ulation 25. Photo by Anne Walus.

Poppy Island residents at "Bagels & Business", Photo by Karen Joyce.

sustainability of our properties on this beautiful island. Read about the latest work of SPB on page 24.

WELCOME TO POPPONESSET ISLAND

If you are a Poppy Islander, or a visitor in our

runs until October 13 and features locally sourced food and products, including fresh produce, seafood, meat, artisan

breads, and handcrafted cheeses.

There's a new "Tell-All" field guide just published this year that walks you through every ice cream shop on Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. That's 116 in all! An interesting read, including some history of the towns and the stories and legends of the shops. Mashpee's own Polar Caves and Smitty's made the author's "Hall of Fame" list with Polar Caves also being rated #3 out of all the shops on Cape Cod! Check it out: Cape Cod Cones by Maria Finch Chandler.



Oyster Catcher on the Popponesset Spit. Photo by Margie Ross Decter.



Cruising under the Bourne Bridge from Boston Harbor to Mashpee. Photo by Karen Joyce.



Boaters enjoying Popponesset Spit. Photo by Margie Ross Decter.

Fun Poppy Island Welcome Boards From The Past!









See Magnificent Skies over Poppy Bay on page 2.

Poppy Place

George Bell Email: gbell@ebsrr.com

Sunny Days and Vibrant Evenings at Poppy Place:

As we enjoy the warm embrace of summer in Poppy Place, our community blossoms with life and activity. Here's a snapshot of the joyous happenings where the seaside breezes sweep away the hustle of daily life.



Independence Day Celebrations:

The July 4th week was a whirlwind of community spirit and togetherness, with every resident joining in the festivities at some point. We had one glitch – our gate stopped working during this critical week when we need it most. Thanks to our vendors for their quick response to get our gate fixed just in time to beat the holiday rush. The Marketplace drew record crowds, with parking extending all the way down Shore Drive West.



All photos by Fran Bell



Homeowner Summer Social:

In mid July our residents gathering for the muchanticipated Homeowner Summer Social on the second floor balcony at the Lure. The event was a resounding success. Thanks to the cooperative efforts of The Lure for providing a private area and Jan Swartz for her exquisite coordination of the hors d'oeuvres. It was a beautiful evening of laughter, conversation, and community bonding.

Beautification Efforts:

In our ongoing commitment to enhance the scenic beauty of Poppy Place, this year's common area beautification project involves refreshing the inner circle's landscaping. We're introducing hydrangeas to replace the overgrown and fading shrubs, promising a renewed burst of life and color.

A Community of Care:

We extend our heartfelt thanks to each homeowner for maintaining their properties so beautifully, contributing to the overall allure and vibrancy of our beloved community.



Sandalwood

Rich Luskin

Email: richardluskin@gmail.com

The Sandalwood Village Association (SVA) held its Annual Meeting on July 20 at the Mashpee Public Library. There was an excellent turnout with 40 residents representing almost a third of the Village's homes. There have been quite a few home sales since the last Annual Meeting. Many of the new homeowners were in attendance and they were welcomed to the community.

Dick Hayes, Treasurer, reported that the SVA had an operating small surplus for 2023 in both the Operating and the Road & Drain Funds. For 2024 year-to-date, revenues and expenses are about on budget. A slight operating surplus is anticipated for the year. A loss is anticipated for R&D due to large expenditures for repairs/replacement in 2024. However, the R&D fund still has significant reserves. A small increase in the annual operating dues may be required for 2025 given continued inflationary pressures.

Artie Schneider, Vice President, reported on recent and upcoming road and drain repairs. The drain at the corner of West Way and Oyster Way was repaired at a cost of \$27,000. A drain on Wood Road, and a failing portion of the road at the end of Amos Landing, will be repaired shortly. Roads are crack sealed every other year.

Rich Luskin reported that real estate values remain very strong in the Village. Currently, there are

102 homes with construction about to begin on another new home. This leaves five empty lots, only some of which may actually be buildable. Other issues discussed at the meeting included:

- Trees Awaiting clarity on the impact of the new Mashpee tree bylaw. However, removal of trees still requires a permit and an application should be filed through the Peninsula Council ARC.
- Street Lighting and Signs A request was made for improved maintenance of the lights and signs. However, an informal vote of those present indicated almost no interest in installing additional street lighting.
- Brush Pickup The annual spring brush pickup was used by almost one third of the Village's homes and will continue for 2025.
- Community Homeowner Directory There was strong support for creating a directory of Village homeowners. Distinctive Property Services (DPS), the Village's management company, will explore this option. Homeowners would have the option to opt out of the directory.
- Berms The perennial issue of poor landscaping on some of the berm areas was discussed.

Although solutions are difficult due to the lack of irrigation, DPS will review possible options with the Village's landscape contractor.

Rich Luskin President





Summer Sea

Fredda Zaiger Email: freddazaiger@gmail.com

Hello, Summer Sea Residents,

We hope that you are enjoying all that New Seabury offers this summer. Most gardens are bursting with color, especially the hydrangeas which are spectacular. Our Summer Sea Meet and Greet was on June 27th. Over 70 neighbors attended and enjoyed socializing and the ice cream treats from Perry's Last Stand Ice Cream truck! We may have one more ice cream social this summer! Stay tuned.

The Summer Sea Annual Meeting on July 13th provided a Village update and productive discussion about our community. Our minutes will be posted on the Peninsula Council website. Elections were

held. We want to extend a special thank you to Julie Silva for the time she served on our

time she served on our board, and we welcome Doug Nahigian who has served as an alternate on the board and now will serve as a full member. Please let a board member know if you would like to play a more active role in our beautiful village.

We have heard from many of you about your concerns when exiting Summer Sea. We are trying to work on a solution. Please DRIVE SLOWLY.

Also, please do not use Round-Up. Many towns on the Cape have outlawed it as it kills weeds but also pets, bees (and hives up to three miles away),

and humans. Instead, use 1 gallon of white vinegar, 1 cup of salt and 1 tablespoon of dish soap. The earth will thank you.

Enjoy the remainder of these sunny warm days!

Your Summer Sea Committee, Fredda, Bill, Doug, Larry, Risa, Judy, Brenda

Coneflowers are known to attract bees and butter-flies. Such is the beauty of nature!
Photo by Fredda Zaiger.





A Team Effort Gives Hope to an Osprey Chick with a Few Plot Twists

Wild Care received three Osprey eggs that were removed from a boat dock in Chatham. I drove the chicks in an incubator to the home of Julie Silva of Mashpee. At her home on the marsh, she has an Osprey platform with a female Osprey who returns every year to lay her eggs but they never hatch. Knowing the history, I decided to give the Osprey the three viable eggs from Chatham. How exciting it was to receive a text message from Julie two weeks later, "We have two chicks!"

The Osprey have been great parents to their foster chicks, unbeknownst to them.

Last weekend, I received a panic message from Julie that the platform had shifted and the nest was on the ground. She dug into the marsh to find one chick deceased, and one still alive. Julie transported the chick to Wild Care where we determined it to be unharmed, miraculously.

The very next day, Kevin Friel of The Osprey Project-Falmouth came out and repaired the platform and rebuilt the nest! I arrived at 5:30 PM to see the adult female perched atop the new nest. With much hope, we filled in the empty spaces in the nest with dried sod, and placed the chick into it.

What happened next was rather harrying but has a happy ending. The parents did not return that evening. I had to make a difficult decision the leave the chick in the nest by itself. The tide was coming in and we were losing daylight. The chick, able to thermoregulate on its own and hunkered down in its nest,was now settled for the night.

We were all relieved to see the chick alive in the morning. We decided on a plan to feed the chick on the platform and leave it for one more day to give the parents a chance to return. Fortunately, we didnt have to intervene. The parents returned around 12:30 PM and found their chick. Dad brought a fish, and they are now one big happy family once again!

Executive Director, Stephanie! Facebook, July 24 at 9:30 AM

Contribution Courtesy of Julie Silva

This is just one of the amazing stories about the wonderful work of this remarkable organization, Wild Care. According to their website, "Wild Care's mission is to treat injured, ill and orphaned native wildlife for release, to prevent wildlife casualties through public education and live counseling, and to engage the community in conservation through volunteerism".. To learn more about Wild Care or to volunteer and/or donate, check them out at wildcarecapecod.org.



Osprey nest. Photo by Nancy Karp

TRITON SOUND

Jarred Sherman

Email: jarredsherman@gmail.com

It's been quite the summer so far on Triton Sound! Residents have been enjoying the warm weather, walks in the community and spending time outdoors. The neighborhood is looking beautiful with the flowers in bloom and plants thriving. With the hot weather we have been experiencing this summer, the Cape has been the perfect place to be!

We had our annual village meeting this year on July 14th. Midway through the year, our financials are in good shape, and on track vs. budget. As a reminder, if you have not made your annual payment, please do so immediately, as it is past due. We recapped the year, discussed some current news in the community, and heard from residents as to what was on their minds! I took down notes as well as to what we could improve on.

We had a larger discussion about the upcoming renewal of our Universal Village Declaration. As you might have read in other Reporter articles over the year, we will need homeowners to renew the



document that helps keep our villages working as a cohesive unit, and making our neighborhoods looking their best! There will be a draft of the proposed renewal document on the Peninsula Council home page, and more information to come later this year as to next steps. Stay tuned!

A quick reminder that voices and music travel further than you think on nice quiet nights, so please continue to observe local regulations to keep outdoor noise to a minimum from 10pm – 8am. In addition, per the ARC, Builders/Contractors/Subcontractors are not permitted to perform work from July 1 through Labor Day on Saturdays or Sundays, and can only work from 7:30 am - 5:30 pm during the weekdays. Lastly, and perhaps most important, please slow down while driving! There are many people, kids, and pets walking around our roads, and we want to make sure everyone stays safe.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions. Please stay safe everyone, and enjoy the rest of the summer!

Vineyard Reach

Connie Strait

Email: iseestrait@yahoo.com

Thank you to the Club at New Seabury for once again making our Fourth of July a memorable night as we

enjoyed from our decks and patios a beautiful display of fireworks accompanied by patriotic music.

Vineyard Reach had a very successful, well attended, annual meeting held in the Boardroom at the clubhouse. Details of our budget were explained, and plans are being made to start working on our options for our long term capital improvements. There were discussions about the bank close to the rear gate that needs to be landscaped after invasive plantings like the Japanese

Knotwood were removed and the timing for the new coverings to begin. A couple of additional pool rules were added to our community pool regulations to make the area even more enjoyable for everyone.

The pond area and erosion around it along with the pond vegetation were also discussed and the possibility of a retaining wall being installed. Vineyard Reach thanked Bill Strait for his work on the board and welcomed a new member from the Marguerite family fill the position.

to fill the position.



An evening sky - beauty from a Vineyard Reach patio. Photo by Connie Strait.

MEN'S SOCIAL CLUB

at New Seabury

We find that, after 50 years, the Men's Club activities still create a venue where we enjoy each other's company and share some stories about family or that shot heard around the world when we could actually reach the green! Over the past couple of years, we have held late afternoon speaker sessions, one with a retired Boston Bruin who shared some humorous stories about life as a professional athlete, and the Mashpee Town Manager who shared some of the challenges of managing a small Cape town. Our annual trip to the Cotuit Center for a show still continues to bring out a decent turnout and creates an opportunity to include spouses and significant others. We have one of those still on the potential 2024 agenda.

We've even expanded our little group over the recent years due to the increase of homes being built in New Seabury; in fact, we continue to be a viable organization even with fewer annual functions. We are



function where we announce (along with other organizations) the winners. I can personally tell you that it is a very humbling and rewarding experience. Standing there amongst many graduates anxious to head off to the wonderful world of college and recognizing that we are helping our community in some small way is most gratifying.

We'll consider all present day facts and members' suggestions when looking to come up with options for our next get together where we can share old stories, and for a few moments feel just a little younger again. To all those members still feeling good about the old days, stay tuned for one more story to tell. If you have any questions or would like additional information, you can contact me at the Peninsula Council

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It's Fresh Tuna Season! Fresh Pan Seared Tuna

INGREGIENTS

Fresh tuna (yellow fin or blue fin)
Everything But the Bagel seasoning
Wasabi (or wasabi sauce)
Pickled ginger
Soy sauce
Olive oil
Fresh lemon

Culinary Corner

Here's to a summer feast! Enjoy!

INSTRUCTIONS

Coat the raw tuna with Everything But the Bagel Spice.

Heat up pan with two tablespoons of Olive oil.

Pan sear on all sides to your liking. Serve with wasabi, ginger, soy sauce and fresh lemon.

Delicious and easy!!!!!



Miso Glazed Cod with Sautéed Baby Bok Choy

INGREGIENTS

2 thsp white miso (international food aisle)

1 1/2 tbsp rice vinegar

1 tsp hot water

1 tsp lemon juice

1 tsp soy sauce

1 tablespoon sugar

1 teaspoon fresh ginger (peeled grated)

1 garlic clove, chopped

1 - ½ lb fresh cod or haddock

Pepper to taste

INSTRUCTIONS

Place cod on baking sheet. Sprinkle with pepper.

Mix water, vinegar, lemon, soy, sugar, ginger, miso, garlic in a bowl. Spread mixture on top of fish.

Broil 5-8 minutes at 400 degrees.

Sautéed Bok Choy

Baby bok choy (produce section) Sliced small white onion

Olive oil

Salt and pepper

Sauté onion and bok choy in a wok or large pan with olive oil. Salt and pepper to taste.

This is a delicious summer meal!!!

My Mom's Pickled Cucumbers

INGREGIENTS

6 - 8 pickling cucumbers

Kosher salt

Ice cubes

Dill (fresh or dried, optional)

Pepper

Sugar

White vinegar (or red if you prefer)

INSTRUCTIONS

Peel and slice the cucumbers (I leave on a little skin).

Place in a bowl, sprinkle with 2 Tbs

of kosher salt (toss).

Top with ice cubes.

Let sit for a couple hours

(stirring occasionally).

Drain in colander, soak and wash off

Add a cup of red or white vinegar.

Sprinkle with dill.

Sprinkle black pepper to taste.

Add 3 tablespoons of sugar - Toss and chill.

***rinse cucumbers well, salt can stick really well, if too salty, add more sugar!!!**

POPPONESSET Eric Brandt Bay

Late summer and early fall are some of the best times to be around Popponesset Bay. The crowds are gone, restaurants have tables open, the water is relatively warm; sounds ideal to me to grab the kayak and hit the Spit or throw on a Save Popponesset Bay sweatshirt in the cooler nights.

In July, SPB held a Full Moon Watch Party on the Spit with 100 folks in attendance, and our Annual Summer Fundraiser with approximately 250 in attendance. Guests grooved to the sounds of a fun yacht rock band and enjoyed a night by the water. Thanks to guests' feedback, we are already planning for next year's event. Board Chair Caroline Malloy shared the latest and greatest news from SPB – we have a new permit in hand

from the Army Corp of Engineers and the last permit from MA DEP for our Longer, Wider, Deeper Project is close to being in hand. That means we will finally have the necessary documentation to plan execution with the Barnstable County Dredge folks, and the Town of Mashpee, to move ahead with

this project! Kudos to board member John Malloy for the countless hours he has devoted to this effort over the past ten years, yes, TEN years! But wait, we are not celebrating yet, as we have much to do in the weeks and months ahead.

The Longer, Wider, Deeper project will provide for:

- A longer, wider and deeper main channel from the Bay to the Sound
- The channel will be: 250 feet longer, 50 feet wider, 2 feet deeper
- A side channel/catch basin along a portion of the main channel which will help keep sand from redepositing into the main channel
- Maintain water flow into and out of the Bay
- Safer boat access to and from the Bay and the marinas on the Bay
- A larger, more resilient Spit utilizing the dredged sand and supplemented with trucked sand
- An enhanced Spit protecting our property values

As you have heard before, this is a massive undertaking!

AND WE NEED YOU!!!! YES, THIS PROJECT WILL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES WELL BEYOND **OUR ANNUAL** FUNDRAISING. With market gains on Wall Street, this may be the optimal time to consider gifting long term (1 year or more) securities to SPB. It's a win, win - you receive

securities to SPB. It's a win, win - you receive a tax deduction for the fair market value of the shares, you avoid all capital gains taxes, and you help make the Longer, Wider, Deeper Project a reality for SPB and our entire community!

On the DONATE page of our website (www. savepopponessetbay.org) are details about supporting

Continued to page 25

SPB. If you would like to make a stock transfer, please email savepoppybay@gmail.com.

Earlier this summer, we redesigned our website. Check it out at www.savepopponessetbay.org. You will find information on a variety of programs and projects SPB is hosting. You will also find our mission statement, photos, a historical timeline, and a listing of our corporate partners.

In addition, this past June SPB began circulating "welcome to the neighborhood" letters informing new homeowners in Mashpee of SPB efforts. This outreach will continue quarterly as we learn of new neighbors. Last but not least . . . we welcome you and your time. Should you have interest in learning more about SPB, or perhaps volunteering your time and talent with SPB, please contact us at savepoppybay@gmail.com

Enjoy the last few weeks of summer, the quiet and peace on the beach, or on the water. Be safe, and most of all, have fun!









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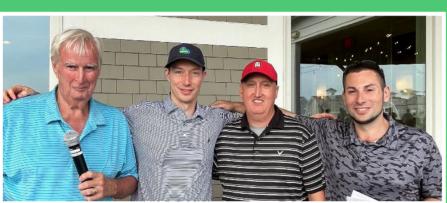
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Peninsula Council's New Seabury Homeowners 17th Annual Golf Classic - Ocean Course July 22, 2024







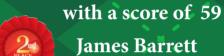


FIRST PLACE with a score of 58



Howard Flitt Jared Barber Hugh Barber Joe Marin

SECOND PLACE





Josh Veroneau
Jason Demers
Josh Luft

THIRD PLACE

with a score of 61 (by score card match)



Michael Gould David Loomis Mike Moran Matt Feroli

FOURTH PLACE with a score of 61



Tim Geers John Lennon Kevin Evangelista Kevin Riordan





LONGEST DRIVE
Men Hole #7: Alex Dubrow
Women Hole #7: Maureen Montgomery





CLOSEST TO THE PIN
Men, Hole #4: Mitch McCabe
Women, Hole #11: Maureen Montgomery



MANY THANKS TO:

Gale Pendergast and Jody MacQuarrie Event Coordinators	Jennifer Perry, Director of Catering at The Club at New Seabury, and staff
Andrew Stolze, Director of Golf at The Club at New Seabury, and staff	Bryan Lefcourt - Photographer and Monitor at Hole #8
Catherine Power and Tom Caston - Basket Designers	











































































BRAX LANDING ROUTE 28. HARWICH PORT

JAIME ADLER

Out on the Town

local favorite and award-winning restaurant, but unbeknownst to me, Brax Landing sits unassumingly on Route 28 in Harwich Port. On a recent cool and rainy day, my boyfriend and I hopped in the car to explore beyond New Seabury. We ended up 50 minutes down the road in Harwich Port and passed through the little downtown on Main Street/Route 28. which is a sweet spot for a little shopping and other eats, before ending up just past Wychmere Beach Club at Brax. Arriving around 1pm the restaurant was packed for lunch, with many people also ordering the restaurant's well-known frozen cocktails, but the hostess was able to get us a water view table for two within 20 minutes.

Inside, the restaurant has a saloon vibe with dining on one side and a bar with TVs on the other. The real deal is the harbor view seen from the restaurant's large windows and patio, which has ample seating and a firepit. Despite the crowd, service was excellent and our waiter, Garrett, took good care of us. We ordered the famous, and affordable at \$29.99, lobster roll which came with fries and coleslaw and one of the daily specials, a fried haddock sandwich with fries. The haddock was light and flaky and the lobster roll was full of good size bites of lobster. The menu has something for everyone, including a full kid's menu. All the portions looked sizable from what we saw of the salads, nachos, fish and chips, and burgers.

Even with the misty weather outside, we were able to enjoy a harbor lunch and would definitely return for dinner and drinks on the patio. Brax does not take reservations, so arrive early before those in your party are too hungry. This is also a great dining option if you are taking one of the many boat excursions or the Nantucket ferry from Harwich Port as the restaurant is right next to the dock.



famous

affordable

was full of

good size bites of

and

Despite the misty weather, the harbor was a sight to see.

New Homeowners Summer 2024

Bright Coves

Peter and Patrice Kruy James and Elaine Young

The Bluff

Michael and Francine Howley

Fells Pond

Robert and Patricia Kellicker Richard and Jennifer White

Greensward

Robert and Suzanne Mirak

Highwood

Eric Carkner and Ashini Shah

Maushop

Shruti Bansal and Atma Kanojia Adam and Gabrielle Raushbaum Anthony and Joanne Amenta

Sandalwood

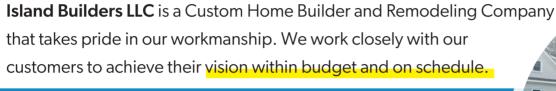
Brandon and Victoria Forney
Cathy Maccini
Cody and Mary Hunter

Summer Sea

Edward Goss and
Richard and Stacey Thibault
Craig Rozelle and
Ashley Oost-Lievense
Albert and Nayla Daly







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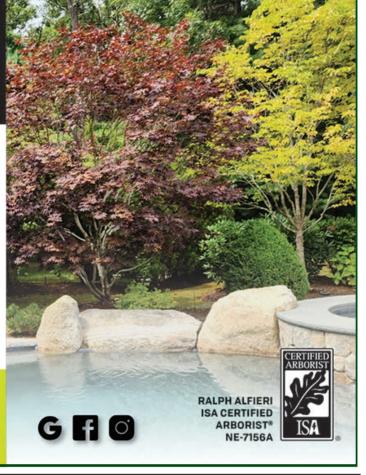
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News you Use

Here we are again in the middle of summer and Annual Meetings have been going on, leading up to our collective Peninsula Councl Annual Meeting in August at 95 Shore, so I thought I would throw out a News You Can Use to cover a few issues.

Website: We have been on and off again removing and replacing bits and pieces on the website. It's a constant process and we never seem to get to the end. Perhaps that is just the way it is, but it's frustrating to find areas in constant need. That won't change. However, our entire site needs updating and refreshing. As a result, I have enlisted Coastal Mountain Creative to give us a total makeover. I am creating a small website committee to help in that regard and anticipate rolling our new website out for the holidays.

Japanese Knotweed: Have you ever heard of that? It has a similar look as bamboo, and it is also considered an invasive species. We have found some on Glenneagle Extension at the side of the Dunes Golf Course. It can't be eradicated by cutting it down as doing so, allows for the spread of little buds that instead of eliminating it, results in it spreading. I met with Conservation last week and was given permission to remove or eradicate it through a process involving one or two specialized companies. The best time to do so is in the spring so I will be working with Vineyard Reach and Greensward Village to come up with a plan. The roots grow underground some 20 plus feet long so it's darn hard to find the end. This place surprises me more and more!

Regulation 25/Raze and Replace: Pay attention to these issues. They are both in the process of review for some implementation very soon. There are potential Bylaw changes to come about dealing with Non Conforming Buildings and More Detrimental as defined by Zoning. Terms like Flood plain Overlay District and Buffer Zones are all being bantered about and it is a good idea to develop a brief understanding, particularly if you may be impacted.

Tree By Law: Per Town Planner Evan Lehrer, the Tree Bylaw that addresses "building activities" does not apply to the properties in New Seabury that are under the Special Permit. All homeowners seeking to perform "building activities" should file for a certificate of exemption from the Mashpee Planning Department (\$50) and the certificates will be granted administratively. ARC requirements are still in place, however.

In Memory: A good friend and member of the MEWS Patio Homes Village Community, Patricia Donohue, has left us, passing away a few weeks ago. Patty leaves her husband Jack, three daughters and their families as we well as many friends in both the MEWS and New Seabury. We want to express our sincere sympathy to all of Patty's family for their (and our) loss.



To make hydrangeas last longer in a vase: cut stems on an angle, dip in alum (supermarket spice department) then put in water! They last for 5+ days!

Contributed by Fredda Zaiger.

WELCOME TO NEW "THIEFBURY"

Mike Richardson

s many of you know, it takes time, energy, and

to decorate a community. We interview. check references, negotiate rates, and then discuss designs and colors. All done before the season begins and then follow the implementation plan. With some issues all along the way dealing with weather, staffing, etc., we ultimately end up with (we think) a nicely flower



MISSING! Beautiful blue flowers! Contact Peninsula Council if found!

decorated community. The challenge once again in 2024 has been met, and we feel pretty good about the look and feel of our community. The dollars and hours are worth the effort.

Then, however, you see a couple of things that take away from that beauty. One is of course the constant dog droppings left to step in and the household trash thrown out the window or just dropped by the way side during a stroll or run. Those are bad enough while still hard to understand, but this year one more unbelievable thing happened and it's clearly shown in the attached picture of flowers surrounding our cherry trees on Cross Road.

I should say "not clearly shown" for what is missing in

this picture (and around two other trees) are all the blue flowers that made up the color scheme. It's very unusual for sure, and unless one pays particular attention to our surroundings, it might even be missed. As it is, our landscaper was there weeding, while scratching his head about the absence of the blue flowers when a lady came up and asked if she could "also" take some flowers. He

> said "No, this is part of our decorating of New Seabury" to which she said, "Oh, I saw some other folks taking some so, I thought I could also." Unfortunately, we didn't get her name, but at least at that point no more were taken.

I like to try to keep

things light, and use humor (well, my humor anyways) throughout this job in the Peninsula Council over the past some 20 years, but every so often it's hard to find humor with some action on the part of one of our residents. Now, maybe the Mashpee Flower Gang is out there unbeknownst to our local authorities and this is a recent rash of crime in that regard, but, however one sees it it's darn ugly.

Perhaps those of you responsible are reading this and are having a good laugh; just remember that what goes around comes around and we may plant poison ivy next time!

One more day in Paradise it seems, and Paradise lost occasionally.



Monica Santos

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Barnstable Land Trust Is A Force For Nature

Sue Sullivan



There is no better place to savor Cape Cod in the fall than being outside. From nature walks and hiking trails to fun events and stimulating programs, Barnstable Land Trust (BLT) is a local nonprofit that is worth checking out. Dedicated to preserving open space and natural resources in

the Town of Barnstable, BLT has protected 1,250 acres in the Town of Barnstable and supported the Town in conserving over 11,000 more.

natural treasures remain protected and enjoyed by future generations.

Programs/Events

Engaging more people on and with the land is another BLT focus. Building on the momentum of our recent 40th Anniversary, this year we are offering 100+ different programs. Working with 45+ community partners, our calendar offers a wide variety of talks, hands-on activities, walks, and learning opportunities for people of all ages. Upcoming highlights include a month of Climate Conversations culminating in an art installation on Hyannis Harbor; a month-long celebration of Arts and Humanities month and our popular First Day Hikes

Cape Cod on January 1st. Also launching this fall on BLT's calendar and others, will be the first-ever regional calendar of events offered by Cape Conservation groups.

Take A Hike

If you are looking for short walks or long hikes, Barnstable Land Trust (BLT) has three free popular trails maps that are worth exploring: 1) The Barnstable Trail Guide (also available in Portuguese) highlights 34 different locations spanning 95 miles found in just the Town of Barnstable; 2) Cape Cod Pathways showcases trails that connect Sandwich and Yarmouth and is perfect for the off-the-beaten-path and experienced



Bog Restoration Walk. Courtesy of BLT.

Lasting Impact

When we conserve an open space, BLT makes a commitment to steward and protect that land in perpetuity. Last year alone, we protected 70 acres, in June we closed on a 10-acre property, and we additional land projects soon to be announced. Today, the challenges posed by rapid development and the looming reality of climate change mean that we must act with greater agility and urgency. Which is why BLT is working hard to save more land faster so that we can ensure that Barnstable's



BLT Bird Walk. Courtesy of BLT.

explorer; and 3) For local lore lovers as well as flora and fauna facts, Cotuit's Eagle Pond and Little River Sanctuary Guide are sure to deliver. Maps can be picked up at BLT's office (Route 6A), libraries, or downloaded online.

Learn More

To learn more about Barnstable Land Trust, how to volunteer, join as a member, or receive program updates, just sign-up for our bimonthly e-newsletter, follow us on @barnstablelandtrust, visit http://www.BLT.org, or call 508-771-2585, or contact Sue Sullivan (a New Seabury resident and BLT's Director of Communications and Programs) at sue@blt.org.



Egrets and herons at Pogoreic Sanctuary.
Photo by Terry Downey.





First Friday Volunteering at Fuller Farm. Courtesy of BLT.



Craigville Beach Cleanup. Courtesy of BLT.





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Lobster!

Doesn't Everyone Love Lobster?

Mike Richardson

The First Peninsula Council Lobster Raffle was held in June of this year.

Jody, Gale, Matt Gelly, and I went to the Raw Bar one sunny afternoon with a few hundred names in our lobster bucket, adorned with our lobster hats, and drew the names of the lucky winners. No, neither Jody, Gale nor I were allowed to enter, but we had to make sure the liquids available were suitable for our winners, so we rested just a bit after all our hard work.

The winners:

First winner was Christine Mone who was the recipient of two "Monsta" lobster rolls.





Gale, Matt Gelly, Jody and Mike pick the Monsta' lobster roll raffle winners!

Second was Christine McCullough with one roll. And, third was Ed Grosso with one roll and a picture with me.



We want to thank Matt Gelly for his cooperation and of course his great "Monsta: lobster rolls."

enjoy.

Universal Village Declaration

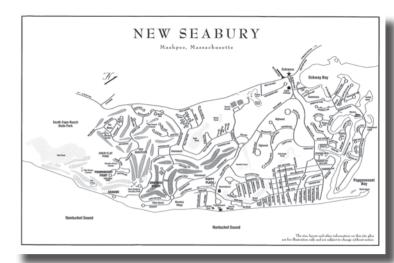
Mike Richardson

As the title suggests, it's a Declaration that involves more than one Village. No, it's not every Village in the Universe, but it's our six Village Universe that we are talking about. The original six Villages of New Seabury (Bright Coves, Fells Pond, Summer Sea, Triton Sound, High Wood, and Greensward) are those involved. All had their own Village Declaration, and all have expired. If one looked back (I guess we call it history), each Village had their own Declaration, and New Seabury had an overview Declaration. In fact, New Seabury had a Master Declaration, a New Declaration and a Restated Declaration - all covering essentially the same governance but with various entities covered and various fees. All of these have expired as well. Declarations have life expectancies generally of 20 years.

They are what could be called a necessary evil. We need them, some like them, some hate them. Some see them as wonderful guidelines ensuring a future, others see them as negative encumbrances and some hate to be bound to anything. We change as we mature, some faster than others; some never change. Remember when elementary school started with a bell....vou got nervous if running late. Even at Liberty Mutual in Boston years ago, there was a bell when the coffee wagon came to our floor. I guess we were like sheep, answering the bell. Funny looking back on it how well we were trained by a simple noise, yet we all answered the bell, didn't we? Well, I am not trying to say a Declaration is like a bell, but it is the way we ensure that we get that cup of coffee, that needed service, that maintenance expense covered, and that surety of a future....and much like the bell we answered so regularly, it provides direction, clarity, and security that the cup of coffee is there when the bell rings.

It's simple in reality. It governs behavior (and we all were taught to behave). It governs attendance (we all show up for lunch, don't we). It shows clarity of purpose (what one should do living here, and what our fees go to). It keeps us secure (fees pay for the things that enable life to go on regularly). It makes us all family. Sure, there are uncles and cousins we probably would reconsider inviting to the barbecue for reasons unsaid here, but the rest of the family is there to enjoy.

That's what we all really want in life, i.e., to be a part of something larger than ourselves, but also be recognized for who we are. Here, we are all part of the New Seabury and Peninsula Council family (even those uncles and cousins). Together, we succeed in keeping everything around us working and the value of our homes at



premiums. At the end of the day, that is what our UVD will provide, and it's easy for you to be part of the family. Simply read and ask questions, and then give us your support by signing the Assent document we will provide for you. We take care of placing it on your deed so that you (and your family) continue to benefit.

This is probably a little hokey, but you all know me and how I write. I am trying to simply say, let's all group together and support the ongoing efforts to ensure our collective future by signing the contract that binds us as family.





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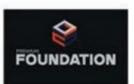
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