



NEWS AND UPDATES FROM THE CATAUMET CIVIC ASSOCIATES, INC. (CCA)

Message from the President, Chris Gegg

The above picture taken by Andrea York, was of the moonrise over the Depot in April 2017 while the CCA board members were meeting inside to set forth plans for the next year. It is now well into the month of May as I write my message and compile the many articles to bring this newsletter to all by the first week in July. Here's hoping we reach more

households, meet more folks willing to get involved, make new friends and neighbors, and solicit new ideas! Our "village" keeps improving thanks to all the "villagers" who go about the business of preserving our land, promoting the arts, providing social relief, granting scholarships, and taking an active part in the social and civic affairs of our Town of Bourne. These tenets are the foundation of the CCA By-Laws created over 60 years ago and still going strong!

Inside this newsletter you will read articles written by a variety of members reporting on some of the

activities of the past year. While there are many seasonal activities that are sponsored by the CCA for fun and community involvement, please know that there are many members of our community that keep a watchful eye and ear open to anything going on at the town and county level that may have an impact on our village....positive or negative. The CCA encour-

ages anyone with any concerns that may impact our village to connect and follow up. It is through the diligence and great efforts of our residents,

past and present that have provided to us this wonderful place we all enjoy!

So while out and about for a stroll on the roads, or in the woods, or on the beaches, make sure you share a smile and hello. When you see folks picking up litter, planting our beautiful islands, or raking and trimming paths, say "thanks" and join the effort when time permits. Find your own little niche to pay it forward for Cataumet.

As I step away from being President of the CCA, I want to thank all of the board members past and present. This is a group of committed individuals who stay involved and are always willing to step up to volunteer whenever asked. There are also many volunteers that happily get involved with events and behind the scenes tasks. Many thanks to all of you as well. You know who you are! I look forward to joining the ranks!



Cataumet Civic Associates, Inc.

Your CCA Board

- Chris Gegg - President
- John Holden - Secretary
- Martha Roney - Treasurer
- Jane Hurter - Treasurer

Patti Dibella • Laura Murphy
Kathy Gillis • Judy Martin
Ben Joyce • Kelly Kalick
Dale Schimmel

Many thanks to Kelly Kalick, Chris Gegg, and Dale Schimmel as they step down and we welcome new board members Jonathan Dumais, Connie Tulloch, and Pam Pollack.

Thank you to Martha Roney for her years as Treasurer and Jane Hurter for taking over!

Follow us at:
www.cataumetca.org

The Tantalizing Tanglewood Marionettes

The Tanglewood Marionettes, who have won numerous puppetry awards, once again delivered a magical event when they performed *The Dragon King* at the Cataumet Club on Sunday July 17, 2016.

The tale, which was based on ancient Chinese myths, featured paintings that were created as the backdrop on a continuous scroll. As the show progressed, beautiful artwork, characterized by loose and flowing brushwork and delicate colors, was revealed as the scroll slowly was unrolled.

This is the most complex show the Tanglewood Marionettes have ever undertaken. The creation of the story, the puppets, the artwork, the arrangement of the music took over a year and a half! It featured traditional marionettes, whose movements are controlled by strings, as well as several rod puppets.

The heroine of this imaginative, original production is a grandmother who had undertaken a long journey in order to help the ones she loves. While an unusual choice for a leading character, all of the grandmothers in the audience loved it!

Despite the fact that it was a sultry, hot, humid day, the weather did not affect the audience who were thoroughly mesmerized by the kind dragon. He helped bring rain from the clouds to save the land. Both the performers and the audience enjoyed the 'happily ever after' ending.

Plan to be present this July 16, 2017 at 10 am when Cinderella will visit us to tell her timeless tale of jealousy and love.

~ Dale Schimmel

Non-Food Drive

Each year in the month of July the CCA hosts the Non-Food drive to benefit the Friends of Bourne Food Pantry. Bins are left on the porch of the Post Office Building and in front of the Depot for neighbors and friends to drop off any non food items. The most requested items by the food pantry are personal hygiene products which cannot be purchased with SNAP benefits. These items might include deodorant, shampoo, soap, toothpaste, diapers and toilet paper.

In 2016 the drive officially began on Saturday July 16 and ended on Saturday July 23. We have found that handing out an information sheet on the day before the drive begins and the day before the drive ends has increased the donations significantly. We did this during peak mail pick up hours. During the week the bins are checked throughout the day and items brought into the Depot, sorted and bundled. At the end of the week we were pleased to have a car load full of non-food items, including cleaning supplies which had not previously been on my radar but were most welcomed by the pantry.

The Pantry can serve 30-50 families on any given day that they are open, more during the month of November and December and the number of families the Pantry distributes food to totals 300+. It was a humbling experience to be able to deliver our donations to the Pantry and I assure you they were most appreciated.

~ Kelly Kalick

Did You Know?

This May will mark the 20th Anniversary of the Somerset Creamery in Cataumet!

Post Office Square, the heart of our Village, has a special new bench honoring Don & Allen Mears (just to the left of the Depot), and a restored fence surrounding our family-friendly and well-visited playground, both gifts to the Village from the CCA.



Christmas in Cataumet



Our tree lighting celebration began in October with the tree donation from Bill and Patti Dibella.

We thank Tim Greene for cutting the tree and hauling it to the playground in Cataumet Center. The decorations were all set in place prior to the weekend of the big event. A thank you goes out to Linda Carpenter, Ben Joyce, John York, John Holden, George and Kathy Gillis, Debbie Derosier, Gloria Gammons, Jean Davock, Sally Eldridge and Bill Dibella for helping to make our park glow with Christmas spirit.



On the early evening of Sunday, December 4 an enthusiastic crowd gathered and under the leadership of our Master of Ceremonies, John Holden, the lights were switched on. George Seaver, our electrical "go to" man, was responsible for making it all run smoothly. After the oohs and aahs at the beauty surrounding our playground and park, we were led in Christmas song accompanied by the talented Bill Fox on the accordion. The rendition of The Twelve Nights of



Christmas was especially enthusiastic. The group was delighted by the children's chorus that stepped forward to sing and entice Santa (Peter Flynn) to make a visit with an ornament gift for all. We thank Whitney Parker for organizing the children. In conclusion everyone tramped into the Depot to enjoy hot cider, provided by Andrea York, cookies and candy, provided by the CCA board and the School House Fair and friendly chit-chat. If you have never attended a Cataumet Tree Lighting Event we urge you to do so. It is always the first Sunday in December and is the very best way to start the Christmas season and get you in the holiday spirit.

~ Chairpersons
Linda Carpenter and Patti Dibella

CCA Treasurer's Report: January 1 through December 31, 2016

~ Martha Roney

OPENING BALANCE ≈ DECEMBER 31, 2015

OPERATING - TD BANK CHECKING	\$2,298.97	
OPERATING - SAVINGS	\$11,495.95	
SCHOLARSHIP - SAVINGS	\$3,376.08	\$17,171.00

INCOME

INTEREST	\$10.04	APTUXET GARDEN CLUB GRANT	\$100.00
DUES	\$3,055.00	BAKE SALE/YARD SALE	\$94.00
PLAYGROUND	\$630.00	SCHOLARSHIP	\$1,990.00
SPECIAL DONATIONS	\$11,780.00	RENT	\$1,600.00
			\$19,259.04

EXPENSES

BEAUTIFICATION	\$615.00	WEB MAINTENANCE	\$294.78
PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE	\$2,127.00	SCHOLARSHIPS	\$3,000.00
FENCE REPAIR	\$90.00	VILLAGE EVENTS	\$935.87
WATER TESTING	\$536.00	POSTAGE	\$297.46
GOOSE CONTROL	\$995.00	BENCH	\$2,098.47
P/A SYSTEM	\$1,044.00	BANK SERVICE CHARGES	\$44.00
PRINTING	\$2,000.00	UTILITIES	\$933.01
DONATION - BCT	\$1,077.86	MISC. MAINTENANCE	\$46.80
INSURANCE	\$906.14		\$15,701.90

CLOSING BALANCE ≈ DECEMBER 31, 2016

OPERATING - TD BANK CHECKING	\$2,426.06
OPERATING - SAVINGS	\$15,932.00
SCHOLARSHIP - SAVINGS	\$2,370.08
	\$20,728.14

For 2017, dues will remain \$15 individual; \$20 family; \$40 business.

Special donations, including those to support our scholarship program and playground, are always most welcome!

Congratulations to our 2016 scholarship recipients Yuxian Liu & Esmael Mendes

Yuxian Liu graduated from Bourne High School and is attending the University of Connecticut. Yuxian has not declared a major. In addition to a demanding academic schedule, she works 11 hours a week. Yuxian also performs with a dance team and continues to practice the piano and guitar.

Esmael Mendes is a graduate of Bourne High School and is attending Massachusetts Maritime Academy where he is enrolled in the Marine Safety and Environmental Protection Program.

Despite a rigorous daily routine and a demanding academic schedule, he has managed to maintain A's and B's. During the year, he competed in Track and Field focusing on long distance running and Cross Country.

Esmael also is a member of the MMA band playing the saxophone and has taken part in many parades and events.

This past winter he traveled to the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico for field work in his major field of study.

All Cataumet high school seniors are eligible to apply for a CCA scholarship. They do not have to attend Bourne High School. Applications are available Bourne High School Guidance Department. *~ Kathy Gillis*

Candidates Night 2017

The Cataumet Civic Associates and the Pocasset Village Association co-hosted the annual Candidates Night on May 10, 2017 at the Cataumet Methodist Church. Many thanks go to Moderator Tom Gelsthorpe and timekeeper Peter Fisher for promoting a lively and informative discussion among the Candidates and the audience. Thank you, also, to the CCA Board for providing delicious refreshments. Next year, Candidates Night will be sponsored by the PVA and will be held in Pocasset. *~ Kathy Gillis*

2017 Easter Hunt Event

The day was sunny and children dressed in their party 'best' arrived EARLY. They were greeted with blowing bubbles wands and given (water) bird whistles while waiting for the Easter Bunny. Never late, the Easter Bunny arrived at 10:30 am sharp and led the procession of children through the woods to Spring Hill Farm. There, they scattered through the fields to search and found to their delight an assortment of candy, toys & trinkets to fill their Easter baskets. The woods echoed: LOOK WHAT I FOUND! WOW!! I FOUND THE GOLDEN EGG!

The CCA thanks the parents and grandparents for supporting the event, the United Methodist Church for the use of the parking lot and the BCT for the availability of Spring Hill Farm. Volunteers helped make this year a huge success – turnout & participation was greater than previous years. **THANK YOU!**

A special THANKS to the Easter Bunny (Jessie Leone Randa) her helper (Erica Urban Decatur). *~ Judy Martin*

~ CCA Committee: Kelly Kalick, Judith Martin, Laura Murphy



How Hospital Cove Got Its Name!

There are two answers to this one, playfully argued over the years as to which might be right. First, rumor has it that most all the original homes around the harbor were owned by doctors; thus the name Hospital Cove. Second (and more fun), according to Elmer Landers, a past local historian, the Scraggy Neck causeway was a favorite spot for duck hunters. They set up their blinds across the causeway by digging holes and placing tree branches. At the crack of dawn ducks would start flying across the causeway and guns would start banging. Many ducks were killed; others were wounded and headed for the "cove" to recover or die. Thus, it was the hunters who named it "Hospital Cove."

~ Linda Carpenter

There Were "Two" Hotels in the Village

That was a long time ago, in the late 1800s and early 1900s. One was the Jachin House, owned by Alden Davis. The Davis Family was the one poisoned to death by "Jolly" Jane Toppan, Cataumet's serial killer. This hotel was near the train depot, on the corner of what is now Megansett Rd. and Oak Ave. The house that stands there today is what remains of the original hotel.

The other hotel, the Aldrich House, you all know...maybe not by the name but the place. It's just beyond Parker's Boat Yard, on the left heading out of the Village. This three-story summer resort hotel was built in 1880 on the shores of Red Brook "Springs" and close to the Old Colony Railroad for the convenience of Boston commuters. Abbot Aldrich bought the Red Brook property, which included a windmill and Red Brook Wharf, in 1885. He operated the hotel with his brother; his children attended the Cataumet Schoolhouse.

Aldrich House offered 22 bedrooms, a living room, two kitchens and a large communal dining room. Back then visitors could just get off the train and walk across the front yard into the hotel. In 1889, rooms were \$2.50 to \$3.00 per day, \$10.00 to \$18.00 per week. You were not allowed to wash in your rooms and wet bathing suits were not allowed in any part of the hotel; they had to dry outside. Towels were available for \$.05 each. For an extra charge you could get a meal in your room.

In 1905 the hotel failed after some mysterious intrigue involving the Aldrich brothers. It then became the summer home of Ebenezer Alden and his family, whose members included the inventor of the FAX machine. It remains a spacious but unheated summer home for generations of the now extended Alden family, with many of the original hotel features and ambiance intact.

~ Linda Carpenter



Thank You... Gracias... Arigato...

Thank you to Marc Daniels for spreading the mountain of playground fiber chips!



Merci... Danke... Grazie... Thank You





The Proposed Bourne Rail Trail

The year-long Bourne Rail Trail feasibility study for the proposed rail trail to be built on the current 6.25 mile section of the Woods Hole branch line of railroad tracks - the northern terminus at the end of the Cape Cod Canal path at the railroad bridge and the southern terminus at the beginning of the Shining Sea Bike Path in North Falmouth - was completed on February 15, 2017 by Cape Cod Commission staff on behalf of the Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization and the Cape Cod Joint Transportation Committee. The Bourne Rail Trail would complete the 24-mile, uninterrupted pedestrian and cycling route linking Woods Hole, Falmouth, Bourne, and the eastern terminus of the Cape Cod Canal in Sandwich. The rail trail in Bourne would pass through the villages of Gray Gables, Monument Beach, Pocasset, and Cataumet that include some of the most beautiful and scenic coastal areas in Bourne: Monk's Cove, the Pocasset River salt marsh and estuary, Red Brook Harbor and the Bourne Conservation Trust Cataumet Greenway.

The tracks in Bourne are currently not in regular use. The tracks are owned by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. Mass Coastal Railroad currently leases the track, but the daily trash removal train has ceased operation with no regularly scheduled freight use. The Friends of the Bourne Rail Trail website (www.bournerrailtrail.org) states, "Developing the trail

would breathe new economic life into (the four Bourne) villages and restore the corridor's historic purpose to provide mobility for the upper cape's residents and draw visitors to the community." The trail would greatly enhance the safety for cyclist and pedestrians who currently use Shore Road or County Road.

Below is the summary of the Cape Cod Commission's feasibility study:

1. Do nothing = \$0
2. Build the rail trail removing the existing tracks = \$9,045,000
3. Build a rail-with-trail side by side (with new bridge crossings) = \$25,498,000
4. Build a rail-with-trail side by side (with at-grade bridge crossings) = \$14,669,000

The conclusion of the feasibility study is: "Based on the overwhelming support of this project and the significant benefits, Commission staff recommends that this project move forward in the design process to address the concerns outlined in the report. In the design process, all issue areas can be studied in depth with details presented and then a decision can be made weather to advance the project."

~ John Holden (2/26/17)

To read the full feasibility study, go to:

http://www.capecodcommission.org/resources/transportation/bikeped/Shining_Sea_Feasibility_Study_02132017.pdf

Bourne Conservation Trust...

source of our incredible gift of open space

The newest BCT property is the Shultz Family lot on the way to and from Somerset Creamery, at the intersection of County and Scraggy Neck Roads. This spring and summer it should be a colorful mix of wildflowers for all to enjoy. BCT is also the recipients of a 7-acre parcel of land on the east side of Rte. 28, between the landfill and the rotary. With this generous gift from the Leon Burgess family, the BCT now owns 40 contiguous acres in that area, all free from development.

The BCT wants you and your pets to enjoy its open space, walk the trails and savor the beauty, plants and wildlife. You can support the BCT through your donations (Box 203) and by helping their Trail Meisters to keep the trails clear of debris. To report any fallen trees or large limbs call 508-563-2884 or email bct.trails@gmail.com. For more information about the BCT, or to get a trail map, go to the BCT web site www.bourneconservationtrust.org.

"Shout outs" and "High Fives"!

We are fortunate to have many individuals and businesses that take the time and effort to volunteer services, labor, and help with many tasks and activities around our special village. It is impossible for me to list all, or even be aware of all that goes on behind the scenes of daily life in Cataumet but I would like to mention a few folks that have been very busy helping out when asked or just busy finding their own community project.

CCA Board members, Bourne Conservation Trust, BCT "Trail Meisters", Aptuxet Garden Club, Cataumet Arts Center, Cataumet Club, Fred Greene, Tim Greene, Peter Lewitt, Suzanne Meuse, Steve Gegg, George Seaver, Linda Carpenter, Clare Heffernan, Nancy Urban, Erica Decatur, Jessie Randa, Cathy Leone, Laurie York, John York, Andrea York, Peter Walter, Melissa Fox, Sam Martin, Grace Rowe, Peter Fisher, Tom Gelsthorpe, Bill Fox, Bill Dibella, Tom and Debbie Derosier, Gloria Gammons, Rich and Bonnie Thomas.



Have you seen that bench?

Last summer a beautiful stone bench appeared to the left of the Depot. It is nestled under a beautiful tree, waiting for the people of Cataumet to come and relax. The bench is rather unique. It is one of a kind, nothing fancy, solid as the rock it is made of, and waiting to embrace anyone. This makes me think of the people we are celebrating, Don and Allen Mears. It was installed by many dear friends of Don and Allen with a lot of manpower, patience, and strength. A real tribute to them both.

Don was in the Coast Guard for twenty years, moving from one station to another, spending his last tour at Air Station Cape Cod. They made their home in Ben-



nets Neck in Pocasset then bought property in Cataumet in 1984. They designed and built their home themselves. An amazing and beautiful home, the door

Depot Rental ***The Depot is Available for Rent***

This past year it has been used for music and bridge lessons, birthday parties and local AA chapter meetings. If the Depot might be the perfect spot for your function, please contact Patti Dibella (508-392-9497) or Judy Martin (508-563-5378) for details.

was always open to everyone, even the chipmunks! Don and Allen were always willing to help any organization that needed help. You may have seen Don and Allen planting bulbs for civic projects, building benches for conservation trails, driving for Meals on Wheels, or driving for Road to Recovery...the list goes on. Ask and they were there with smiles, and ready to help. Don especially enjoyed his time with the BCT (Bourne Conservation Trust) and Steve and Sally Ballentine for about twenty years. He was a member of the Trail Meisters and made many of the original trails in our Cataumet woods.

I will end with a quote from Don in a recent letter. "With all our traveling, Cataumet has always remained our most treasured spot in the world. It in itself is wonderful, BUT it is the friends and neighbors that make it most special. We would hope it will remain that way. With so many fine people with the desire to help one another and the ability to do just that, Cataumet will always remain the best place in the world".

I am very lucky to know Don and Allen and have them be part of my family's lives.

Since the writing of this article, it is with great sadness to share that Allen passed away on April 29th in California. She will be greatly missed by not only her family, but many friends who have enjoyed her friendship and love for many years. Allen was an amazing woman.

~ Laura Murphy (Emma's Mom)

Swimmer's Itch

Finally warm summer is here. Sun lovers and swimmers are coming to enjoy Squeteague Harbor beach. So are the Canadian Geese! But George and others saw them coming and shoo-oo-ed them away with loud noises, and it is working.

When the Canadian Geese appeared in Squeteague Harbor years ago, it was fun to feed them bread and have them swim up to you. Not a good idea. In the summer around 1970, we began to be plagued by swimmers itch (cercarial dermatitis) an itchy rash caused by the schistosome parasite.

We learned from scientists in Woods Hole who were researching the problem, that the schistosomes have a life cycle between Canadian Geese and Mud Snails. I have noticed we have a bumper crop of mud snails in Squeteague this year. It is easier to deter the geese than the mud snails!

Next time you go swimming, thank George and the others for their efforts in helping keep our waters free of swimmers itch. To learn more about how to help, please contact George.

~ Laurie York



Cataumet Civic Associates, Inc.

P.O. Box 277

Cataumet, MA 02534

Non-Profit Organization

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Cataumet, MA 02534

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Cataumet, MA 02534**

It's Your Village!
Please support the CCA

**Important Village Events 2017 ~ Mark Your Calendars:
Look for updates at: www.cataumetca.org or follow us on Facebook!**

July 15 - 22	Non-Food Drive	Post Office and Depot
July 16	Puppet Show "Cinderella"	10:00am Cataumet Club
August	Tuesday Talks*	7:00pm Schoolhouse
TBD	Antique Car Show/Picnic	12:00 - 4:00 Schoolhouse
December 2	Craft Fair @ Schoolhouse	9:30 - 3:00 Schoolhouse
December 3	Tree Lighting and Carol Sing	5:00pm Post Office Square

Got questions? Got suggestions? Got concerns?

Want to get involved? Join the Board or a Committee?

It's easy. Just contact Chris Gegg at chrisgegg@comcast.net or any member of the Board.

The CCA would love to hear from you!