



PENINSULA

Reporter

News from the Peninsula Council
at New Seabury, Cape Cod

• at New Seabury •

Volume 53
Number 3
November 2023

our mission

To provide for the maintenance, preservation and enhancement of New Seabury's environmental setting and promote the safety and welfare of the homeowners' investments.

Photo by Risa Schneider Fine



*The Women's Club of New Seabury
invites you to*

CREATE YOUR OWN HOLIDAY CENTERPIECE AND FESTIVE CHEER



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President's Report

Dick Noonan



I will begin by thanking those of you who were able to make our Annual Meeting this past August. We had the best turnout since the pandemic. I would also like to thank all of you for voting to support the \$50 per year increase in Village Management fees that we requested. It will make a big difference in our ability to provide the Village Management services you have come to expect from the Peninsula Council. And as a reminder, this applies only to the seven Villages we provide property management service to.

For those who could not make the meeting, we focused on two major areas. - the roles and responsibilities of the Peninsula Council and a detailed review of our finances.

We again reminded everyone that it is not New Seabury Corporation that maintains this community. New Seabury maintains the golf courses, clubhouse, beach and the restaurants- all the amenities that we pay for with our memberships. The Peninsula Council is responsible for just about everything else including 21 miles of roads, 300 drains, three entrances, walking paths, signage, lighting, gardens, reserve lands, landscaping and the taxes on all of the above. We also provide property management services for seven Villages. And lastly, we manage the Architectural Review Committee for all the Villages and Associations that make up the broader New Seabury community.

Following that reminder, Rich Luskin, Peninsula Council Treasurer, provided a rather detailed analysis of our asset positions and operating results for 2022. He did this for the major functional areas of Administration & Operations, Common Area Maintenance & Infrastructure and the Architectural Review Committee.

He reported that the financial position for the first two are quite solid. We are able to meet our day to day operational requirements and put enough money into reserves to be sure we can maintain our infrastructure in the long term. Rich did highlight concerns about the Architectural Review Committee's finances. The ARC covers its expenses based on fees it charges for permits for building activity and transfer fees when properties sell. The volume of both those activities were down this past year and therefore our revenue. We were able to cover our operating expenses by using some reserve monies, but that is not a sustainable position. So, we are monitoring the real estate activity closely and we are looking to see how we can streamline

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operations and reduce costs. As I noted earlier, ARC touches every community here and is largely responsible for maintaining the look and feel of our community.

With those topics covered, we discussed some of the other issues we are paying particular attention to such as building reserves for long term road and drain maintenance, thinking about the potential impact of New Seabury Corporation's changing business now that real estate development is all but finished, and the need to begin work on extending the Universal Village Declarations that expire at the end of 2025. Then there is expiration of the Special Permit in 2026. This Town issued permit has allowed certain flexibilities that enabled New Seabury to develop this community and the ARC to continue to support the building needs of our residents in a flexible and timely manner.

We don't know all the answers yet, but we are working on how to prepare for the changes. I have been a homeowner here since 2004 and just when I think I really understand the nuances of New Seabury, I learn something new. But I still find this place interesting, complex and entirely enjoyable.

Treasurer's Report

Richard Luskin

As I reported at the Annual Meeting the PC's finances are generally in good shape. We are fortunate that almost all residents have already paid their fees for 2023. If you haven't done so yet, it's never too late. Obviously, we depend on the support of the entire New Seabury community in order to have the resources to keep things in good repair and looking good. It's been said many times but always bears repeating: It is the Peninsula Council (not New Seabury) that keeps the roads and drains working, plants the flowers and mows the lawns, maintains the traffic signs and street lighting, etc. So, thank you for your support.

One concern is the finances of the Architectural Review Committee (ARC). ARC plays an important role in making sure we maintain the look and feel we all associate with New Seabury. ARC is funded by the fees homeowners pay when undertaking a renovation, home improvement or even building a new house. ARC also receives funds when homes are sold by providing the necessary documents that help the seller to have a clear title. In 2023 we have seen a significant decline in revenue from both project fees and home transfer fees. Our hope is that this is a temporary dip. However, if it continues long term we will need to review options for keeping the ARC financially viable.

CAMI

Common Area Maintenance and Infrastructure

Tom Caston

After an interesting summer weather wise, I hope everyone is enjoying our colorful fall plantings of mums and assorted fall decorations. We are in the process of completing much needed projects. The first is the cleaning of all our walking trails This will include the cutting



back of shrubs and trees and removing exposed tree roots, and also adding a mixture of stone dust and gravel where needed on the paths. We would also like to thank Rick Deubert for designing and placing directional signs along the paths. The second will be cutting back the limbs and branches overhanging the streets throughout our community. It's important that we accomplish this before winter sets in.

Our operation budget is stable at this time. We do expect price increases from our vendors in the coming year. We continue to keep our eyes on the drains as they are very costly to replace.

Stay healthy and enjoy the remainder of the year!



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Executive Director's Report

Mike Richardson

"It's On To Miami" ..So, the choice for me was to not go to Foxboro and spend untold dollars on light beer to watch a nightmare unfold in favor of lawn work and stopping every so often to check on the blowout expected. And the unexpected happened...we won a tight one, even though we tried our darndest to give it back. After the embarrassing Red Sox season, and the lackluster start for the Patriots, I started reading books on yard work for the fall. Well, I won't return those books yet as hope eternal lives another week, so to quote Dollar Bill..."on to Miami".

On another note, we continue to explore the future of the Peninsula Council in terms of roles and responsibilities, partners, and long term structure. The old adage of "the more things change, the more they stay the same" certainly applies here. True change is difficult and/or impossible to achieve. We've made inroads into introspection and have discovered a bit about ourselves, which gives us pause to reflect on how we do business. For the most part we (I) feel pretty good about things, but there remains much to do before feeling better. Outsourcing has provided us with some good feedback on how to do things better; that becomes a top priority. Age, while bringing on aches and pains, can be less painful than change, but the reality of things is that if you don't change, you die a slow and painful death. Change is painful as well so it's a matter of how much pain one wants. I have discovered that IPA does in fact stand for "In case of Pain, Another !!!

At any rate, we survived a wet and strange summer season. The North East is expecting blizzard conditions in northern New England (read ski country), snowy but mild in southern New England, above normal temperatures per NOAA, more snow

in Boston than last year (44" vs. 12"), and the stretch for Nor'easters to last from January through February. It's fair to say that nobody has any idea of what to expect, so we need to do whatever we can to be prepared for it all. Tree trimming and brush trimming and the fall drain cleaning will be scheduled. We will consider ordering some sand as we have in the past for some of the road areas that always have issues and have a couple of plowers available to augment the Town plowing.

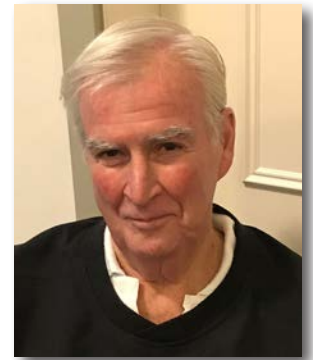
As you all have seen, wet windy weather is a problem for some of our pine trees which have shallow roots. In some areas, the woods are so thick that the trees cannot grow healthy, creating the potential for disaster. As in years past, we will look for those areas of potential issue.

There will be ongoing change in terms of management of communities, and an effort to enhance present communications with all affiliated

communities as New Seabury Development begins to wrap up their work. At the same time, we are adding more technology to the Peninsula Council operation in terms of tracking activities. The goal is to continue to provide to all of you the best possible service.

Lastly, there's "water, water, everywhere but not a drop to drink" as a reminder that we are in the middle of a near crisis with our water quality. Much is being done, perhaps a little tardy, but being done to help improve things. This little bit of heaven will only remain a little bit of heaven if we all work tirelessly at keeping it so. We all know the opposite of heaven, so let's get serious about behaviors.

Go, Celts and Bruins. Stay the present course -Patriots- and all have a great fall and winter and Holiday Season. Stop and say hi, or wave as you pass by...I will be the one in shorts.



Just when you least expect it...
the wonder of nature!

ARC Report

GOBBLE, GOBBLE!

It's almost turkey time!

As many homeowners start to feel the beginning of the holiday season, we realize that times are about to get a whole lot busier. Don't let your full schedule keep your home from looking its best! The ARC committee is in place to provide guidance to homeowners when it comes to obtaining permits for home improvement projects. When it comes to your home, we make sure that homes are also maintaining the signature look of New Seabury that we have all come to love. When it comes to making any changes to the exterior of your home, whether it be painting, roofing, siding, window/door replacement, decking, major landscaping, additions or removing trees (over 6" in diameter), we ask that you reach out to our office (arc@peninsulacouncil.com) to discuss the permitting process and what may be needed. Many projects may need to go through the Mashpee Building Department as well. In these cases, we ask that you make sure to obtain an ARC permit prior to contacting the town as they will not issue you a permit until you have an ARC permit on file. Please be sure to always have your yellow permit in an area that is easily visible for us to see!

Have the final touches on your project been completed? Are you loving your new upgrades? If so, we would love to see! Once your project is completed, we ask that you reach out to our office to go over the procedure of getting your performance guarantee fee returned to you.

We look forward to celebrating the holidays in beautiful New Seabury!

Thank you in advance for your continued cooperation.

Alyssa Murphy
ARC Administrator
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Village Reports

Bright Coves

Marjorie Clapprood
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I've been thinking a lot this week about how lucky we all are to live in such a magical spot as Bright Coves....we've made so many new friends, and reconnected with some from times gone by, and seems like that is a common theme....even when times are tough, being able to walk the block is somehow calming. Neighbors wave and when they say, "how ARE you?" they actually mean it! But as Charles Dickens put it in "A Tale of Two Cities", life often is "...the best of times" and "the worst of times."

Just as we're celebrating a lovely transition to the fall and winter, we all watch the news and feel the heart ache in Israel, the horror in Ukraine, no matter your heritage, your religion or political views, we are shocked to see grandmothers and children alike subjected to the bombing and terror. And violence in our own cities, hunger, homelessness. What do you do? I was standing in line at the local CVS this week, and a woman in front of me in line was complaining about not having her kind of candy in stock for Halloween, and it was all I could do to not interrupt and say, "Really? If this is a problem for you, you live a charmed life!" I got as far as "... Really?" and her expression told me she got the message, nothing further needed.

So, to all of you who ask, "what can I do?", here are a few ideas (with credit to others who made suggestions) that will fill your heart with joy and perhaps help mend someone else's pain and

heartache, perhaps even your own:

- Start by checking on your neighbors, you might be surprised at the difference you can make;
- Check out the Mashpee Library, they have a plethora of opportunities for volunteering at local charities;
- Same for the Council on Aging, just a block down from the library, you won't believe the classes on everything from Zumba to crafts to cooking, no age requirements!
- Habitat for Humanity is ALWAYS looking for donations from pots and pans to furniture and more; their RE-STORE just down Rte 28 is awesome!
- Book clubs! Just google it, you have multiple options; and meet new friends!
- Walking, running, spinning....all SO close, SO much fun;
- Food banks, right here at home; so many opportunities
- Local charities that focus on aid to Israel, Ukraine, World Central Kitchen, etc.

The list could fill this magazine, just google, or if you're not tekky savvy, go to the library and just ASK! No donation is too small, do what you can... with the holidays right around the corner....donate food, cakes, money, used clothing....for everything you have an abundance of, there are people who can use it!! Or if you're in NEED, you will find loving folks who will help!

Offering up peace and hope that your troubles are fewand that in the balance of the "best" and the "worst", that your universe tilts to the "best".



Fells Pond

Chris Avis

Email: 27whaler@gmail.com

Good Day, all. If you were not able to make the last Village meeting, then you missed the election of two new Chairs to the committee. Rick Santangelo (riccommoose@gmail.com) and Chris Avis (27whaler@gmail.com). We both want to extend our many thanks to Catherine Power who chaired our Village for over 25 years! As we all know, Catherine poured her heart into making sure every detail was perfect. Thank you again, Catherine. Rick and I will not be able to fill your shoes for sure.

My wife and I have lived in the Village year round for over 27 years, and Rick and his wife have been year-rounders for over ten years. Rick and I currently work for the Department of Natural Resources for the town of Mashpee. I'm currently the Shellfish Constable and Rick is the Deputy Harbormaster. Rick retired from the Belmont Police department after over 30 years of service several years back, and I retired from the publishing business after 35 years. As we transition into our new roles, we will undertake several issues that we heard at the last meeting. We will replace the remaining gas lanterns with solar lights, continue to have the pond monitored - and treated if need be -, continue to have the landscape company clean the main beach, and landscape the rock and right side of our entrance. We will be looking into fixing/paving Fells Pond Road as it seems to us that around the catch basins, the road is falling into disrepair. We are aware of the bumps on Fells Pond Circle and will be looking into fixing/paving it as well.

We want to urge all homeowners of several points regarding your own property. Please trim all branches that are overhanging your street. The rule typically used is the "3-12-2" rule. All objects, trees, shrubs, etc. should be three feet off the roadway. Branches should be at least 12' above and 2' from the road. This should not fall on the entire Village to trim trees that will impair the town when snow plowing over the winter.



You mean we've pronouncing it wrong after all these years? Photo by Tom Bone

Many villagers have done a great job with this task; however, some have not. Also, we all live near a pristine pond and we want to ask each of you if you haven't pumped your septic tank in over three years, please do so. Not only will you increase its effectiveness, but it will last longer too. We have seen too many times in our town and across the Cape the deterioration of our fresh water ponds. The main culprit is us. Unfortunately, sewerage in the town will not be in our Village anytime soon as the current plan has us at phase 7. Phase 1 is still being constructed. Rick and I have no plans

to discontinue any plans that Catherine has in place, i.e. brush removal, drain cleaning, etc, but we are open to new and innovative ideas. Please email either of us if you would like to volunteer, be part of the committee or share an idea. We do have a Fells Pond Facebook page that is only open to villagers of Fells Pond (Fells Pond Village at New Seabury - Thank you to the Rogers Family!); however, we do know some do not like or participate in social media. Thus, we are working on a web page specifically for our Village, which will have pages of our bylaws, rules, regulations, happenings and meeting minutes. I envision this having its own email which will allow for better interaction between all of us to share and inform. As said, we have large shoes to fill and we are new to this so please be patient and understanding as we transition into our new roles. We thank you for electing us.

GREENSWARD

Darlene Furbush

Well, summer has passed and many of you have begun the treks back to your winter getaways. As I sit here, I am eagerly awaiting the leaves to their change in color here on Cape Cod. It should be any day now. Pumpkins are beginning to appear on some front porches and the back entrance to our Village looks beautiful with pumpkins and beautiful fall flowers.

Folks here are still enjoying the golf courses, tennis and pickleball courts, and I am sure they're still visiting the beach, if just to enjoy the beautiful views of the waves and Martha's Vineyard. I personally will never get tired of that view of the Vineyard and ocean from the third green of the ocean golf course.



Thus far, this has been a good year for our Village. We haven't had any unexpected expenses; I say

keeping my fingers crossed. Looking at AccuWeather for 2023-2024, the Northeast winter predictions tell me we might not be as lucky as last year. Last year, we had a white Christmas morning and early afternoon; then by mid afternoon, early evening, the snow was gone which was just great. A taste of winter with no work shoveling - how perfect. Oh, and our dog, Charlie, loved playing in the snow even if just for the day.

I wish you all a great fall, winter and holidays where ever life finds you.

HIGHWOOD

Julia Gershkovich

Email: Gershkovichjulia@gmail.com



The fall is upon us, and it is a beautiful time of the year, especially in High Wood Village with our trees and their leaves creating the most imaginable color palette. What a magnificent spot! Pure delight! Who needs to go to New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine? No pun intended, Mike.... All High Wood Walking Trails have been cleared for our pleasure. The tranquil beauty, healthy air and peaceful surroundings, all courtesy of our Village, are here for all of us to enjoy. Leisurely days of summer are over, and many folks are taking the quieter fall time to do home renovations.

There are a few going on right now or about to begin. Please ask your contractors to be vigilant, stay within speed limits of 20 mph, not drive on curbsides as it damages our roads, and pick up their trash. Please also remember before any external work is done to contact the ARC and get a permit, if needed. We had a few developments after the Annual Meeting and Rick Deubert stepped down from the High Wood Board in mid-August. For all your questions or concerns, please direct them to Mariana D'Ambrosio (Chair), Julia Gershkovich and Gary DelBuono and we will try to address them as quickly as possible.

We are very happy that Libby Pike and Pat McKeown joined the High Wood Board as Alternates. Both Libby and Pat are long-time residents of High Wood and have a wealth of knowledge about our community. Pat has served for over 15 years as the Assistant Chair on the High Wood Board and has done a lot for our Village while maintaining a sense of unity and wellbeing for the homeowners. We are a new team with full intentions to serve you and our Village's best interests. We are all neighbors, and we came to High Wood because we love it here.

Some updates about our finances, drains and roads following the annual meeting ... We are currently looking good with our budget and hope to replenish our reserve funds by the end of this year, unless we have unforeseen

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Highwood continued from page 10

natural disasters, we hope not... About the drains... Mike Richardson and the expert company looked at the drains in late September. It was determined that there is no urgency, and all drains would be cleaned per regular schedule in November. About our roads... according to three independent asphalt paving companies, their inspection and evaluation indicated that our roads are in good and stable condition, except for some corner erosion areas which we are addressing at this time.

A few important housekeeping items: The “no plow list” will be out this month from the town. Please remember, it is the homeowner’s responsibility to cut the shrubbery two feet in from the road and nothing can be lower than 14 ft. Dead trees should be taken down now before they cause a problem. One area of concern are branches that may interfere with power lines. Please notify Julia Gershkovich at Gershkovichjulia@gmail.com if you see any obvious problems.

We wish you a very nice Holiday Season in High Wood.



Nikki and Julia enjoy a beautiful day in High Wood.

The Mews

Anastasia Efstratios
Chair: Wayne Luther

Email: wayneluther70351@gmail.com



Dear Mews Patio Home and New Seabury Neighbors,
We had a wonderful summer welcoming in new homeowners and congratulating existing owners who have decided to make The Mews Patio Homes their year-round residences.

One of the fun, new, organic additions to our community this past summer, on top of our wonderful annual party at 95 Shore, was a series of two hour rotating gatherings every Sunday morning from 9-11 a.m. These gatherings – branded “Mimosa Sunday” – were open to all neighbors and their guests. Suffice it to say that all were well attended from Memorial Day to Labor Day!



Despite the weather changes, the buzz in the Mews continues. Many homeowners are working on completing construction projects such as additions and pools. Additionally, a number of homeowners have initiated renovation projects such as new kitchens and baths, windows and doors, siding and trim, walls and

walkways, and paint.

As we collectively work to beautify our neighborhood during the winter months, we are asking homeowners to examine their chimney caps and fences in case they need paint, repair or replacement, and to continue trimming back or cutting down large trees if they are diseased or pose a risk. We thank everyone for their ongoing efforts to maintain our wonderful community!

Beyond homeowners’ individual efforts, our committee has initiated landscaping projects in two communal areas. These include installing two new composite benches along the walking path connecting Brassie Way and Mashie Circle, and installing a well for new plantings and grass, and a cobblestone apron at the Brassie Way circle. The third project, to begin in the spring, will include adding sustainable plant material along a portion of the Mashie Circle corner opposite Niblick Way.

We are fortunate to live in such an inclusive community that cares for one another, and we wish everyone a healthy holiday season!

Anastasia Efstratios on behalf of The Mews Patio Homes Committee

Popponesset Island

Karen Joyce-Marie

Email: ksjoyce56@gmail.com



Happy Autumn!
Hard to believe that the summer has come to a close. Poppy Island had a busy summer with our residents returning and the island teeming with joggers, walkers, bikers, baby carriages and dogs happily trotting alongside their families. It was wonderful to see Poppy Island so alive!

Equally wonderful was the second blooming of our hydrangeas in September, given the sparse early summer display!

Sitting out on my back deck on a sunny, crisp October afternoon writing this, I can hear the hum of the dredge working at the Spit. Led by the Barnstable County Dredge Department in partnership with the town of Mashpee, the team is finishing up their 20-day dredging mission on the outer channel while adding sand to enhance the Spit. This dredging is usually completed in the spring, but weather and equipment issues delayed it, and then the return of the protected coastal water birds (terns and piping plovers) to the Spit put a halt to the dredging while the protected birds nested. Save Popponesset Bay (SPB) worked hard coordinating with the county, town and Mass Audubon to enable the dredging in 2023. After several attempts to restart, again hampered by weather (high winds required the dredge/equipment to be brought back inside the Bay multiple times) and equipment availability issues, they are finally wrapping it up in mid October! While having a deeper outer channel (at times the depth was down to two feet) will certainly help boaters, one could wonder why do it now as it's nearing the end of the boating season? This dredging is critically important to support the flushing out of the Bay with each tide to improve water quality. In the end, the dredging is essential for the overall environment and the health of the Bay and Spit. The Harbormaster says we are still on the dredging schedule for spring if needed.

PROMOTING COMMUNITY

Residents of Poppy Island were treated to a Summer Soiree at the home of Donna and Eli Florence. The Florences opened up their stunning home and invited their neighbors to celebrate summer with music, cocktails and dinner while overlooking the Popponesset Bay! The Florences' back deck was beautifully decorated with Cape Cod blue hydrangea and a backdrop of the Popponesset Spit under a gorgeous August sky. It was wonderful to see over 75 neighbors come together and hear all the chatter and sharing. What an amazing way to build community and celebrate the special place we call home. Our sincere thanks to Donna and Eli for being such gracious and amazing hosts and welcoming Poppy Islanders into their spectacular home!

SAVE POPPONESSET BAY COMEDY NIGHT

Over Labor Day weekend, our own Poppy Islander, Dave Gershaw, sponsored a "Save Popponesset Bay" Comedy Night fundraiser at his home. This was in support of SPB's "Longer, Wider, Deeper" 2024 project to expand the outer channel, add a catch basin to trap the sand before it refills the channel and deposit ~40,000 cubic yards of sand onto the Spit (the county's annual dredging usually adds only 5,000 - 10,000 cubic yards!). The line-up of performers included standup by Jimmy Dunn, improv by Harvard's Immediate Gratification Improv Group, a fashion show by "Mel the Clothing", and featured Rhett Price on the electric violin, Flow Masters Fire performers and a laser show! The event was deliciously catered by Chef Zack's (Poppy Island neighbor, Zack Decter) and team, all of whom are freshmen at Johnson & Wales University. Over 260 attendees laughed out loud to the comedy of Jimmy Dunn as he poked fun at New Englanders, Bostonians and Cape Codders, but aren't we easy targets? The event raised over \$125,000! Check out page 34 for more information on the critically important efforts of SPB.

WORSENING POLLUTION IN THE BAY

Excess nitrogen loading from septic systems and runoff from lawn fertilizer are key contributors to the increasing pollution seen in the Popponesset Bay. This summer brought higher volume of seaweed blooms and significant jellyfish proliferation! Mashpee's sewage treatment plant project will not reach New Seabury for many years. We need to take actions on our own as well as push the town to take more action. Consider installing denitrification (nitrogen reducing) systems in your home and ensure only organic fertilizers (lower

continued on page 13

levels of nitrogen and phosphorous) are used in yards, as is required by the town. Actually, a complete ban on the use of fertilizers on lawns exists in many area towns including Orleans and Nantucket and is being considered for Mashpee. An alternative to grass lawns gaining popularity is a clover lawn, which is environmentally friendly as it does not require fertilizer to stay green!

Lastly, we love to welcome our residents and the greater community onto Popponesset Island but please respect our 15 mph speed limit and, if the signal at the bridge is red, please wait until green before you proceed. The red light timer is set to 30 seconds to allow sufficient time for cars to cross over. We do realize that occasionally the red light is tripped for no apparent reason initiating the 30 second cycle (working to resolve this). While it may seem OK to go against the light, please wait the 30 seconds for the green to be safe! On the rare occasion when both cars come onto the bridge at the same time, each may see a green light so please be alert and understanding and offer to be the one to back up!

CAPE COD TIPS FROM NEIGHBORS:

As the winter holidays approach, check out “Holidays at Highfield” in Falmouth with this year’s theme of “Holidays Through the Generations”. Heritage Museum and Gardens in Sandwich has its “Gardens Aglow” tradition with their joyful light display and Santa in a 1913 Ford Model T. Both groups are nonprofit organizations and tickets sell out fast! And, there’s always the Christmas Stroll in Nantucket (Dec 1-3), now in its 49th year!

Wishing you all a safe and healthy winter. Stay warm and see you all in the Spring!

Your PIA Team: Margie, Dave, Joel, Anne and Karen



Sunrise over the Northern Tip of Poppy Island as seen from Daniel's Island.
Photo by Richard Lawless



Dredging operation completing its mission at the Spit.

Summer Party



Adam Decter, Mike Moskwitz, John Malloy (SPB) and Dean Schaffer take in the PI Party evening.



Nicolas and Daniel Marie enjoy cocktails by the pool.



Gershaw and Conti Families share smiles.



Hosts Eli and Donna Florence chat with the Raffaels.



Poppy Island neighbors enjoy the camaraderie.



PI neighbors Fagells and Shapiros connect.



Beth Moskowitz chats with the Galvins and Hovsapiens.



Esther and Jim Cavanaugh listen in to Eli Florence's Welcome.

continued on page 15

Save Popponesset Bay COMEDY NIGHT

Popponesset Island continued from page 14



Chef Zack preparing mussels for the SPB Fundraiser crowd.
Photo credit: Margie Ross Decter.

Dave Gershaw made an impassioned plea for attendees to support SPB's critical work.



SOLD OUT- Over 260 guests attended the SPB Fundraiser.

Except where noted, all photos were taken by Karen Joyce-Marie.

Poppy Place

George Bell
Email: gbell@ebsrr.com



It's been a busy time as Poppy Place transitions through the fall and into the winter months. The Community is actively engaged in developing a long-term plan for the replacement of the common area fencing which borders Shore Drive and Rock Landing Road. At our August Annual Meeting, homeowners approved the long-term replacement of the fences, while also authorizing the short-term repair and repainting of the fences in hopes of extending their life five to six years. This will allow time to obtain bids and make decisions on various styles as well as establish the budget reserves necessary over the same time period.

Fall cleanup of the Poppy Place common area is underway by our landscaper, Linhares. Homeowners should contact them if you wish to take advantage of their discounted services if done at the same time. Poppy Place continues to work with Distinctive Property Services as its current property manager as part of the pilot initiated by Peninsula Council. The Board will be evaluating the 2023 pilot and make a final decision by year end. To enhance security, the entry and exit gates will remain operational until early December and be reactivated in early spring.

Wishing all Homeowners, a Happy Holiday Season!

Promontory Point 6A

Betty Barrett
Email: bcarey 301@msn.com

Hope this message finds you well and enjoying the fall season. Looking back, PP6A enjoyed a wonderful summer—it was great to see neighbors enjoying family and friends, greeting new neighbors and enjoying our special community.

Despite the rainy and unpredictable summer weather, the summer season was a productive time in our community. Numerous improvements were made to our landscape including colorful annuals that enhance our entrance, which as of this writing continue to thrive and provide a warm welcome to our community. The exterior painting of two buildings was completed and at the HOA Annual Meeting the community voted in one new Trustee and bid farewell to two Trustees. Many thanks to the outgoing Trustees for their years of dedication, time and talents.



The renovation of both the upper and lower decks for the ocean units enhance the livability, appearance and maintenance of these decks for years to come. Photo by Betty Barrett

The renovation of both the upper and lower decks for the ocean units is nearly completed as of this writing. The old wood railings have been replaced with modern, attractive cable railings that significantly enhance the livability, appearance, and maintenance of these decks for years to come.

Our community is quiet this time of year, but work is moving forward to get us ready for winter. The fall cleanup work is underway to make sure that our lawns and landscape are healthy and ready for the spring, in addition to getting ahead of tree trimming and tree removal before winter is upon us. As weather starts to get colder, please be sure to make preparations for winterizing and storm readiness.

We wish you and your families a happy and safe autumn and holiday season

Sandalwood

Rich Luskin

Email: richardluskin@gmail.com

Our Village Board President, Karyn O'Connor, has sold her home and will be moving away from Sandalwood in October. Karyn has served on the Sandalwood Board for many years, and as our President for the past six years. The community has been very lucky to have had Karyn in this role. She has worked tirelessly to ensure that Sandalwood functions well and looks good. She has handled thousands of calls and emails from our residents and worked hard to resolve whatever issues have arisen. Our community is in good shape and Karyn has played a very large part in making it that way. We thank her and we will miss her.

At a recent Board meeting, Rich Luskin, who has been serving as Board Vice-President, was appointed as President. In addition, Artie Schneider, who has been serving as a consultant to the Board, was appointed as a Board member to complete the remainder of Karyn's term. Artie also was named as Vice President of the Board.



In the coming weeks residents will see contractors at work keeping our Village looking good and functioning well. We will be making repairs to the roads in several places where tree roots have created heaves or significant cracks. Given the very high cost of repaving it makes sense to crack seal and repair in patches. We also will be doing tree trimming and removal where dead trees and limbs or low overhanging branches pose a safety risk.

Thanks to Bev Luskin and Artie Schneider for putting our Village entrance in the spirit of the harvest season.



The sun sets over the Ocean Course.
Photo by Kelly
(95 Shore)

Summer Sea

Risa Schneider Fine
Chair: Fredda Zaiger
Email: freddazaiger@gmail.com

Hi everyone,

As you know, we had an “ice cream” social on the field in August. It was a great success. Many of our neighbors attended and commented on how much they enjoyed themselves. A special shout out to Doug for making it happen. If any of you have thoughts or other ideas for next summer’s get-together please be in touch. There was been an uptick in coyote sightings in

Summer Sea. If you are out at dusk walking your pets, please keep this in mind. We know our roads are dark! We are working on getting some additional solar street lights. However, until that occurs please consider leaving your outside lights on in the evening, putting your outside lights on timers, or using dusk to dawn lightbulbs with built in light sensors. They are available at hardware stores and Amazon. We really appreciate you thinking of your neighbors who reside in our community all year.



Hydrangeas in October! Photo by Fredda Zaiger

With the fall comes the shedding of the foliage. While the colors are spectacular this year, the leaves are horrible for our drains. If you are out walking and see drains that are covered with leaves and pine needles, please try to brush the debris away. If you are fertilizing your lawn during your “winter cleanup”, please consider using organic. Ockway Bay will thank you. She is hurting. The Summer Sea Facebook page is great for local information sharing- please join us.

As always we wish you and your families a great Autumn wherever you are.

Fredda, Bill and Julie
Doug, Judy, Brenda, Larry
and Risa



Lots of fun at Summer Sea's summer Ice Cream Social! Photo by Fredda Zaiger.

See more pictures from Summer Sea on the front and back covers.

TRITON SOUND

Jarred Sherman

Email: jarredsherman@gmail.com



After a very rainy September, it's shaping up to a great fall on Triton Sound! We have had a mixture of warm and cool days, and the leaves have started to turn. The neighborhood is looking beautiful with the fall colors starting to come through. Hopefully, everyone can enjoy this wonderful time of year in our neighborhood.

Since my last note, we had our annual village meeting in early August. It was nice to see some familiar faces, and make introductions to a few new friends. I presented a recap of the previous year, provided an update on ongoing community projects, and gave an overview on the village financials. In order to keep up with rising costs, we voted to raise our village annual maintenance fee by a modest amount, as

there had not been a change in the last 15 years. We expect that this will help us to continue to build our reserve for future larger projects, and to keep our community looking great. Ken Bring was also reappointed as an alternate to our village committee for three more years, and I want to thank him, and George List, for all of their help!

We had no unplanned expenses over the last few months and our financials remain in line with our budget. We continue to do small maintenance and clean-up projects to keep everything in working order, and will begin the budgeting process for next year shortly. Also, as the weather starts to get colder, be sure to make preparations for winterizing and storms to stay ahead of any potential problems that may occur in the off-season. Please remember to help look after our community by picking up trash and after your pets, particularly on the Shore Drive West paths. Speeding also continues to be a concern, so please slow down for the safety of everyone.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions. Enjoy the fall and the upcoming holiday season.

Jarred Sherman

Vineyard Reach

Connie Strait

Email: iseestrait@yahoo.com

Life at Vineyard Reach is "falling" into place as plans for winter and the 2024 season are well under way. The board is finalizing the new budget with much attention given to landscaping, and prioritizing the findings from the feasibility study. The newly created interactive website has been a great asset for neighbors to communicate with the board and for the board to communicate with the management company. All in all, we love Vineyard Reach in the fall!

Beautiful landscaping welcomes Vineyard Reach homeowners. Photo by Connie Strait



VETERAN RECOGNITION

We are fortunate to have a cadre of great residents in New Seabury. A sizeable number of them, in addition to being personally very successful, also believe in the “giving back” mind set, which is exactly how life should be lived.

Recently, one such individual was recognized for dedicating himself to that “giving back” mentality. In this instance, however, it’s not a recent mind set mentality, it’s a life style.

I am referring to Bill Blaisdell, a neighbor, a long term member of our Boys Night Out group, and good friend to all.

Bill enlisted in the Army in 1968, and trained as an army medic and operating room technician at Fort Sam Houston in Texas, then deployed to Vietnam one month after his 20th birthday. As a result of his Vietnam experience, he was awarded the Bronze Star - one of the highest honors for our veterans.

Subsequent to his military career, Bill joined the telephone company and ultimately moved to Mexico with his wife Paula to open a new telephone company, and after five years moved back to New Seabury where he added to his “giving back” involvement with the New Seabury Men’s Golf Association and the Board of Managers. He is now a member of the Greensward Village Committee and a long time member of the Mashpee Zoning Board. As the phrase goes, he represents the “gift that keeps giving”.

For over 10 years Bill has been a member of the Cape and Islands Veterans Outreach Center (CIVOC). He is

serving presently as their Treasurer on their Board of

Directors. Their mission is to assist veterans with housing, food insecurity, counseling, and outreach, which is something Bill is very passionate about. Many veterans and their families on Cape Cod and the Islands are in need of help, which fuels Bill's passion. To learn more about the organization, go to their website...capeveterans.com



Wayne Soares presents Bill with the American Patriot Award.

On September 17 of this year, Bill was presented with the annual American Patriot Award at Dino’s Sports Bar, in Mashpee by

Wayne Soares. Wayne is an accomplished actor, comedian, movie producer and a veteran advocate, but Bill is our hero here in New Seabury. Clearly, a New Seabury Notable.

Please join us in thanking Bill for his service and his ongoing commitment to our veterans.

Mike Richardson



Paula and Bill Blaisdell with Wayne Soares.



The American Patriot Award.

Here's to you, Catherine!

Please join us in our thanks to Catherine Power for her dedication and hard work on the Fells Pond Committee - joining in 1996 as a member and acting as Chair for over 20 years. She has been an active participant in tending to her Village - answering phone calls, monitoring Village finances, hosting Fells Pond annual meetings and Village get-togethers, attending monthly Peninsula Council Meetings and all Peninsula Council Annual Meetings, observing the pond for cleanliness and cleaning the beach, working with Tom Caston on CAMI activities, and of course, making those beautiful gift baskets for all of the 15 Homeowners Golf Classics. Catherine has been a long term resident of New Seabury spending summers here with her kids, and then moving here as a permanent year-rounder. She's been active in Country Club activities as well as in the Women's Club of New Seabury - actively participating in

fundraising events for our local organizations. Needless to say, she has been one busy lady!

We wish Catherine the very best as she retires from her Chairmanship. Now, she just might have time for lounging at the beach with cocktail in hand, or taking a swim in Fells Pond ~ her little piece of heaven.

Here's to you, Catherine! Cheers!



Catherine and Tom Caston with Chris Avis, new Fells Pond Co-Chairman, and Chris' wife, Kim.



Catherine and Tom at Castons' Garden on Rock Landing Road where they tend to the flowers and roses.

MEN'S SOCIAL CLUB *at New Seabury*

Mike Richardson

On a sad note, we lost a long term member with the passing of Joe Murphy. Joe, a long time resident of New Seabury, was well known by all and we miss him.

On November 14, we had the opportunity to spend a few minutes in the penalty box with Mike Milbury, a relatively new resident of New Seabury and also a new member of our infamous Boys Night Out group. Mike shared some interesting facts about the Bruins and what it takes to be a professional hockey player in a city that loves hockey. It was informative and entertaining for those who attended, and in spite of the attendees, there were no fights or other injuries.

We wish all members (and prospective members) a great fall and winter season, and look forward to our annual "Come Back" event in the spring. Cheers!

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Women's Club of New Seabury



Hello Autumn from the Women's Club of New Seabury!

Looking Back

On August 9th at the Club at New Seabury, WCNS members and guests were treated to impersonator Sheryl Faye's portrayal of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. High praise is due to Sheryl's ability in bringing this historic figure to life. All present enjoyed this most educational and entertaining presentation.



On October 10th, our members and guests thoroughly enjoyed exploring Haunted Cape Cod with Ghost Hunter, Derek Bartlett. Derek is founder of the Cape & Islands Paranormal Research Society and owner of Cape Cod's Haunted and History Tours. This former Marine had much to tell about his experiences over the many years while investigating paranormal activity in the area and provided background history about the places he has investigated and what is entailed in doing research, i.e. equipment, etc. that he and his team use in their "ghost hunting".



Continued to page 25

On November 14, our members and guests were privileged to enjoy a private tour of the Cahoon Museum of American Art in Cotuit. The tour was conducted by Leslie Goldman, Educational Programs Manager at the Museum. The tour included a history of the Museum and how it started in its historic location. Also included was a special exhibit of Ralph Cahoon's work and current featured exhibits, "Julie Child and the Art of Biological Illustration" and "Peaceable Kingdom: The Art of Donald Saaf".

Cahoon Museum OF AMERICAN Art

On December 12th, please join us for a Holiday Centerpiece workshop conducted by Anna Holmes of Flowers by Anna, Cataumet, MA. We'll enjoy a relaxing continental breakfast starting at 10:00am at 95 Shore Restaurant at The Club at New Seabury, followed by a fun workshop where you'll create your own Holiday Centerpiece. Anna will review the principles and elements of design as well as provide all supplies for you to create a long-lasting holiday centerpiece to take home and enjoy.



Reservations are due no later than December 4th. December 4th is the last day that we will be able to accept reservations and confirm delivery of our workshop materials. The cost is \$50 for breakfast and all materials. Visit our website www.womensclubofnewseabury.com for more information and call 508.477.5106 or use Venmo @clubmember to reserve your spot!

Wishing you and your family a wonderful Holiday season.
Ann Everett and Susan Finkle, Co-Presidents of WCNS

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News *you can* Use

Mike Richardson

Let's start with a little light humor. I asked an employee of the supermarket where they kept the canned peaches. He said "I'll see", and walked away. A little while later I asked another employee the same question and he said "I'll see", and he also walked away. I finally gave up and found them myself in Aisle C!! Just goes to show you how your communication can go on occasion.

A couple of things that are coming our way... starting with weather. Make the necessary arrangements to protect your property. On page 31, see "Preparing Your Home For Winter", courtesy of 3Sixty

Town Meeting

Mashpee had a record turnout at the October 2023 Town Meeting... for 12 articles. The closest vote was in passing the Tree Bylaw article which was close to 10 pages long. A riddle....how many trees does one have to cut down to create several hundred....10 page documents for Town Meeting - to save trees?

There is a Special Election slated for Tuesday, November 28 to vote for supporting the next phase of Mashpee's sewer system.

Fall/Winter Stuff

We will shortly begin the process of tree and bush trimming, as well as drain cleaning so that we are prepared for the winter. Per the weather folks, there will be snowy, but higher temperatures in our area, and heavy snow up north in ski country. Wet weather here does create issues with our pine trees, so be on the lookout for one or more that appear dangerous so we can address it before you end up with another sky light.

Cell Tower

I have made an untold number of calls to Verizon to try and get some understanding of the issue with coverage. The Town has apparently also done the same with

similar results.....nothing. While waiting for a person to talk with, I have sat on the phone listening to some sort of music that I can't describe or listening to a litany of messages that tell me everything they need to help me help myself only to end up with the same result....more dentist office music. I, today, got a person (yup, a live person) who spent 20 minutes on and off trying to find an answer..and I got one; it was call back and ask for Tier 2/Tech Department. Ah well.

The initial feedback is that coverage is a little bit better.... seven years later.

Coyotes, etc.

Ever see a coyote laugh? There was one on the 6th hole of the Dunes watching me putt last week and I swear he put his head down and put both paws over his eyes! He then got up and walked slowly off across the fairway looking for a better golfer. Then I stepped on a snake in the bunker before the 9th

hole yesterday. Arriving home, Peter Rabbit welcomed me by running by Tom Turkey both sitting in the sun in the back yard. Suffice to say that we have a cadre of wild animals around here. Be mindful of your surroundings and don't leave anything out that attracts them. Also, carry a whistle with you when out and about for safety purposes. If and when it's necessary, call the Mashpee Police Department Animal Control Officer (508-539- 1480 x 1). By the way, I like to read at night and just finished a book about marriage that says treat your wife like you treated her on your first date, so tonight after dinner I am dropping her off at her parents.

Development

Well, we appear to be getting close to the completion of new homes over in Section V. It appears that we are down to single digit homes to build and sell, at which time that complete that multi-year project. Clearly, additional work to landscape in front of the Pool House,

Continued to page 30

the entrances, and walking path are next. After that there appears to be sporadic things New Seabury will need to work on, but for the most part we are approaching the “built out” position. We are working with them closely on an abundance of areas where we want to ensure that things get done prior to their departure. There is no specific time table, but as we all know, time stops for no one, and so we want to leave no issue on the table. More to come regularly as we get closer to that actual end game.

Dredging

On the plus side, the dredging is completed just in time to.....take your boat out of the water. Tough year for boaters...a perfect storm in some ways.

UVD and Special Permit

We have two projects to work on over the next two years. One is renewing the Universal Village Declaration, the Declaration that covers the original six Peninsula Council Villages. A committee lead by Marjorie Clapprood will put together the process, documents, explanations, requirements, and outline that effort over the next year. The Special Permit, which is what provides the flexibility we have in New Seabury, will expire in October 2026 unless renewed by the Town of Mashpee. We will be working with both New Seabury Development and Mashpee Town Government in efforts to get it renewed.

Holidays

We are coming to the end of another year and into the holiday season beginning with Thanksgiving, so in line with that thought process ,I will leave you with a quick one. What did one turkey say to the other when they saw the pilgrims arrive? He said, “They look nice, maybe they’ll have us over for dinner.”

Okay, okay... 'nuff said.

Mike R



An interested spectator at the 6th Green on the Dunes Course.

PREPARING YOUR HOME FOR WINTER

WHILE YOU ARE AWAY:

- ☐ CHANGE ALL THERMOSTATS FROM AIR CONDITIONING TO HEAT
- ☐ HAVE YOUR FURNACE SERVICED/FILTERS CHANGED
- ☐ CLEAN YOUR DRYER VENT
- ☐ EXAMINE WINDOWS AND DOORS & REPLACE WEATHER STRIPPING AS NEEDED
- ☐ HAVE YOUR CHIMNEY INSPECTED AND CLEANED (*This will prevent chimney fires and prevent CO2 from creeping into your home.*)
- ☐ CHANGE BATTERIES IN THE SMOKE/CO2 DETECTORS
- ☐ TURN OFF MAIN WATER TO HOUSE, OR
EMPTY TOILET TANKS AND TURN OFF AT BASE, TURN OFF WATER TO WASHING MACHINE & TO ICEMAKER
- ☐ TURN OFF AND DRAIN EXTERIOR SPIGOTS/FAUCETS, (Undrained pipes can freeze which will cause pipes to burst as the ice expands)
- ☐ DISCONNECT AND STORE HOSES FROM EXTERIOR PIPES
- ☐ CLEAN GUTTERS & DOWNSPOUTS (*if your gutters are full of debris, water can be backed up against the house and damage roofing, siding and wood trim.*)
- ☐ TURN OFF ELECTRICAL BREAKERS FOR YOUR OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT
- ☐ STAKE DRIVEWAY AND WALKWAY EDGES. *They will become hard to find in heavy snow and will prevent damages to your edging.*
- ☐ CUT BACK TREE BRANCHES AND SHRUBS THAT ARE HANGING OVER YOUR ROOF OR BLOCKS SUNLIGHT
- ☐ REMOVE SCREENS AND INSTALL STORMS
- ☐ TEST YOUR ALARM SYSTEM AND MAKE SURE THEY HAVE THE CORRECT CONTACT INFORMATION
- ☐ REMOVE AND STORE YOUR OUTDOOR FURNITURE & GRILL, (remember to store your gas cylinder safely.)
- ☐ OVER THE WINTER MONTHS YOU SHOULD HAVE THE WATER IN YOUR POOL PUMPED DOWN AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST!!! SIGN UP WITH US FOR WINTER WATCH SITE VISITS, IT DOES NOT HURT TO HAVE AN EXTRA EYE ON YOUR PROPERTY, WHICH WILL PROVIDE PEACE OF MIND.



Seside Holiday Fair

Saturday, November 18th

8:30am - 2:30 pm

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Crafts & Cape Cod

Christmas Boutique

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Hiking/Walking

For those of you that walk the trails in and around High Wood Village, you may have noticed trail signs that were recently installed by a couple members of the CAMI Committee. Twelve signs were installed on the perimeter Blue and Red trails with the possibility of eventually installing additional signs at trail intersections within the Village. The signs were installed to entice you to explore the inner trails and to memorialize the names of the horseback riding trails from the original subdivision plans. I'm always pleased when I encountered residents from other villages walking the trails, some from a considerable distance away; recently, Stendahl, Daniel's Island and two renters from the Netherlands.

In each issue, I try to highlight a trail in the area for those that like to break from their normal routine and get out and explore all that the Cape has to offer. Eagle Pond and Little River Sanctuary in Cotuit is one of the many Barnstable Land Trust conservation areas. This 182 acre tract is located about 7.5 miles (15 minutes) from New Seabury. Trailhead parking is located 1/2 mile down Putnam Avenue from its intersection with Route 28 in Marston Mills. The Sanctuary consists of varying habitats of white cedar swamps, meadows, mature pinewood forests, and a kettle pond. There are 4 miles of trails. The main Eagle Pond Loop Trail from Putnam Avenue is 1.5 miles long, with several spur trails of varying lengths. Dogs are permitted on the trails and fishing, kayaking, and ice skating are permitted on the pond.

Biking

I mentioned in the last issue that I would start covering the Cape Cod Rail Trail (CCRT), a section at a time. Many of you have probably biked at least a section or two of the trail. For those of you that are unfamiliar with it, here are a few facts that I extracted from Wikipedia and other web sites.

The original rail line from Yarmouth to Orleans was constructed by the Cape Cod Central Railroad (1861-1868), which was later incorporated into the Old Colony Railroad in 1872, and finished the line to Provincetown in 1873. The railroad was

later incorporated into the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad in 1893. The New Haven Railroad merged into Penn Central in 1968: it went bankrupt by 1970. The corridor was purchased by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1976, and a portion of the right-of-way was converted to the Cape Cod Rail Trail by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation in the 1970s.

The current CCRT is a 25.5 mile paved path that passes through the towns of Yarmouth, Dennis, Harwich, Brewster, Orleans, Eastham, and Wellfleet. It connects to the 6-plus mile Old Colony Rail Trail leading to Chatham, the 2 mile Yarmouth multi-use trail, and 8 miles of trails within Nickerson State Park. Short side trips on roads lead to National Seashore beaches including Coast Guard Beach at the end of the Nauset Bike Trail in Cape Cod National Seashore and is part of the Claire Saltonstall Bikeway.

Construction of Phases 1 and 2 of the CCRT extension in Yarmouth were completed in 2018, extending the trail west from Route 134 in Dennis to Higgins Crowell Road in Yarmouth. A good map of this section can be found on www.yarmouth.ma.us.

Construction of Phase 3 is scheduled to begin in 2024, extending the CCRT from Old Town House Road in Yarmouth to Mary Dunn Road in Barnstable, a distance of approximately 4 miles. Construction is scheduled to be completed in 2026. There are also plans to extend the trail west through Barnstable to the Sandwich town line and north for 2 miles in Wellfleet.

If you want to start at the beginning, you have to park at on the east side of Station Avenue (across from CVS) and go 2.6 miles west through Bayberry Hills golf course to the end and then back (5.2 miles R/T). There are 97 parking spaces at Station Avenue. If you go east from the parking lot, it's 1.9 miles (3.8 R/T) to the Bass River Bridge. If you want to start further up, parking lots along the trail can be found on Google Maps.

There are numerous bike shops along the trail where you can rent and have cycling equipment serviced. Plan your day and stop and have lunch along the way.

Continued to page 33

Golf

I received favorable responses from many of you asking for my map with ratings of golf courses on and just off the Cape, so I thought it was worth mentioning again. Send me an email if you are interested in my map, I can also give you suggestions based on my preference. Now is a good season to get out and try the more expensive courses as the prices typically drop after Columbus Day. Check out this web site where these guys give their opinion of each course, in a humorous way: www.capecodgolfguys.com

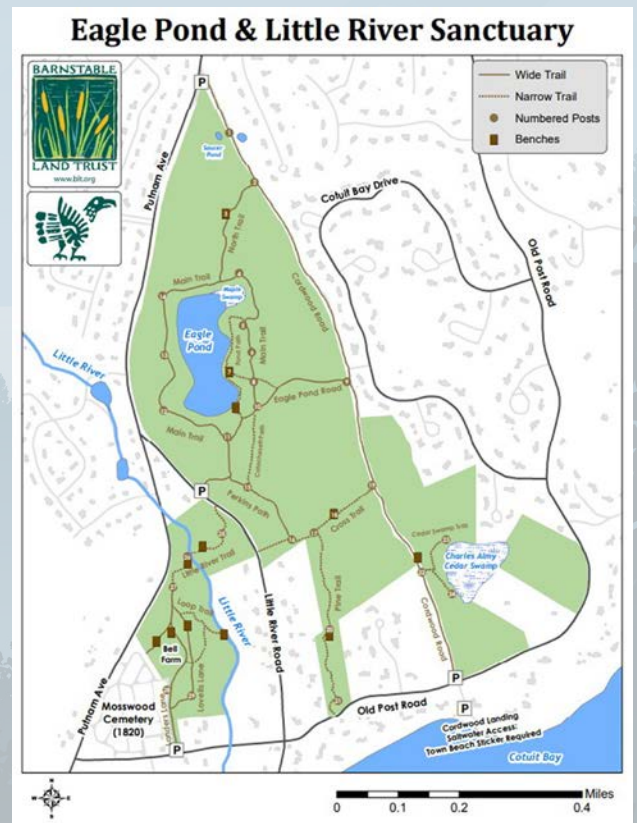
As always, don't hesitate to send me an email if you're looking for additional information or suggestions on a particular activity.

We spend 95 percent of our life indoors, here's ten suggestions of ways to spend more time outside that you may want to try in the coming months to stimulate your senses. I hope this list serves as inspiration and motivation, or at least a little nudge in the right direction.

1. Take your dog for an extra-long walk on the High Wood trails, explore a new trail;
2. Kick your feet through the fallen leaves, see how many types you can identify;
3. Sit on a bench by the pond, listen to the birds;
4. Take a walk around the neighborhood, stop and talk to the first person you see;
5. Take your grandkids to a nearby park, blow bubbles, throw a Frisbee, fly a kite;
6. Play Cape Cod tourist for a day;
7. Walk along the beach looking for different seashells;
8. Sit on the beach and watch the sunset; stay and watch the moon rise;
9. Count the stars in the night sky, look for shooting stars.
10. Stand on your deck and catch the season's first snowflakes on your tongue.

Enjoy.

Photos by Rick Deubert



Save Popponesset Bay: Update

Eric Brandt

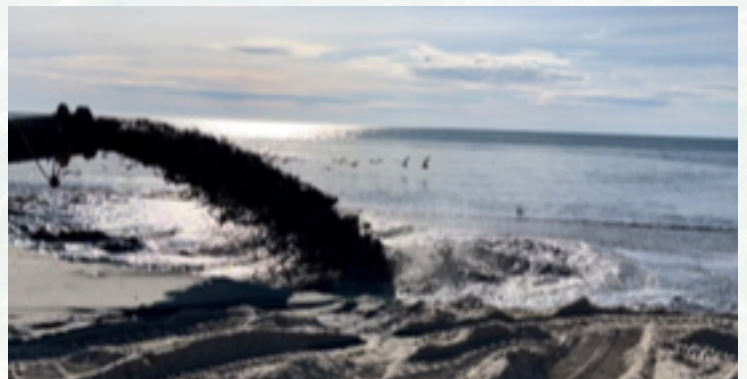
Wow, quite the summer on Popponesset Bay! Just like the ocean tides, we had our ups and downs. Fortunately, the fun in the sun, on a boat, or a float, far outweighs the low tides and rain.

We, Save Popponesset Bay (SPB), spent countless hours this past summer in meetings and conversations with Mashpee town leaders, Barnstable County officials, as well as state representatives, regarding the Town of Mashpee's annual dredging of the outer channel. As we have shared previously, for reasons beyond our control, the annual Town dredging did not take place until September and October. Agreed, this is not what we, SPB, want, as it has a negative impact on the Spit, the Bay, boater safety, water quality, wildlife, our entire ecosystem. The good news is that the Town has completed its dredge project!

On the programmatic side, we enjoyed a variety of events over the summer which included a Labor Day, end of summer celebration, hosted by Dave Gershaw. We can't thank Dave enough for putting together an incredible evening which included an awesome DJ, electric violinist, a great comedian, who had us laughing hysterically, a fashion show, flame twirler, Improv, and wonderful food and drinks. The night was perfection thanks to Dave's generosity.

Looking forward, we are focusing our advocacy efforts with all relevant parties on the Longer, Wider, Deeper project which will greatly enhance our waterways and add much needed sand to the Spit. Presently, the town and state are developing a master plan for Mashpee harbors, which include Popponesset Bay. We are also working with the town regarding grant funding from the state to assist with our Longer, Wider, Deeper project. At the same time, we need your help;

1. Support SPB with your tax-deductible gift. The Longer, Wider, Deeper effort will require a considerable investment, approaching \$2M. With calendar year end fast approaching, please consider a stretch gift. If you have appreciated stock/securities (held for one year or more), you can transfer the shares to SPB, take a deduction for the full market value, and avoid capital gains tax. Should you be of appropriate age, you can have your IRA administrator send a check directly to SPB, thereby avoiding the tax on your IRA distribution. For those who may have a Donor Advised Fund or Charitable Checking account, simply have your DAF administrator make the grant directly to SPB. And of course, you can send a check to SPB. For more information, or to donate, please visit www.savepopponessetbay.org, or email savepoppybay@gmail.com.
2. Advocate with Mashpee officials, in an appropriate manner, to share your concerns about dredging, water quality, and related matters. We are taxpayers and our voices should be heard.
3. Talk with your neighbors, educate them about the issue, and urge them to support our efforts.
4. Volunteer to help SPB! We have an awesome community, which cares deeply about our Bay. Help us Save Popponesset Bay!



Dredge in operation.

Continued to page 35

Save Popponesset Bay
End of Summer Celebration!

Save Popponesset Bay Continued from Page 34



Photos Courtesy of Gleb Budilovsky

Is this the future we want for Mashpee's waterways?



Popponesset Spit, September 2023



Mashpee-Wakeby Pond, June 2023



Mashpee River, June 2023

Cleaning our Waters – Challenges and Opportunities
If you subscribe to the Mashpee Enterprise, you might have seen this ad for the October Town Meeting. It graphically tells the story about the urgency of cleaning our waters. Fresh and salt waters across Mashpee are measured regularly and are all extremely degraded. There are regular cyanobacteria outbreaks in our fresh waters. Excess algae has choked out the eelgrass that for millennia have sustained fish, oysters, scallops and the health of our salt waters.

The largest cause is excess nitrogen (primarily from our urine) released from Title V septic systems. The other major causes are fertilizers, pesticides and storm water runoff. This situation threatens not only the natural beauty of our area but, ultimately, the value of our homes and our local economy.

Good News

In July, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) released new regulations that will

require towns like Mashpee to clean up 75% of our nitrogen pollution within 20 years. The Town has two years to submit an updated plan that includes sewerage and/or upgrades to septic systems to improve nitrogen mitigation. In the meantime, Mashpee has already begun requiring nitrogen mitigation on all new projects. And construction has already begun on Phase 1 of a new wastewater treatment plant located by the Town Transfer Station. The Phase will ultimately connect several hundred homes to the plant.

In October, Mashpee Town Meeting approved the funds to develop a plan for Phase 2 to connect up to several thousand more homes to the new plant. The plan will be presented for funding in the May 2024 Town Meeting. Phase 2 should begin to lower nitrogen releases into the Mashpee River and Popponesset Bay. This is far from all we will have to do to meet the DEP regulations, but it should begin to give us visible improvements within a few years of completion.

continued on page 37

Challenges to New Seabury

Wastewater: New Seabury has always had its own wastewater treatment plant. It serves the Club facilities and most of the dense housing areas, including the new construction at The Cottages. However, most of our homes are still on individually-owned Title V septic systems. The implication of these new regulations is that if you do new construction and/or sell your property, you may be required by the Town to install a nitrogen mitigation system.

Land Use: It is already prohibited to use fertilizers in on any land in Mashpee that is within 100 feet of a body of water. It is likely that there will be further enforcement and expansion of these regulations. If you want to get ahead of this (and start benefiting our waters now), start looking into expanded use of native plants and introducing species like clover to feed your lawn without chemical fertilizers.

The Opportunity for New Seabury

Nitrogen pollution and climate change pose a dual threat to our community. These challenges are also an enormous opportunity. It's clear that we are going to have to dig up our yards and our streets anyway. If we are smart, we will think about how to address other challenges facing our Villages. Should we look at fixing storm drains that repeatedly fail and roads that don't meet standards necessary for their management to be assumed by the Town? Maybe consider the example of the Route 151 project where the Town is burying utility lines as they are installing sewer lines? New Seabury already has a private wastewater treatment plant that covers the club facilities and some of the dense housing. It couldn't handle the waste from the entire development but could it be part of the solution? The right plan would ready us for the next 50 years.

Mary Adams Oleksak

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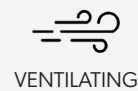
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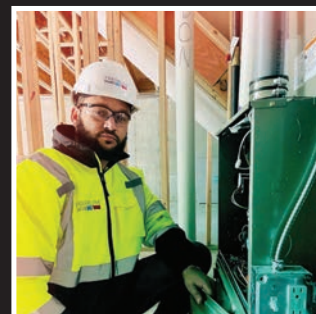
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Solutions

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7	9	2	8	1	5	6	4	3
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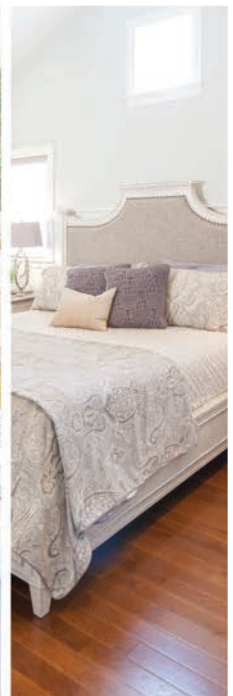


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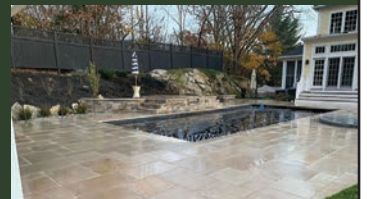
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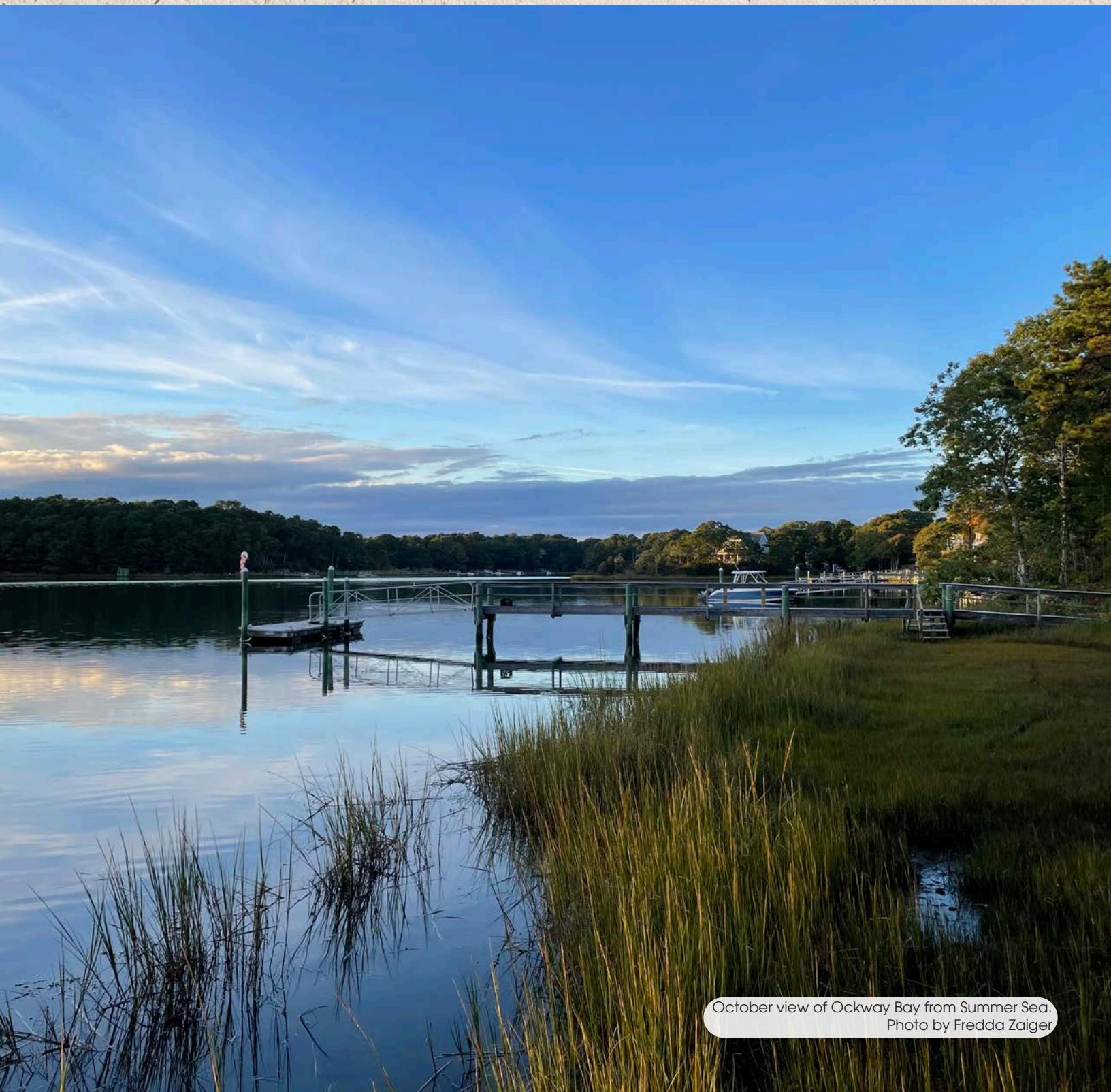


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