

Town of Edgartown

Annual Report



2023

EDGARTOWN

"AT A GLANCE"

www.edgartown-ma.us

2023

GENERAL INFORMATION

COUNTY: Dukes

SCHOOL STRUCTURE: Local Elementary, Member of Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District

FORM OF GOVERNMENT: Selectmen, Town Administrator, Open Town Meeting

KIND OF COMMUNITY: Resort, Retirement, Artistic

2021 POPULATION	5,302
2023 LABOR FORCE	2,183
2023 MOODY'S BOND RATING	AAA
2023 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	7.4%

FY2024 TAX RATES, LEVIES, ASSESSED VALUES AND REVENUE SOURCES

	Tax Rate	Tax Levy	Assessed Value	Revenue Sources	% of Total
Residential	2.55	31,500,470	12,353,125,461	Tax Levy	33,889,001 63.31
Open Space		-	-	State Aid	4,044,835 7.56
Commercial	2.55	1,644,281	644,816,115	Local Receipts	7,932,457 14.82
Industrial	2.55	20,409	8,003,500	Other Available	7,662,171 14.31
Personal Property	2.55	723,841	283,859,431		
TOTAL		33,889,001	13,289,804,507	TOTAL	53,528,465 100.00

FY2024 PROPOSITION 2 1/2 LEVY CAPACITY

New Growth	553,037
Override	0
Debt Exclusion	1,175,419
Levy Limit	34,073,672
Excess Capacity	1,384,123
Ceiling	332,245,113
Override Capacity	296,787,318

FY2024 CHERRY SHEET STATE AID

Education Aid	1,347,524
General Government	2,697,311
Total Receipts	4,044,835
Total Assessments	1,491,907
Net State Aid	2,552,928

OTHER/ RESERVES

FY2024 Free Cash	13,075,935
FY2024 Overlay Reserve	208,553
FY2024 Stabilization Fund	4,292,286

REVALUATION

Most Recent Mass. DOR Certification of values	FY2023
Interim adjustment of values (DOR required)	FY2024-FY2027
Next scheduled Mass DOR Certification of values	FY2028

The Front Cover
Picture by: Reade Milne

Typing, Editing, Organization and Proofing: Kristy Rose and Karen Fuller

2023
ANNUAL REPORT



TOWN OF
EDGARTOWN

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ISLAND TIME

*Feel the peace of solitude
in our forests
and our glens
Pick the fruit of summer
on our beaches
with your friends
Drink the cool fresh bounty
deep beneath our sands
Eat our freshest harvest
reaped by island hands*

*Walk our windswept stretches
where ships have
come to grief
Climb our rolling meadows
let them lull you
off to sleep
Lay upon your back
as the stars hang down
on high
Stretch your fingers out
till they touch
our jet black sky*

*May the peace of island living
settle in your bones
May the lightness of your being
Stir memories of your home
May you cherish our first greeting
dear as our last song
May you always feel the blessing
of our island
all life long*

Steve Ewing

Edgartown Poet Laureate



IN MEMORIUM

We regret the passing of the following individuals who are remembered for the faithful and unselfish service that they provided to the Town of Edgartown.

William D. (Boo) Bassett

By-Ways Committee
1993-2015

Eric Hathaway

Water Department
2001-2023

Frederic D. Mascolo

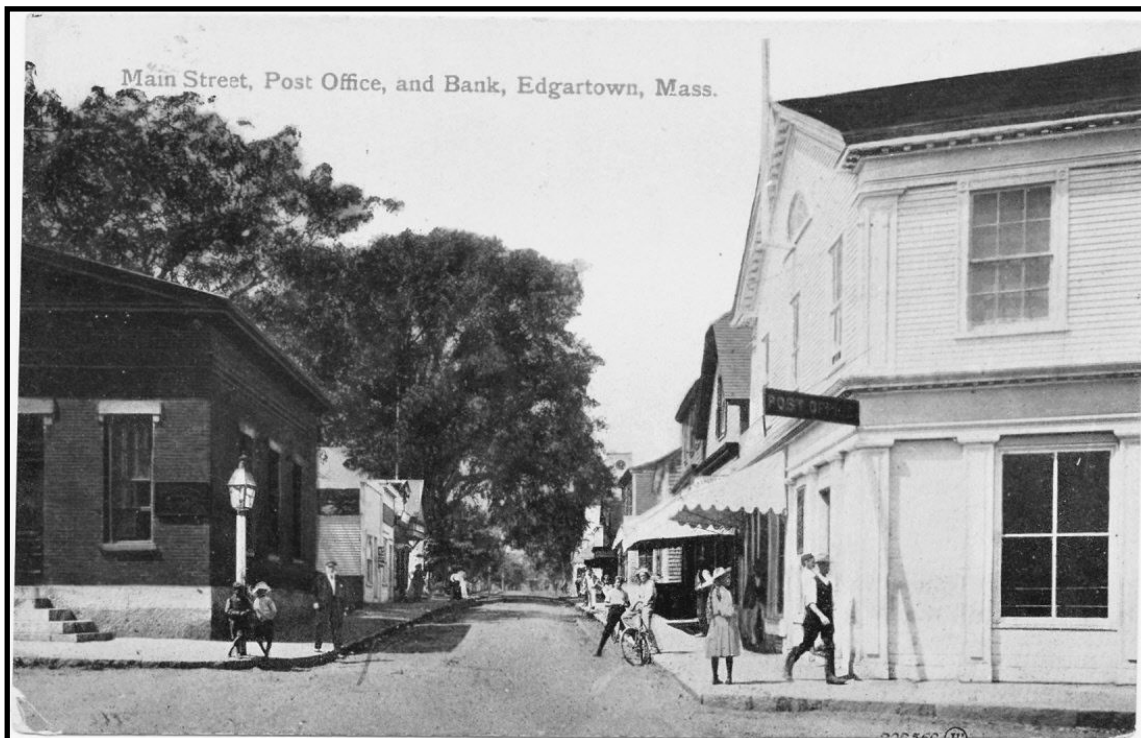
Planning Board
2005-2023

Edward L. Pierce

Board of Assessor's Office
2006-2021

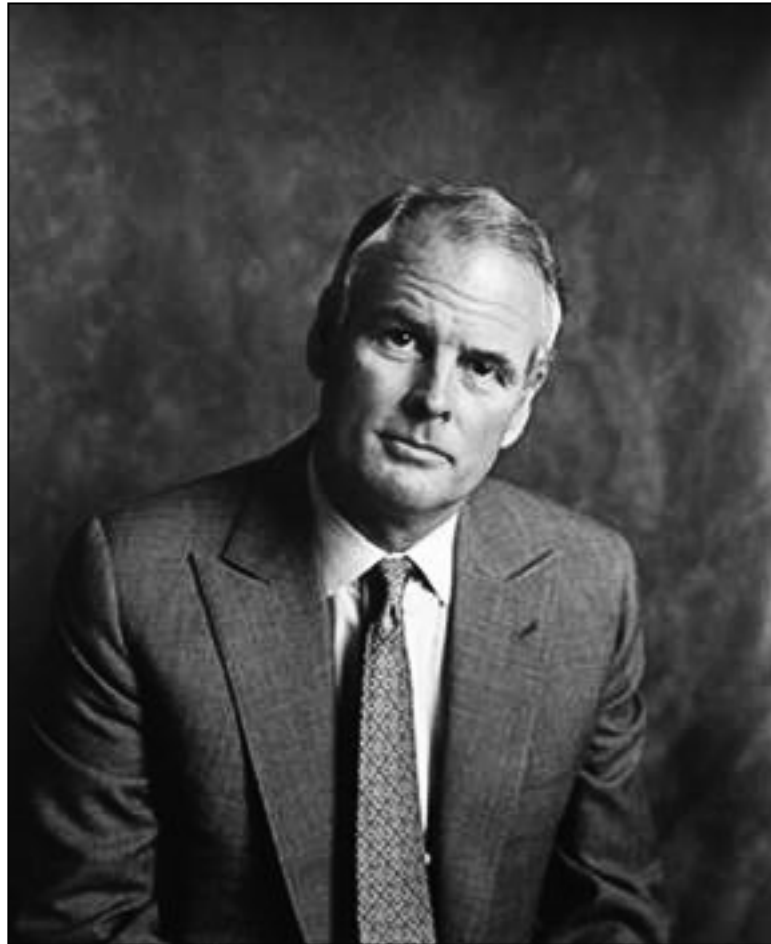
Alan O. Wilson

Planning Board
1997-2016
1980-1983



IN MEMORIUM

Robert A. Day



We would like to thank Robert for his contributions to the many beautification projects performed throughout Edgartown.
We will truly miss his insight and vision.

TOWN OFFICERS

ELECTED OFFICERS AND APPOINTED STAFF

Moderator

STEVEN C. EWING

Term Expires 2025

Selectboard

ARTHUR SMADBECK, Chair
MICHAEL J. DONAROMA
MARGARET E. SERPA

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2026

Town Administrator

JAMES M. HAGERTY

Administrative Assistant to the Selectboard

KRISTY ROSE
KAREN FULLER

Board of Assessors

S. CHRISTOPHER SCOTT
DONNA GOODALE
ALAN GOWELL, Chair

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2026

Assessor/Appraiser

PATTI ROADS, Principal Assessor

Administrative Assistant to Assessors

ELIZABETH FRANCIS
EMERSON HAZELL, Data Collector

Board of Health

CHRIS EDWARDS, Chairman
CANDY NICHOLS
GRETCHEN REGAN, Chair
EMILY GODFREY, Assistant
CELENA GUIMARES

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2025

Health Agent

CONNOR DOWNING
MATTHEW E. POOLE*

Town Collector

SHEETAL K GRANDE, CMMT, Collector

Assistant Collector

JADE BENNETT-Clerk

Planning Board

JAMES CISEK	Term Expires 2024
GLEN SEARLE	Term Expires 2024
MICHAEL SHALET, Alternate	Term Expires 2024
MICHAEL MCCOURT	Term Expires 2026
LUCY MORRISON, Chair	Term Expires 2027
SCOTT MORGAN	Term Expires 2028
FRED D. MASCOLO***	
DOUG FINN, Assistant Pro tem	

Edgartown School Committee

LOUIS R. PACIELLO, Chairman	Term Expires 2024
KIMBERLY KIRK	Term Expires 2024
KELLY SCOTT	Term Expires 2027
LAURA SEGUIN**	

Edgartown Library Trustees

JULIE LIVELY, Co-Chair	Term Expires 2024
NIS KILDEGAARD, Secretary	Term Expires 2024
OLGA MARANJIAN CHURCH, Co-Chair	Term Expires 2025
MAGGIE MORRISON	Term Expires 2025
DAVID ALAN FABER, Co-Chair	Term Expires 2026
DENISE SEARLE, Co-Chair	Term Expires 2026

Library

LISA HORTON SHERMAN, Director
 JELISSA DIFO, Department Assistant
 ELYCE RETMIER, Coordinator of Youth Services
 RIZWAN MALIK, Reference and Technology Librarian
 ALISON LESLIE, Technical Services Librarian
 CLAUDIA TAYLOR, Programs Coordinator and Library Assistant
 CHRISTOPHER LOOK IV, Library Assistant
 ROSA PARKER, Library Assistant
 BARBARA KEANE, Library Assistant
 NIKKI BROWN, Library Assistant
 KRISTIN FINLEY BROWN, Library Assistant
 BETSY YOUNG BUCK, Library Assistant
 EMILY BECKER**
 BETSY YOUNG BUCK**

Park Commissioners

ANDREW KELLY	Term Expires 2024
GLEN SEARLE	Term Expires 2025
JANE M. VARKONDA, Chair	Term Expires 2026
JESSICA MCGROARTY, Administrator	

Wastewater Treatment Commission

ALEX MORRISON	Term Expires 2024
GLEN SEARLE	Term Expires 2025
SCOTT ELLIS	Term Expires 2026

Wastewater Treatment Facility

WILLIAM BURKE, Facilities Manager
 JOSEPH ROCK, Chief Operator
 SEBASTIAN CORWIN, Safety Officer, Plant Operator
 ZAVIAN BROWN, Junior Operator

CHRISTINA ZGHIBARTA, Administrative Assistant
PIA WEBSTER*

Water Commissioners

JIM KELLEHER, Chairman
SCOTT ELLIS
DAVID BURKE

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2026

Edgartown Water Department

WILLIAM CHAPMAN, Superintendent
SHANE BEN DAVID, Assistant Superintendent
DYLAN THORNTON, Water Operator 1
WAYNE JACKSON, Junior Operator
STEVEN PACKISH, Junior Operator
SHEILA BEN DAVID, Administrative Asst II
HEIDI BOYD, Department Asst
PHILIP LEVESQUE**
ERIC HATHAWAY***

Constables

SCOTT ELLIS
WILLIAM C. BISHOP IV

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2025

Financial Advisory Committee

NEDINE CUNNINGHAM
ROBERT COAD
PAUL PERTILE
JULIA TARKA
DONNA LOWELL-BETTENCOURT, Chairman
LESLIE BAYNES
KELLY MCCRACKEN
JOHN O'HARA, Alternate
JAMES M. HAGERTY, Administrative Assistant

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2026
Term Expires 2026
Term Expires 2026
Term Expires 2026

Martha's Vineyard Land Bank Representative

STEVEN C. EWING

Term Expires 2025

OFFICERS ELECTED ON FLOOR OF TOWN MEETING

Surveyors of Lumber

ROBERT AVAKIAN
JAMES HAGERTY
DAVID ALLEN FABER

Measurers of Wood and Bark and Weighers of Coal

MARTHA J. LOOK
JAMES JOYCE
ALEX MORRISON

Fence Viewers

PAUL BAGNALL
JAMES JOYCE
M.J. ROGERS

SELECTBOARD APPOINTMENTS

Town Accountant

AMELIA TIERNEY

Assistant Town Accountant

JENNIFER SMYTH

Affordable Housing Committee

MARIA VENTURA

Term Expires 2024

MELISSA VINCENT

Term Expires 2024

JASON MAZAR-KELLY, Vice-Chair

Term Expires 2025

CORNELIUS MORIARITY

Term Expires 2025

CASEY O'CONNOR

Term Expires 2026

MARK HESS, Chair

Term Expires 2026

CHRISTINA BROWN**

CHRISTINE WHITE**

Affordable Housing Trust

ARTHUR SMADBECK, Selectboard Representative

MARK HESS, Vice Chair, Member Affordable Housing Committee Representative

CORNELIUS MORIARITY, Member Affordable Housing Committee Representative

CHRISTINE WHITE, Member Affordable Housing Committee Representative

MARIA VENTURA, Chair, Member Affordable Housing Committee Representative

MELISSA VINCENT, Member Affordable Housing Committee Representative

JASON MAZAR-KELLY**

Airfield Commission

HARALD FINLEY, Chair

Term Expires 2024

WILLIAM BRINE, III

Term Expires 2025

EDWARD W. VINCENT, JR., Representative for the Conservation Commission

Term Expires 2025

PATRICK BRADLEY

Term Expires 2026

MICHAEL NAGLE**

Airfield Manager

ALYSSA DASILVA**

Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator

READE KONTJE MILNE

Beautification Advisory Committee

RENEE CLERMONT

Term Expires 2024

CAROL FLIGOR

Term Expires 2024

JULIET MULINARE

Term Expires 2024

CAMMIE NAYLOR

Term Expires 2024

ERIN READY

Term Expires 2024

ALYSSA STARZYK

Term Expires 2024

Board of Fire Engineers

ALEX SCHAEFFER, Fire Chief

PETER G. SHEMETH, Retired Fire Chief

Term Expires 2024

ANDREW KELLY, Deputy Chief

Term Expires 2024

RICHARD J. KELLY, Retired Captain

Term Expires 2024

LAURANCE THOMAS, Retired Deputy Chief

Term Expires 2024

JOSHUA BAKER, Assistant Chief

Term Expires 2024

SCOTT ELLIS, Retired Assistant Chief
HALEY KRAUSS, Ambulance Rep

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2024

Fire Department Ambulance Service

KATE FOSTER, Fire Fighter/Paramedic
JOSHUA BAKER, Fire Fighter/Paramedic
TOM IGNACIO, Fire Fighter/EMT
MIKE KLIMEK, Fire Fighter/Paramedic
BRIAN FOSTER, Fire Fighter/Paramedic
HALEY KRAUSS, Paramedic
ANITA BILLINGS, Administrative Assistant

Fire Station Building Committee

ALEX SCHAEFFER, Fire Chief
PETER SHEMETH, Retired Fire Chief, Member
PAUL PERTILE, Finance Committee Representative
GEOFF KONTJE, General Contractor at Large
CHRIS SCOTT, Community Representative
ANDREW KELLY, Call/Volunteer Fire Department Employee Member
KARA SHEMETH, Alternate
JAMES HAGERTY, Town Administrator
JULIET MULINARE
JOSH BAKER, Fire Department Employee

Board of Registrars

CINDY BONNELL
KRISTY ROSE
WANDA WILLIAMS

Term Expired 2024
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2026

Building Commissioner & Zoning Inspector

READE KONTJE MILNE

Local Building Inspector

STEPHEN KELLY

Building Inspector's Assistant

CHRISSY MCCARTHY

Cape Pogue District of Critical Planning Concern Advisory Committee

JANE VARKONDA, Conservation Commission Agent
CHRIS EDWARDS, Board of Health representative
MATTHEW BASS, Environmental Police Officer, Mass. Dept of Fisheries & Wildlife
BOB HAYMAN, The Trustees of Reservation membership representative
DARCI SHOFIELD, The Trustees of Reservation staff representative
MARTINA THORNTON, County of Dukes County Commission representative
RACHEL SELF, Chair, Cape Pogue Property Owner, appointed by Select board
MATT PELICAN, Vineyard Conservation Society & Vineyard Open Land Foundation
SGT. RYAN RULEY, Police Department representative
SCOTT MORGAN, Planning Board representative
ED HANDY, Marine Advisory Committee representative
CHARLES BLAIR, Harbormaster
ROB MORRISON, Shellfish Constable

Capital Programs Committee

LUCY MORRISON
GAIL CROTEAU
DAVID IGNACIO
SUSAN DROGIN
AMY TIERNEY
JAMES HAGERTY

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2026

Cemetery Commissioners

ELIZABETH VILLARD
DEBRA MANLEY-SMITH, Alternate
ANDREW KELLY, Chair
SUSAN C. BROWN

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2026

Cemetery Assistant

JESSICA MCGROARTY

Local Census Director

KAREN MEDEIROS

Chappaquiddick Ferry Steering Committee

RICK BIROS
BILL BRINE III
JOHN DROPICK
PETER GETSINGER
JAMES HAGERTY
RICK SCHIFTER
SALLY SNIPES
DANA STRAYTON
TOM TILGHMAN
PETER WELLS

Christmas Decorations Committee

GLEN SEARLE
JULIET MULINARE
LES BAYNES
SHARON BRAINARD

Climate Committee

JULIA LIVINGSTON, Chair
KEVIN LOUGHLIN, Associate Chair
JENNIFER BLUM
JOSEY KIRKLAND
PETER KIRN
CARL WILLIAMSON**

Community Preservation Committee

PAUL PERTILE, Chair, Financial Advisory Representative
MICHAEL MCCOURT, Planning Board Representative
CJ MORIARITY, Affordable Housing Committee Representative
GLEN SEARLE, Park Department Representative
CHRISTOPHER SCOTT, Historic District Commission Representative
EDWARD W. VINCENT, JR., Conservation Commission Representative
MARGARET E. SERPA, Selectboard Representative

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2026
Term Expires 2026

KRISTY ROSE, Administrator

Conservation Commission

EDWARD W. VINCENT, JR., Chairman	Term Expires 2024
MAXIMILLION GIBBS	Term Expires 2024
JEFFREY CARLSON	Term Expires 2025
GEOFFREY KONJTE	Term Expires 2025
LIL PROVINCE	Term Expires 2025
ROBERT AVAKIAN	Term Expires 2026
CHRISTINA BROWN	Term Expires 2026
KARA SHEMETH, Assistant	
JANE M. VARKONDA, Agent	

Council on Aging

JOHN DROPICK	Term Expires 2024
MARVENE O’ROURKE, Co-Chair	Term Expires 2025
ROSEMARY CUNNINGHAM, Chair	Term Expires 2025
NANCY IGNACIO	Term Expires 2025
SUE CARROLL	Term Expires 2026
LISA SHERMAN	Term Expires 2026
JANICE BELISLE, Friends of ECOA representative	

LYNDSAY FAMARISS, Administrator
 MERIS KEATING, Director of Senior Services
 VICTORIA HAESELBARTH, Outreach Worker
 BILL GLAZIER, Part-time Outreach Worker
 CHRIS MCMAHON, Cook
 DONNA PAULSON, Clerk
 DIANE WALL*

Council on Aging Five Year Committee

JANICE BELISLE
 SHIRLEY DEWING
 DIANNE DURAWA
 SARAH HENDERSON
 LYNDSAY FAMARISS, Ex-officio
 NANCY IGNACIO
 CAROLYN O’DALY
 MARVEN O’ROURKE, Chair
 BARBARA PHILLIPS
 ANN TYRA

Dredging Advisory Committee

PETER J. VINCENT, JR, Representative for the Conservation Commission	Term Expires 2024
MICHAEL SHALETT, Member at Large	Term Expires 2025
ED HANDY, Chair, Representative for the Marine Advisory Committee	Term Expires 2025
DUDLEY LEVICK, Member at Large	Term Expires 2026
RYAN SMITH, Representative for the Shellfish Committee	Term Expires 2026
JULIET MULINARE, Administrator	

Dukes County Regional Housing Authority Representative

MELISSA NORTON VINCENT	Term Expires 2025
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Emergency Management/Civil Defense

ALEX SCHAEFFER, Director

Energy Committee

ALAN STRAHLER
ELLEN PRICE
RICHARD PRICE
BONNI WIDDOES
JACK ENSOR

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2026

Fire Department Inspectors

ALEX SCHAEFFER, Fire Chief
JOSHUA BAKER, Assistant Fire Chief/FPO

Gas Inspectors

WILLIAM CALLAHAN
CHARLES DAY
JAMIE WALLACE

Fishermen's Landing Stewardship Committee

PETER VINCENT, Chairman
STEVE EWING
JANE VARKONDA
ED HANDY
TONY MIGNANELLI
ROB MORRISON
KEN MICHEL
CHARLIE BLAIR

Harbor Plan Committee

CHARLES J. BLAIR, Harbormaster
MARTIN V TOMASSIAN, JR, Chair
ED HANDY
BRUCE MCINTOSH
PETER KIRN
SCOTT ELLIS
DAVID FABER
JAMES CISEK
MADELINE FISHER
KARA SHEMETH, Advisor
JULIET MULINARE, Administrator

Harbormaster

CHARLES J. BLAIR, JR., Harbormaster
SARA TIEMANN, Administrative Assistant
RICHELLE O'NEIL, Department Assistant
TRISTAN BLAIR, Assistant
JOSHUA BROWN, Assistant
DYLAN BURKE, Assistant
CALEB BURKE, Assistant
LIAM DAWLEY, Assistant
SAM FLAMAND, Assistant
WILLIAM GRESHAM, Assistant
SEAN HEGARTY, Assistant
SAMUEL HENDERSON, Assistant
DYLAN LEVINE, Assistant

EMILY MCKEON, Assistant
SLAYTON TUCKER, Assistant
PETER VINCENT, Assistant
MARINA WEBER-STEVENSON, Assistant
MICHAEL HATHAWAY*

Harbormaster's Clerk/Wharfingers

NICK CARPENTER
LOWEN ETHERINGTON
STODDARD HEALY
SEAMUS MCKEON
GEOFFREY TOTMEI

Harbormaster's Special Assistants

WILLIAM ROMAN
RYAN RULEY
EDWIN B. GENTLE, JR.
JONATHAN SEARLE
ROBERT D. MORRISON
JASON MALLORY

Herring Warden & Deputies

ROBERT D. MORRISON
JASON MALLORY, Deputy
CHUCK FISHER, Deputy
JULIE PRINGLE, Deputy
WARREN GAINES*

Highway Department

ALLAN deBETTENCOURT, Superintendent
JAMES MASEDA, Foreman
JOHN O'DONNELL
DWIGHT "DJ" KAEKA
GEORGE FAUTEUX
EDWIN ALBARADO ORTIZ
TIM TANEY
EDNALDO FREIRE**

Historic District Commission

SUSAN CATLING
PETER ROSBECK, JR., Co-Chair
CARI WILLIAMSON
HILARY GRANNIS
CHRISTOPHER SCOTT, Alternate
JULIA TARKA, Co-Chair
JAMES CISEK
KEN MAGNUSON
CAROLE BERGER, Alternate
SHARON BRAINARD, Assistant
ADAM MORAN**
ELIZABETH BUEHLER**

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2026
Term Expires 2026

Human Resource Department

JAMES ROBINSON, Human Resource Director

MARIA VENTURA**

Information Technology Manager

ADAM DARACK

Inspector of Animals

KIMBERLY ANDRADE

MV Land Bank Advisory Board

MICHAEL J. DONAROMA, Chair, Planning Board Representative

KARA SHEMETH, Board of Assessors Representative

KATE CONDE FOSTER, Park Commission Representative

CHRISTINA MILLER, Board of Health Representative

DONNA GOODALE, Board of Selectmen Representative

STEVEN EWING, Conservation Commission Representative

JIM KELLEHER, Water Commissioners Representative

Marine Advisory Committee

CHARLES J. BLAIR, JR., Harbormaster

ED HANDY

Term Expires 2024

MARTIN V. TOMMASSIAN, JR

Term Expires 2024

BRUCE MCINTOSH, Chair

Term Expires 2025

Martha's Vineyard Commission Designee for the Selectboard

KATHERINE PUTNAM

Term Expires 2024

Martha's Vineyard Commission Joint Transportation Committee Representative

ALLAN deBETTENCOURT

Martha's Vineyard Community Television, Inc.

EDWARD W. VINCENT, JR., Member-Director on Board of Directors

Term Expires 2026

Martha's Vineyard Cultural Council

JP HITESMAN

SUSAN SHEA

BARI BOYER

Martha's Vineyard Regional Transit Authority

ANGELA E. GOMPERT, Administrator

MARK SNIDER Select Board Representative

LAUREN THOMAS, Deputy Administrator

Master Plan Committee

JULIET MULINARE, Chair

JEFFREY AGNOLI

JONATHAN BLUM

DOUG COOPER

GAIL CROTEAU

PAULO DEOLIVEIRA

JACK ENSOR

MADELINE FISHER

JULIA LIVINGSTON

DAVID IGNACIO
MARCEL LAFLAMME
MIKE MACKENTY
ROBERT STRAYTON
PIA WEBSTER

Municipal Hearings Officer

JAMES M. HAGERTY

Officer of Animal Control

KIMBERLY ANDRADE

Officer of Animal Control Assistant

MADDIE LECOQ

Oil Spill First Response Team

CHARLES J. BLAIR, JR.

Personnel Board

KELLY MCCRACKEN
SUZANNE CIOFFI
HALEY KRAUSS, Employee Representative

Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2025

Police Officers

BRUCE MCNAMEE
CHRISTOPHER M. DOLBY
JOEL M. DEROCHE
MICHAEL SNOWDEN, II
WILLIAM BISHOP, IV
RYAN RULEY
DAYCE MOORE
WILLIAM D. OTERI
JEFFREY TRUDEL
ZACHARY TOWNES
CURTIS CHANDLER
JAKE SYLVIA
GARY KOVAK
MICHAEL O'ROURKE
TYLER MOREIS
DORON KLINGENSMITH
ALEX GUEST
JOHN DACEY
MICHAEL D. GAZAILLE
THOMAS SMITH
ZACHERY MOREIS
KEN ROMERO
REBECCA LAMARCHE
GABRIEL BRITO
LUCAS BELAIN
MIGUEL JARILLO
LIZ KUCHINSKI
SEAN SPLITTGERBER
ED WILLOUGHBY
JAKE WILSON

Chief
Lieutenant
Sergeant
Sergeant
Sergeant
Sergeant
Sergeant
Officer
Officer
Officer
Detective
Officer
Officer
Officer
Officer
Officer
Officer
Officer
Officer
Reserve Officer
Reserve Officer
Reserve Officer
Administrative Assistant
Dept. Assistant
Summer Traffic Officer
Summer Traffic Officer
Summer Traffic Officer
Summer Traffic Officer
Summer Traffic Officer
Summer Traffic Officer
Summer Traffic Officer

ROGER BECKER
STEPHANIE IMMELT*
NICHOLAS PHELPS**
JAMES CRAIG**
TROY VANDERHOOP**

Summer Traffic Officer

Plumbing Inspectors

WILLIAM CALLAHAN
CHARLES DAY
JAMIE WALLACE

Shellfish Committee

MADLINE FISHER
NICHOLAS TURNER
WARREN GAINES
DAVID FABER, Chair
RYAN SMITH

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2026
Term Expires 2026
Term Expires 2026

Shellfish Constable

ROBERT D. MORRISON

Shellfish Wardens (Deputies)

JULIE PRINGLE
CHARLES FISHER
JASON MALLORY
RALPH PECKHAM, Summer Deputy
RON DOMURAT, Summer Deputy

Shellfish Wardens (Unpaid Deputies)

RALPH PECKHAM
RON DOMURAT
ROB OCYXZ
PAUL SCHULTZ

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2024

Sick Leave Bank

JAMES HAGERTY
LISA SHERMAN, Department Head Representative
HALEY KRAUSS, Employee Representative

Term Expires 2023
Term Expires 2023

Sign Advisory Committee

CHRISTINA COOKE
BARRY KORETZ
JULIA TARKA
MARTIN V. TOMMASIAN, JR.
NICOLE BRISSON**

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2025

Town Clerk

KAREN R. MEDEIROS

Assistant Town Clerk

COLLETTE JORDAN

Town Counsel

RONALD H. RAPPAPORT

Town Treasurer

PAMELA AMARAL

Treasurer’s Assistant

MARISA BONIFACE

Tree Warden and Superintendent of Moth Extermination

ALLAN deBETTENCOURT

Dukes County Veteran’s Agent

RANDY DULL

Water Resource Management Officer

WILLIAM CHAPMAN

Wharf Restoration Committee

STEVE EWING
CHRIS SCOTT
SCOTT ELLIS
CHARLIE BLAIR, Advisor

Wire Inspectors

ROBERT A. YOUNG, JR.
MICHAEL C. DOLBY
DAVID A. SCHWAB
COLE POWERS

Zoning Board of Appeals

NANCY WHIPPLE
ROBIN BRAY, Alternate
MARTIN V. TOMASSIAN, Jr., Chairman
CAROL GRANT
GERRET CONOVER, Alternate
PAM DOLBY
THOMAS PIERCE
JULIA LIVINGSTON, Alternate
LISA MORRISON, Assistant

Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2024
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2025
Term Expires 2026
Term Expires 2026
Term Expires 2026

Zoning Bylaw Review Committee

JULIA LIVINGSTON, Chair
STEVE REYNOLDS
JOSEPH SIEBER
JULIET MULINARE
BENJAMIN HALL, JR.
READE MILNE, Advisor

*Retired
**Resigned
***Deceased

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT!

It's all on the Town Website!

www.edgartown-ma.us

- ◆ **Calendar of Meetings**
- ◆ **Agendas**
- ◆ **Minutes**
- ◆ **Open Committee and Board positions**
- ◆ **Employment Opportunities**

- ◆ **Also:**
 - Shellfish Licenses
 - Decisions
 - Assessments
 - Pay taxes
 - Minutes
 - Applications of all sorts
 - By-Laws

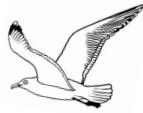


Just aim your camera at the QR code to get started!



THE COURSE

Heist me high
in the rigging
me maties



for its out past horizons
I dream
We're sailing a stout ship
on such a long grand trip
and it's into the future
we lean

We hail from a truly
Great Harbor
that rises up
out of the Sound
The Wampanoags shared
in such bounty
that was turned into
old Shiretown

The tribes were treated
unfairly
in the press for the need
for the land
Now as the way forward
is plotted
let all people share
in the Plan

There's a course to be set
that comes calling
history is filling our sails
The gauges we check
in the morning
might be warning of
afternoon gales

The crew is yet
hearty and willing
to listen as
old timers spiel
tales of what dangers
befell them

what rock piles just
missed their keels

As we chart out
our future together
let the bright sun
light up our scheme
Let the soft breeze that
tosses the beach grass
let nature be
part of our dream

Let's steer towards
future endeavors
with the best of the
past in our hearts
Toss overboard
any old problems
that have plagued our
good ship
from the start

There's no hold for greed
or self-serving
bigotry, small mindedness
We only have room
for our future
free of deadweight like
pride and pretense

The channel runs deep
there before us
clean water for all
to maintain
Keeping fishing and
farming still growing
is the course that
we can sustain

Keep our children on deck
plowing forward
teach them and

heed what they say
They are pleading they all
have a future
on this Island where we
had our day

They are the ones
at the ready
who will haul on the lines
who will sing
Who will fill up our sails
with the longing
that only the young ones
can it bring

Remember how water
surrounds us
rising up slowly
but sure
How we deal with the
sea that's around us
will define just how
we endure

So heist me high up
in the rigging
for it's far out that
I want to spy
Sound out the depths
there before us
let our ship on
good guidance
rely



STEVE EWING
Edgartown Poet Laureate

Written: November 2022

Read at Town Meeting April
2023.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

SELECTBOARD

To the Citizens of Edgartown,

Reflecting upon the events of 2023, it is apparent that our community has been vibrant and dynamic. The year commenced with the exciting news that our Shellfish Committee, once again, has endorsed the opening of Sengekontacket Pond for commercial oyster harvesting. Under the supervision of the dedicated Shellfish Warden, this program has successfully raised over 500,000 oysters to seed the Pond, contributing not only to the availability of oysters but also assisting in reducing excess nitrogen levels in the Pond.

The Council on Aging has been actively engaged in a range of activities, and this year, they have taken a significant step forward by forming a committee to develop a comprehensive five-year plan, with a particular focus on planning for a new building.

On the waterfront, the completion of the reconstruction of the Katama Boat Ramp stands as a testament to our commitment to maintaining crucial infrastructure. The ever-pressing issue of climate change and the related challenge of coastal vulnerability loom large on our horizon, prompting us to carefully consider and prioritize urgent needs such as harbor bulkhead repairs in light of rising sea levels.

Throughout the past year, prioritizing infrastructure maintenance and improvement has been paramount. The Town has given its approval for planning and constructing a new Fire Station, with plans expected for presentation in 2024. Additionally, Edgartown is actively participating in the island-wide initiative to plan for the upgrading of our Regional High School.

Affordable housing remains a steadfast focus, and the commencement of construction on the Meshacket project in early 2024 marks a significant milestone. Collaborating with the Community Preservation Committee, our Affordable Housing Committee continues to explore innovative solutions to address this persistent challenge.

The tireless efforts of our Energy Committee, led by Alan Strahler, bore fruit this year, securing a substantial \$150,600 grant for energy conservation

measures at the Edgartown School. This not only covers the entire cost of the project but promises long-term savings for the school.

Commendations are in order for Bill Chapman and the entire Water Department, who received recognition from the Department of Environmental Resources for outstanding performance, achieving one of the highest scores in the medium and large community system category for 2023.

A significant transition occurred in 2023 with the retirement of Matt Poole, our dedicated health agent of twenty-six years. His steadfast guidance over the years, particularly during the challenging times of the Covid crisis, has been invaluable. We express our sincere gratitude for his many years of service and wish him a fulfilling retirement.

Summer 2023 unfolded with its usual hustle and bustle. The Fourth of July Parade, orchestrated by Joe Sollitto, was a resounding success, heralding the commencement of the summer season. Our restaurants, hotels, and businesses experienced robust activity, complemented by the lively atmosphere at our beaches.

Our finances remain strong under the leadership of our Town Administrator. Balancing future planning with the complexities of our present challenges, he continues to navigate our town through these dynamic times.

On behalf of the entire town, I would like to thank all of our Town employees for their dedication to service and hard work that keeps our Town functioning smoothly. And in particular, I would like to acknowledge the work of our Town Administrator, James Hagerty, and able assistants Kristy Rose and Karen Fuller.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Board members Margaret Serpa and Michael Donaroma. It is indeed a pleasure to serve with such dedicated and knowledgeable people.

Respectfully submitted,
ARTHUR SMADBECK
Selectboard Chair



Town Meeting Main Stage L-R: Michael Donaroma, Margaret Serpa, Arthur Smadbeck, James Hagerty, Atty. Ron Rappaport, Amy Tierney and Karen Medeiros

Photo by: Collette Jordan

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

To the Citizens of the Town of Edgartown,

In the early days of February, following a familiar winter pattern, the Selectboard convened alongside the Financial Advisory Committee and representatives from each Town Department. Together, they engaged in comprehensive discussions and deliberations on budgetary needs that cumulated in the unanimous approval of a balanced budget totaling \$56 million, and the finalization of the Town Meeting Warrant.

March brought echoes of the past as the Commonwealth continued to allow Town Boards and Committees to utilize remote meeting options, enabling participation from across the State and Country. Many seasonal and year round residents tuned in as the Park Commissioners presented their plan to assume management of Norton Point Beach to the County Commissioners. Similarly, in response to a particularly successful season, the Selectboard granted an extension to the scallop season at the request of the Shellfish Warden.

In April, Edgartown voters efficiently approved a new fire station, a nip ban, and various capital projects during their annual Town Meeting. Despite a half-hour quorum delay, one hundred plus articles were wrapped up at the Old Whaling Church just after 10 pm, and the Town successfully set conditions for another fiscal year of municipal operations. Later in the month, the Edgartown Water Department was recognized as one of the premier fifty water systems in the State. They were awarded "beyond compliance" recognition by the Environmental Protection Agency for surpassing standard contaminant testing requirements.

As May arrived, the completion of the Katama Boat landing brought welcome news and anticipation for boaters and shell fishermen, as new ramps, docks, and floats were set and ready for the start of warmer weather. Towards the month's end, Edgartown School students returned to the newly renovated Memorial Wharf, resuming their traditional March to the Sea event.

In July, the town buzzed with excitement as the traditional Parade and Fireworks marked the unofficial beginning of summer. Despite a torrential rainstorm, thousands of spectators filled the downtown streets to watch the day's events completely undeterred by the weather. Just like anything in the summer, controversy arose as the State Fire Marshal's Office suspended the fireworks vendor due to many undetonated fireworks washing up on Chappaquiddick the following day. The

Edgartown Village Market emerged as a welcomed addition, offering an open-air shopping experience catering to both bikers and pedestrians.

August brought sorrow with the passing of Fred Mascolo, a long time committee and board member known fondly as Trader Fred, while the Town faced national attention following the tragic drowning of a young man at Great Pond.

As fall set in, the 78th Derby proceeded smoothly, while ongoing discussions with the Trustees of Reservation centered on crucial matters such as beach access, the Dyke Bridge, and the management of Cape Pogue. Additionally, barges transported materials from the mainland to initiate the reconstruction of the Town-owned North Wharf under the watchful eye of the Harbormaster.

As the year concluded, the Edgartown Board of Trade executed a successful Christmas in Edgartown event, while the Capital Programs Committee commenced their annual deliberations on Fiscal Year 2025 capital requests.

In closing, the completion of the Edgartown Stop and Shop renovation marked a significant milestone, introducing a fresh store layout that presented islanders with a novel challenge of navigating its circular design to locate essentials.

Looking back on the year, it is paramount to acknowledge the unwavering dedication exhibited by Edgartown's employees, whose commitment to excellence permeates every aspect of our community's functioning. Their steadfast efforts truly epitomize the essence of public service, and I am profoundly proud of their relentless contributions day in and day out.

Your support is deeply appreciated, and I am humbled by the privilege of serving as your Town Administrator in the 352nd year of this great Town.

Respectfully submitted,
JAMES M. HAGERTY
Town Administrator

TOWN CLERK

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown:

January and February we were busy with the usual Town Census and dog licenses.

Then we went into Town Meeting and Town Election time. Thanks to all our election workers these went smoothly.

Thank you to our exceptional Board of Registrars: Cindy Bonnell, Wanda Williams and Kristy Rose. I am thankful they are always willing to help with all the election tasks.

I am very appreciative to our Assistant Town Clerk Collette Jordan. Her ever growing knowledge and assistance is a big asset to myself and the Town.

The following is a list of the events held during 2023 and a report of the licenses sold for the year:

Special Town Meeting	April 11, 2023
Annual Town Meeting	April 11, 2023
Annual Town Election	April 13, 2023
Dog Licenses	887
Marriage Licenses	114

The following is a complete report of minutes for all Town Meeting and Elections held in 2023 Included are the Marriage and Death reports for 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,

KAREN R. MEDEIROS
Town Clerk

REPORT FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING APRIL 11, 2023

The Moderator began the Special Town Meeting at 7:26 P.M. when the quorum of 208 (a total of 224 voters attended) was in attendance. Moderator Ewing read the preamble to the Warrant and the Constable's return of service.

ARTICLE 1. Moved that the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$24,000.00 to purchase or lease two new copier machines for the first and second floor of the Town Hall, and further, to authorize the Information Technology Manager and Select Board to dispose of old copier machines in the best interest of the Town.

Submitted by the Select Board

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 2. Moved that the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$15,539.00 to be added to the Town's Fiscal Year 2023 Insurance Account as a result of audited worker's compensation costs and carrier deductibles.

Submitted by the Select Board

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 3. Moved that the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$67,107.00 to

be added to the Sick and Vacation Buyback Account to cover benefits owed to several employees who have, or will retire or resign during the current Fiscal Year.

Submitted by the Select Board

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 4. Moved that the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$20,000.00 to be added to the Town's Fiscal Year 2023 Legal Account.

Submitted by the Select Board

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 5. Moved that the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$40,000.00 to be added to the Town Hall Capital Maintenance and Repair Account.

Submitted by the Select Board

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 6. Moved that the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$15,949.96 to offset deficits caused by expenditures deemed

ineligible, in the fund established for Coronavirus relief reimbursements from state and federal agencies.

Submitted by the Town Accountant

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 7. Moved that the Town will vote to transfer the balance of Fund #8005, presently held for Low/Moderate Income Housing, in the amount of \$76,401.28 plus any accumulated interest, to the Edgartown Affordable Housing Trust Fund to be used for the purposes of Low and Moderate Income Housing, or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by the Town Accountant

Submitted by the Affordable Housing Trust

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 8. Moved that the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$8,760.00 to make repairs on the fire suppression system at the Police Department building.

Submitted by the Police Chief

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 9. Moved that the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$22,000.00, for the Fiscal Year 2023 maintenance and care of Cannonball Park and the Town Hall Park.

Submitted by the Parks Commission

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 10. Moved that the Town will vote to adopt the following bylaw:

DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUNDS

1. Purpose. This by-law establishes and authorizes revolving funds for use by town, departments, boards, committees, agencies and officers in connection with the operation of programs or activities that generate fees, charges or other receipts to support all or some of the expenses of those programs or activities. These revolving funds are established under and governed by General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½.

2. Expenditure Limitations. A department or agency

head, board, committee or officer may incur liabilities against and spend monies from a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law without appropriation subject to the following limitations:

A. Fringe benefits of full-time employees whose salaries or wages are paid from the fund shall also be paid from the fund.

B. No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the fund.

C. The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by Annual Town Meeting on or before July 1 of that fiscal year, or any increased amount of that authorization that is later approved during that fiscal year by the Board of Selectmen.

3. Interest. Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this by-law shall be credited to the general fund.

4. Procedures and Reports. Except as provided in General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½ and this by-law, the laws, by-laws, rules, regulations, policies or procedures that govern the receipt and custody of town monies and the expenditure and payment of town funds shall apply to the use of a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law. The Town Accountant shall include a statement on the collections credited to the fund, the encumbrances and expenditures charged to each fund and the balance available for expenditure in the regular report the Town Accountant provides the department, board, committee, agency or officer on appropriations made for its use.

5. Authorized Revolving Funds:

FUND	REVENUE SOURCE	AUTHORITY TO SPEND FUNDS	TO USE OF FUNDS	FISCAL YEAR
Beach Mgmt Fund	Norton Point Pass Fees	Parks Department	To pay for salaries and expenses of the dep. Related to the mgmt. of the Town's beaches	Fiscal Year 2024 and subseq. years

Submitted by the Parks Commission

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2023, the sum of \$110,000.00 for the management and operation of Norton Point Beach in Edgartown.

Submitted by the Parks Commission

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an
UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to amend
the Personnel By-Law Section 25.0 Edgartown
Classification and Salary Plan as Follows effective
April 11, 2023.

Add the position of Beach and Recreation Director
Grade E

Submitted by Personnel Board

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an
UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to
appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$40,000.00 to
purchase and equip new Utility Terrain (UTV) and
All Terrain (ATV)

vehicles for the Town's managed beaches.

Submitted by the Parks Commission

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an
UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will amend the
Edgartown Zoning Bylaw, Article VII "Floodplain
Zone", by striking the entire text of the Article, and
replacing it with the following:

7.1 Purpose

The purpose for the Floodplain Overlay District is to:

- A. Ensure public safety through reducing the threats
to life and personal injury
- B. Eliminate new hazards to emergency response
officials
- C. Prevent the occurrence of public emergencies
resulting from water quality, contamination, and
pollution due to flooding
- D. Avoid the loss of utility services which if damaged
by flooding would disrupt or shut down the utility
network and impact regions of the community beyond
the site of flooding
- E. Eliminate costs associated with the response and
cleanup of flooding conditions
- F. Reduce damage to public and private property
resulting from flooding waters

7.2 Establishment of the District

The Floodplain District is herein established as an

overlay district. The District includes all special flood
hazard areas within Edgartown designated as Zone A,
AE, AH, AO, A99, V, or VE on the Town's Flood
Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) issued by the Federal
Emergency Management Agency for the
administration of the National Flood Insurance
Program, dated July 20, 2016. These maps indicate
the 1%-chance regulatory floodplain. The exact
boundaries of the District shall be defined by the 1%-
chance base flood elevations shown on the FIRM and
further defined by the Dukes County Flood Insurance
Study (FIS) report dated July 20, 2016. The effective
FIRM and FIS report are incorporated herein by
reference and are on file with the Town Clerk,
Planning Board, Building Inspections Office, and
Conservation Commission.

7.3 Abrogation and greater restriction section

The floodplain management regulations found in this
Floodplain Overlay District section shall take
precedence over any less restrictive conflicting local
laws, ordinances or codes.

7.4 Disclaimer of liability

The degree of flood protection required by this bylaw
is considered reasonable but does not imply total
flood protection.

7.5 Severability section

If any section, provision or portion of this bylaw is
deemed to be unconstitutional or invalid by a court,
the remainder of the ordinance shall be effective.

7.6 Designation of Community Floodplain Administrator

The Town of Edgartown hereby designates the
position of Building Inspector / Commissioner to be
the official floodplain administrator for the Town.

7.7 Requirement to submit new technical data

If the Town acquires data that changes the base flood
elevation in the FEMA mapped Special Flood Hazard
Areas, the Town will, within 6 months, notify FEMA
of these changes by submitting the technical or
scientific data that supports the change(s).

Notification shall be submitted to:
FEMA Region I Risk Analysis Branch Chief
99 High St., 6th floor
Boston, MA 02110

And copy of notification to:
Massachusetts NFIP State Coordinator
MA Dept. of Conservation & Recreation
251 Causeway Street
Boston, MA 02114

7.8 Variances to building code floodplain standards

Variances to the flood-resistant standards as found in
the MA State Building Code may only be issued by
the MA State Building Code Appeals Board. Upon

learning that an applicant intends to file for a variance from the State Building Code Appeals Board, the Town shall also issue a letter to the property owner regarding potential impacts to the annual premiums for the flood insurance policy covering that property, in writing over the signature of a community official that (i) the issuance of a variance to construct a structure below the base flood level will result in increased premium rates for flood insurance up to amounts as high as \$25.00 for \$100.00 of insurance coverage and (ii) such construction below the base flood level increases risks to life and property.

Such notification shall be maintained with the record of all variance actions for the referenced development in the floodplain overlay district.

The Town will request from the State Building Code Appeals Board a written and/or audible copy of the portion of the hearing related to the variance, and will maintain this record in the community's files.

7.9 Variances to local Zoning Bylaws related to community compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) A variance from these floodplain bylaws, when issued by the Zoning Board of Appeals, must meet the requirements set out by State law, and may only be granted if:

- A. good and sufficient cause and exceptional non-financial hardship exist; and
- B. the variance will not result in additional threats to public safety, extraordinary public expense, or fraud or victimization of the public; and
- C. the variance is the minimum action necessary to afford relief.

7.10 Permits are required for all proposed development in the Floodplain Overlay District The Town of Edgartown requires a Permit for all proposed construction or other development in the floodplain overlay district, including new construction or changes to existing buildings, placement of manufactured homes, placement of agricultural facilities, fences, sheds, storage facilities or drilling, mining, paving and any other development that might increase flooding or adversely impact flood risks to other properties. All development, including structural and non-structural activities, whether permitted by right or by special permit must be in compliance with Chapter 131, Section 40 of the Massachusetts General Laws and with the requirements of the Massachusetts State Building Code pertaining to construction in floodplains. Additionally any required federal permits must be obtained prior to the issuance of a development permit in the

Floodplain District as follows:

- A. Within Zones AH and AO on the FIRM, require adequate drainage paths around structures on slopes,

to guide floodwaters around and away from proposed structures.

B. Prohibit man-made alteration of sand dunes and salt marshes within Zone VE which would increase potential flood damage.

C. Provide that all new construction within Zone VE be located landward of the reach of mean high tide.

D. Existing contour intervals of site and elevations of existing structures must be included on plan proposal.

E. The Building Inspector shall deliver one copy of the development plan, in paper or electronic format, to the Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Board of Health, Highway Department, Building Inspector, Board of Appeals and Fire Department for comments which will be considered prior to issuing any applicable permits.

F. The Town's permit review process requires the applicant to obtain and submit documentation of all local, state and federal permits that will be necessary in order to carry out the proposed development in the floodplain overlay district.

G. The Building Inspector shall review all proposed development within the flood district to assure that all necessary permits have been received from those governmental agencies from which approval is required by Federal or State law, including but not limited to Section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution and Control Act Amendments of 1972, U.S.C. 1334, and

H. The most recent Elevation Certificate from the Federal Emergency Management Agency must be used to document elevations for all new construction and substantial improvements in the Special Flood Hazard Area.

I. In Zones A and AE, along watercourses that have not had a regulatory floodway designated, the best available Federal, State, local or other floodway data shall be used to prohibit encroachments in floodways which would result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge. In Zones A and AE, along watercourses that have a regulatory floodway designated on the Town's FIRM encroachments are prohibited in the regulatory floodway which would result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

J. For new construction and substantial improvements in the AO Zones, all floodplain permits granted under this section shall require that residential structures shall have the lowest floor elevated above the crown of the nearest street to or above the depth number specified on Edgartown's Flood Insurance Rate Map.

K. All floodplain permits granted under this section shall be subject to the following provisions:

1. All new and replacement utility and water facilities shall be located and constructed to minimize or eliminate flood damage.
2. All new and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the systems and discharges from the systems into flood waters. On-site waste disposal systems are to be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.
3. Approval for any Alteration of a Land Form may be approved by the Building Commissioner with the consent of the Conservation Commission. No Alteration of a Land Form shall be permitted where there may be the liability of altering the drainage or run-off to the detriment of other landholders or the Town.

7.11 Permitted and Prohibited uses

A. ALLOWED USES. The following uses of low flood damage potential and causing no obstructions to flood flows are encouraged provided they are permitted in the underlying district and comply with other requirements:

1. Agricultural uses such as farming, grazing, truck farming, horticulture, etc. provided appurtenant structures meet requirements (a) in section 7.10 and (b) as laid out by the Federal Emergency Management Agency
2. Forestry and nursery uses.
3. Outdoor recreational uses, including fishing, boating, play areas, etc.
4. Conservation of water, plants, wildlife.
5. Wildlife management areas, foot, bicycle, and/or horse paths.
6. Temporary non-residential structures used in connection with fishing, growing, harvesting, storage, or sale of crops raised on the premises.
7. Buildings lawfully existing prior to the adoption of these provisions.

B. PROHIBITED USES. The installation of Underground Storage Systems for the storage of petroleum products (including but not limited to oil, gasoline, kerosene, and any hazardous materials) shall be prohibited in the Special Flood Hazard Area (Zones A, AE, AH, AO, and VE on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the Town of Edgartown).

“Storage system”; shall mean storage tank and all supply lines between storage tank and burner.

“Underground”; shall mean under the surface of the

earth or under pavement, including cement floors of cellars or basements. Storage systems may be located in basements or cellars provided they are on or above the paved floor of the cellar or basement and the cellar or basement existed prior to July 2, 1980, when the Town of Edgartown adopted its first FIRM and floodplain regulations

7.12 Base flood elevation data for subdivision proposals

A. When proposing subdivisions or other developments greater than 50 lots or 5 acres (whichever is less), the proponent must provide technical data to determine base flood elevations for each developable parcel shown on the design plans.

B. All subdivision proposals and development proposals in the floodplain overlay district shall be reviewed to assure that

1. Such proposals minimize flood damage.
2. Public utilities and facilities are located & constructed so as to minimize flood damage.
3. Adequate drainage is provided.

7.13 Unnumbered A Zones

In A Zones, in the absence of FEMA BFE data and floodway data, the building department will obtain, review and reasonably utilize base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State, or other source as criteria for requiring new construction, substantial improvements, or other development in Zone A as the basis for elevating residential structures to or above base flood level, for floodproofing or elevating nonresidential structures to or above base flood level, and for prohibiting encroachments in floodways.

7.14 Watercourse alterations or relocations in riverine areas. In a riverine situation, the Building Inspector shall notify the following of any alteration or relocation of a watercourse:

A. Adjacent Communities, especially upstream and downstream

B. NFIP State Coordinator
Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
251 Causeway Street, 8th floor
Boston, MA 02114

C. NFIP Program Specialist
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I
99 High Street, 6th Floor
Boston, MA 02110

7.15. Recreational vehicles

In A, AH, AO, AE Zones, VE, and V Zones, all recreational vehicles on a site must be fully licensed and highway ready at all times.

7.16 Local Enforcement

A. Administrative Official. It shall be the duty of the Building Inspector or their designee to administer and enforce the provisions of this bylaw. If the Building Inspector receives in writing a request for enforcement and declines to act, or if a person alleges a violation in writing to that office who declines to act, the Building Inspector shall notify in writing the party requesting action of his refusal

to act and the reasons therefor within 14 days of receipt of such request.

B. Violations. The Building Inspector shall serve a notice of violation and order to any owner or person responsible for the erection, construction, reconstruction, conversion, alteration of a structure or change in use, increase in intensity, or extension or displacement of use of any structure or lot in violation of any approved plan, information or drawing pertinent thereto; or in violation of a permit or certificate issued under the provisions of this bylaw, and such order shall direct the immediate discontinuance of the unlawful action, use or condition and the abatement of the violation. Any owner who has been served with a notice and ceases any work or other activity shall not leave any structure or lot in such a condition as to be a hazard or menace to the public safety, health, morals or general welfare.

C. Prosecution of violation. If the notice of violation and order is not complied with promptly, the Select Board shall authorize and/or institute the appropriate action or proceeding at law or in equity to prevent any unlawful action, use or condition and to restrain, correct, or abate such violation. Any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this bylaw shall for each violation, upon conviction thereof, pay a fine of not more than \$500. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist after notice to remove the same shall constitute a separate offense.

7.21 Definitions

The following definitions shall apply to this section:

ALTERATION OF A LAND FORM means any man-made change in the existing character of the land including filling, grading, paving, dredging, mining, excavation, or drilling operation other than routine excavation, well-drilling, backfilling, grading and paving incidental to the construction of a residence or other structure for which a building permit has been issued.

DEVELOPMENT means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to building or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.

FLOODWAY. The channel of the river, creek or

other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than a designated height.

FUNCTIONALLY DEPENDENT USE means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. The term includes only docking facilities, port facilities that are necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, and ship building and ship repair facilities, but does not include long-term storage or related manufacturing facilities.

HIGHEST ADJACENT GRADE means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior to construction next to the proposed walls of a structure.

HISTORIC STRUCTURE means any structure that is:

A. Listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;

B. Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as

contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district;

C. Individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior;

or

D. Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:

1) By an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or

2) Directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

NEW CONSTRUCTION. Structures for which the start of construction commenced on or after the effective date of the first floodplain management code, regulation, ordinance, or standard adopted by the authority having jurisdiction, including any subsequent improvements to such structures. New construction includes work determined to be substantial improvement.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE means a vehicle which is:

A. Built on a single chassis;

B. 400 square feet or less when measured at the

largest horizontal projection;

C. Designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and

D. Designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

REGULATORY FLOODWAY - see FLOODWAY.

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA. The land area subject to flood hazards and shown on a Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard map as Zone A, AE, AO, AH, V, VO, or VE.

START OF CONSTRUCTION. The date of issuance for new construction and substantial improvements to existing structures, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement or other improvement is within 180 days after the date of issuance. The actual start of construction means the first placement of permanent construction of a building (including a manufactured home) on a site, such as the pouring of a slab or footings, installation of pilings or construction of columns. Permanent construction does not include land preparation (such as clearing, excavation, grading or filling), the installation of streets or walkways, excavation for a basement, footings, piers or foundations, the erection of temporary forms or the installation of accessory buildings such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main building. For a substantial improvement, the actual "start of construction" means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building.

STRUCTURE means, for floodplain management purposes, a walled and roofed building, including a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground, as well as a manufactured home.

SUBSTANTIAL REPAIR OF A FOUNDATION. When work to repair or replace a foundation results in the repair or replacement of a portion of the foundation with a perimeter along the base of the foundation that equals or exceeds 50% of the perimeter of the base of the foundation measured in linear feet, or repair or replacement of 50% of the piles, columns or piers of a pile, column or pier supported foundation, the building official shall determine it to be substantial repair of a foundation. Applications determined by the building official to constitute substantial repair of a foundation shall require all existing portions of the entire building or structure to meet the requirements of 780 CMR.

VARIANCE means a grant of relief by a community from the terms of a floodplain management regulation.

VIOLATION means the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the community's floodplain management regulations. A structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in §60.3(b)(5), (c)(4), (c)(10), (d)(3), (e)(2), (e)(4), or (e)(5) is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided.

...or take any other action relative thereto.

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED

Submitted by the Planning Board

NEITHER RECOMMENDED NOR NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE

FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by a vote of 178 YES, 6 NO

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$2,384.29 to pay the following Fiscal Year 2022 unpaid bills:

R.M Packer Co Heating Fuel \$1,634.01 Select Board

R.M Packer Co Heating Fuel \$750.28 Shellfish Department

9/10 VOTE REQUIRED

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

The Moderator declared the Special Town Meeting adjourned at 7:39 P.M.

Attest:

KAREN R. MEDEIROS

Town Clerk



**REPORT FOR
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
APRIL 11, 2023**

The Moderator began the Annual Town Meeting at 7:39 P.M. The quorum of 208 (a total of 224 voters attended) was still in attendance. Moderator Ewing read the preamble to the Warrant and the Constable's return of service.

Town Poet Laureate Steven Ewing read his poem "The Course".

ARTICLE 1. To elect the following Officers and on the Official Ballot:

1. One Select Board Member for Three Years
2. One Assessor for Three Years
3. One Board of Health Member for Three Years
4. Two Financial Advisory Committee Members for Three Years
5. One Financial Advisory Committee Members for Two Years
6. Two Library Trustees for Three Years
7. One Park Commissioner for Three Years
8. One Planning Board Member for Five Years
9. One Edgartown School Committee Member for Three Years
10. One Wastewater Treatment Commissioner for Three Years
11. One Water Commissioner for Three Years

ARTICLE 2. To hear reports of the Town Officers and Committees, and to act thereon and to choose all other necessary Town Officers who are elected from the floor of the Town Meeting.

Elected on the floor:

SURVEYORS OF LUMBER

Robert Avakian James Hagerty
David Allen Faber

A motion was made to appoint the above named persons as Surveyors of Lumber. Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by a UNANIMOUS VOTE.

MEASURERS OF WOOD AND BARK

Martha Look James Joyce
Alex Morrison

A motion was made to appoint the above named persons as Measurers of Wood and Bark. Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by a UNANIMOUS VOTE.

FENCE VIEWERS

Paul Bagnall James Joyce
M.J. Rogers

A motion was made to appoint the above named persons as Fence Viewers. Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by a UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ARTICLE 3. Moved that the Town will vote to amend the annual salary scales of the Classification Plan of the Personnel By-law, so that they reflect a 5.0% increase, which is a cost of living adjustment becoming effective July 1, 2023.

Submitted by Personnel Board RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Personnel By-Law Section 25.0 Edgartown Classification and Salary Plan as Follows effective July 1, 2023: Delete the position of Tax Collector Grade I Add the position of Tax Collector Grade J Add the position of Facilities Manager to Grade F

Submitted by Personnel Board RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise the necessary sums of money to defray the general expenses of the Town for Fiscal Year 2024 and to make appropriations therefore.

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and set aside for later expenditure from the Community Preservation Fund established pursuant to Chapter 44B of the Massachusetts General Laws, Fiscal Year 2024 revenues in the following amounts to the following reserves.

\$140,000.00 to be appropriated to the Community Preservation Open Space Reserve Fund;

\$140,000.00 to be appropriated to the Community Preservation Affordable Housing Reserve Fund;

\$140,000.00 to be appropriated to the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve Fund;

\$700,000.00 to be appropriated to the Community Preservation Budgeted Reserve;

\$30,000.00 to be appropriated to the Community Preservation Administrative Expenses Account.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an

UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to close the following CPC accounts and transfer the remaining funds into the referred accounts for future appropriation. \$22,610.00 - ATM4/19 A9 DCRH Rental Assist Org 34106011 to CP Affordable Housing Fund \$20,725.00 - ATM6/20 A6 DCRH Rental Assist Org 34106119 To CP Affordable Housing Fund \$14,285.00 - ATM5/21 A7 DCRH Rental Assist Org 34106129 to CP Affordable Housing Fund

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Affordable Housing Fund the sum of \$118,000.00 to be paid to The Dukes County Regional Housing Authority to fund the Rental Assistance Program for Edgartown Families for Fiscal Year 2024 .

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Affordable Housing Fund the amount of \$42,000.00 and from the Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2023 Budgeted Reserve the amount of \$161,000.00 for a total of \$203,000.00 to fund the PALS program through The Resource Inc. (TRI). The PALS program will provide interest-free loans to Edgartown families earning less than 100% median income to fund emergency needed structural home repairs to ensure safe and sanitary housing conditions.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2023 Budgeted Reserve the amount of \$296,522.00 and from the Community Preservation Unbudgeted Reserve the amount of \$160,000.00 for a total of \$456,522.00 to fund restoration to the Edgartown Lighthouse in cooperation with the MV Museum.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

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RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2023 Budgeted Reserve the amount of \$89,300.00 to fund The Preservation Trust's "Phase 2" of restoration to the Vincent House which will address "structural needs, replace failing roof, sidewalls and restore windows".

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$100,000.00 from the Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2023 Budgeted Reserve for the historic restoration of the roof of the MV Camp Meeting Association Tabernacle in Oak Bluffs.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Unbudgeted Reserve the amount of \$500,000.00 to help fund the creation of the new Robinson Road Recreation Area based on the plan developed using CPC funding appropriated at Town Meeting in April of 2022.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$12,500.00 from the Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2023 Budgeted Reserve for preservation and restoration work on the rescue boat "Half Moon" that belongs to the Town and resides in the Whale Tail Park under the control of the Conservation Commission.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$40,000.00 from the Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2023 Budgeted Reserve for Phase 1 in a project by the Cemetery Department to preserve and restore the iron fencing in the Old West Side Cemetery.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the amount of \$75,000.00 from the Community Preservation Open Space Fund for restoration of the Town beaches by beach nourishment through the Conservation Commission.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$120,000.00 from the Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2023 Budgeted Reserve to go toward the increased costs of the North Wharf restoration project.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$5,000.00 from the Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2023 Budgeted Reserve and \$2,000.00 from the Community Preservation Unbudgeted Reserve for a sum of \$7,000.00 to go toward "Snow Fencing" to protect the dunes at South Beach.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$50,000.00 from the Fiscal Year 2023 Budgeted Reserve to the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Fund for future needs.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$75,000.00 to pay the cost of the Fourth of July Fireworks.

Submitted by the Select Board

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$20,000.00 to provide funds for an integrated pest management program as needed by various departments.

Submitted by the Select Board

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$350,000.00 to the Town's General Purpose Stabilization Fund under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B, effective for Fiscal Year 2024 beginning on July 1, 2023, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Select Board

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$1,000,000.00 to the Town's Capital Stabilization Fund under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B, effective for Fiscal Year 2024 beginning on July 1, 2023, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Select Board

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$720,000.00 to demolish the existing Animal Control Office and Kennel in order to construct a new facility that com-

plies with Commonwealth of Massachusetts requirements.

Submitted by the Animal Control Officer

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$40,000.00 to be used for valuation updates of real and personal property, revaluations, and Department of Revenue Recertification.

Submitted by the Board of Assessors

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will transfer \$74,000.00 from the Sale of Cemetery Lots Fund 3001 to a continued appropriation for the expansion of the New Westside Cemetery.

Submitted by the Cemetery Commission

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000.00 to conduct an analysis of potential governance options for the future disposition of the Chappaquiddick Ferry in order to ensure the ferry service remains effective and efficient in its service of the community.

Submitted by the Chappaquiddick Ferry Steering Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by the Moderator declaring it CARRIED.

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$75,000.00 to fund a comprehensive review and update of the Town Zoning Bylaws to include identifying possible changes to assist in adaptation towards anticipated climate change.

Submitted by the Climate Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by the Moderator declaring it CARRIED

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year

2024, the sum of \$35,000.00 for the annual rent and taxes for the property known as the "Hall Memorial Park" located at 50 Main Street.

Submitted by the Conservation Commission

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 30. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$140,000.00 for the replacement of the roof on the Council on Aging building.

Submitted by the Council on Aging

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 31. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$78,000.00 for permitting costs associated with increasing the number of dredging and/or disposal locations to the existing 10 year Comprehensive Permit.

Submitted by the Dredge Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 32. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$160,000.00 for two new skiffs and accompany motors in order to facilitate dredging operations, and further, to authorize the Dredge Committee and Select Board to dispose of the old equipment in the best interest of the Town.

Submitted by the Dredge Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 33. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$149,627.00 to support the Dukes County Health Care Access in accordance with the Inter-municipal Agreement, as the same may be amended from time to time

Submitted by the Dukes County Commissioners

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 34. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$15,347.00 to support the Dukes County Public Benefits Access in accordance with the Inter-municipal Agreement, as the same may be amended from time to time

Submitted by the Dukes County Commissioners

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 35. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$19,735.00 to support the Homelessness Prevention Programs on Martha's Vineyard through Dukes County in accordance with the Inter-municipal Agreement, as the same may be amended from time to time.

Submitted by the Dukes County Commissioners

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 36. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024 the sum of \$191,288.00 to support the Martha's Vineyard Center for Living Programs through Dukes County in accordance with the Inter-municipal Agreement, as the same may be amended from time to time.

Submitted by the Dukes County Commissioners

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 37. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$33,707.00 to support the CORE program to provide coordinated counseling, outreach, and referral services to our residents who are 55 years and older through Dukes County in accordance with the Inter-municipal Agreement, as the same may be amended from time to time.

Submitted by the Dukes County Commissioners

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 38. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$39,677.00 to support the planning, advocacy and education for Healthy Aging on Mar-

tha's Vineyard through Dukes County in accordance with the Inter-municipal Agreement, as the same may be amended from time to time.

Submitted by the Dukes County Commissioners

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 39. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$16,098.00 to support the Substance Use Disorder Coalition in addressing needs related to substance use prevention, treatment, recovery support and harm reduction on Martha's Vineyard through Dukes County in accordance with the Inter-municipal Agreement, as the same may be amended from time to time.

Submitted by the Dukes County Commissioners

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 40. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$17,229.00 as the apportioned share of the county budget supplemental income revenue. The funding is contingent on all Island Towns paying for such costs in Fiscal Year 2024 according to the current fixed cost formula.

Submitted by the Dukes County Commissioners

NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (UNANIMOUS)

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 41. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$66,260.00 as the apportioned share of the necessary improvements of the Dukes County Health Care Access building. The funding is contingent on all Island Towns paying for such costs in Fiscal Year 2024 according to the current fixed cost formula.

Submitted by the Dukes County Commissioners

NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (UNANIMOUS)

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 42. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$56,177.00 to support the maintenance costs of the Martha's Vineyard Public Safety Communication System in accordance with the Co-

operative Agreement for Emergency Communications and Dispatch Services. The funding is contingent on all Island Towns paying for such costs in Fiscal Year 2024 according to the agreed upon dispatch and fixed cost formula.

Submitted by Dukes County Sheriff

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 43. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$75,257.40 for the replacement of two cardiac monitors that are required equipment for Advanced Life Support. The current units are 9 years into their 8-10 year life cycle and because of supply chain issues are no longer supported by the manufacturer and must be replaced.

Submitted by the Fire Chief

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 44. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$100,000.00 to the Fire Truck Stabilization Fund under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B, effective for Fiscal Year 2024 beginning on July 1, 2023, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Fire Chief

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 45. To see if the Town will appropriate \$21,500,000.00 or any other amount, to pay costs of designing, constructing, equipping and furnishing a new fire station, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, borrowing or otherwise provided, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Question 1) 2/3 VOTE REQUIRED

Submitted by the Fire Chief

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded: thereafter the Fire Chief made a motion to amend to the Article to read:

That the Town appropriates \$21,500,000.00 to pay costs of designing, constructing, equipping and furnishing a new fire station, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the

approval of the Selectboard, is authorized to borrow said amount pursuant to G.L. c.44, ss7(1) or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. No amounts shall be borrowed or expended pursuant to this vote unless the Town shall have voted to exclude the amounts necessary to repay any debt authorized by this vote from the limitations on the property tax levy set forth in G.L. c 59, ss21C (also known as Proposition ½).

The amendment was moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by Moderator declaring the amendment carries. The Article as amended was then voted in FAVOR by a vote of: YES 189, NO 7

ARTICLE 46. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$980,000.00 for the Phase One development and construction of the Edgartown's School Outdoor Learning Campus and Playground.

Submitted by the Edgartown School Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 47. To see if the Town will vote to approve the \$2,000,000.00 borrowing authorized by the Regional District School Committee of the Martha's Vineyard Regional School District, for the purpose of paying costs of a feasibility study relating to the possible replacement or reconstruction of the District High School, located at 100 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road, in Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts, including all costs incidental and related thereto, and for which the District may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee, or to take any other action relative thereto. The MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any Study costs the District incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the District and its member towns. Any grant that the District may receive from the MSBA for the Study shall be as set forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement that may be executed between the District and the MSBA

Submitted by the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 48. To determine whether the Town will vote to accept and approve the amendment and re-

statement of the Regional Agreement for the Martha's Vineyard Regional School District which was initiated and approved by a vote of the School Committee for the Martha's Vineyard Regional School District on September 1, 2022, and which has been submitted as an amended and restated "Regional Agreement for Martha's Vineyard Regional School District" to the Town Clerks of each Member Town, consistent with Section XIII of the existing Regional Agreement, titled "REGIONAL AGREEMENT Martha's Vineyard Regional High School"; or take any action relative thereto. The School Committee for the District has proposed an amendment and restatement of the District's Regional Agreement to supersede the original 1954 regional agreement and all other amendments to the original agreement and which will reflect and comply with changes in applicable law. This amendment and restatement of the Regional Agreement will take effect only if all six member towns accept and approve the amendment and restatement at their respective Town Meetings and only upon approval by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. A copy of the full text of the amendment and restatement of the Regional Agreement is available from the Town Clerk and also will be available at Town Meeting.

Submitted by the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 49. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$15,425.00 to fund the Town of Edgartown's share of the administrative expenses for the All Island School Committee's contract for Adult and Community Education.

Submitted by MV Superintendent's Office and MV Center for Education and Training (MVCET, formerly ACE MV)

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 50. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$78,000.00 for the maintenance and replacement of moorings, buoys, spiles, tie-off stakes, floats, walkways, and equipment necessary for marine operations on Town owned docks and property.

Submitted by the Harbormaster

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY

RY COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 51. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$4,500.00 to dispose of abandoned vessels and trailers stored by the Harbormaster at the Fisherman's Depot.

Submitted by the Harbormaster

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 52. To see if the Town will appropriate \$2,600,000.00 or any other amount, to pay additional costs of reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to North Wharf, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, which amount shall be expended in addition to the \$900,000.00 previously appropriated for this purpose under Article 56 of the Warrant at the 2019 Annual Town Meeting; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, borrowing or otherwise provided, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Question 2)

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED

Submitted by the Harbormaster

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded: thereafter the Harbormaster made a motion to amend to the Article to read:

That the Town appropriates \$2,600,000.00 to pay additional costs of reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to North Wharf, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, which amount shall not be expended in addition to the \$900,000.00 previously appropriated for this purpose under Article 56 of the Warrant at the 2019 Annual Town Meeting, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, is authorized to borrow said amount pursuant to G.L. c44, ss7(1) or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. No amounts shall be borrowed or expended pursuant to this vote unless the Town shall have voted to exclude the amounts necessary to repay any debt authorized by this vote from the limitations on the property tax levy set forth in G.L. c59, ss21C (also known as Proposition 2 ½).

The amendment was moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by Moderator declaring the amendment carries.

The Article as amended was then voted in FAVOR by a UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 53. To see if the Town will vote to appro-

appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$245,000.00 to purchase a 40,000lb GVW (Gross Vehicle Weight) dump truck, and further, to authorize the Highway Department Superintendent and Select Board to dispose of the surplus 1994 dump truck in the best interest of the Town.

Submitted by the Highway Department

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 54. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200,000.00 for the rebuilding and resurfacing of various Town streets.

Submitted by the Highway Superintendent

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 55. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200,000.00 for the building and repairing of various Town sidewalks, bike paths, parking lots, and storm water drainage systems.

Submitted by the Highway Superintendent

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 56. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 to clean the catch basins.

Submitted by the Highway Superintendent

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 57. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum \$8,000.00 to repaint the streetlight lanterns on Main Street.

Submitted by the Highway Superintendent

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 58. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to accept and enter into contracts for the expenditure of any funds allotted by the Commonwealth for the construction, reconstruction, and improvements of the Town infrastructure, and to authorize the Select Board to borrow in anticipation of

the reimbursement of funds. (Chapter 303, Acts of 2008), in the amount of \$236,186.00

Submitted by the Highway Superintendent

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; Highway Superintendent amended the Article to \$240,519.92 thereafter the amendment was moved and seconded and voted in favor the Article as amended was voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 59. To see if the Town will approve from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$40,000.00 to purchase and equip a heavy duty pick-up truck, and further, to authorize the Parks Commissioners, and Select Board to dispose of the old truck in the best interest of the Town.

Submitted by the Park Commissioners

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 60. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$70,000.00 to be used for the rental and maintenance of the portable toilets at South Beach, Robinson Road Recreation Area, and Park and Ride.

Submitted by the Park Commissioners

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 61. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$265,562.00 for the management and operation of Norton Point Beach in Edgartown.

Submitted by the Park Commissioners

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 62. To see if the Town shall authorize a spending limit of \$500,000.00 to be expended from the Beach Management Revolving Fund for the Fiscal Year 2024 beginning on July 1, 2023 or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Parks Commission

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 63. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$168,269.00 to purchase and equip two new police cruisers, and an unmarked police cruiser, and further, to authorize the Chief of Police and Select Board to dispose of the cruisers in the best interest of the Town.

Submitted by the Police Chief

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 64. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$44,000.00 to fund various Shellfish Committee programs to be administered by the Shellfish Department.

Submitted by the Shellfish Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 65. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$39,000.00 to fund the Town's Fiscal Year 2024 membership fee in the Martha's Vineyard Shellfish Group.

Submitted by the Shellfish Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 66. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$15,000.00 to clear and open the Mattakesett Herring Creek for Town pond health.

Submitted by the Shellfish Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 67. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of \$70,000.00 for the Wastewater Department's Equipment and Collection System Maintenance account.

Submitted by the Wastewater Commissioners

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 68. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$216,000.00 to replace the influent and effluent samplers, influent stop plates, D-box gates at the Wastewater Plant, as well as check and gate valves at the Chase Road and Dock Street pump stations.

Submitted by the Wastewater Commissioners

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 69. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of the \$1,165,000.00 to replace one of the sludge belt presses at the Wastewater Plant with a rotary screw press and to replace the sludge conditioning dry polymer system with a liquid polymer system.

Submitted by the Wastewater Commissioners

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 70. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$465,000.00 to replace the plant water effluent pump system with a new skid-mounted pump system.

Submitted by the Wastewater Commissioners

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 71. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Wastewater Commission to enter into a contract of up to 20 years duration, commencing on July 1, 2023, with a qualified vendor for Wastewater Plant sludge disposal, subject to the Wastewater Commission's determination that the contract is in the best interests of the Town and subject annually to Town Meeting approval for funding for these services, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Wastewater Commission

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 72. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$40,000.00 in Fiscal Year 2024 from the Water Department's surplus to cover initial permitting, water quality analysis, drilling, engineering and costs incidental and related thereto to finance the initial phases of the development of an additional water supply for the community. This article will have no impact on water user's charges or the tax rate. Water surplus funds will finance this purpose.

Submitted by the Board of Water Commissioners
RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 73. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 from the Water Department's surplus to cover the cost of inspecting, cleaning and repairs to a municipal well, and for costs incidental and related thereto. This article will have no impact on water user's charges or the tax rate. Water surplus funds will finance this purpose.

Submitted by the Board of Water Commissioners
RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 74. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 from the Water Department's surplus to fund the replacement of aged water meters so as to improve conservation efforts and water accountability; and for costs incidental and related thereto. This article will have no impact on water user's charges or the tax rate. Water surplus funds will finance this purpose.

Submitted by the Board of Water Commissioners
RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 75. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$90,000.00 from the Water Department's surplus for improvements necessary for the Town's water system in FY 2024 including the installation, replacement, cleaning and relining of water mains and appurtenances; installation and replacement of water service lines and water meters; construction equipment; vehicles; construction and restoration of pump stations, wells, water treatment and quality processes; construction and restoration of the office, standpipe and other structures, buildings, grounds and facilities and operations and for costs incidental and related thereto. This article will have no impact on water user's charges or the tax rate. Water surplus funds will finance this purpose.

Submitted by the Board of Water Commissioners
RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 76. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board, on the terms and conditions

as they deem in the best interest of the Town, to grant a utility easement within the layout of Chappaquiddick Road, a Town way, to benefit the owners of a parcel identified as Assessor Map 30, Parcel 5 which has a physical address of 36 Chappaquiddick Road, Edgartown.

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED

Submitted by the Board of Health

NEITHER RECOMMENDED NOR NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by an UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 77. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following ban on the sale of miniature single use containers for alcoholic beverages as a general by-law to note; "The sale of alcoholic beverages in containers less than or equal to 100 milliliters is prohibited within the Town of Edgartown"; effective May 1, 2024 with language inserted in the Town By-laws as Part II, Chapter 66, Ban of Miniature Single Use Bottles ("NIP" bottles), or as any section that may be identified by any future reorganization of said document, or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by the Select Board

NEITHER RECOMMENDED NOR NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter discussion the Article was voted in favor by the Moderator declaring it CARRIED

ARTICLE 78. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into an agreement with the owner of the Kelley House to: (i) receive a perpetual easement to continue to cross a portion of the Kelley House property at 55 North Water Street, Tax Assessor Map 20D, Parcels 298.1 and 301 (the "Kelley House Property"), to access the Town's property used by the Council on Aging at 10 Daggett Street, Tax Assessor Map 20D, Parcel 298.2 (the "Council on Aging Property"); (2) to grant a perpetual easement to the Kelley House Property to continue to cross a portion of the Council on Aging Property to access a portion of the Kelley House Property; (3) to grant and receive temporary easements to allow the Council on Aging to continue to use eleven parking spaces located in part on the Kelley House Property, and to allow the Kelley House Property to continue to use seven of those parking spaces when the Council on Aging is not using them, all until the Town no longer owns the Council on Aging Property or the Council on Aging no longer operates there; and (4) to grant a temporary easement to the Kelley House Property to maintain and prune an existing

hedge on the Council on Aging Property, and to change the hedge if it obtains prior permission from the Select Board, until the Town no longer owns the Council on Aging Property or the Council on Aging no longer operates there. The agreement will be on such terms as the Board determines are in the best interests of the Town and the Council on Aging and consistent with all governing laws.

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED

Submitted by the Select Board

NEITHER RECOMMENDED NOR NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter voted in favor by a vote of 189 YES, 3 NO

ARTICLE 79. OUTDOOR LIGHTING PURPOSE.

In order to preserve and maintain the traditional character of Edgartown, including the unique quality of the nighttime sky, this bylaw is intended to:

- A. Reduce the problems created by improperly designed and installed outdoor lighting;
- B. Eliminate problems of glare and sky glow;
- C. Diminish light spillage from indoor sources;
- D. Minimize light trespass;
- E. Decrease light pollution;
- F. Promote energy conservation;
- G. Conserve our natural resources and protect flora and fauna;
- H. Prevent unreasonable interference with astronomical observation; and
- I. Create standards for outdoor lighting so that its use does not unreasonably interfere with the use and nighttime enjoyment of property within Edgartown.

OUTDOOR LIGHTING : DEFINITIONS

Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, certain words and phrases used in this section shall mean the following:

“Lamp” means the component of an outdoor fixture that produces light.

“Up-light” means direct light emitted by an outdoor light fixture above horizontal plane through the fixture’s lowest emitting part.

“Shielded” when referring to an outdoor light fixture means that the fixture allows no up-light.

“Outdoor lighting” means the nighttime illumination of an outside area or object by any manmade device that produces light, including lights located indoors which are directed for outdoor illumination.

OUTDOOR LIGHTING: REGULATIONS

Scope: All outdoor lighting installed in Edgartown shall be in conformance with the requirements estab-

lished by this bylaw Outdoor lighting: In all zoning districts, any private outdoor lighting fixture, whether temporary or permanent, shall be so directed, placed and shielded so that the light shall not be offensive to other residents. All outdoor lighting must be shielded and pointed downward. All outdoor lighting shall be placed or mounted so that no lamp is higher than the eave line of the structure.

Multiple lamps on the fixtures are allowed; however, lights shall not be combined or grouped in such a way that circumvents the purpose and intent of this bylaw. Electrical insect control devices (bug zappers) are prohibited

OUTDOOR LIGHTING: EXCEPTIONS

Public lighting, including lights used for temporary emergency lighting needed by the Police or Fire Departments or other emergency services shall be exempt from the requirements of this bylaw.

Vehicular and vessel lights may be allowed for temporary recreational events. Alternative light fixtures may be allowed for temporary recreational events. Holiday lights. Holiday lights may only be permitted to be illuminated during the traditional holiday periods. Traditional and antique lights, or reproductions thereof, shall be allowed provided that they do not circumvent the spirit of this bylaw. Temporary lighting shall be permitted for no longer than a six (6) day period in a calendar year.

OUTDOOR LIGHTING: ENFORCEMENT

The Edgartown Building Inspector is authorized to enforce the provisions of this Bylaw.

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED

Submitted by Petition

NEITHER RECOMMENDED NOR NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved and seconded; thereafter discussion it was Moved and seconded to INDEFINITELY POSTPONE and was voted in favor to INDEFINITELY POSTPONE

The Moderator declared the Annual Town Meeting adjourned at 10:08 P.M.

Attest:

KAREN R. MEDEIROS

Town Clerk

REPORT OF ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION HELD ON April 13, 2023

Pursuant to the Warrant, the Inhabitants of the Town of Edgartown qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs met in the Polling Place, the Fred B. Morgan, Jr. Meeting Room (Town Hall) 70 Main Street, on Thursday the Fourteenth day of April, Two Thousand Twenty-Two at Ten o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act on Article One of the Warrant by the election of Officers on the Official Ballot.

Wanda M. Williams, Warden, Cindy Bonnell Registrar, Scott Ellis, Constable, William Bishop, IV, Constable, Collette Jordan, Assistant Town Clerk, Ann Tyra and Kevin Searle were sworn in as Officers of the Day.

The Polls were declared open at 10:00 A. M. by Karen R. Medeiros, Town Clerk. It was unanimously voted to waive the reading of Article One on the Warrant.

At 8:15 P.M., all ballots having been accounted for and tallied (517), the Town Clerk announced the result of the Election.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN	
VOTE FOR ONE FOR THREE YEARS	
Margaret E. Serpa	386
Write-Ins	19
Blanks	112

BOARD OF ASSESSORS	
VOTE FOR ONE FOR THREE YEARS	
Alan Gowell	366
James E. Joyce	113
Write-Ins	2
Blanks	36

BOARD OF HEALTH	
VOTE FOR ONE FOR THREE YEARS	
Gretchen E. Regan	410
Write-Ins	2
Blanks	105

FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE	
VOTE FOR TWO FOR THREE YEARS	
Leslie J. Baynes	414
Donna Lowell-Bettencourt	403
Write-Ins	1
Blanks	216

FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE	
VOTE FOR ONE FOR TWO YEARS	
Kelly M. McCracken	399
Write-Ins	2
Blanks	116

LIBRARY TRUSTEES	
VOTE FOR TWO FOR THREE YEARS	
David A. Faber	402
Denise Searle	421
Write-Ins	2
Blanks	209

PARK COMMISSIONER	
VOTE FOR ONE FOR THREE YEARS	
Jane M. Varkonda	411
Write-Ins	2
Blanks	104

PLANNING BOARD	
VOTE FOR ONE FOR FIVE YEARS	
Write-Ins	
Scott Morgan	27
Michael Shallet	13
Leo McHugh	12
Miscellaneous Write-Ins	52
Blanks	413

SCHOOL COMMITTEE	
VOTE FOR ONE FOR THREE YEARS	
Kimberly Kirk	224
Kelly D. Scott	246
Write-Ins	0
Blanks	47

WASTEWATER TREATMENT COMMISSIONER	
VOTE FOR ONE FOR THREE YEARS	
Scott Ellis	448
Write-Ins	2
Blanks	67

WATER COMMISSIONER	
VOTE FOR ONE FOR THREE YEARS	
David Burke	416
Write-Ins	0
Blanks	101

BALLOT QUESTION #1
 Shall the Town of Edgartown be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to pay costs of designing, constructing, equipping and furnishing a new fire station, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto?

YES	380
NO	120
BLANK	17

BALLOT QUESTION #2
 Shall the Town of Edgartown be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to pay costs of reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to North Wharf, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto?

YES	431
NO	65
BLANK	21

Attest: KAREN R. MEDEIROS,
Town Clerk

BIRTHS

Births are not published in the Town Report due to the passing of the Acts and Resolves of Massachusetts 1991, which prohibits the sale and distribution of the names of children under the age of seventeen. The total number of births recorded in the town of Edgartown in 2023 was 40.

MARRIAGES & DEATHS

MARRIAGES RECORDED IN 2023

DATE	NAME	RESIDENCE	DATE	NAME	RESIDENCE
FEBRUARY			JUNE		
2	Renan De Souza Kethellen Pereira Da Silva	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA	03	Charles Philip Duquette Haley Lorraine Krauss	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
8	Christopher Marciano de Souza Luanna Lara Ferreira Goncalves	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA	07	Justin Robert Gladu Iara Maria Gauer Ferrer	Tisbury, MA Tisbury, MA
10	Jonathan Silva Snezana Savic	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA	08	Mark Douglas Bloeth Christy Lynne Emanski	Woodstock, GA Woodstock, GA
14	Donald Anthony Maciel Kim Stevens Baker	Edgartown, MA Tisbury, MA	10	Simon Hecht Taub Blaine Alexa Naftelberg	Hastings on Hudson, NY Hastings on Hudson, NY
MARCH			10	Nicholas Eaton Woodhull Grace Preston	Darien, CT Darien, CT
18	Daniel Ivan Molina Alarco Tova --- Katzman	Bella Vista, Panama Tisbury, MA	10	Jacob Philip Kinney Shanna Lynn Adrian	Marina Del Rey, CA Marina Del Rey, CA
23	Alex Goldhill Zada Reed Clarke	Chilmark, MA Chilmark, MA	14	Eugene Yap Karlo Jerik	Oak Bluffs, MA Oak Bluffs, MA
24	Wederson Sergio Vial Carla Roberta Rodrigues Da Silva	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA	15	Nicholas Anthony DelSapio Jenna Alyce Larson	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
31	Robert Maurice Green, Jr. Linda M. DeWitt	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA	17	Jeffrey Scott Cameron Emily Grace Leitner	Wenoah, NJ Philadelphia, PA
APRIL			17	William Edward Cohen Sarah Jordyn Lindenberg	Boston, MA Boston, MA
03	Joseph Maximilliano Reyes Mila Gluscevic	Oak Bluffs, MA Oak Bluffs, MA	19	Andrew Michael Tye Ashley Nicole Knowles	Boston, MA Boston, MA
16	Peter Francis Zona Jessica Luna Townes	Tisbury, MA Tisbury, MA	20	Dusan Veselinovic Ksenija Djokic	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
MAY			21	Emerson Dias Leao Madelin Gabriela Gordon Enriquez	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
02	Prichard Morris Channer Carole Alicia Roper	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA	23	Ethan John Stuart Catherine Hartley Mellick	Frenchtown, NY Frenchtown, NY
06	Khalid Abdullah Finley Jackson Alene Carol Peterson	Oak Bluffs, MA Oak Bluffs, MA	24	George Henry Avery Anna Blair Caplan	Jersey City, NJ Jersey City, NJ
06	Charles --- Cooper Jr. Jane --- Ferguson	New York, NY New York, NY	24	Ryan Kenneth Rabac Clara Gabrielle Goldfield	Washington, D.C. Washington, D.C.
13	Jeremy Kurland Brenner Katelyn Olivia Muldowney	New York, NY New York, NY	30	Kelly Ann Long Marla Kay Martinous	Houston, TX Houston, TX
26	James Wynkoop Kiersted Annette Luna	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA	30	Jacob Richard Davis Courtney Elizabeth Snay	N. Charleston, SC N. Charleston, SC
26	Nicholas Queiroz Ribeiro Maria Eduarda Siqueria Otoni	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA			

DATE	NAME	RESIDENCE	DATE	NAME	RESIDENCE
JULY...			SEPTEMBER...		
03	Spencer Reed Booker Alyssa Marie Noble	Westborough, MA Westborough, MA	16	George William Lewis IV Meredith Ann Craine	Foxboro, MA Foxboro, MA
12	Harry Tappan Heher Jean-Edouard Van Praet d'Amerloo	New York, NY New York, NY	16	James Cochran Boynton Caroline McLeod Thompson	Denver, CO Denver, CO
17	Prellwitz --- Randolph Maria Cristina --- Presutto	Wauconda, IL Mannheim, Germany	16	Roy Michael Anderson Shelley Lee Hollibaugh	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
27	Marcos Rogerio Alves Simone Amorim Nunes	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA	16	Christopher William Fotta Chloe Alyson Benoit	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
27	Adalto Botelho Souza Sandra Moria da Silva	Oak Bluffs, MA Oak Bluffs, MA	16	Daniel Scott Alpers Emily Hogan Leinbach	Boston, MA Boston, MA
AUGUST			22	Keaton Thomassen Cameron-Burr Charis Elizabeth Russell	Providence, RI Providence, RI
08	Huaxing Wang Huipeng Chan	Burnbay, BC Canada Edgartown, MA	22	Samuel Patrick Henderson Hattie Amelia Marshall	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
11	John Carroll Graham III Christina Ann Salvatore	Brook Park, OH Brook Park, OH	22	Jason Patrick Magner Lauren Keane Cochran	Boston, MA Boston, MA
14	Devin Zachary Pierre Emma Liliya Korbs	New York, NY New York, NY	22	Michael Brandon Thomas Brooke Sierra Silva	Imperial Beach, CA Imperial Beach, CA
17	Christopher Beresford King Lolita Rosetta Doward	Tisbury, MA Tisbury, MA	23	Tyler Hixon Aubrey Emily Martina Berger	Cos Cob, CT Cos Cob, CT
19	Victor James Ross Viviana E. Rios-Hodges	Missouri City, TX Missouri City, TX	23	Ross Walden Kellar Meaghan Elizabeth Wheeler	Dartmouth, MA Westwood, MA
19	Patricia Yanibelle Urena Daniel Dias Raspante	Lawrence, MA Lawrence, MA	23	Erik Frank Dinardo Kerri Marie Bergin	Boston, MA Boston, MA
25	William James Heath Antonina Evan Nicol	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA	23	Tyler William Breckenridge Isabelle Claire Mackell	New York, NY New York, NY
SEPTEMBER			23	Adam Isaac Lopez Meghan Kathleen Murphy	Blauvelt, NY Blauvelt, NY
01	Edward Augustine Gargan Di Tang	Edgartown, MA Beijing, China	23	John Patrick Scotto Casey Ann O'Neill	New York, NY New York, NY
02	Fagner Alves Batista Carolina Cesar Loubach	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA	23	Evan Robert Orlando Lindsey Taylor Wallace	Whitman, MA Whitman, MA
05	Maxwell Jerome Neuhoff Natalie Renee Hoekstra	Brooklyn, NY Brooklyn, NY	28	Joshua Merrill Melissa Ann Spero	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
07	Ryan Matthew Barbaccia Sarah Molly Zweifach	San Francisco, CA San Francisco, CA	28	Scott Matthew Buchholz Harriot Emily Frampton	Lafayette, CO Lafayette, CO
08	Marcelo Resende Goncalves Simone Marta Dos Santos	Tisbury, MA Tisbury, MA	29	Osvaldo Dias Alves Camila Alves Dos Santos	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
09	Samuel Louis Karp Jamie Allison Kaplan	Brooklyn, NY Brooklyn, NY	30	Jacob Albert Salpietro Margaret Ann Walsh	Westport, CT Westport, CT
09	Timothy Francis Dodds Anna Kramer Viragh	Washington, D.C. Washington, D.C.	30	William Reed Stager Madeline Claire Bath	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
09	Christopher Robert Bovino Emily Elizabeth Falvey	Portland, ME Portland, ME	OCTOBER		
14	Adilson Machado Ferreira Renata Ferreira Da Silva	Tisbury, MA Tisbury, MA	03	Frank Harold Cray Jr. Amanda Lais Muniz Cardoso	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
14	Earle Ricardo Jackson Sherene Annmarie Johnson	Tisbury, MA Tisbury, MA	07	Michael Christopher Roche Melissa Sara Scartena	North Wales, PA North Wales, PA
15	Anthony Joseph Capobianco Meghan Elizabeth Gosselin	West Tisbury, MA Oak Bluffs, MA			

DATE	NAME	RESIDENCE
OCTOBER...		
07	Michele Rose Ring Lukes Douglas Butcher	Fremont, CA Fremont, CA
13	William Thomas Gerace Tracyann Francis Murphy	Avon, CT Avon, CT
13	Jaime Sanabria Murillo Iva Gancheva Ivanova	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
14	Kenneth Alden Southworth V Isabelle Aragona Jubin	New York, NY New York, NY
14	Joseph Valentine Argus III Katherine Taylor Morely	Boston, MA Boston, MA
14	Tyson Scott Araujo Alice Jane Keenan	Slatersville, RI Slatersville, RI
14	Peter Tilton Medgyesy Kathrine Elizabeth Carmichael	Orlando, FL Orlando, FL
17	Benjamin John Green Sherice Yaneike Henry	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
20	William Joseph Marane Everice Ann Miller	West Hartford, CT West Hartford, CT
20	Leonel Fogaca Daiane De Almeida Cruz	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
21	Wyatt Belin Bramhall Avery Ann Schuster	Somerville, MA Somerville, MA
23	Michael John Student Andrea Christine Bullard	Milford, CT Milford, CT

DATE	NAME	RESIDENCE
OCTOBER...		
30	Juliano Francosi Marasca William Uemura Rissi	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
NOVEMBER		
04	Khalid Leigh Dore Samantha Rose Gitschier	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
08	Brisard Raymond Berline Jeudy	Tisbury, MA Tisbury, MA
08	Zachary Dawson Rydzewski Karina --- Collahua Padilla	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
11	Alan Christopher Wiley Sofiiia Hekkel	West Tisbury, MA West Tisbury, MA
14	Isabele Nicoli Ferraz Vinicius da Cruz Bricoli	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
17	Hercules Goncalves Pereira Rayane Tavares Marques	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
DECEMBER		
08	Steven Michael Sotolongo Tyla Jean Skinner	Tisbury, MA Tisbury, MA
15	Barry Dean Blake Jessica Lee Weinstein	Westport, CT Westport, CT
21	Fabio Dias Leideane Souza	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA
21	Renisson Ferreira da Silva Victoria Christine Oliveira	Edgartown, MA Edgartown, MA



DEATHS RECORDED IN 2023

DATE	NAME	AGE	DATE	NAME	AGE
JANUARY			JULY		
03	Gloria J. Sylvia	93	18	Edward T. Medeiros	77
07	Robert C. Sarno	77	24	Tafari Jawara Campbell	45
09	Myrna Estelle Murphy	84	27	Kate D. Davy	78
26	Robert Gerald Stiles	91	AUGUST		
28	Eric --- Hathaway	49	07	Matthew Richard Cutter	45
31	Robert W. Donnelly	82	19	Richard T. Wilton II	66
FEBRUARY			30	Frederic Daniel Mascolo	65
08	Susan H. Marwica	70	SEPTEMBER		
14	Lois Kelley Stout	93	08	Brian William Smith	68
20	Molly J. Hargy	55	23	William H. Webster III	78
25	Edith Graham Blake	97	OCTOBER		
MARCH			03	Elaine G. Boettcher	93
13	Joan M. Lowell	98	07	Eleanor Ann Pond	82
APRIL			08	Alice Cynthia Meisner	79
11	Helen Josephine Savva	77	10	Shannon Patricia Carbon	53
15	Lori Ann Fisher	63	15	Michael Richard Brown	41
15	Clifford Mark Risack	72	20	Michael Allen Furino	39
19	Vincent Kent Wannamaker	74	23	William Dennis Bassett	76
MAY			NOVEMBER		
12	Carolyn R. Bernardin	95	06	John W. Mercier	80
28	Albert A. White	94	27	John Paul Sullivan	92
JUNE			DECEMBER		
14	Deirdre --- Decarion	79	02	Randy C. Gibson	59
16	Felipe Mattei Da Rosa	37	08	Tom Page Barrett	87
18	Margaret Elizabeth Boyd	90	30	Elfriede K. Rozhen	97



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER/ PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

After many years of looking at online permitting systems (and mentions in these annual reports), we started using a system in 2022 that was good, but just not the right fit for us. In 2023 we switched to a different product which ended up being far more efficient and easier to use.

Shellfish licenses were our first foray into this new system, and with help from Rob Morrison (Shellfish) and Kristy Rose (Selectboard Office), we launched a new and improved online shellfish license program in May. It was a rousing success and we received some great positive feedback. Our goal was to make the process of obtaining a shellfish license more streamlined and available 24/7. With over 400 online shellfish licenses processed, we were thrilled with the usage and effectiveness of the system.

Next up was a way to handle applications for beach stickers for Norton Point. This was a major undertaking and in addition to working with Edgartown's Conservation and Parks departments, we required the help of all island towns, as cars registered on island pay a discounted rate for their beach stickers. Many thanks to all towns on the island, who sent lists of registered cars that we used for creating a database for our system to use as a lookup and verification tool. With over 2,000 beach sticker applications processed online, we'll call our first season of this a major success! Early in the summer, my "office" for the day was at the entry to Norton Point, as I trained the beach staff on how to use our new system. They caught on and learned the software in no time. I, of course, stuck around for a bit to watch the process and troubleshoot as minor issues arose. Not a terrible place to have to work on that project, better than sitting in front of a computer screen, and nice to see months of work translate into a useful tool that staff and public raved about using. Lastly, the Norton Point online sticker application

process could not have been the success it was without the woman behind the scenes, managing it on a daily basis. Thank you Jess McGroarty (Parks Department).

Town employees diligently continued to work on State run cyber security training, as threats abound everywhere and unfortunately, municipalities are targets for cyber attacks. Thank you to all of the town employees who completed their cyber security training.

Our town texting program had another incredible year. We expanded our text groups to create sub groups in 2023. Not everyone in our town-wide texting group wanted every update (if Norton point was closed, for example), so we created additional text groups for more targeted information. Want Edgartown Beach updates? Text the word "Beach" to 877-550-8627. Looking for Edgartown Shellfishing updates? Text "Shellfish" to 877-550-8627. We sent updates out on 69 different days over the 2023 calendar year. Many of these were Norton Point beach closings due to capacity. Even when the updates aren't what you want to hear, better to have the information to help with decision making processes and avoid wasting time driving somewhere only to discover that you can't do what you were hoping to do. Shellfish updates included closures, reopening, and more. Not to worry, our town wide text group (Text "Edgartown" to 877-550-8627 to join) will still send out road closures, parade information, weather and holiday closures, and other pertinent information as warranted.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy 2024. As always, I look forward to catching up with everyone around town.

Respectfully submitted,
ADAM DARACK
Information Technology Manager



Picture by Sydney Mullen

FINANCE

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown:

The Town of Edgartown FY2024 valuation analysis and review by the Department of Revenue has concluded and FY2024 assessments have been reviewed and certified. The new tax rate is set at \$2.55 per thousand dollars of assessed value, a change from the FY2023 rate of \$2.52.

The Assessing Department continues to meet its primary responsibility of assuring a fair assessment of all property as set forth in the Massachusetts General Laws. The job of the Board of Assessors is not to determine how much the town will spend or levy in taxes. That responsibility belongs to the taxpayers, by approving budgets and warrant articles at town meetings and voting on override questions at the annual town election.

Our work includes maintaining ownership records, inspecting properties for which building permits have been issued, inspecting properties that have sold, and analyzing the sales market and adjusting values. Fiscal Year 2024 assessed values (valuation date of 1/1/2023) were determined by analyzing market sales from calendar year 2022 for an adjustment of values. The DOR requires towns to adjust values yearly to ensure that values are supported with current market evidence. We also handle abatement and exemption requests and the senior tax work-off credit, and process all aspects of motor vehicle and boat excise taxes.

Cyclical re-inspection is an ongoing program to visit improved properties on a regular schedule. All buildings, residential, commercial and exempt must be re-inspected at least every ten years to meet DOR guidelines. Edgartown has approximately 6000 buildings, over 5500 of which are residential. We completed the last cyclical re-inspection program for FY2015 and are working on the next cycle, to be completed by FY2025. Those property visits are in addition to the regular field work of inspecting parcels with new or ongoing construction.

This department receives and responds to an abundance of information requests by taxpayers and the general public, and we provide convenient access to assessment information, GIS data, tax maps, and various assessors' forms online. General information, including printable copies of the tax maps, and various forms can be accessed on the town website – WWW.EDGARTOWN-MA.US. The town provides online GIS software on the town website and at [HTTPS://WWW.AXISGIS.COM/EDGARTOWNMA/](https://WWW.AXISGIS.COM/EDGARTOWNMA/). This program displays interactive maps and a good deal of publicly available property information, including property record cards.

Our experience with the number of abatements filed and cases taken to the Appellate Tax Board continues to be excellent, with very few abatement applications being taken to the ATB. There is currently one open case.

Fiscal Year	Reval Year	Applications		Value Abated	% of Taxable Value Abated
		Filed	Granted		
2018	Reval Year	44	31	11,796,200	0.14%
2019		36	19	11,230,080	0.13%
2020		22	14	7,269,179	0.07%
2021		15	08	4,226,351	0.04%
2022		14	05	4,111,682	0.04%
2023		42	07	350,720	0.001%

For a historical perspective, please note the change in total town taxable value for the last twelve years. Total Taxable value changed only modestly every year from FY2012 through FY2014 and has risen steadily from FY2015 through FY2023 at an average of 7.3% per year.

Year	Total Taxable Value	Change
FY2012	\$6,666,537,995	+1.56%
FY2013	\$6,597,990,238	-1.03%
FY2014	\$6,613,836,438	+0.24%
FY2015	\$7,028,192,628	+6.26%
FY2016	\$7,276,701,078	+3.54%
FY2017	\$7,804,718,137	+7.26%
FY2018	\$8,252,255,423	+5.73%
FY2019	\$8,885,809,240	+7.68%
FY2020	\$9,399,979,752	+5.79%
FY2021	\$9,854,165,764	+4.83%
FY2022	\$10,605,891,992	+7.63%
FY2023	\$12,674,808,303	+19.5%
FY2024	\$13,289,804,507	+4.85%

We continue to measure and list new construction and update our assessment database for those changes as well as adding parcels created by subdivision. The increase in value from construction

for FY2024 is from building permits issued in 2022 and the completion of work on permits from prior years. The allowable increase in the tax levy due to growth from new construction and subdivision, along with new items of taxable personal property, was \$553,037 for FY2024, an increase of \$176,188 from the FY2023 amount of \$376,849. The average over the last five years is \$446,444.

Please visit the office if you would like to know more about what we do; we will be happy to talk with you. Information pamphlets are available which provide a lot of insight into the assessing process. In addition taxpayers are encouraged to ask about possible eligibility for tax exemptions and deferrals.

As always, our goal is to serve the community to the best of our abilities and to fulfill our duties as required by law, keeping in mind at all times the assessors' oath "to truly and impartially, according to our best skill and judgment, neither overvalue nor undervalue any property subject to taxation".

Our staff members - Patti Roads, Principal Assessor; Elizabeth Francis, Administrative Assistant; Emerson Hazell, Data Collector – look forward to serving you!

Respectfully submitted,

DONNA L. GOODALE
ALAN GOWELL
S. CHRISTOPHER SCOTT

BOAT EXCISE FISCAL YEAR 2023			
Boat Excise Commitments	No. of Boats		
FY 2023 Boat Excise	667	\$	28,823.00
Total Boat Excise Issued		\$	28,823.00
Boat Excise Abatements			
Against Levy of FY 2020		\$	63.00
Against Levy of FY 2021		\$	63.00
Against Levy of FY 2022		\$	156.00
Against Levy of FY 2023		\$	804.34
Total Boat Excise Abatements Granted in FY2023		\$	1,086.34

ABATEMENTS & STATUTORY EXEMPTIONS GRANTED IN FY2023

REAL ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY ABATEMENTS

Against Tax Levy of Fiscal Year 2021	\$	29.16
Against Tax Levy of Fiscal Year 2022	\$	26.94
Against Tax Levy of Fiscal Year 2023	\$	<u>30,981.53</u>
Total Real Estate & Personal Property Abatements Granted in FY2023	\$	31,037.63

STATUTORY EXEMPTIONS

Clause 17 D (Senior)	Against Levy of FY 2023	\$	721.00
Clause 41 C (Elderly)	Against Levy of FY 2023	\$	6,180.00
Clause 18 (Hardship)	Against Levy of FY 2023	\$	10,111.52
Clause 22 (Veteran)	Against Levy of FY 2023	\$	11,742.00
Clause 37(Blind)	Against Levy of FY 2023	\$	<u>1,030.00</u>
Total Statutory Exemptions Granted in FY2023		\$	29,784.52

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION SURTAX ABATED OR EXEMPTED

Against Tax Levy of Fiscal Year	2023	\$	<u>303.35</u>
Total CPA abated or exempted in FY2023		\$	303.35

Total All Abatements & Exemptions Granted In FY2023 **\$ 61,125.50**

MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE CALENDAR YEAR 2023

Issued in Calendar 2023	No. of Vehicles		
2022 Excise	800	\$	8,338.74
2023 Excise	9615	\$	<u>1,550,474.69</u>
Total Motor Vehicle Excise Issued		\$	1,558,813.43

Motor Vehicle Excise Abatements Granted in Calendar 2023			
Against Levy of 2020		\$	259.32
Against Levy of 2021		\$	3,404.18
Against Levy of 2022		\$	7,345.27
Against Levy of 2023		\$	<u>10,197.86</u>
Total Motor Vehicle Excise Abatements Granted in Calendar 2023		\$	21,206.63

TAX RATE RECAPITULATION SUMMARIES

	FY2023 (7/1/2022-6/30/2023)	FY2024 (7/1/2023 - 6/30/2024)
APPROPRIATIONS		
Raise & Appropriate	\$ 41,505,140	\$ 44,127,207
Free Cash	\$ 5,628,365	\$ 7,281,337
Available Funds	\$ 222,520	\$ 380,835
Other--Community Preservation Fund	\$ 2,614,420	\$ 2,978,942
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$ 49,970,445	\$ 54,768,321
Other Amounts to be Raised:		
Cherry Sheet Offset	\$ 53,616	\$ 38,626
Overlay Deficits/Snow Removal Deficits/Other	\$ -	\$ -
State/County Charges (Cherry Sheet)	\$ 1,368,268	\$ 1,491,907
Overlay	\$ 180,068	\$ 208,553
TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED	\$ 51,572,397	\$ 56,507,407
ESTIMATED RECEIPTS/OTHER REVENUE		
State Reimbursements (Cherry Sheet)	\$ 3,567,833	\$ 4,044,835
Estimated Local Receipts	\$ 7,598,742	\$ 7,932,457
Community Preservation Funds	\$ 2,614,420	\$ 2,978,942
Appropriations From Free Cash	\$ 5,628,365	\$ 7,281,337
Appropriations From Other Available Funds	\$ 222,520	\$ 380,835
Free Cash Appropriated to Reduce Tax Rate	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS/OTHER REVENUE	\$ 19,631,880	\$ 22,618,405
NET TAX LEVY & TAX RATE		
Total To Be Raised	\$ 51,572,397	\$ 56,507,407
Less Total Estimated Receipts/Other Revenue	\$ 19,631,880	\$ 22,618,405
TAX LEVY	\$ 31,940,517	\$ 33,889,002
TAXABLE VALUE		
Real Property	\$12,414,384,264	\$13,005,945,076
Personal Property	\$ 260,424,039	\$ 283,859,431
TOTAL TAXABLE VALUE	\$12,674,808,303	\$13,289,804,507
TAX RATE	\$ 2.52	\$ 2.55



MA Department of Revenue

Division of Local Services
 Final Municipal Cherry Sheet Estimates
 Data current as 8/9/2023

C.S. 1-ER Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Revenue FY2024
 NOTICE TO ASSESSORS OF ESTIMATED RECEIPTS
 General Laws, Chapter 58, Section 25A

Edgartown

A. EDUCATION

Distributions and Reimbursements

Chapter 70	1,165,651
School Transportation	0
Charter Tuition Reimbursement	154,781
Smart Growth School Reimbursement	0
Offset Items - Reserve for Direct Expenditure:	
School Choice Receiving Tuition	27,092
Sub-Total, All Education Items:	1,347,524

B. GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

Distributions and Reimbursements

Unrestricted General Government Aid	79,631
Local Share of Racing Taxes	0
Regional Public Libraries	0
Veterans Benefits	21,407
Exemp: VBS and Elderly	8,537
State Owned Land	2,576,202
Offset Items - Reserve for Direct Expenditure:	
Public Libraries	11,534
Sub-Total, All General Government:	2,697,311

C. TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS:	4,044,835
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C.S. 1-ER Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Revenue FY2024
 NOTICE TO ASSESSORS OF ESTIMATED CHARGES
 General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 21

Edgartown

A. COUNTY ASSESSMENTS:

County Tax	225,376
Suffolk County Retirement	0
Sub-Total, County Assessments:	225,376

B. STATE ASSESSMENTS AND CHARGES:

Retired Employees Health Insurance	0
Retired Teachers Health Insurance	0
Mosquito Control Projects	0
Air Pollution Districts	10,079
Metropolitan Area Planning Council	0
Old Colony Planning Council	0
RMV Non-Renewal Surcharge	14,100
Sub-Total, State Assessments:	24,179

C. TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITIES:

MBTA	0
Boston Metro. Transit District	0
Regional Transit	267,443
Sub-Total, Transportation Assessments:	267,443

D. ANNUAL CHARGES AGAINST RECEIPTS:

Multi-Year Repayment Program	0
Special Education	0
Sub-Total, Annual Charges Against Receipts:	0

E. TUITION ASSESSMENTS:

School Choice Sending Tuition	85,102
Charter School Sending Tuition	889,807
Sub-Total, Tuition Assessments:	974,909

F. TOTAL ESTIMATED CHARGES:

1,491,907

TOWN COLLECTOR

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of the
Town of Edgartown:

I herewith submit the annual report for the
fiscal year 2023 for the Tax Collector.

<u>TOTAL COLLECTIONS FISCAL 2023</u>			
	Real Estate & Community Preservation Act Betterments & Liens	Personal Property	Motor Vehicle
2019		176.38	608.96
2020		793.73	3,254.00
2021	6,847.46	2,203.21	18,771.65
2022	290,775.22	10,911.07	373,938.83
2023	31,773,596.31	630,384.28	1,167,768.82
Sewer User Charges		Pilot	51,335.34
2022	33,735.05	Fees & Penalties	19,517.87
2023	1,665,837.15	Interest	128,014.97
Boat Excise Tax			
2022	383.72		
2023	19,358.02		

I would like to thank the Selectboard, Town Administrator James Hagerty, and work colleagues for the valuable support they provided. I would also like to thank my Assistant Jade Bennett for her continued service to the department.

Finally, I would like to welcome all our new Homeowners in Town. It is a pleasure and honor to work in the Town of Edgartown. I look forward to continue serving the taxpayers and the Town of Edgartown.

Respectfully submitted,
SHEETAL K GRANDE, CMMT
Town Collector

TOWN TREASURER

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of the Town of Edgartown:

Hereby submitted is the Town Treasurer's reconciliation of cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023:

<u>GENERAL ACCOUNTS</u>		<u>TRUST/AGENCY ACCOUNTS</u>	
Rockland Trust	\$ 13,294,349.16	Rockland Trust	\$760,709.82
Martha's Vineyard Bank	62,381.80	Martha's Vineyard Bank	30,262.10
Unibank for Savings	11,259,187.96	Bristol County Savings Bank	856,284.33
Bristol County Savings Bank	4,109,046.21		
HarborOne Bank	16,325,039.07		
		TOTAL ALL ACCOUNTS	\$46,697,260.45

For fiscal year 2023 there was new debt issued (short and long term) in the amount of \$3,485,000.00 for the Katama Airfield hangar and Memorial Wharf projects. The retired debt for both short and long term was \$5,504,470.05. The total outstanding debt as of June 30, 2023 was \$9,818,386.31.

The total authorized and unissued debt as of June 30, 2023 was \$25,000,000.00 for the bulkhead and new fire station projects.

I would like to thank the Selectboard, employees and residents of Edgartown for their support. I would also like to thank Assistant Treasurer, Marisa Boniface for her assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

PAMELA J. AMARAL
Treasurer

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown:

Hereby submitted is the report of the Accounting Department for 2023. During the year, accounting transitioned to an on-line software platform with Tyler Technologies. Although the transition went well, the training to support the new aspects of the software continues to this date. The new system will help us transition to electronic filing of all revenue and expenditure documents. A new software system for tracking and depreciation of fixed assets was also implemented during the fiscal year.

Accounting training continues for the new Assistant Town Accountant, Jennifer Smyth, who joined the department in 2022. She has provided exceptional support to myself and the other departments, for which we are grateful.

Attached is the unaudited Combined Balance Sheet for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. Final audit documents including all standard accounting reports and many detailed financial notes will be posted on the Town's website upon completion.

Respectfully submitted,

AMELIA C. TIERNEY
Town Accountant

TOWN OF EDGARTOWN
Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups as June 30, 2023
(Unaudited)

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Types		Account Groups		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Internal Services	Trust and Agency	Long-term Debt			
Cash and cash equivalents	25,182,226.97	10,793,209.02	1,989,641.50			8,732,182.96				46,697,260.45
Receivables:										
Personal property taxes	33,850.50									33,850.50
Real estate taxes	320,532.51									320,532.51
Allowance for abatements and exemptions	(308,441.12)									(308,441.12)
Tax liens	132,485.69									132,485.69
Motor vehicle excise	381,956.76									381,956.76
Other excises	11,895.91									11,895.91
User fees	114,994.62									114,994.62
Utility liens added to taxes	3,060.14									3,060.14
Departmental	369,548.07	49,482.80								419,030.87
Special assessments	2,200.00	16,856.96								19,056.96
Other receivables	53,926.59	14,465.89								68,392.48
Foreclosures/Possessions	481,697.98									481,697.98
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation	81,163,914.48									81,163,914.48
Amounts to be provided - payment of bonds										
Total Assets	107,943,849.10	10,874,014.67	1,989,641.50	0.00	0.00	8,732,182.96	9,818,386.30	9,818,386.30	139,358,074.53	

Liabilities:										
Warrants payable	1,166,495.80	63,161.74	40,115.34			4,529.98				1,274,302.86
Accrued payroll	743,017.80	16,341.52								759,359.32
Withholdings	251,429.22									251,429.22
Deferred revenue:										
Real and personal property taxes	45,941.89									45,941.89
Tax liens	132,485.69									132,485.69
Foreclosures/Possessions	481,697.98									481,697.98
Motor vehicle excise	381,956.76									381,956.76
Other excises	11,895.91									11,895.91
User fees	114,994.62									114,994.62
Utility liens added to taxes	3,060.14									3,060.14
Departmental	369,548.07	49,482.80								419,030.87
Special assessments	56,126.59	16,856.96								72,983.55
Other receivables	14,465.89									14,465.89

TOWN OF EDGARTOWN
Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups as June 30, 2023
(Unaudited)

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Types		Account Groups		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Internal Services	Trust and Agency	Long-term Debt			
Prepaid taxes/fees	59,520.88	1,613.55								61,134.43
Tailings	21,565.45	1,403.45								22,968.90
Bonds payable							9,818,386.30			9,818,386.30
Total Liabilities	3,839,736.80	163,325.91	40,115.34	0.00	0.00	4,529.98	9,818,386.30			13,866,094.33
Fund Equity:										
Reserved for encumbrances	95,194.44									95,194.44
Reserved for expenditures	6,915,596.40	230,000.00								7,145,596.40
Reserved for continuing appropriations	2,356,192.69	3,613,980.07								5,970,172.76
Reserved for debt service	18,119.35									18,119.35
Undesignated fund balance	13,555,094.94	6,866,708.69	1,949,526.16			8,727,652.98				31,098,982.77
Investment in capital assets	81,163,914.48									81,163,914.48
Total Fund Equity	104,104,112.30	10,710,688.76	1,949,526.16	0.00	0.00	8,727,652.98	0.00			125,491,980.20
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	107,943,849.10	10,874,014.67	1,989,641.50	0.00	0.00	8,732,182.96	9,818,386.30			139,358,074.53

FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

The Financial Advisory Committee, a board elected by the voters, administers the Reserve Fund for those departments that require additional funding beyond their budget, for emergency or unforeseen expenses. The town voted the sum of \$100,000.00 as a reserve fund for FY23.

The accounting for said funds is as follows:

ATM appropriation	<u>\$100,000.00</u>
	\$100,000.00

TRANSFERS FY23

Building Inspector – New Hire Salaries Shortfall: \$17,000.00

Parks Commissioners – Portable Toilet Contract Increase: \$9,000.00

Human Resources – Consulting Support: \$2,340.00

Information Technology – Online Permitting Support: \$30,272.71

Animal Control – Overtime Account: \$10,000.00

Total: \$68,612.71

Balance Reserve Fund returned to Free Cash
6/30/2022 - \$31,387.29

Respectfully submitted,

DONNA LOWELL-BETTENCOURT
Chairmman



PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY

BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

To the Honorable Edgartown Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown:

On behalf of our membership, I am pleased to present the 2023 annual report on the activities of our Fire Department.

The pace of our community and its growth has had an impact on our department and the services it provides. The Fire Department membership is proud to serve our town and invests itself into everything it does. However, our current service model leans heavily on the generosity of the “on-call” membership to train, cover shifts and respond to a growing number of emergencies. The full-time staff also has its burdens of covering gaps in our schedule above their regular commitment while responding to calls off duty.

Fire Station

The Fire Station Building Committee worked with support of the Edgartown Fireman’s Association to successfully promote the need for a new station. We were all so grateful to receive support from the voters both at the town meeting and the ballot. The approval for funding the project allowed the committee to proceed in the process to search for the required project manager and are continuing to work through the hiring process for design professional and contractors. We still have some work ahead of us, but are hopeful to start the construction in the fall of 2024.

Personnel:

Recruitment and retention continue to be a serious concern. This past year we lost 4 people because of the high cost of living and lack of housing within our town and on the island.

Because of this ongoing and growing concern, we have been working to bring people on throughout the year. The summer of 2023 brought a unique opportunity to EFD. A group of young adults found friendship and comradery as they worked through our intake program throughout the summer to become firefighters. Some of them had been working with us

as EMTs and some just walked through the door looking to join. The training regimen created a lot of activity in and around the station during a time of year that is filled with all types of calls to service and enforcement. It was remarkable to see the devotion of this group who did all of this as true volunteers during their summer break. Unfortunately, this group is only available in the summer months and during school breaks. We hope to have them return throughout the year but realize other paying opportunities may limit their availability and interest.

Continuing Education & Training:

The spring of 2023 had our membership training for all aspects of our ever-expanding response model. The breach on Norton Point had us place the department PWC at the Katama boat ramp to support operations on the south shore. This watercraft requires familiarity of its operators and added a layer of training we have not had in a few years. Additionally, portions of our membership received additional training on our response boat to allow for faster response times and the ability to go underway when staffing shortages are present. Our membership prides itself on their professional development and the ability to provide exceptional service to the Town.

Vehicles and Equipment:

The Wildland tanker conversion that was funded from an annual town meeting article was put out to bid and awarded to a vendor. I am pleased to report that the project has started and we should see it in service and supporting its multifaceted mission in the summer of 2024. The replacement response vehicle finally arrived in April. We had been without one since 2020 when its predecessor had been involved in a collision while responding mutual aid to a neighboring town. Repair costs have been on the rise with NFPA required routine maintenance costing more every year.

I am happy to report that we have increased firefighting water storage on Chappaquiddick this past year. An additional 12,000-gallon tank was

placed on town property located at 116 Litchfield Road. We hope to continue this objective with two more tanks provided an article to fund them is approved at the 2024 Annual Town Meeting.

Fires & Call Statistics:

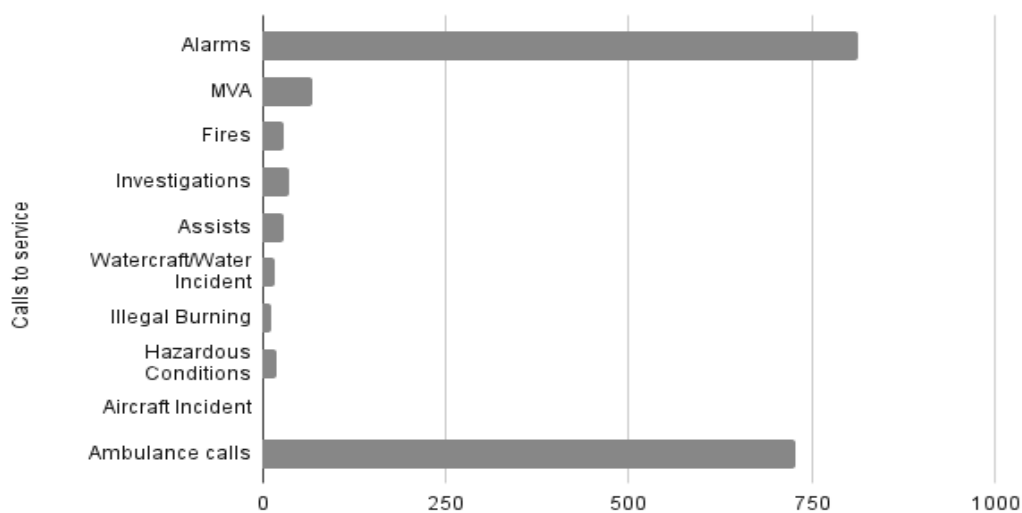
Our membership continues its response to a variety of calls throughout the year that are representative of our growing community and its needs. Our year included responses to structure fires, brush fires, motor vehicle fires, appliance fires and many other types of emergencies including CO exposures, motor vehicle accidents, missing person searches, oil spills, arcing wires and water emergencies.

Fire Prevention:

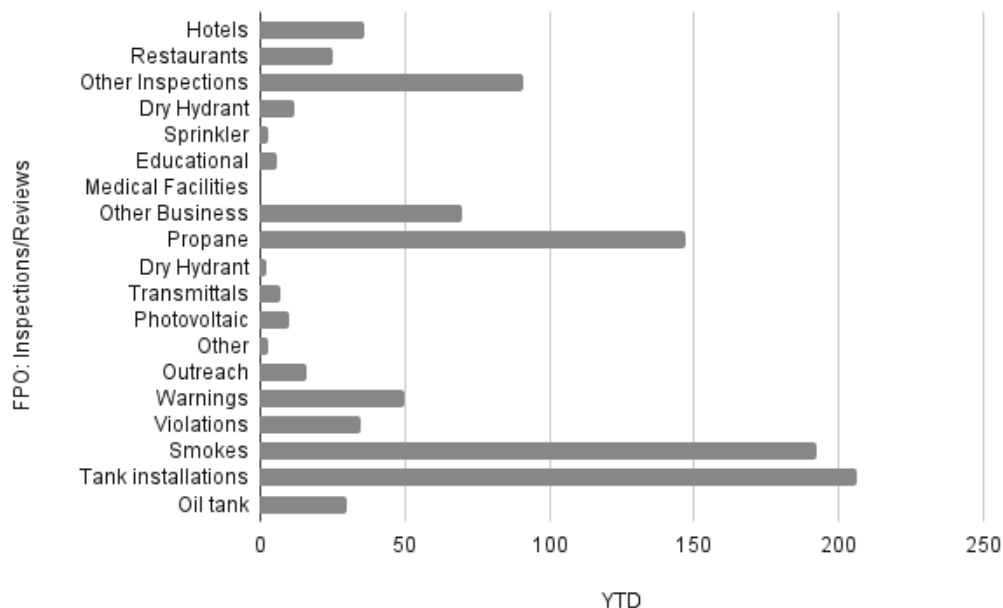
We continue to manage the amount of new construction, development and renovation within the town and the burden it presents to our Fire Prevention branch. We recently moved to a new software that more accurately tracks all that we do and are pleased to present this information.

Ambulance:

The ambulance staff has been subject to a growing number of regulations and compliance training as well as hands on drills to expand its scope and response capabilities. Our increase in seasonal staffing has shown its worth as we still experience



YTD vs. FPO: Inspections/Reviews



multiple simultaneous calls in the spring and summer months.

In Closing:

Our department continues to heavily rely on a core group of fire department members to maintain shift coverage and the protection it provides. A recent ten year look back has shown a 70% increase in department activity and a 40% decrease in department membership. Consistent involvement in our department is difficult for people to commit to in the fast pace of what it means to live in our

community and the burden it creates. We are so fortunate to have people to support our initiatives and maintain their vitality. We recognize the significant challenge this presents to work and family commitments and strive to support the needs of our membership to make this partnership possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

ALEXANDER J. SCHAEFFER
Fire Chief

EDGARTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP

Chief Officers

Chief Alex Schaeffer
Deputy Chief Andrew Kelly
Asst. Chief Josh Baker

Administrative Assistant

Anita Billings

Board of Fire Engineers

Retired Deputy Chief Larry Thomas
Retired Chief Peter Shemeth
Retired Asst. Chief Scott Ellis
Retired Captain Richard Kelly

Full Time Staff

EMT-P/FF Mike Klimek
EMT-P/FF Kate Foster
EMT-P/FF Brian Foster
EMT-P Haley Krauss
EMT-B/FF Thomas Ignacio

Call Members

FF Kevin Cody
FF Joe Delory
EMT/FF Paulo DeOliveira
EMT Marlon Garcia
FF Janick Grabowski
FF Collins Heavener
FF Richard SooHoo
FF Vanessa Vacharasovan
FF Timothy Penicaud
FF Renata Rovani
EMT Joan Shemit
FF Craig Willett

Summer of 2023 Seasonal Members

Atlas Zack
Dylan Keusch
Aiden Keusch
Koll Phillips
Jaheem Richards
Margaret Waldman

Company Officers

Senior Captain Sam Koohy
Captain Kevin Maciel
Captain Kara Shemeth
Lieutenant Khalid Dore
Lieutenant Brian Foster
Lieutenant Tom Ignacio
Lieutenant Jovany Navarrete



POLICE DEPARTMENT

EDGARTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

The Edgartown Police Department is a team of dedicated professionals working in partnership with our community. We will protect our residents and visitors, endeavor to prevent crime and treat all fairly with respect and dignity. Together we will preserve the quality of life that makes Edgartown an exceptional place to live, work and visit.

Protect • Prevent • Preserve

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown:

Year-At-A-Glance

On behalf of the entire EPD, please accept this annual report for the year of 2023.

EPD Staff

This past year the EPD experienced the following personnel changes:

- Officer Stephanie Immelt retired in January after 21 years of service.
- Officer John Dacey was hired as full-time police officer in March.
- Traffic Officer Zack Moreis & Troy Vanderhoop graduated from the Police Academy and became Reserve Edgartown Police Officers in May.

Community Policing

Department personnel, often through the generous and benevolent efforts of the Edgartown Patrolman's Association ("EPA"), participated in numerous community policing initiatives in 2023, to include:

- "Coffee with a Cop" conducted monthly at The Anchors
- "EPA College Scholarship," which awarded \$12,000 to local students pursuing a higher education
- "Lobster Roll Sale," held at the Edgartown School
- "Annual EPA Golf Tournament," to support local charities
- "Halloween Candy Handout" for downtown trick or treaters
- Thanksgiving turkey dinners delivered to approximately 45 area families

- "Stuff a Bus" Christmas toy collection in support of the island's Red Stocking Fund

Edgartown School

The EPD continued to ensure that it worked seamlessly with the Edgartown School. Our assigned School Resource Officer (SRO), Gary Kovack, maintains an office within the school so as to better facilitate the manner in which we assist students, their families and school staff.

Traffic Safety

Officers have continued to ensure safe conditions for motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists within our community. The past year, EPD officers responded to 100 motor vehicle accidents, down from 110 accidents in 2022. Of this amount, 10 required medical transport to the Martha's Vineyard Hospital. There were 5 pedestrian vs car accidents, 22 bicycle-related accidents (the same amount as last year), and 530 traffic stops (up from last year's 316).

The department has two radar speed signs that we can install in areas where speeding is a concern. Please call us at 508-627-4343 to request one of them in your neighborhood.

Addiction Response Efforts

The EPD remains committed to providing services and support to those impacted by addiction issues. Officers are issued "Narcan," an opioid overdose antidote. Last year there were 3 incidents, this year there were zero. Also, the EPD remains an active participant in both the MV Drug Task Force as well as the Martha's Vineyard Substance Use Disorder Coalition.

The EPD continues its partnership with Island Health Care, whereby specially trained plainclothes police officers and civilian recovery coaches jointly conduct follow up visits with at-risk individuals within our community. A number of these visits have been conducted and all have seen favorable results. Also, a partnership with Martha's Vineyard Community Services is in the works to make clinicians available to 'co-respond' with police officer to mental health calls for service. This is a practice that has seen terrific success around the country.

Firearms Licensure

The EPD processed and issued 80 firearms-related permits. This was a decrease from last year's 109 applications. The EPD website has associated scheduling software to facilitate the appointment

process for those looking to pursue a firearms license.

Public Records Requests

With recent changes in the public records laws, the EPD received and processed 543 requests for police reports and documents.

In closing, the EPD would like to express our sincere appreciation for the help and support that we have received from our island community over this past year. The close relationship that we all enjoy with our residents is not a common one, and it is not one that we take for granted.

We also thank the other Edgartown town departments, especially our public safety brothers and sisters at the Edgartown Fire and EMS. Thanks also to the Dukes County Sheriff's Department and the Massachusetts State Police, as well as the other island PD's and FD's for their unwavering assistance as we do our best to protect and serve our community.

Thank you,

CHIEF BRUCE R. MCNAMEE
Edgartown Police Department

2023 ANNUAL STATISTICS

Alarms	1334
Disturbance/Fights	30
Medical	488
Suspicious	296
Noise Complaints	116
Mental Health	21
Assist Citizen	317
Domestic Related	25
Disputes/Civil Matters	72
Intoxicated Party	33
Protective Custody	11
Weapons Complaint	10
Elder Assist	8
Suicide Threats	4
Liquor Establishment Calls	47
Sexual Assaults	7
Breaking & Entering	6
Stolen MV	2
Stolen Property	21
Trespassing	12
Vandalism	8
MV Accidents (Includes bicycle and mopeds)	100
MV Complaints	22
MV Stops	540
Lockouts	172



2023 = 7609 total
2022 = 7441 total
2021 = 8484 total
2020 = 7453 total

Photo courtesy of EPD Sgt William Bishop IV

HARBORMASTER

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

As I write this year's Annual Report our contractor, Coastal Marine Construction LLC, are using a huge vibratory hydraulic hammer to drive the new steel sheet piles around the Town property at North Wharf. The old dock along the bulkheads have been removed and the project is still scheduled for completion on April 15 2024. This finish date will provide Safe Harbors ample time to be able to launch their customer's vessels on time. Childs Engineering was instrumental in getting the proper permits signed so the project could begin on November 10th. The work going on now is Phase Two of our Bulkhead Restoration Projects. Like our Memorial Wharf project, Childs Engineering has designed this project with provisions for sea-level rise. The last Town owned Bulkhead, Phase 3, is the one that goes from the Candy Bazar to the Edgartown Yacht Club and from there to the Atlantic Restaurant. Childs has done an existing survey and funds are now being sought for engineering plans, permitting and the necessary requirements to enable the Town to go out to bid. Construction is planned for the fall of 2025.

The summer season of 2023 ended at the end of October with the retirement of Deputy Harbormaster

Michael Hathaway. Mike served the Town for twenty -eight years. He was in charge of our Pump-out Program as well as mooring and vessel maintenance. He acted as the Town's ambassador every day of his employment making sure that our transient visitors needs were met. I have been very lucky to have the same core staff working for me. Sara Tiemann 29 years, Shelly O'Neil 18 years, run the office smoothly while I get to train summer employees, and deal with the hundreds of situations that arise during the summer months.

Looking forward to the summer of 2024. R.M. Packer has the fueling contract and Old Port Marine the Launch License. This will be Old Port Marine's nineteenth year service. Already reservations for both dockage and moorings are set to open in February for Dockage & Moorings in March through our provider Dockwa. With our new steel Bulkhead, Docks, and new asphalt parking, North Wharf will serve as a hub for the Ships Store, R.M.Packer, Safe Harbors and for yachtsmen seeking showers.

Respectfully Submitted,
CHARLIE BLAIR,
Harbormaster

WHARF RESTORATION COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

After completing the rehabilitation of Memorial Wharf the Edgartown Wharf Committee turned its attention to another town property in need of repair, North Wharf.

Edgartown took ownership of this 19th century stone wharf in 1997. The wharf had been, and still is used as the hauling and launching site of a local boatyard. Since 1997 Edgartown has been seeking to perform major repairs to the stone wharf that retains three sides of the property. Childs Engineering, the company retained in the Memorial Wharf project, was awarded the contract to supply the condition report and subsequently the plans for the repair of the failing structure. At the Annual Town Meeting in 2023 voters approved an article to perform much needed repairs, effectively a total rebuild, of the wharf. Plans were produced, permits applied for and granted, and multiple marine construction companies bid on the project. The winning bid of 1.75 million dollars was awarded to Coastal Marine Construction of Stoughton, MA.



Photo by Chris Scott

After a series of delays construction got under way in December 2023. As of the second week of January 2024 all of the steel sheet piling around the outside perimeter of the stone retaining wall has been driven. Coastal is currently in the process of driving the wood fender pilings and the steel pipe pilings that will support the inshore section of the travel lift. Once the piling work is completed and the steel wall is secured with tie backs Packer Marine will remove the decommissioned underground fuel storage tanks. Packer, who has the year-to-year contract to supply fuel from the pier has switched to using above ground con vault style tanks.

Once the old tanks are gone the asphalt removed and the site is filled and graded a new concrete cap will be poured on the top of the new steel wall. A timber frame will then tie in the fender pilings to the new wall. The wharf will be repaved and ready to accept a two-foot extension, similar to that applied to Memorial Wharf. The raising of the wharf about two feet, phase two of this project, will take place as future conditions, especially sea level rise, warrant.

The Wharf Committee hopes to have phase one of this project finished by the due date of April 12, 2024, so the current boatyard, Safe Harbor, can start launching boats for the season.

The Committee is also looking ahead to another town wharf in need of repair and raising; the parking lot at the foot of Main Street. The old stone bulkhead, built in the 1800s is also failing, the loading zone is flooding more often and needs to be raised. We are anticipating a 2025-2026 time frame to tackle this final down town public resource that is so important to the livelihood of Edgartown.

As always, the Wharf Committee thanks all those who pitch in to help these community efforts come to fruition. It is gratifying to see these efforts lead to successful results for the local as well as the seasonal public to use and enjoy for many years to come.

Respectfully Submitted,
STEVE EWING, Chair
CHRIS SCOTT
SCOTT ELLIS
CHARLIE BLAIR,
Harbormaster

JULIET MULINARE,
Assistant &
Edg. Facilities Coordinator

ANIMAL CONTROL

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown:

Mission Statement

The Edgartown Animal Control Department is committed to improve animal care and wellbeing, to strengthen the human-animal bond and protect the ability of people to keep animals in their lives by providing education and resources to build a community where people value animals and treat them with kindness and respect.

On behalf of the Edgartown Animal Control Department please accept this annual report for the year of 2023.

The Edgartown Animal Control Department is dedicated to protecting people and animals through compassionate care, effective enforcement, education and intervention. Partnering with people in the community and across the island to address community needs.

- Provide resources
- On going education and training
- Professionalizing our workforce
- Continuous improvements of best practices
- Promoting a diverse, equitable and inclusive environment for all

We Value:

Compassion - we treat people and animals with empathy, kindness and dignity.

Community Service - We aim to meet the needs of

the community by being welcoming, attentive, respectful and resourceful.

Excellence - We aim to provide high quality and responsive service. We hold ourselves to the highest standard of professionalism.

Integrity - We are honest, trustworthy, ethical and accountable for our actions.

Safety - We are uncompromising in our commitment to the health and safety of the people and animals in Edgartown.

Number of dogs licenced in Town this year was 887 of this does not include all the people who come to visit with their furry friends, seasonal residence and those who may have forgot to license their dogs MGL 140/ 137

2023 NUMBER OF CALLS:

Dog Related 2,447

Cat related 403

Other Animals or Wildlife calls 814

56 Skunk calls

10 Racoon

40 Dogs impounded

2 Cats impounded

26 Dog Bites

10 Dogs Hit by Car

43 Cats Hit by Car

52 Other Animals Hit /sick /injured

15 Ten day quarantines

4 Forty-five day quarantines

20 \$50.00 citations



- 3 \$100.00 citations
- 1 \$300.00 citation
- 2 dangerous Dog Hearings

FARM ANIMALS

- 39 Horses
- 3 Donkey/ Mules
- 127 Cattle
- 13 Goats
- 62 Sheep
- 71 Swine
- 2 Llamas/ Alpacas
- 2586 chickens
- 16 Turkeys
- 94 waterfowl

2023 Recap of Community Engagement and Education:

- Reading how to safely interact with animals and activities with students at the Edgartown and Tisbury Elementary Schools.
- 4th Of July Parade in Edgartown
- Community Film Screening with the producer of the Documentary "By My Side" for Veterans with PTSD and Service Dogs at the Edgartown Public Library and Tisbury Fire Station.
- We love our Edgartown Public Library - We enjoyed doing story time with toddlers and preschoolers, and having Stem activities with the after school students.
- Crafts with kids after school.
- Christmas in Edgartown Photos with Santa
- We also had the opportunity to judge the dog show

at this years Agricultural Fair.

- We joined with the Tisbury ACO for activities at the Harvest Festival which was a big hit. We loved seeing all the smiling kids.
- Educating the public "Coyote talk" we had a full house.
- We held a rabies clinic again to help residents ensure their pets are vaccinated.
- We also took 6 dogs off island with Tisbury Animal Control to get spayed or neutered.
- We helped find forever and loving homes for 9 kittens, 7 dogs, 2 ponies and a horse this year.
- Shout out to all the kids who helped us make dog toys to donate to the MSPCA, we made over 200 toys = over 200 happy pets this holiday season. Thank You!

In closing, we of the Edgartown Animal Control Department would like to express our ongoing appreciation for all the support we receive daily from the community. We would also like to thank the Selectboard, all the Departments in Town, First Responders and the Duke's County Sheriff Department for together we make a team that is well balanced, motivated and committed to provide the best possible service to everyone.

Respectfully submitted,
 KIMBERLY ANDRADE
 Edgartown Animal Control



HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

I am pleased to present the annual report for the Edgartown Highway Department for 2023.

In 2023 we saw a mild winter with minimal weather events in the months of January, February and March. In the warmer months we saw above average amounts of rain almost on a weekly basis.

The coastal storm out of the South on December 18th did significant damage to the dunes along Atlantic Drive. It also deposited a lot of ocean debris in the Atlantic Drive roadway as well as undermining a 25 foot second of the road surface on the Herring Creek side that required repairs to be made so the road would be passable.

In April the Highway Department continued the road rebuilding project on Mill Street by removing the balance of the old road surface and regrading to work with the new drainage that was installed in 2022. The 560-foot road was also paved with new asphalt material resulting in a complete rebuild of the road.

The Highway Department also continued the expansion crack repair with the contractor on the second section of Slough Cove Road. The 1.2 miles of Slough Cove Road was then resurfaced in early May to lock in all the repair work.

The Highway Department crew also made drainage repairs to replace collapsed drainage

structures at the end of Cook Street as well as South Summer Street. Two new leaching drainage structures were installed as well on South Summer Street and tied into the drainage system. In addition to installing new drainage systems the existing systems along with culverts are cleaned on a regular basis with a vactor truck that has the ability to clean the drainage lines as well.

In addition to these and other various projects the Highway Department staff remained busy with the mowing of grass at the Rec Area, Katama Airfield, along road shoulders; tree and brush trimming; trash and litter removal; street sweeping; pot hole repairs; asphalt patching; sign replacement; dirt road grading; leaf removal; parking line and road stencil painting. The Highway Department also performs the ground maintenance of the four Town cemeteries with the assistance of seasonal staff.

In closing I would like to thank the Citizens of Edgartown for their support. I would also like to thank the Selectboard and all other Town Departments the Highway Department has worked with during the year. I would also like to thank the staff at the Edgartown Highway Department for their work and efforts throughout the year.

Respectfully Submitted,

ALLAN DEBETTENCOURT
Highway Superintendent

TREE WARDEN

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

During 2023 we saw no major storms that caused significant damage to Town shade trees. We did however see above normal amounts of rain for our area resulting in a good growing season.

The public Elm trees were treated for Dutch Elm disease as part of their annual maintenance to prevent Dutch Elm disease.

The electric utility company's active tree trimming maintenance program around their utility wires was also continued this year. The Town continues to use the services of professional arborist to conduct structural pruning of public shade trees on various streets in town.

I am also pleased to report we were able to

distribute 900 seedlings to the children and staff of the Edgartown Elementary School in honor of Earth Day. These seedlings included the Tulip Poplar and Frasier Fir Trees.

In closing I wish to thank the Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown for their support and care for public shade trees in our community. I also owe thanks to the tree care professional who work on the trees throughout town for their professional work. Our beautiful trees are an asset and provide many environmental and health benefits.

Respectfully Submitted,

ALLAN DEBETTENCOURT
Tree Warden

BUILDING INSPECTOR

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

Submitted herewith is our annual report covering the year ending 31 December 2023.

Building Permits Issued	#Increase/ Decrease	
New Single Family Residences	51	-17
*Includes 12 Guest Houses/Apartments		
Multi-Family Residence	0	0
Single Family Residence	278	-25
Additions/Alterations/Renovations (58 major, 158 minor, 77 insulation/weatherization)		
Garage/Barn	51	-9
*Includes 6 Detached Bedrooms & 16 Pool Houses		
Shed/Deck/Porch/Fence	53	+7
New Commercial	10	+6
Commercial:	41	+2
Additions/Alterations/Renovations		
Swimming Pool/Tennis Court	72	+9
Miscellaneous:		
Shingle	66	
Demolition/Move	22	
Foundation	12	
Solar Array	80	
Tent	114	
Total	865	+30
<hr/>		
Total Building Permits Receipts:	\$376,813.65	
	(decrease of \$80,707.21)	
<hr/>		
Miscellaneous Permits & Fees		
(Includes Wood Stoves, Sign Permits, Summons, Fines, Additional Inspections, etc.)		
Total Miscellaneous Fees	\$28,470.00	
	(increase of \$9,822.50)	
<hr/>		
Trench Permits	\$1,300.00	
	(decrease of \$150.00)	
<hr/>		
Total Building Inspector's Receipts:	\$406,583.65	
	(decrease of \$71,034.71)	
<hr/>		
Fees Collected by the Building Department for:		
Gas Inspector	\$57,775.00	
Plumbing Inspector	\$52,710.00	
Electrical Inspector	\$162,260.00	
<hr/>		
Total Receipts Collected by the Building Dept:	\$679,328.65	
	(decrease of \$105,589.71)	

The Building and Zoning Enforcement Department addressed a wide range of items this year - permitting and inspecting many large, single family dwellings, a continued increase in pool permits, the large scale addition and renovation to the Stop & Shop, an assortment of complex zoning issues and the extensive permitting process and site work of a new, large scale nursing home facility on Edgartown Vineyard Haven Road.

While we have begun to notice dips in the frenzy of construction and development that coincided with the pandemic in 2020, there is still an overall trend of more construction, more turnover and larger structures that seems to be here to stay.

The Building Department is fully staffed. Steve Kelly as Assistant Building Inspector and Chrissy McCarthy in the role of Department Assistant. Steve has been with the Department for over a year, alleviating the load by issuing permits, performing inspections and answering questions. Chrissy started in March. She quickly picked up on our systems and has kept the office afloat. Her unflappable and pleasant demeanor has made her an invaluable part of the team.

We brought on a third Plumbing and Gas inspector, Jamie Wallace, who has been helping to distribute the steady stream of inspections. He joins the ever capable Bill Callahan and Charlie Day. Rob Young and Mike Dolby continue on as Wiring inspectors, with David Schwab and Cole Powers pinch hitting when necessary.

I appreciate the communication and comradery that each of the members bring to the Building Department team.

I continue to be grateful for the opportunity to serve the town of Edgartown, especially in this crucial time as we learn how to best accommodate a population with a variety of needs.

Respectfully Submitted,
 READE KONTJE MILNE
 Building Commissioner

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
New Single Family Residence	30	41	49	67	42	56	55	61	40	71	68	51
Multi-Family Building	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Single Family Residence Additions/Alterations	191	217	231	235	238	286	259	316	380	351	303	293
Garage/Barn	22	25	38	52	57	46	51	52	41	74	60	51
Shed/Deck/Porch/Fence	63	63	78	70	83	56	57	58	42	66	46	53
New Commercial	2	3	2	3	4	2	4	3	2	2	4	10
Commercial Additions/Alterations	32	28	21	20	34	38	35	66	36	42	39	41
Swimming Pools	23	28	31	34	35	28	28	44	55	75	46	72
Miscellaneous	64	116	74	112	150	140	207	216	172	271	252	294
TOTALS	427	521	524	593	643	654	696	816	768	952	835	865

PLUMBING & GAS INSPECTORS

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

Submitted herewith is our annual report covering the year ending 31 December 2023.

Plumbing Permits: 232 \$11,610.00
(decrease of 78)

Plumbing Inspections: 548 \$41,100.00
(decrease of 162)

Total Plumbing Receipts: \$52,710.00
(decrease of \$15,465.00)

Gas Permits: 315 \$15,475.00
(decrease of 37)

Gas Inspections: 564 \$42,300.00
(decrease of 117)

Total Gas Receipts: \$57,775.00
(decrease of \$10,850.00)

Respectfully Submitted,
WILLAM CALLAHAN
CHARLES DAY
JAMIE WALLACE
Plumbing/Gas Inspectors

ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

Submitted herewith is our annual report covering the year ending 31 December 2023.

Electrical Permits: 708 \$35,135.00
(decrease of 20)

Electrical Inspections: 1695 \$127,125.00
(decrease of 101)

Total Electrical Receipts: \$162,260.00
(decrease of \$8,240)

Respectfully Submitted,

ROBERT A. YOUNG, JR.
MICHAEL C. DOLBY
DAVID A. SCHWAB
Electrical Inspectors

PUBLIC WORKS

WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

In 2023 the Plant processed 81.2 million gallons of sewerage. The Plant effluent at the other end of the facility averaged a total Nitrogen level of 2.15 milligrams per liter, resulting in approximately 587 kilograms of nitrogen being contributed to the Great Pond Watershed. Edgartown’s MaDEP Discharge Permit has a 2,200-kilograms-per-year limit for effluent nitrogen from the Plant, and the Plant produced just under 27% of that limit.

The reduction of Nitrogen entering the Edgartown Great Pond is an important objective of the operation of the Edgartown Wastewater Treatment Facility. The WWTF contributes to the reduction of the Total Maximum Daily Load of nitrogen entering the Edgartown Great Pond and as more properties within the Great Pond Watershed connect to the sewer system its contribution to the health of the Great Pond will increase.

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Quality (MaDEP) issued new regulations for Nitrogen Sensitive Areas in the summer of 2023 for Cape Cod. The regulations originally were designated to include Martha’s Vineyard but the MaDEP deferred including Martha’s Vineyard in order to allow the Commonwealth and the island communities to investigate further the origins and effects of excess Nitrogen in their respective watersheds and water bodies. In anticipation of the proposed regulatory changes Edgartown had approved and funded a Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP) during the April 2022 Annual Town Meeting. The CWMP began in the fall of 2022 in conjunction with an already approved Asset Management Plan, which is a component of the CWMP. At the end of 2023 the Asset Management Plan was complete and the CWMP was nearing the halfway mark. The first of 4 or 5 public hearings on the CWMP findings was held in October. While Martha’s Vineyard and Edgartown are currently exempt from the new MaDEP Nitrogen regulations it appears the handwriting is on the wall and a proactive approach to Edgartown’s water quality issues is a needed and necessary step to maintain and preserve the unique beauty and nature of the island and its marine environment. The Wastewater Commissioners will be actively involved as the CWMP is finished, additional public hearings are held and new funding for inevitable Nitrogen reduction solutions is sought.

The Wastewater Department took advantage of a MaDEP energy efficiency and reduction program in securing grant monies to replace 3 waste activated

SUMMARY OF WASTEWATER FLOWS AND TOTAL NITROGEN			
2023	FLOW	TOTAL N	
JAN	3,779,457	1.67	
FEB	3,432,043	2.35	
MARCH	3,866,852	2.00	
APRIL	4,162,331	1.95	
MAY	6,050,219	1.29	
JUNE	8,751,424	1.57	
JULY	12,229,247	1.95	
AUG	12,762,549	1.19	
SEPT	8,736,012	2.89	
OCT	6,453,569	3.53	
NOV	5,155,446	2.41	
DEC	4,802,064	3.04	
TOTAL/YR	80,181,064	AVG/ YR	2.15

sludge pumps and 3 primary sludge pumps. Using funds approved at the April 2022 Town Meeting to begin replacing the 6 pumps the Wastewater Department leveraged the funds in seeking MaDEP GAP III grant monies, a Cape Light Compact grant and Green Communities funds. In total the Department received \$200,000.00 from the GAP III program, \$171,514.00 from the Cape Light Compact and \$43,697.00 from the Green Communities. The grant funds represented over 70% of the total project cost. This is a significant windfall for the WWTF as 6 inefficient and inherently risky to repair pneumatic pumps were replaced with 6 new, VFD driven electric motor pumps. Significant electrical savings are predicted in utilizing these pumps and the pumps were sized appropriately to accommodate any future facility upgrades and expansion. The Wastewater Commission wishes to thank Mike DiBarra at the MaDEP, Margaret Song and Laura Selmer at the Cape Light Compact and Alan Strahler at the Green Communities for their roles in facilitating the successful implementation of this project.

We wish Pia Webster, our longtime Administrative Assistant, a long and well deserved retirement after her many years of devoted service to the Department. She will be missed by the staff and our many customers. We also wish to thank the Operations crew of Joe Rock and Sebastian Corwin and our new Administrative Assistant Cristina Zghibarta for their hard work and dedication. We also want to express our thanks to Allan deBettencourt and the Highway Department for making it possible to deliver our sludge to the Rhode Island disposal site. We feel confident about the future of the Wastewater Department and the work we contribute to making Edgartown the special place it is.

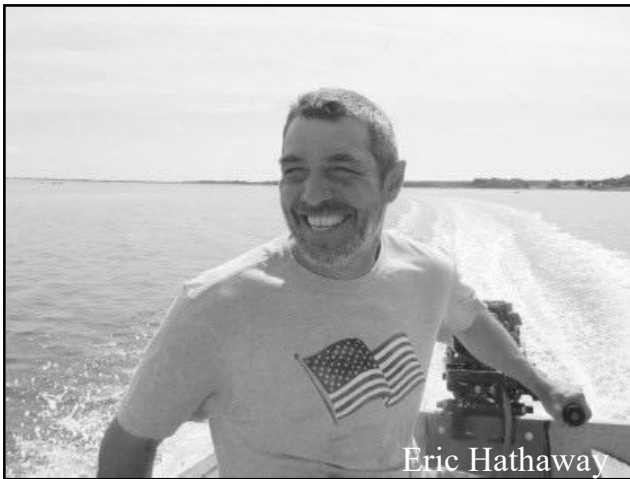
Respectfully submitted,
W. ALEX MORRISON,
Chairman
GLEN SEARLE
SCOTT A. ELLIS

WATER DEPARTMENT

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

2023 will be a year that the Edgartown Water Department will not soon forget. Like many other departments, we started the year short-handed.

Unfortunately, we were then faced with the loss and passing of a member of our team/family, Eric Hathaway. This loss was not necessarily felt as an issue because we were then further short-handed, it was because there was an everlasting void in our hearts, department and family. Eric began his career with the Edgartown Water Department on 5/14/2001 and performed his duties for nearly twenty-two years. During my time with this department, I had the pleasure of knowing the caliber of the person Eric was and about his devotion to his wife, daughters, his community and his department. This department misses and remembers Eric everyday as we pass by the tree that was planted in his memory.



Another long time member of our team, Phill Levesque, resigned from his position to continue his profession in a neighboring Water Department. Phill was with this department for more than twenty-two years. We thank him for his contribution to the department and wish him well with his new endeavors.

By the end of January, we were down three employees. Though this put us in an uncomfortable position, the pendulum began to swing in March and we received some relief by hiring Wayne Jackson to fill a vacant Junior Operator position. In December, we were able to fill another Junior Operator position with Steven Packish and returning employee Gordon Brown resumed a Water Operator position. I can not emphasize enough how thankful I am to close out 2023 fully staffed and on behalf of the department, I

welcome Wayne, Steven and Gordon to the team and hope they have a long and successful career with us.

While closing out 2023 fully staffed is great news, it can not overshadow the difficulties experienced over the past year due to staffing shortages. Your water system is a 24 hour, 365 days per year operation. This means that the remaining staff saw an increase in workload, responsibility, on-call rotation and emergency responses after hours. As a result of their dedicated efforts, I do not believe the community was aware that we were down to a skeleton crew. I thank the employees of the department for their ability to maintain operations in the manner the community has become accustomed to, as this really emphasizes the quality, competence and determination of the staff of your Water Department.

Operational highlights and accomplishments of the Water Department of the past year include:

- For the eighth consecutive year, the Edgartown Water Department was recognized by state and federal regulators for exceeding compliance, outstanding performance and achievement. Awards were presented at the Massachusetts State House by state representatives and regulators.
- A multi-year improvement to our corrosion control program continued. Following an in-house study of raw and finish water sodium levels, the conversion from sodium hydroxide to potassium hydroxide began. The corrosion control program is essential in controlling lead and copper in the homes and businesses of the community. The conversion to potassium hydroxide will help address the concerns of those on low sodium diets, while still reducing lead and copper in the drinking water. To date, two of the four conversions have been completed.
- Fire hydrants received their annual flushing and inspection. Any defects noted during the inspection were promptly rectified. The hydrant flushing process requires less time and less water each year. This is indicative of an effective program in place. Additionally, hydrants in need of paint were painted. Two fire hydrants that were found to be problematic were replaced and upgraded to new fire hydrants.
- The S.C.A.D.A. (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system for the Water Department was upgraded to include new operating software. I have expressed the importance of this system in past Town Reports and how we continually strive

to improve and update this heavily relied upon system.

- The stock yard at the Water Department was graded and retaining walls were added. Once the site work was completed, the construction materials were reorganized.
- Water services were transferred to a newly installed water main on Mill Street. This was in preparation for the drainage to be completed and the road rebuilt. This project was a prime example of the coordinated efforts of multiple town departments, with a very satisfying end result.
- Progress was made with the development of an additional water source and an additional pumping station. This is a long process and will take several years to complete. The goal of this project being increased redundancy and to more effectively meet the needs of community build out.
- Dylan Thornton and Heidi Boyd both sat for two Drinking Water Operator License exams. Both employees earned their Distribution 1 and Treatment 1 Drinking Water Operator Licenses.
- We applied for and were granted four waivers for our sampling program. Based on historical testing frequency and the analytical results of the samples, MassDEP responded favorably with the request to reduce sampling for some contaminants. The reduction of the sampling requirement presents a savings of operational expenses.
- Preventative maintenance included the chemical feed systems in the pumping stations. New pumps, feed lines, injection ports and fittings were installed to fully replace the systems in a proactive manner.
- The Mill Hill Standpipe was inspected and cleaned. No notable deficiencies were reported and sediment accumulation was minimal. Minimal sedimentation indicates an effective hydrant flushing program and that the mixer we installed is operating as intended.
- Maintenance, repair and upgrade projects included the annual service for the Parco Valves, as well as the calibration of the master meters at the pumping stations. Pumping Stations received their annual winter maintenance and numerous in-house vehicle / equipment repairs and maintenance tasks were conducted.
- Bids were accepted and a contract awarded to continue our well maintenance program. The Lily Pond Well will be pulled, cleaned and

inspected. The well will be fully functional and in service prior to the heavy pumping season of 2024. All components showing signs of stress or wear will be replaced or repaired as necessary.

Construction projects continue at a rapid pace. New construction, well conversions and guest houses are constants in town and keep the field crew busy. In many cases, we are challenged with the need to supply water to an undeveloped area or an area not presently benefited by a water main. In some cases, new mains are installed by private contractors. In other cases, new mains are installed by the Water Department. In all cases, the design is completed by or overseen by the Water Department so as to provide the best hydraulic system for the project, with future needs in mind.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023

Water Use – Wells

Meshacket Well #4 (Start-up 1959)

Water Pumped – .613 MG / 613,000 gal.

Peak Day Demand – .160000 MG / 160,000 gal. (8/5/23)

Minimum Day Demand – 0**

Average Daily Flow – 1,679 gal.

Lily Pond Well #5 (Start-up 1978)

Water Pumped – 47.681 MG / 47,681,000 gal.

Peak Day Demand – .492000 MG / 492,000 gal. (6/16/23)

Minimum Day Demand – 0 **

Average Daily Flow – 130,633 gallons

Wintucket Well #6 (Start-up 1990)

Water Pumped – 78.845 MG / 78,145,100 gal.

Peak Day Demand – .647500 MG / 647,500 gal. (4/19/23)

Minimum Day Demand – 0 **

Average Daily Flow – 214,096 gal.

Quenomica Well #7 (Start-up 1995)

Water Pumped – 131.521 MG / 131,521,000 gal.

Peak Day Demand – 1.013000 MG / 1,013,000 gal. (8/6/23)

Minimum Day Demand – 0 **

Average Daily Flow – 360,332 gal.

Nunnepog Well #8(Start-up 2007)

Water Pumped – 139.242 MG / 139,242,000 gal.

Peak Day Demand – 1.075000 MG/1,075,000 gal. (9/10/23)

Minimum Day Demand – 0 **

Average Daily Flow – 381,485 gallons

Water Use – All Sources Combined

Total Water Pumped – 397.902100 MG / 397,902,100 gal.

Peak Day Demand – 3.167 MG / 3,167,000 gal. (8/6/23)

Minimum Day Demand – .1841 MG/184,100 gal. (3/17/23)

Average Daily Flow – 1.090 MG / 1,090,000 gal.

Maximum Week of Pumping – 19.665 MG (8/1/23)

Winter Average (October-May) – 16.924675 MG / Month
or .691 MG / Day

Summer Average (June-September) - 65.626175 MG / Month or 2.151678 MG / Day

***All sources are rotated and utilized in a manner that stays within the permitted withdrawal limitations of each source.*

Water Distribution System

New Mains – Installed by Owner / Developer – (3) 3,740’

New Mains – Contracted by Town of Edgartown - 0

New Mains – Installed by Town Crews – 0

Antiquated Mains Replaced – 0

Total Main Installed – (3) 3,740’

Total Main Abandoned – 0

Total Miles of Main in Town of Edgartown – Approx. 75.5

Fire Hydrants Installed – 10

Fire Hydrants Replaced - 2

Fire Hydrants in Service - 369

New Water Service Activations - 47

Number of Current Water Accounts - 3,560

YEARLY TOTALS in gallons

2019	334,880,000
2020	359,396,100
2021	355,283,000
2022	401,933,800
2023	397,902,100

As I did last year, this report will provide a cautionary message. In December, I had heard rumors of a pending drought declaration and sat in for the Drought Advisory Task Force meeting. This Task Force provides their recommendation to the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, which is then acted upon. I am not on the Task Force, not allowed to speak and am not allowed to vote, nor is any other Water Superintendent in the Commonwealth. As alarming as this point may be, it is not at all surprising. After watching the meeting in December, I concluded that Water Superintendents are intentionally excluded, as our input and opinions could contradict the agenda. This is most unfortunate, as Water Superintendents and the communities they serve are at the mercy of the decisions made at this meeting. I’d like to be perfectly clear and would like to reiterate that I am extremely environmentally conscientious and believe in the preservation of this most precious resource. However, I am also a realist and prefer to make decisions based upon logic, science, common sense, historical data and trends. The easiest way for me to see the condition and direct representation of the aquifer is to look at our S.C.A.D.A. system. Well level, draw down, recharge rate, static and residual levels, pumping rate and specific capacity are all there at a glance. Additionally, the historical trends are all available for review. You may find this hard to believe, but in a career that spans nearly thirty years, I have never been asked to provide this information, and I think you are starting to see why. During the meeting, I observed several people stating opinions and speculation trying to persuade the group to vote to implement a drought. What I didn’t see, was the willingness to examine data or look at undisputable facts. Though unrecognized, it is not hard to understand that population is down, pumping is down and that we are in our recharge cycle (just as every year, as the trends suggest). So, a vote was taken and we got put into a Level 2 Drought....in December. This begs the question; what action do they expect to be taken in December? Per my advice, one of the Task Force members suggested to hold off on the drought and reevaluate in late February. This suggestion was not received favorably and a Level 2 Drought was then the

FIRE HYDRANTS INSTALLED 2023

LOCATION	HYDRANTS
Green House Nursing	6
Farmers Road	1
Milikin Way	3
TOTAL	10

WATER MAINS INSTALLED 2023

LOCATION	SIZE/
Green House Nursing	8” 1,960’
Farmers Road	8” 580’
Milikin Way	8” 1,200’
TOTAL	3,740’

**WATER CONSUMPTION MAXIMUM DAY
in gallons**

August 3, 2019	3,354,000
July 12, 2020	2,890,000
August 1, 2021	2,903,000
July 31, 2022	3,732,000
August 6, 2023	3,167,000

recommendation of the Task Force, and officially implemented two days later. It is unclear as to what specific action they believe should be taken, as there is not much outside irrigation going on in December. The troubling issues I have with this is that it diminishes the importance when there is an actual reason for concern, there is nothing that can be done this time of the year, there is no real reason for concern (presently) and that it sets the stage for future and unnecessary drought declarations. I respect the sensible use of water but do not want to put a watering ban in place in the height of the summer if avoidable.

In closing, I mentioned previously that 2023 hasn't exactly been the best year for the Water Department. Even so, we continue to do our best to serve this community. Though it has been stated in the past, the success of your Water Department is a cooperative effort that involves many. The community at large has always provided the support needed to operate and maintain a successful department, and it is most appreciated. Equally important, are the community leaders. Edgartown has historically been benefited by strong and competent leadership and it cannot be over stated as the positive influences this has on municipal operations, and the appreciation towards them. Another contributing factor, is the Board of Water Commissioners. The community is very fortunate to have such an experienced and dedicated group of

individuals. As your elected officials, they oversee the operations of the department and constantly steer the department in the best direction for the town and its residents. I thank you for your contributions and input. Your dedication is evident and collectively, you make my job easier. The assistance of other town entities is also recognized. Boards, departments and employees are always willing to assist when called upon. This is one of the many reasons that Edgartown is a special community. Lastly, I'd like to express my sincerest appreciation and gratitude to the staff of the Water Department. I often refer to this department as a team and I believe this dynamic is most significant. Through all of the difficulties, staffing shortages and ever increasing responsibilities, you continue to perform flawlessly. I am proud of the staff of this department and the reputation this department holds within the community and the Commonwealth. It is an honor to be part of an organization with these individuals.

The Board of Water Commissioners and the staff of the Edgartown Water Department are proud to serve the community of Edgartown and proud of the services we provide. We look forward to the opportunity to serve you in 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
WILLIAM R. CHAPMAN
Water Superintendent

2023 ACTUAL WATER PRODUCTION

MONTH	MESHACKET WELL 4 *	LILY POND WELL 5	WINTUCKET WELL 6	QUENOMICA WELL 7	NUNNEPOG WELL 8	TOTAL PUMPING
Jan	0	19,000	8,598,400	16,000	13,000	8,646,400
Feb	0	1,323,000	8,010,400	14,000	17,000	9,364,400
Mar	186,000	12,000	8,939,300	12,000	17,000	9,165,300
Apr	78,000	27,000	8,303,000	8,140,000	1,039,000	17,587,000
May	0	4,990,000	3,371,500	20,909,000	18,190,000	47,460,500
Jun	0	8,105,000	10,241,500	20,865,000	25,622,000	64,833,500
Jul	0	9,536,000	11,946,200	26,458,000	28,000,000	75,940,200
Aug	220,000	9,397,000	11,600,200	23,818,500	27,621,000	72,653,200
Sep	0	4,860,000	6,809,800	12,027,000	25,381,000	49,077,800
Oct	129,000	219,000	817,800	14,947,000	7,491,000	23,603,800
Nov	0	6,031,000	8,900	4,308,000	9,000	10,356,900
Dec	0	3,162,000	199,100	10,000	5,842,000	9,213,100
TOTAL	613,000	47,681,000	78,845,100	131,521,000	139,242,000	397,902,100
Monthly Ave.	51,083	3,973,417	6,570,425	10,960,083	11,603,500	33,158,508
Daily Ave.	87,571	248,303	310,414	597,822	675,932	1,090,143
Days Pumped	7	188	254	220	206	365

Chemical Definition and Use: Sodium Hydroxide (NaOH) and Potassium Hydroxide (KOH) – used to adjust the pH of water as part of the corrosion control program and for the adherence of the Lead and Copper Rule.

CHEMICALS USED 2023					
	MESHACKET WELL 4 *	LILY POND WELL 5	WINTUCKET WELL 6	QUENOMICA WELL 7	NUNNEPOG WELL 8
MONTH	NaOH gal.	KOH gal.	NaOH/ KOH gal	NaOH gal	NaOH gal
JAN	0	0	170.0	1.0	1.0
FEB	0	78.0	159.0	0	0
MAR	0	0	175.0	0	0
APR	0	1.0	172.0	199.0	19.0
MAY	0	280.0	0	576.0	420.0
JUN	0	419.0	312.0	588.0	656.0
JUL	0	500.0	336.0	734.0	707.0
AUG	0	502.0	327.0	620.0	671.0
SEP	0	250.0	181.0	346.0	620.0
OCT	0	13.0	22.0	437.0	182.0
NOV	0	320.0	0	125.0	0
DEC	0	171.0	6.0	1.0	135.0
TOTALS	0	2,534.0	504.0 1184.0	3,627.0	3,411.0

* Meshacket Well is on line and tested as per all regulatory requirements. However, while the well presently meets all applicable standards, the well is reserved for emergency use only. In 2023, the well was run for testing and analytical purposes only. The water was not chemically treated and did not enter the distribution system.

CEMETERY DEPARTMENT

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

This year 13 lots were sold in the New Westside Cemetery. There were 26 burials, of which 19 were cremations and 7 were full casket burials.

Expansion of the New Westside Cemetery continues, 13th Avenue is complete and 14th Avenue has been laid out.

Again this year, as part of its environmental studies, the Edgartown School partnered with BioDiversity Works and set up trail cameras in the New Westside and Old Westside Cemeteries in hopes of capturing wildlife activity in the area, we look forward to the report. The New Westside Cemetery also had all of its trees limbed up and pruned.

The commission again thanks the Community Preservation Committee for the support received for

the restoration of historic gravestone and this year, the Commissioners were awarded funds for Phase 2 of the metal fencing restoration project in the Old Westside Cemetery.

Aiden Varkonda, and Ryan Leary joined Cemetery Superintendent Edwin Alvarado Ortiz with grounds keeping, constant mowing, trimming and general care of the town cemeteries.

The Commissioners would like to thank the Edgartown Highway Department, The Edgartown Water Department, the Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Edgartown for their continuing support.

Respectfully submitted,
ANDREW KELLY, Chairman
SUSAN BROWN
ELIZABETH VILLARD
DEBBIE MANLEY-SMITH

MV REFUSE DISTRICT

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

The Refuse District processed, and shipped over 11,356 tons in 2023 of waste and light construction material. All waste was delivered to SEMAS/ Covanta Waste to Energy Facility in Rochester Ma. With construction materials delivered to J.R. Vinagro in Johnston RI. Our recycling efforts also removed over 900 tons of single stream, 630 tons of various metals, over 200 batteries, 20 tons of tires, and 700 tons of leaves/brush, 925 Mattresses.

With new processing efforts, the District has reduced an average seven trailer loads of waste going off Island per month in since July 2022.

Our food waste drop-off program has redirected over 80 tons (Double from prior year) from all four of the District town's collections sites in 2023.

We are proud to announce that over 600 households participated in the District's Hazardous Household Waste Collection program during 2023. After 34 years, the program continues to grow and provide Island residents the opportunity to dispose of hazardous material in an environmentally correct and safe way.

Mercury Elements and Florescent light bulbs are

accepted *free of charge*, thanks to our contract with Covanta (SEMAS) Waste to Energy, and are accepted during regular business hours at all (4) of our drop off centers, (Rechargeable batteries, Watch/ Hearing Aid batteries and Fluorescent/ Low Energy bulbs).

Harmful Household Hazardous Waste Collection

dates are held on Saturday of the following months with no charge to residents.

2024 Schedule

Each event hours are 9am – 12pm

May 18, 2024 July 20, 2024

Oct 19, 2024

All Commercial & Property Management Companies MUST call Safety -Klean to schedule a pick up at your job site @ 800-323-5040

The collection location is held at the Refuse District located @ 750 West Tisbury Rd. Edgartown.

Contact for info:
DON HATCH
HUNTER THOMAS





EDUCATION

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Ms. Amy Houghton, Chairperson
Martha's Vineyard Superintendency Union #19
All Island School Committee

Dear Ms. Houghton,

In accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I am pleased to submit my 2023 Annual Report as Superintendent of Schools to the members of the six school committees of the Martha's Vineyard Public Schools (MVYPS).

I wish to take a moment to extend warm wishes and gratitude to our Island community. I believe good school systems embrace a culture in which everyone who is invested in some manner with our schools, becomes a steward of our schools, establishing a guiding principle in which a genuine positive and caring regard for all children pervades our community. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the well-being of our children and the Martha's Vineyard Schools as a whole.

As a steward of MVYPS for 22 years, and in my second year as superintendent, I understand the privilege and honor that has been bestowed on me and I embrace and appreciate being entrusted with our schools. I want to acknowledge that this year has brought challenges and losses to our community. The passing of loved ones leaves an indelible mark, and our hearts go out to those who have experienced such difficult times. As we reflect on this past year, let us support one another with kindness and empathy.

This past year, MVYPS administration and school committees, in concert with our towns, made significant progress in critical system-wide and school-specific goals in support of our Island's children. This included a successful effort in securing a revised Regional Agreement with all of our Island towns in the context of a potentially significant high school capital project. Town leaders, school administrators, and school committee members executed plans that ran parallel to the Massachusetts School Building Authority's (MSBA)

Module 1, 270-day Eligibility Period, which resulted in securing funding for a comprehensive building project feasibility study for the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District (MVRSD). Module 2 was completed when the MSBA recently approved MVRSD's choice of an Owner's Project Managing Firm who will guide and assist us through the remaining modules of the project.

Module 3 – Feasibility Study

Module 4 – Schematic Design

Module 5 – Project Scope and Budget and Project Funding Agreements

Module 6 – Design Development, Construction Documentation, and Bidding

Module 7 – Construction Administration

Module 8 – Project Closeout

Additionally, I am grateful for the work of key town leaders, school committee members, union leaders, and school administrators to reach agreements on contract negotiations. I am grateful to our town board of health agents, school physician, and school nurses for their continued work to ensure for the safety of our children and fidelity of the learning environment. I am grateful for the work of MVYPS administrators who continue our work with the Mid Atlantic Equity Consortium to move forward in our efforts to ensure for cultural responsiveness and equity in our academic programs and practices. I am grateful for the continued efforts of our administration in supporting our children and staff with improved behavioral health interventions, resources, and practices and in our efforts to improve the culture and climate of our schools and in the manner in which MVYPS responds in working with our community.

Our work in MVYPS will always reflect the best interest of all students. Our schools continue to enact measures to recapture children's learning and strengthen their social-emotional welfare. Effective collegial and congenial relationships will highlight our collaborative work in support of our children. For this year, feedback from MVYPS Cabinet Administrators and School Committee members helped to inform and organize strategies and

programmatic interventions to guide our schools. The feedback highlighted and summarized strengths and opportunities within our schools and overall system. This summary of strengths and weaknesses informed the following Focus Areas.

- A System-Wide Commitment to Our Children
- A Commitment to Nurturing the Culture Within Our Schools
- A Commitment to a Strong School Community Approach

These Focus Areas span multiple indicators across the standards of our professional practice to form goals for the current school year, FY24. As a result, MVYPS is working to improve upon the supervision and evaluation of our school-based and central office administrators through increased collaboration regarding goal-setting and attainment. This will include broadening and deepening programmatic initiatives such as the Collaborative Problem-Solving Model and Co-Teaching to better support students' academic skills and strengthen their flexibility, frustration tolerance, and problem-solving skills.

Additionally, MVYPS is working to increase family and community engagement by broadening and deepening a culture of feedback to inform practices with families through the services provided from our schools, as well informing practices with students and staff regarding the climate in our schools. Feedback will be solicited and coded over the course of this year using the EDSCLS (Ed. School Climate Survey), VOCAL (Voices of Climate and Learning),

and SELIS (Social Emotional Learning Indicator System) surveys.

Lastly, MVYPS is working to increase our focus on standards-based learning to more effectively support our students' achievement through direct collaboration with each MVYPS school administration in the composition and implementation of intervention plans. Multiple common assessments such as the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) will inform student growth and achievement.

Again, I wish to extend my sincere thanks to the many individuals, departments, boards, and offices of our six Island towns and our Island organizations, as well as our school committee members, our parents, and our staff. I see your commitment in your continued support of our children and I want to thank our entire Island community for prioritizing the work of our schools.

We have made great strides in the numerous opportunities and challenges over the past 18 months. I am incredibly proud of our students and staff. Thank you for your support as we move our schools forward in partnership.

Sincerely,
Richard M. Smith, Ed.D.
Superintendent,
Martha's Vineyard Public Schools

EDGARTOWN SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown:

It is a pleasure to report on the status of the Edgartown School during the 2023-2024 school year.

During the first four months of the 2023-2024 school year numerous special events took place in our school. These events included our Annual Outdoor Picnic for kindergarten students and their families, and our well-attended Open House, Health Fair, Garden Celebration, and Community Barbeque. Two important Curriculum Nights took place in October. Our First Quarter Honor Roll Breakfast Ceremony celebrated the academic achievements of 87 middle school students, and the sounds of children's voices filled the school gymnasium during a Winter Concert in December.

In September school opened with an enrollment of 378 students. The New England School Development Council projects our enrollment to reach 438 students by the end of 2024.

We remain committed to fostering a sense of belonging for students in school and providing our community's children a rigorous and challenging educational experience. Students in grades K-8 are exposed to research-based curricula and participate in rich learning endeavors. Dedicated teachers and support staff work together to deliver instruction and coordinate learning experiences relevant to all learners.

The school works closely with the Town and its departments to maintain the school while receiving support for purchasing and payroll services. The Police Department provides a school resource officer (SRO) at the school five days a week to make the school safe and secure. The school resource officer becomes acquainted with students and their families to give true meaning to the concept of community policing. The Fire Department's EMT unit provides assistance to the school's clinic, when needed. Both departments share their resources as an investment in the overall quality of services to the school community. Edgartown School Committee members Louis Paciello, Kelly Scott, and newly appointed member Kimberly Kirk are committed to excellence in our school. They work collaboratively with members of the Finance Committee and Selectboard to analyze the school budget to ensure prudent spending and the proper allocation of resources, and I thank them for their voluntary service to our school community.

Students who are not proficient in the English

language are provided specialized instruction according to individualized plans. English learners make up 19.8% of the student body. Learners with special needs make up 22% of our student population and are taught by highly-trained teachers in accordance with state and federal laws. An enrichment program challenges students with engaging experiences. In past years, these experiences have included Mock Trial, architecture, robotics, sign language, marine navigation, media production, aviation, and other project-based endeavors. This year's enrichment opportunities include community service learning projects, landscape paintings, multi-medium art projects, and Industrial Arts/STEM. Eligible students in grades 6-8 receive accelerated math instruction. Students in grades 6-8 with special interests are matched with community volunteers in mentorships to expand their interests. The Edgartown School houses an Island-wide special education program in an effort to make specialized programming cost effective. The Bridge Program services students from across the Island with special needs.

Our students receive a well-rounded education and are exposed to a variety of experiences, both in and out of the classroom. These include musical productions, play performances, string and instrumental instruction, All Island Band, and general music and art classes that enrich our students' educational experiences.

The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) continues to provide ongoing support to the school and community. We are grateful to PTA President Brooke Leahy, Vice President Jamie Wallace, Secretary Amy Heil and Treasurer Michelle Oteri.

Teacher grants continue to be offered by the PTA to support instruction. The PTA awards a \$1000 scholarship each year to a graduating high school senior from Edgartown. In addition to the programs that support students, the PTA also finds ways to demonstrate appreciation to the entire staff throughout the year.

The School Advisory Council (SAC) addresses and solves important issues. The SAC is comprised of a dedicated group of parents, community members, and school staff. The SAC is also responsible for crafting the School Improvement Plan (SIP). The SIP is a blueprint for the school to follow and challenges the faculty to strive for excellence in all areas. A copy of the plan for 2023-2024 can be found on the school's website at www.edgartownschool.org.

Over the past few years, as we have learned how

to use new technology, our network administrator has been a key factor in keeping things moving forward seamlessly by supporting students, staff and families. Administration and administrative support personnel have kept the school running smoothly; guidance counselors continue to support students and families, while teachers and assistants support students' educational needs. The cafeteria staff continues to provide free breakfast and lunch for all students in our school. Our custodial staff works hard to keep our building clean. Our school nurses work in collaboration with the Island-wide Health & Safety Committee to update COVID-19 Protocols, influenza, and RSV.

The 2023 Official Accountability Report for the Edgartown School showed an overall classification of not requiring assistance or intervention. This classification was the result of limited or no progress toward targets. The Edgartown School administration and staff have analyzed and interpreted the 2023 MCAS data in the areas of English Language Arts and Mathematics to better inform instruction and target areas that need improvement.

Our seventh grade ski trip took place in March 2023 and our eighth graders spent four days in New York City and Philadelphia in May learning about our country's history. In May, 2023, we held our annual March to the Sea tribute. The entire school marched to the Memorial Wharf and were joined by town officials with Lt. James Craig, USN (retired), as our guest speaker. In June we returned to the Old Whaling Church for the eighth grade graduation.

The school is one of the largest buildings in the town with over eighty-five thousand square feet of space, which demands constant attention and upkeep. The school hosts police and fire department trainings, as well as community college courses.

Superintendent Richie Smith, district administrators, and their staff deliver a wide range of support services. In addition to augmenting payroll, budgeting, curriculum, ELL programs, special

education, and personnel services, the Superintendent's office provides Island-wide special education services to needy students in a cost-effective manner.

The Edgartown School is in the process of renovating its existing playground space into an outdoor learning campus for its students, the town, and the greater Island community. The newly-designed Outdoor Learning Campus will include modern, ADA compliant and inclusive playgrounds and a shaded outdoor classroom that offers unique learning opportunities and supports mental health and wellness. Thanks to the generosity of Edgartown residents, Phase I of the Outdoor Learning Campus was approved at the April 2023 Annual Town Meeting. Phase II is estimated to cost \$ 520,000, and the Edgartown School is considering a multi-tiered approach for funding Phase II whereby the Town Community Preservation Committee contributes \$100,000, the Edgartown School will solicit donations for approximately \$25,000, and the Town would be requested to contribute the remaining amount through a possible vote at the 2024 Annual Town Meeting. Completing this project will not only benefit the students and families of Edgartown, but it will benefit the entire community for years to come.

The school's success relies greatly upon its support from the surrounding community and organizations. The taxpayers and voters continue to support the school and its initiatives by advocating a budget that funds high-quality educational services for the children of Edgartown. It is apparent that the citizens of Edgartown value education as a high priority.

It is my pleasure to serve as your principal, and I thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

SHELLEY EINBINDER, Ed.D.
Principal

**EDGARTOWN SCHOOL
STATISTICS
2022-2023**

	Average Daily Attendance	Average Membership	% of Attendance
SEPTEMBER	391.21	416.26	93.99
OCTOBER	393.52	420.57	93.57
NOVEMBER	382.11	422.00	90.55
DECEMBER	367.11	418.94	87.63
JANUARY	391.25	422.85	92.53
FEBRUARY	388.23	428.35	90.63
MARCH	405.40	432.35	93.77
APRIL	399.20	435.40	91.69
MAY	411.77	437.63	94.09
JUNE	410.69	438.23	93.72

**ENROLLMENT
October 1, 2023**

Grade	Boys	Girls	Total
KINDERGARTEN	23	20	43
GRADE 1	09	29	38
GRADE 2	14	19	33
GRADE 3	24	26	50
GRADE 4	24	21	45
GRADE 5	27	14	41
GRADE 6	24	16	40
GRADE 7	25	23	48
GRADE 8	<u>21</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>41</u>
TOTAL	191	188	379

EDGARTOWN SCHOOL

Faculty & Staff Personnel 2023-2024

Shelley Einbinder-Fleischmann	Principal	Renee Habekost	ESP – KK
MaryAnn Bartlett	Assistant Principal	Gabriella Sampiao Da Silva	ESP – KS
Pamela J. Alwardt	Administrative Assistant	Skylar Menton	ESP – 1F
Nicole Gullotta	Administrative Assistant	Rich Pease	ESP – 1M
MaryBeth Naron	Receptionist	Judy Maynard	ESP – 1S
Darren Belisle	Network Administrator	Brooke Bulawka	ESP – 2D
Kathryn Curelli	School Nurse	Liz Ward	ESP – 2S
Colleen Hickey	School Nurse	Linda Wanamaker	ESP – 3H
Eric Butler	Guidance	Ebony Goldwire	ESP – 3K
Deborah DeBettencourt	Guidance	Amy Koenig Da Silva	ESP – 3L
Carmen Creanga	Guidance	Jessie Merriam	ESP – 4L
Nancy Cole	Librarian	Bill Jacob	ESP – 4M
Debra Grant	Gr. K	TBD	ESP – K-4
Katie Kelly	Gr. K	Kim Hathaway	ESP – 5-8
Sara Smestad	Gr. K	Robert Culbert	ESP – 5-8
Jennifer Fournier	Gr. 1	Robin Davies	ESP – 5-8
Megan McDonald	Gr. 1	Sydney Davies	ESP – 5-8
Denise Searle	Gr. 1	Mary Beth Meehan	ESP – 5-8
Summer DeSouza	Gr. 2	Doug Pease	ESP – 5-8
Chip Story	Gr. 2	Spencer Schofield	ESP – 5-8
Pam Hurley	Gr. 3	Amanda Cray	ESP – 5-8
Alicia Knight	Gr. 3	Deneen Convery	ESP – Library
Gail Lachapelle	Gr. 3	Marcia De Castro Borges	ESP Translator/Interpreter
Ryan Leandro	Gr. 4	Hilary Zotti Scatena	ESP Translator/Interpreter
Heather Majkowski	Gr. 4	Dwight Kaeka	Head Custodian
Fabian Garcia	Gr. 4-8 Spanish	Jeff Burgoyne	Custodian
Allison Hunt	Gr. 5 Science/Math	Marjorie Hayes	Custodian
Erin Simmons	Gr. 5 ELA/Social Studies	Kara Best	Custodian
Soraya Miri	Gr. 6 Math/Science	Gina deBettencourt	Head Cook/Manager
Justen Kane	Gr. 6 ELA/Social Studies	Jean Zandowski	Assistant Cook
Dale Burcalow	Gr. 7/8 ELA/Reading	Jill Taney	Cook's Helper
Celia Mercier	Gr. 7/8 Math	Dan Townes	Cook's Helper
Nedine Cunningham (.5)	Gr. 8 Social Studies	Gary Kovack	SRO
Ken DeBettencourt	Gr. 7 Pre-Algebra /Gr. 8 Math/Algebra		
Dawn Butkowski (.5)	Gr. 7 Social Studies		
Justen Foster	Gr. 7/8 Science		
Connie Leuenberger	Gr. K-2 Literacy Support		
Bridget Mello	Gr. 3-5 Literacy Support		
Melanie Brown	Gr. 6-8 Literacy Support		
Ellen Wannamaker	Gr. K-4 Math Support		
MaryEllen Guyther	Gr. 5-8 Math Specialist		
Emilia Giordano	Health		
Lorena Crespo	English Language Learning		
Catherine Doiron	English Language Learning		
Nicole Miranda	English Language Learning		
Jessica Whiteley	English Language Learning		
Anne Caldwell	Gr. K-8 Computer		
Nichole Shank	Gr. K-8 Art		
Sarah Vail (.5)	Gr. 5-8 Family & Consumer Science		
David Faber (.20) Bob Yapp (.30)	Gr. 5-8 Industrial Arts/STEM		
Derek Chrebet (.6)	Gr. K-3 Physical Education		
Michelle Pikor	Gr. 4-8 Physical Education		
Lucas Nascimento	Gr. K-8 Vocal Music		
Janet Hurley	Gr. K-4 Special Needs		
Sharon Engler	Gr. K-4 Special Needs		
Laurie Jennings	Gr. 4-5 Special Needs		
Meghan Brown	Gr. 6-8 Special Needs		
Lindsay Morgan	Gr. 6-8 Special Needs		
Kevin Huelsman	Gr. K-8 Music Band		
Kylie Hathaway	ESP – KG		

Shared Services	
Amy Wood	String Instruments
Mariel Garcia	School Psychologist
Bruce Boren	Occupational Therapist
Melissa Mahoney	Occupational Therapist
Mary Yancey	Occupational Therapist
Molly Chvatal	Physical Therapist
Sarah Norton	Speech/Language Therapist
Hannah Marini	Speech/Language Therapist
Jennifer Lyonais	Speech/Language Therapist
Emily Burke	Inclusion Support Teacher
Kerry Branca	Bridge/Elementary Gr. K-3
Kara Leandro	Bridge/Middle Gr. 4-8
Lyuba Avramova	ESP Bridge
Chloe Benoit	ESP Bridge
Olivia Knight	ESP Bridge
La-Moi James	ESP Bridge
Kenny MacDonald	ESP Bridge
Kaitlyn Marchand	ESP Bridge
Joellen Meuse	ESP Bridge
Lisa Nickowal	ESP Bridge
Sabrina Scott	ESP Bridge
Reann Steenkamp	ESP Bridge
Kara Thibodeau	ESP Bridge

Maggie Benoit

Garden Coordinator

MARTHA’S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Richard M. Smith, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools
4 Pine Street
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

Dear Dr. Smith,

It is my pleasure to present to you a summary of the accomplishments of our departmental staff at the Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School in the service of our students and community. There are many things to be proud of. As an all-island school, we strive to represent the best of this unique community through our high-performing academic core, our hands-on career and technical programs, our abundantly talented performing and visual arts departments, and our very competitive sports teams. It is through the dedication and support of the towns, school committee, staff, students, community partnerships, and parents that all of this is made possible on a daily basis.

Art, Design & Technology

The Art, Design & Technology department continues to offer a rich variety of creative electives. We’ve added Art History and Intro to 3D Design. We welcome part-time instructor, Mr. George Michaels, to teach AP Computer Science. We held our annual showcase “Evening of the Arts” students also participated in exhibits at Featherstone and (with Vineyard Conservation Society) at the Film Center and Mocha Mott’s. We partnered with the Martha’s Vineyard Times to produce the “Art Class” newspaper supplement showcasing student art. Eighteen MVRHS student artists won a total of 23 awards in the 2023 Scholastic Art Awards. Four students won the coveted Gold Key awards, and went on to the national competition. Art school-bound students attended Portfolio Day in Boston, where their portfolios were critiqued by college admissions professionals. Art History students held field trips to RISD and Salem, and architecture students went on site visits with Hutker Architects. After-school club attendance continues to remain at record-high levels; our art & literary magazine, SEABREEZES, won a coveted “Excellent” award in the 2022 NCTE state-wide REALM competition, and our new student-run film club is attracting new members, as is Art Club, Architecture Club, and Innovation Club.

Athletics

There were several teams who qualified for State tournaments this year. Boys basketball, hockey, lacrosse, and tennis along with girls hockey and tennis. The track team also sent several competitors

to state championships. The boys soccer team, girls soccer team, and football team came out victorious in the first annual “Battle in the Atlantic” which was held in late October. Now billed as “The Battle in the Atlantic” references the annual games between Nantucket and MV when field hockey, boys and girls soccer, and football play on the same day. With this inaugural year, three new trophies were added called the Golden Anchor. The winning team in each of these games takes home the trophy to hold until the next year’s game, similar to the Island Cup. Boys basketball, boys lacrosse, boys tennis, and football all were league champions. Thanks to the Touchdown Club and many donors for the updated Vineyard Pride Weight Room. Teams have begun to use the new room with much appreciation for the new facility.

Career and Technical Education

We officially welcome the Early Education and Care (EEC) program to our list of Chapter 74 approved programs. This designation is crucial to us being able to access funding and other resources earmarked for Career and Tech Ed Programs. EEC has already proved itself as a popular program with great interest from the local early childhood education community. The Auto Tech program students are training on the new alignment equipment, heavy duty lift and a state of the art on the vehicle brake lathe machine. The auto tech students have begun their OSHA certification. The students in the Medical Assisting program completed their first blood pressure clinic. The Horticulture department implemented a program in which the students began planting spring bulbs, finalized landscape plans for the front of the High School and propagation of plants for the annual spring plant sale. Culinary Art students have been preparing for OSHA Certification and have continued to host various events for local groups. Students in the Building Trades program collaboration with the architecture program on a project to improve storage and material handling was designed and built. Students also installed split rail fencing around some of the building’s perimeter. The Maritime Studies program has had several students attend Maritime colleges or with the credentials obtained through the program enter into the maritime industry. We continue to benefit from our biannual advisory meetings. Advisory groups made up of industry professionals provide valuable oversight of our programs.

English

The English Department continues to offer skills that are critical to becoming competent and confident

learners. Most students continue to perform above the state and national average on examinations. Students not only read and write an array of diverse literature, they also attend performances such as the Huntington Theater and the workshops offered at the New England Scholastic Press Association's Conference. Student publications also received state and national recognition this year. Our magazine, *Seabreezes*, received the designation of "Excellent" by the National Council of Teachers of English. The High School View received at the New England Scholastic Press Award ceremony, the Highest Achievement award is a testament to the quality of journalism students produce at MVRHS. Participation in the national Poetry Out Loud competition sent one student to the regional finals, where she performed beautifully. Many teachers of the English Department attended the Exeter Academy's Harkness Training for educators and Harvard University's Graduate School of Education's Universal Design for Learning course

ESL

The 2022 ESL report described the department as "in the midst of change." The changes continued throughout 2023, necessitating numerous shifts in teaching and extensive professional development (PD) for the staff. The department has implemented a new schedule of benchmark assessing which will take place in October and May/June. These assessments are in addition to the Commonwealth's mandated ACCESS test in January/February. The additional assessments are intended to provide progress monitoring, so teachers can more effectively individualize lessons and student goal planning. The district has committed to ESL co-teaching. In preparation for the introduction of co-teaching in September, a new part-time ESL position was added, Jane McGroarty Sampaio, from the World Language Department, was hired to co-teach three ESL classes.

Guidance

The guidance department and school adjustment counselors worked in concert with teachers and administration to keep all students engaged academically and emotionally. Guidance continues to work with all the island, sending schools to implement a comprehensive transition program for incoming 9th graders as well as to develop an individual post-secondary plan. Counselors work hard to offer academic programming and support for the island's growing ELL population. In 2022-2023 the guidance department was able to welcome a full time ASP who is native of Brazil and has been integral in assisting all ELL students, but particularly ELL and former ELL students. All students continue to meet with their counselors in groups and

individually to explore personality profiles, career opportunities, and college options. The Class of 2023 graduated a diverse group of 179 students, and the guidance department was again able to develop individual transitional plans for all students. 72% of the graduating class went on to a two or four-year college. The guidance department believes strongly that alternatives to the traditional college pathway should be explored for all students, and we are proud that almost 30% of MVRHS graduates are working and/or pursuing additional information in an area of their professional interest. This year's Class Night was another wonderfully successful culmination of the MVRHS scholarship program. Generous donors provided scholarships, grants and additional items that totaled 1.2 million dollars. 140 students in the 2023 graduating class received 505 awards.

History

The Social Studies department has added Art History, which is extremely popular with the students and teachers. Students have participated in a field trip to RISD with many more trips to come. Psychology has returned as a Social Studies elective and students have been exploring ideas of States of Consciousness as well as the benefits of sleep and sleep disorders. The American Studies classes are collaborating with the ELL and SPED department to create an interdisciplinary approach that can meet the needs of a wide range of students. The teachers are expanding the American Studies curriculum to focus on the connections between Brazil and the United States and to highlight the idea of "the Americas" as American History. The students and teachers are collaborating to put on a Change Maker's Fair after Thanksgiving. This opportunity will be a chance for students to interact and speak with islanders who are making positive changes in our community. There are now two AP options from which students can choose. 10th graders can take AP US History or AP African American Studies and 11th graders can opt between AP Modern World History or AP Modern European History.

Library

The Library has supported the school community through lending, resource accessibility, and instruction. The school librarian continues to co-teach the Capstone course, which is now available to both juniors and seniors, and teaches "Navigating Digital Information" to nearly all freshmen. This mini-course focuses on foundational research skills using library databases, the ability to discern news from other information sources, and techniques to combat the spread of misinformation. Book circulation continues to increase, suggesting heightened student engagement in reading. To date, nearly 1,400 books have been checked out, a 7%

increase over last year. The library provides access to essential tools such as Turnitin (a plagiarism-prevention and classroom management platform), WeVideo (a collaborative video-editing platform), accounts for The New York Times available to all students and staff, and state-funded research databases. The librarian provides research instruction to various classes spanning different grades and departments.

Math

The Math Department was quite ambitious and productive this past year. Mr. Chvatal attended the Advanced Placement Summer Institute in preparation for teaching the new AP Precalculus course offered by the college board this year. Ms. Magnuson attended the APSI to gain additional experience as she gets ready to teach our AP Calculus course for the first time. Ms. Carlomagno completed curriculum maps both for our new (piloted last year) Explorations in Engineering course and the ever evolving Financial Literacy course. Ms. Muir spent time during the summer volunteering at a summer camp for students with disabilities, the take-aways she had to share with us were quite inspiring. Mr. Lavers, whom we share with the science department, set up a proper science/math classroom which now allows for more group activities and lab work in this larger space. Ms. Nelson finalized the new Statistics curriculum map to accurately represent this, now Dual Enrollment through Bristol Community College, course. Ms. Flanders took two online courses that focused on the AP Calculus (BC) curriculum and the use of technology to gain a deeper understanding of topics. All of these individual endeavors have added to the strengthening of our math courses and our department as a whole.

Performing Arts

The Performing Arts Department has had 12 students accepted into the South East Music Festival, and three students (Annabelle Brothers, Jack Crawford and Samuel Hines) to All State. The Minnesingers won silver in the Massachusetts Instrumental and Choral Conductors Association competition. Orchestra and Big Band traveled to Music in the Parks, winning gold and over-all awards. 19 students auditioned for the South East Music Festival, with 11 accepted and 5 students receiving All State audition recommendations (Emma Burt, Samuel Hines, Zylar Flanders, Gabi Silveira and Aiden Weiland). We had our first department concert in October, where 7 groups performed - Orchestra, Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble, MV Big Band, First Year Chorus, Vocal Ensemble, and the Minnesingers. We also invited 35 middle school singers to join us on stage. The annual Whaling Church show for the Minnesingers and Jazz

Fest are scheduled for December.

Physical Education

The Health/PE department has been really excited to spend the year continuing to improve on the work we have accomplished. Specifically, we are focusing on tightening up our 9th grade and 10th grade Health curricula—infusing Mental Health First Aid, Get Real, and Social Emotional Learning—into our daily rotation of courses. Since we all have a passion for moving and sports, we are really excited that the first and fourth quarters will be primarily dedicated to the PE portion of this 10th grade class. With the addition of the new weight room this fall, our Personal Training class is becoming more robust. We have also included an additional elective called Competitive Sports, this option is for students enthusiastic to participate in a team oriented capacity.

Project Vine

Project Vine had the best-attended Chopped for Charity event to date. Students also attended a team-building challenge at 10 Pin Arcade and went on the first Boston overnight trip, touring the city in small groups and then seeing Blue Man Group. Students returned to Penikese Island for our sixth technology free retreat and the students hosted the seventh Island Lore event at the MV Museum. Project Vine graduate, Joseph Maccaferri, was the 2023 recipient of the Jake Sequoia Baird Memorial Scholarship. Ms. Charbonneau, named Massachusetts Teacher of the Year, attended a ceremony at White House and was able to speak with lawmakers representing Massachusetts about the Project Vine alternative model. She continues to work with the State Teachers of the Year cohort for 2023, and has recently spoken at Harvard's Graduate School of Education as we showcase our alternative model for other schools and students all across the state and country. She has also had the opportunity to meet with education designers at Google about using tech in the classroom.

Science

The Science Department has actively engaged in education, community outreach, and collaboration. Teachers took classes in educating diverse populations and in curriculum design, including general curriculum design, co-teaching and collaborative teaching models, and computer-based STEM design. We welcome a new Biology teacher, Ms. Macfarlane, who came to MV after a long teaching career in Arizona. The department has worked with several local groups, including BiodiversityWorks, Felix Neck, the Shellfish Hatchery, Island Grown Schools, and Cape Light Compact to provide project opportunities for students. We have continued to improve our co-teaching program currently offering 3 sections of

Earth Science and 5 sections of Biology that are co-taught. Students continue to do well on the biology MCAS with most students scoring proficient or advanced above the state average. We continue to look to improve our growth in special populations in MCAS results.

Special Education

The Special Education Department participated in Think Kids, a professional development focusing on collaborative problem solving models by Mass General Hospital and SMARTs Curriculum for Executive Functioning. Teachers continue to grow their expertise in the area of executive functioning and social emotional learning to better serve students with a variety of needs. While our prime directive is inclusion of all students relative to their strengths and needs, we also have programming that addresses more complex challenges. The Navigator, Voyager and Compass programs continue to strive to meet the developmental, cognitive, social and emotional needs of students. In addition to these programs, our liaisons support students in academic support classes as well as co-teaching in core content areas. Our students have participated in the Special Olympics, Friendsgiving, Brazilian Night, Unified basketball and Unified track and field. Other activities to promote student learning and integration with the school community include: Creative Coffeehouse, Poetry “slams;” field trips that enhance functional academic, social, communication skills; and, participation in school wide music and art activities. The Special Education Department continues to grow the close collaboration and interaction with the families, caregivers and parents as well as the community at large.

Wellness Program

In the past year, the Wellness Department has continued to engage students in peer to peer programming. The SWEAR program held its second overnight retreat in June 2023. The retreat focused on deconstructing toxic masculinity and exploring the myths and repercussions of gender based violence. Our annual assembly is scheduled for January 2024. Our team is in the third year of TMHFA (Teen Mental Health First Aid) teaching mental health literacy to sophomore students. We continue to engage in racial equity and social justice work and held our annual Race Culture Diversity retreat at the Boys & Girls Club in November. For the first time, this year we invited students/staff from the MV Public Charter School to join us. Our bi-weekly WOC (Women of Color), BSA (Black Student Alliance) and Reimagine Manhood groups continue to meet during flex. The 10 week STRONG (Supporting Transition Resilience of Newcomer Group) curriculum for Newcomers continues to

support their development of resilience and adjustment to the United States. As always we continue to support the social emotional well being of our students by offering 1:1 support (in both English and Portuguese) for issues/concerns students and families may be experiencing. We continue to collaborate with CONNECT to end violence; ICC; IWYC, IHC Recovery Coaches and private clinicians to offer support to our students. This year we are offering group counseling with Hospice; CONNECT; and Alateen.

World Language

The World Language Department continues to focus on the three modes of communication; Interpretive, Interpersonal and Presentational in the target language in order to help students practice and build their communication skills. We are proud to announce that our students demonstrated their advanced language skills with 19 graduates earning the Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy in Spanish, 11 earning the Seal in Portuguese, 5 earning the Seal in both Spanish and Portuguese and 1 student earning the Seal of Biliteracy with Distinction in Spanish. The department saw a very successful showing for students that took the AP Spanish exam. A Portuguese Language Arts Narrative course was added to the Heritage Portuguese program in the 2022-23 academic year and this year we added Brazilian Humanities. Ms. Crawford, who joined the department in 2022 to teach Latin, has added level 2 to the program’s progression. We continue to offer American Sign Language through the American School for the Deaf. We are so excited to welcome Ms. Martino from Cadiz, Spain via the Vineyard Montessori School to teach Spanish, Mr. Adams from Brazil to teach Spanish and Ms. Munhoz from Brazil to teach Portuguese to both Heritage students and non Portuguese speakers.

Thank you for letting me share this information with you, and your continued support of MVRHS. Our faculty and staff are committed to engaging students with challenging academics, additional support and resources to better prepare them for their journey after high school. It is through the dedication of our teachers, our administrators, the school committee, community partnerships, parents, and of course our students, that all of this is made possible. Without these groups working together as a team we would not be able to accomplish all that we have on a daily basis.

Respectfully,
SARA DINGLEDY, Principal

**MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER**

To the Citizens of Edgartown:

In compliance with Section VIII of the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District Agreement under which the District was formed and according to the recommendations of the Office of the Directors of Accounts, we submit the following financial reports of the District for fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

FY2023 Assessment
FY2023 Expenditures – Budget vs Actual
FY2023 Balance Sheet

Respectfully submitted,

MARYLEE SCHROEDER
Treasurer

MV REGIONAL HS DISTRICT BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30, 2023

Assets	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Trust & Agency	General Long-Term Obligations	Total
Cash and Investments	\$5,320,765.55	\$1,209,056.24	\$ 422,575.40	\$ 160,878.71		\$7,113,275.90
Receivables						\$ -
Intergovernmental	\$ 389,235.00					\$ 389,235.00
Amount to be Provided					\$ 180,000.00	\$ 180,000.00
Total Assets	\$5,710,000.55	\$1,209,056.24	\$ 422,575.40	\$ 160,878.71	\$ 180,000.00	\$7,682,510.90
Liabilities and Fund Equity						
Liabilities						
Warrants/Accounts Payable	\$1,045,022.53	\$ 214,788.21	\$ 127,954.83	\$ 24,664.94		\$1,412,430.51
Notes Payable						\$ -
Salaries Payable				\$ 1,020.00		\$ 1,020.00
Accrued Payroll/withholdings	\$1,378,434.48	\$ 180,272.02		\$ 347,087.08		\$1,905,793.58
Other Liabilities	\$ 82,424.83					\$ 82,424.83
Agency Funds				(\$1,765,243.32)		(\$1,765,243.32)
Bonds Payable					\$ 180,000.00	\$ 180,000.00
Total Liabilities	\$2,505,881.84	\$ 395,060.23	\$ 127,954.83	(\$1,392,471.30)	\$ 180,000.00	\$1,816,425.60
Fund Equity						
Reserved for Encumbrances	\$ 948,682.92					\$ 948,682.92
Reserved for Expenditures E&D/ Other	\$ 669,390.00					\$ 669,390.00
Reserved for Special Purposed						\$
Excess and Deficiency/ Undesign Fund Balance	\$1,586,045.79	\$ 813,996.01	\$ 294,620.57	\$1,553,350.01		\$4,248,012.38
Designated for Deficits						\$ -
Total Fund Equity	\$3,204,118.71	\$ 813,996.01	\$ 294,620.57	\$1,553,350.01		\$5,866,085.30
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	\$5,710,000.55	\$1,209,056.24	\$ 422,575.40	\$ 160,878.71	\$ 180,000.00	\$7,682,510.90

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District
Budget and Actual Expenditures
June 30, 2023

Expenditure	Original Budget	Actual	Variance
Supt/Shared Services: Administration: Salaries	\$ 197,486.42	\$ 202,230.45	\$ (4,744.03)
Supt/Shared Services: Administration: Expenses	\$ 23,383.18	\$ 20,312.38	\$ 3,070.80
Administration Subtotal	\$ 220,869.60	\$ 222,542.83	\$ (1,673.23)
Supt/Shared Services: Instruction: Salaries	\$ 318,123.91	\$ 296,111.34	\$ 22,012.57
Supt/Shared Services: Instruction: Expenses	\$ 36,880.00	\$ 18,522.43	\$ 18,357.57
Instruction Subtotal	\$ 355,003.91	\$ 314,633.77	\$ 40,370.14
Supt/Shared Services: Operation & Maint of Plant: Salaries	\$ -	\$ 537.40	\$ (537.40)
Supt/Shared Services: Operation & Maint of Plant: Expenses	\$ 36,450.00	\$ 22,615.71	\$ 13,834.29
Operation & Maint of Plant Subtotal	\$ 36,450.00	\$ 23,153.11	\$ 13,296.89
Supt/Shared Services: Fixed Costs: Salaries	\$ 59,857.91	\$ 67,490.36	\$ (7,632.45)
Supt/Shared Services: Fixed Costs: Expenses	\$ 3,890.53	\$ 8,809.61	\$ (4,919.08)
Fixed Costs Subtotal	\$ 63,748.44	\$ 76,299.97	\$ (12,551.53)
TOTAL Supt/Shared Services	\$ 676,071.95	\$ 636,629.68	\$ 39,442.27
High School Programs: Administration: Salaries	\$ 130,962.80	\$ 138,322.00	\$ (7,359.20)
High School Programs: Administration: Expenses	\$ 142,584.07	\$ 128,914.12	\$ 13,669.95
Administration Subtotal	\$ 273,546.87	\$ 267,236.12	\$ 6,310.75
High School Programs: Instruction: Salaries	\$ 11,117,084.17	\$ 11,278,176.72	\$ (161,092.55)
High School Programs: Instruction: Expenses	\$ 903,370.07	\$ 879,299.31	\$ 24,070.76
Instruction Subtotal	\$ 12,020,454.24	\$ 12,157,476.03	\$ (137,021.79)
High School Programs: Other School & Community Services: Sa	\$ 2,033,629.91	\$ 1,904,312.24	\$ 129,317.67
High School Programs: Other School & Community Services: Ex	\$ 1,220,431.86	\$ 1,080,338.01	\$ 140,093.85
Elementary Transportation Reimbursement	\$ (1,353,129.96)	\$ (1,196,184.44)	\$ (156,945.52)
Others School & Community Services Subtotal	\$ 1,900,931.81	\$ 1,788,465.81	\$ 112,466.00
High School Programs: Operation and Maint of Plant: Salaries	\$ 692,826.61	\$ 677,329.98	\$ 15,496.63
High School Programs: Operation and Maint of Plant: Expenses	\$ 1,376,675.49	\$ 1,514,102.65	\$ (137,427.16)
Operation & Maint of Plant Subtotal	\$ 2,069,502.10	\$ 2,191,432.63	\$ (121,930.53)
High School Programs: Employee Retirement	\$ 396,780.83	\$ 399,272.66	\$ (2,491.83)
High School Programs: Retired Municipal Teachers	\$ 603,638.41	\$ 876,493.74	\$ (272,855.33)
High School Programs: Other Post Employment Benefits	\$ 994,314.00	\$ 1,123,924.02	\$ (129,610.02)
High School Programs: Employee Separation Costs	\$ 10,430.00	\$ 16,186.00	\$ (5,756.00)
High School Programs: Insurance - Employee Related	\$ 2,751,971.27	\$ 2,579,179.90	\$ 172,791.37
High School Programs: Insurance - School Related	\$ 437,044.24	\$ 455,256.25	\$ (18,212.01)
High School Programs: Miscellaneous Fixed Charges	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 500.00
High School Programs: Bus/Vehicle Capital Purchase	\$ 349,505.00	\$ 449,583.41	\$ (100,078.41)
High School Programs: Consultant, Electrification of Fleet	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -
High School Programs: Roof Project Principal	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 180,000.00	\$ -
High School Programs: Roof Project Interest	\$ 8,100.00	\$ 8,100.00	\$ -
High School Programs: Residential Care Tuitions	\$ 1,281,185.00	\$ 1,192,854.91	\$ 88,330.09
High School Programs: Contingency/Reserve	\$ 600,000.00	\$ -	\$ 600,000.00
Fixed Costs Subtotal	\$ 7,640,468.75	\$ 7,307,850.89	\$ 332,617.86
TOTAL High School Programs	\$ 23,904,903.77	\$ 23,712,461.48	\$ 192,442.29
TOTAL Operating Expenses	\$ 24,580,975.72	\$ 24,349,091.16	\$ 231,884.56

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District
FY23 Assessment

DESCRIPTION	FY23 AMOUNT							Total
Operating & Capital Budget	\$ 24,580,975.72							9,266,700.00
Charter School/School Choice Tuition	765,489.00	25,346,464.72						11,397,615.64
Less								
Chapter 70 State Aid	2,897,790.00							631,436.03
Chapter 71 Regional Transportation Aid	355,990.55							537,605.00
Other Revenues	256,827.50							
E&D Offset	963,780.00	4,474,388.05						
FY23 Net Amount for Assessments	\$	<u>20,872,076.67</u>						
Town Apportionments								
(i) Required Minimum Local Contribution	230,259.00	486,103.00	2,404,928.00	2,528,042.00	2,248,606.00	1,368,762.00	9,266,700.00	
(ii) Excess of NSS over Required Minimum	226,015.04	565,037.60	2,679,892.63	3,228,786.30	3,067,346.99	1,630,537.08	11,397,615.64	
(iii) Transportation	12,521.39	31,303.49	148,467.96	178,877.06	169,933.21	90,332.92	631,436.03	
(iii) Capital	10,660.72	26,651.81	126,405.71	152,296.03	144,681.23	76,909.50	537,605.00	
(iii) Other Costs	49.58	123.94	587.82	708.22	672.8	357.65	2500	
Gross Assessments	479,505.73	1,109,219.84	5,360,282.12	6,088,709.61	5,631,240.23	3,166,899.15	21,835,856.67	
Less E&D Offset	19,111.78	47,779.46	226,611.16	273,025.50	259,374.22	137,877.88	963,780.00	
FY23 Assessments Per Statutory Assmt Method	\$ 460,393.95	1,061,440.38	5,133,670.96	5,815,684.11	5,371,866.01	3,029,021.27	20,872,076.67	
<p>This schedule presents the town apportionments consistent with DESE's Statutory Assessment Methodology format. Member Town % Based on Statutory Assessment Method (voted by School Committee)</p>								
Numbers may be off due to rounding.	1.73%	4.26%	26.23%	28.63%	24.10%	15.05%	100.00%	
School Population based on Town Census (10/1/23)	13	32	197	215	181	113	751	

PUBLIC LIBRARY



A highlight of 2023 was the August concert given by David Crohan on the grand piano he donated to the library in 2020.

To the Honorable Select Board and the Citizens of Edgartown:

In 2023, the Edgartown Public Library continued to expand its mission as a vital hub of civic life—maintaining our tradition of excellent service, fostering life-long learning, and partnering with other Island assets to enhance our community’s educational and cultural well-being.

The children’s room was visited by thousands of patrons—including both local and visiting families as well as students—all year round. Children’s Librarian Elyce Retmier offered a weekly story hour that encouraged movement and song and drew upwards of 75 participants each week during our busiest months, as well as a roster of weekly programs throughout the year that included a toddler paint group, a drop-in Play-Doh group, weekly Fit Camp class with personal trainer Bonnie Kingsbury, Musical Mondays, Flashback Fridays, and Discovery Days, a joint program with the Family Center. During the school year, hundreds of kids utilized the children’s room after school to unwind, do homework, play outside, and visit with friends. Every Tuesday afternoon, Maria Moreira taught basic cooking to an eager (and hungry) crew; many kids reported bringing their newly acquired skills home to their own kitchens.

The children’s room hosted another exciting summer reading program for our youngest patrons. A record 408 readers participated in this year’s program, whose theme was “All Together Now.” Prizes for readers were donated by local businesses, including Edgartown Meat & Fish, Dairy Queen, Edgartown Pizza, Great Harbor Market, and Rosewater Market & Takeaway. The library

deeply appreciates the generous and ongoing support of Edgartown’s business community toward our children’s room programming.

For the fourth year in a row, Chris Look also led teens in five separate Dungeons & Dragons campaigns, continuing to engage a creative and dedicated group of kids every week.

For adults, the library offered regular monthly programs as well as a menu of fresh offerings. Regular weekly programs included a drop-in knitting group with master knitter Cindy Bonnell, restorative yoga classes with Department Assistant Jelisa Difo, Vinyasa yoga classes with Colleen Macsuga, and the library’s popular Salt Water Wednesdays series, where patrons learned how to properly handle (and sample) various seafood, including oysters, scallops, and clams. New Programs Coordinator Claudia Taylor launched a four-part introductory Mah Jongg class, in partnership with local Mah Jongg game experts and teachers, which transitioned into weekly drop-in sessions and drew a regular group of players.

Brand new offerings for adult patrons included Saturday morning sound baths, using crystal singing bowls and other instruments to create a relaxing soundscape. Dukes County Register of Deeds Paulo DeOliveira led a program on researching real estate records. Yoga teacher Molly Flam introduced prenatal yoga classes, and Friend of the Library and pianist Adele Dreyer gave a musical presentation featuring works by Chopin, Schubert, and Bach. Patrons enjoyed a live performance by musician Maryse Smith, a book talk with author Ursula Goodenough and photographer Maria Thibodeau, and a talk on ayurvedic practices. Donald Nitchie offered online poetry workshops, and

local band Workman's Song performed in the program room. Delia De Mello offered an in-person program on Social Security benefits, and Sonja Josephson and Jacqueline Foster taught a class on common pantry herbs that can provide healing properties. Director Len Morris and producer Petra Lent followed a screening of their film *Butterfly, Butterfly* with an audience Q&A. Pamela Means gave a musical presentation on the Power of the Protest Song. Author Thomas Dresser stopped by to discuss his new book about the Roaring 20s on Martha's Vineyard, and Friend of the Library and poet Ellie Bates discussed her new collection of poetry, *Seasonal Wonderings*. Artist Jeanne Staples taught an introductory oil painting workshop, and teacher and artist Julie Brand taught a watercolor workshop. Katherine Scheidler discussed her book *Renegade Teacher*, and Naomi Goldberg Haas offered a class on modern dance. Island birding expert Robert Culbert led a solstice bird walk, and Juneteenth was celebrated with a widely attended family picnic and concert by Boston-based singer/songwriter Andrew Sue Wing. Jade Alicandro discussed beach medicine and medicinal herbs found along coastal areas of New England. Richard Johnson came by to discuss ticks and tick-borne



Author Charlaine Hunter-Gault discusses her book, *My People*, with her daughter, Suesan Stovall, in the Program Room.

illnesses on Martha's Vineyard, including the emerging alpha gal syndrome. Charlaine Hunter-Gault discussed her book *My People*, in conversation with her daughter, artist and singer Suesan Stovall. Sherry Sidoti discussed her new memoir, *A Smoke and a Song*, in conversation with author Paul Samuel Dolman. Author Steven Raichlen

talked about his new book on barbecuing, and there was a film screening and discussion with producer Michael Collins on his film *By My Side*. Author Antonia Deignan discussed her memoir, *Underwater Daughter*, and the library held its second annual Disability Pride Party, a celebration with food, music, and dancing. Online programs included a job-seekers networking group, a talk on the Harlem Renaissance with art historian Janet Mandel, a talk about how NASA is combating climate change, and an author talk with Erica Cirino on her book *Thicker Than Water: The Quest for Solutions to the Plastic Crisis*. In the fall, Programs Coordinator Claudia Taylor brought the popular weekly international film series back to the library, and encouraged patrons to participate in a statewide read-in.

A new season of art exhibits were on display in the library's program room during the summer months. Photographer Peter Dreyer displayed his work in June. In July, a month-long exhibit was held for artist Bill Buckley. August concluded the summer exhibit season with photographer Bruce Mathew's beautiful and ethereal work, inspired by the natural world.



Afternoon reading: a good book and a cozy chair in the library's main lobby.

Our busiest season also brought the return of the library's Sounds Like Summer music series, a tradition now a decade and a half old. The series was kicked off in July by local musician Willy Mason. Weekly performers included favorites such as The Jeremy Berlin Trio, The Joel Harrison Quartet, Jon Zeeman, Johnny Hoy & the Bluefish, The Jaywalkers, and Missis Biskis, as well as a new act, jazz guitarist Abe Ovadia.

The library also partnered with IGI from late June through August to offer free lunches Monday through Friday. Hundreds of Island families took advantage of these delicious meals.

Beloved Island musician David Crohan visited the library in mid-August and played to a standing-room-only crowd on the Mason & Hamlin piano he generously donated to the library in August 2020. His performance included personal anecdotes, several encores, and a standing ovation.

Library Assistant (and former chef) Chris Look had a busy year of cooking demos, both in person and online. The year began with his online Chef Look series, teaching viewers how to make everything from bao buns to scallion pancake pizzas. In February, he introduced an in-person Dough Series, where he demonstrated how to make empanadas, pasta, bao buns, and scallion pancakes, with plenty of samples for tasting. The Chef Look Cooks series continued online throughout the summer months, and in September transitioned to in-person classes, closing out the fall months with his very popular Batter Series, teaching an engaged audience how to make waffles, crepes, Takoyaki, and cornbread.

Music and art were highlights of fall programming. Photographer Alida O'Loughlin's work was on exhibit in the program room, and the library hosted a three-week concert series funded by the Friends of the Library and the MV Bank Charitable Foundation that included local musicians Rose Guerin, Johnny Hoy & the Bluefish, and the Lucas Ostinato Trio. The Martha's Vineyard Chamber Music Society presented a concert to a full audience, and Opera Club made its return with Sunday afternoon screenings.

In mid-December, Director Lisa Sherman proposed an initiative recognizing that the foundation of a great library is a great staff. The Library Board of Trustees voted to support sending seven full-time staff members to a three-day national library conference in spring 2024, supported in part by a grant from the Herb and Anita Foster Staff Education Fund. The Board is proud of this initiative to

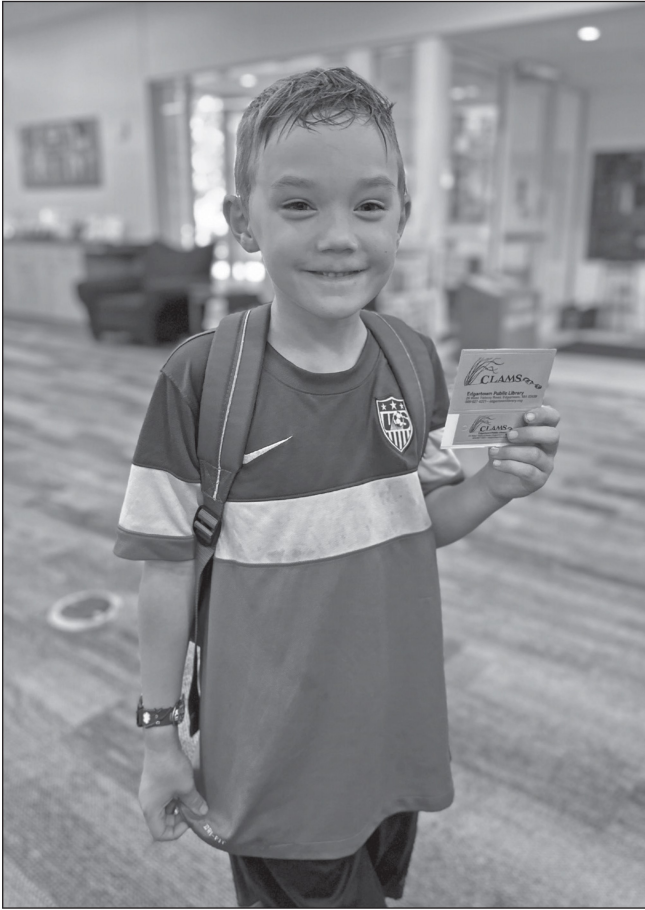


The secret of a great library: a great staff. From left are three of them—Department Assistant Jelisa Difo, Children's Librarian Elyce Retmier and Angela Luckey, Circulation Supervisor.

invest in our talented and valued staff because it will directly benefit the community that we serve.

The library continued to strengthen its partnership with the Council on Aging through a variety of in-house and off-site programs. Throughout the year, Reference and Technology Librarian Rizwan Malik scheduled monthly Tech Time sessions at The Anchors, giving seniors one-on-one assistance with all manner of tech challenges. This is a service that is always available at the library, but the importance of offering tech help in-person at The Anchors, an environment seniors regularly frequent and feel comfortable visiting, cannot be overstated. The library staff believes strongly in providing service where it is needed. Early in the year, the library also partnered with the Council on Aging to bring the AARP Tax Aide Program to the library, offering free income tax preparation services to residents to help them navigate the increasingly online nature of the income tax return process. Technology trainer Kathy Lavieri also offered several in-person iPad tutorial sessions in the library's program room throughout the year in collaboration with The Anchors.

The Friends of the Library provide year-round financial support for a significant portion of library programming. Their support is essential to providing the wide array of enriching programs and events that our patrons enjoy,



Library joy: Sam Ignacio receives his first library card.

and we are grateful for the many fundraisers, events, open houses, and volunteer hours that this group gives to support the library. In addition to providing library program funding, the group also oversees an ongoing partnership with Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library, which provides free age-appropriate books to registered Edgartown children from birth until age five, and currently provides monthly books for more than 50 local children.

Early in the year, the Friends held their first Herb and Anita Foster Staff Education Fund fundraising event, dedicated to supporting library staff professional development. Some fifty participants braved the weather to attend the event, hosted by Herb and Anita’s daughter Donna Foster and with music by Missis Biskis. We thank this volunteer organization for their ongoing support of the library and our community.

Edgartown Free Public Library Board of Trustees

OLGA MARANJIAN CHURCH, Co-Chair (2025)

JULIE LIVELY, Co-Chair (2024)

NIS KILDEGAARD, Secretary (2024)

DAVID FABER (2026)

MAGGIE MORRISON (2025)

DENISE SEARLE (2026)

Trustees meet on the second Thursday of each month.

EDGARTOWN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
 26 WEST TISBURY ROAD
 EDGARTOWN, MA 02539
 (508) 627-4221

LIBRARY STAFF

LISA HORTON SHERMAN, Director
 JELISA DIFO, Department Assistant
 ELYCE RETMIER, Children’s Librarian
 ANGELA LUCKEY, Circulation Supervisor
 RIZWAN MALIK, Reference and Technology Librarian
 ALISON LESLIE, Technical Services Librarian
 CLAUDIA TAYLOR, Programs Coordinator/Library Assistant
 CHRISTOPHER LOOK IV, Library Assistant
 ROSA PARKER, Library Assistant
 BARBARA KEANE, Library Assistant

www.edgartownlibrary.org

Facts at a Glance

fiscal year ending 6/30/2023

Collection size.....	90,789
Books	34,686
Subscriptions.....	57
Audio CDs	1,942
Video	7,813
Downloadable audio	12,592
Downloadable books.....	32,408
Circulation.....	106,722
Edgartown residents holding library cards	2,136
Edgartown library cards total	5,143
Volunteers	91
Volunteer hours	345
Total number of library programs, live and virtual	577
Total attendance at programs.....	11,299
Total annual foot traffic	68,893



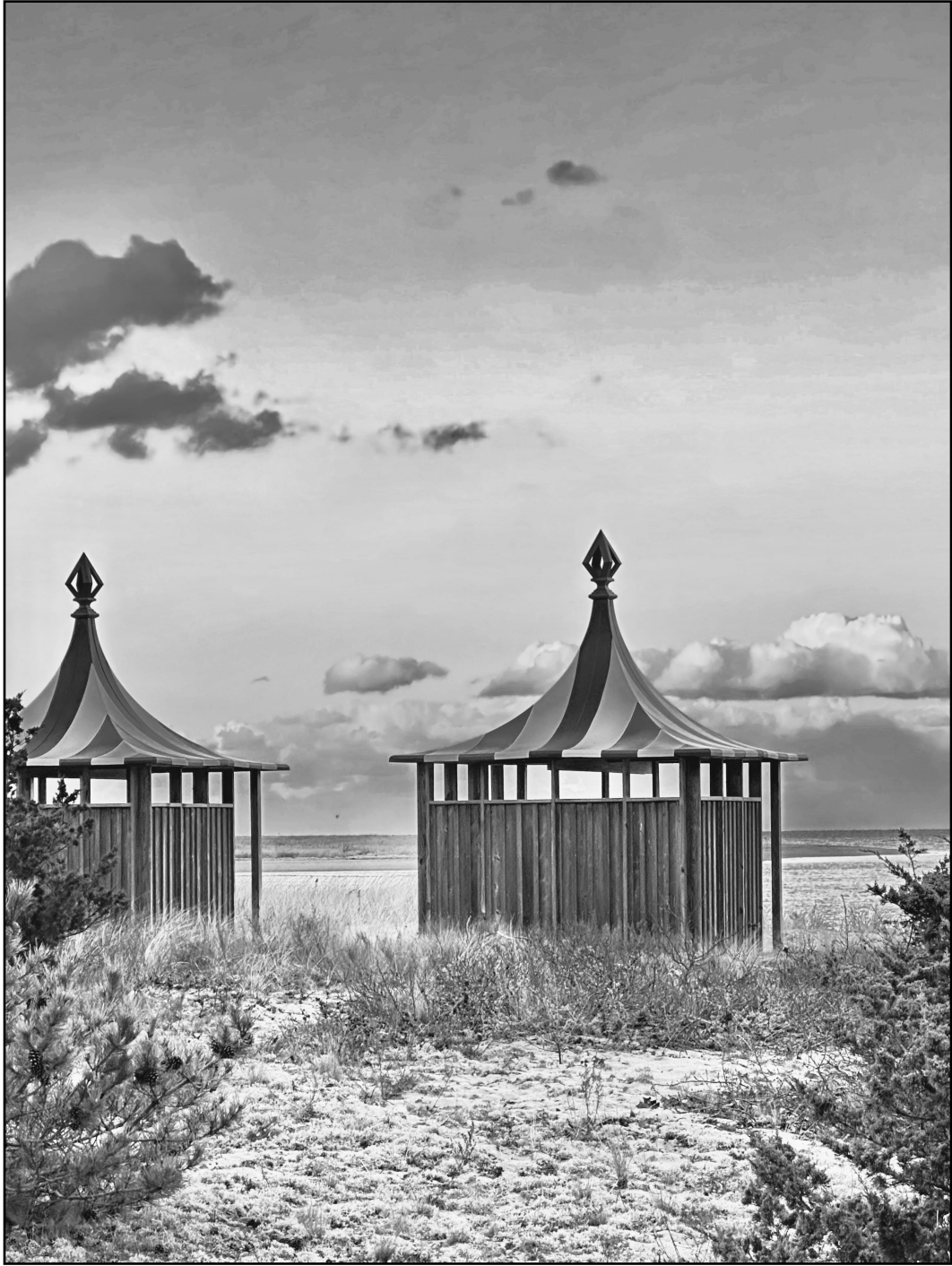


Photo by Sydney Mullen

HUMAN RESOURCES

BOARD OF HEALTH

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown:

The Board of Health respectfully submits the following calendar year 2023 report to the voters and taxpayers of the Town of Edgartown.

In the Health Department, 2023 is marked as a year of change where new hires were made and new positions were filled. COVID lingered in the background as normal permitting and inspection activities were conducted.

New Hires

In March of 2023, Connor Downing was hired as Edgartown's new Health Agent to take over from Matt Poole upon Matt's retirement in May. Connor and Matt overlapped for three months to ensure a smooth handoff of responsibilities and projects. Board of Health Assistant Celena Guimares departed her position in May of 2023 to take on an inspector role in Middleboro, MA. Emily Godfrey assumed the Board of Health Assistant role in June of 2023. With new hires in the roles of Health Agent, Board of Health Assistant, and IIPHEC Health Inspector, the summer of 2023 was a learning experience for Edgartown Board of Health employees. Despite the learning curve, permit review, inspections, and beach water testing were all conducted as usual.

2023 Covid Summary

2023 marked another year further from the Covid pandemic of 2020, yet was a year where Covid's presence was still largely felt. Free rapid test kits continued to be given away to the public throughout the year. In December, a vaccine clinic organized by Boards of Health from all towns was conducted at the Regional High School. Offering both Covid and Flu vaccines, the clinic was a success, with hundreds of islanders arriving to get updated vaccines.

The early fall into winter saw an increase in Covid cases and test kits being used by the public. The Board of Health urges the public to continue to exercise caution, and isolate while Covid symptoms persist and tests return positive.

Wastewater

2023 was a year where sweeping changes to Title 5 were expected to affect the Vineyard along with the rest of the Cape. The Title 5 changes that were implemented included Cape Cod but excluded Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. While the changes to these state regulations are not in effect on the Vineyard yet, they may serve as a blueprint to regulations that do affect the islands in the future.

Starting in July, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) provided \$310,000 to Edgartown to fund upgrades of septic systems near ponds. The funds can be used for working or failing systems, but need to be used towards advanced treatment technology that treats nitrogen in wastewater down to 10 mg/L. As of this publication, ARPA funds are still available in Edgartown. If you or someone you know could benefit from a septic upgrade, makes below 240% average median income, and lives near a sensitive town pond, reach out to the Board of Health to inquire whether you would be a good fit for the program.

With the Wastewater Department conducting a Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan which will identify paths forward to improving the wastewater treatment plant and expanding its reach, the Board of Health will continue to monitor the possible futures of Edgartown's wastewater management to best-protect water quality for the aquifer and ponds.

Inter-Island Public Health Excellence Collaborative

In the third year of its three-year grant cycle, the Inter-Island Public Health Excellence Collaborative (IIPHEC) experienced many changes. The grant received funding for another three years, and supported hires of an island-wide Health Inspector and Public Health Educator. The grant continued support of Patrick Roden-Reynolds, Public Health Biologist who specializes in tick surveys and tick-borne illness education and outreach.

Drew Belsky was hired as a Health Inspector under the IIPHEC in March of 2023. Coming from a restaurant background, Drew quickly found his

footing as a food inspector, assisting with opening and routine inspections for all of Edgartown's food establishments, of which there are a little over 100. Aside from the food inspections, Drew became a Certified Pool Operator, attended Soil Evaluator class, and more. His assistance to Edgartown included semi-public pool inspections, bathing beach water testing, septic installation inspections, camp inspections, and event inspections for Taste of the Vineyard and MV Food and Wine Festival. Drew took over as the new Health Agent in Tisbury in December of 2023. Edgartown is very grateful and has benefitted tremendously from Drew's presence and expertise in his time as Health Inspector.

At the turn of the New Year following Drew's departure IIPHEC hired Brice Boutot as the new island-wide Health Inspector. With a food service background, Brice has already proven to be able to assist Edgartown with food establishment inspections and safety, as well as branch out into the other facets of public health that are dealt with on a daily basis.

Fernando Lana was hired as the IIPHEC Public Health Educator in July of 2023. Fernando, assisted with contract tracing during the Covid pandemic and provided trilingual translation skills as well as an understanding of public health's role while performing contract tracing. In Edgartown, Fernando has assisted with a variety of educational and inspection tasks. He has assisted with food inspections and putting together a Portuguese-speaking ServSafe class for Brazilian food service employees. Fernando translated the Edgartown ALERT system and also has helped raise awareness for sicknesses and diseases that citizens may encounter at some point. Fernando has also helped structure Fertilizer classes for permitted landscapers on the Vineyard, aiming to mitigate excess nitrogen from fertilizing lawns that may contribute to eutrophication of ponds in Edgartown and around the Vineyard.

Cyanobacteria Monitoring in Coastal Ponds

The island Boards of Health and Great Pond Foundation scientists Emily Reddington and David Bouck continued the MV CYANO partnership in 2023 to monitor coastal island ponds. In Edgartown, Edgartown Great Pond and Crackatuxet Pond were regularly monitored from the spring through the fall. Oyster Pond was also occasionally sampled. The goal of the MV CYANO project is to monitor cyanobacteria, or blue-green algae, microorganisms present in the island's ponds. Cyanobacteria can grow rapidly, or bloom, which produces a large amount of cyanobacteria in a short time. Large amounts of these bacteria can have harmful effects

on people and animals, including pets, when ingesting or coming into contact with water experiencing a bloom. Conditions that can enable a cyanobacteria bloom include warm water temperatures and less saline water. Flushing the ponds via cuts are an important process to minimize cyanobacteria blooms the following season. Cyanobacteria results from the 2023 season can be found at: <https://greatpondfoundation.org/mvcyano>

Acknowledgements and Appreciation

2023 brought departures and new hires to the Board of Health. Longtime Health Agent Matt Poole retired at the end of May, ending a 26-year tenure which started in February of 1997. Prior to taking the Health Agent position in Edgartown, Matt spent 7 years with the Chilmark Board of Health, meaning that in total, Matt had 32 years of Board of Health work on the island.

As Health Agent, Matt experienced many changes throughout his tenure. Edgartown grew from a quiet tourist destination to a busy town with a hundred food establishments and hundreds of projects being permitted each year. In 2020, Matt led Edgartown through the Covid pandemic. Pulling constant long hours and consulting with other Health Agents around the island, Matt navigated the residents of Edgartown through those tough years, keeping the health of the residents as the constant priority. Aside from the normal job requirements of permitting and human health, Matt was known to go out of his way to provide extra help to those who needed it. Despite his retirement, Matt ensured the Board of Health experienced a smooth transition to new staff. New Health Agent Connor Downing overlapped with Matt for three months to shadow Matt and learn the ins and outs of the position. On behalf of the residents of Edgartown, and the Vineyard as a whole that benefitted from his tenure one way or another, we thank Matt Poole for his dedication over the span of 32 years. We wish him a restful and fulfilling retirement.

Celena Guimares, hired as assistant to the board in August 2022, took a position in Middleboro, MA as a Health Inspector. Celena was essential for administrative, inspection, and translation work to better reach out to the Brazilian community. She also helped modernize and reorganize the files and permitting for various Board of Health aspects. Celena was very helpful along with Matt in getting the new additions to the Board of Health up to speed. We are thankful to Celena for all of her help in her time in Edgartown, and wish her the best in her future.

Gretchen Regan was elected as a Board Member in 2023 for a 3-year term after being appointed in

2022 to fill a vacancy. Chris Edwards and Candace Nichols continued to serve their terms as Board Members. Gretchen took over from Chris as Chair of the Board in May. The Board members' varied backgrounds and expertise have been extremely beneficial in protecting the well-being of Edgartown's residents and environment.

Tom Pierce and Darren Morris continued to serve as the two town representatives to the Martha's Vineyard Refuse District Committee. Tom and Darren have continued to help the MVRD complete another successful year of operation.

The Board is appreciative of the residents and community of Edgartown, as well as colleagues from our neighbors in the other island towns who continue to support the work of the Board of Health, working together to keep the health of both the island and its residents safe.

Respectfully Submitted,
 GRETCHEN REGAN, Chair
 CHRIS EDWARDS
 CANDACE NICHOLS
 Board of Health

ACTIVITY	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Septic Permits (Total)	154	165	169	118	118	113
Septic Permits (New Construction)	34	55	53	28	31	29
Septic Repair or Up-grade Permits	54	46	66	48	64	60
Enhanced Treatment Septic System with Nitrogen Removal	23	41	15	11	21	20
Septic System Abandonment Permit	20	20	35	32	21	22
Septic Application Withdrawn Prior to Action	0	3	0	0	2	2
Variance Hearings by Board	28	23	20	7	8	<i>n/a</i>
Variances for repairs or renovations to ext'g homes (septic system)	15	12	9	4	13	<i>n/a</i>
Variances for new construction (septic system)	13	11	11	3	5	<i>n/a</i>
Sale and Transfer Septic System Inspection Reports Received	56	79	79	103	122	123
Passing Transfer Inspections	49	66	74	93	108	109
Failed Transfer Inspections	5	4	4	4	7	7
"Needs Further Evaluation" Transfer Inspections	0	2	1	3	4	4
"Conditionally Passes" Transfer Inspections	2	3	0	3	3	3
Well Construction Permits (New and Replacement)	19	18	19	10	18	10
Food Establishment Permits	78	86	90	49*	103	103
Temporary Food Event permits	13	9	0	2	21	29
Tobacco Sale Permits	1	9	10	10	11	10
Verified Under-Age Tobacco Sale Violations via Compliance Checks"	0	0	0	0	3	2
Residential Pool Const.	64	66	64	55	41	27
Body Art Establishment (tattoo)	0	1	1	1	0	0
Fertilizer Applicator Permit (2015 first year required, 3 yr. lifespan)	9	0	0	0	0	20
Department Revenue from Fee's	\$84,880	\$74,800	\$73,005	\$55,344	\$67,625	\$60,886

PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

Here are some of the important areas we from IIPHEC, The Boards Of Health and Dukes County have collaboratively worked to promote Public Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion on Martha's Vineyard.

- We have held Food inspections in both Brazilian Portuguese and Spanish on food establishments on Martha's Vineyard.
- Septic Inspections training has been in process. The aim is that we are also able to provide inspections in English, Portuguese and Spanish when needed throughout the island.
- State licensed Lead Determinator inspector who can visit housing and communicate also in Portuguese and Spanish.
- Portuguese Immunization cards translation for the Edgartown School.
- We have Translated the MVBOH website into Portuguese <https://www.mvboh.com/>
- TICK PREVENTION: Worked with Patrick Roden and Leah Hamner on the structuring of an early 2024 visit to landscaping companies on MV so that we can hold a 15 minute presentation on tick bites and diseases prevention, followed by hand out Portuguese translated material and socks treated with Permethrin.
- Assisted the Tick Program with translation on Alpha-Gal syndrome among other tick-borne important issues.
- FERTILIZER: Working with Matt Poole, Maura Valley and all the other Health Agents on the structuring of a hands on Fertilizer course to attend both CEU's landscapers and the Brazilian landscaping community on Marthas Vineyard.
- MV COMMISSION: We have established

collaborating efforts with Liz Durkee on environmental issues education and also assisted the commission recruit landscapers who took part of a successful focus group meeting on sustainable landscaping on MV.

I have been working with Russ Hartenstine, Anna McCaffrey and Marina Lent on the formation and foundation of a C.E.R.T - Community Emergency Response Team - effort in which we have been able to recruit Brazilian Community volunteers for the program. The plan is to be able to promote Public Equity, train the volunteers and better prepare the Island community in case of a natural disaster emergency.

We have reached the Brazilian community via Social Media in order to cover important Public Health education issues such as:

- We have worked on the Edgartown ALERT system translations and Also reached out to the Brazilian Community on Martha's Vineyard.
- HEP C
- HEP A
- Tuberculosis awareness
- Babesiosis, Lyme, Tularemia awareness and preventive ways to avoid these diseases.
- Heart health awareness.
- Consequences of driving under the influence of substances
- We have worked with the SUD coalition on MV
- Monkeypox was detected on MV but we were able to trace and properly deal with it.

Sincerely,
FERNANDO LANA
Public Health Educator /
Inspector

TICK PROGRAM

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

Overall, ticks AND mosquitoes proved to be abundant in 2023 compared to 2022. Martha's Vineyard experienced average rainfall this summer compared to drought conditions in 2022 which I think played a big role. Populations are liable to fluctuate year to year so I don't necessarily expect this trend to continue forever but is likely next year. Personal protection, particularly using repellents and treated clothing, remains my focus in outreach efforts.

Going forward, I'm looking forward to the collaboration with Insect Shield which will aid us in spreading awareness about permethrin treated clothing. I will continue to work with our partners at The New England Center of Excellence in Vector-borne Disease (NEWVEC) as they develop various research projects, like Project ITCH and ectoparasite surveillance on white-tailed deer. Please

keep your eyes/ears open for any events that may be appropriate for tick outreach!

Ticks

With the help of Dick Johnson, Willow Rindos, and Eric Reubens (celebrity visits by Fernando Lana and Lea as well) we completed 120 residential yard surveys May-July and continued regular monitoring of 6 public hiking trails March-October. I observed continued spread of lone star ticks island wide. For the first time we collected 4 individual Asian Longhorn ticks, confirmed by Sam Telford, from private properties in Chilmark and Aquinnah.

A tick population is considered established when you find 6 individuals of one life stage or finding two different life stages, which we have not found yet. However, since the longhorn tick can reproduce without a mate and we found individual ticks in different towns it is likely there are more here already and will become more abundant. At the moment, they are not considered a major threat to

human health but do have potential to carry and transmit germs to humans and animals particularly in their native ranges. Much more research is needed to see what they can actually carry in the United States and what they can viably transmit. Longhorn ticks also seem to be less aggressive human biters and more readily infest livestock, dogs, wildlife.

One notable observation from trail surveys was collecting sporadic clusters of Lone star

Table 1. Number of yard surveys conducted in each town and those where 1 tick of any species was collected.

Town	2022			2023		
	Yard Surveys	Yards w/ ticks	% w/ ticks	Yard Surveys	Yards w/ ticks	% w/ ticks
Aquinnah	5	5	100%	8	7	87.5%
Chilmark	10	9	90%	26	26	100%
Chappaquiddick	10	10	100%	10	10	100%
Edgartown	28	20	71%	25	19	76%
Oak Bluffs	8	5	62%	12	10	83%
Tisbury	14	9	64%	19	13	68%
West Tisbury	22	20	91%	20	16	80.5%

Table 2. Number of Yard Surveys with at least 1 Lone Star Tick (Larvae, Nymph, Adult).

Town	2019			2022			2023		
	Yard Surveys	Yards w/ Lone stars	% w/ Lone stars	Yard Surveys	Yards w/ Lone stars	% w/ Lone stars	Yard Surveys	Yards w/ lone stars	% w/ Lone stars
Aquinnah	20	20	100%	5	5	100%	8	7	87.5%
Chilmark	49	25	51%	10	8	80%	26	26	100%
Chappaquiddick	58	56	97%	10	10	100%	10	10	100%
Edgartown	24	6	25%	28	14	50%	25	12	48%
Oak Bluffs	16	2	12.5%	8	2	25%	12	8	67%
Tisbury	11	0	0%	14	5	36%	19	8	42%
West Tisbury	34	12	35%	22	9	41%	20	15	75%

larvae in May, June, and July. Lone star larvae are regularly documented emerging in late August and dwindling late October. In 2019, Sam Telford documented the unusual early questing behavior of lone star larvae in May, and this year I collected <5 smaller clusters of larvae in June and July as well. So although fairly uncommon it on it is totally possible for folks to encounter “tick bombs” and get bites from lone star larvae during spring/summer months when we don’t expect to see larvae active.

4,904 adult & nymph ticks collected in 2023 sampling season 3/10/23 – 10/13/23

Mosquitoes

Season: July, 4 2023 – October, 10 2023. A . A “pool” or sample collection of mosquitoes is sub is submitted for testing if more than 5 of one species is captured.

2022 Overview:

48 Pools submitted overall from all towns .
Mosquitoes collected: 98 Aedes, 440 Culex (4 WNV positives) <1%

2023 Overview:

70 Pools submitted overall from all towns
Mosquitoes collected: 264 Aedes, 1142 Culex (No positive samples)

Community Deer Cooler

At the MV Agricultural Society Community Deer Cooler we checked in 90 deer this season and had 15 deer donated to Island Grown’s Venison Donation Program totaling 610 lbs. of meat, 81 lbs.

of bones used in broth, and all hides were used. Venison was distributed to Island Food Pantry and Kinship Heals.

I began sampling white tailed deer systematically for ectoparasites as part of a regional effort with NEWVEC/Laboratory of Medical Zoology (Patrick Pearson & Steve Rich). Samples from 70 deer were collected between the Community Deer Cooler and State Forest Check Station. Samples may be used to:

- Document the types and abundance of ectoparasites among sites and years.
- Surveil pathogens directly and/or WTD exposure by assaying blood for antibodies to vector-borne pathogens.

Community Outreach

Getting the word out in our community is important for awareness and prevention.

- Took part in 4 Radio shows
- Had information booths at 5 community events
- Participated in 9 newspaper articles
- Made 12 presentations to community groups

Respectfully Submitted,

PATRICK RODEN-REYNOLDS
Public Health Biologist
Martha’s Vineyard & Nantucket

Mosquito Trapping 2023

	7/4	7/11	7/18	7/25	8/1	8/8	8/15	8/22	8/29	9/5	9/12	9/19	9/26	10/4	10/10
Tisbury	X	X	X	X		X		Mal	X	X	Mal			X	X
Oak Bluffs				X			X				X				
Edgartown	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X		X		
West Tisbury	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X					
Chilmark					X			X		X	X				
Aquinnah	X		X		X			X	X		X				

X = pool submitted, P = positive sample, M = Trap Malfunction (No Positives in 2023)

COUNCIL ON AGING

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown:

The Council on Aging saw another year of growth as we continued to expand our offerings and welcome new people into our facility at an increasing rate.

Overall, in 2023, 901 seniors (228 of whom were new to our COA) participated over 10,020 times in an Anchors-sponsored meal, activity, program, volunteer opportunity, or event. This includes the number of older adults served by the Anchors Outreach team in the Edgartown community.

COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD ACTIVITY

Volunteers make up the COA Board, all of whom are Edgartown residents. Historically, the Board meets monthly, except in July and August, on the third Friday of each month at 8:30 a.m. Since the onset of the pandemic, the Board has met via Zoom. The ECOA Board once again focused its efforts on serving the needs of the Edgartown older adult community, including supporting the efforts to have a safer, better-maintained building.

Rosemary Cunningham continued to serve as the Chair of the Board, and she is supported by Board members Marvene O'Rourke (Co-Chair), Nancy Ignacio, John Dropick, and as of 2023, new members Lisa Sherman and Sue Carroll. Janice Belisle serves as the Friends of the ECOA representative on the Board. All members bring considerable experience and a commitment to serve Edgartown's older adults. The Board said goodbye to longtime Anchors supporter Jay Sigler in June 2023 when he retired from a long and constructive period of service to the Town. We will miss the wide range of knowledge and experience that Jay brought to each meeting and every challenge.

The COA Board appointed the ECOA Five-Year Planning Committee in February 2022 to study how the Edgartown Council on Aging is addressing the needs of the population we serve in our current location. The goal of this committee is to share its findings and make recommendations for future best practices to the Town. The committee continued to meet monthly in 2023. Having previously reviewed the demographics and evaluated the positives and negatives of our current programs as well as the Anchors building itself, the Committee began to gather information regarding other COAs in the State for guidance, comparison, and to learn how other COAs are addressing similar challenges. The committee and Anchors staff made one fact-finding

visit to a new Council on Aging to better understand how problems of limited space and inaccessibility have been solved in a new facility.

Members of the committee: Marvene O'Rourke, Chair, Lyndsay Famariss, ex-officio, Dianne Durawa, Carolyn O'Daly, Nancy Ignacio, Janice Belisle, Sarah Henderson, Barbara Phillips, Shirley Dewing, and Ann Tyra.

The Anchors' staff is incredibly grateful to our dedicated Board members and their generous donations of time, energy, and ideas that enrich the COA.

VOLUNTEERS

The Edgartown Council on Aging simply could not serve Edgartown's older residents at the level we do without the support of our many volunteers. They enhance the work we do by donating their time in myriad of ways including: board members, fish distribution assistants, friendly visitors, gleaners, kitchen helpers, cooks, bakers, dining room set-up assistants, reception and telephone assistants, leaders of bridge, mahjong, knitting, meditation, and conversation groups, drivers, meal delivery drivers, surplus food handlers, craft class leaders, SHINE (Serving Health Information Needs to Everyone) representatives, and tax preparers.

We also are proud of our volunteers who share their knowledge and expertise with us through programs including lectures on world affairs, ornithology, theater, opera, musical performances, and non-profit community partners who help raise awareness of the services and programs available in our community.

In 2023, the Anchors community benefited from the generosity of 57 dedicated and caring volunteers. The economic value of their 2,156 volunteer hours in 2023 was \$38,967. We are ever grateful for the ECOA volunteers and the enthusiasm, knowledge, and hard work they contribute to enrich our community.

FRIENDS OF THE ECOA

The Friends of the Edgartown Council on Aging is a 501c3 organization that assists the COA in serving and supporting our community's seniors. Co-Presidents Barbara Phillips and Madeline Fisher lead a group of dedicated Edgartown volunteers who work to ensure the unmet needs of Edgartown's most vulnerable residents get the attention they deserve. Treasurer Janice Belisle serves as a representative to the ECOA board. The Friends' funds continue to support and subsidize such programs as: our weekly

in-house prepared meals and soups, supplemental food for our surplus food program, art and craft supplies, plants, flowers, and gardening program supplies, yoga, tai chi, our monthly newsletter, complimentary annual planners. In addition, the Friends contribute to older adults' emergency needs for utilities, as well as gift cards for acute food needs at Stop & Shop supermarket. They offered financial support for transportation to off-island medical appointments when all other available resources had been utilized. They work in collaboration with the ECOA and our town's EMTs to fund smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, fire extinguishers, and lock boxes for Edgartown's older adults.

2023 STAFF

Lyndsay Famariss	Administrator	September 2020
Meris Keating	Director of Senior Services	July 2019
Victoria Haeselbarth	Outreach Worker	January 2012
Donna Paulson	Clerk	March 2009
Diane Wall	Cook	September 2008-April 2023 (retired)
Chris McMahon	Cook	April 2023
Bill Glazier	Part-time Outreach Worker (temporary, grant-funded)	January 2023

2023 marked a notable transition in COA staffing, as beloved long-time cook Diane Wall retired in April. Over her 15 years on the job, countless Edgartown residents benefitted from her skilled, creative, and nutritious cooking. We will miss her.

The COA was fortunate to welcome Chris McMahon as the new cook, and Chris brings with him decades of experience working at various island restaurants. Chris has contributed his own creativity, humor, and crowd-pleasing culinary skills to the meals program, and we look forward to ways we can increase our future food offerings at the center.

OUTREACH:

One of the most important aspects of the Council on Aging's mission is its community outreach. Staffing its Outreach Department are Victoria Haeselbarth and Bill Glazier. Victoria has served at the Council on Aging since 1996 and in the Outreach

Department since 2011. Bill joined the team part-time in January of 2023, to help meet the needs of our growing number of older adult residents. Bill brings his skill as a SHINE Counselor (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone), having been the top performer in his district for seven years in a row and a Meals on Wheels driver for ten years.

Victoria and Bill are well-versed on the many important services available to our older adults and share this information readily with the community. They help facilitate access to these services, often serving as intermediaries between the client and the agency providing the service. These services include, but are not limited to, requesting and monitoring the delivery of Meals on Wheels, in-home care, and homemaking; distributing soups and surplus food; helping older adults with their transportation needs; assisting with fuel assistance applications; making and monitoring referrals to Healthy Aging MV's Home Safety Modification Program, Go-Go Grandparent, Home Share Program and Call the Tech Pro; and working with emergency responders to ensure our older adults remain safe. The Outreach Department provides case management to individuals and families with complex issues, serving as advocates and intermediaries between the client and other helping agencies. They provide reassurance during difficult times and help ensure that our residents have adequate supports to age in place. As the number of older adults in our community grows, there is a proportionate increase in demand for the services of the Outreach Department. In 2023, 685 individuals were served, an increase of 20% from 2022.

NOTABLE PROGRAMS AND OTHER EVENTS IN 2023

Off-Island trips are among the most frequently requested and best-attended programs offered by the ECOA. In 2023, 81 people attended off-island trips with the Anchors, some going on more than one. The trips took the Anchors travel community to the Harvard Museum of Natural History and Harvard Square, New Bedford and its Whaling Museum and Seamen's Bethel, and then to Nantucket and its Whaling Museum.

Arts Classes and Craft Groups were a favorite in 2023, with 64 people registering and participating in Decoupage, Talavera, Oil Pastels, Knitting and Fiber Arts, Holiday crafts, and attending Artist Lunches.

Education and Cultural Programs are among the most well-attended, with at least 177 individuals participating throughout the year, altogether 1,796 times. The popular Lunch n Learn series was grateful for the time and information shared with our community by the following: Denise Schepici of

MVH, Nancy Tutko of MV Trails, Dion Alley of Vineyard Power, Marty Gitlin's Lunch and Laugh, Wes Mott on The Crusade to Save Walden Woods, Falls Prevention Trivia and Resources. Other educational and cultural offerings include a Dementia Friends Presentation with Mary Holmes of MVC4L, Michael Quinlan on Douglas MacArthur, Salsa Demo and Lesson by Christina Montoya and G, EPD Sargeant Will Bishop's popular Coffee with a Cop, Growing up in Edgartown, and Edgartown Library's Reference and Technology Librarian Rizwan Malik's Tech Time. Thanks to the Shellfish Department for sharing oysters at Memorial Wharf during the holiday season. 1300 copies of The MV Times and 260 copies of the Vineyard Gazette were made available each week via a contactless pickup bin outside the Anchors building.

Holiday Open House

The annual holiday open house occurs in tandem with the Christmas in Edgartown celebration. The 2023 Open House was a success, with cook Chris McMahon wowing attendees with his delicious clam chowder. Four holiday gift baskets and a donated soda stream were raffled off to lucky winners thanks to the Friends of the ECOA. Thanks to volunteers Rosemary Cunningham, Marvene O'Rourke, Patti Dean, Joann Carroll, Janice Belisle, Steve Jacobs, and Carolyn O'Daly for all of their help in making the event a success.

The Vineyard Sound

Thanks to a pop-up tent and some chairs loaned from the Edgartown Library, we were able to host this, one of our favorite annual summer events. Forty people attended this lovely intergenerational outdoor performance by The Vineyard Sound, complete with ice cream treats for all. Thanks to the Friends of ECOA for continuing to sponsor this event.

Exercise and Meditation

84 individuals participated a total of 1,253 times in exercise and meditation classes including Tai Chi with Nan Doty, Yoga with Carol Vega, Mindfulness Meditation with Ed Merck, and Bowling at The Barn.

Recreation and Social Activities

1181 people participated in a number of social activities and events throughout the year, including Bridge, MahJongg, Bingo, Movies, and Games.

Technology

In 2023 Meris Keating worked with HAMV's Tech Equity Coalition in identifying and addressing the tech support needs of the island's older adults. The resulting program is "Call the Tech Pro", offering registrants free tech support in their

homes, beginning in January of 2024.

In a collaboration with the Edgartown Public Library, tech and reference librarian Rizwan Malik offers once-monthly tech consultations at the Anchors.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND DONATIONS

The COA received in-kind donations from the following businesses, farms, and individuals: MV Fishing Derby, The Fishermen's Preservation Trust, Island Grown Initiative, the Gleaners, Slough Cove Farm, Island Food Products, Slip Away Farm, The Federated Church, MacPhail's, Rags, Joe Chapman, Rob Morrison, Shirlee Miller, Susan Schreck, Bob Donahue and Sheri Cutler, Mary Spencer, Nancy Slate, Morning Glory Farm, and the many individuals, gardeners, and farmers who brought us fresh vegetables and flowers from their gardens and farms. Our Friends organization continues to support the majority of our programming here at the Anchors. As always, we are extremely grateful to our local businesses, friends, and neighbors for all of their support.

NUTRITION, LUNCHESES

- 1,153 received monthly Open Cupboard/surplus food, including Greater Boston Food Bank recipients (73), fish derby distribution (108), gleaned produce (324), and Island Grown Initiative soups and meals (648).
- 1,619 meals were served at the Anchors through our Tuesday Lunches and Friday Cafes. Chef Chris McMahon expanded our frozen soup offerings to include prepared meals.
- 1,300 frozen soups, chowders, and meals were bought from the Anchors in 2023.
- 461 meals were delivered through Wednesday outreach meals (358), holiday meals from MVH (91), and Edgartown Police Department's Turkey program (12).

MUSIC

176 people enjoyed various musical offerings throughout the year thanks to the Friends of the Edgartown Council on Aging, including Susan Grunthal's Opera Appreciation classes and a trip to the Milokan Cultural Center in Chilmark. Other performances at the Anchors courtesy of Adele Dreyer on piano, the Minnesingers, Sean Fullerton on Guitar, Folks Tunes with Molly and Mark, and Michael Haydn Piano Voice Guitar.

TOWN DEPARTMENTS WORKING TOGETHER

We are grateful for the town departments that work with us to meet the needs of the town's older adults. The Town Assessor and Human Resources departments work with the ECOA to offer the Senior

Tax Work-Off program that offers qualifying seniors the option to work for town departments and receive property tax credit. Our Board of Health funds our public health nurse and blood pressure clinics, case management, and home visits. The Edgartown Highway Department helps us whenever we call. The Edgartown Police Department partners with us to better serve our more vulnerable community members. Together with the Edgartown Fire Department and EMTs, they provide outreach and check on at-risk older adults during storms, power outages, and times of need throughout the year. A special thank you to Sergeant Will Bishop for his popular monthly program 'Coffee with a Cop'. The Edgartown Fire Department and EMTs once again provided gift totes stuffed with fun and useful gifts to Edgartown's older community members. Our COA is part of the Emergency Management Team which coordinates an emergency response to storms, hurricanes, and inclement weather events. We're fortunate to live and work in a Town with such caring and skilled Town employees.

PARTNERSHIPS

The COA partners with many innovative organizations within the MV community that complement and enhance the work we do, including: Island Grown Initiative, Elder Services of the Cape & Islands (CARES grants to support caregiver appreciation efforts), Healthy Aging MV, Island Health Care, Martha's Vineyard Community Foundation, Martha's Vineyard Commission, Martha's Vineyard Community Services, Martha's Vineyard Hospital, Vineyard Health Care Access, Dukes County Social Services and the Martha's Vineyard Center for Living.

We continued our partnership with the Vineyard Transit Authority (VTA) and Healthy Aging MV to host a COA transportation program at the Anchors that allows us to provide van transportation to local shopping and COA programming and events. Edgartown resident Bruce DiRuggeiro continued to serve as a committed volunteer van driver to our weekly participants. We are grateful for our partnership with Chappaquiddick resident Mary Spencer, who volunteers her time to provide van service for Chappy residents to meet the VTA's Medivan service to Boston hospitals. The COA would like to acknowledge Peter Wells of the Chappy Ferry for his continued support to serve Chappaquiddick's older adults' transportation needs. As a member of Healthy Aging MV, our COA supports and makes valuable contributions to island-wide programs and initiatives benefiting older adults.

41 people attended our annual Veteran's Day

luncheon which was made extra special thanks to a presentation on the PACT Act by special guest Alan J Hirschberg, MVCS Veteran advocates Bob Tankard and Tom Bennett of MVCS, and Duke's County Veterans Agent Randy Dull helped to invite fellow veterans and. Thanks to all of the veterans who joined us and shared their stories of service. As always, we look forward to expanding our partnerships with other island organizations in 2024.

PROGRAM AND SERVICES STATISTICS

Statistics below reflect numbers of individuals participating in different Anchors programs; the numbers do not include how many times each individual attended each program and/or event. Moreover, these numbers do not reflect all attendees of all programs, but show attendance for our most popular activities, events, and outreach. These numbers, or data, are entered into our MySeniorCenter database and reported in various ways, depending on the statistics sought.

OUTREACH / ADVOCACY

- 256 received advocacy for 962 units of support services
- 68 received health insurance counseling

SUPPORT SERVICES

- 688 Individuals served
- 877 received telephone reassurance or storm calls, home and hospital visits, family assistance, or an office consultation.
- 57 borrowed medical equipment
- 67 purchased senior VTA bus passes
- 234 people received 411 referrals to service organizations

SUMMATION

In a welcome turn of events, in 2023 the COA was able to resume its pre-pandemic programming and activities. While we are saddened to say goodbye to beloved longtime staff and board members, we are heartened that our center continues to work with a wonderful group of colleagues, volunteers, and participants. We are focused on providing a welcoming, stimulating, and resourceful environment while we address our facility's safety and repair needs, while looking to our future commitment to serve Edgartown's fast-growing older adult population.

Respectfully submitted,
ROSEMARY CUNNINGHAM
Chairperson, Board of Directors
LYNDSAY FAMARISS,
Administrator

ELDER SERVICES OF CAPE COD & THE ISLANDS, INC.

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

Elder Services of Cape Cod & the Islands Inc. is a private not-for-profit community-based organization serving the changing needs of the older adult population in the twenty-two towns of Barnstable, Dukes, and Nantucket counties. Since 1972, we have been dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for elders in the community and help to assist them in maintaining maximum independence and dignity. We are the federally designated Area Agency on Aging (AAA), the state designated Aging Services Access Point (ASAP), and the Aging Disability Resource Consortium (ADRC).

In FY 23 Elder Services Nutrition program (Meals on Wheels, Senior Dining) served 45,542 meals on MV. 309 seniors received meals delivered to their homes by a corps of over 105 Meals on Wheels volunteers. Under the oversight of the Elder Services registered Dietitian, all meals are prepared through our contract with the Martha's Vineyard Hospital and are delivered to homes and dining sites in all six towns by our volunteers. Our Senior Dining sites are located at the Oak Bluffs, Tisbury, and Up Island Councils on Aging. Our Nutrition program coordinator also participates in the Island Food Equity Network Summit that meets to collaborate on food access for Martha's Vineyard residents. ** Our Senior Dining program has re-opened and is now serving on Thursday at the Tisbury COA and up-island COA.

Our Home Care Program provides eligible elders with the supportive services they need to live safely and independently at home. Professional Care Managers assess needs, develop a service plan, arrange for necessary support, and see elders on going to ensure continuous management of services. In FY 23, The Home Care Program served 242 elders on MV. There were 22,539 hours provided through; personal care assistance, medication management, light cleaning, meal prep, shopping, chore, and laundry services contracted through our vendors. In addition, 127 elders were enrolled with a Personal Emergency Response System (PERS). Home Care can also include services provided by the Martha's Vineyard Center for Living including their Supportive Day program and Alzheimer's and Dementia coaching.

A volunteer Nursing Home Ombudsman regularly visits residents of Windemere Nursing and

Rehabilitation Center to provide advocacy and support. Elder Services of Cape Cod and The Islands has also been an active member of The Dukes County Health Council since its inception. We also serve on the Oversight Committee of its Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard as well as the Falls Prevention sub-committee. Our Protective Services unit has joined Martha's Vineyard Community Services' Connect to End Violence elder abuse prevention effort and Safe Seniors collaboration. We look forward to active and ongoing participation in these local initiatives.

In addition to the Elder Services' in-house programs that serve the elder population, the AAA distributes Older America Act Title III funds to other community agencies/organizations to provide needed care and assistance. Martha's Vineyard was awarded funds for programs offered through Martha's Vineyard Community Services. Martha's Vineyard Community Services provides bi-monthly support groups for caregivers of elders. MVCS also provides some funding for respite needs while caregivers attend the support group. This program was awarded \$5,400. Martha's Vineyard Community Services also provides home/community short-term assessment, intervention, and referral for mental health and substance abuse issues for elders 60 and over. This program was awarded \$10,000.

Elder Services of Cape Cod and the Islands uses federal, state, town, and private funds to provide essential community programs/services. The value of these funds is greatly enhanced by Town support, the cooperative efforts of the Councils on Aging, and the many Island residents who volunteer their time and skills. We appreciate the value of the community support we receive and expect to continue to work collaboratively and productively with local organizations to meet the challenges of the future.

Programs and Services

- Information & Referral: A central source of information on all services available to older adults on Cape Cod and the Islands as well as the entry point for referral to Elder Services' many programs. All referrals Call 1-800-244-4630. For additional information visit our website at www.escci.org. Martha's Vineyard Office- 508-693-4393.
- Protective Services: Help is available 24/7 for anyone over the age of 60 who has been abused,

neglected, financially exploited or is at risk of harm due to self-neglect. Call 1-800-922-2275 to report 7 days a week 24 hours a day.

- Home Care Program: Services are provided to help an elder remain safely in the community; Care Managers assess the needs, develop a service plan, arrange for supports, and see elders on going to manage services, and help with resources. To qualify, individuals must be sixty or older, meet financial eligibility guidelines, and have specific unmet care needs.
- Senior Nutrition Program: Senior Dining Centers are located at Tisbury, Oak Bluffs, and Up-island Senior Centers; Meals on Wheels are delivered by volunteers in every town for any elder who is homebound. Delivery is Mon-Fri usually between 10-Noon.
- Family Caregiver Support Program: Provides education, advocacy, and connections to community resources that will enable the caregiver to better care for their loved ones as well as themselves.
- Money Management Program: Volunteers, trained and certified, meet with elders in their homes to help them balance their checkbooks, pay bills, and oversee other routine financial management tasks.
- Senior Community Services Employment Program: Provides training and part-time employment to individuals fifty-five and older.

- Senior Service Corps: A corps of volunteers who enhance the community by participating in a wide variety of service activities.
- Options Counseling: Provides information and short-term counseling to assist consumers (elders aged 60 and older or individuals over the age of 18 with any disability) in making informed choices about long term care services, support, and settings.
- Long Term Care Ombudsman Program: Ombudsmen are trained and certified advocates with the authority to make weekly unannounced visits to facilities to monitor the condition of the home and meet with residents and/or their families to discuss any concerns they might have about the quality of their care.
- Long Term Care Screening: Registered nurses assess an individual's health and functional abilities in order to determine medical eligibility for Medicaid funding of nursing home care.

Respectfully submitted,
MEGAN PANEK,
MV Director



MV CENTER FOR LIVING

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

Our Mission:

Martha's Vineyard Center for Living strives to improve the quality of life for those impacted by issues of aging and impairment. Our vision is to create an age friendly environment, promote dignity, reduce stigma, support independence and foster community engagement.

The Center for Living (MVCL) is generously supported by all six island towns and governed by a Board of Directors consisting of members from each island town and one County representative. In FY2023, board members included Sandra Joyce, President; Shirley Dewing, Treasurer; Jane Keenan, Clerk; Gail Barmakian; Christine Burke; Martha Solinger; Rise Terney; Martina Thornton; Beverly Wright.

Martha's Vineyard Center for Living Programs & Services:

Supportive Day Program: M-F 9am to 2pm

The Supportive Day Program (SDP) is a day program for older adults who may experience memory challenges and a level of disability where they are unable to participate independently in community activities and programs. The SDP provides community-based support and opportunities for social connections to combat isolation and loneliness, the greatest threats to the wellbeing of our clients and their caregivers. Just as important is the respite we provide for caregivers. Our clients come to us with varying levels of disability; some with multiple medical conditions and chronic illnesses, including Alzheimer's and other dementias. The respite and support the caregiver receives by sending their loved one to the Supportive Day Program is critical for their overall well-being and that of their loved one. When a caregiver has a few hours for rest and self-care, the quality of life for both the caregiver and care recipient improves significantly.

In FY2023, our early efforts were focused on outreach to increase the number of families served in our programs. We successfully brought our numbers up, reaching over 50 families and providing over 21,000 hours of socialization, enrichment, and care for our clients, and as many hours of respite for their caregivers. In comparison, a conservative estimate of the cost to families paying at least \$35/hour for private duty care is \$735,000. The daily cost for the Supportive Day Program is \$60 with an additional \$10 fee for transportation. These fees are paid either

privately, or by Elder Services of Cape Cod and the Islands (the regional Home Care Agency) covering some or all the cost for low to moderate income elders. MVCL also offers a modest, donation supported scholarship program.

At the Center for Living, we are "person centered" which means careful attention is paid to the physical and emotional needs of each client, and a care plan designed to meet those needs is in place. Everyone, regardless of ability, can engage in community and enjoy the company of friends and peers in a safe environment free of stigma. The Supportive Day program offers a wide range of activities tailored to individual needs and interests, including exercise and yoga, music, singing, dancing, arts and crafts, discussion groups and games. We also regularly engage other community organizations and talented individuals such as musicians and artists, to share their talents and expertise with us. A morning snack and nutritious, home-made noon meal are prepared on-site and served family style. With a van at our disposal, we've added weekly outings to our schedule and take small groups out to local libraries, MV Museum, Polly Hill, the YMCA, Oak Bluffs Pier or just for a ride to enjoy fresh air and our beautiful island.

Respite Innovations:

In May of 2023, MVCL was awarded one of only 41 grants statewide, to provide new and innovative services to address the needs of and support family caregivers. Caregiver respite is a critical aspect of the services we provide, and Respite Innovations funding gives us the opportunity to expand our services into the home setting. Due to various circumstances, the Supportive Day program may not always be the right fit for, or be accessible to some families, and a home-based option is another opportunity for caregiver respite. The physical and emotional effects of long-term caregiving can be debilitating and even life threatening for the 24/7 unpaid family caregivers. Despite the challenges, many families choose to care for their loved ones at home for as long as possible and the reality is on Martha's Vineyard there are few other options. Caregivers experience increased depression, anxiety, stress, and heart disease, exacerbated by decreased levels of self-care and immune response. They are routinely faced with psychological, social, physical, and often financial hardship. Respite Innovations will send a trained respite worker into the home for two-hour sessions to provide companionship and person centered activities for the care recipient, so the caregiver can get break.

Transportation

In FY2023, MVCL acquired a Lift Van from the VTA, and hired a driver to enhance our transportation services. Transportation to and from the SDP is available either on the MVCL van, or via the VTA (Vineyard Transit Authority) Lift service. The VTA manages the maintenance and upkeep of the MVCL van as well as the training and testing required of all Lift drivers.

New in 2023! Shopping Shuttle:

With the Lift Van at our disposal and available during the middle of the day when we are not transporting SDP clients, we were asked to pilot a Shopping Shuttle service for older adults in the general community on behalf of the Councils on Aging. This service is for community members who no longer drive to do their own shopping and errands and was initially funded with a grant from the MV Community Foundation. Subsequently we have received a combination of two state grants, one from Elder Services Title IIIB and one from MaDOT, to continue the service for two years. We expect future funding to continue through a combination of local and government grants. The Shopping Shuttle is available three days a week; Wednesdays shopping in Tisbury; Thursdays, Edgartown is the shopping destination, and Fridays the shuttle takes people to Oak Bluffs, including the Island Food Pantry at the PA Club. In line with our mission, the Shopping Shuttle helps to reduce isolation, promote independence, and provides an opportunity for older adults to enjoy the social aspects of being out in the community.

Memory and Music Café:

In FY2023, the Memory and Music Café was moved to a once a month “open house” format on the third Thursday every month from 10am to 12pm. SDP clients enjoy the Café as part of their SDP routine, and caregivers and community members are welcome to join us every week for live music, companionship and of course dancing. Memory Cafés have spread across Massachusetts, the country, and the world, as an inclusive community engagement model for those experiencing disability, memory loss and/or cognitive impairment, along with their caregivers.

Dementia Family Support Services:

Dementia Family Support Services is funded by grants and donations outside of the town funded MVCL operating budget. It is available to families and caregivers caring for a loved one with memory loss and cognitive decline due to Alzheimer’s or other dementias. We connect families and caregivers with other agencies including Elder Services of Cape Cod and the Islands, the MV Community Services

CORE program, Dukes County Health Care Access program and the Elder Law program for additional support and services.

The Dementia Caregiver Support Group meets weekly on Zoom, Fridays 10am-11:30am. In 2023, 25 individual caregivers joined us from both on and off island, to find a community of support with others experiencing the challenges and concerns raised by caring for a loved one with dementia.

In FY2023 Dementia Coaching (Habilitation Therapy) was added to our service model. Habilitation Therapy supports caregivers to create and maintain a positive environment for a person experiencing the effects of a dementia related illness. The objective is to provide education and support to the caregiver and to recommend ways to modify elements of the home environment that may exacerbate the symptoms of the disease. A Dementia Coach provides knowledge and expertise to caregivers (and the person with the disease when appropriate) in understanding the disease process, as well as techniques of communication, behavior management, structuring the environment, creating therapeutic activities, and planning for future care needs.

TV for Living:

TV for Living was created in response to the COVID pandemic, and is a series of 30-minute, informational programs aired on MV Community Television Channel 13. Topics include Healthy Aging, Caregiver Tips and information, MV Center for Living programs, live demonstrated Functional Fitness work outs and art projects that can be done at home and much more. There are well over 100 episodes archived and can be viewed on the MVTV website at www.mvtv.org and entering TV for Living in the search bar.

MV Community Foundation Rent and Utility Support 2022-2023:

As a response to the pandemic and the resulting widespread loss of income and resources, the MV Community Foundation, with a combination of state funding and generous local philanthropic support, was able to provide significant relief to islanders by funding a Utility and Rental relief assistance program. To administer and distribute these funds the MVCF sought to partner with other island non-profit organizations with experience in these areas. MV Center for Living stepped forward to take applications and distribute nearly \$40,000, assisting 138 island families with rent and/or utility bills. We received referrals from Dukes County Social Services, Councils on Aging, the MVCS CORE program, Morgan Woods, MV Hospital Social Workers for island families in need of assistance.

**FEMA/Emergency Food and Shelter Program
2022-2023**

Phase 39

In FY2023, a total of \$9360 was allocated for Dukes County to assist residents in need of emergency food and shelter assistance. Of these funds, \$5213 was designated for MVCL to island senior residents with rent or mortgage payments.

Emergency Food Program:

Martha's Vineyard Center for Living is the sponsoring agency of the Greater Boston Food Bank emergency food distribution program on Martha's Vineyard. The Edgartown, Tisbury, and Up-Island Senior Centers as well as the Serving Hands Pantry at the Baptist Church Parish House on Williams St. in Vineyard Haven are the local distribution sites. Each site orders a variety of nutritious foods monthly from the Greater Boston Food Bank and MVCL coordinates with Island Food Products (IFP) to pick up these orders to come back to the island for distribution.

The local Stop & Shop has designated the Center for Living Emergency Food Program as the recipient organization for their community foundation give back programs. Cronig's Market regularly donates food directly to the Emergency Food Program through the Serving Hands Pantry.

55PLUS Times: Information and Referral

The 55PLUS Times is published monthly in the MV Times and is a resource for information pertaining to programs and services available to all 55+ Islanders and their families. MV Center for Living is responsible for editing and submitting the information published in the 55Plus Times.

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Luncheon Program:

Once a month between 25 and 40 folks enjoy a

delicious gourmet meal prepared and served by the MVRHS Culinary Arts students. Chef/Instructors Jack O'Malley and Kevin Crowell share their talent and expertise with the students and oversee their learning and experience in the culinary world.

Home Delivered Holiday Meals:

MVCL coordinates with the Councils on Aging and Martha's Vineyard Hospital to provide a home delivered holiday meal to older adults who are alone or homebound every year on the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter holidays. The Martha's Vineyard Hospital food service prepares and packages the meals and the Councils on Aging coordinate volunteers to deliver the meals in their town. On Thanksgiving Day 2022, 123 meals were delivered; Christmas Day 2022, 152 meals delivered; Easter Sunday 2023, 149 meals delivered.

Older Americans Act / Senior Nutrition Program:

The Elder Services Nutrition Program, (Meals on Wheels and Senior Dining Centers), is supported financially by the six island towns through the Martha's Vineyard Center for Living annual budget. In FY2023, the island towns contributed \$36,750 to Elder Services of Cape Cod & the Islands in support of this vital nutrition program.

We are grateful for the generous support of all town Selectboards, Finance Committees, Councils on Aging, other municipal agencies, as well as our non-profit partners and the community at large. This support and generosity make a positive impact on the lives of many islanders and is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
LESLIE CLAPP,
Executive Director

MV CULTURAL COUNCIL

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

The mission of the Martha’s Vineyard Cultural Council (MVCC) is to promote excellence, access, education, and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences to improve the quality of life for all Island residents. Our grants may be modest, but their effects resound mightily through the Vineyard community.

Each year, the MVCC receives and evaluates grant applications for projects that help support our mission. Instructions, program guidelines, and application forms are available at massculturalcouncil.org. The MVCC gives priority to projects originating on the Island and benefiting the year-round Island community.

In 2023 the MVCC held several meetings virtually from October-December to evaluate applications. For FY24, the Commonwealth allocated the MVCC \$33,000 for local re-granting. The six Island Towns also contributed generously: Aquinnah (\$1,500), Chilmark (\$3,500), Edgartown (\$3,500), Oak Bluffs (\$2,000), Tisbury (\$3,500), and West Tisbury (\$3,500). A number of prior year grantees were unable to follow through with their projects, and so those funds were rolled over to be distributed this year. Together, the total amount available for grants was \$63,283. This year the MVCC received 48 applications requesting a total of \$174,000.

As always, the members of the MVCC wish to thank West Tisbury Town Accountant Bruce Stone and Town Treasurer/Collector Katherine Logue, who have processed the financial transactions of the Council since it became a regional entity in 2003. Given that the Council has not asked for an increase in the town's contributions since 2020, combined with the marked increase in the amount of funds requested, the Council would like to request \$5000 from Edgartown this year so that it may continue to fulfill its mission.

Respectfully submitted,
RIZWAN MALIK, Chair

MVCC Members

West Tisbury Irene Tewksbury, Treasurer Paul Doherty Hal Garneau, Secretary	Aquinnah Berta Welch
Tisbury Julia Kidd Suzanne Roberge David Forbes	Chilmark Dena Porter Heather Goff Stephanie Danforth
Edgartown JP Hitesman Susan Shea Bari Boyer	Oak Bluffs Abby Bender Abby Remer Rizwan Malik - Chair

Project	Funding Given
Built on Stilts	\$3,100
Islanders Write	\$2,500
A Positive Magic at the Faery Way Station	\$1,330
Cinema Circus	\$2,250
2024 Martha’s Vineyard Film Festival	\$2,250
19th Annual Martha's Vineyard International Film Festival	\$1,650
Drive-In at the YMCA	\$2,250
Martha's Vineyard Fossil Day	\$2,775
Music & Memory Community Place	\$3,525
Abby Bender Schmantze Theatre	\$2,325

Project	Funding Given
Sankofa Festival	\$1,875
6th Annual Women In Film Festival	\$1,500
Quartets, Duos and Trios, Oh my	\$1,500
17th Annual Native Artisan Market & Festival	\$4,725
Winter Concert and Community Sings	\$3,653
Sounds Like Summer: Music on the Lawn	\$3,413
Capstone Concert: Focus on Jazz	\$350
Art of Conservation	\$1,250
Black Brook Singers at the Circle	\$2,500
Honoraria for guest musicians accompanying concerts	\$1,500
Saving Rebecca	\$3,500
LGBTQ+ Pride Weekend	\$2,500
Tales of Now & Zen: An Evening of Stories for Adults	\$250
Local Music & Dancing — Off-Season	\$2,500
Species in Focus: Martha's Vineyard's Biodiversity in 4K	\$3,750
Billy Baloo	\$1,250
Memorial Day Picnic Traditional Music	\$188
Aquinnah Artisans Holiday Fair and Childrens Art Show	\$625
Blue Minds Ocean Education Series	\$1,500
Black Children's Reading Corner	\$1,000



Sweetened Water Farm by Paulo DeOliveira

PLANNING

PLANNING BOARD

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

The Planning Board respectively submits the report of its activities for 2023.

2023 was a big year for the Planning Board of Edgartown. We lost a long time Planning Board Member Fred Mascolo. James Cisek, Alternate for Planning Board was named as the new Member, to serve out Fred's term which ends: 2024.

The Planning Board takes seriously its assigned duty to Preserve Protect the housing stock of Edgartown.

The Planning Board meets 2x month. The first and third Tuesday of each month a start time of 5:30 PM. There were 4 months in 2023 where it required a third meeting to be scheduled.

Michael Shalett was appointed as the Planning Board Alternate as James Cisek vacated his Alternate Roll to become a voting member of the Planning Board.

Elected positions coming up for renewal are James Cisek and Glen Searle.

The Planning Board undertook many projects this year, most notably the Stop & Shop expansion as well as the beginning construction of the Navigator Homes project.

The ZBA By-laws were continued to be reviewed with the suggestions from the Zoning Bylaw Review Committee. The Planning Board made suggestions and approved changes throughout the year. This is a project that will run into 2024 and the suggestions and revisions voted on at Town Meeting on April 9, 2024.

The Planning Board meets 2x month. The first and third Tuesday of each month starting at 5:30 PM. There were 4 months where it required a third meeting to be scheduled.

GENERAL STATISTICS:

The following permits were issued by the Planning Board in 2023:

- Site Visits - 4
- ANR/FORM A – 9
- Additions to homes – 4
- Form C – 4
- Form B – 1 (withdrawn)
- Piers, boardwalks and floats – 3
- Solar Applications – 2q
- Special Permits: Pools – 7
- Spas – 3
- New Construction houses. 4 – 2 of which were demolished and replaced and 2 of which were new construction.
- New Construction Guest Houses – 6 of which 2 were replaced and 4 were new construction.
- Quonset Hut – 1
- Garages – 3

Master Plan work will continue through 2023, Juliet Mulinare is chair of the committee.

The Planning Board extends its sincere appreciation top the employees and residents of the Town of Edgartown.

Respectively submitted,
LUCY MORRISON, Chair
MICHAEL MCCOURT
SCOTT MORGAN
GLEN SEARLE
JAMES CISEK
MICHAEL SHALETT,
Alternate

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

The following is a list of cases heard by the Edgartown Zoning Board of Appeals during the calendar year 2023:

[The numbers that appear in parentheses after the applicant's address represent the town's assessor's map and lot numbers]

- 29-2022 MESHACKET COMMONS – 38 MESHACKET ROAD (28-225) a request for a comprehensive permit under M.G.L 40 B for the construction of forty affordable homes on a 9-acre site was approved.
- 35-2022 GOLDENEYE LLC (MALM) – 24 KATAMA BAY VIEW ROAD (46-18.1) a request for a special permit under 10.1 G to install a swimming pool on a preexisting, nonconforming lot was denied.
- 39-2022 BINDER – 18 PILGRIM ROAD (11B-1.21) a request for a special permit under section 10.1 G to allow the construction of an in-ground pool and pool equipment shed on a preexisting, nonconforming lot was granted with a condition.
- 40-2022 BLOMMER – 20 KENT HARBOR ROAD (36-326) a request for a special permit under section 10.1 G 2 (e) to allow the construction of a single-family residence, pool, and pool house outside the two-year window specified in the bylaw after a house has been destroyed by fire was approved.
- 41-2022 DORE – 1 SADDLE CLUB ROAD (11-1.249) a request for a special permit under section 10.1 G to allow the construction of a two-car, two-story garage with storage above on a preexisting, nonconforming lot was granted with a condition.
- 42-2022 KONTJE – COSTAIN – 249 CHAPPAQUIDDICK ROAD (31-29) a request for a special permit under section 10.1 G to allow the construction of a one-story 438 s.f. addition to a preexisting, nonconforming structure on a preexisting, nonconforming lot was granted.
- 43-2022 HARBOR VIEW HOTEL – 131 NORTH WATER STREET (20B-107) a request to modify a special permit issued in 2018 and approved by the MVC in 2022 was granted. The request involved the demolition and rebuilding of three cottages, the construction of a new cottage, and the creation of a private spa for hotel guests.
- 1-2023 PORTSIDE BUILDERS – 9 HOLLOW WAY (11-2.33) a request for a special permit under section 10.1 G to allow the construction of a garage with detached bedroom above on a preexisting, nonconforming lot was granted.
- 2-2023 HAJJAR d.b.a. BD MV REALTY TRUST – 9 MAIN STREET (20D-317) a request for a special permit under sections 3.1 B 4 & 3.1 D 8 C to allow the construction of a second story 1700 s.f. addition consisting of three 1-bedroom apartments was granted with conditions.
- 3-2023 THE FARM INSTITUTE – 14 AERO AVENUE (45-423) a request for a special permit to operate a farm stand/visitor's center in a residential neighborhood was approved with conditions.
- 4-2023 HAZELL-McHUGH – 33 FOURTEENTH STREET SOUTH (11B-112) a request for a special permit under section 10.1 G to allow the construction of a two-bedroom dwelling on two adjacent, preexisting nonconforming lots was granted with a condition.
- 5-2023 HEGARTY, MICHAEL & REBECCA – 55 NORTH SUMMER ST (20D-220.1) a request to convert a single-family residence to an inn was withdrawn.
- 6-2023 FERNANDEZ – 15 YOUNG STREET (44-16) a request under 10.1 G to allow the demolition of a four bedroom dwelling and the construction of a three bedroom dwelling and detached two-bay garage with a bedroom above was granted.
- 7-2023 CASAVANT – 42 ENOS AVENUE (34-171) a request for a special permit under section 10.1 G to allow the construction of a two-bay garage with storage above was granted.
- 8-2023 SCHAEFER – 99 COOKE STREET (20C-171) a request for a special permit under section 10.1 G of the bylaw to allow the construction of a two-story addition was postponed at the applicant's request.
- 9-2023 DUNCAN-MENT – 18 MATTAKESSETT BAY ROAD (51A-8) a request for a special permit under section 10.1 G to allow the construction of a 12 x 16 studio with half-bath was approved.
- 10-2023 CULBERT – 149 LITCHFIELD ROAD (34-29) a request for a special permit under 10.1 G to allow the construction of a 3-bay garage and the conversion of a 2-bay garage into a music studio on a preexisting nonconforming lots was granted with conditions.
- 11-2023 EDGARTOWN BOARD OF TRADE & THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD PRESERVATION TRUST – 99 MAIN STREET (20D-64) a request

for a 20-stall seasonal farmers' & artisans' market to operate one-day a week was granted.

- 12-2023 BATISTA – 51 TWENTIETH STREET SOUTH (11-17) a request for a special permit under section 10.1 G to construct a two-story garage with office space above was approved with a condition.
- 13-2023 23 KELLEY STREET LLC – THE SHACK (20D-298.1) a special permit under 2.3.B 5 for a private snack bar was granted.
- 14-2023 23 KELLEY STREET LLC – THE COMMONS (20D-301) a special permit under section 3.1 B 3 for a retail store selling to-go food and beverages, clothing, and sundries was granted.
- 15-2023 23 KELLEY STREET LLC - THE PELICAN CLUB (20D-301 & 302) a special permit under sections 3.1 B 3 & 10.2 E to permit the operation of a restaurant and bar was granted.
- 16-2023 MORANO – 9 DONALDBIN CLOSE (21-133.6) a request under 10.1 G for a special permit to expand the second floor of a garage and construct a second floor deck on a preexisting, nonconforming lot was granted.
- 17-2023 WILLOUGHBY – 30 CURTIS LANE (20A-96) a request for a special permit under section 10.3 C [Island Independent Living] to construct a three-bedroom house on a conforming lot under 11,500 s.f. was granted with conditions.
- 18-2023 O'BRIEN – 93 NORTH WATER STREET (20D-281) a request for a guest house larger than 900 s.f. on a 11,500 s.f. lot was denied.
- 19-2023 ANDJELKOVIC– 2 KATAMA DRIVE (36-127) a special permit under 10.1 G for additions and conversions to an existing residence and the installation of a swimming pool on a preexisting, nonconforming lot was approved.
- 20-2023 MARTHA'S VINEYARD SAVINGS BANK – 7 SCHOOL STREET (20D-128) a special permit under sections 3.1 B 4, 10.1 C & 10.3 F to convert existing attic space to three 1-bedroom apartments for workforce housing was granted with conditions.
- 21-2023 BIRDWELL & FIXLEY – 249 WEST TISTBURY ROAD (28-10) a special permit under section 10.1 G to allow the construction of a one-story, two-car garage on a preexisting, nonconforming lot was granted.
- 22-2023 CLABBY – 20 OAKDALE DRIVE (13-27) a special permit under 10.1 G for an addition to an existing residence and to construct a garage was withdrawn.
- 23-2023 MONTEIRO-WEEDON - 26 CODMAN

SPRING ROAD (22-6) a special permit under 10.1 G to allow the construction of a pool and pool equipment shed was granted.

- 24-2023 LOPATA – 88 THE BOULEVARD (11A-331) a special permit under 10.1 G to allow the rebuilding of a nonconforming entry deck and the rebuilding and expansion of nonconforming first and second floor decks was granted.
- 25-2023 COLBERT-WATTS - 8 PLAINS COURT (45-16.54) a special permit under section 10.1 G to allow additions to an existing nonconforming structure was granted.
- 26-2023 HONEYCUTT – 18 WOODHAVEN DRIVE (10-1.137) a special permit for the construction of a pool and pool equipment shed was granted with conditions.
- 27-2023 HALL – 59 DODGER'S HOLE (10-57) a request for a special permit to construct additions to a nonconforming structure and to construct a one-story garage on a preexisting, nonconforming lot was approved.
- 28-2023 RUSCKOWSKI – 22 DUNCAN CLOSE (22-133.14) a request for a variance to allow a substandard lot to be buildable was denied.
- 29-2023 COFFMAN - 2 DOWN HARBOR ROAD (36-308) a special permit under 10.1 G to allow the construction of a pool and pool cabana was granted.
- 30-2023 CLABBY – 20 OAKDALE DRIVE (13-27) a special permit under 10.1 G to allow the demolition of an existing dwelling and the construction of a new single-family dwelling with an attached garage was granted.
- 31-2023 BASSETT - 134 PENNYWISE PATH (21-58.121) a special permit under section 2.2 B 12 for the construction of a guest house larger than 900 s.f. was granted with conditions.
- 32-2023 MORRIS – 18 LEAH'S LANE (25-19.2) a request for a special permit to operate a kennel was postponed.
- 33-2023 GRADY & ECHEVERZ - 5 WESTMINSTER COURT (10-99.23) a special permit under section 10.1 G for the construction of a detached garage with one-bedroom apartment above was granted.
- 34-2023 TRAYES & EISENBERG – 21 OAKDALE (20C-99) a special permit under section 10.1 G for additions to an existing structure on a preexisting, nonconforming lot was approved..
- 35-2023 MARQUES – 21 BOLD MEADOW (22-53.126) a special permit under 10.1 G for a one-bedroom basement apartment was granted with

conditions.

- 36-2023 LAZAR – 4 BERNARD WAY (20C-99) a special permit under section 10.1 G for a plunge pool and cabana on a preexisting, nonconforming lot was approved.
- 37-2023 BATISTA – 51 TWENTIETH STREET (11-17) a special permit under section 10.1 G to allow a pool and an equipment shed on a preexisting, nonconforming lot was granted.
- 38-2022 SABRA – 8 MILIKIN WAY (36-342.1) a request for a special permit under section 2.1 B 10 to allow a guest house when the main house has been in existence for less than five years was denied. This decision has been appealed.
- 39-2023 PIPER 55 SLOUGH COVE LLC, SHANNON & DAVID GRAY – 87 SLOUGH COVE (44-16.17) a special permit under 10.1 G to allow the construction of a two-story garage with office above was granted.
- 40-2023 GINETTI – 54 TWELFTH STREET SOUTH (11B-128) a special permit under 10.1 G to allow the construction of an ADA compliant bedroom was granted.
- 41-2023 HADDAD – 57 CHASE ROAD (20C-217 and part of 218) a request for a special permit under 2.1 B 10 to designate the existing garage apartment as a guest house and construct a new primary dwelling within five years of the construction of the existing dwelling was postponed.
- 42-2023 McNALLY – 37 EDGARTOWN MEADOWS ROAD (22-35) a request to install a plunge pool and pool equipment shed was granted.
- 43-2023 HOB KNOB INN – 128 UPPER MAIN STREET (20C-79) a request to convert a basement spa to staff housing was approved with conditions.

Respectfully submitted,
LISA MORRISON
Assistant

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) was passed in Edgartown in 2005 Establishing a funding source to create, preserve and support Affordable Housing, Historic Preservation, Open Space and Recreation for the benefit of Edgartown.

In 2006, a 3% surcharge was added to taxes assessed on real property which is the maximum surcharge set within the CPA. This assessment started at \$486,253 in 2006 and has risen to \$897,388 in 2023. This max surcharge enables the town to receive the maximum match from the State each year from a service charge assessed through the Registry of Deeds. There are occasionally other funding sources added to the State match by the legislation. The match started at 100% in 2007 and 2008. Since then, it has fluctuated erratically depending on the number of towns that have adopted the Act, the real estate market's effect on the registry fees and any surprise additional funding by the legislature. In November of 2023 the match received was 28.52% or \$255,934.

The CPC budget that is set at Town Meeting each year for the following Fiscal Year is based on the sum of Town surcharge and an estimate of what the State will match. In FY24 and for FY25 we estimated a match of 25% based on the downturn in Real Estate transactions. We were not far off for FY24. Any additional funds received are put into the CPC Unreserved Fund. This is part of where that reserve comes from. It is required that at least 10% of the overall available funds for each year be designated for each category. This can mean spending or just put into the designated reserve for future spending.

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) has seven members and is made up of representatives from the town committees that hold an interest in the mission of the CPA. There is one representative each from: The Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Affordable Housing, Parks, Financial Advisory Committee, Historic District Commission and the Selectboard. Applications for consideration for Annual Town Meeting are due in the end of September. Public meetings for presentations are scheduled throughout October and November. Projects are narrowed down and a public hearing is held in early December for all the projects being considered. The Committee then decides what will move forward to Town Meeting.

At Town Meeting in April of 2023, the following articles were approved by the Town:

- The FY2024 CPC Budget:
 - \$140,000.00 to be appropriated to the Community Preservation Open Space Reserve Fund;
 - \$140,000.00 to be appropriated to the Community Preservation Affordable Housing Reserve Fund;
 - \$140,000.00 to be appropriated to the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve Fund;
 - \$700,000.00 to be appropriated to the Community Preservation Budgeted Reserve;
 - \$30,000.00 to be appropriated to the Community Preservation Administrative Expenses Account.
- To close the following CPC accounts and transfer the remaining funds into the referred accounts for future appropriation. \$22,610.00 - ATM4/19 A9 DCRH Rental Assist Org 34106011 to CP Affordable Housing Fund \$20,725.00 - ATM6/20 A6 DCRH Rental Assist Org 34106119 To CP Affordable Housing Fund \$14,285.00 - ATM5/21 A7 DCRH Rental Assist Org 34106129 to CP Affordable Housing Fund
- \$118,000.00 to be paid to The Dukes County Regional Housing Authority to fund the Rental Assistance Program for Edgartown Families for Fiscal Year 2024.
- \$203,000.00 to fund the PALS program through The Resource Inc. (TRI). The PALS program will provide interest-free loans to Edgartown families earning less than 100% median income to fund emergency needed structural home repairs to ensure safe and sanitary housing conditions.
- \$456,522.00 to fund restoration to the Edgartown Lighthouse in cooperation with the MV Museum.
- \$89,300.00 to fund The Preservation Trust's "Phase 2" of restoration to the Vincent House which will address "structural needs, replace failing roof, sidewalls and restore windows".
- \$100,000.00 for the historic restoration of the roof of the MV Camp Meeting Association Tabernacle in Oak Bluffs.
- \$500,000.00 to help fund the creation of the new Robinson Road Recreation Area based on the plan developed using CPC funding appropriated at Town Meeting in April of 2022.
- \$12,500.00 for preservation and restoration work

on the rescue boat “Half Moon” that belongs to the Town and resides in the Whale Tail Park under the control of the Conservation Commission.

The Fall 2023 application period was robust with seventeen applications. The Committee held public meetings to hear presentations and held an advertised public hearing on December 5th. They are presenting nineteen articles for Annual Town Meeting and one for Special Town Meeting in April of 2024.

The committee appreciates the support of the voters and taxpayers. The townspeople, Islanders and Visitors are able to enjoy these projects which preserve and enrich our island life and will hopefully help to retain it for years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

KRISTY ROSE
Administrator

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

The number of applications made for proposed work within the Historic District this year totaled 114. We had 15 applications for routine repairs and maintenance which are typically granted through expedited approval. 97 applications for new work were reviewed by the Commission at public meetings, with a 98% approval rate in granting Certificate of Appropriateness. 2 applications were denied.

The Historic District Commission (HDC) engages residential and commercial property owners in detailed discussion during the project review process, balancing the individual's interest to make improvements to the property with the need to preserve Edgartown architectural heritage for present and future generations. This collaborative approach has proven successful in guiding the continuing trend in significant renovation in new construction within the district.

The private investment in properties within the District is significant and the Commission looks forward to working with owners, their architects and builders on preserving the essential historic character of Edgartown. Our goal is to assist in maintaining these resources which make Edgartown a viable community and a nationally prominent destination for years to come.

We wish to acknowledge the efforts and years of service of former Commission member Carole Berger who stepped off the Board this year and welcomed Hilary Grannis to a full Board member from an alternate member. They both provide invaluable insights, balanced reasoning and a commitment to preservation; their participation is much appreciated.

The Commission meets via zoom on the first and third Thursday of the month. All HDC meetings are open to the public and any interested member of the public is encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

JULIA TARKA, Co-Chair
PETER ROSBECK II,
Co-Chair
SUSAN CATLING
JAMES CISEK
CARI WILLIAMSON
KEN MAGNUSON
HILARY GRANNIS
ADAM MORAN, Alternate
E. CHRISTOPHER SCOTT,
Alternate

AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown:

The goal of the Affordable Housing Committee is to facilitate affordable homes at less than market price for Island residents that are unable to establish homes in Edgartown due to climbing real estate prices. The program is intended to lessen situations of hardship and to retain a stable and diversified year-round community and workforce to support a stable infrastructure in Edgartown.

In 2023, The Affordable Housing Committee (AHC) had two significant Affordable Housing Homeownership transactions: (1) A Buy-Down program Lottery house was resold to Affordable Housing and returned to the AHC lottery program that resulted in a successful purchase by an income qualified Edgartown resident. (2) The awarded single family Chappaquiddick lot was also successfully purchased by an income qualified resident.

The new Edgartown Housing Heroes campaign

aims to reach out to all Edgartown property homeowners. The mission of the Edgartown Housing Heroes Campaign is to get Edgartown homeowners that are willing to rent year-round their homes, apartment, guesthouse, etc., in order to maintain the town of Edgartown year-round stable workforce.

The Affordable Housing Committee will continue to do resales and diligent research until this housing crisis is resolved; resulting in sufficient affordable and attainable housing in the town of Edgartown.

This Committee continues to be committed to create equitable opportunities for affordable housing in Edgartown. As your appointed committee, we wish to thank the townspeople of Edgartown for their consistent support of all our affordable housing efforts.

Respectfully Submitted,

MARK HESS, Chair

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown:

The Edgartown Affordable Housing Trust was established as the financial arm of the Edgartown Affordable Housing Committee. The Trust has an active board, who carefully manage and appropriate funds for the purpose of developing affordable and community housing within the Town of Edgartown. As new affordable and community housing plans are created, the board of the Housing Trust will continue to diligently oversee and monitor the funds that are used to fulfill the town's affordable and community housing goals. The trust aims to address the pressing need for affordable housing by working from a financial perspective with the affordable housing committee, developers, community organizations, and local government to create and preserve affordable housing units.

Currently, the Affordable Housing Trust is proud to have accumulated the additional contribution the Meshacket Project needed; from both the Community Preservation Committee funds and Trust Account. These funds will be monitored accordingly. The Edgartown Affordable Trust looks forward to the breaking ground of Meshacket Project in Spring of 2024. In conclusion, the Trust continues to actively seek new opportunities to expand the availability of affordable housing options.

As your appointed board, we wish to thank the townspeople of Edgartown for their consistent support of the Town's affordable and community housing efforts.

Respectfully Submitted,

MARIA VENTURA, Chair

DUKES COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

When the six towns of Martha's Vineyard established the Dukes County Regional Housing Authority (DCRHA) through State charter in 1986, it was in response to the Island's growing need for stable, year-round, and affordable housing options for its residents. The number of 12-month leases had begun to shrink even as rents rose, inexpensive winter rentals were drying up, and the Vineyard Shuffle between at least two different rentals per year was on the rise. 37 years later, in 2023, the advent of short-term-rentals, the effects of the worldwide pandemic, and changes to Island demographics have combined to raise the cost of the few year-round rentals to be found beyond the reach of a widening range of Island households, winter rentals have grown expensive, and the "shuffle" is now from those costly winter rentals to summer season work commutes from summer rentals off-Island and families divided up amongst friends. And an ever-increasing number of our retail and service employees leave their homes on the upper Cape, New Bedford and beyond to drive, park and ferry twice daily for their Island workdays and our services.

In 2023, the Island can also look back on the 35 years of development of over 500 units of affordable rental and ownership housing by Island Elderly Housing, DCRHA, Island Housing Trust, the Tribal Housing Authority, private developers, and the towns. Currently, the Trust, the Atwood Company, and others are working in partnership with the towns and in project reviews by the Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC) to bring over 200 new rentals, ownership and rent-to-own units to occupancy beginning this year and continuing through 2026. Importantly, the successful local Housing Bank campaign to create additional funding for a wider range of housing development and support is working its way through the legislative process on multiple fronts in concert with other municipalities across the State. Relatedly, DCRHA advertised expansion of its rental waitlist from the 100% of Area Median Income to 150% where growth in need and opportunity are presently expanding year to year.

DCRHA staff, fully funded by the towns since 2005, have been called on by town boards and committees, developers, Island organizations, the MVC, property owners, and other constituents to provide perspective and 45 years of collective experience to a range of creative actions and plans for new housing and support. Our rental waitlists,

lottery agency, and management experience are being utilized in Aquinnah where the Trust's development of the 4 rental units of Carl Widdis Way nears completion; in Chilmark where planning at Peaked Hill continues; in West Tisbury where we assisted with resales of a Trust developed affordable home and an affordable Co-Housing unit, and continue adding to Town and Trust development of rentals at 401 State Road; in Oak Bluffs, where we assisted the Town and The Resource Inc (TRI) with addition of two apartments at the Noyes Building and with the Town's PILOT offering of our Rental Assistance program to households with higher incomes than those funded through the Community Preservation Act (CPA) surcharge; and in Edgartown, where our staff completed a lottery resale of a home initially funded through the Town's Home Buy-Down program, and supported the Affordable Housing Committee's Housing Heros outreach to prospective Rental Assistance landlords. Combined with the Oak Bluffs Pilot to raise awareness of both the need and the opportunity of support through Rental Assistance. In turn, the funding level of our annual requests to Town Community Preservation Committees for 2025 funding of rental Assistance have been maintained in hopes of new landlord participation additional to the 55 tenancies supported annually, down from over 100 tenancies on average during the period of the "great recession".

An important example of the partnerships and shared housing efforts benefiting Islanders is the DCRHA relationship with the Martha's Vineyard Community Foundation (MVCF). Forged during the Covid period with their funding of the Rental Relief program assisted many Island households, the partnership has continued with MVCF support in 2022 and 2023 of an extension of DCRHA's Emergency Financial Assistance Program to applicants and tenants of Morgan Woods, Island Elderly Housing, Harbor Homes, as well as referrals through Dukes County Human Services. Currently, the MVCF has scheduled a January continuance of work with our Board and staff in an attempt to better understand and address Island housing needs at fundamental levels needed for longer-term change.

Island-wide, DCRHA provides income certifications and administrative assistance for town specific offerings such as multi-family density allowances, homesite subdivisions, accessory dwelling units, and demolition delay referrals, We actively partner with Habitat MV, Harbor Homes, the Housing Assistance Corporation, The Resource Inc, the County Manager's office, and others that assist

with rent, utilities, emergency support and apartment rehabilitation for island tenants and their landlords. The Community Ambassador Program (CAP) became an important new affiliation for us in 2023 when they provided in-person translation for prospective applicants for the lottery of an affordable unit at the Old Stone Bank Condominiums in Vineyard Haven. The CAP interpreter added immeasurably to our work with households for whom Portuguese is the primary language. Portuguese translations of many DCRHA documents over a number of years have been contributed by another important community member who is currently in review as the prospective Governor's Appointee to the DCRHA Board of Directors.

In 2023, the DCRHA managed 98 affordable rentals on 16 properties in 5 towns including rent-ups to applicants from our waitlist beginning with those households of longest duration and proceeding forward till completed tenant certification, apartment offer, policy review and unit inspections result in a lease. Tenant certification and inspections occur annually for the life of the tenancy. In 2023, DCRHA implemented a cloud-based program used by tenants and staff for maintenance requests, management responses, improved communication, and efficiency of the extensive record keeping needed for annual planning, budgeting, and funding source audits of DCRHA financials, rent-rolls, policies and procedures. During 2023, O'Brien Property Management (OPM), the Housing Authority's longtime and widely experienced property manager, worked with Rise and the Cape Light Compact to replace old heating units with highly efficient mini splits in the apartments of 5 of our properties. OPM also worked with TRI to replace original roofs and windows on two of our oldest West Tisbury apartment complexes. As well in 2023, DCRHA and OPM staff completed an increasingly large number of apartment turnovers as a result of changes to employment, income, and other uncertainties coming to bear on Island households of varied types, incomes, and circumstances.

DCRHA staff work daily with the many households in search of affordable rental and home ownership opportunities at its office at 21 Mechanic St. off State Road in Vineyard Haven as well as through email and phone communication. For more information please call (508) 693-4419 or check our website <https://housingauthoritymarthasvineyard.org/> where staff contact emails are listed.

A final word: 2024 marks the end of 23 years of shared office space at 21 Mechanic St with the Island Housing Trust. During that time, the DCRHA has had the best view of all that has gone into the Trust's successful development of over 250 units of increasingly needed and appreciated rental and ownership housing. To that record add the numerous advocacy efforts and policy and community practice advancements that the Trust has played a significant role in over its existence. With 200 units currently in development and plans for more, the Trust's necessary growth in capacity requires the new, larger office space at the Woodlawn Center in Tisbury that all are at work moving into as this report is written. The Duke County Regional Housing Authority wishes the Island Housing Trust godspeed in this important new chapter of its work on behalf of the residents of Martha's Vineyard.

Respectfully submitted,

The DCRHA Board of Directors and Staff:

ANN WALLACE: Chilmark
MARK LEORNARD: Oak Bluffs
DAN SEIDMAN: Tisbury
RUDI SANFILIPPO: Aquinnah
LUCY MORRISON: At-Large
RISE TIERNEY: West Tisbury
JASON MAZAR-KELLY: Edgartown
Candidate Referred: Governor's Appointee

DAVID VIGNEAULT: Executive Director
TERRI KEECH: Finance Manager
KAY-ANN FRASER: Operations Coordinator
KARIN KUGEL: Administrative Assistant

ENERGY COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

Introduction

In 2023, the Edgartown Energy Committee focused its work on two main areas: spending the Designation Grant funds awarded the town upon acceptance into the Green Communities program in 2022; and planning for the Town to migrate from fossil fuel usage to electric power with the help of solar power and battery energy storage. A special focus was on the Edgartown School, in providing new dimmable classroom lighting, installing new equipment for controlling the School's heating and ventilation systems, and assisting in planning the eventual energy transformation of the School's oil-burning boilers to heat pumps for heating and air conditioning.

Other committee activities included contributing to the cost of new energy-saving sewage pumps for the Wastewater Department; monitoring and tracking power dispensed by electric vehicle chargers at the Park and Ride lot; tracking energy production by the Town's two solar fields; and outreach to the community about energy topics, town energy achievements, and awareness of the work of the Committee. Also, the Committee began researching and formulating a plan to require landscapers to replace gasoline-driven leaf blowers with electric models. Lastly, the Committee saw an important reorganization of its work plan, anticipating the change of status of Chair Alan Strahler in early 2024 from Member to Associate.

External activities included monitoring progress toward bringing solar power to the Meshacket Landfill; supporting permitting of offshore wind power cables passing under Muskeget Channel; liaison with the Edgartown Climate Committee; and working with the Master Plan Steering Committee on the energy section of the Master Plan document.

The Committee membership remained unchanged in 2023, but the Committee welcomed two seasonal resident volunteers as Associates. Jack Connell brought special expertise in building energy issues and controls, and Erich Mettler provided extensive experience in solar power and leadership skills in group task management.

Green Community Activity

In 2023, the Committee used Designation Grant funds to support two energy conservation measures for partial funding that provided large energy savings. A much-needed replacement of lighting fixtures at the Edgartown School with dimmable

lucent LED panels was completed during the summer, and it is expected to save an estimated 122,709 kWh of energy and \$22,067 in dollar cost per year. Green community funds covered \$88,303 of the total cost of about \$236,249.

The second energy conservation measure was replacement of sludge pumps at the Wastewater Department in June. The overall cost was \$419,145, with a contribution \$43,697 in Green Community funds. Installation of new pumps occurred in early June. The investment is projected to save 135,398 kWh of energy and \$24,372 in energy cost per year.

Edgartown School

Much of the Energy Committee's focus in 2023 was centered on Edgartown School. As mentioned above, Green Community funding helped provide for dimmable lighting throughout the building. In addition, the school also benefitted from a project to install building heating controls and equipment that was fully supported by Cape Light Compact in the amount of \$151,000. The work included demand control of rooftop ventilation fans, variable frequency (energy-efficient) pump drives for hot water circulation, more efficient pump motors, sensing and use of outdoor air temperature in boiler temperature control, and a new energy management system that monitors and controls temperature and ventilation in every classroom. The new equipment is projected to save 12,233 gallons of fuel oil per year, as well as 19,029 kWh of electricity, with an estimated cost savings of \$46,282 per year.

The Committee, notably Associate Jack Connell and Chair Alan Strahler, also worked closely with Edgartown School and MV Public Schools personnel on a study of boiler replacement for more efficient heating and cleaner indoor air that was federally funded at \$100,000 and awarded to BLW Engineers. Goals were to improve air quality, decrease energy consumption, and move to a carbon-free facility. The Committee helped review drafts of the BLW report and assisted in their evaluation. The ultimate result was a request to the Town's Budget Committee for a placeholder in the FY 2026 budget for initial engineering studies to replace the aging boilers with more energy efficient equipment, preferably relying on heat pumps.

Electrifying and Solarizing Town Buildings

At its 2021 Annual Town Meeting, Edgartown adopted an aspirational goal of reducing fossil fuel usage by 50 percent by 2030 and 100 percent by 2040. To reach this goal, the Town must do its part. At present, most Town buildings are heated by fossil

fuels, although some also use supplementary electric heat pumps. Many town buildings require resilience in the face of power outages, using generators burning fossil fuels for emergency power. Resilience can be enhanced by adding local solar photovoltaic energy generation coupled with battery storage to augment or replace generators. Such solar-battery systems also cut energy costs during everyday operation. Considering these facts, the Committee has moved aggressively to chart pathways to using electric powered heat pumps for space and hot water heating of Town buildings, coupled with solar-battery systems for resilience and energy savings.

Microgrid Resilience for New Firehouse

At the 2023 Town Meeting and the following Town Election, voters approved a replacement for the Town's Firehouse. This construction provides the opportunity to add solar power and battery storage to the building, thus providing the ability to meet power needs by drawing from solar panels, batteries, Eversource line power, and generator power at will. By using intelligent switching equipment, everyday power is provided by the lowest-cost source available. When line power fails, the equipment draws on other sources to meet emergency demands. This type of system is termed a microgrid.

To facilitate the planning for a microgrid including both the new firehouse and the Police Department's adjacent headquarters, the Energy Committee, working with Cape Light Compact, obtained a grant for \$10,585 from the Commonwealth's Municipal Energy Technology Assistance program for a consultant from Rise Engineering to advise the architects and the Firehouse Building Committee. The architecture firm designing the new facility is expected to be chosen in early 2024, and the consultant will begin working at that time.

Electrification and Solar Studies of other Town Buildings

During 2023, the Committee sought ways to commission studies of other town buildings. In the interest of energy efficiency and energy savings, Cape Light Compact agreed to support three individual plans for Town buildings to replace fossil fuel energy with electricity and add solar-battery systems with microgrid energy management equipment. These included the Chappaquiddick Fire Station, administration buildings at the Wastewater Department, and a solar-battery microgrid system for the Edgartown School and Edgartown Library campus.

Energy engineers from Rise Engineering visited the three sites in July and began the process of researching needs and costs for replacement of fossil

-fuel burning equipment with electric heat pumps, as well as assessing each building and site for rooftop, ground-mounted, or canopy-mounted solar panels. The first plan, for the Chappaquiddick Fire Station, was received in early 2024, with others to follow soon thereafter.

In addition, the Committee assisted the Town in applying to the US Department of Energy's Clean Energy to Communities Program: Expert Match for planning electrification and solarization of the main buildings at the Meetinghouse Way campus of the Highway Department. The program, now approved, is providing experts from the Lawrence-Berkeley Laboratory to advise on the best plan to replace fossil fuel burning equipment there with electric heat pumps, as well as combine multiple solar arrays on rooftops and canopies to facilitate a campus microgrid. First meetings with Town personnel and DOE experts began late in the year, with the project continuing into 2024.

Chargers for Electric Vehicles

In 2022, the Town installed two ChargePoint dual Level-2 chargers at the Town's Park and Ride lot, providing the capacity for four electric vehicles to charge at once. In 2023, the chargers dispensed 16.2 MWh of electrical energy. At least 59.2 percent of that electrical energy was generated from renewable sources, resulting in a savings of about 6.8 metric tonnes of greenhouse gases that were not released by the burning of fossil fuels. The year saw a total of 921 charging sessions by 489 unique drivers. Not surprisingly, heaviest usage was in the months of July, August, and September, with 162, 240, and 118 charging sessions respectively.

Tracking Town Solar Energy

The Committee continued to track the energy provided by the Town's solar fields at Katama Farm and Nunnepog Well in 2023. During the year, the two solar fields generated 1,601 and 1,637 MWh of energy respectively, which is enough energy to meet the demand of more than 50 average Massachusetts homes for a year, including any space and water heating using fossil fuels. Regarding only electricity usage, the solar field's renewable energy would meet the average annual electricity demand of about 250 homes.

The renewable energy is sold to distributors through the Eversource grid. From the startup of the solar fields in June, 2014, through fiscal year 2023, they have earned more than \$2,100,000 in benefits to the town. This renewable energy reduced greenhouse gas emissions by about 18,200 metric tons – equivalent to not burning more than 20 million gallons of gasoline.

Community Outreach

Outreach efforts continued apace in 2023. Updates to the Town’s Energy Committee page provided the status of ongoing activities, as well as summaries of energy generated by the town’s solar fields and consumed by electric vehicles from the Park and Ride chargers. The Energy Committee joined the Climate Committee at a table at the Climate Action Fair on Sunday, May 7, to promote climate action and awareness of the two Committee’s activities.

The Committee has also become concerned with the use of gasoline-powered leaf blowers by landscapers. During 2023, Member Ellen Price and Associate Jack Connell worked on a plan for a bylaw to replace the noisy and polluting gas blowers with quieter electric models. Much progress has been made that will bear fruit in 2024.

In April, the Committee generated an initial version of an Energy Actions Report to the Town, which was posted on the Committee’s town web page and also locally printed and distributed to interested persons. The eight-page document began with a background on energy goals, and then provided a documentation of municipal achievements in saving energy and producing renewable energy. It concluded with action plans being formulated for municipal energy savings as described in prior sections. The document was updated several times during the remainder of the year and eventually formed the basis for a contribution to the Edgartown Master Plan draft.

External Activities

As in prior years, the Committee provided support to the Town’s plan to lease the Meshacket closed landfill to a solar developer. Ameresco was designated as the vendor in 2022. A lease was signed and renegotiated in 2023 due to new energy incentives provided by federal and Commonwealth governments. The project is expected to pay the town \$14,500,000 in fees over the 24 years of the lease period. It is presently awaiting approval and cost estimates for its connection to the Eversource electric grid.

As offshore wind power development proceeded in 2022, Avangrid Renewables began seeking permits for the New England 1 Connector, a set of electrical cables connecting its Park City Wind project to Cape Cod. Following a similar pathway to the Vineyard Wind Connector, it is planned to be buried beneath Edgartown waters in Muskeget Channel. Although supported by the Energy Committee, the permit failed to be approved by the Town’s Conservation Commission in early 2023.

That decision was ultimately reversed at a higher level in the Commonwealth, but due to cost increases, the wind project was suspended later in the year.

Throughout the year, the Committee maintained a close connection with the Town’s Climate Committee. Chair Alan Strahler and Committee Member Ellen Price served as liaisons, attending its meetings. Activities of the Climate Committee were regularly reported at each meeting of the Energy Committee.

The Committee also remained in productive contact with the Edgartown Master Plan Steering Committee, with Member Jack Ensor serving on that committee and Chair Alan Strahler attending its meetings as the Energy Committee liaison. As noted above, the Committee provided a draft energy section for the plan.

Restructuring Committee Activities

At its December meeting, the Committee discussed and approved a plan to assign its projects and activities to subgroups of 1-3 members, anticipating Chair Alan Strahler’s role changing from Committee Member to Associate. The plan allowed all Members and Associates to contribute to the work of the committee according to their skills, interests, and availability. Juliet Mulinare, the Town’s Facilities Manager, was identified as a collaborator and liaison to the Town government.

Respectfully submitted,

ALAN STRAHLER, Chair
JACK ENSOR, Member
ELLEN PRICE, Member
RICHARD PRICE, Member
BONNI WIDDOES, Member
JACK CONNELL, Associate
ERICH METTLER, Associate



CAPE LIGHT COMPACT

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

Cape Light Compact JPE is an intergovernmental organization consisting of the 21 towns on Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard and Duke's County. The Compact's mission is to serve our 205,000 customers through the delivery of proven energy efficiency programs, effective consumer advocacy, and renewable competitive electricity supply.

Effective July 1, 2017, the Cape Light Compact reorganized itself as a joint powers entity pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40 Section 4A1/2, becoming the first joint powers entity in Massachusetts. Reorganizing as a joint powers entity protects member towns from potential liabilities and mandates greater financial accountability through expanded reporting requirements to the Massachusetts Department of Revenue and member Towns, and designation of Treasury functions to an independent entity.

POWER SUPPLY

During calendar year 2023 (CY23), the Compact's power supplier for all residential, commercial, and industrial customers was NextEra Energy Services of Massachusetts (NextEra). The Compact is pleased that our residential price in CY23 remained below the utility's basic service residential price, while also being 100% renewable.

The Compact has been a green aggregation since January 2017, matching Compact power supply customers' annual electricity usage above the mandated state requirements with voluntary renewable energy certificates (RECs) to provide a 100% renewable product. By retiring RECs to match the Compact's customers' usage, Compact customers are financially supporting renewable energy resources, including resources located on Cape Cod. In addition, NextEra deposits all premiums paid for voluntary RECs, plus their supplier and retail fees (expected to total over \$3 million per year), into a trust fund to be used solely for the development of new renewable energy resources. By purchasing electricity through the Compact, all Compact power supply customers are supporting renewable energy and acting locally to combat climate change.

As part of its power supply product, the Compact receives energy and RECs from a solar photovoltaic (PV) project, Farmington Solar, in Maine. The Compact entered into a long-term fixed price contract for energy and Class 1 RECS from just under 5 MW of this project as part of the Compact's commitment to renewable energy and price stability.

At a regional level, New England continues to face electricity pricing spikes during the winter months. Over the last fifteen years, New England has greatly increased its reliance on natural gas for electricity production; however, natural gas pipeline capacity has not substantially increased during that same period. This creates a supply shortage of natural gas for electricity production during winter cold snaps, and therefore increases prices for electric generators, which is passed on to all New England power supply customers. Until such time as this issue is resolved, either through additional natural gas or electric transmission infrastructure, demand reduction, or other targeted programs, the possibility of future high winter pricing remains, and as such, consumers should still expect seasonal pricing fluctuations for the foreseeable future.

This past winter (2022-2023) especially, consumers saw a significant increase in electricity prices. These increases in prices reflected the increase in New England-wide wholesale electricity market prices, which was largely driven by increased natural gas prices due to the war in Ukraine and a reduction of alternative sources of electricity generation (e.g., coal, nuclear). While prices did not dramatically spike this winter (2023-2024), they remain elevated when compared to past years and are unlikely to decline over the next few years. The Compact will continue to seek ways to help customers reduce their electricity costs through innovative energy efficiency programs to mitigate the impacts of higher winter electricity pricing.

As of December 2023, the Compact had approximately 4,583 electric accounts in the Town of Edgartown on its power supply.

CONSUMER ADVOCACY

Since 1997, Cape Light Compact has advocated for the ratepayers of Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard at the local and state level.

In CY23, the Compact focused on the following regulatory proceedings at the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU):

- **Grid modernization (DPU docket 21-80):**

- ◊ The Compact continued to participate in this docket with a focus on ensuring that customers on the Cape and Vineyard are able to benefit from Eversource's proposed grid modernization and advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) investments. The Compact's key concern is that municipal aggregations and their competitive suppliers be able to access the data available

through smart meters in order to design and offer time varying electric rates (TVR) to their customers.

- ◇ In CY23, the Compact participated in monthly AMI stakeholder sessions that were required as part of the DPU’s order in this docket regarding TVR and data access for competitive suppliers.

- **Cape Cod Capital Investment Project (DPU Docket 22-55):**

- ◇ The Compact participated in this docket advocating for the approval of Eversource’s Cape Cod Capital Investment Project (CIP). Cape Cod CIP seeks to resolve the significant barriers to interconnection faced by distributed energy resource facilities requesting to interconnect to the electric power system in the Cape Cod and Martha’s Vineyard area.

- **Municipal Aggregation Investigation (DPU Docket 23-67):**

- ◇ The Compact and several other Massachusetts cities and towns are participating in an investigation the DPU opened into Municipal Aggregation. Specifically, the DPU proposed a draft Guideline and Template Plan for Municipal Aggregations that the Compact views as being overly prescriptive. The Compact is advocating for recognition of municipal control and decision-making in the operation of aggregations.

- **Eversource Electric Sector Modernization Plan (DPU Docket 24-10)**

- ◇ In the fall of CY23, Eversource filed a draft plan with the Grid Modernization Advisory Council. The Compact submitted comments on the draft plan highlighting Cape specific issues. Eversource will be required to file its Electric Sector Modernization Plan with the DPU in early CY24. The Compact plans to participate in the adjudicatory process at the DPU when it begins.

In the fall of 2022, the Compact redesigned its Cape & Vineyard Electrification Offering (CVEO) to align with legislation that passed as part of the Massachusetts Climate Act in the summer of 2022. The Compact filed its redesigned CVEO with the DPU in November 2022 and received approval in January 2023. The Compact began implementing the program in June of 2023. The redesigned CVEO will serve 100 non-gas heated low- and moderate-income participants, installing cold climate heat pumps and solar PV. A limited number of customers will also receive battery storage.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Funding for the energy efficiency programs (i.e. energy assessments for homes and businesses, rebates on the purchase of energy efficient appliances and energy education in our schools) comes from the monthly customer “energy conservation” charge on each customers’ electric bill, which is multiplied by the number of kilowatt hours used during the month (\$0.03301 for residential customers and \$0.01589 for commercial and industrial customers).

Jan – Oct 2023	# of Participants	Customer Savings	kWh Saved	Rebates/ Incentives Paid to Customers
Low Income	8	\$0	0	\$139,604.14
Residential	431	\$4,439.80	22,199	\$676,944.93
Commercial	30	\$48,244.20	241,221	\$282,425.07
Total	469	\$52,684.00	504,641	\$1,098,974.14

Note: Please note that this data does not include activity that occurred in November and December 2023 due to the date of this publication. Please visit www.capelightcompact.org/reports for more information.

CLIMATE COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

We are pleased to present the 2023 annual report for the Edgartown Climate Committee, a committee which was created and appointed by the Select Board in January 2022.

The mission of the Edgartown Climate Committee is:

- to collect and record information through the lens of climate change;
- to educate our community with information to support the process of adaptation;
- to remain committed to being organic and ongoing in the pursuit of knowledge and action;
- to fortify our objectives by conveying the power of will as we urgently and tenaciously strive to protect our community in facing and resolving the harmful effects of climate change.

2023 Accomplishments

1. Zoning Bylaw updates to respond to climate change
 - ◆ Worked with Planning Board to submit funding warrant for April 2023 Town Meeting
 - ◆ Edgartown voters approved funds to develop zoning bylaw updates, including changes to assist in adaptation to climate change
 - ◆ Planning Board Created Zoning Bylaw Review Committee with 5 members
 - ◆ Climate Committee Chair Julia Livingston elected Chair of the Bylaw Review Committee
 - ◆ Boston Legal Expert hired to assist in current bylaw review and to recommend changes
 - ◆ Planning Board approved submission of 8 zoning bylaw changes for April 2024 Town Meeting warrant
2. Climate Committee participation in Edgartown Master Plan process and Harbor Management Plan
 - ◆ Climate Committee Chair Julia Livingston participates in Master Plan meetings. She advocated for a plan to protect Dock Street and the Dock Street parking lot from anticipated sea level rise and more intense and more frequent storms
 - ◆ Climate Committee Member Peter Kirn participates in Harbor Management Plan meetings. Peter advocated for including the electrification of the Chappy Ferry
3. Climate Change Action Flyer updated for 2023

and distributed

- ◆ Two Sided Flyer: Side one of the flyer lists climate change actions the Town of Edgartown has taken. Side two of the flyer lists climate change action recommendations for visitors/residents of Edgartown/MV
 - ◆ Distribution: Edgartown realtors for their rental packets and a pdf for their websites/to email clients. Flyers available at Edgartown Library, Church Street and Triangle Post Offices, the Edgartown School and the Town Hall. Town businesses provided with flyers to display
4. Work with fellow Island town Climate Committees to share and learn best practices
 - ◆ Participated in May 2023 Island Climate Action Fair at the Ag Hall. Every Island town Climate Committee hosted information tables, providing public outreach/education
 - ◆ Participated in July 2023 Island Town Climate Committee Workshop hosted by MVC Climate Change Coordinator Liz Durkee. Each town Climate Committee shared their key accomplishments and current initiatives. Edgartown's Climate Committee's educational flyer and ongoing meetings with Town Dept Chairs were initiatives which other town committees applauded and planned to replicate in their towns
 - ◆ Participate in monthly CAP Community Coordinating Committee meetings which bring together the Town Climate and Energy Committees to share ideas
 5. Alerted Town Department Chairs to "Climate Actions" in the Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC) Climate Action Plan (CAP) for the Island
 - ◆ Edg Climate Committee members met with Town Dept Chairs and Committee Chairs and discussed:
 - ◇ CAP Actions which list the department as an action partner
 - ◇ Any new climate change issues and new dept program updates relating to climate change
 - ◆ Department Meeting Key Findings relative to Climate Change:
 - ◇ Edgartown Wastewater Dept:
 - ◇ A Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan is nearing completion and has a goal of making the entire sewer system resilient to the 100 year flood level plus 3 feet.
 - ◇ Replaced 6 pumps with pumps that use substantially less electric power

- ◇ Currently 1300 homes on sewer and 5000 on septic, many could tie into existing sewer but haven't.
- ◇ Sewer removes nitrogen better than any septic, therefore sewer is better for pond and watershed health.
- ◇ Hope to extend sewer to Sengekontacket watershed in the next 5+ years

Highway Dept.:

- ◇ Repaired and improved stormwater drains and retention areas (key for increased storm intensity)
- ◇ Would like to turn suitable undeveloped land into stormwater retention sites that also serve as public open space.
- ◇ Would like to require wider setbacks and limit how much of a lot can be covered by impervious structures and surfaces.
- ◇ Request property owners to prune back hedges to ensure adequate safe sidewalk passage.
- ◇ Would like to add bicycle parking areas and rework bike routing to avoid trafficked Upper Main St. Recommend a town committee with responsibility for road and bike path signage

Shellfish Dept.:

- ◇ Increased storms negatively impact oyster farms and equipment: Norton Point Breach washed away Katama Bay shellfish beds.
- ◇ warmer water causing more bacteria impacting oyster industry.
- ◇ ocean acidification hinders clam shell calcification resulting in fewer steamer clams.
- ◇ importance of oysters/scallops which remove excess nitrogen from our waters

Historic District Commission:

- ◇ For buildings that are threatened by sea level rise, the Commission does not want to be presented with renovation plans to raise these buildings up above the expected new water levels and would rather see these buildings renovated so that storm surges can wash through the first floor without doing major damage. Building systems should be located on the upper levels of these buildings.

MV Refuse Disposal & Resource Recovery District:

- ◇ Recycling is sent to Zero Waste in Rochester MA which sorts co-mingled recycling. None of the district's recycling sent to Zero Waste is rejected
- ◇ MVRD notes that the \$35 town residents pay

for recycling their cans/bottles and paper is a small price to pay for helping to keep our beautiful island sustainable.

In closing, we wish to thank all the Town Department leaders who met with us this year to share their knowledge and input. We continue to meet with Town Department and Committee Chairs.

We look forward to keeping the lines of communication open with our Town Departments and with the other town climate committees so we can work together on adapting to climate change.

We thank the Select Board for appointing the Edgartown Climate Committee, and we remain committed to helping our community adapt and plan for the harmful effects of climate change.

Respectfully Submitted,
 JULIA LIVINGSTON, Chair
 KEVIN LOUGHLIN,
 Associate Chair
 JENNIFER BLUM
 JOSEY KIRKLAND
 PETER KIRN



Climate Change

Actions you can take:

- **REFUSE** items which will become trash; **REDUCE** what you use/ buy; **REUSE** what you can; **RECYCLE** what you can't reuse.
- Bring **reusable** shopping bags and recycle clean plastic bags at Stop & Shop.
- **Shop local** to support Island farms, local fisheries, and small businesses and to reduce your carbon footprint.
- Buy a shellfish license and **harvest** some shellfish.
- Carry a personal **water bottle** and go to vineyardconservation.org/tap-map to find FREE water bottle refill stations.
- **Compost** food scraps; don't put grease down the drain; and don't use a garbage disposal.
- **Use less water** to wash dishes, shower, shave, and brush your teeth.
- **Only** toilet tissue goes in the toilet; no wipes or personal products.
- **Don't idle** your vehicle, even for a short amount of time.
- **Dispose** of fishing gear, balloons, straws, and other plastics properly so they don't end up on beaches or harming ocean wildlife.
- Ride our **electric** public buses and bike or walk when possible.
- **Keep off** dunes and marsh grasses. They provide important habitat and protect the Island from storm surges.



MV COMMISSION

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

The Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC or Commission) is the Regional Planning Agency (RPA) for Dukes County, offering planning services to the seven towns in Dukes County (including Gosnold); and to the County itself. The Commission's enabling legislation also allows Island towns to adopt special regulations targeting Districts of Critical Planning Concern (DCPCs) and requires the Commission to review Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs) on the Vineyard.

The 17-member Commission includes nine members elected Island-wide biennially, and one appointed member each from the Dukes County Commission, each Island Select Board, and the Governor of Massachusetts. Commission officers in 2023 were Joan Malkin of Chilmark, Chair; Brian Smith of Oak Bluffs, Vice-Chair; and Ernie Thomas of West Tisbury, Clerk-Treasurer. The Commission is supported by a professional staff of fourteen, two of whom are vision fellows. More detail is provided below and is available on the Commission's website, www.mvcommission.org.

COMMISSION FOCUS 2023

Removal of Nitrogen from Island Ponds

The Commission continues to focus on the development of a robust pond monitoring program and participating in innovative technologies designed to address nitrogen contamination. In 2023, Commission staff completed the eighth year of extensive testing. Since 2016, multiple samplings have been conducted in 16 Island ponds. Water samples are used to measure nutrient and chlorophyll content, pond visibility, temperature, salinity, and other factors. The testing was conducted using the same locations and methods as those used in the Massachusetts Estuaries Project, which ensures comparable results. Comprehensive reports between 2016 and 2018 detail the results of the testing and evaluate the current trends for each pond. A similar report will be completed for the data obtained over the summer of 2023. A trends analysis report evaluating the changes observed over the prior period of study will also be completed for 2023. The MVC continues to update the website to make pond data and reports more accessible to the public.

The Commission was heavily involved in the development and testing of various alternative technologies. Two years of monthly monitoring and testing for efficacy of the permeable reactive barrier (PRB) along the coast of Lagoon Pond in Tisbury has

been completed. Results from the testing have shown almost complete removal of nitrogen through the barrier. Another site for a PRB in the Lagoon Pond system is being explored with hopes for implementation in 2024.

The MVC also funded and participated in the development and monitoring of innovative wastewater systems that have the potential to radically reduce the amount of nitrogen leeching into ponds from Title 5 septic systems. In order to demonstrate their effectiveness to State and Federal regulators, these systems require extensive and meticulous testing. The systems have functioned well and are expected to make large impacts in addressing the nitrogen degradation in Island ponds. MVC staff continues to assist with the testing of the pilot systems. Results have been promising and several of the installations were conditioned in MVC DRIs. Mass DEP has implemented amendments to the Title 5; these implementations are not currently required on Martha's Vineyard but will be put in place within the next several years. The MVC will work with Towns to meet these new proposed regulations.

Martha's Vineyard Statistical Profile

In December 2023, the MVC updated the Martha's Vineyard Statistical Profile, which includes hundreds of datasets and highlights trends in demographics, land use, the economy, health and education, housing and real estate, transportation, energy and the environment, and taxes and town services in Dukes County. This update covers several important developments since the previous version in 2019, including the Covid-19 pandemic, the 2020 Census, the 2022 Vineyard Climate Action Plan, and the 2024-2044 Regional Transportation Plan. A PDF version of the report is available on the MVC's website and print copies are available at the Town Halls, libraries and the MVC building.

MVC Quarterly

In June, the MVC released the first issue of the MVC Quarterly, a newsletter covering the MVC's planning activities. The MVC has periodically issued newsletters on various topics since 1974, including early publications on fisheries and water quality. MVC Quarterly revives this tradition with a focus on general planning. Each issue is posted on the MVC's website and distributed via email. To join the email list, please contact Alex Elvin elvin@mvcommission.org.

Finances

The Commission's FY2023 income was \$2,130,998 and expenses totaled \$2,448,126

comprised of the following components:

FISCAL YEAR 2023

Revenues

Town Assessments	\$1,365,389	64.07%
Grants and Contracts	\$615,356	28.88%
DRI Fees	\$30,074	1.41%
Other Income	\$120,179	5.64%
Total Revenues	\$2,130,998	100%

Expenses

Salaries	\$1,203,645	49.17%
Salary Related Costs	\$428,902	17.52%
Legal Fees	\$209,534	8.56%
Other Expenses	\$563,234	23.00%
Mortgage Interest payments for two MVC owned properties	\$42,811	1.75%
Total Expenses	\$2,448,126	100%

The annual audit by Anstiss Certified Public Accountants showed fiscal soundness. The FY2024 budget and FY2022 audited financial statements are available on the website.

MVC Biochar Vision Fellowship 2023

Demonstrated how to use a flame cap kiln at IGI using brush from John Keene Excavation. The biochar produced went to the IGI fruit tree orchard.

In October, hosted a team of scientists to collect data at John Keene Excavation on flame cap kiln emissions and efficiency, to quantify the amount of carbon sequestered and the emissions produced by this technology. The data will be presented in a formal report and inform an instruction manual of best practices tailored to island climate and feedstock. The approximately 1.5 tons of biochar created will be “charged” over winter by nutrients from composting, urine, manure, and animal bedding, in preparation for spring plantings. The charred logs were used in a “Chargulkultur” berm to help capture run off from the IGI compost facility.

Presented to the public at the MV Agricultural Society Harvest Festival and a potluck in the Ag. Hall.

Presented to the Water Alliance and Mill Brook Watershed Committee about how biochar can help restore pond ecosystems by capturing nutrient-rich run off.

Sourced feedstock for winter kiln demonstrations, diverting woody debris from the waste stream with help from island partners: invasive plant material from Biodiversity Works, scrap wood from South Mountain Company, tree prunings from Hagerty Tree and brush from the Oak Bluffs Transfer Station. (Kiln demonstrations were postponed due to rain and high winds.)

Sourced free materials to build a brick kiln at Native Earth Teaching Farm.

ALL-ISLAND EFFORTS

Affordable Housing

Launch of the MVC Housing Action Task Force: The MVC coordinated bi-monthly workshops bringing Island governmental officials, boards, committees and agencies together with regional and State resources and our legislative delegation for the pursuit of comprehensive Island housing solutions. Meetings were either hybrid or virtual and were widely publicized and open to the public. All meetings were recorded and posted to the MVC YouTube channel and housing playlist. Some of the topics included:

- **The State of Housing Workshop** provided easy-to-access data baseline, outlined depth and scale of the housing crisis, and began to set actionable goals for the community.
- **Provincetown’s All of the Above Housing Strategy:** Hybrid workshop with Provincetown’s Town Manager Alex Morse and Select Board member Leslie Sandberg on Provincetown’s two-year multi-pronged approach to scaling up year-round housing inventory and related programs at all income levels.
- **Zoning for Year-Round and Affordable Housing:** Virtual workshop with Christine Madore of Mass Housing Partnership.
- **Incentivizing Year-Round Rentals:** Virtual workshop with Kai Frolich of Placemate.com
- **Complete Neighborhoods Initiative:** An in-depth presentation on Mass Housing Partnership’s regional grant program for housing solutions through a climate-forward lens geared for Town governments.
- **Joint Affordable Housing Group (JAHG):** The MVC has restructured and relaunched the JAHG as a think tank/planning platform for the Town’s affordable housing committees and trusts and Island housing groups to share resources and progress.
- **Fractional Ownership/Interval Use/Timeshare (FOITs) Ordinances:** The MVC supported the Towns and regional partners with research and resources on emerging investment platforms targeting residential housing stock in resort communities. In Spring 2023, Tisbury passed the first FOITs bylaw in the Commonwealth. Edgartown and Chilmark and at

work on bylaws expected at the next Annual Town Meeting.

- **Municipal Employee Workforce Housing Initiative:** At the request of all six towns, MVC staff has initiated a partnership with Nantucket's Housing Director, regional legislators, and the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities to forge a new legal pathway for the use of public funds for municipal employee workforce housing, including preferences in state-funded projects for town hall, emergency services, and school district staff.
- **Affordable Housing Inventory Analysis:** The MVC has begun to work with all six towns to create an inventory of all deed-restricted housing across the Island at all income levels, and to update the Towns' subsidized housing inventories.
- **Housing to Protect Cape Cod:** MVC staff established a strong Island presence, in partnership with Nantucket, in this regional policy development coalition. The group is working with the Governor's office and regional legislative delegation to elevate regional housing policy priorities.
- **Grants:** The MVC secured a grant for a consultant to support the update of the 2014 Affordable and Community Housing Zoning Analysis and filed a joint grant application on behalf of all six towns for Mass Housing Partnership's Complete Neighborhoods Initiative.
- **Community Outreach and Education Efforts:** The MVC's housing planner attends community meetings as an invited speaker to educate community groups and the public about the Island housing crisis and potential courses of action to address it.

Climate Change Planning

Climate Action Task Force: MVC staff has provided support to the political working group and convened a series of meetings with Senator Markey's office. The MVC hosted separate meetings with Tisbury and Oak Bluffs partners, along with Senator Markey, to coordinate formal Water Resources Development Act authorization requests through the US Army Corps. MVC staff also facilitated several sessions for high school students to participate in a Day of Dialogue focused on climate issues and their intersection with local, State and Federal policies.

Climate Action Plan (CAP) Implementation
www.thevineyardway.org

The MVC works with towns, the Commonwealth, and Federal agencies on planning coastal areas, ocean conservation and development, and mitigating natural hazards. Coastal planning in 2019 focused on hazard mitigation and especially climate change adaptation. There is very little doubt that climate change has begun

to produce significant effects on the Vineyard, and that it is accelerating. However, there are many ways that the impacts can be mitigated. Adaptation to sea-level rise, in particular, involves a choice of retreat, abandonment, or elevation of buildings and infrastructure—all necessary and costly options. There are difficult choices ahead for Island leaders, homeowners, and business owners. As planning professionals, it is the responsibility of MVC staff to provide material for thoughtful solutions and to encourage responsible and clear-headed decision making.

Ecosystem Resilience Grant: The MVC was awarded an MA Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program grant to address ecosystem resilience. This collaborative project includes updating the Island's vegetation maps, eelgrass delineation maps to identify potential aquaculture sites, a campaign aimed at promoting resilient landscaping, and planning for the 2024 Climate Action Fair.

The Climate Action Plan Community Coordinating Committee meets on the second Friday of the month with representatives from the Town Climate Committees to coordinate climate change actions.

Climate Action Fair 2023: Held on May 7, 2023 at the Ag Hall, the Climate Action Fair had a general focus on waste management, and was a huge success. There were workshops on mending clothes, composting, and there were onsite energy consultants, raffles and giveaways, food and dancing.

WMVY Series: In the spring of 2023 WMVY Radio held a series of zoom panel discussions called Walking Through the Vineyard Climate Action Plan. The discussions can be viewed on WMVY's website, Community Outreach page. The topics include: Managed Retreat from the Coast, Consumption and Waste, Public Health, Climate Change and the Local Economy, and Renewable Energy. A special thank you to the former WMVY community outreach director Laurel Reddington for organizing and moderating the series.

New MV Times Climate Connections Column: Launched in June 2023, a new monthly MV Times column called Climate Connections looks at what is being done on the Island to address climate change and highlight what everyone can do to help make a positive difference. The column is written by retired educator Doris Ward, with Liz Durkee providing guidance and background.

Energy Planning

In 2022, the Martha's Vineyard Vision Fellowship awarded a two-year fellowship to the MVC for an Energy Planner. Kate Warner was chosen to develop this new role. The Energy Planner's job is focused on the regional level on the Island's transition away from

fossil fuel use and towards 100% electricity from renewable sources to address the climate crisis and increase our Island's energy resilience. The Energy Planner works to influence major Island players, such as Eversource and the Steamship Authority, and support resilience projects to encourage the necessary transition.

Eversource: Quarterly meetings with Eversource, with representation from each of the Towns, the County, the MVC and Vineyard Power, have focused on strategies to increase and modernize our electrical infrastructure as demand for electricity rises. Additionally, to increase our energy resilience, discussion has included how to work with Eversource to interconnect microgrid - with solar and batteries - for Town and Island critical facilities that would allow them to continue to operate during times of power failure. Eversource will be installing one new cable and one replacement cable by 2025 which will provide adequate power for our summer peak demand and our projected power needs at least through 2050. The new cables will also allow for the end of the use of five diesel generators and the Tisbury temporary generators.

Steamship Authority: The Energy Planner held an event in March called "Ferries Now" to raise awareness about the transition of ferries away from fossil-fuel propulsion. Speakers from Denmark, Maine and Washington State spoke about their electrification plans. The goal was to support the Steamship in moving towards electrification. The Steamship is beginning to address how they will meet the State's mandated climate goals for 2050 using alternative propulsion methods. Emissions reductions will also provide health benefits to residents of the port towns, in particular. Letters of support to the Steamship to encourage this work would be appreciated.

Energy Resilience: A technical assistance grant from the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL)/US Department of Energy called the Energy Transition Initiative Partnership Project (ETIPP) has been obtained to look at strengthening the resilience of the down-island water departments in times of prolonged power failure. Having adequate water- for the public and for wildfire prevention- and energy supply continue to be a challenge in other places after major weather events.

Getting to Net Zero: The Energy Planner has developed a Getting to Net Zero document to provide information about our island's energy use and address the non-binding resolution passed at each town meeting with a goal of 100% electric from renewable sources by 2040 and the State's mandated decarbonization goals by 2050. This report is available on the MVC website and in other public places.

GIS (Geographic Information System) Department

The MVC's mapping department continued to support primarily regional projects in 2023. Projects

were either lead by the MVC or Town Departments working with their respective cohorts across the Island.

What we do: The MVC's mapping department provides the following to all Town Departments, Boards, and Committees within Dukes County.

- We make maps. Either delivered as static JPEG or PDF images or as interactive online maps.
- We create digital spatial data, deliver data, and disseminate data.
- Spatial data is compiled through either GPS or extracted from authoritative basemaps and subsequent GIS analysis.
- Deliver spatial/GIS data to Town's hired consultants via our ArcGIS OnLine data hub and direct delivery for custom requests.
- Dissemination of our GIS spatial data is done through our Gateway. The links on the Gateway lead one directly to the GIS data for download but also to our Online Gallery of interactive dashboards and story maps that engage and inform.
- Curated Gallery of online interactive maps created by other organizations that provide useful information to Town employees and residents on a wide range of topics.
- We provide GIS software technical support and guidance/mentorship to all the entities who participate in our Regional GIS software contract with ESRI.

How to get mapping assistance: Any Town Department, Board, or Committee may contact the MVC's mapping department at any time. For most projects, our work is considered pre-paid through the Town's annual assessment to the MVC. Email Chris Seidel (she/her): seidel@mvcommission.org

Mapping Contribution to Regional Projects, Grant Applications, Reports & Miscellaneous Town Request:

Vegetation Delineation, Potential Aquaculture Sites, and Wildlife Corridors - MVP Grant FY24 "Eco-Resilience" There are several projects within this grant that the MVC's GIS Department is involved in. First, vegetation mapping/delineation. The MVC GIS staff spent the first half of 2023 garnering project support & input from local conservation groups and MassWildlife/Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program (NHESP) and key research groups like Harvard Forest and Woodwell Climate Research Center to identify the project's scope and approach. The second half of 2023 included hiring the consultant and providing baseline datasets to, Thomson Environmental Consultants to map the Vineyard's vegetation habitats per the NHESP Natural Communities classification scheme. Vegetation on MV was last mapped in circa 2000 by The Nature Conservancy and UMass Amherst.

This update of vegetation communities is critical to habitat management and climate change/resiliency planning. A draft dataset is anticipated by the end of 2023 and the final version in the Spring of 2024.

The second project within this grant is Potential Aquaculture Siting within Tashmoo, Lagoon, and Sengekontacket Ponds. The GIS department has created a series of datasets which detail areas where aquaculture is excluded. Eelgrass surveys will be conducted outside the exclusion areas to further pinpoint where future aquaculture could be sited.

The third project within the MVP Grant is to map wildlife corridors. This is a collaboration of the MVC with BiodiversityWorks. Knowing the location of the critical wildlife corridors will inform the final delineation of Ecosystem Resilience Prioritization Areas, which will be done in collaboration with all the local conservation groups. The MVC and BiodiversityWorks have met several times this fall to discuss the methods for mapping the wildlife corridors.

All work within the MVP24 Eco-Resilience grant supports the implementation of the Climate Action Plan of 2022.

Fire Hydrants: Continuing to support the fire departments of Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, Tisbury, & West Tisbury with their First Due planning & responding software, the MVC GIS Department digitized the hydrant locations for Edgartown and Tisbury. For both towns, the hydrant locations existed on paper maps but not as digital GIS data. These data have now been created and submitted to the FirstDue company for inclusion in the Town's FirstDue software program. Per the Edgartown Fire Department's request, the MVC created an online interactive map showing the hydrants and parcel boundaries. This map is not shared with the public, per the Edgartown Water Department's request, and so no URL link to the map is provided here.

Storm Tide Pathways: The MVC GIS staff continue to educate and promote the Storm Tide Pathways data and its applicability to impending storm preparation and future sea level rise impacts. See this document for links to Storm Tide Pathways resources and a town-wide map for each Island town showing the potential inundation based on the National Weather Service Flood Stage Categories.

Statistical Profile Maps: Every so many years the MVC updates the County-wide Statistical Profile report and 2023 was one of those years. This a great go-to resource for baseline info covering many fronts – transportation, census, economy, etc. The MVC GIS staff created several maps for the statistical profile. Check them out!

Miscellaneous: Supporting the MVC GIS

Department's motto of "New Day – New Map" there are a multitude of requests for maps from MVC staff and Town employees throughout the year. Here are some notables from 2023:

- Community Neighborhoods Initiative
- Regional Transportation Plan - Percent Racial Minority Block Group 2020
- Zoning Maps requested by Town Boards
- State of Housing on MV Presentation
- West Tisbury Visionary Map requested by Town Planning Board. Includes:
- Building Ownership by Seasonal or Year-Round resident
- Building Use - Residential or Other
- Affordable Housing Sites - Complete inventory as of 2019

Ongoing Data Updates: The MVC continually maintains a trails and open space/conservation land database for Dukes County with input from the Island Conservation Partnership. This data changes frequently as new properties are acquired into conservation and new trails are constructed. These data are shared with the public in our ArcGIS OnLine cloud space (open space, trails). From that portal, the data are pushed into the Sheriff's Meadow Foundation's TrailsMV App as well as the Martha's Vineyard Land Bank's online map. These resources allow the public to appreciate this work and the beauty of the Island. Maintaining these datasets also benefits the Towns for completion of their Open Space Plans (required by the State) and planning of special ways, scenic ways, and expansion of the Island's Shared Use Paths and signed bike routes.

In collaboration with the Dukes County Registry of Deeds, the MVC's mapping department maintains an online interactive data dashboard with the monthly real estate sales that have occurred in Dukes County. The registry supplies the MVC with the monthly sales spreadsheet. Visit the dashboard.

Transportation Planning

The MVC performs transportation planning for the Vineyard, in association with the Towns, VTA, Martha's Vineyard Airport, the Steamship Authority, MassDOT, and the public.

Support of the 3C Process: The MVC facilitates meetings of the JTC, made up of appointees from each Town, the Tribe, and the County; along with ex-officio members from the VTA, MVC staff, Federal Highway and Transit administrations, Steamship Authority, Martha's Vineyard Airport and MassDOT, to coordinate Island transportation planning. MVC staff also participates in weekly Land Use Planning Committee Meetings (LUPC), weekly Commission

public hearings (MVC), staff applicant meetings for Developments of Regional Impact (DRI), municipal Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Zoning Board, and Conservation Commission meetings.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP): The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) describes and provides budgetary information for the transportation planning tasks and activities, which are to be conducted in the region during the coming year. The Unified Planning Work Program is a federally required certification document, which must be prepared and endorsed annually by the Martha's Vineyard MPO, prior to the start of the planning program. The Martha's Vineyard Commission has the responsibility of preparing the Unified Planning Work Program. The planning activities are organized first by work element in a format that will allow efficient administration, management, and reporting. The transportation planning activities are described as a procedure under specific work tasks. For each procedure, the anticipated accomplishment or product and the estimated manpower resources needed are also given. For each work task the total staffing requirements, task budget, and sources of funding are given. MassDOT contracts for planning in the region and provided approximately \$373,966 to the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023 MVC budget for transportation planning and related services, such as mapping, DRI project reviews, Regional Traffic Counting, Bicycle and Pedestrian activities, and an update to the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). In addition to these activities, the MVC provides support to the municipalities with local planning technical assistance.

Martha's Vineyard Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): The TIP is produced annually on Martha's Vineyard through the JTC and includes Federal-aid projects to implement within the constraints of available Federal and State funds. In Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023, \$930,352 in Federal funds were obligated for Martha's Vineyard. 2023 TIP projects included the following:

Steamship Authority Amendment: Two new vehicle transfer bridges and gallows - #S12843

VTA Amendment: Re-allocation of state monies to cover the costs for operating assistance, facility and system modernization, facility and vehicle maintenance, fleet upgrades, vehicle replacement, and technical assistance.

Tisbury Drainage Improvements #609459: Advanced to 25% design stage.

Martha's Vineyard Regional Transportation Plan 2024-2044: The MVC Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) adopted its Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for 2024-2044, setting the stage for more targeted transportation planning in the years ahead. The

RTP is updated every four years and includes detailed analysis of the transportation network, specific objectives and actions related to each transportation mode (ferry, bike, automobile, etc.) and proposed funding allocations over the next 20 years. Some highlights include discussion of the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, and expanded sections on the environment, demographics, and the Steamship Authority. A PDF version of the plan is available on the MVC's website, and a limited number of paper copies are available at the MVC building.

Title VI and Environmental Justice: Staff completed the 2023 Title VI report as well as the 2023 Title VI update. The MVC continues to work with the Communication Ambassador Partnership (CAP) for its translation services.

Public Participation: Long-Range Transportation Plan Update, Edge Lane Road Community Forums, Tisbury Master Plan, Climate Action Plan "The Vineyard Way", TIP Amendments, release of the UPWP, and permanent traffic counter locations are all activities that included heavy public participation. Online surveys were distributed. Articles and flyers in the newspaper, social media postings were all methods of getting information to include public participation.

Permanent Traffic Counters: The MVC coordinated siting with MassDOT, its designer, along with the manufacturer for the Island's first automated permanent bicycle/pedestrian counter along the newly installed Oak Bluffs shared use path along Eastville Ave.

Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC): The MVC staffs the BPAC, an advisory committee to the JTC and the wider community on bicycling and pedestrian matters. The BPAC interacted with town boards from Aquinnah, Chilmark, Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, Tisbury, and West Tisbury in identifying common initiatives. BPAC is focusing on updating information for inclusion on maps and websites concerning getting around by bicycle. The group is also focusing on connecting the missing links and pavement conditions throughout the entire SUP network. Staff assisted municipalities through the vulnerable road user sign process.

For the second year, the BPAC ran a full-page public service announcement of SMART tips for bicyclists. This year, with the Dukes County support of specialty license plate revenues, the PSA was published in the Vineyard Visitor Guide from spring through the fall.

The BPAC filmed a PSA illustrating the new Massachusetts law stipulating a 4-foot distance between motorists and cyclists or pedestrians. The PSA was shared across Facebook pages and other digital platforms.

Given the frenetic evolution of e-bikes and other personal e-devices, BPAC and town police chiefs agreed to focus on getting operators to not exceed 20 mph when on Share Use Paths (a.k.a. Bike Paths), with emphasis on moderating speeds for traffic conditions.

BPAC suggested to the Town of Oak Bluffs signs at the roundabout to guide bicyclists headed downtown to use the County Road SUP. The Town supported the idea and asked BPAC to seek input and support from the other towns to develop a consistent design for such bike signs.

Up-Island Shared-Use Path Feasibility: Along with BPAC representation, MVC staff has met with the West Tisbury Complete Streets Committee and Chilmark Planning Board to present findings from an assessment of North Road hazard areas, for instance where multiple user types are sharing the Right of Way. Conceptual recommendations have been identified as well. This is an ongoing project.

Trails Planning: The Martha's Vineyard Land Bank continues to contract with the MVC to assist with trail planning across the Vineyard. A decade-long project assembling easements from multiple landowners and coordinating with three town boards culminated in the creation of a new trail linking the Edgartown School and recreation center to Clevelandtown Road. Agreements with the Tisbury and Oak Bluffs selectboards were created or expanded for the land bank to manage trails over specific ancient ways on behalf of the towns. Staff also work closely with open space committees on establishing new networks and connections.

Transportation Managers Group (TMG): The MVC is a member of the Transportation Managers Group (TMG). As with the Massachusetts Association of Regional Planning Agencies (MARPA), the 13 regional planning agencies across the State that form the TMG are advisory bodies to member communities, private business groups, and State and Federal governments. The MVC Transportation Program Manager meets monthly with other members of TMG, along with senior Commonwealth officials, to discuss legislation and funding programs related to transportation, and to collaborate on many fronts.

Island Transportation Engineer: The MVC offered all Towns the opportunity to opt into the Island Transportation Engineering resource, managed by MVC staff. Oak Bluffs, West Tisbury and Aquinnah advanced projects during 2023. With input from the Towns, the MVC has structured a cost-sharing agreement where towns could secure these engineering services once again in FY2025.

Data Collection/Permanent Traffic Counters: The MVC analyzed and presented data on the island's six permanent traffic counting stations. Data on traffic

volumes, speeds, and vehicle classes can be found on the MS2 portal on the MVC website. The MVC conducted a total of 107 automated traffic recorder counts in 2023. A total of 80 counts were conducted along Island roadways, 27 counts were conducted along the shared-use paths. Staff also conducted 7 turning movement counts by hand. The MVC also assisted the Town of Edgartown in counting volumes on the Dike Bridge from July-October. Staff began data collection efforts along the Edgartown-West Tisbury Road Corridor for a future corridor study.

Geographic Information Systems: Staff continued to create maps for trails, soil types, bike path data, development of historic trends and future predictions, modeling location and quantity of potential development, environmental justice map, maps for climate action plan and long-range regional transportation plan, road maps for the statistical profile, special ways maps, and hazard impact maps. Local Technical Assistance: The MVC continued to work with different stakeholders to create a short- and long-term concept plan for the Aquinnah Circle that would improve bicycle and pedestrian circulation and improve vehicular use of the existing paved areas - both parking and departing. MVC is working with the Town's Highway Superintendent, Town Administrator, and Planning Board on a scope of work that focuses on traffic and bicycle and pedestrian improvements along the Edgartown-West Tisbury Road corridor, specifically the intersection of Barnes Road and Edgartown- West Tisbury Road and Airport Road and Edgartown-West Tisbury Road. Staff are currently evaluating the crash history as well as existing conditions to set up future meetings with all stakeholders. Staff are working with Oak Bluffs roads and byways committee identifying safety deficiencies in and around the network of crosswalks throughout the Seaview Avenue area. Staff are working with Chilmark on evaluating removable speed bumps on Basin Road.

Project Reviews/Developments of Regional Impact: The Transportation Program Manager provided traffic impact analysis and local technical assistance for the following project reviews/DRIs: Scrubby Neck Road, West Chop Club, Big Sky Tents, Outermost Inn, Old Stone Bank, Tisbury Marine Terminal, Southern Tier, Refuse District, Kuehn's Way, Four Sisters Inn, Airport Hanger Lot, Meshacket Commons, Safe Harbor, Navigator Homes, North Bluff roundabout, The Yard, Stillpoint Meadows, YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Edgartown Gardens, Black Dog, Sea Bags, Beecher Park, Arlington Avenue, Lagoon Pond Road, Surke Meadow, Crackatuxet Cove, Northern Pines, Dukes County Avenue, Island Food Pantry, Island Grown Initiative, Nina's dine and dash, MVRHS Athletic Fields, Bangs Subdivision, 3 Uncas Avenue, Caleb Prouty House, and Red Arrow Road.

The program manager also works with the applicant's consultants throughout the DRI process. For some projects the DRI process can last over a year.

Inter-Regional Transportation Activities: Staff continued to work with groups such as Healthy Aging MV to address elderly transportation concerns. Staff assisted a fellow who is on island conducting bio-char presentations. The MVC is coordinating with Nantucket and FRCOG on a Safe Streets 4 All grant that was just awarded.

Water Quality Resources

The Commission continued its scientific and community work helping to protect the Vineyard's water quality, especially our threatened coastal ponds.

Massachusetts Estuaries Project (MEP): For more than a decade, the MVC provided extensive water-quality testing and land-use data analysis as a basis for the Commonwealth's Mass Estuaries Project, which prepares detailed models of water quality problems in coastal ponds and helps identify the most cost-effective solutions. In 2023, samples were taken for analysis four times in each system over the summer season, and where applicable, this included a sample prior and after the opening of the ponds. MVC staff worked with the Friends of Sengekontacket, Tisbury Waterways, the Lagoon Pond Association, and the Towns of Oak Bluffs and Tisbury Wastewater Committees to devise plans to address excess nitrogen, and assist with Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plans (CWMPs).

208 Equivalency Planning for the Up-Island Towns: The MVC received a grant from the DEP to develop a 208-management plan for the towns of West Tisbury, Chilmark and Aquinnah. The up-island towns are more rural in nature and face different water resource protection planning challenges that the down-island towns, each of which have their own wastewater collection and treatment facilities. The MVC has compiled available data and created a summary of pond conditions. A list of traditional and non-traditional nitrogen management options were created, and these methods will be considered for use in evaluating a management plan. The MVC is working with Pond working groups, Boards of Health and Conservation Commissions to develop the best plan for each Town and Pond.

Water Testing: In 2023, MVC staff again collected water samples from Farm, Sengekontacket, Lagoon, Tashmoo, Edgartown Great, Chilmark, Katama, Cape Pogue, Pocha, Tisbury Great, James, Menemsha, and Squibnocket ponds, and the Oak Bluffs Harbor, for analysis at the UMass Dartmouth School of Marine Science and Technology (SMAST). Results will be compared with data used for the MEP, to determine the status of the coastal ponds. Staff also collaborated with the Buzzards Bay Coalition and the Wampanoag

Natural Resources Department for the sampling of Vineyard Sound-facing waterbodies.

Water Alliance and Associations: The Water Alliance continues to meet over zoom. The MVC Water Resource Planner is an active participant in the Martha's Vineyard Water Alliance, which meets monthly in the MVC building. Staff also attend and present at meetings of all Island pond advisory committees, and in 2019 staff presented their findings at pond association annual meetings.

Groundwater monitoring: In conjunction with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) the Water Resource Planner takes monthly groundwater measurements and maintains a database of groundwater elevation at nine well sites around the Island.

SNEP (Southeast New England Program) Grant: The MVC received a \$250,000 grant for an innovative project to reduce groundwater pollution into Lagoon Pond, through the installation and testing of a Permeable Reactive Barrier (PRB). Two years of testing and monitoring the PRB installation was completed in 2023. Preliminary results are excellent.

Marine Invader Monitoring & Information Collaborative (MIMIC): MVC staff monitors and collaborates with MIMIC, which is coordinated by the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management, and is a network of trained volunteers, scientists, and state and federal workers who monitor marine invasive species. The collaborative provides an opportunity for the public to actively participate in an invasive species early detection network, identify new invaders before they spread out of control, and help improve our understanding of the behavior of established invaders.

Inter-Regional Collaboration

Massachusetts Association of Regional Planning Agencies (MARPA): The Commission is one of thirteen regional planning agencies across the Commonwealth that are advisory bodies to local municipalities, private business groups, and state and federal governments. MARPA meets monthly to discuss legislation, programs, and funding with senior Commonwealth officials and other interest groups.

Citizen Planning Education and Training: The MVC hosted courses and information sessions on topics of interest to town officials, the business community, and members of the public. Each year the Commission offers Citizen Planner Training Collaborative (CPTC) workshops at no cost to attendees. These sessions aid planning and zoning board members in fulfilling their duties. The Zoning with Overlay Districts workshop originally set for November was rescheduled to early January 2024.

Translation Services: Considering the growing number of Dukes County residents with limited English

proficiency, the MVC has begun exploring options for increased translation services related to its planning and regulatory activities. This may include automated translated captions for hybrid and zoom meetings, and various outreach methods for the non-English speaking community. According to the American Community Survey, about 6.4% of Dukes County residents aged five years and over speak English “less than very well,” which has almost doubled since 2016. The figure for residents aged 18 years and over is about 2.8%. At the same time, school enrollment data shows that 30% of Island students do not speak English as a first language.

Governor’s Rural Policy Advisory Commission (RPAC): The MVC is one of nine regional planning agencies represented on a 15-member Governor’s Commission within the Executive Office of Economic Development. RPAC is charged with making recommendations to enhance the economic vitality of the Commonwealth’s rural communities and advance the well-being of residents. Much of its focus is on the limited local capacity of smaller communities to meet mandated standards or to apply for or manage existing assistance programs. 2023 saw the state’s creation and appointment of a Director of Rural Affairs to sustain focus on rural issues at the State level – the top priority of RPAC since it was established in 2016.

Transportation Safety Action Plan: The Martha’s Vineyard, Nantucket, and Franklin County regional planning agencies were awarded a Federal Highway Administration grant of \$575,000 to create Comprehensive Safety Action Plans for each region. This project is an opportunity for the geographically distinct communities to work collaboratively to discuss and develop solutions to rural roadway safety issues. A consultant has been engaged to assist with the development of the plans. Outreach to towns and the public will begin by Spring 2024 and plans completed by mid-2025.

Commonwealth Socio-economic Projections: MVC staff joined other regional planning agencies in reviewing and commenting on Mass Department of Transportation’s completion of a multi-year effort to update population, employment, and housing forecasts for use in long-range transportation planning. As these projections are required to be for typical (Spring and Fall) periods, at the request of the Cape and Islands and the Berkshires RPAs, a separate task had the UMass Donahue Institute examine various ways to quantify seasonal populations. After sampling methods locally and from across the nation, it recommended a framework for conducting population estimates and projections in seasonal regions.

REGULATORY ACTIVITIES

Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs): In

2023, 45 projects were reviewed in some manner by the MVC through the DRI process. 16 projects were referred as full DRIs and reviewed with public hearings; of those, seven were approved with conditions, two are on hold at the request of the applicants, and seven remain under review at the end of the year. 11 projects were referred as Concurrence Reviews; of those, eight were remanded back to their Towns without a DRI public hearing, one was determined by MVC staff to be a premature referral and the project will come back to the MVC when it is ready, two were reviewed as full DRIs with public hearings at the request of the applicants, and of those, one was approved with conditions and the other remains under review at the end of the year. 12 projects were referred as Modifications to previously approved DRIs; of those, three were determined to be minor modifications not requiring a public hearing and were remanded back to their respective Towns for approval, one was partially approved and partially denied, one was granted an extension, five modifications were reviewed as full DRIs with public hearings at the request of the applicants, and three remain under review at the end of the year. Five projects were reviewed by the Land Use Planning Committee (LUPC) for post-approval plans such as landscape and lighting plans. A total of 11 projects remain under review at the end of the year.

In January 2023, the MVC welcomed Rich Saltzberg as the new DRI Coordinator replacing Alex Elvin who has since become the MVC’s Research & Communications Manager.

DRI Checklist Review: In 2023, the MVC formed a committee to review the DRI Checklist for its biennial review of the DRI Checklist.

New Policies for DRI Review: The MVC is currently working on two new policies to assist Commissioners in the review of DRIs. A new Flood Risk Policy for projects within flood risk areas is intended to prevent or minimize environmental, health, and property damage resulting from climate change impacts. The MVC is also working on a new Materials Policy to address the environmental and human health impacts of construction materials. Public input on these new policies will be gathered in the new year.

Districts of Critical Planning Concern

The Commission designates DCPCs to afford additional protection to sensitive areas, in support of special town regulations. In 2023, MVC staff provided responses to many queries from Town boards, attorneys, and property owners. In an otherwise quiet year for DCPCs, MVC staff assisted with the smooth functioning of the Districts in many ways.

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES FOR EDGARTOWN

Geographic Information Systems: The MVC

mapping office prepared 56 maps for the Harbor Plan!

Climate Change

Edgartown Harbor Plan: MVC staff serves as the Edgartown Harbor Planning Representative to the Massachusetts Secretariat of Energy and Environmental Affairs. This year, MVC staff assisted in the development of the updated plan.

Felix Neck Saltmarsh Elevation Monitoring: MVC staff took measurements at an elevation monitoring station in the Felix Neck saltmarsh. This area of study will help plan for sea level rise impacts to Edgartown's marshes. Enough measurements have been made for a preliminary observation that the marsh is keeping up with sea level rise.

Sengekontacket Salt Marsh Migration Study: The MVC is wrapping up a study to map marsh migration and identify structures and septic systems in the migration path for future land use planning.

Transportation

Data Collection: The MVC conducted Automated Traffic Recorder (ATR) counts at roughly 37 locations along Town roadways, Chappaquiddick, and 14 locations on the Town Shared-Use Paths. The current 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) includes continued data collection efforts throughout the municipality.

Local Technical Assistance: From July to November, staff assisted the Town in monitoring the number of vehicles that were traveling over the Dike Bridge on Chappaquiddick. Staff continued to work with DCR and MassDOT District 5 in identifying and advancing plans for another phase of improvements to the State Forest Shared Use Path. The project has currently been approved by the MassDOT Project Review Committee. MVC is working with the Town's Highway Superintendent, Town Administrator, and Planning Board on a scope of work that focuses on traffic and bicycle and pedestrian improvements along the Edgartown-West Tisbury Road corridor, specifically the intersection of Barnes Road and Edgartown-West Tisbury Road and Airport Road and Edgartown-West Tisbury Road. Staff is currently evaluating crash history as well as existing conditions to set up future meetings with all stakeholders. Evaluation for a future scheduling of Road Safety Audit (RSA) along Upper and Middle Main Streets.

Trails Planning: The Martha's Vineyard Land Bank continues to contract with the MVC to assist with trail planning across the Vineyard. A decade-long project assembling easements from multiple landowners and coordinating with three Town boards culminated in the creation of a new trail linking the Edgartown School and recreation center to

Clevelandtown Road.

Water Quality

The Commission continued its scientific and community work helping to protect Edgartown's water quality, especially the threatened coastal ponds.

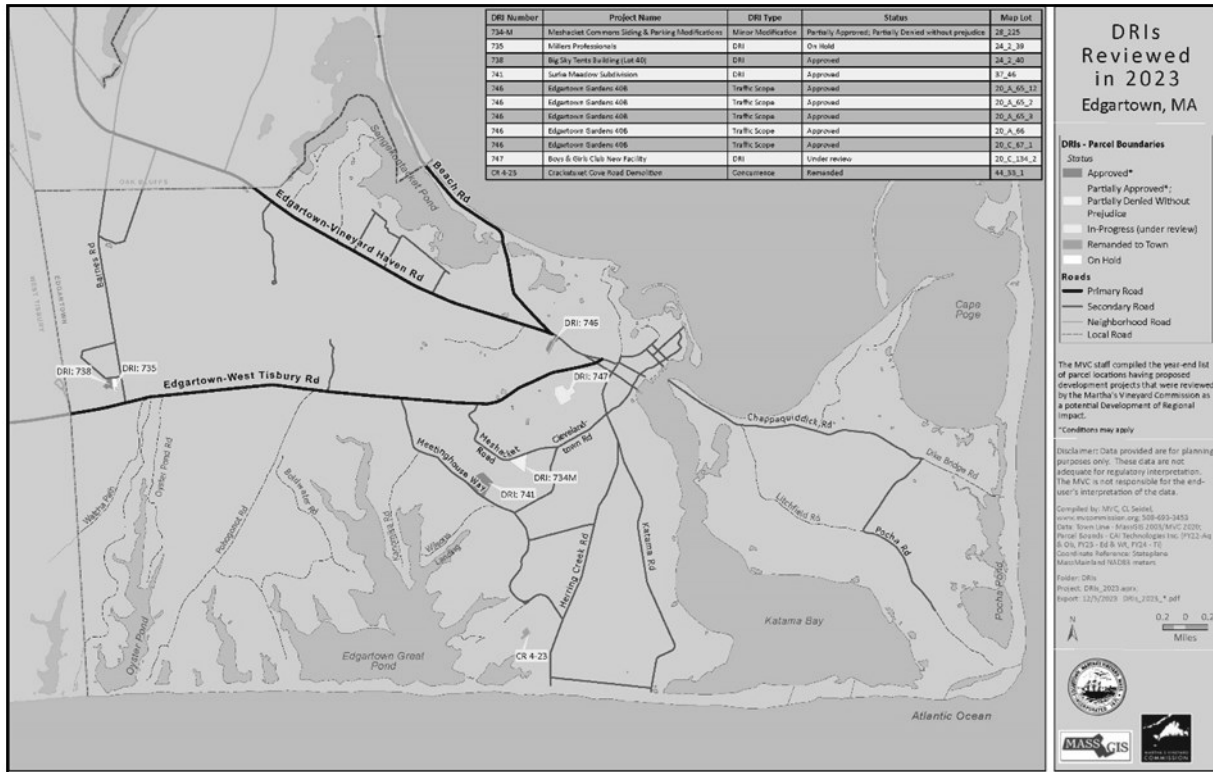
Water Sampling: In cooperation with the Edgartown Shellfish Warden, water quality samples and on-station field data were collected from Sengekontacket Pond, Katama Bay, and Edgartown Great Pond. In 2023, samples were taken four times over the summer season. In Edgartown Great Pond, this included a sample prior to and after the Pond was opened. This data helps determine whether the water quality goals from the Massachusetts Estuaries Project's study are achieved. The Water Resource Planner collaborates and shares sampling data with the MV Shellfish Group, Friends of Sengekontacket, Shellfish wardens and the Town.

Coastal Ponds: MVC Staff participates in, and advises as needed, the Friends of Sengekontacket, Chappaquiddick Island Association, Edgartown Shellfish Committee, Water Alliance, and the Vineyard Golf Club Review Committee. The Water Resource Planner regularly meets with and collaborates with staff from the Edgartown Great Pond foundation.

Developments of Regional Impact

Seven Edgartown projects were reviewed by the MVC in 2023:

- Big Sky Tents Building (Airport Lot 40) (DRI 738) Construction of a 27,000 square foot building to consolidate Big Sky Tents operations in the Airport Business Park. The application was approved with conditions after two public hearings; the written decision was approved on May 4, 2023.
- Crackatuxet Cove Demolition (C.R. 4-2023) Demolition of more than 25% of a structure built in approximately 1920. The application was remanded back to the Town on June 1, 2023 with no action by the MVC.
- Surke Meadow Subdivision (DRI 741) Form C Subdivision of 17.28 acres into five buildable lots, two open space lots and a private road. The application was approved with conditions after a public hearing; the written decision was approved on August 10, 2023.
- Meshacket Commons Siding & Parking Modifications (DRI 734-M) Request to replace all wooden exterior trim with synthetic trim for cost saving purposes and to pave a portion of the parking lot to hedge against silting in the



drainage system. The siding was approved as a minor modification; however, the parking lot pavement was denied without prejudice on September 7, 2023.

- Edgartown Gardens Traffic Scope (DRI 746) Traffic scope for a 40B development of 64 units (90 bedrooms) on 3.19 acres. The scope for the traffic study was approved by the Land Use Planning Committee on October 10, 2023.
- Millers Professionals (DRI 735) Request add a parking lot on a newly acquired parcel. This application is on hold at the request of the Applicant.
- Boys & Girls Club New Facility (DRI 747) Construction of a club campus including a large main structure, outdoor recreational facilities, and large parking area. This project remains under review at the end of the year; a public hearing has not yet been scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,
COMMISSIONERS

- JEFF AGNOLI Edgartown, elected at-large
- TRIP BARNES Tisbury, elected at-large
- CHRISTINA BROWN Edgartown, elected at-large
- JAY GROSSMAN Chilmark, elected at-large
- FRED HANCOCK Oak Bluffs, elected at-large
- MICHAEL KIM Governor’s Appointee
- JOAN MALKIN, Chair Chilmark Selectboard Appointee
- GREG MARTINO Tisbury, Selectboard Appointee
- KATHY NEWMAN Aquinnah, Selectboard Appointee
- KATE PUTNAM Edgartown, Selectboard Appointee
- BEN ROBINSON Tisbury, elected at-large
- DOUG SEDERHOLM West Tisbury, elected at-large
- LINDA SIBLEY West Tisbury, elected at-large
- BRIAN SMITH Oak Bluffs, Selectboard Appointee
- ERNIE THOMAS, Clerk & Treasurer West Tisbury Selectboard Appointee
- CAROLE VANDAL Aquinnah elected at-large
- PETER WHARTON County Appointee

NATURAL RESOURCES & RECREATION

SHELLFISH COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

The Edgartown Shellfish Committee is an advisory group appointed by the Edgartown Selectboard. It is currently represented by both commercial and recreational fishermen and aquaculturists, business owners, educators, and former Shellfish Department staff. We typically meet the first and third Tuesdays of the month (or as posted at the town's website) in the board meeting room at the Edgartown Public Library. All are welcome to attend, and we encourage public participation and input.

Our committee reports to the Selectboard and helps the Shellfish Department oversee the operation, regulation, growth and health of our shellfisheries, which includes multiple species of valuable, marketable, and delicious shellfish - most notably scallops, quahogs, soft-shelled steamer clams, and oysters. Edgartown is also home to a vibrant aquaculture industry supporting several highly successful oyster farms, primarily in Katama Bay. Our town's healthy shellfish grounds are rare and productive resources, but also very vulnerable ones that need monitoring and protection. Our commitment is to make sure that future generations of commercial fishermen and fam-

ily permit holders can continue to enjoy these exceptional resources for years to come.

The Edgartown Shellfish Department is one of the finest in the entire Commonwealth and our committee's main objective is to support them in their many efforts to maintain Edgartown shellfishing and aquaculture. They work diligently to monitor shellfish and enforce regulations, but also to run a large propagation effort, growing shellfish seed to augment our wild shellfish populations. The department's staff, led by Constable Rob Morrison, is experienced, highly trained, and watchful of all matters that pertain to our shellfish and aquaculture industries. Our committee has huge respect for each of them and their work. The town is very fortunate to have such an excellent Shellfish Department managing these marine resources.

Respectfully submitted:

DAVID FABER, Chair
MADELINE FISHER
WARREN GAINES
RYAN SMITH
NIC TURNER

SHELLFISH DEPARTMENT

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown:

The Edgartown Shellfish Department enforces commercial, recreational, and aquaculture regulations in the waters of Edgartown. The Shellfish Department also conducts a large scale propagation effort growing out shellfish seed to supplement Edgartown’s wild shellfish population.

2023 Wild Commercial Shellfish harvest:

Species	Quantity Harvested
Bay Scallops.....	*8,473 bushels
Oysters.....	108,200 pieces
Steamer Clams.....	64 bushels
Quahogs.....	805 bushels

**Commercial Bay Scallop harvest is reported for the 2022/2023 Season. October 31,2022- April 14,2023.*

2023 Aquaculture (Oyster) harvest:

Oyster farmers in Edgartown harvested a total of 12,400 bushels of oysters. The Edgartown Shellfish Department works closely with the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) and Edgartown’s oyster farmers to monitor oyster harvest protocols to reduce the incidence of illness from Vibrio p. (Vp) bacteria. Fewer cases of Vp occurred in Katama in 2023 than the previous year, and no reactive closures to oyster harvest occurred.

2023 Recreational Shellfish Harvest:

Species	Quantity Harvested
Bay Scallops.....	113 bushels
Oysters.....	171 bushels
Steamer Clams.....	58 bushels
Quahogs.....	813 bushels

The 2023/2024 recreational bay scallop season began on October 1st 2023. The season began with a bay scallop harvest that was greatly reduced from the previous year. Sengekontacket pond saw fewer adult scallops, but a good seed crop. Fewer adult bay scallops, combined with limited Over Sand Vehicle access to Cape Pogue, created a less than average recreational scallop season there. Cape Pogue pond has a massive set of “seed” bay scallops this season. A big thank you goes out to everyone who helped move “seed” scallops that washed up on the south end of Cape Pogue during the late summer. Hopefully these will survive, to help create a great scallop season in 2024.

The 2023/2024 commercial bay scallop season began on October 30, 2023. The majority of the commercial bay scallop catch came from Cape Pogue, with 25-30 limits taken daily. There was also

a commercial bay scallop harvest in Sengekontacket Pond, with 2-3 limits taken daily by dip net during the beginning of the season.

Commercial and recreational harvest of quahogs takes place in Edgartown mostly in the warmer months. A handful of commercial fishermen rake quahogs in Sengekontacket and Cape Pogue during the summer months. During low tides in July and August, fifty or more recreational license holders can be seen working the flats of Katama Bay in the family area. Recreational limits of quahogs are common in Katama Bay. The success of this recreational fishery is the direct result of the Shellfish Department’s work with the Martha’s Vineyard Shellfish Group.

For the past eleven years, the Edgartown Shellfish department has conducted the Major’s cove oyster project in Sengekontacket pond. This project drives both a commercial and recreational oyster season annually in Sengekontacket. Harvesting oysters removes nitrogen from the pond, and contributes to the overall health of Sengekontacket. Each year the department purchases and grows out 500,000+ 1.5mm oyster seed. This project has been a great success that has created an excellent recreational fishery in the family area along the beach road.

2023 was yet another productive year for the Martha’s Vineyard Shellfish Group. MVSG supplies the Edgartown Shellfish Department with shellfish seed for grow out and planting in the waters of Edgartown. The Shellfish department used a second tidal upweller to assist in growing out quahog and scallop seed in Katama Bay this year. Quahogs and bay scallops started in this tidal upweller showed excellent growth early on, and continued success throughout the growing season. This upweller was especially helpful in expanding Edgartown’s work with growing bay scallops. For the third year in a row, scallop seed was overwintered and grown to adult size. Growing bay scallops to adult and large seed size improves survival rate when planted. Seeing an abundant scallop population in Sengekontacket and Cape Pogue is very encouraging, and has lead the department to expand its work with bay scallop grow out next season.

The Shellfish Department continued to assist the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries and the MV Commission with water sampling. The DMF tests all shellfish growing areas five times annually for fecal coliform bacteria to ensure public health.

This is done under the National Shellfish Sanitation Program guidelines. Under this program, DMF regulates bodies of water in Edgartown suitable to shellfish harvest. DMF's 2023 water sampling showed that water quality has mostly remained consistent in Edgartown. However, some shellfishing areas were reclassified as a result of routine water sampling with DMF. Please visit the DMF website, or contact the Edgartown Shellfish Department for up to date information regarding shellfish area closures. The MV Commission's Water Resources Department collects water samples from many of the Island's ponds to ensure a sustainable and safe level of water quality across the Island.

Many thanks to all of the other Town departments that help the Shellfish Department throughout the year. Thank you to all that provide data, and assist the shellfish department in regulating and protecting our valuable resources. Friends of Sengekontacket especially, for providing the FOS interns, Aaron and Marissa, for the summer of 2023.

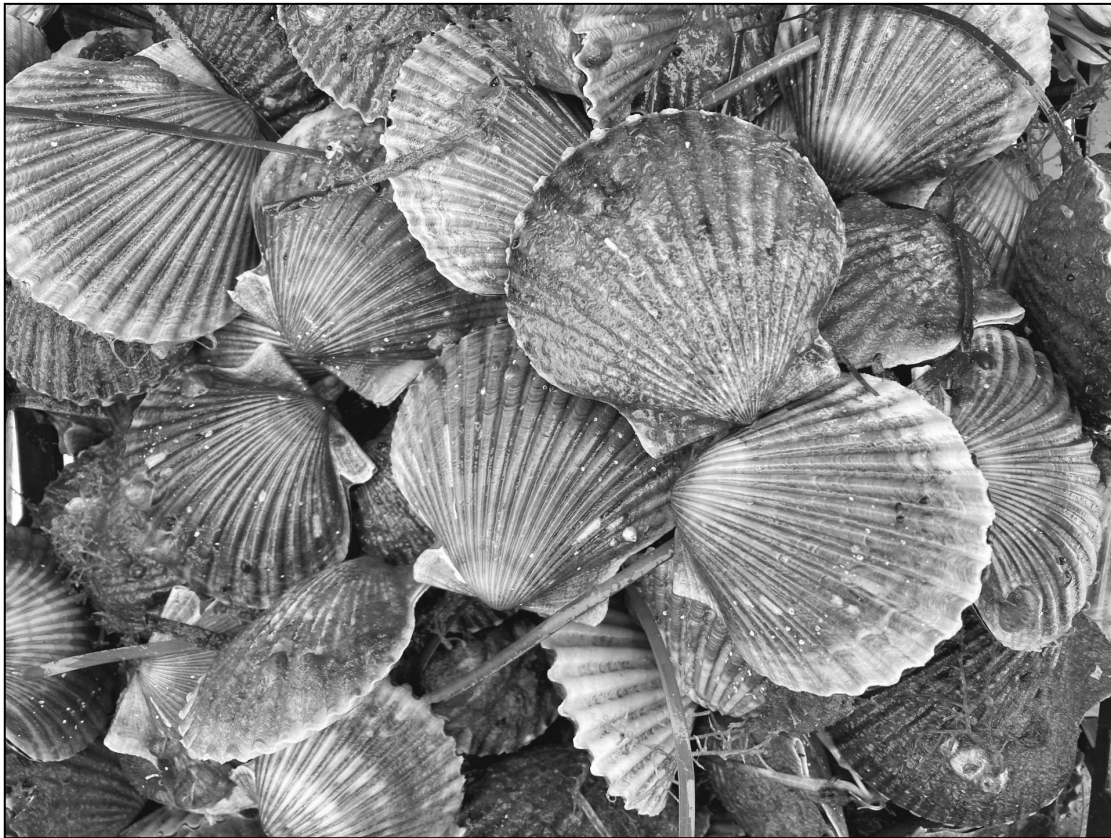
They were both hard working, eager to learn, and were extremely helpful with our shellfish propagation program.

Finally, I would like to recognize all of the hard work, dedication, and commitment of the Shellfish Committee and Shellfish Department Staff. Deputies: Jason Mallory, Chuck Fisher, and Julie Pringle. Seasonal Deputies: Ralph Peckham and Ron Domurat.

Thank you, Warren Gaines, for everything during your nearly 40 years with the Shellfish Department. Best wishes for a great retirement.

Respectfully Submitted,

ROB MORRISON
Shellfish Constable

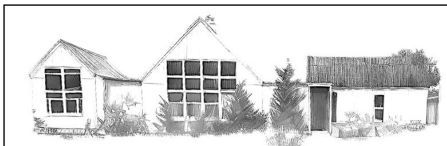


First day of scalloping - Rob Morrison, Shellfish Constable

MV SHELLFISH GROUP

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

The Martha's Vineyard Shellfish Group, Inc. (MVSG) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that was formed in 1976 to preserve, enhance and restore shellfish resources on Martha's Vineyard. The Board of Directors is comprised of a resident and the Shellfish Constable from each member town for a total of 12 board seats. Each town receives an equal share of shellfish seed from the MVSG hatcheries for a flat membership fee. In the 2023 fiscal year, the fee was \$39,000. Additional funding was received through contracts, grants or donations from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), Friends of Sengekontacket (FOS), Edey Foundation, MV Community Foundation, Vineyard Vision Fellowship, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), New York City Department of Environmental Protection, the Town of Chatham, about 300 private donors, and annual spring fundraiser at the Chilmark Community Center—the Bivalve Ball. The work of MVSG can be seen in our seed production, habitat restoration and shell recovery projects and programs, educational outreach, and contribution to seminal research in shellfish biology and hatchery science.

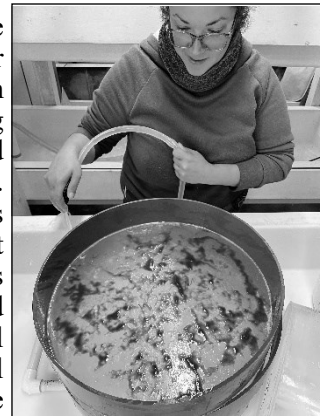


The Chappy Point Nursery, seen from the beach.

MVSG operates three distinct facilities in order to fulfil our mission. This year they all received significant maintenance, including a new roof on the Chappy Point Nursery on Chappaquiddick, an expanded stone gabion at the Richard C. Karney Solar Shellfish Hatchery in Vineyard Haven, and a new roof on the John T. Hughes Hatchery and Research Station in Oak Bluffs.

We spawn local shellfish to produce seed for the town propagation programs. Completed outside of the growing season, the construction projects did not impede our operations and we produced over 30 million quahogs, bay scallops and oysters to distribute to the towns at about 1mm in size. West Tisbury, lacking quahog and scallop habitat, receives only oyster seed. The remaining 5 towns received quahog and scallop seed only. With seed-in-hand, the towns' shellfish departments use nursery systems to grow the tiny shellfish and protect them from predators, boats, and curious onlookers. In the fall, juvenile shellfish are released to good

shellfish habitat where they will improve water clarity and ecosystem functions before being fished by recreational and commercial harvesters. MVSG strongly believes that the ability to harvest food from the ponds helps to connect islanders and visitors to the natural resources and natural beauty which makes the Vineyard special. Personal connection and firsthand knowledge inspires us to protect the water quality and habitat which it all hinges on. All of the projects and initiatives we take on are focused on that end.



Shellfish larvae and post-sets are cleaned and fed seven days a week. It takes about 8 weeks from spawning for a quahog to reach 1mm.

We restore habitat to support shellfish populations and improve resiliency. MVSG has managed oyster restoration projects in Tisbury Great Pond for 30+ years, in Edgartown Great Pond for 14 years, and in Sengekontacket for five years. We add aged shell to the Great Ponds to harden the bottoms, provide a calcium-rich substrate that acts like an antacid against acidic mud, and provide a hard surface for wild oyster larvae to cement to and grow. Restoration is possible with shell we collect from restaurants and a public collection bin in front of the Hughes Hatchery through our **Shell Recovery Partnership**. We are committed to removing shell from the waste stream, and aging it for a year to kill pathogens, before returning it to the ponds. In 2023, nearly **9,000 gallons** of local shell was collected and over **120 cubic yards** was returned to the Great Ponds. Slough Cove in Edgartown Great Pond is now home to a highly focused oyster restoration effort funded by The Nature Conservancy and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, through a project called **SOAR- Sustaining Oyster Aquaculture and Restoration**. Working with local oyster farmers and the Edgartown Shellfish Department, oversized oysters are purchased by TNC and planted by MVSG to improve water filtration and ecosystem services. In Sengekontacket, the Friends of Sengekontacket have funded annual planting of spat-on-shell since 2018, to ensure a healthy ecosystem in the pond.

In March 2023, MVSG celebrated the unprecedented success of growing mature, **flowering**

eelgrass shoots from seed in a greenhouse environment – a first in the scientific community. In early fall, volunteers from the Lagoon Pond Association and local Boy Scouts helped to collect eelgrass shoots and seed pods, and prepare them to be planted onto eelgrass restoration sites with the Tisbury and Oak Bluffs Shellfish Departments. As of December 2023, eelgrass seedlings are emerging in the unheated greenhouse at the Hughes Hatchery, for the third consecutive winter.



Above, children handled and observed marine invertebrates at the MV Agricultural Society's Harvest Festival, one of several public events which MVSG provided learning opportunities.

MVSG increased our focus on **education and outreach** in 2023, through school visits, afterschool clubs, community programs and increased collaboration with local agencies. MVSG staff engaged over **2,938 individuals** with the history, culture, and biology of shellfish on

Martha's Vineyard. For the first time in over 20 years, school busses pulled up to the Hughes Hatchery (old Lobster Hatchery) for students to view hatchery growing systems in the greenhouse, take guided walks in Brush Pond and build shore-side aquariums.

In 2024, we look forward to continuing community programming and school visits, working alongside the M.V. Commission and the Great Pond Foundation to continue mapping eelgrass beds in Lake Tashmoo, Lagoon Pond and Sengekontacket, while also monitoring an eelgrass restoration project with Oak Bluffs Shellfish Department. We will continue participating in the Ribbed Mussel Aquaculture Consortium, studying the emerging bay scallop parasite with Stonybrook University and the Chilmark Shellfish Department. We will continue necessary capital maintenance projects at each of our hatcheries to serve the shellfish needs of the Island for decades to come. We invite you to learn more about what we do by visiting our facilities in the Spring and Summer. In the meantime, visit our website, check out our newsletters and join our mailing list and stay involved! Visit www.mvshellfishgroup.org, call (508) 693-0391 or email mvshellfishgroup@gmail.com.

Thank you for bivalvifying* the Vineyard with us.

Respectfully submitted,



Visit our website for more pictures and information

EMMA GREEN-BEACH,
Executive Director and Biologist
emma.greenbeach@mvshellfishgroup.org

*Bivalvify: to add bivalves to a body of water to improve water quality and biodiversity.

SHELLFISH SEED PRODUCED AND DISTRIBUTED IN 2023				
	Bay Scallops	Quahogs	Oysters Remote set	Oyster singles
Edgartown, Tisbury, Oak Bluffs, Aquinnah, Chilmark	2,650,000	2,426,000	-	-
Chatham ²	-	300,000	-	-
Gosnold ¹	100,000	-	-	-
Wampanoag Tribe NRD ²	150,000	-	-	-
Local growers ²	70,000	-	-	5,000
Stony Brook University ³	2,000	-	-	-
Tisbury Great Pond	-	-	5,000,000	529,000
Edgartown Great Pond ³	-	-	200,000	61,000
Sengekontacket ³	-	-	1,000,000	-
Univ. of Rhode Island ³	-	-	-	5,000
Total Seed	13,572,000	12,430,000	6,200,000	600,000
Eggs released	12,000,000	14,600,000	243,500,000	-
larvae released	24,400,000	1,000,000	63,500,000	-

Provided under: ¹State funding; ²contract; ³grant funding

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

In one of its primary and founding capacities as the administrator and enforcer of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Edgartown Wetlands Bylaw, the Conservation Commission reviews proposed projects within 200 feet of any resource area, and within 300 feet of a resource area in the Great Pond overlay district. Applications remained steady this year with a total of 61 Notices of Intent (a 22% increase) , 11 Requests for Determination (a 120% increase), for a total of 29 meetings. The high volume of property sales resulted in substantial workload for the issuance of Certificates of Compliance, and often revealed projects that were not in compliance with the terms of the permit issued by this office. Applications varied from new development on vacant land, demolition and rebuilding of existing dwellings, piers, and vegetation management. The common theme in most applications was extremely large residential structures and complex landscaping, pools and accessory structures such as detached offices and recreation facilities.

Ms. Varkonda, Ms. Shemeth and the Park Department wrote a Management Plan for review by the State Wetlands Division and the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program for Norton Point Beach. The plan had to be approved in Order to allow OSV to travel onto Norton Point Beach. After some delays in the review process and repeat questions from NHESP the plan was finally approved. Ms Varkonda and Ms. Shemeth were tasked with working closely with Mass Audubon Society (MAS) in their role as shorebird monitors as required by NHESP. The town signed a 2 year contract with MAS and town staff, including Ms. Varkonda and Ms. Shemeth shadowed MAS staff in order to be deemed qualified by NEHSP to perform



our shorebird monitoring in house. Logistics for getting OSV onto the beach were complicated with the arrival of piping plover nests which blocked the only path to the outside beach. Ms. Shemeth and Ms. Varkonda, with the assistance of the Coastal Geologist consultant from the Woods Hole Group were able to do the necessary paperwork and permits with the state in order to allow an alternative route to the outside beach with the necessary buffer to the nest as required by NHESP. Shorebirds had mixed nesting and reproductive success at Norton this year. Norton had tremendous success with the American Oystercatchers that nested on the beach, breaking records for number of nest and numbers of chicks that fledged. Piping Plovers had less than satisfactory success due to predation and nest failures with causes that could not be determined. Tern, least, common and roseates created colonies in various parts of the beach that estimates numbers in excess of 5000 birds likely breaking state records.. Lastly, one black skimmer nest produced one chick that nested in close proximity to the tern colonies at the far eastern end of Norton Point.

The Conservation Commission issued various Enforcement, Restoration and stop work Orders for several projects that either did not have permits from this office or which exceeded the limits imposed on the projects.

Our lease holders at Katama Farm, Grey Barn, Morning Glory Farm and the Farm Institute have the following to report. The charter school students were among the 246 students to visit the farm. Summer camp had 635 registrants with an additional 501 campers on the waitlist. The Farm Institute awarded \$11,500 in scholarships to local island students as well as another \$9,000 in island discounts to make camp more affordable for local families. TFI hosted 66 cooking classes with near capacity attendance at each class. The summer daily tours and hayrides drew 449 participants. Morning Glory Farm assisted TFI by planting 18,000 sunflowers and over 12,000 pumpkins. Slough farm assisted with staging animals at Katama farm for visitors to enjoy and products from their bountiful garden for cooking classes and campers to enjoy. TFI worked with North Tabor Farm and Grey barn to host bottle fed animals for the education and enjoyment of the visiting public

The Conservation Commission has a longstanding commitment to monitor and protect nesting shorebirds from Lighthouse Beach to Eel Pond. We contract with Biodiversity Works for Lighthouse Beach and other sites. Three pairs of

piping plovers nested and fledged 10 chicks, which is another huge improvement in fledging success over last year. A small Least Tern colony of 30 with 6 to 8 incubating birds produced no chicks. Biodiversity works staff monitored the protected nesting sites during the July 4th fireworks and did a post fireworks beach cleanup.

The Nature Conservancy and their fire management partners conducted a burn of the control unit and strip of land between runway 3-21 and Herring Creek Road at Katama Airfield and Nature Preserve our efforts to maintain and preserve one of the finest examples of sandplains grassland habitat in New England.

Thanks to the Dredge Committee for their longstanding efforts to nourish Fuller Street Beach and for their invaluable advice on logistics for moving sand to where it is most needed along the town's shoreline. The coastal storms this December and January highlights the fact that having a town dredge, equipment and crew saves the town and taxpayers tremendous amounts of funding should the

work had to have been done by private contractors.

Ms. Shemeth has completed her 2nd year in her role at the Conservation Assistant and continues to bring her unique knowledge and skill set to the job.

The Conservation Commission would like to thank the Edgartown Highway Dept, Dredge Committee and Crew, Harbormaster's Office, Planning Board Shellfish Office, Animal Control, Park Dept, Building Department, Police Department, Fire Department, and the MV Land Bank for their continued support and cooperation in protecting the Town's natural resources and working together to ensure that the community will be able to enjoy these resources for years to come.

Respectively submitted,

EDWARD W. VINCENT, JR.,
Chair



Roseate tern colony at Norton Point by Kara Shemeth

CAPE POGUE DCPC COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

The Cape Pogue District of Critical Planning Concern Advisory Committee is pleased to report upon its 2023 activities. The Committee meets monthly on the last Thursday of each month. All meetings and agendas are posted on the Town of Edgartown website.

The District of Critical Planning Concern was first established in order to prevent damage to structures, land, and water as a result of erosion to preserve and enhance the character of views, to maintain the quality of well water, to prevent pollution, to enhance and protect recreational uses, to minimize adverse impacts of recreational use, to protect the quality of adjacent fin and shell fisher industries, and to maintain and enhance the fishing economy and promote and protect wildlife habitats. The Advisory Committee, as established by the Martha's Vineyard Commission, exists to advise regarding issues affecting the District, to propose studies of regional uses of Cape Pogue, and propose amended district guidelines concerning wildlife management and recreation and work with all property owners involved. We foster cooperation in management of public and private lands in the District, advise the Planning Board on applications for Special Permits, and propose wildlife management and recreational guidelines.

The membership of the Committee in 2023 included representatives of the following bodies:

- Edgartown Conservation Commission: (Jane Varkonda)
- Edgartown Board of Health (Chris Edwards)
- Mass. Department of Environmental Management (no current member —TBD)
- Mass. Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Environmental Law Enforcement (EPO Lt. Matt Bass)
- The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR) Membership (Bob Hayman)
- The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR) Staff (Darci Shofield)
- County of Dukes County (Martina Thornton)
- Martha's Vineyard Commission (no current member — TBD)
- Cape Pogue Property Owner appointed by the Edgartown Board of Selectmen (Rachel Self) (Chair)
- Conservation/Wildlife Specialist (appointed jointly by Sheriffs' Meadow Foundation, Vineyard Conservation Society, and Vineyard Open Land Foundation) (Matt Pelikan)

- Edgartown Police Department (Ofc. Ryan Ruley)
- Edgartown Planning Board (Scott Morgan)
- Edgartown Marine Advisory Committee (Ed Handy)
- Edgartown Harbormaster (Charlie Blair)
- Edgartown Shellfish Constable (Rob Morrison)

In 2023, the Committee continued its work of reaching out to and building relationships with other stakeholder groups. It continued to receive updates on the system (implemented in the previous year) of centralized reporting of complaints and violations within the District. It also received reports from and made recommendations to various bodies based on data from vehicle counters whose placement the Committee arranged at various locations within the District. The Committee is pleased to report that its various efforts toward ensuring the availability of improved data collection have proved fruitful, and the concrete benefits of that data can be seen in the Committee's recommendations to other bodies.

The Committee has been actively following Conservation Commission hearings regarding Notices of Intent SE20-1702 and SE20-1703 for OSV access and Beach Management currently before the Commission. It also received reports and updates regarding the shellfish season; efforts by the town and TTOR to determine responsibility for Dyke Bridge bulkhead repair; and efforts by the town and TTOR to use available dredge spoils to remediate trails within the DCPC. The Committee also made headway toward finalizing language to amend the bylaw to allow for a process to apply for an exemption from the District's ban on herbicides and pesticides, to ensure best environmental practices are used with the District.

All minutes and agenda materials are available on the Town of Edgartown's website at: <https://www.edgartown-ma.us/downloads/-folder-487>

The Committee would once again like to thank all those who offered their invaluable input during its meetings over the course of the year — particularly members of the public, whose commentary and engagement is essential to the achievement of the Committee's mission.

Respectfully Submitted:

RACHEL M. SELF
CHAIR

DREDGE COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

The Dredge Committee is pleased to report another successful year for the Dredge Program. The second town-owned dredge (purchased in 2017), now in its sixth season of dredging, ended the 2022-2023 season in the Edgartown Great Pond. Prior to mobilization into the pond, the Dredge Committee collaborated with the Town of Oak Bluffs to dredge the Little Bridge (which generated over 4,800 cubic yards of nourishment material for Edgartown), and with the Town of Tisbury to maintenance dredge the Tashmoo Channel (which generated \$129,500 in revenue for Edgartown). For the 2023-2024 season, the dredge was mobilized to Cape Pogue in mid-November; dredging started in the Gut, where approximately 4,200 cubic yards of sand was cleared from the channel and placed on North Neck Road. The dredge was then transported to the Narrows and Dike Bridge approach at the end of December, where it dredged approximately 6,000 cubic yards of sand that was used to nourish the nearby OSV trails and East Beach. This was the first time the dredge has been in Cape Pogue in a decade. To end the 2023-2024 season, the dredge will again go into the Great Pond to clear the channel and the Sluiceway. The sand will be used to restore the dunes at South Beach that were decimated with the December 18th and January 9th (2024) storms. The Committee continues to work with the Parks Department, Highway and Conservation towards rebuilding and fortifying the dunes at South Beach.

The Committee is also continuing its work towards renewing and expanding the Comprehensive Permit. One area the Committee is working to add is the spit at Lighthouse Beach that is accreting towards and threatening the viability of the entrance channel to the Harbor. In addition to being able to dredge the area, the Committee is collaborating with Sheriff's Meadow Foundation to provide a suitable nourishment area for the sand at the Eel Pond spit. Another area the Committee is working towards adding to the list of dredging locations is Katama Bay. Dredging here, which comes at the request of the Shellfish Committee and Constable, would restore channels that existed in the Bay before Hurricane Bob and the breach of 2007. Restoring these channels will improve the water quality and make the area safer for recreational boaters. The Comprehensive Permit, which was first approved by the State in 2009, and then by the Federal Government in 2010, is set to expire at the end of 2024. The Committee is working with the Woods

Hole Group to have this permit re-issued. All three of the above projects, the Harbor Channel, Katama Bay and the Comprehensive Permit, are 75% funded through grants awarded by the Seaport Economic Council (a total of \$628,000), with 25% match funding provided by the Town. The permitting process continues to be a complicated and expensive process. The Committee has begun working with other towns on the Cape, as well as State and Federal officials, to improve and expedite the burdensome process for dredging projects across Southeastern Massachusetts.

The Dredge Committee was also the Town's agent for the Katama Landing Expansion Project, which was completed in April 2023, on time and on budget. The new launch ramp is wide enough to allow two boats to launch simultaneously, and improvements to the parking lot were also made. The project was managed by the MA Department of Fish & Game, with the Town's assistance. The total cost of the project was \$1,460,709, which was mostly funded by the State, who owns the ramp. The town contributed \$295,000 to the cost to have the ramp constructed so that it can support launching the dredge by trailer. Another project at the same location, to reconstruct the seawall adjacent to the ramp, is in the early stages; this project will also be funded and managed by the State.

In addition to dredging operations, the Department took ownership of a new truck and a new steel workboat in 2023. The Truck was purchased with funds appropriated at Annual Town Meeting in 2021. The steel workboat was purchased with funds appropriated at ATM 2023, as well as a MA EOHEd grant which offset the purchase by \$65,000.

The Dredge Committee would like to thank all those who contribute their time and expertise to making the program a success. Conservation Agent Jane Varkonda is an incredible asset to the program and continues to work with numerous local and state agencies to streamline important projects and guide the Committee. The Committee would also like to thank Shellfish Constable Rob Morrison for his knowledge and commitment to the town's aquaculture programs and his collaborative approach to ensure those remain viable for many years to come.

Additionally, the Committee would like to thank the Parks Department, the Highway Department, the Harbormaster, the Town Administrator and the Selectboard for consistently supporting the dredge program in numerous ways.

The Committee would like to thank the Dredge Crew and Staff: Foreman Greg Bettencourt, Leverman Donny Benefit, Anchorman Peter Jackson, Crew Alternate Devan Greene and Administrator Juliet Mulinare.

Finally, and most importantly, thank you to the Citizens of Edgartown; without your generous support, the dredge program, now in its 28th year, would not be possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

ED HANDY,
DUDLEY LEVICK,
PETER VINCENT,
RYAN SMITH,
MICHAEL SHALETT



The Dredge works in the Gut at Cape Pogue.

Photo by Paulo DeOliveira

PARKS DEPARTMENT

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

The Park Commissioners had another busy year at Wilson's Landings, the Bend in the Road Beach, Cannonball Park, the Robinson Road Recreation Area, South Beach and Norton Point.

2023 brought a new dynamic to the department with the management of Norton Point being awarded to the department in the early months of the year. With the help of the IT Department, the Accounting Department, the Treasurers Department, the Conservation Department, and the support of the town citizens the Park Department was able to secure funding and purchase the necessary assets to manage this unique property. Like other south facing beaches on the island, the shoreline is ever changing and the beach is home to many endangered shorebirds. The Department worked closely with the Conservation Department and the Massachusetts Audubon Society to help track and manage the shorebirds per State and Federal guidelines. Thanks to the Conservation Department, we were able to secure a smaller area of beach to allow for a limited number of OSV access early in the season and as the shorebirds fledged and migrated to other areas, we were able to open access to more of Norton Point. We are proud to say Norton Point recorded the most Roseate Terns in one place in the Western Hemisphere this summer. 2024 will bring us into the second year of our contract with MAS to monitor the birds and we are excited to see what the season will bring.

South Beach saw another busy and successful summer. The beach shoreline was ever changing due to the erosion which lead to challenges for the staff at times. On December 18th, the entire south shore of the island was impacted by a storm which caused major damage to South Beach. Most of the beach was flooded with Left and Right Fork taking the major brunt of the damage. The Donnelly Shack at Right Fork which serves as the headquarters for the beach was impacted but made it through the storm. The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute measured a 27-foot wave off of South Beach during the height of the storm. With the help of the Highway Department and other parties, Atlantic Drive was able to reopen only a few days later. South Beach is asset to the not

only the Town of Edgartown but the entire island with the amenities it offered and the commissioners will continue to focus on insuring this beach is open and able to be enjoyed by all in the coming years.

Wilson's Landing was a very popular destination for boaters and kayakers this summer. The commissioners are constantly working to improve the area so it may be enjoyed by all.

Cannonball Park improvement will continue as the department works closely with the Beautification Committee to open and revitalize this park.

The Robinson Road Recreation Area redevelopment continues as we are still working closely with the Boys & Girls Club of Martha's Vineyard to insure access to their new property as well as update our Recreation Area and amenities.

The Bend in the Road was again a popular destination for families this summer.

The commissioners would like to thank our lifeguard staff: Brooks Jordan; Head Lifeguard, Charlotte Lisa; Assistant Head lifeguard, Nate Newcomer; Assistant Head Lifeguard, Griffin Coffey, Riley Coffey, Caden Choisnard, Jack Cronin, William Cronin, Shea Driscoll, Lucia McMullen, Suzanne More- Straton, Thiago Muniz, Avery Newcomer, James Riseborough, Braden Sayles Natalie Simone, Bryce Nelson, Elizabeth Williamson, Matthew Rickard, and Daniel Coleman. We would also like to thank the Park Patrol staff: Eugene Townes; Park Patrol Director, Donald Herman, Brian Usher, Benjamin Albro and Blake Axtell. Thank you for keeping the beaches safe and clean.

The commissioners would like to thank the Edgartown Highway Department, The Edgartown Fire & EMS Department, the Edgartown Police Department, the Harbormaster, the Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown.

Respectfully Submitted,
JANE VARKONDA, Chair
GLEN SEARLE
ANDREW KELLY
JESSICA MCGROARTY,
Administrative Assistant

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

The year 2023 was brought to a close with another joyous holiday season in Edgartown. Downtown continues to be an island destination for viewing lights and decorations and The Board of Trade did a wonderful job with the annual Christmas in Edgartown weekend celebrations. This event, in its 42nd year, enlivens the town and gives businesses a much needed boost in the off-season. The Christmas parade felt like the 4th of July this year with thousands lining the streets and celebrating together. Many thanks to all those involved who continue to make this event such a huge success.

The Committee would like to thank the Highway Department, who graciously transports and erects the

tree stands all throughout downtown; the Donaroma's crew for providing and installing the wreaths, garlands, lights and bows, and Tom Bassett and his crew for lighting everything up and keeping it lit for all to enjoy.

If anyone would like to join the Committee and help in planning for next year, we would love to have you.

Respectfully Submitted,

GLEN SEARLE
LES BAYNES
JULIET MULINARE
SHARON BRAINARD

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Edgartown,

The Edgartown Beautification Committee welcomes the year 2024 with enthusiasm!

The Committee is working with the Parks Department on a plan to revitalize Cannonball Park. A request for funding at Annual Town Meeting 2024 will help make this a reality. The park is underutilized so the Committee would like to make improvements that will make it a more active feature of the Upper Main Street area. The plans include the construction of a tiered entrance off the bike path, as well as improvements to the hardscaping around the monument that would provide space for more benches. Additional plantings around the park and at each of the entrances will also enhance the park and draw in visitors. Finally, the Committee plans to refurbish the sign at the entrance on the corner of Edgartown – West Tisbury Road and Cooke Street, so it welcomes visitors to Edgartown in the same fashion that the sign at the triangle welcomes those arriving from Edgartown – VH Road.

The Committee continues to install engraved

bricks at the Whale's Tail park, at Edgartown Wharf. These bricks are a meaningful way to honor friends and family. Additionally, benches and lampposts in downtown Edgartown can have plaques honoring someone special. There are still available locations for plaques, if you are interested, please inquire about availability. Information on how to order bricks or plaques can also be found on the Town of Edgartown website: www.edgartown-ma.us

The Beautification Committee welcomes your suggestions and participation in these projects.

Respectfully submitted,

RENEE CLERMONT
CAROL FLIGOR
JULIET MULINARE
CAMMIE NAYLOR
ERIN READY
ALYSSA STARZYK

MV LAND BANK

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

4102 acres, representing 7% of Martha's Vineyard, have been conserved by the land bank since voters created it in 1986. Please visit them; maps are available at town halls and libraries; online at www.mvlandbank.com; and at the land bank office in Edgartown.

Acquisitions

A septempartite arrangement, perfectly complicated, was concluded. It resulted in the conservation of 4.9 acres of backdune, stream and pond, as the Elder Jeffers' Pond Preserve. The seller was the Moshup Trail Limited Partnership and the price was \$185,000. The tangles to be resolved in advance included pre-existing encroachments, boundary-line juggling and the disposition of overdue taxes. The seven parties included the land bank and its private-sector counterpart, the Sheriff's Meadow Foundation, as well as the town and the tribe, the latter two of which received donations of off-site property interests as a result of the land bank's efforts. The town's lot is slated to be used for affordable housing.

Affordable housing also figured in a second up-island transaction. The land bank expanded its Gay Head Moraine property by purchasing, for \$90,400, a 4.5-acre shrub swamp owned by the Island Housing Trust Corporation.

And it figured in a down-island transaction. The land bank and the town of Oak Bluffs exchanged fungible 24-acre properties at the Southern Woodlands Reservation, so that the town's would now have access back to a public road. The land bank had sought to effect the exchange in 2004, when the reservation was being assembled, but the town wasn't ready. The commonwealth legislature and governor had to approve the trade.

Islanders knew their priorities when they established the land bank thirty-seven years ago. One was the protection of old family farms — and in 2023 the land bank completed one of its goals-since-inception when it conserved the 34.9-acre northerly field and environs at the venerable Flat Point Farm. This complimented the 2013 conservation of its 38.4-acre southerly pasture. The price was \$2,533,875 and the sellers were siblings Arnold Fischer, Jr., Eleanor Neubert and Jean O'Reilly. It is integrated into the land bank's Short Cove Preserve.

Land management

Ecological inventories and studies continued at

many land bank properties: Aquinnah Headlands Preserve, Black Brook Preserve, Cove Meadow Preserve, Edgartown Great Pond Beach, Elder Jeffers Pond Preserve, Great Rock Bight Preserve, Manaquayak Preserve, Ocean View Farm, Paint Mill Brook Preserve, Peaked Hill Reservation, Pecoy Point Preserve, Poucha Pond Reservation, Priestler's Pond Preserve, Quenomica Preserve, Squibnocket Pond Reservation, Tisbury Great Pond Beach, Tisbury Meadow Preserve, Waskosim's Rock Reservation and Wilfrid's Pond Preserve.

The commonwealth is reviewing the Quenomica Preserve draft management plan. Staff is preparing applications — under the various town bylaws, the wetlands protection act and the endangered species act — necessary to the opening of the Squibnocket Pond Reservation.

General public access to a stretch of Lambert's Cove was achieved with the opening of the James Pond Preserve. But the preserve is more than its beach: the loop trail capitalizes on the prismatic nature of the property, as hikers on the path will observe the pond, the dune, the sound and Naushon Island shifting in and out of view. A reservation system, first used at the Manaquayak Preserve, will be used to allocate parking in the summer.

Upgrades included the installation of aluminum beach-access stairs at the Great Rock Bight Preserve escarpment, as well as replacement of the fishing pier and causeway boardwalk at the Blackwater Pond Reservation. Deteriorated decking on the walkways spanning the Fulling Mill Brook was targeted; the work is expected to be completed before the summer.

Habitat was improved. A cluster of old sheds was removed at the John Presbury Norton Farm — but two of the concrete basements were retained, one for snakes and the other for bats. Staff uprooted pines that were encroaching into the sandplain grassland at the Trade Wind Fields Preserve, buckthorn that was colonizing the Farm Pond Preserve and japanese stiltgrass that overran a portion of the Great Rock Bight Preserve.

Aspiring, more or less hopelessly, to thwart the ravaging southern pine-beetle, the land bank felled infested pitch pine at the Ripley's Field Preserve.

Thickening vegetation along both the North Road and Menemsha Crossroad sides of the beautiful Bliss Pond Farm was cut down. The vista is expansive. Likewise the vista at the Toms Neck Preserve, across Pease's Pond, and the Sepiessa Point savanna.

Trailheads were installed or expanded at the

Caleb’s Pond Preserve, Waskosim’s Rock Reservation and Whippoorwill Farm. New trails were created — at the Ripley’s Field Preserve, per a request from neighbors to supplement the Red Coat Hill Path ancient way, and at the Wilfrid’s Pond Preserve. Staff addressed erosion along the steep trails at the Great Rock Bight Preserve and Tisbury Meadow Preserve.

The land bank’s livestock herd — comprising some 173 goats, including 36 kids born in the spring — systematically grazed 72 acres island-wide, as part of the agency’s grassland restoration protocol. The land bank goatherd bred 20 does, using the institution’s own arapawa buck plus an alpine buck borrowed from Flat Point Farm.

As usual, the land bank field crew continued ongoing general maintenance on various land bank properties across the island.

40-44 Meetinghouse Way, Edgartown

After 32 years at 167 Main Street in Edgartown center, the land bank office moved to 40 Meetinghouse Way ... and after 17 years at the Southern Woodlands Reservation, the land bank land management workshop moved to 44 Meetinghouse

XIH

The 31st annual XIH ranged 17.3 miles from the Long Point Wildlife Refuge in West Tisbury to the Tashmoo inlet in Vineyard Haven. Approximately ninety people participated in the cross-island trek. Some 75 started; 43 — the most ever — completed the entire hike. The route passed along 12 conservation properties and 8 named ancient ways.

Budget and related matters

The following chart synthesizes the land bank’s annual finances. Anyone wishing to review the budget in its entirety, which includes a narrative describing the purpose of each line item expenditure, is encouraged to read it on the land bank website.

As of December 1, 2023 the land bank treasury contained some \$12,365,000 in cash, to fund all expenses including new acquisitions and the payment of debt service for existing properties.

The asterisk (*) indicates the land bank’s revenue projection.

Per statute, first-time homebuyers paid no land bank fee on purchase prices at or below \$800,000; in 2024 the threshold will be \$900,000. This is called

	FY23 BUDGETED	FY23 ACTUAL	FY24 BUDGETED
	<i>Cash Amount and Percentage of Totals</i>		
Revenues	\$17,000,000	\$16,338,172	\$13,000,000 *
Administrative expenses	(\$ 736,988) 4%	(\$ 656,157) 4%	(\$ 754,698) 6%
Land management expenses	(\$ 3,302,764) 19%	(\$ 1,949,647) 12%	(\$ 2,771,535) 21%
Debt service expenses	(\$ 7,857,137) 46%	(\$ 7,879,942) 48%	(\$ 8,190,837) 62%
Reserve expenses	(\$ 100,000) 1%	(\$ 50,000) 0%	(\$ 50,000) 1%
Unencumbered new receipts	\$ 5,003,081 29%	\$ 5,802,426 36%	\$ 1,232,930 10%

Way. Purchase of the conjoined properties allowed the land bank for the first time to conjoin in one location all of its activities and functions — administration, property management, staff housing and, as needed, pasturing of livestock, as 40-44 Meetinghouse Way abuts the land bank’s Quenomica Preserve North and its fields. The Edgartown town meeting will decide in 2024 whether to purchase 167 Main Street, at the discounted price of \$1,550,000.

the “m” exemption and 34 transactions qualified for it in 2023.

Gifts

The land bank gratefully accepted the following gifts: (1.) Robert and Patricia Ivry, \$72, in honor of Richard Kazis; and (2.) Tammy Kallman, \$100, in memory of Wayne Kallman.

Transfer fee revenues

Fiscal Year 2023 transfer fee revenues were:

**TRANSFER FEE REVENUES RECEIVED
JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2023**

		Percent of total
Aquinnah Fund	\$ 176,120	1 %
Chilmark Fund	\$ 612,720	4 %
Edgartown Fund	\$ 3,603,504	22 %
Oak Bluffs Fund	\$ 1,659,147	10 %
Tisbury Fund	\$ 1,165,586	7 %
West Tisbury Fund	\$ 958,450	6 %
Central fund	\$ 8,175,527	50%
Total	\$ 16,338,172	100%

This represented a 27% decrease over the previous year.

Commissioners and staff

The land bank commission currently comprises the following members: Steven Ewing, Edgartown;

Pamela Goff, Chilmark; Wesley Mott, commonwealth; Kristen Reimann, Oak Bluffs; Sarah Thulin, Aquinnah; Nancy Weaver, Tisbury; and Peter Wells, West Tisbury. The year-round land bank staff comprises the following individuals: Janette Andrews, fiscal officer; Jean-Marc Dupon, conservation land assistant; Maureen Hill, office manager; Zachary Jessee, goatherd; Harrison Kisiel, land superintendent; Jeffrey Komarinetz, conservation land assistant; James Lengyel, executive director; Antone Lima, crew manager; Julie Russell, ecologist; Timothy Sheran, conservation land assistant; Blake Wasson, conservation land assistant; and Bryn Willingham, ecology assistant.

Respectfully submitted,

James Lengyel
Executive Director

**MV LAND BANK EDGARTOWN
ADVISORY BOARD**

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

Properties suited to conservation can be large and they can be small. Both the largest and the smallest properties purchased by the land bank in 2022 were located in Edgartown.

A 3-acre lot straddled by two large conservation areas on each side was jointly purchased by the land bank and the Sheriff's Meadow Foundation, its private-sector counterpart. It's good conservation practice to purchase inholdings and, in addition, a long-distance trail will result. The property is located off the Chappaquiddick Road and has been incorporated into the Three Ponds Reservation. The price was \$677,625, of which the land bank paid \$386,000. The seller was David Ames, Jr.

The 35-acre Quenomica Preserve was created by the purchase of two properties at opposite ends of the Quenomica peninsula in the Edgartown Great Pond. The northerly 14 acres, along Meeting House Way, were purchased from Edwin and Ellen Harley for \$9,500,000 and include both open fields and a clustered core of buildings where the land bank workshop, office and staff housing will be located.

At the southerly end of the peninsula the land bank purchased 21 acres from John O'Keefe for \$8,000,000. This remarkable property contains approximately two-thirds of a mile of pond frontage.

The land bank sought permits to open the Caleb's Pond Preserve to public use. It installed a new set of adjustable bluff stairs at the North Neck Highlands Preserve for access to the Cape Pogue Bay, to replace stairs that had been lost to erosion. New kayak racks were installed at the Quammox Preserve. Scenic vistas that otherwise would be lost to overgrowth were maintained at the Norton Fields Preserve and Sweetened Water Preserve.

Each of the land bank's town advisory boards, including Edgartown's, reviewed and approved the land bank budget.

Anyone wishing to make recommendations or suggestions is invited to join the board at one of its meetings.

Respectfully submitted,
MICHAEL DONAROMA,
Chair

MV TRANSIT AUTHORITY

To the Honorable Selectboard and Citizens of Edgartown,

Agency Overview

The Martha's Vineyard Transit Authority (VTA) provides fixed-route bus and ADA demand-responsive van service to the six towns on the Island of Martha's Vineyard. The VTA was created by the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 161B and is funded through local, state, and federal sources.

Leadership

Per MGL Chapter 161B, the VTA is managed by an Administrator, who is appointed by an Advisory Board. The Advisory Board is composed of one representative from each member community, one Rider Community Representative and one Disabled Community Representative:

Oak Bluffs	Robert Mackay
West Tisbury	Robert Wasserman
Aquinnah	Kristina Hook
Tisbury	Elaine Miller
Chilmark	Leonard Jason
Edgartown	Mark Snider
Rider Community Representative	Kim Leaird
Disabled Community Representative	Vacant
Administrator	Angela E. Gompert

Mission

We believe that public transportation is essential to the economic vitality, environmental stability and quality of life on the Island of Martha's Vineyard. We provide safe and secure environment for our customers, community and employees through consistent training, enforcement and allocation of resources. We continuously strive to improve the cost efficiency of our services and approach our financial relationships with integrity and transparency.

Description of Services

During Fiscal Year 2023, the VTA operated ten year-round routes, plus four additional summer peak season routes and paratransit service in accordance with Americans with Disability Act (ADA). The fixed routes are organized into a hub and spoke system around four hubs, which are located in the Vineyard's largest communities (Vineyard Haven, Oak Bluffs, Edgartown and West Tisbury). With one exception, all VTA routes serve at least one hub. Connecting to and between hubs allows passengers to transfer between routes and increases accessibility to the Island's major services and destinations. The VTA also interlines buses to offer one-seat rides between key destinations. The VTA's annual Operating expenses for budget for FY23 were

\$8,110,328 million, plus \$7.23 million in capital funds. VTA ridership continued to feel the effects from the COVID-19 pandemic, carrying 899,699 riders over 997,479 revenue miles of service.

Funding Updates

CRRSAA Funding

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the VTA was awarded \$3,998,487 in the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) funds.

During FY23, the VTA used \$2,576,485.64 of the CRRSAA funding to supplement operations and lost fares due to decreased ridership. The remaining balance will be expended in FY24.

Service Modifications

Service Modifications FY 2023

July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Each fiscal year starts with the VTA's busiest peak season months, goes through the Off-Season and ends with the very beginning of the next year's In-Season. FY 2023 started in July 2022 with labor shortages causing service reductions on nearly all routes. By the end of the fiscal year in June 2023, the situation improved sufficiently, thanks to more effective vehicle operator recruiting and securing more seasonal housing, to allow the restoration of some service.

Training and employing a year-round and seasonal work force remains one of the VTA's most significant operational challenges. By the end of Fiscal Year 2023, the VTA was able to make some transit planning decisions based on expected travel demand again and not solely the availability of drivers. Transit travel demand is directly affected by the level of service provided for potential passengers to complete their trips. While the trend by the end of the fiscal year was improving, the goal of pre-pandemic ridership recovery remained for the future.

Changes to In-Season 2022 as compared to In-Season 2021 (starting in July)

The part of In-Season 2022 in FY 2023 operated approximately the same dates as 2021. Specific service modifications for this period are listed below.

- Route 1: No changes.
- Route 2: Frequency reduced from 90 minutes to two hours (interlined with Route 4 instead of 10A).
- Route 3: Evening service reduced as compared to 2021 in both peak and fall shoulder seasons.

- Route 4: Frequency reduced from hourly to every two hours (interlined with Route 2), evening trips scaled back by two trips.
- Route 5: Evening trips scaled back.
- Route 6: Evening trips scaled back slightly.
- Route 7: Evening trips scaled back significantly – four round trips.
- Route 8: Evening trips scaled back.
- Route 9: No changes.
- Route 10: No changes.
- Route 11: Daytime service ran two weeks later, then no service during a modified fall shoulder season.
- Route 12: Return of the Sunset Bus, which did not run at all in 2021.
- Route 13: Originally scheduled to change peak season headway mode (departures from all stops every 15 minutes) back to running through 9 pm, had to scale back to the 6:00 pm end time of 2021 for headway mode.

Changes to Off-Season 2022 - 2023 as compared to Off-Season 2021 - 2022

With much lower labor requirements, the VTA Off-Season 2022 – 2023 represented a reversal of the trend of cutting some service to adding service back, as compared to the same season a year ago. In the Off-Season, the major routes – Route 1, Route 10 and Route 13 – have dedicated vehicles throughout the day. The routes that serve the rest of the Island are interlined, meaning the buses that travel over these routes serve more than one route. This has some advantages, such as making some transfers “same bus” transfers for passengers. For overall service, the comparative increase in resources meant that the buses were blocked, or interlined, differently than in years past. This changed the timetables and transfer connections for the Off-Season Fall schedule, which was operated from early October through December. The Winter schedule, which operated January through March, maintained what was offered throughout the Off-Season 2021 – 2022. A summary of the Off-Season Fall 2022 – 2023 route modifications are overviewed below.

- Route 1: One extra round trip late night.
- Routes 2, 4 and 10A were interlined on one bus again. Irregularly timed service was restored to every two hours on smooth headways on Routes 2 and 4. Route 10A, which had been eliminated entirely the previous year’s Off-Season, was restored with trips every two hours.
- Route 5: Service increased, restoring smooth headway service every two hours.

- Route 6: Trip departure times were modified with similar level of service.
- Route 7: Additional late afternoon round trip added.
- Route 8: Service re-added to schedule, operating every two hours.
- Route 9: Added another round trip late afternoon.
- Routes 10 and 13: No service modifications.
- Routes 11 and 12: These seasonal routes continued to not operate during the Off-Season.

Changes to In-Season 2023 as compared to In-Season 2022 (mid-May to late June)

The start of In-Season 2023 (at the end of FY 2023) was an operational improvement on the previous year. Evening service was restored on up-Island Routes 3, 4, 5 and 6. Most importantly, the published schedule did not need to be modified on the fly due to labor shortages. Travel demand and ridership figures continued to trend toward the goal of pre-pandemic recovery. After three years of public health concerns dominating the transit industry, bus use was returning more to normalcy. New features such as contactless digital ticketing had been adopted at an accelerated rate, and are now accepted as the most common way of fare payment.

As always, the VTA will continue to evaluate schedules each season on a trip by trip basis, adding service (when possible) as requested by the traveling public and deleting underutilized trips. As part of the electrification of the full fleet (just over 50% complete), smaller fixed route vehicles have been added to the fleet. This will allow the VTA to better match vehicle capacity to travel demand on the different VTA routes. While not much of a change effectively for the passenger traveling from Point A to Point B on Martha’s Vineyard, it is another example of the evolution of the VTA as an adapting rural transit system.

Electronic Ticketing

In December 2022, the VTA awarded an RFP for Fixed Route Technologies that included Electronic Fareboxes, Automatic Passenger Counters (APC), Integrated CAD/AVL System, Automated Annunciator System and Interior Display Signs. Implementation of the new systems began in the spring of 2023 and is ongoing.

Clean Transportation Initiatives

In 2017, the VTA commenced an ambitious project to electrify its transit fleet and fuel the fleet with renewable solar energy and integrated energy storage. This system of locally generated renewables, storage and vehicle charging will create a first-of-its-

kind fully integrated, clean, resilient, and flexible public transportation system. The VTA has updated its operations and maintenance facility and now has an electrical distribution system capable of supplying electricity for charging stations for 40 buses, 7 vans and 6 cars. The installation of Energy Storage Systems (ESS), solar canopies and inductive charging included a central control system manages vehicle charging, reduces peak demand by ESS discharge, and supplies emergency power through an island-able micro grid.

The VTA currently has 17 electric buses and three (3) E-Jest electric minibuses in service, which accounts for about 58% of the total bus fleet. At just twenty feet long, the three new E-Jests have been a success on lower density routes like the seasonal Edgartown Park & Ride, Routes 2, 4, 8 and 10A, and have even made appearances on Route 1!

Additionally, the VTA expects delivery of seven (7) more electric buses in FY24.

Partnerships & Community Outreach

The VTA continues to partner with the Island’s councils on aging, elderly and disabled housing authorities, and schools to provide reduced fare annual passes for the Island’s elderly, disabled and youth. Reduced fare passes are available for purchase through the councils on aging and all Island schools. The VTA also offers a Military reduced fare.

For the past 21 years, the VTA has maintained the Island’s school bus fleet, saving the school district money and the complications of getting vehicles to the mainland for repair services, as viable and affordable alternatives do not exist in the private sector on the Island.

The VTA leases office space within their building to the Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) to operate a local branch for the Island.

The VTA maintains its own fuel island on the property, with above-ground diesel and unleaded fuel tanks. We are the largest consumer of fuel on the Island. We allow other public agencies to fuel at our facility which, with the pooling of our fuel purchases saves tens of thousands of dollars annually for these public agencies: the Martha’s Vineyard School District, the Airport, Dukes County Sheriff’s Department, several Towns police, fire and highway departments, Island Elderly Housing, the Land Bank and the County. A computerized fuel authorization system allows access for these agencies to fuel twenty-four hours a day.

The VTA property is host to training exercises for MV Tactical Response Team and fire department drills. The VTA has provided vehicles and drivers,

as needed, to the Airport so they can coordinate their MCI Drills, as required by FAA. We are a member of the County and all Island Towns’ Emergency Management plans for evacuations, transportation and cooling/warming rehabilitation vehicles in the event of an emergency.

The VTA is home to the Island’s only Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) course. The VTA allows private, as well as other public agencies,

Operational Facts and Figures - Fixed Routes

Facts:	FY 23	FY 22
Annual Ridership	899,699	772,214
Annual Farebox & Other Revenue	\$1,502,838.68	\$1,598,570
Annual Cost of Operations	\$6,978,323	\$5,381,257
% of Fare Box Recovery of Operating Costs	20%	27.1%
Fleet Size	33	34

Fixed Route:

Number of Fixed Routes	14	14
Annual Passenger Trips	899,699	772,214
Annual Revenue Hours	62,693	61,168
Annual Revenue Miles	997,479	981,295
Annual Vehicle Hours	66,755	64,797
Annual Vehicle Miles	1,056,651	1,039,507

Performance Measures:

Operating Expense Per Passenger Trip	\$11.59	\$10.78
Operating Expense Per Revenue Hour	\$116.39	\$96.76
Operating Expense Per Revenue Mile	\$7.07	\$5.90
Passenger Trips Per Revenue Hour	12.72	11.23
Passenger Trips Per Revenue Mile	0.81	0.70
Required Subsidy Per Passenger Trip	\$10.27	\$8.68

Fare Information:

<u>Fixed Routes Fares:</u>	<u>Per zone</u>	<u>Per zone</u>
Adult Base	\$2 / \$1.25	\$2 / \$1.25
Elderly Fare	\$1 / \$0.75	\$1 / \$0.75
Disabled & Veteran Fare	\$1 / \$0.75	\$1 / \$0.75
Under 12	\$2 / \$1.25	\$2 / \$1.25
Under 6	Free	Free
Student Pass	Reduced Fare	Reduced Fare

Operational Facts and Figures - ADA Demand Response

Facts:

Annual Ridership
 Annual Farebox & Other Revenue
 Annual Cost of Operations
 % of Fare Box Recovery of Operating Costs
 Fleet Size

	FY 23	FY 22
Annual Ridership	10,266	7,976
Annual Farebox & Other Revenue	\$15,314	\$120,669
Annual Cost of Operations	\$601,017	\$576,205
% of Fare Box Recovery of Operating Costs	2.62%	21.09%
Fleet Size	8	8

Demand Response Statistics:

Annual Passenger Trips
 Annual Revenue Hours
 Annual Revenue Miles
 Annual Vehicle Hours
 Annual Vehicle Miles

Annual Passenger Trips	10,266	7,976
Annual Revenue Hours	5,184	4,802
Annual Revenue Miles	74,089	68,800
Annual Vehicle Hours	5,760	5,336
Annual Vehicle Miles	82,321	76,444

Performance measures:

Operating Expense Per Passenger Trip
 Operating Expense Per Revenue Hour
 Operating Expense Per Revenue Mile
 Passenger Trips Per Revenue Hour
 Passenger Trips Per Revenue Mile
 Required Subsidy Per Passenger Trip

Operating Expense Per Passenger Trip	\$59.07	\$74.49
Operating Expense Per Revenue Hour	\$116.14	\$120.99
Operating Expense Per Revenue Mile	\$8.23	\$8.56
Passenger Trips Per Revenue Hour	\$1.99	1.67
Passenger Trips Per Revenue Mile	\$0.14	0.12
Required Subsidy Per Passenger Trip	\$57.54	\$59.15

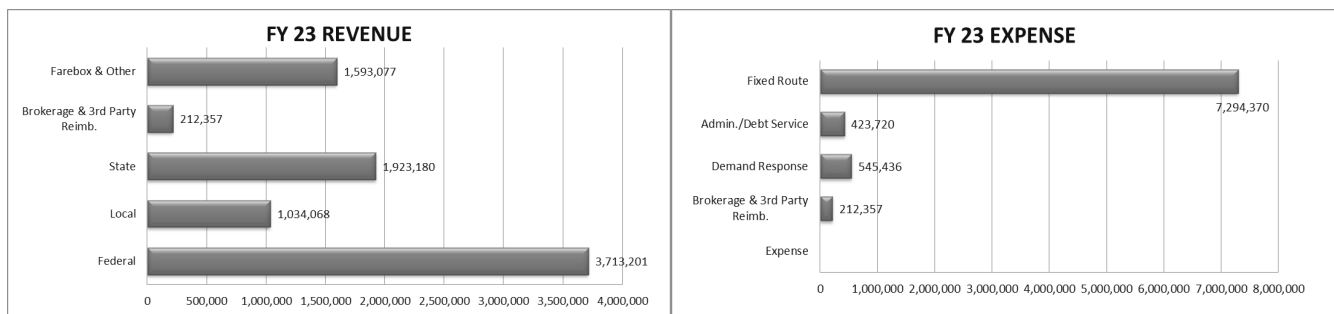
Fare Information:

Paratransit:

Elderly
 Disabled & Veteran
 Pass Program
 Ticket Program

Elderly	\$2.00/town	\$2.00/town
Disabled & Veteran	\$2.00/town	\$2.00/town
Pass Program	N/A	N/A
Ticket Program	N/A	N/A

FINANCE



MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.VINEYARDTRANSIT.COM

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

ASSETS	2023	2022
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 65,850	\$ 669,125
Receivable for operating assistance	\$ 2,442,324	\$ 1,941,289
Inventory	\$ 372,110	\$ 402,568
Prepaid expense	\$ 251,611	\$ 171,985
Prepaid fuel hedge	\$ -	\$ 27,521
Lease receivable	\$ 30,332	\$ 31,085
Total current assets	<u>\$ 3,162,227</u>	<u>\$ 3,243,573</u>
Restricted & Noncurrent Assets		
Restricted assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 319,454	\$ 307,574
Receivable for capital assistance	\$ 5,143,791	\$ 1,655,590
Total restricted assets	<u>\$ 5,463,245</u>	<u>\$ 1,963,164</u>
Receivable for operating assistance	\$ 558,904	\$ 544,915
Capital assets, net	\$ 27,841,623	\$ 23,151,269
Net OPEB asset	\$ 242,424	\$ 453,474
Lease receivable, less current portion	\$ 66,166	\$ 94,015
Right to use asset	\$ 182,993	\$ 243,991
Total restricted assets & noncurrent assets	<u>\$ 34,355,355</u>	<u>\$ 26,450,828</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 37,517,582</u>	<u>\$ 29,694,401</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources		
Deferred outflows of resources related to pension	\$ 265,887	\$ 146,940
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB	\$ 165,898	\$ 130,239
Total assets & deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 37,949,367</u>	<u>\$ 29,971,580</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expense	\$ 910,161	\$ 305,049
Lease liability	\$ 77,352	\$ 74,577
Total current liabilities	<u>\$ 987,513</u>	<u>\$ 379,626</u>
Restricted and noncurrent liabilities		
Liabilities payable from restricted assets		
Accounts payable and accrued expense	\$ 3,299,449	\$ 1,176,343
Total liabilities payable from restricted assets	<u>\$ 3,299,449</u>	<u>\$ 1,176,343</u>
Lease liability, less current portion	\$ 80,232	\$ 157,584
Net pension liability	\$ 456,041	\$ 77,080
Revenue Anticipation Notes	\$ 2,767,676	\$ 2,000,000
Total restricted and noncurrent liabilities	<u>\$ 6,603,398</u>	<u>\$ 3,411,007</u>
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 7,590,911</u>	<u>\$ 3,790,633</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Deferred inflows of resources related to pension	\$ 50,050	\$ 273,503
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB	\$ 93,160	\$ 192,605
Deferred inflows of resources related to leases	\$ 91,507	\$ 122,009
Total liabilities & deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 234,717</u>	<u>\$ 588,117</u>
Total liabilities & deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 7,825,628</u>	<u>\$ 4,378,750</u>
NET POSITION		
Invested in capital assets	\$ 27,841,623	\$ 23,151,269
Restricted	\$ 2,163,796	\$ 786,821
Other current assets	\$ 118,320	\$ 1,654,740
Total net position	<u>\$ 30,123,739</u>	<u>\$ 25,592,830</u>

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