



PENINSULA

News from the Peninsula Council
at New Seabury, Cape Cod

Reporter

• at New Seabury •

Volume 51
Number 4
February 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.

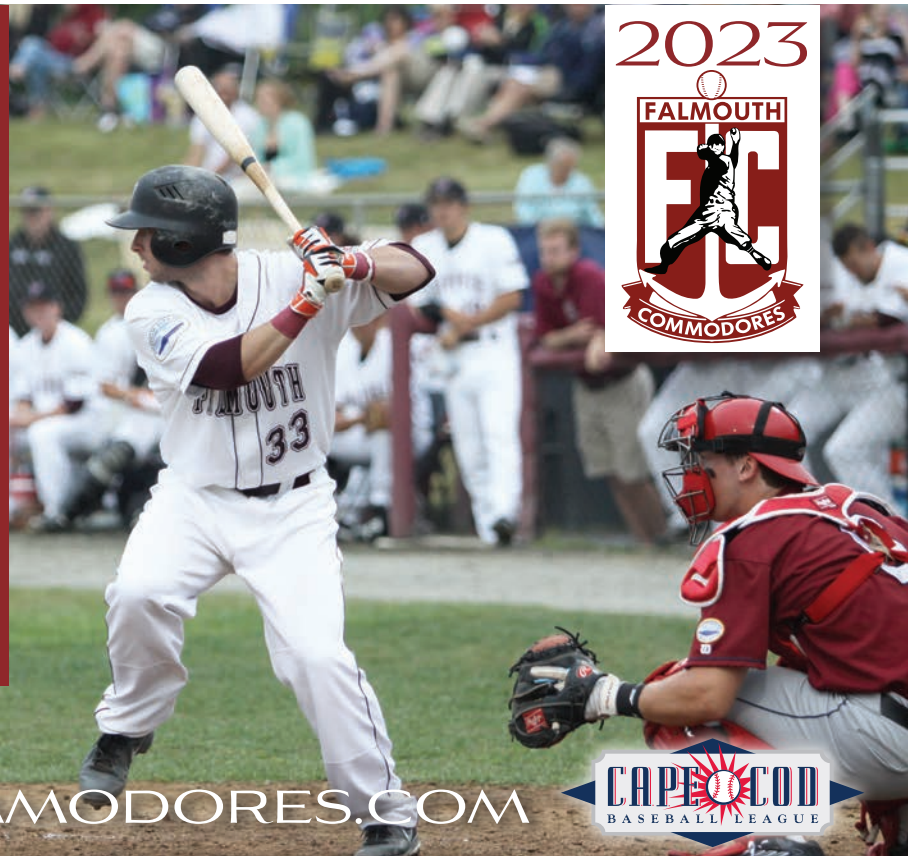
Mashpee River
Photo by Katelyn Cadoret

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ARE YOU A PARASKEVIDEKATRIAPHOBE OR A TRISKAIDEKAPHOBE?

Have you ever heard of Triskaidekaphobia? No, it's not being afraid of Triscuits, it's being afraid of Friday the 13th, which just passed as I write this. Actually, these folks have certain fears about anything that has to do with the number 13 or any situation that involves anything in sequences of 13.

You know, the typical stuff to be wary of, i.e. walking under a ladder, breaking a mirror, spilling salt, or making sure your black cat doesn't cross your path. Do people really avoid those things on a Friday the 13th? Any month that starts on a Sunday will have a Friday the 13th!

Certain airlines do not have a row 13.

Black cats are half as likely to be adopted as tabby cats, and 33% less likely to be adopted than white cats. Surgeries are much less performed on Friday the 13th, although more than 40% of medical staff believe that lunar phases can effect human behavior.

Now, let's see, I think this is the 13th year for me in my position...Oh, my! Okay, so on the positive side, we won't have another Friday the 13th until October, so feel free to walk under that ladder, throw some salt over your shoulder, break a mirror and adopt a black cat! On the other hand, maybe, just maybe, it's a good idea to not press your luck! Somebody send me a four-leaf clover.

Mike Richardson

Reference: *Cape Cod Times*, January 13, 2023



President's Report

Dick Noonan

This issue of the *Reporter* finds all of us deep into Winter. But it certainly hasn't been too difficult thus far. It's mid January and I walked 18 holes on the Dunes today! I'll take that on any winter day.



The Peninsula Council office has been very busy as of late. Based on the success of the Sandalwood pilot with Distinctive Properties for Village property management, we have decided to roll out an additional Village, The Mews, for 2023. Mike Richardson has been very busy finalizing that contract and it should have been signed by the time you read this. This result is that two of our Villages representing over 180 homes will be managed by a subcontractor on behalf of the Peninsula Council during 2023. That will provide us a good sample come end of next year to evaluate the effectiveness of outsourcing as a strategy for Village property management. As we prepare for 2024 the big question will be do we utilize a service partner to do the more of the routine tasks around property management for all our Villages or do we keep those tasks in house. These pilots will help us answer that question. A big thank you to the Mews for stepping up and helping with this Phase 2 Pilot.

We have also decided to extend the contract for another year to Distinctive Properties to manage ARC. We now have a year of experience with DPS managing ARC and it seems to be working well. Mike would say that they manage the process quite well and he is working with them on some of the subtler aspects of this important function. Mike is just finishing up this contract as well. I am not sure how much he enjoys contract management but he is doing a stellar job nonetheless.

You will have noticed a change in our billing categories when you received your recent bill. There was no increase in your Peninsula Council or Common Area Maintenance & Infrastructure (formerly Special Maintenance) fees this year, but simply a change in how we label the categories to more accurately reflect what we do. We have also changed some of our financial reporting statements to better reflect our actual revenue and expense flows to make our statements easier to read and understand. When we report to all of you at our next Annual Meeting the goal will be to present detailed yet easy to understand financials.

Speaking of bills. This is the time of year when we thank everyone for paying their bills and contributing to this Community. Most everyone does. Although this year we did receive a rather disappointing letter from a resident that said in essence that their property is not bound by the Universal Village Declaration so they do not have an obligation to pay fees. Technically, this person is correct. They do not have a "legal" obligation to pay for the well maintained road their house is on, or the drains that keep their property dry, or the beautifully

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landscaped entrances they pass by every day as they approach their house. I can only conclude that they are content to let their neighbors foot the bills for the aforementioned on their behalf. I wonder why anyone would choose to live in a planned community like this and not feel an obligation to contribute?

The fact is there are a number of homes in our Community not bound by the Universal Village Declaration. This is what happens to a Community that is over 60 years old. However, over 98% of all residents do in fact pay their bills to maintain this place in the condition we have become accustomed. A very big "Thank You!" to all of you! We couldn't do it without your support.

I will end this by saying that even though the weather has been mild, we are ready for any change. Our roads are in good shape, we have replaced a number of troubling drains, trees are trimmed back, vendors are prepared to supplement the Town's snow plowing or to clean up any storm damage we encounter.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of the volunteers who serve on our Village Committees and as officers of the Peninsula Council. They all give considerable time and energy with no compensation other than knowing they worked to try to make this a nice place to live. We are always looking for more volunteers so if anyone is interested please contact us. We would welcome your help.

Stay warm and enjoy the winter whether you are here in New Seabury or points south,

Dick Noonan

Winter 2023 NEW HOMEOWNERS

Bright Coves

Scott and Tabitha Carey
Harvey and Patricia Israelian
Michael Mercier and Amy Foy

Fells Pond

Patricia Hertz and Meshulam
Plaves

Greensward

Matthew George
Andrew Kramer
Tam Le

Little Neck Bay

Paul and Ana Boyne

Promontory Point B

Scott and Lori Vetstein

Summer Sea

Prescott White and Adam Eckart

Tidewatch

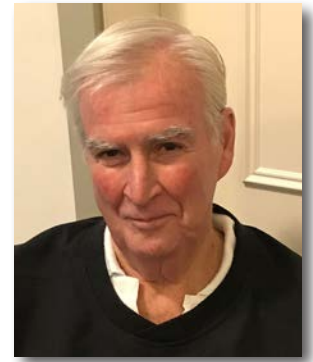
Tomas Yosef-Or and Matthew
Biladeau

Vineyard Reach

Doug and Mary Hajjar

Executive Director's Report

Mike Richardson



“Turn Out The Lights, The Party Is Over”, a commonly heard refrain from “Dandy” Don Meredith on Monday Night Football when the end was obvious. Well, so goes the refrain for the Patriots this ugly season, and perhaps for Tom Brady, aka the GOAT. Will he or will he not come back in a different city and uniform? Send me your predictions.

2022 went out pretty quietly weatherwise, as we ended yet another year here in New Seabury; however, we are seeing expenses catching up with revenue in many Villages. We have had the luxury of quite conservative costs for many years, but things are starting to catch up with us. Not only are vendor charges increasing, the cost of supplies are as well and the cost of maintaining our infrastructure is also. This three-legged stool is beginning to wobble.

Sixty plus years of weather, construction traffic, increased population, and simple use has a way of taking the shine off the top. We continue to keep things running and for the most part looking good, but occasionally when you look under the sheets, the real body looks worn. That applies to primarily roads and drains. What you see may look fine, what is below the surface is what keeps me awake at night.

We will be undertaking some special work in 2023 to encapsulate the roads and drains even more deeply than in the past with a more proactive effort to see if we can't get out in front of these issues.

Additionally, your Peninsula Council Officers have spent a good deal of time looking at the *Peninsula Council* structure, its leadership (me), our vendors, and the potential of working with additional management organizations - all for the benefit of succession planning, and as a result we have entertained a couple of pilot projects. As one famous person said, “all things change, yet all things remain the same”...we may look different with different names; however, the bottom line should look the same. Stay tuned for more of the same happening as time goes on.

We will try to continue to populate the *Peninsula Reporter* with specifics on what is happening for all.

Rest assured that we haven't seen the end of winter yet, and that February and March can and probably will bring some challenges in terms of snow, but we are prepared. We've done some tree trimming and brush cutback, and have a couple of vendors ready and willing to help with plowing as necessary. We have replaced many gas lights with solar and will continue to do so, hopefully, with better solar lights as they are developed. We are looking at all our speed bumps and signage as well as other traffic controls. Our population continues to increase along with more trucks and cars.

Lastly, we say good bye to Peggy Bone who has been a stalwart in the office. Not much ever got by her, and much of our process has been designed and implemented by her. There comes a time for everyone to try something different, and she and Tom are going to spend more time with family and just enjoy living in New Seabury. She goes with my undying gratitude for the great work she has provided to all. Please, when seeing her out and about, take a moment to thank her.

So, as we end one year and come into another, stay healthy, stay happy, and keep the faith. We work for you and so let us know how we are doing.

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Special Maintenance Report

Tom Caston



After several unexpected expenditures, we are still able to end 2022 in reasonably good financial shape. One of our major expenses was for storm drain repair and replacement. Unfortunately, we still have additional work to complete on the drains this coming spring. We are also faced with higher than expected electric repairs. Even with additional expenses, we ended the year with our reserves at \$600,000.

Our walking trails have been cleared and are in good shape for winter walkers. We are surveying all our signage and replacing them where necessary. To date, no major projects have been planned for this year. As prices continue to rise, we are in close contact with all vendors to review any cost increases.

Let's hope the snow and ice continues to stay in the mountains this winter.

SAVE THE DATE

Peninsula Council New Seabury Howmowners Sixteenth Annual Golf Classic Ocean Course Monday, July 31, 2023 at Noon Stay Tuned for More Details



ARC Report

Matt Philbrick
ARC Administrator



As we enter into 2023, we have many exciting new projects that homeowners are taking on. Whether you are looking to add a fence for the new puppy you got for Christmas, wanting to add a generator to keep your home cozy for the unexpected storms we commonly have on Cape Cod, or are looking to give your house a refresh for the upcoming year, the ARC is here for you!

With the current cold weather, the majority of the projects we have been involved in lately have been roof replacements and tree removal. As always, we ask that you give us a call or shoot us a quick email to discuss how we can best help you with your home improvement needs as well as answering any questions you may have.

If you are making any changes to the exterior of your home: painting, roofing, siding, window/door replacement, decking, major landscaping, additions or removing trees (over 6" in diameter), please contact our office (arc@peninsulacouncil.com) to determine if a permit is needed. If you are undertaking a project that requires a Mashpee Building Permit, please contact our office right away, as the Town will not issue you a permit until you have an ARC permit on file. The permits that are issued are good for six months so get those requests in today!

Thank you in advance for your continued cooperation.

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Architectural Review Administrator



BNO with Silver Beach at 95 Shore

The fall/winter edition of a Boys Night Out group enjoyed an evening at 95 Shore listening to the music of Silver Beach on January 26. Ashley and Kenny are pictured with the group. They played tunes that were so familiar and we ended up with the music challenge of trying to remember both the name of the songs and the original artists. It's truly amazing how smart we are (with cell phones at the ready). In addition, Chef Mark had some appetizer recommendations of which all were quite enjoyable. Given you have the opportunity, wander over when Silver Beach is playing and enjoy a fun night.

Left to right: Charlie Reidy, Kenny, Ashley, yours truly, Matt Philbrick, Jon Furbush and Bob Caggiano. Dick Noonan was the photographer.

Mike Richardson





Village Reports

Bright Coves

Marjorie Clapprood
Email: mclapprood@aol.com

Hoping you all had a great holiday season....and are excited about what 2023 has in store for us all. ;-)

Couple of observations from the last few weeks: We trekked out into our oddly mercurial weather on walks with our dog, Jacckt (hint: if you're looking for an incentive to get out more, walk/exercise more, get to know your neighbors etc, get a dog!) and remarked on how one day it's balmy in the 50s, next day it's a raw freezing rain that blows sideways! Never a dull moment! The second observation actually comes from living in such a walkable neighborhood. We met new neighbors just moving in (how do we get involved?), veterans of the original Village formation of Bright Coves from the 60s (where can I send photos and stories from back in the beginning?), and friends (some "old" buds, some new friends we just hadn't met yet) who told stories of planning an outdoor wedding for this summer, needing a recommendation for a plumber, buying an old house that needs renovating, building a new house that needs everything....you get the drift. We shared info where we could, but always referred folks to the website, (www.peninsulacouncil.com), and encouraged them to add their names to the email list. If I'd stayed inside (tempting proposition) I would've missed all the stories and people! So, I encourage you all to do the same - get out and see what you find - read the *Reporter*, and come to meetings of the Peninsula Council to meet folks and get involved...here are some things on the agenda you might want to learn more about:

- we are a neighborhood of Villages - do you know them all? check out the website...Bright Coves is one of the "original six", but most of New Seabury's neighborhoods are Villages too;
- what services does Peninsula Council offer to most if not all Villages? maintenance of roads, infrastructure, drainage, landscaping, lighting.... lots of things that you might think are provided by New Seabury or the town of Mashpee - but no, we are much more grassroots and always looking for leadership and involvement;
- who takes care of the beaches? the spit?
- what changes in the future will impact us all as residents? septic system changes are coming that has been in the news (*Cape Cod Times*) and sometimes national papers (*New York Times*) and challenges to our water quality is central;
- who's your team that runs the Peninsula Council and how is that changing?
All these questions and more are all important, so get started with the website, and google.com or drop me a line; we're always looking for more neighbors to get involved!!

Stay warm, dry, and safe....hope to see you out there walking the roads, crossing the bridges and celebrating the beaches....they belong to us all, let's take good care of them!

Marjorie Clapprood
Chairman, Bright Coves
mclapprood@aol.com



Fells Pond

Catherine Power

Email: cpower148@comcast.net

Greetings! Happy Winter!

After an unusually warm autumn, winter has arrived - so far, so good. We've had a little light snowfall with lots of wind and rain, but nothing catastrophic. Compared to last year at this time, some roads in Fells Pond looked like a disaster area!

Our Village looks great, thanks to Quality Tree and Coriste Landscaping. Let's keep it that way - it's up to you to maintain your property.



Remember - before you start any renovations or tree removal you must contact the ARC for permits. We have replaced gas mantles on posts and where possible, replaced them with solar lights.

I'm still asking for volunteers to be on the Fells Pond Committee to oversee landscaping, tree trimming, etc. I'll remain in contact with Solitude Lake Management. It would also be helpful if you see trash, bottles or cans by the roadside, just pick it up!

Stay well! Enjoy the beauty of our neighborhood.

GREENSWARD

Darlene Furbush

I hope you are all well and enjoying wherever this winter finds you.

We have had a mild winter season thus far. Those of us who are on Cape were able to enjoy a "White Christmas". Don't worry, the snow didn't last long, but long enough for folks to enjoy it; I know my family and I did. As I write this, we have had another winter coating.

If the weather stays on this track, the Village will spend less money on road sanding and plowing than we have in past years. It may also translate into less winter damage to our bushes and trees and less cleanup. Now, keep in mind I am writing this article in mid-January so we do have a while to go and may face some winter surprises.

Enjoy the next couple months. Spring will be arriving before we know it, and those of you that are in other parts of the country will begin to plan your travel back to New Seabury.



Photo by
Darlene Furbush

HIGHWOOD

Rick Deubert

Email: rdeubert@gmail.com

Last January 7th, I was writing the Highwood article during our first significant snowfall of the season, following a big Nor'easter on October 27th that created havoc in New Seabury. So far, this winter season is starting out relatively mild, with nothing weather-wise to talk about. But, as New Englanders know, things can change in a minute.

Nothing new to report on the status quo of Highwood Village. In the coming year, we need to get together and discuss our finances and consider an increase in our Village dues to buffer our reserve funds for future road and drainage work. Time is running short before these items will become major expenses that we currently don't have the money for.

Please note that the Peninsula Council only does brush pickup once a year, typically at the end of May, before the start of the summer season. Please do not put brush out along the street any other time of the year; it will not get picked up. This service is paid for by your Village dues and is limited to small sticks and branches less than six inches in diameter. If a tree falls on your property, it is your responsibility to have the branches and logs removed, please don't expect the Village to pay for its removal. Please do not allow your landscaper to place brush and logs at the curb expecting the Village to pay for their disposal. Disposal of branches and cleaning our streets comes out of our very limited budget, so please do what you can to minimize this Village expense. Please ask your landscaper to clean the street and any storm drains in front of your house when they come to service your property.

In general, most of our Highwood residents are of the same mindset, having selected our Village to live in over other Villages in New Seabury because of its more rural environment and appreciation for its natural setting. Look around New Seabury and be thankful that

Highwood Village managed to save a large percentage of its natural environment. Take the time to observe and learn about the native plants that are in the undisturbed portion of your property and along the Highwood trails. The brush that some may find undesirable are likely to be Lowbush Blueberry, Bayberry, Inkberry, Teaberry, Black Huckleberry, Winterberry or Bearberry. If you would like to learn more about the native plants of Cape Cod you can go to the following website: <https://capecodnativeplants.org/find-plants/>. Get to know them, enjoy them, appreciate them, and most of all, preserve them. This land was once home to the Wampanoag, we should be respectful of that and not indiscriminately clear forest and natural vegetation and replace it with acres of grass lawn or unnatural landscaping.



It is also good to get to know the invasive species and to do your best to eradicate them. Here are some of the species you may find on your property that spread uncontrollably and lead to the destruction of native trees and vegetation: Black Locust, Sassafras, Virginia Creeper (Woodbine), Green (Bull) Briar and Honeysuckle.

It is always great to see people out on our scenic Highwood Village trails, enjoying everything they have to offer. It has been mentioned to me in the past and recently again by a neighbor, about the tree roots in some locations of the trail and their potential tripping hazard. I would hope that anyone that enjoys the outdoors and frequents hiking trails throughout the Cape and elsewhere, realize that there are inherent natural risks and assume responsibility for our own safety when hiking. To remove the roots, fill the holes with compacted material and maintain them would cost tens of thousands of dollars. This would require an increase in your yearly Peninsula Council fees that many New Seabury residents that don't use the trails would not be willing to pay for. Please enjoy the trails in their natural state and be careful. If you are not comfortable walking the trails, stick to the roads and talk to your neighbors as you pass by. I strongly agree that the Red Trail along the east side of Rock Landing Road needs work, something I have to convince the Council to spend money on, along with the trail on the west side of the road.

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Interesting Note: Wiffletree Ride is one of the main trails that cuts across our Village between The Hacking Circle and The Hunt Circle. Out of curiosity I did a Google search to find out what kind of tree this was, and why did they select it as a name for one of our horseback riding trails. By now my horse-loving neighbor, Shirley is saying, Rick where have you been living, under a rock? That's because a wiffletree is not a tree but a crossbar that is attached to the traces of a draft horse and to the vehicle or implement that the horse is pulling.

As always, don't hesitate to contact me or Mariana if you have any concerns, questions, or suggestions regarding High Wood Village or the Peninsula Council.

Our next report will be in the May 2023 issue of the *Reporter*. Whether you choose to get outside for some winter activity, or just sit by a fire and read a book, I hope you enjoy the winter for what it's worth. Think snow

The News

Wayne Luther

Email: wayneluther70351@gmail.com



Happy Winter! We hope your holidays were great and that you're enjoying the winter, whether in the cold temperatures of New England or a warmer climate elsewhere.

Our neighborhood continues to evolve, as homeowner projects progress through the fall and winter. Several home and yard renovations are underway with anticipated completion dates in time for this coming summer season.

All of our 2022 fence replacement projects have been completed. If you have a fence in need of replacement that abuts a common area, please let a Committee member know. The cost of replacing the fence is shared 50/50 with the homeowner when one side of the fence faces a common area.

Our Village is one of many in New Seabury that have their own Declaration. We do not fall under the New Seabury Universal Declaration that governs the original six Villages. The most recent version of our Declaration dates from 2008. This winter, we'll be working to update some language in our Declaration in order to bring it into current vernacular and to reflect any changes that have been made in our neighborhood since 2008. This will be done as an amendment to our current Declaration, not a new Declaration. Homeowners will receive a copy as soon as it's complete, and we will vote on its acceptance at our 2023 Annual Village Meeting.

Also this winter, we are transitioning our Village to a third party property management company from Peninsula Council management. This change is part of a larger strategic initiative begun by the Peninsula Council to disburse property management responsibilities across multiple sources. We are part of the pilot program, and are the third Village considering the move to this model, behind the Sandalwood and Poppy Place Villages. Our 2023 budget will be minimally affected by the transition. All other Villages may be asked to consider migrating to this model in 2024. While we value the great relationship we have with the Peninsula Council (who will continue to guide and advise us), we're happy to be a part of the pilot program still under their umbrella. This new property management will be largely invisible to homeowners, much like the ARC transition to third party management last year. More on what's happening and how this will work will be communicated in the coming weeks.

We'll stay in touch with future news and developments. Have a great winter!

The Mews Patio Homes Committee
Wayne Luther
Rob Bogosian
Pat Frechette
Patty Donohue



Popponesset Island

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Happy New Year! Here's hoping 2023 is a year filled with making wonderful memories on Poppy Island! For those who spent the December holidays on Poppy Island, they woke up to a white Christmas thanks to a December 24th snowfall...a rare treat on the Cape! December and January also brought some heavy rains

that tested our newly installed drainage system at the lowest point on Popponesset Island Road. We are thrilled to report the drains performed beautifully and the road was as "dry as a bone"! Thanks to everyone for weathering (pun intended ☺) the road closure as we implemented this project in late November. Key to the success was the development of an engineering design before implementation. While this was an added cost, we now have drawings showing what's in our street for future generations. A big shout out to our neighbor and board member, Joel Zeger, for all his hard work to bring this project to fruition! In 2023, we will explore other drainage issues to continue to improve our roads.

New Seabury is a beautiful place in the "season" but equally captivating in the winter, albeit in a different way. The winter sunrises over the Spit as viewed from Poppy Island produce vivid reds and oranges while you still see the ducks gathering at our shores and Canadian geese flying in their V formation as they honk along their migration south. Because of the usually later winter on the Cape, birds stay longer on the Cape before migrating. January brought sightings of Red Northern Cardinals and Blue Jays, tufted titmouse's and finches. Walks on the Spit are a great way to see the winter beauty around us. So, layer up and explore! Snap some photos of winter and spring birds and we'll share them in our next article! Better yet, participate in the global "Great Backyard Bird Count GBBC" from February 17- 20, 2023.

Spend time in your favorite places watching birds. In as little as 15 minutes, identify them, count them and submit the information to help scientists better understand and protect birds around the world. Fun activity with kids and grandkids! More info at: Birdcount.org. In the 2022 GBBC, participants from over 192 countries identified 7,099 species of birds. Okay, enough of my nerdy side!

BUILDING POPPY: Poppy Island continues to welcome new families as well as next generation owners. As a result, much building is going on with two new constructions finishing up, home and dock renovations underway as well as plans for at least three new homes on the drawing board! Construction will certainly pick up in the warmer months so be mindful of the trucks; and owners of the construction please emphasize the 15mph speed limit on our streets as well as a plan for parking as we have narrow streets that must be clear for our neighbors and emergency vehicles.

COMING UP: We will be replacing faded speed limit signs and upgrading non-working gas lights to solar as well as adding some "Stop" signs at intersections with PI Road. A monkey survey will be coming out this quarter to ask for resident feedback on key priorities for our island. Please keep an eye out for the email and take the time to give us your thoughts! With the wonderful positive feedback from our August old fashioned potluck Block Party and to continue to promote community, we plan to hold a potluck again, but earlier in the season. More to come!

BRIDGE SIGNALS: Please continue to proceed with caution as you cross our bridge. While the signals appear to be working they will sometimes not work properly. We have had the company come out a few times and they have not yet been able to determine the cause. We will continue to work with them and may need to install new signal trip sensors. In the meantime, heed the "SIGNAL OUT SLOW" signs and proceed with caution so you can react to any oncoming traffic.

CAPE COD TIPS FROM NEIGHBORS: The Salt Lake Visitors Center in Eastham is sponsoring its annual Cape Cod National Seashore Winter Film Festival (Sunday afternoons, free admission). Check them out: www.fccns.org/new-events/. The Cape Cod Symphony (www.capesymphony.org) has several great programs going on over the winter including a Roaring 20s theme complete with silent films. The town of Yarmouth is hosting its first annual Winter Carnival featuring an ice skating rink.

continued on page 13

SPIT STORM DAMAGE: The December storms also caused substantial dune erosion on the Spit, particularly the area opposite Poppy Island. A healthy spit is vital to the environmental health of the area including Poppy Island's coast and waters. To combat the recent storm damage, it is critical that 5,000 cubic yards of sand be installed as soon as possible, at a cost of \$250k. This effort, spearheaded by Save Popponesset Bay (SPB), is fully dependent upon donations. For Poppy Island residents, donations to SPB actually protect our homes. You can also purchase a cubic yard of sand to give to young aspiring environmentalists to teach them the value of sustaining and supporting our environment. Please check out the latest work of SPB on page 28.



New drainage on Poppy Island after major rain: DRY!



Osprey nest waiting for Spring as the sun rises over Popponesset Bay

Enjoy the winter tranquility on Poppy Island as we await the March return of the Ospreys to Poppy Island to lay their eggs and raise their young!

Your PIA team,
Margie, Dave, Joel and Karen



Full Wolf Moon over the Spit



Ducks greet the Winter Sunrise



A white Christmas on Poppy Island

Poppy Place

George Bell
Email: gbell@ebsrr.com

Welcome from your Cape winter wonderland. The holidays were a special time at Poppy Place with many residents sharing the joy of the season with festive decorations. As an added nod to the season, we were blanketed with two inches of snow on Christmas Eve.

As the year ended, the Poppy Place Board is happy to report that we have followed up on the minimum rental amendment which was approved at our annual meeting in August. In the spirit of compromise, we have finalized for Community presentation and vote, a phased in two-week minimum rental over a four year period.

On another important subject, the Board has been asked by the Peninsula Council if we would like to participate in a “pilot” in which our current property manager, Peninsula Council, would transition to Distinctive Property Services. We are currently evaluating the pros and cons of this significant change.

The Board is also in the process of creating a 2023 Budget and its associated HOA Fee. Our actual expenses for 2022 came in over budget, primarily due to the much needed and long overdue repairs necessary to make the common area irrigation system operational.



The community is looking forward to a wonderful year ahead. We are very blessed by the commitment of all homeowners as we, together, maintain and improve Poppy Place.

Promontory Point 6A

Betty Barrett
Email: bcarey 301@msn.com



Happy 2023!

Hope you and yours are all healthy and that the winter months are treating everyone well.

It has been a peaceful start to the winter season so far in Promontory Point. The holiday season started with a white Christmas that brought an added layer of beauty and quiet to our community. At least for the two days that the snow lasted!

And then the rains/wind began! Although the rain storms haven't caused any tree damage in Promontory Point, they have taken a toll on the local beaches—sand trucks have been a constant presence bringing sand to restore New Seabury's beach and protect the dunes. This restoration work seems to be making good progress, as the photos show.

continued on page 15

Promontory Point is ready for the winter season with landscapes cleaned and stakes in place to protect corners from plow damage. The start of a New Year is also a good time to update your contact information with our property manager. Please email Distinctive Property Services (info@distinctiveprops.com) with any updates to your contact information, particularly email and cell phone number, which are important particularly in case of emergencies.

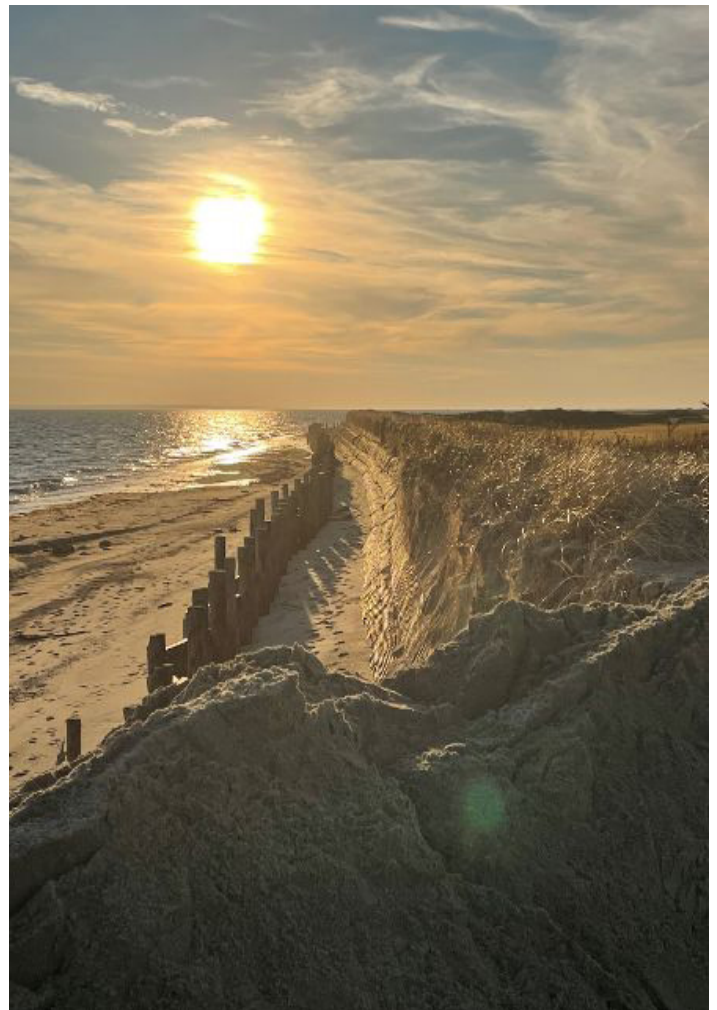
Stay well and enjoy the rest of your winter season. We look forward to seeing everyone in the spring.



New Seabury beach restoration in progress.



White Christmas 2022!



The rain and wind storms have taken a toll on our beaches

Sandalwood

Karyn O'Connor
Email: ciao713@gmail.com

Happy New Year to all of Sandalwood's residents! We hope that you and yours are blessed with health and happiness in 2023.

Your Board of Directors has been busy finalizing the 2022 year-end financials, preparing the 2023 budget and defining any projects that will be necessary for the continued care and maintenance of our Village. We don't anticipate any large expenditures this year, but we've budgeted for that contingency – if all goes well we should be able to put money into the Operating Reserve fund for 2023.



The 2022 year-end financial statements, 2023 budget and dates for Board meetings including the Annual Meeting will be posted to the Sandalwood website in February. Please log in to access this information.

We are planning to extend this year's Annual Meeting to include a Village get-together. In order to accommodate this the meeting will be scheduled later in the afternoon - so please mark your calendars once the meeting is announced. We have had so many new residents over the past few years and the Annual Meeting is a great opportunity to bring everyone together for some fun!

The good news is that our residents continue to update and beautify their homes with painting, siding, landscaping and hardscaping – the bad news is that the vendors are placing their signs in your yards to advertise their expertise. Please be aware that Sandalwood does not allow vendor yard signs to be displayed. Please make sure your vendor is aware of the rules and that they comply.

We will continue to aggressively collect any past due association or special fees that are in arrears. Along with assessing a substantial interest penalty to past due accounts we are using legal means for collection – this may include property liens. The cost of maintaining the Village is only going up and residents who don't pay on time or at all are taking advantage of the goodwill of all of our responsible neighbors. Please pay your fees on time.

Unfortunately we have to continue to remind everyone to pick up after your dog and to drive the Village speed limit of 20 MPH – it's just the right thing to do!

We hope all of Snowbirds are enjoying their warm weather – see you in the spring!



Summer Sea

Risa Schneider Fine

Chair: Fredda Zaiger

Email: freddazaiger@gmail.com



We hope that you had a good holiday and that 2023 treats all the Summer Sea residents kindly. Here in New Seabury we had a beautiful fall and a very mild winter (so far). We just had our first snowfall and the snow has already melted. For those of you who have left New Seabury for the winter season, the sales cottage near the entrance was taken down and the construction of Ockway Village is slowing down. However, other construction projects in New Seabury seem to be booming.



Holly trees with their clusters of red berries decorate the winter landscape. Photo by Risa Schneider-Fine

Please note that twigs, branches, and other lawn debris are picked up the week before Memorial Day if it is left curbside. If you can, please take advantage of this service. Do not use the empty lots as dumping grounds.

Looking forward to seeing you in the spring. Until then, take good care.

Fredda, Bill, Risa, Doug, Judy, Julie, & Larry



This spectacular color pallet brings with it a fresh start and a good omen! Photo by Fredda Zaiger



A typical January day in Summer Sea.
Photo by Barbara Gubitose

TRITON SOUND

Jarred Sherman

Email: jarredsherman@gmail.com



Happy New Year, Triton Sound! We hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season, and were able to spend time with friends and family.

This winter on Triton Sound feels like a partial repeat of last year so far with December warmer than usual, and just a bit of snow returning in January. Hopefully, the storms will remain light, and spring will be here before we know it! As a reminder, please continue to have your homes checked to avoid freeze-ups and damage. And if neighbors notice anything unusual, please reach out to our fellow homeowners, or directly to me.

Our financials ended 2022 in a good position, and in line with our budget. We have begun the planning process for the upcoming year, keeping in mind the increasing cost pressures we are feeling from a variety of services being performed. We plan to keep the neighborhood looking great, and everything in running smoothly. Invoices for this year were sent out in early January, so please make your payments promptly! For those of you who have already done so - it's much appreciated.

As always, please stay safe everyone, and free to contact me with any questions or suggestions.

Vineyard Reach

Connie Strait

Email: isee Strait@yahoo.com

It's winter at Vineyard Reach, but inside our homes here we enjoy the warmth from our cozy fireplaces. While several neighbors go South to enjoy the warm weather, the best thing about leaving our wonderful neighborhood is knowing that we are a gated community. Our Board of Directors has remained busy and one important item they have been working on is the latest new gate technology and software to be installed in March along with video cameras. We certainly can brag that we have one of the best run Homeowners Associations with outstanding financials and planned maintenance projects that continue to keep our neighborhood charm and make living in Vineyard Reach the very desirable community it is. Our name says it all when it comes to having the best address in Cape Cod!



Photo by Connie Strait



Country Club Happenings

LIFESTYLE & TRAVEL



Pictured: Private Cabanas surround the pool at the Athletic Club. The Athletic Club also features racquet sports, a fitness center, and bocce.

A staycation, by definition, is a period in which an individual or family stays close to home, participates in leisure activities within a day's travel distance of their home, and requires modest overnight accommodation.

THE NEW SEABURY

STAYCATION

Some staycationers like to follow a particular set of rules, such as planning ahead and avoiding routine, with the goal of creating the feel of a traditional vacation close to home.

By Phillip Crawford

The point of a staycation is that you are staying in your general area. Passport? Nope. expensive flight, or a visa? No need. Yet, you are still venturing out to a new place that you haven't really been to.

Planning a staycation can drastically cut the costs of your vacation. Your transport to and from your destination will definitely be less than a flight, as you're not going very far.

"My family and I have visited the Club at New Seabury multiple times over the years," says Haley Simao, a Rhode Island-based lifestyle and travel blogger. "It's our family's hidden gem."

For Haley and others like her, The Club at New Seabury is a short distance over the Bourne Bridge and is easy to access from Rhode Island and other surrounding areas of Massachusetts.

Although The Club at New Seabury is a premier, private golf community, Staycationers looking to access the property can do so as lodging guests.

The Club at New Seabury offers lodging with access to their open and available amenities, including the beach, pool, athletic club, tennis, golf (with fees), and dining at their five venues, for you and your guests.

A staycation destination like The Club at New Seabury that offers premium amenities and lodging options makes your staycation feel like a luxurious vacation. *"It has everything you need for a relaxing getaway"* Haley in a recent blog post.



GETTING THERE

Just a short distance over the Bourne Bridge. 4pm, Check-in. Located in Mashpee, MA.

STAYING THERE

The Club at New Seabury is extending their rental availability to the community and is offering a 10% discount for calling and mentioning this article. 508.539.8322, option 6

An April study by Bankrate, a personal finance site, found that 69 percent of American adults who say they will vacation this summer anticipate making changes to their plans because of inflation, with 25 percent traveling shorter distances and 23 percent planning less-expensive activities.

Among people planning to take time off, a staycation was the second most popular option, behind heading to the beach.

While this doesn't mean that travel is completely axed, it does reflect that, for the third summer in a row, staycations are expected to be a significant part of the mix.

As for Haley and her family, the idea of another staycation at The Club at New Seabury is imminent. *"We had such a great mini-stay and can't wait to visit this year as well!"*

THE CAPE OUTDOORS

Rick Deubert

Email: rdeubert@gmail.com

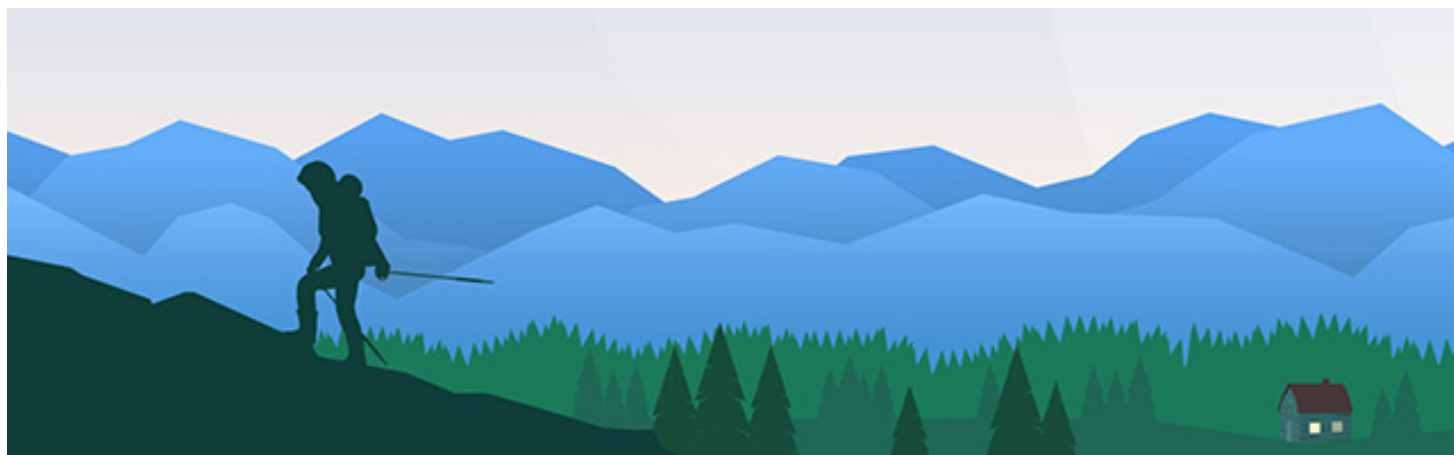
Those of you that have read my Highwood Village write-ups probably noticed that I like to promote outdoor activity. I always have a lot to say about this topic; more than I can fit in the Highwood article. So I decided to write a separate article on outdoor activities for those that may want to venture out past the trails of New Seabury. We'll stick with hiking in this issue and save biking and kayaking adventures for the summer months.

For those who were wondering, yes, I'm the one that hiked the Tour du Mont Blanc in September, but you don't have to hike the Alps or even the White Mountains to get some exercise and enjoy nature; there are endless trails on the Cape to enjoy.

Let's start with New Seabury. There are 3.4 miles of trails in Highwood Village, and the ¾ mile Orange Trail that runs along Shore Drive from Triton Way, through the Triton rotary to Popponesset Marketplace. The Green Trail runs along the west side of Rock Landing Road followed by a beautiful wooded trail along Great Oak Road around the golf driving range. This used to be the most popular trail in New Seabury until it was dissected by the new Ockway Village development on Rock Landing Road. So far I have been unsuccessful in getting this trail connection re-established. These trails are owned and maintained by the Peninsula Council for everyone in New Seabury to enjoy. It is worth noting that the Highwood bridle trails were no longer used and overgrown until about 25 years ago when Highwood resident Bob Biemer suggested that they be cleared and maintained. I have also been told that Jackie and Caroline Kennedy road horses on the trails back in the 60s. The former horse paddock along Fish Hook Pond is no longer there.

A map of the perimeter blue and red trails that circumnavigate Highwood Village can be obtained from the mail box by Frogs Leap Pond on Rock Landing Road. If you're interested in exploring the trails that bisect Highwood Village, I developed a map of all of the trails in Highwood. I can send you a pdf file of the map if you send me an e-mail.

There are an endless number of trails on the Cape that you can get out and explore, one unique from the other. I'll pick a few each issue to highlight. A local hike that you may want to try is the Lowell Holly Reservation Trail to Wakeby Pond. The Lowell Holly Reservation woods are uniquely different from most of Cape Cod, generally void of pitch pine and white pine typically found on the Cape. This 135-acre reservation is named for its donor, Abbott Lawrence Lowell, and it stands of some 250 native American holly trees, which grow naturally only along the New England coast. While the reservation is a rare example of a Cape Cod old-growth forest, it also reflects the horticultural tastes of Lowell, former president of Harvard University, who added scattered plantings of rosebay and catawba rhododendrons throughout the reservation. Later, Wilfred Wheeler, Sr., a former Massachusetts Secretary of Agriculture and an enthusiastic member of the American Holly Society, enhanced the landscape by planting



The Cape Cod Nordic Walking Club meets for strolls with poles; they can be found on Facebook. Don't be intimidated by the name, they're people just like you. My wife Jackie just joined. The club started in June 2022 as a way for people to learn how to Nordic Walk with trekking poles. You will use 90% of your muscles while Nordic Walking and expend more than 40% more calories than regular walking. Additionally, you will meet many wonderful new friends and socialize while you exercise.

Welcome to Lowell Holly

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THINGS TO DO

WHAT YOU'LL FIND

play explore wander

What makes Lowell Holly a special place?

After visiting the sandy shoreline along Lowell Holly's two freshwater ponds, you'll appreciate why the area was once called "Lowell's Beach."

This 130-acre reservation is named for its donor, Robert Lawrence Lowell, and its stretch of some 250 native American history trees (the oldest, which grew naturally only along the New England coast). While the reservation is a rare example of a Cape Cod-style growth forest, it also reflects the horticultural tastes of Lowell, former president of Harvard University, who added scattered plantings of flowering and ornamental trees to the grounds. Later, Michael Wheeler, Sr., a former Massachusetts Secretary of Agriculture and an arborist, member of the American Horticultural Society, enhanced the landscape by planting 60 varieties of American Oaks.

Ideas for your visit

Lowell Holly offers the tranquility of Mashpee and Wolsey Ponds—both ponds are stocked with fish—and goes through the grounds a lovely meadow. The grounds, which are open to the public, provide an opportunity for walking off when the mercury rises, and even, perhaps, enjoy other spectacular views. The northeast portion of Concord Neck provides a spectacular picnic site.

What you should know:

- Property is reserved from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Hunting is prohibited.
- Leave nothing but footprints and memories only.

Thetrustees.org is the only place to get the latest news on events and programs. Visit our website for more information on our programs and events. Photos courtesy of the Trustees of Reservations.

thetrustees.org

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A New Seabury South BNO in Naples. Submitted by Paul Stenberg

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SAVE THE DATE 2023 BRUSH PICKUP

The following Villages will have Spring Brush Pickup the week of May 22:

BRIGHT COVES
THE MEWS

FELLS POND
SANDALWOOD

GREENSWARD
SUMMERSEA

HIGHWOOD
TRITON SOUND

The annual Brush Pickup this year will take place the week before Memorial Day. The dates are 5/22 - 5/26/2023. Brush will NOT be picked up before those dates, and we will NOT be picking up brush after those dates as part of this program.

Brush placed out at other times will NOT be picked up and is the responsibility of the homeowner. Should the Peninsula Council have to remove brush at other times, we will bill the homeowner for that cost.

The goal of this program has always been to provide our residents a kick start to spring cleanup. It has never been a supplement to landscapers or tree companies who are working on residents' properties. It was and continues to be simply an effort for residents to clean up branches from trees that fall during the autumn and winter seasons.

Please do your best to line up the branches with the thicker ends street side as it makes it easier for our vendor to chip them. This is only for branches - not leaves, or trash or other debris. The maximum branch diameter allowed is six inches.

Please work with us to enable this program to be continued into the future. Village Committees have expressed concerns that this program has been abused by some residents to the point where continuing same is in question.

Thanks for your support in helping us maintain our community in beautiful shape.

THERE'S A NEW SHERIFF IN TOWN!

Welcome, Gale!

The new badge is being worn by Gale Pendergast and it carries as much authority as was wielded by Peggy Bone. In fact, Peggy has been in and out helping Gale get acclimated to the mellow operation we run here in the Peninsula Council.

Gale brings a wealth of knowledge and skills that have already proven productive as we finalize our early in the year documentation and invoicing. From all the Microsoft product set through Adobe, Dropbox, and QuickBooks (none of which I can even spell) she is off to a great start.

She has had experience in the restaurant business - "Can I have an IPA please?" - the healthcare industry, bookkeeping, office management, and professional photography. I am going to have a difficult time asking her to do anything that will surprise her, and she has already been educated by Peggy to "just say no".



Adding to her talents, she is a professional photographer and works with New Seabury realtors photographing listings and flying her drone, working as "Gale Pendergast Photography" here in Mashpee.

Please welcome Gale to our family. Stop in and say hello, or make a quick phone call and let her know she made the right choice to jump in.
Mike R.

Out *on the* Town

Bluefins Sushi & Bar

295 Main Street, Falmouth

774-763-6421

info@bluefinsfalmouth.com

Open Tuesday through Saturday Starting at 5:00 p.m.

Open Year Round Reservations Accepted

Back in 2020, we were excited to be invited to the soft opening at Bluefins Sushi & Bar in Falmouth, but as luck would have it, Covid changed our plans. We are happy to say that Bluefins is alive and well, and has been serving excellent food for several years now. This, by the way, has been verified by many New Seabury-ites.

We visited Bluefins this past December and had such a good time that we wanted to share this venue with you. Arriving early that night, we made our way to the bar to wait for our friends. There we were greeted by our friendly bartender, Alex, who was very attentive and willingly described the different types of sushi on the menu, as well as those being delivered to neighboring tables. This was a great benefit for us as we had just recently acquired a liking for sushi, were still chopstick newbies, and had little knowledge about this Oriental dish.

Before we go further..... In our continued efforts at not only alerting you to great dining opportunities, let us add to your intellectual understanding of certain dishes. Don't forget we want to alert you to good places to dine, but also make you sound like an expert at certain things, and the following will certainly help in that regard:

Sushi-cold boiled rice moistened with rice vinegar-topped with raw seafood or formed into a long seaweed wrapped roll around strips of vegetable or raw fish.

Sashimi-raw fish cut into very thin strips-often dipped into soy sauce (and maybe wasabi)

Nigiri-a topping, usually fish served on top of sushi rice

Maki-rice filling wrapped in seaweed

Temaki-sushi that has been hand rolled into a cone shape

Uramaki-similar to Maki but the rice is outside and seaweed wraps the filling

Now, don't you feel smarter already???

Now, back to our review.

Soon after our friends arrived, we were escorted to our table for six. The seating arrangement was comfortable and we had plenty of room for three shared appetizers. Each app had a taste all its own and was a smorgasbord of flavors. Delightful! Check them out:

- Korean Short Ribs (fall-off-the-bone delicious) with Hoison BBQ sauce Sesame Seeds;
- Bao Buns - Spicy Pork Vindaloo with Mango Pineapple Salsa, Spicy Beef with Asian Slaw, Pickle, Chipotle Aioli, and Bourbon Chicken with Pikliz; and
- Oysters on the Half Shell with Cocktail Sauce, Rice Vinegar Mignonette, Wasabi Relish and Lemon.

Bluefins describes itself as "having a focus on fresh, locally-sourced seafood, coupled with inspiration from local Cape Cod farm

ingredients." The menu is extensive with a concentration on sushi, but there are also plenty of items that will please the non-sushi and non-fish eater as well, and the list includes some more traditional entrees. Some at our table chose sushi while others opted for Chatham Pad Thai (to which can be added short rib, shrimp, chicken, or tofu), Chicken Teriyaki and Seared Scallops.

All in all, we found the food prepared wonderfully, the servers attentive, and the atmosphere friendly and upscale. It was very busy, especially for a Tuesday evening in the winter, so it's definitely wise to make reservations, particularly in summer.

As an additional perk, when you walk in the door, you just might be greeted by a familiar face -it's Ron Nichols with whom many of you are familiar from his days at The Club. It's like old times seeing Ron and it's always good to catch up. He has a great place in Bluefins and we've been back frequently - with reservations, of course!

MJ and Mike Richardson





Alex, well-versed in his mixology skills, is a friendly face behind the bar.



It's always good to catch up with Ron.



A respite from golf! Lisa and Dave Tacelli enjoy a night out at Bluefins.



The sushi bar.

New
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Save Popponesset Bay: Update

Eric Brandt

As the pen hits the paper and this article is drafted, it's a balmy 32 degrees outside, some sunshine is peaking through the clouds, it's the middle of winter. Yet, the water laps upon the shore and a few birds brave the cold. So goes life on Popponesset Bay.

If it were only that easy! By now you've heard about the winter storms that have already impacted our coastline, particularly the Spit. As the photos accompanying this article show, we have suffered serious erosion on both the outer and inner sides of the Spit. We've already been in contact with Mashpee regarding town assistance, and with Woods Hole Group, a leading coastal engineering firm, to determine the extent of the damage and what can and should be done to make appropriate repairs.

We've heard from a few folks regarding concern for the Spit, the maintenance of the beach, along with the need to constantly dredge inner and outer channels of Popponesset Bay. Some may think these efforts are only for our benefit, the Spit beach, the Marina, New Seabury, and Popponesset Village residents. Not true.

You may have read about the growing concern over water quality in Mashpee. There have been a few articles in national publications such as *The New York Times* as well as *The Cape Cod Times*. It's not a pretty picture. SPB has been in contact with Mashpee officials to ensure our program is aligned with overall efforts to enhance water quality in Mashpee as a partner to the Mashpee Clean Water Group. There is no doubt that water flow/management is vital to helping improve overall water quality. The dredging that SPB and the Town does

has been critical in ensuring that the Bay flushes as well as possible. While this alone will not repair the damage that has been done, it does dramatically assist with other efforts such as new filtration systems, upgrading of septic systems, proper sewage displacement, and other improvements. This collective revitalization of our water, salt water and fresh water, is something we all need to be aware of and participate in to ensure that our environment is secure for future generations to enjoy.

There is much at stake:

- Potable water
- Fresh water ponds and rivers
- Saltwater beaches and brackish waterways feeding inland estuaries
- Fish, birds, and other wildlife which thrive in our ecosystem
- Plant life of which many species act as natural filtration systems, others feed wildlife and the sea grasses which secure our dunes

Please understand that SPB is not a political organization; we are not advocating one way or another on specific solutions for the water quality issue. We do know, having been involved with several studies that there are real and growing concerns. Whether part-time or full-time residents, we all enjoy the natural beauty in which we live. We want to keep our waterways and resources clean, for our own enjoyment and that of others. Know that SPB is doing all it can to assist.

SPB cannot do this alone. We need your financial support, and we encourage you to get connected with the Town of Mashpee. Listen to the issues being

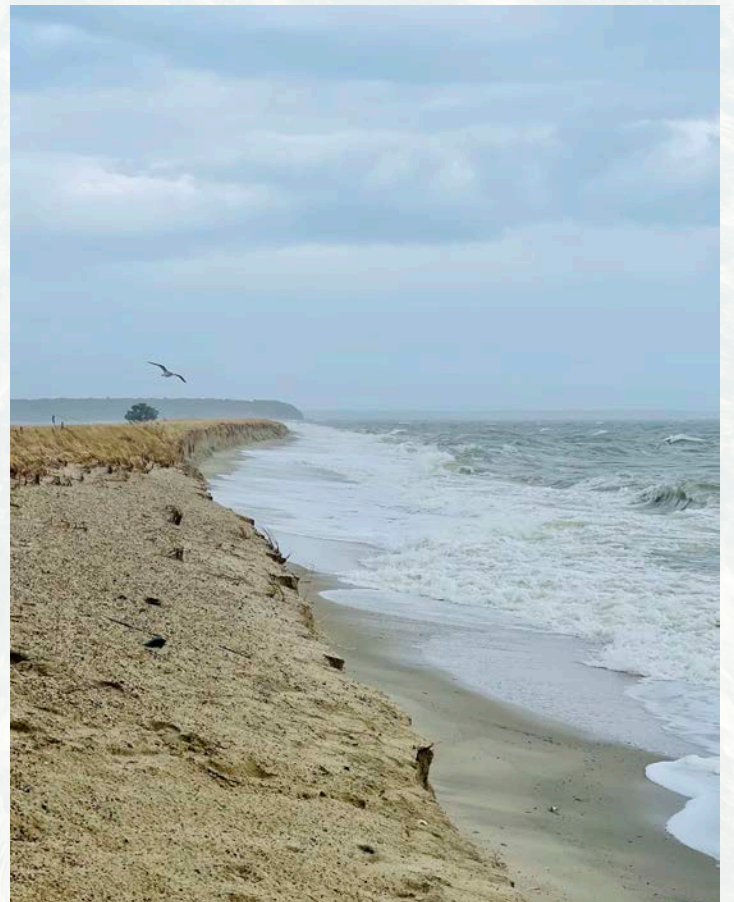
Continued to page 29

discussed and advocate for our community. This is our village; these are our homes and our livelihoods to protect. Here are some helpful links:

- To stream Town meetings and watch previous meetings - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HS74WZ2lVhY>
- Town website - www.mashpeeema.gov
- Mashpee Clean Waters - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mashpeecleanwaters/>

Looking ahead to spring and summer, SPB is planning a variety of events. Mark your calendars for Friday, July 14 for our annual summer party! We are always looking for additional volunteers to assist with numerous tasks. If you have time, just a few hours a week or month, please email savepoppybay@gmail.com with your area of interest and your contact information.

In the meantime, we hope you stay warm and healthy during the remainder of the winter months.



The winter storms have impacted our coastline causing the Spit to suffer serious erosion on the inner and outer sides.
Photos by Kathy Cramer

MEN'S SOCIAL CLUB

at New Seabury

Mike Richardson

I don't have the number of years that the Men's Club has been in existence; however, it's got to be more than 20 or 30. It started before we moved into New Seabury which was in 1998, so it has been quite a long standing opportunity for fellowship and good deeds.

One area in which the Men's Club must be proud is our Mashpee High School Scholarship involvement, since we do provide some help for those qualified graduates as they go off to higher education. Many, if not all of us, also went on to higher education at a time when things were less expensive, and if you were like me, my parents didn't have a lot to provide, nor were there many outside agencies willing to help in the process - well, maybe there was, but my high school hijinks may have prevented me from being a candidate for assistance.

This past year, I had the opportunity to attend the scholarship night at Mashpee High School to make the presentation of our five awards. I was there in addition for the Mashpee Environmental Coalition scholarship and Kiwanis. There were many other organizations there as well, and I can't tell you how wonderful it was to see and hear those graduate recipients. We all were proud of our children and what they were able to accomplish in their lives, and that feeling still sat with me during this event.

Now on to other stuff - over the years the Men's Clubs has had trips to casinos, held golf tournaments, the annual Dino's opening night (now moved to 95 Shore), breakfast meetings, canal boat rides, author luncheon speakers, Cotuit Center outings, and some shared Women's club events and discussions with Mashpee town leaders. I believe that we also had an elder living speaker as well, which brings me to the point which is what should we focus on for 2023 and beyond?

I am speculating that the luncheon or late afternoon cocktails and a speaker would be high on the list. Maybe, continue with the one or two Cotuit center events, and maybe a 9-hole tournament at a par three course followed by light appetizers. Maybe we try to mix and match so that some of the younger members (me?) have a chance to play competitive golf or a more challenging evening outing, and include some of the former stuff for those who enjoy the more relaxed opportunities.

This is a request for all members as well as those who might want to become members to provide us with some ideas that we can follow up on for the upcoming season. There is so much going on in Mashpee that I see opportunity for at least one luncheon speaker that can address the town's future.

The club is fortunate to have Joe Fisher, Bill Blaisdell and Tom Caston working at coming up with ideas along the way.

Please give it some thought and let one of us know what you think that we should consider, and even if you can't come up with something that will get you in attendance, please continue to give a little to the scholarship fund so that we can play a role in the future leaders of our town - and maybe even future members of our Men's Club.

Joe Fisher, President jfisher8623@comcast.net
Bill Blaisdell bilbla7137@gmail.com

Tom Caston castontom@aol.com
Mike Richardson mike@peninsulacouncil.com

THE CELL TOWER

Mike Richardson

Okay, so we have made progress in that the place was finally agreed upon, the area was cleared, the base was poured, and the tower is up. It took around seven years or so, but now those elementary school kids are in college where cell phones can be used to call parents for money!

I have many suggestions for design and/or disguises some not for publishing, but below are three for consideration ... not sure any would be acceptable to the Town, but it could be fun to suggest it to our Select Board to see what sort of "reception" I might get!

The town manager has advised that at a recent Select Board meeting Eversource got the town permission to install a utility pole in the area by the tower for power, and they are in process of doing so. Once power is hooked up, all is go. Six weeks is the estimated time frame.

As you know, a tower can also be defined as an antenna, so in keeping with the serious nature of all my articles, I offer the following which will absolutely generate that "oh, that's terrible" response.

Two Wi-Fi antennas got married last Thursday and the "reception" was great.

OR

As an American, it makes me so sad that nothing is made in the USA anymore; I just bought a new TV and it says "built in antenna" and I don't even know where that is?

OR, the best for last...

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Mashpee Clean Waters

That Was Then...This Is Now

We love our New Seabury community and it was painful to see a recent article in the *New York Times* that focused heavily on Mashpee. It led with a photo of the Town's Director of Natural Resources wading in the deep muck on the bottom of the Mashpee River and Popponesset Bay. The headline read:

A Toxic Stew on Cape Cod: Human Waste and Warming Water

Climate change is contributing to electric-green algae blooms. Massachusetts wants a cleanup of the antiquated septic systems feeding the mess, but it could cost billions.

This photo could not be any further from the one shared in an insert to the *Times* in 1962 announcing the launch of New Seabury. The older photo shows clean, still waters enhancing the "leisure living" experience. The contrast between these photos makes clear our dilemma. Development all around Mashpee and the Cape created a form of pollution that no one anticipated 50 years ago: excess nitrogen from our urine which enters the watershed through septic systems. The nitrogen acts as a fertilizer for algae that crowds out everything else in the waters. Improvements in septic standards under Title V in 1990 helped improve drinking water quality, but Title V systems today do not address nitrogen. So the problem continues to grow. The *Times* explains it:

The algal explosion is fueled by warming waters, combined with rising levels of nitrogen that come from

the antiquated septic systems that most of the Cape still uses. A population boom over the past half-century has meant more human waste flushed into toilets, which finds its way into waterways...The result: Expanding aquatic dead zones and shrinking shellfish harvests. The collapse of vegetation like eelgrass, a buffer against worsening storms...Together, the changes threaten the natural features that define Cape Cod and have made it a cherished destination for generations.

As this problem became more obvious, the Town of Mashpee began a testing program and developed a Nitrogen Management Plan, approved in 2015 by the Town and the EPA. The funding for Phase 1 of the Plan was delayed for many years, but was finally unanimously approved at Mashpee Town Meeting in 2021. Just last month, ground was broken for the Phase 1 water treatment system located near the transfer station. This was just one of many Phases that must be implemented.

Where does this leave us? The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has

announced that it will soon be issuing new regulations requiring towns to implement plans to mitigate nitrogen within 20 years. Mashpee must and will update its plan to include all sections of the town. Where sewerage is not practical or feasible, innovative alternative septic (called I/A's) will be required. We will need to pay closer attention to fertilizers and storm water drainage, the other key causes of the problem. Much work has been done, but much more work will be required to design funding mechanisms for this work.

The damage from nitrogen pollution can be reversed. Scientists tell us that within just a few years of removing



NYTIMES.COM

A Toxic Stew on Cape Cod: Human Waste and Warming Water

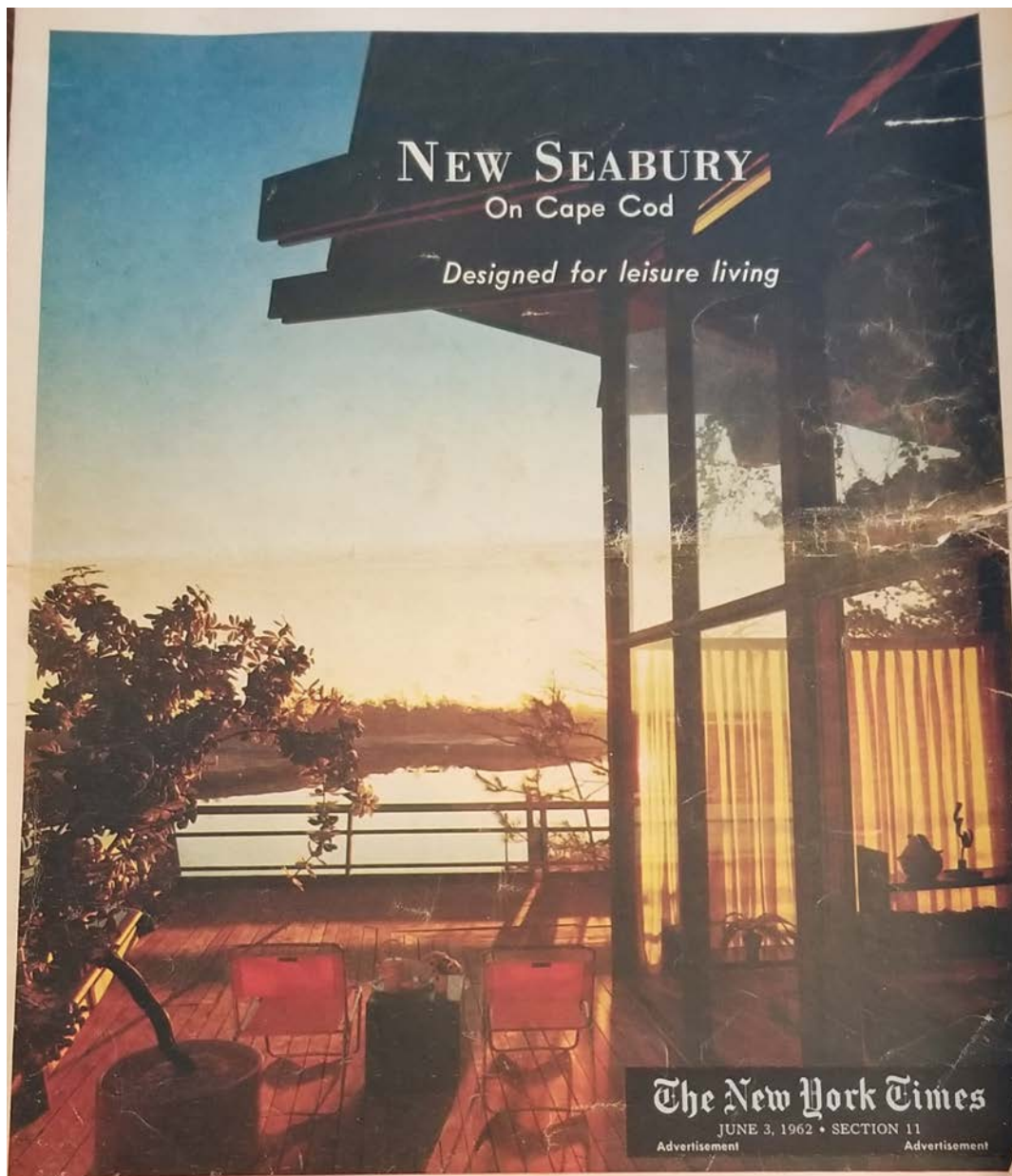
Climate change is contributing to electric-green algae blooms. Massachusetts wa...

Mashpee's Director of Natural Resources wades in deep muck on the bottom of the Mashpee River and Popponesset Bay (a screenshot of the *New York Times* link on Facebook).

the sources of excess nitrogen, nature can begin to heal itself. We can return our ponds and bays to the pristine quality that we all value. We can protect our property values. We can protect the Town's bond rating and finances. But, it will require collective work and collective will. I urge you to subscribe to the *Mashpee Enterprise*. It's an amazing local paper that is following this and other critical issues closely. Another source is our Facebook Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mashpeecleanwaters/>

This challenge is 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 while we are digging. 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.

Let's be smart in the face of this crisis. And keep in mind what we want the headlines to say to our children and grandchildren.



The New York Times announces the launch of New Seabury in 1962.

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Women's Club of New Seabury

Ann Everett, President



Winter Greetings!

From the Women's Club of New Seabury

The Women's Club brought 2022 to a busy and successful close with two new fundraising events to benefit our beneficiaries--our first ever Online Auction and a Pampered Chef fundraiser—and a holiday luncheon.

Our first ever Online Auction was held in November and saw members bid on over 30 treasures donated by local retailers, restaurants and donors. The auction was great fun and a huge success--we exceeded our fundraising goal thanks to the generosity of all donors and bidders. Look for the Women's Club to hold its second annual Online Auction in 2023!



Also in November, Laurie Flitt, Chair of our Program Committee, hosted a Pampered Chef event at her lovely home, where 15% of product sales were donated to the WCNS Charitable Trust. It was a great opportunity to buy Holiday gifts while donating to our beneficiaries and enjoying “sips and apps”!



In December, we found ourselves singing along with Frank King, who specializes in “The Golden Age of Crooners and Records”. We sang along with recordings from his presentation of “Home for the Holidays” with songs produced in the Boston/New England area. Mr. King also shared some interesting and little-known historical bits of information relating to the songs, their composers, as well as the artists performing them. It was a fun time, and a great way to start off the holiday season!



And to close out 2022, the WCNS re-dedicated itself to its mission donating funds raised from its members and the community to local nonprofit organizations that address food insecurity and educational needs. Organizations supported in 2022 include:

- A Baby Center
- Boys & Girls Club of Cape Cod
- Falmouth Service Center
- Heroes in Transition
- Mashpee Scholarship Foundation Trust
- St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry

As we start this new year, the Board is planning our 2023 events, including a Trunk Show fashion event with our well-known Take A Chance, a return of the highly popular Casino Night fundraiser in late June, and an expanded Online Auction in November.

We'll keep you posted on these and other events as plans evolve.

A new year, a new beginning. We hope that you and yours stay well and have a peaceful winter.

Sincerely,
Ann T. Everett
President

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A photograph of a two-story house with a dark exterior and white window frames. Solar panels are installed on the roof. Rick Denton, a man with glasses and a beard, is standing in front of the house, wearing a dark polo shirt with the Sunrun logo. The house has a covered porch and a grill in the yard.

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8	7	2	3	6	1	9	4	5
5	9	3	4	8	7	6	1	2
1	4	6	2	9	5	8	7	3
2	1	8	9	4	6	5	3	7
9	3	5	7	1	2	4	6	8
7	6	4	8	5	3	1	2	9
4	5	7	1	2	8	3	9	6
3	8	9	6	7	4	2	5	1
6	2	1	5	3	9	7	8	4

9	4	3	7	6	1	5	8	2
7	8	6	3	2	5	4	1	9
1	2	5	9	4	8	7	3	6
6	7	4	5	8	9	3	2	1
5	3	8	1	7	2	6	9	4
2	9	1	6	3	4	8	7	5
3	6	2	4	9	7	1	5	8
8	5	7	2	1	6	9	4	3
4	1	9	8	5	3	2	6	7



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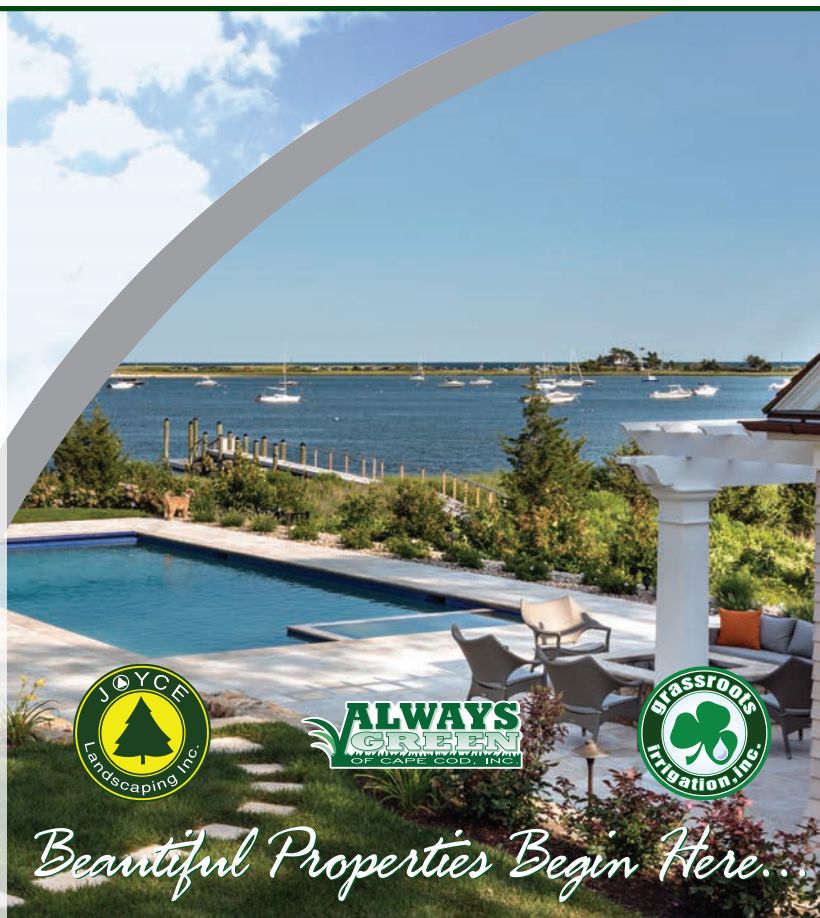
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