VillageTimes



News and Updates from the Cataumet Civic Associates, Inc.

Message from the President, Jane Hurter

I am composing this message on yet another dreary damp day (June 1st). Year round residents can confirm that we have had a really tough winter and spring! Here's hoping that Mother Nature will look kindly on us for the rest of spring and summer.

Improved Communications

Former President Chris Gegg has agreed to be the Communications Chair. Due to her continued investment in CCA's mission of promoting social and civic affairs of both Cataumet and the town, Chris is committed to informing CCA members of upcoming events and local issues through "blast" emails. She is also maintaining our website: www.cataumetca.org. Please notify Chris at chrisgegg@comcast.net if you are a member and are not receiving these emails. Thanks Chris for your continued commitment to CCA!

Mears Family Fund Donation

The Mears Family Fund has generously donated another \$10,000 to CCA. In order to fulfill the Mears' wishes and to promote CCA's mission, the Board has decided to designate some of the funds for special projects

including an annual Mears Scholarship, Mears Speaker Series and the Mears Garden surrounding the Depot building.

The Mears Speaker Series will provide educational, informational, and entertaining programs for CCA members and the community beginning this summer with a presentation by Maureen Boyle, author of "Shallow Graves," in partnership with the Bourne Public Library, on Thursday, August 16 at 7:00 pm.

"Shallow Graves" is the true crime account of the hunt for the New Bedford Highway Serial Killer. Nine women were strangled and left along the highway circling New Bedford, MA. Maureen Boyle is an awardwinning journalist who has been a crime reporter in New England for more than twenty-five years. She is the director of the Journalism Program at Stonehill College. More information will be available soon.

Please contact

programscca@ellliptic.com or call Pam Pollock at 508-965-6927 if you have ideas for interesting speakers or would like to join the speaker series planning committee.

(continued on page 2)



Your CCA Board

- Jane Hurter President
- John Holden Secretary
- Jane Hurter Treasurer

Jane Goon • Ben Joyce

Mike Lipchak • Pam Pollock

We welcomed two new members and will be saying goodbye to four seasoned members. Janice Goon and Mike Lipchak have graciously accepted positions on the Board. Many thanks to Patti Dibella, Laura Murphy, Kathy Gillis, and Judy Martin for their contributions during many years of service.

They will be missed!

Follow us at: www.CataumetCA.org

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(continued from page 1)

Scholarships

The Board changed the practice of awarding scholarships in 2018. Previously high school seniors applied using the Bourne High School application process. This year, we expanded the pool of candidates to include returning college students, previous recipients, and those who use the new CCA Scholarship Application. We are proud to award scholarships, including the new Mears Scholarship, to four outstanding young people in 2018. Going forward students may apply through the Bourne High School process or through CCA. Scholarship requirements may be found at www.cataumetca.org.

Annual Meeting/Ice Cream Social

CCA members, friends and family, and Cataumet residents are invited to attend the Cataumet Civic Associates annual meeting at the Depot on August 8, 2018 at 6:30 pm to elect directors, officers and vote to amend its Bylaws. The Bylaws are available on the CCA website www.cataumetca.org and emailed prior to the annual meeting.

Following the annual meeting please stay for an old-fashioned Ice Cream Social at Washington Park at 7:00 pm. We hope you will plan to attend and catch up on current

events, meet your neighbors and enjoy some ice cream with your family and friends.

Last But Not Least - Volunteers

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our community. With their help Cataumet Civic Associates continues to be an important asset of the residents of Cataumet. Please take a moment to read the accompanying articles about some of the CCA activities during the past year.

All these activities and events happen with the generous support from all our volunteers, too numerous to name. CCA has always had a group of "unsung heroes" who continuously contribute their time and effort. But we are always in need of some additional "hands" and we welcome all of you to become volunteers too. Many of these tasks are a one-time commitment that would not take much time out of a busy schedule. Join a CCA committee to meet new friends, learn more about our village, and share your skills and time. This is what makes Cataumet a special community.

Feel free to email *cca@elliptic.com* for more details or if you have other questions, comments, or ideas. To find out more about ways you can help, please visit www.cataumetca.org.

Thank you all for your support by being members of the Cataumet Civic Associates, Inc.

CCA Treasurer's Report: January 1st through December 31st, 2017 **OPENING BALANCE** ≈ **DECEMBER 31, 2016** OPERATING - TD BANK CHECKING \$ 2,426.09 OPERATING - SAVINGS 15,932.00 SCHOLARSHIP - SAVINGS 2,370.08 \$ 20,728.17 INCOME INTEREST - TD BANK 27.68 GENERAL DONATIONS \$ 1,945.00 DUES MEARS DONATION 10,000.00 2,020.00 PLAYGROUND DONATIONS 540.00 APTUXET GARDEN CLUB GRANT 100.00 SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS 2,990.00 RENT 1,725.00 TOTAL INCOME \$ 19,347.68 **EXPENSES** SCHOLARSHIPS \$ 2,000.00 BEAUTIFICATION 73.00 Postage 240.95 WATER TESTING 375.78 WEB MAINTENANCE Printing 1,145.00 64.71 BANK SERVICE CHARGES MISC. MAINTENANCE 48.00 164.78 FILING FEES 18.50 CANDIDATES NIGHT \$ 85.51 PUPPET SHOW Insurance 1,623.00 600.00 Tree Lighting NATURAL GAS \$ 431.39 475.62 EASTER EGG HUNT Water 37.50 74.77 ELECTRICITY TOTAL VILLAGE EVENTS 493.82 1,235.90 TOTAL UTILITIES 962.71 **TOTAL EXPENSES** \$ 7,952.33 **NET INCOME** 11,395.35 BALANCE ≈ DECEMBER 31, 2017 TD BANK - CHECKING - OPERATING \$ 14,095.73 CHECKING - PLAYGROUND 540.00 OPERATING - SAVINGS 14,823.26 SCHOLARSHIP - SAVINGS 5,664.53 \$ 35,123.52

Annual Environmental Report on Squeteague Harbor

Nitrate Levels Annually Stable

Over the 30 years of this program, no trend in nitrate has been observed, a surprising result given the groundwater input level. The answer probably comes in the winter activity seen in our December to February

results: the summer is a time of high biological activity, the winter a time of high chemical activity. In the summer the nitrate is taken up by biological growth; when this fades in the cold of the late Fall, the nitrate returns, in part, to the water column. The high January level is then tidally exported to Buzzards Bay, providing the annual balance.

Goosebusters Program

...continues this year, mostly by Ann Ware and myself. No geese nested in Squeteague and the goose day-trippers were mostly scared away. The important results are: beaches and lawns were clean, swimming was not closed due to coliform, and The Nature Conservancy continued to propagate scallops in the harbor.

Finally, dog-walkers, both on the beach and along the trail to

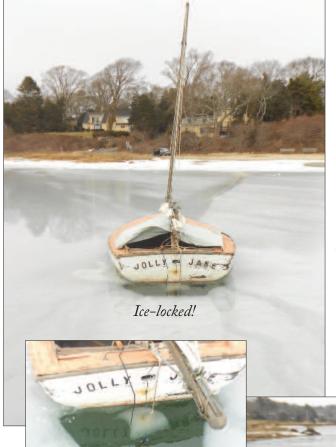
Lawrence Island, were cooperative by using "doggie bags" provided from the two dispensers - even bringing their own bags when I had been late in refilling the dispenser.

~ George Seaver, June 6, 2018

The Jolly Jane "Retires"

As part of this winter's sample round in Squeteague Harbor, a sample was taken at the stern of the Jolly Jane at its mooring. On January 9th, a chain saw had to be used to cut through 11 inches of ice to reach the

> submerged instruments and download the data. By the 13th, temperature had increased to 56°F, the wind shifted around to the southwest at 40 knots, the ice broke, and developed into a wall coming in towards the beach... the Jolly Jane in its way. As the New Bedford Arctic whaling fleet showed in 1871, boats are no match for a winter ice storm. The Jolly Jane had survived at mooring during hurricane "Bob" in 1991, and during many winters as well, but not this time. However, the instruments survived, intact and useful, and their data appear here as part of the above-quoted results.



Bourne Conservation Trust

The Bourne Conservation Trust had an incredibly busy winter: three very destructive storms. The woods and trails were, to put it mildly, a mess. But Trail Meisters were out in force - fully equipped and responding to downed trees and blocked paths with utmost diligence and speed. In some cases a bit of creativity was needed as paths needed to be rerouted around some trees that were just too darn big. They definitely get a ranking of 5 pine cones... and many thanks!

The Trust is also working on Depot improvements:

a new bathroom and some reconfiguring of storage, so village event items can be stored away and the space left open and clean for community use. Expected to be finished by the end of June.

On January 14th, The Jolly Jane disappeared in a

wall of ice... ending up a day later on the beach in pieces.

And fortunately, a very generous and long-time donor has agreed to donate \$250,000 for an endowment! But we must raise \$250,000 this year to match it. So we are in serious fund raising mode. Spread the word because, if we can raise another \$250,000 next year and again in 2020, it will be matched!!



Events Brought to You by The CCA

The Tanglewood Marionettes

Young and old alike joined Cinderella at the Ball while the Tanglewood Marionettes pulled the strings last July 16, 2017 at the Cataumet Club clubhouse.

Cinderella is set in the 18th century; the "cast" features a dozen lavishly costumed 30" marionettes. Cinderella, her scheming stepmother, her bumptious stepsisters, and, of course, the charming Prince, unfolded their story on beautifully painted settings – the village square, the rustic kitchen, the magnificent ballroom, and more.

On Sunday, July 22, Tanglewood Marionettes presents "The Fairy Circus" at 10 am in the



Cataumet Club clubhouse. It features over 20 beautifully handcrafted marionettes that will dance, play instruments, juggle, contort, transform, and fly through the air with the greatest of ease, all to the best-loved music of favorite composers. Run time is approximately 40 minutes.

This event is sponsored by the CCA, is open to all

and is free.
Please join us for a fun morning.

Thanks to Dale Schimmel for planning the 2017 event!

~ Patti Dibella



All eyes stare in rapt attention as the Tanglewood Marionettes recreate the magic of Cinderella's big night!

Christmas in Cataumet

Cataumet sang in the Christmas season on Sunday, December 3 with the annual tree lighting and carol sing. It was a beautiful evening with John Holden again presiding over festivities. The park, tree and buildings were decorated and festooned with new lights. A jubilant crowd of adults and children cheered the lighting of the tree and sang carols, the most enthusiastic being The Twelve Days of Christmas. The children sang, Santa arrived to give gifts, and everyone enjoyed hot cider, cookies, candy and socializing with friends new and old.

It takes many hands to make it all happen; special

thanks go to Bill and Patti Dibella for the tree donation and Tim Greene for cutting and hauling it to the playground; Bill Fox for his talented accompaniment on accordion; Ben Joyce, John York, Debbie Derosier, Bill Dibella, George and Kathy Gillis and John Holden for decorating skills; Andrea York for the cider; the CCA and School House Boards for cookies and candy; George Seaver for electrical assistance; and Santa, Peter Flynn.

Please join us for this heartwarming experience each year on the first Sunday in December.

~ Chairpersons Linda Carpenter and Patti Dibella

Another Kid-Friendly Event!



Easter Egg Hunt

Typical of our very cold and rainy spring this year, the original Easter Egg Hunt plan had to be postponed to our "rain date" of March 31st. On that day, we were blessed with sunny skies and a wonderful turn out for our annual hunt!

Children of all ages arrived with baskets or bags and ready for a morning of treasure hunting! Experienced children energetically looked for golden eggs, knowing that a special prize lay in store for the child with keen eyes! Each group had its own hidden golden egg.

The enthusiasm felt during this family event is another great reason why we are so lucky to live in a community that sponsors this type of event. I





I'm not sure who had more fun - the Easter Bunny or the children! Easter Bunny was moved when a little boy wrapping his arms around his leg said, "I love you Easter Bunny!"

enjoyed the support of many new volunteers. If anyone reading this is interested in helping at a CCA event, please reach out to us! New volunteers bring new ideas, and make our community stronger.

Thank you to all that helped with the Easter Egg Hunt; GREAT job! Many thanks also to The United Methodist Church for use of their parking lot and the Bourne Conservation Trust for availability of Spring Hill Farm.

A very special THANK YOU to the Easter Bunny (Jay Crider) and his helper (Martha Roney), and to Easter Bunny (Bill Henry), ready for the original date of the event.

> ~Laura Murphy Committee: Patti Dibella, Judith Martin, Laura Murphy



CCA Membership List

Listed below are the 2017 members of the CCA, including individual, family, and business members; and those who have made Washington Park/playground, scholarship, and other additional donations. If you are not a member of the CCA, please join! It's your village, and the CCA works very hard to keep it a special and unique community. Your contributions help provide scholarships for deserving Cataumet students; enhance Washington Park, the playground, and Depot; and fund many civic and family events during the year. Dues are \$15 for individuals, \$20 for families, and \$40 for businesses.

Please note:

- The deadline for becoming a member in 2018 is December 31st.
- CCA is a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization; your dues and donations are tax deductible.
- Please ensure that your name, address, and email address are on the dues envelope.
- Double your contribution? Oftentimes, the CCA qualifies under employer matching gift programs!

Individual and Family Members Donors

Allan & Sandra Curtis Frederick Greene Barbara Ahalt T. Langdon Allen Margaret (Peggy) Curtis Ginette Halev Ben & Julie Allen Davis Family Alex& Carol Hannenberg Hal DeWaltoff & Grace Rowe Willy & Meegan Hatch Lew & Nancy Ambler Bill & Patti Dibella Roy & Clare Heffernan David & Judy Ariagno Jay & Jane Hodge William & Gail Donkin Pam Arpe Tim & Reah Atwater Shirley Douglass-Miller John & Joan Holden Tom & Jeanne Holland Steve & Sally Ballentine Duane & Tatiana Downey Keith & Laurie Bartlett Phil Duddy Joseph Hughes Grover & Brenda Baxley Mark & Maryann Hughes Sally Eldridge Rebecca Birch & Mark Pankoff Bernadette Ericson Bob & Cyndy Hurley Susan Ernst Robert & Genie Birch Iane Hurter Bob Bishop William & Joan Fallon Mark & Carla Hutker Bill & Jane Jackson

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Faith Civilinski

Steve & Chris Gegg

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Terry & Karen Cronburg Marvin & Andrea Gordon

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Harold & Kelly Kalick

Chris & Donna Kent

Brian & Pamela Kendrick

Elizabeth (Betsy) Kiebala John & Louise Kingsbury

Alan & Jeanne Kuzerian

Jean Langley

Ben Joyce



sends thanks to all of you who supported our Village with dues and special donations!



We make every attempt to correctly track and report members and donors. If you have donated in the past year and your name does not appear in this list, please notify us at cca@elliptic.com.

We want to ensure that all members and donors are acknowledged.

Did you forget to rejoin in 2017? There's plenty of time to join again in 2018. In that way you will be included in "blast" emails throughout the year for important updates and upcoming events.

Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.

~ Anonymous

Ann Lindberg

Mike Lipchak & Maryann Ouellette

William & Noelle Locke

Gregory Lough Peter Mackin

Phil & Nancy Mara

Judith Martin

Bob & Sydney McCabe Marty & Kristin McCabe

Peter & Judy McGee

Joyce McLane

Mears Family Fund

Jeff Melvin & Jayne Donnelly Corinne & Barry Monahan

Ann & Dieter Morlock

Pamela Morrone

Amanda Barnes Muckle'

Laura Murphy

Richard & Laura Murphy

Larry & Carol Murphy

Karol Musche Ann Myerson

John & Sue Nelson

Kent & Diana Nicholas

Ionathan & Lorraine Parker

Bruce & Patti Parker

Edward Parker

Robert & Carol Peecha

Janet Percival

Charles & Carol Peterman

John & Nancy Pollis

John & Pam Pollock

Lynn Porter

Claudina Quinn

John Quinn Family

Steve & Charlotte Ryan

Chris & Shannon Ryberg

Fred Sayles & Joanne Goudreau

Gordon & Dale Schimmel

Goldon & Dale Schilling

Helen Chin Schlichte

Llewellyn & Sharon Seaver

George Seaver

Bob & Doreen Shea

Kevin & Donna Steele

Roger & Andrea Stokey

Matthew & Robin Stone

James Sullivan

Barbara Takagi

Scott & Carol Taylor

Rich & Bonnie Thomas

Jack & Nancy Urban

Ann Ware

Bruce & Debbie Webster

Wally & Kathy Weld

I. David & Pauline White

Isabel Yoder

Please support these Business Donors that support the CCA!

Cataumet Fish

David R. MacLean & Associates

Flagship Systems

Greene's Tree & Garden

Kingman Yacht Center

Nick Fish - William Raveis RE

Parker's Boat Yard

Squeteague Harbor Marine

Tom Bowers Turf Care &

Landscaping

Wood Duck Inn Bed & Breakfast

Village and Community News



The "Trash Train" Returns to Cataumet

Those readers that are new to Cataumet Village, or have been away since last summer ended, may be surprised to hear train horns in our neighborhood. No, they don't trumpet the arrival of new commuter rail service to Boston or Hyannis! Instead they announce the reincarnation of the "Trash Train" as it travels from the Upper Cape Regional Transfer Station (UCRTS) located on nearby Joint Base Cape Cod (JBCC) to off-Cape disposal facilities.

The UCRTS is located on a 19-acre parcel outside of the JBCC restricted area, accessed via Kitridge Road, off





of Sandwich Road and Route 151. The site includes a transfer station tipping building, rail spur, and truck scale. On the spur usually sit 3 or 4 open-top rail cars, either ready to be loaded while parked beneath the tipping building or ready to be hauled away by a Mass Coastal Railroad engine.

The UCRTS was constructed in 1989 to transfer municipal solid waste from towns in the Upper Cape region, via rail, to the SEMASS waste-to-energy plant in Rochester, MA. The facility was operated through December 2014 when existing disposal contracts with SEMASS expired. Member towns negotiated disposal contracts independently with other disposal facilities, sending their trash to multiple locations, and forcing UCRTS to close on the first day of 2015 due to low usage. Subsequent to that, only the paved access and parking area of the facility were used - for Commercial Drivers License testing.

In 2015, the UCRTS Board of Managers commissioned a feasibility study for other uses of the site. Switching the site from municipal waste disposal to construction and demolition (C&D) debris removal was identified as potentially sustainable. In a daylong meeting on May 3, 2017, the Board entertained proposals from



several local firms to re-open and operate the facility. From those, Cavossa Disposal, nearby on Rt. 151, eventually received the operating contract. UCRTS began accepting commercial dumpster waste early last Fall.

Now, instead of municipal trash

collectors, dumpster-laden trucks climb the ramp to the

top of the small knoll that sets the tipping building above the height of the railcars, backs into the tipping building, and empties onto the floor. Inside, front-end loaders scoop the waste into rail cars. A particularly beefy loader is on-hand to move railcars in and out of the tipping building since it is not costeffective to leave a railroad engine on-site for this occasional chore. From the back of the building,



when fully loaded, the Trash Train again wends its way through Cataumet.

Returning this railroad right-of-way to active service obviously has an impact on efforts to create a Bourne Rail Trail. As we read in last year's newsletter, the least expensive option is to install the Rail Trail in the existing right-of-way after removing the existing tracks, which no longer seems possible. An update to the Rail Trail status appears on the next page.

Village and Community News



Proposed Bourne Rail Trail Update

The proposed Bourne Rail Trail (BRT) would run 6.25 miles along the current railroad corridor beginning in North Falmouth at the end of the Shining Sea Bike Path continuing to its northern terminus at the railroad bridge and the Cape Cod Canal bike and pedestrian path. 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.

As stated on the Friends of the Bourne Rail Trail website (www.bournerailtrail.org), two significant and positive steps have been taken so far this year as the hard work continues to establish the BRT:

1) In April, The Town of Bourne formed the Town Administrator's Advisory Committee on Pedestria Bicycle Pathway. The Committee, which includes a member of the Board of Selectman, will serve in an advisory role in the development of the BRT and represents an important step as the project moves forward.

2) In February, Friends of the BRT joined a distinguished group of delegates from Cape Cod on a visit to the Massachusetts State House to discuss the next steps for the BRT with officials from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's "Trail Team". Lead by Representative David Vieira - and joined by Senator Vinny deMacedo, Representative Rand Hunt, Selectman Susan Moran of Falmouth, Selectman Peter Meier of Bourne, and Administrator Tom Cahir of the Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority - the delegation briefed officials on the local and regional progress to date and discussed the next steps required for the project go forward. The meeting left the delegation feeling very optimistic about the future of the BRT.

There is still an incredible amount of work to accomplish before the BRT becomes a reality, and the Friends of the BRT are dedicated, fully focused and working aggressively to make it happen.

~ John Holden, June 2018

Origins of the CCA

The CCA was founded during the summer of 1958. Its objective has always been the preservation and protection of those features that make Cataumet an ideal residential area. In those days, Cataumet, as much of Bourne, was zoned for "General Use" which meant almost anything could and would be allowed.

The removal of topsoil and start of construction of a concrete batching plant with an entrance where Shearwater Drive is now located was the cause for formation of the group. After a lengthy legal battle initiated by CCA to change the zoning, the permit was up for renewal and amendment. The Town denied the permit.

Activities thereafter were few and informal until 1977 when the CCA reactivated to meet a new threat of loss of Washington Park. The railroad owned the Park but in 1977 there was speculation that the land would be sold. The area would turn into various business uses, along with the Post Office and the then

Sail Loft building.

CCA set two goals: 1) have the Town take
Washington Park by eminent domain, and
2) change the zoning for the Post Office and Sail Loft
Building. The Town now owns Washington Park but
unfortunately the zoning change was narrowly defeated.

The above information was extracted from an old CCA brochure, date unknown.

Afterword – CCA continues to address issues that preserve the unique nature of Cataumet Village. Its accomplishments are too long to list. However, CCA is committed to fulfilling its mission statement included in the Bylaws by serving the Cataumet community socially, financially, environmentally, and civically.

~ President/Treasurer Jane Hurter

Newsletter photo credits: Page 1, Maryann Quellette; page 3, George Seaver; page 4, Maryanne Ouellette; page 5, Susan Crider, Pam Marrone; page 8, Mike Lipchak.

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Your CCA Serving the Community

Scholarship Awards

The Cataumet Civic Associates awarded scholarships to four Cataumet students in 2018. Congratulations to Melissa Griffin, Jenna O'Melia, Tess McCabe and Esmael Mendes!

Melissa, daughter of George and Amy Griffin, graduated from Bourne High School and is planning to attend Westfield State University majoring in Elementary Education. While at BHS, Melissa was active in the Honors Band as a first chair flutist, and the Environmental Club. She also played softball for four years and works part time at Stop and Shop.

Jenna, daughter of Richard and Diana O'Melia, graduated from Bourne High School and will attend the University of New Hampshire. Jenna was a member of the National Honor Society, Drama Club, and Key Club and served as Co-President of the Book Club. She was also Co-Captain of the Math Team and played Volleyball and Tennis for BHS. In addition, she works at Bailey's Restaurant.

Tess, daughter of Robert and Sydney McCabe, received the only scholarship awarded by the CCA in 2017, and qualified again this year. Tess completed her freshman year at St. Michael's College in Vermont and is enrolled in the Biology Honors Program. Tess is a member of the Women's Varsity Soccer Team. During her summer vacation, Tess is a waitress at the Chartroom.

Esmael, son of Jose and Adelina Mendes, was a previous winner of the 2016 CCA scholarship. We are pleased to announce the award of the first annual **Don and Allen Mears Scholarship** to Esmael. He has just completed his sophomore year at Massachusetts Maritime Academy where he was named to the Dean's List and is class Treasurer. Activities that keep Esmael busy are performing in the Regimental Band, the MMA First Watch Jazz Band, and playing baseball, cross country and spring track, to name a few. He also works at Market Basket weekends and summers.

~ Kathy Gillis

"Non-Food" Drive

Each year in July, the CCA sponsors the Non-Food Drive to benefit the Friends of Bourne Food Pantry. Only non-food items are collected as customers need these items but cannot buy them with government-assisted money. In 2017, we delivered a large SUV filled with donated merchandise.

The CCA will again sponsor this Drive, which begins this year on Saturday July 14 and runs through Saturday July 21. Non-food items such as pet food, paper goods, personal hygiene products and similar items are much in demand at the pantry.

Watch for publicity concerning this worthy effort: what to bring and where to drop off. Kelly Kalick is spearheading this activity.

~ Patti Dibella

The Depot is Available for Rent

This past year it has been used for music and bridge lessons, birthday parties, and other local meetings.

If the Depot might be the perfect spot for your function, please contact Jane Hurter at *CCA@elliptic.com* for details.

Village Roots

See the facing page for an inspiring and humorous interview of Albert Ransom "Raz" Parker, Jr., who owned and operated Parker's Boatyard on Red Brook Harbor Road. He passed in 2005 at the age of 91. There can be no doubt that Raz and his boatyard continue to have a profound impact on Cataumet, contributing to its unique character and spirit.

The CCA extends its sincerest gratitude to Brian Shortsleeve, Publisher of Cape Cod Life magazine, for permission to reprint this article from its Winter 1986 issue.

~ Village Times Editor

Candidates Night 2018

The Cataumet Civic Associates and the Pocasset Village Association held its annual Meet the Candidates Night on May 9th at the Pocasset Community Center, in advance of Town Elections. Candidates Night provides a wonderful opportunity for candidates for Town offices to present their positions on issues facing our town and villages and to respond to questions from the audience.

Next year's Candidates Night will be held in early May at the Cataumet Methodist Church.

People, Places & Things





Raz Parker, owner of Parker's Boatyard in Cataumet.

RAZ PARKER by Marsha Gordon

az Parker's step on the stair belies his 72 years. His handshake is solid. His gaze is that of the sailor: straight, following the true line of the horizon. He wasted no time getting down to the business of this interview: his career as owner of Parker's Boatvard in Cataumet.

RAZ PARKER: I had people telling me I could never do this (pointing to the constant hum of activity). My parents, my sister, they discouraged me. Businessmen told me back in 1948 I definitely could never make it go. I knew somehow I could.

CAPE COD LIFE: Why was the boatyard so important to you? RP: I always wanted a boatyard, but I never knew quite how I could do it. I spent five years in boarding school with people telling me I was part moron. I was studying things I didn't need to study. Like Latin . . . hic,haec, hoc. What the hell good did that do me? I wanted to study history and English, but most of all I wanted carpentry and training in mechanics.

But every summer I did quite well. We lived in Marblehead and I was in business at age 14 teaching sailing and delivering newspapers to yachts. I'd end up the summer

with a pretty good savings account and my brainy friends back in boarding school hadn't earned a dime and I was told I was hopeless. CCL: Why the move to the Cape?

Obviously Marblehead is a pretty decent boating area?

RP: A friend of mine had a home on the Cape and I'd come visit with him whenever I came from a trip with the Merchant Service. Anyway, after World War II, housing was hard to get; jobs were hard to find. For two years I'd tried to be a farmer in New Hampshire and Vermont, but found I couldn't get on without the salt water. My friend here on the Cape found me an apartment and I got a job selling marine supplies to boatyards. I discovered this abandoned property and made a deal with Mrs. Robinson, the old lady who owned it, and left my job. I was 33 years old in 1948, had a wife, a baby and very little money, if any. My wife ran a nursery school. I did outside carpentry work for three, maybe four, years and also worked in a boatyard in Plymouth. After 10 years, when Mrs. Robinson died, I managed to buy the property and six more little parcels and pieced it all together. Originally you might have called this a little back-yard business but it grew as boating became more popular. It just seems I was here at the right time.

CCL: People say you have a certain integrity with boats. What does that mean?

RP: I like boats so well that I'm very interested in repairing them well. I'm not a big businessman, that's for sure, but I do like boats and most people that own boats. CCL: Has the boating community changed? Is there a different person out there?

RP: For the most part, sailboat people are pretty good. I've been quoted in the Cruising Guide as saying, "We specialize in the repair of sailboats and certain work-type power boats and all the others keep the hell out."

But now, even the sailboats are getting technical. We used to sail in a crude boat and have a good time. We wanted to know the boat was sound and able. Today if there's a tiny leak in the cabin, people get all geared up. We used to just tie a piece of string overhead and let the water drip down somewhere else.

CCL: How do you keep your sense of humor when the going gets tough around here?

RP: We do things like have two awards every summer. They're unpublished and unknown to the recipients. The Pilgrim of the Year Award goes to the person who does the most boo-boos and causes all the trouble. The Captain Crunch Award goes to the fella who hits the dock the hardest.

CCL: It's important to you to sit down to an old-fashioned dinner

every night. Why?

RP: Mostly I like to eat on time and I like to have people in for supper. I don't want the dinner to be a burden on my wife so we pay a college girl who does a good job of serving a family-style meal. It's on time and it's simple and it's to the point and then at 7:00 we're all washed up and can do something

CCL: Is it important for everything to be on time and orderly?

RP: I like everything that way, and I believe in the family meal. People sitting down together is a great way to hold people together. Today, unfortunately, families don't even eat together.

I wanted to write a newsletter from the boatyard, so about 10 years ago I took a course in English. I wrote a theme on Youth Crime in the United States. I said it all started with women's liberation and I sort of rubbed it in a little bit. I said the women want to be liberated; the men want to be liberated; the children want to be liberated. Everybody got so goddam liberated there wasn't anybody home anymore. I was doing it a little tongue in cheek but at the same time that's true. So that's why we have dinner together . . . and on time . . . and we have what I like.

The Log and Compass, Raz Parker's newsletter is available by writing Parker's Boat Yard, Box 38, Cataumet, MA 02534.



Cataumet Village Boxholder Cataumet, MA 02534

It's Your Village! Please support the CCA

Important Village Events 2018 ~ Mark Your Calendars Look for updates at: www.CataumetCA.org or follow us on Facebook!		
July 14 - 21	Non-Food Drive	Post Office and Depot
July 22	Marionettes Show "The Fairy Circus"	10:00am Cataumet Club
August 7, 14,	Tuesday Talks	7:00pm Schoolhouse
August 8	Annual Meeting	6:30pm Depot
August 8	Ice Cream Social	7:00pm Washington Park
August 16	Mears Speaker Series "Shallow Graves"	7:00pm Bourne Public Library
September 15	Antique Car Show/Picnic	12:00 - 4:00pm Schoolhouse
December 1	Craft Fair	9:30am - 3pm Schoolhouse
December 2	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 Jane Hurter at *CCA@elliptic.com* or any Board member. *The CCA would love to hear from you!*