



Nahant Harbor Review

A monthly publication, in service since March 1994, dedicated to strengthening the spirit of community by serving the interests of civic, religious and business organizations of Nahant, Massachusetts, USA.

Donna Lee Hanlon, Editor • PO Box 88 • Nahant, MA 01908 • donna@nahant.com

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DECEMBER 2005



According to a recent statement by Michelle Grzela, manager of the Equitable Bank main office, 400 Broadway, Lynn that during a two-month-long Equitable Bank / Red Cross Hurricane Katrina Victim Fund Raising event, the Bank, employees and customers of both Equitable Bank main office, and branch office, 28 Nahant Road, Nahant, have donated more than \$7,000, which has been forwarded to the Massachusetts Red Cross headquarters, for distribution by them. Ms. Grzela is shown above, with Main Office parking lot sign, announcing the fund raiser.

Please Help Support Your Community Newspaper

Happy Holidays to you all! Now is a good time to renew or begin a new subscription to the Nahant Harbor Review for the year 2006. Although the Nahant Harbor Review is FREE to all Nahanters, your voluntary subscription check for \$15 will help keep the issues coming to your door. \$15 may not seem like a lot of money, but it is very important to us. During the winter months, the little paper becomes financially challenged!

How about a gift subscription to a friend in the military or an out-of-Town friend or family member. The gift that keeps on giving, every month, for a full year!

Please send name(s) and mailing address(es) and \$15 for each subscription of 12 monthly issues, beginning with the January 2006 issue, to: Nahant Harbor Review, PO Box 88, Nahant, MA 01908. Or, save a stamp! Drop an envelope with your subscription info and check in the black box at the Teller's Counter in the Equitable Bank on Nahant Road.

PARKING BAN IN EFFECT

The winter Parking Ban is in effect from December 1, 2004 until April 15, 2005. No overnight parking is allowed. Ticketing and towing will be strictly enforced, especially during snow emergencies when towing will be in full effect.

Nahanters Celebrate the Holidays with Church Fair and Christmas Parade

Keep the dates, December 10th and 17th open for the 10th Annual Christmas Parade and fundraiser. On Saturday, December 10th, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., is the annual parade fundraiser at the Tides and December 17th at 6:00 p.m., is the Annual Christmas Light Parade. It's a fun time for all, see you there and Happy Holidays to All!!!

Don't forget to buy your Bermuda Cruise Raffle tickets, which are the major source for the fundraising effort which supports the parade. Tickets are available now by calling Roz or Lt. Hutton, or any committee member, at 781-581-1212, or at the Tides fundraiser.

Each year, the proceeds for the parade have gone to support the Item Santa Fund and at least 2 scholarships for Nahant High School graduates. The parade committee also does all the holiday lighting and pole decorations for the Town. So when you see the "Elves" around town "Decking the Halls," give them a "beep" of thanks and watch for them riding and wishing you a "Very Happy Holiday Season" from the numerous floats in the parade. "Thank you!" from the Committee, for all your support!

Nahant Village Church "Christmas by the Sea" Fair & Ham and Bean Supper

On Saturday, December 3rd, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., the Nahant Village Church will host this year's Ham & Bean Supper. We look forward to a great turnout for homemade baked beans with ham, expertly prepared by Cal Hastings and the Men's Breakfast Group. While feasting on traditional New England favorites, diners will have an opportunity to preview and bid on Silent Auction items and take chances on raffles that will find their new owners at the conclusion of the Christmas Fair, which will take place the following Saturday, December 10th, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

We will also have fresh decorated evergreen wreaths available for purchase, courtesy of the combined efforts and resources of the elves and the local Boy Scouts. One lucky diner will win the door prize of a delectable Kayem glazed spiral sliced ham. A 50/50 raffle will add to the fun and excitement of the evening. Advance ticket sales (available from Michael Gray or Cal Hastings) are \$7.00 and \$4.00. At the door, it is \$1.00 more.

Year after year, the Nahant Village Church crams more fun, fellowship, and Christmas cheer in the cozy confines of Swansburg Hall, than the mind can conceive. The elves suggest that fairgoers arrive early for the best bargains and first picks at the White Elephant, Books and Media Room, Jewelry, and Craft and Gift Tables. Catch up with old friends at the tables set up in front of the Snack Bar, where you can linger over steaming bowls of homemade soup and luscious lobster rolls prepared by our small army of Chef Elves. Peruse the Cookie Table and fill a festively wrapped coffee can with home baked

(Continued on page 5.)

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The Nutcracker

submitted by Jean Ball

Northeast Youth Ballet brings a professional production closer to home! Why travel into Boston to see this holiday classic, when you can see it at the newly-renovated Lynn City Hall Auditorium? Northeast Youth Ballet's 9th annual production of this time-honored tale, will be performed December 10th through 18th and will include two week-day morning shows for school children, as well as several weekend evening and matinee performances.

Nahant's own Jacquelyn Ball, a sophomore at Swampscott High School, has been dancing with Northeast Youth Ballet (NYB) for the past five years. In last year's production of *The Nutcracker*, Jacquelyn danced the lead role of Clara. This year, Jacquelyn will be dancing *en pointe* in the solo roles of Arabian (coffee) and Russian (peppermint) from the "Land of Sweets." In addition, she will dance with other company members as a Snowflake, in the Snow scene and as a Flower attendant, during the "Waltz of the Flowers."

Jackie has trained in dance since she was 4-years-old and has studied jazz, tap, hip-hop, lyrical and ballet with LeAnne Leslie's School of Theatrical Dance, in Lynn. In addition to being a member of the Swampscott High School Dance Team, for the past two years, she has studied ballet during a summer intensive at the Joffrey Ballet School in New York City.

Northeast Youth Ballet (NYB) is a pre-professional ballet company on the North Shore of Boston, that nurtures the dreams of aspiring young dancers. Each year, NYB presents professionally-staged ballets, to offer hundreds of young ballet dancers the chance to develop and display their talents, while enriching the cultural life of many Massachusetts cities and towns. Founder and Artistic Director, Denise Cecere, believes passionately in the value of providing quality performances. Ms. Cecere trained and performed with Boston Ballet and New York's School of American Ballet.

Please mark your calendars for a magical experience, with wonderful sets, beautiful costumes and professionally-trained dancers. For ticket and other information, call 781-665-2236, or visit www.northeastyouthballet.org.

Thank You Johnson School

by John H. Osbahr

On November 8th, the fifth- and sixth-graders at the Johnson School, under the direction of Peggy Silva, Susan Petrou and Dr. Littlefield, along with many volunteers hosted a tribute to the Nahant veterans.

The book of poems and messages by the students was heart warming, emotional and demonstrated the talent of our students. The food prepared and served by the volunteers was wholesome, with a nice variety and the desserts were scrumptious. The session was opened by the School Council President, Lindsey Marini, my granddaughter, which made me very proud. The songs and flag demonstrations, in which my grandson Derek Osbahr, was a participant, was very well orchestrated and effective.

A presentation of a wreath was made by President Marini to me, a representative of the Nahant American Legion. I explained to the audience that the American Legion traditionally holds a service at the cemetery on November 11, at 11:00 a.m., representing the WWI Armistice as stated by the president in her opening address. I invited the audience to join us at the cemetery and afterwards, at the American Legion.

A close friend of our families, Lieutenant Peter Kudaraukas, a member of the National Guard, was visiting us and attended the function, as the guest speaker. He recently returned from a tour in Iraq, where he encountered considerable combat and was wounded. He addressed the students in a direct manner, briefly explaining military life, with its tribulations. He left the students with the message that they accept the challenges and overcome the obstacles.

Everything was done with sincerity and good taste. It made me proud to be a veteran and a Nahanter.

My Islands

by Katherine deStefano

There's a small island, just off the coast of Florida. It's very small. So small, that if you stand on the highest point, twenty-two feet above sea level, you can see the ocean on either side of it. If you think about it hard enough, it's more a glorified sandbar than a real island. But most people don't think that hard here. It's the Bahamas after all.

There are only two roads on this Isle in the Stream – you'd be standing on the High Road if you were performing the previous exercise in global awareness. You could call it the Queen's Highway, but the road bares no resemblance to a highway, in any stretch of the imagination – a mere glorified sidewalk on a glorified sandbar – never mind the fact that once those words escape your lips you are immediately labeled as a tourist. This aptly-named High Road is just barely wide enough for one car to pass along, which creates quite a quandary when another car or golf cart (the more common form of transportation) decides to travel in the opposite direction. (Continued on page 4.)

Nahant Garden Club House Tour Dec. 11th

Submitted by Carmella L. Cormier

The Nahant Garden Club presents "Magical Moments Holiday House Tour" on Sunday, December 11th. Tour five beautifully decorated homes, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Tea and light refreshments included at our Town Hall, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person. Boutique items and crafts, made by our members, will be on sale. Proceeds from this event go towards our scholarship, given each June.

FMI & tickets, call Marie 781-581-0736, Carmella 781-581-1969, Jeannie 781-581-0833. This is a wonderful way to start the Holiday Season..

Concert Singers Present Holiday Concerts

The Concert Singers of Greater Lynn hope that you will join them for a celebration of the Holiday Season, with "A Day for Dancing" by Lloyd Pfautsch. This celebration features a woodwind trio, percussionist, soprano soloists and three dancers.

Also featured, will be traditional Christmas carols, Hanukkah pieces and a little audience participation.

Two concerts are planned. One will be held at the Unitarian-Universalist Church on Friday, December 2nd at 8:00 p.m. The church is located at 101 Forest Avenue in Swampscott. The second concert will be held on Sunday, December 4th, at 2:30 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Church, at 571 Boston Street in Lynn. Both churches are handicapped accessible.

All concerts are free and open to all. For more information, call 781-599-0215, or 978-744-4787, or visit online at www.geocities.com/concert_singers/.

Longer Loan Period at the Nahant Public Library

Beginning immediately, the Nahant Public Library will lend all items for fourteen days. All items previously lent for seven days, will be able to be borrowed for two weeks. This includes: books, audio tapes, video tapes, and musical CDs.

The Library Trustees changed the lending policy of the Library, because the reading habits of borrowers have changed. The earlier policy directed that new books of fiction and nonprint titles could be borrowed only for one week, because patrons had demanded these items promptly.

Nowadays, less demand exists for new books of fiction, so that they circulate at a slower rate. Approximately half or more of titles lent for seven days, are renewed at the borrower's request.

"The Library would rather not punish people for reading," said Library Director Daniel deStefano, "but we must impose fines on those who keep books and other items past their due dates, so that other readers, listeners, and viewers may read a new book, or see a new tape while it still is new."

"The Library views this new policy as improving our services, and we hope that our patrons agree."

Come and "make a joyful noise!"

Music Director Tom Bold has created an exciting ensemble of singers at the Nahant Village Church, since arriving here in January.

Now as we approach the Christmas season, we'd like to increase our numbers, particularly tenors and basses. Our regular schedule begins with a 9:00 a.m. rehearsal. The service is at 10:30, and often we take an advance look at new music after services.

Our leader, Tom, sang for many years with the Emmy-award winning Chanticleer vocal ensemble. He is also a choral composer and arranger.

It is a rare opportunity to sing and learn under the guidance of such a gifted musician. And it happens right here in Nahant.

If you have done some singing in school, or college, or may have sung in another choir, please come and join us on Sunday morning. The friendships are warm and the satisfaction of making good music together is palpable.

For more information, please call Herb Motley at 781-581-0109, or Tom Bold at 978-744-1362.

Swim in the New Year with the Sea Serpents.

New Years Day isn't far away, so get ready to welcome 2006 with the fourth annual New Years Day Dip. Join your fellow brave (and crazy) Nahanters as they take the first swim of the year. The Sea Serpents, as we call ourselves, will gather at the Coast Guard Station, and at the stroke of noon, we'll plunge into the Atlantic. It's good for the circulation and a sure cure for a hangover, should you be suffering. Last year, Chris Whitlock serenaded us with his bagpipe. Who knows what will happen this year? See you on New Years Day.

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Got a story, poem, or photo to share with your neighbors? Send it to Editor, PO Box 88, Nahant, MA 01908. As space allows, it will be published. If you want it back, send a SASE with your submission.

Rob Scanlan, CMS/MMS/ACMS

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Chief Joseph P. Manley, Ret.

My Islands by Katherine deStefano

Wander down to sea level during the day and you find yourself on the Low Road – creativity was lacking the day the street nicknames caught on. A bit wider and with less of a view, you'll be hailed by every person you pass. At first, this will seem very odd; you'll wonder whether or not you have met this person before, why they are calling hello to you, as if you just had intimate conversations over a shared plate of conch. While you're contemplating the intricacies of a meeting that may or may not have happened, you have inadvertently offended your possible acquaintance, by not returning the hail. Meanwhile the street is abuzz with greetings to and from strangers, who feel some sense of obligation to acknowledge every person they see, and conversations held in either very raised and almost angry tones, or incoherent mumbles, that everyone except for you, seems to understand. You watch what seems like a very heated discussion, that balances precariously on the fence between outraged argument and all-out brawl and before your eyes it decrescendos and the heat disappears as both break into uproarious laughter and part ways with a nonchalant "Ery-ting coo' man." Congratulations, you have just witnessed a normal Bahamian conversation.

From the high road, you can daily watch the sun sink silently into the sea, on most days with little conflagration. She dips below the horizon and, in minutes, is gone, taking with her the light of the day so quickly, that you forget there is such a thing as twilight in other parts of the world. On most days she is modest, not wanting to detract from the beauty of everything else in this place. But every once in a while, she will remind you of what she's capable of and give you a show. You've never seen red that color, and so much of it. The whole world is on fire as the sun takes center stage. Clouds streak in electric oranges and yellows across the sky; the ocean looks like it will boil any minute and you can't imagine that just hours ago, it was that crystalline shade of turquoise that takes your breath away. But as your toes sink deep in the fine, white sand, you feel something is missing and your feet yearn for something more solid. The cool water laps around your ankles, with each sorry-excuse-for-a-wave that timidly falls on the shore. Look to the north and you see the rocks they call Three Sisters, barely poking their tiny heads out of the ocean, a half mile off shore. They seem so small, compared to what you're used to.

You are surrounded by such beauty every day. It never changes. The sea is always the same color blue, the palm trees always tower majestically overhead, the sand is always powder fine and blindingly white, littered with shells slowly bleaching in the Bahamian sun, that never stops shining. And suddenly you realize how easy it is to forget to appreciate change.

There is another small island, just off the east coast of Massachusetts. The kind of island that only has one road that people use to get around, maybe two if you're feeling adventurous and want to take the path less traveled, down by the 9-hole golf course that used to be a pond – and is the only place you're likely to find a golf cart on this island—and the best beach in town, that only the locals know about. You know the one, where, at high tide, there is a rock that sits in about chest-deep water on the east side and was over your head on the west. As a kid, you used to wade out to it, climb up on it—wincing as the barnacles tore at your feet under the slimy seaweed – and dive off the other side over and over and over again, on those hot summer days. Your feet are still tough as nails, thanks to that rock. And at low tide on that beach, when nine feet of ocean mysteriously disappears and wanders off to you-know-not-where, you would make jokes about walking to the wharf and even sometimes attempt it, but would get distracted by that strange crop-circle-like formation of rocks and God Knows What Else, that you would dare yourself to swim inside of, even though you were positive something ominous was lurking in the shadows. And even though you never found it, you are still sure it's there, so many years later.

Farther up the road less traveled, you suddenly remember what's been missing for the past nine months. Looking out over the cliffs, you can see Egg Rock imposing itself on the horizon, its elephantine shape looking deceptively snow-capped, but you know better. Gingerly stumbling down the forty-four rickety wooden steps and jumping off the last one onto the mountain of astoundingly smooth rocks below, you suddenly feel so small, dwarfed by the towering cliffs, that now surround you, but the sound of clattering pebbles in the crashing surf reassures you that all is right with the world.

From this small island, you can watch the sun set over Boston and it's always the most beautiful thing you've ever seen, every time it happens. The red on the west side of the sky transforms into dark blue on the east, in the most graceful and breathtaking way, as you sit on the seawall at the south end of the causeway. Every other car that drives by honks, or someone waves, because everyone knows who you are, not because they feel some compulsion to acknowledge you. Or at they at least pretend to know you, in a modest way, because it's a small place, and small places do that.

Twilight here lasts forever. The sun holds onto the day for dear life each evening, stretching her limbs up over the horizon, long after she's sunk below it. The seasons, here, share her yearning to hold on. There are those surprisingly warm days in November that you cherish, only shortly after the light dusting of snow, a few Sundays before, that reminded you of what's to come. Those are the days that force you to reopen all the windows in your house, even though you've already winterized them, just so you can enjoy every last minute of the fall. And don't forget that freak blizzard that is destined to come in early April, winter's way of advising you to treasure every summer's day ahead, of reminding you how to appreciate change.

People think I'm crazy, when I tell them I miss my home. "You're in the Bahamas! What's so special about New England?" But they don't know where I'm from.

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Village Church Ham and Bean Supper Dec. 3rd & Christmas Fair Dec. 10th

(Continued from page 1.) cookies, courtesy of the many talented bakers who call the NVC home. Keep an eye out for Santa's arrival at 11am, escorted by members of the Nahant Fire Department. He will be on hand to greet your little ones in his Den, for photos and to make note of special requests for underneath the tree Christmas Eve.

Take time to see the SERRV table, featuring exotic handmade items from around the world. Proceeds from this table go directly to provide social and economic opportunities to artisans and farmers in developing countries worldwide. Stock up on Harbor Sweets for hostess gifts, for those hard-to-shop-for folks on your gift list, and don't forget a box or two for the chocoholic at home! This year, we will have an extensive selection of wreaths to decorate your home for the holidays. The Plant Table, in addition to poinsettias, rosemary trees, and forced bulbs, waiting to brighten up your windowsills with a touch of spring, will be offering a delightful assortment of traditional evergreen wreaths. The Gift and Craft Table will have its customary assortment of treasures, both ready-made and lovingly handcrafted by the dedicated NVC elves. And when you can't eat another cookie, or donut, or bowl of soup, or muffin, or absolutely anything else, the good news is that the NVC cooks have stocked the Bake Table with LOTS of pies, cakes, and other prepared foods you can take home to make those last hectic couple of weeks prior to Christmas easier and more delicious.

The elves advise staying late, to be on hand as we wrap up the Fair, by pulling and announcing the winning Raffles and high bidders for this year's Silent Auction items.

The Head Elf is scratching her head, sure that she has left some things out. The only way you'll know is to come and see for yourselves! Spread the word to your family and friends from around the North Shore that the Nahant Village Church Fair will be the ONLY place to be on Saturday, December 10th. Be there or be a Scrooge!!

If you would like to make a financial contribution or other donation to the fair, please call Jackie Meuse at 781-596-2356 for more information. We thank the people of Nahant for all their generous support in years past, and are looking forward to seeing you ALL again soon for the Ham & Bean Supper on December 3rd and our Christmas by the Sea Fair on December 10th.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ms. Hanlon,

I am writing to express dismay at the article "The Summering Nahant Police" written by Ray Barron and published in the November 2005 issue of the Nahant Harbor Review. Under the cover of crediting our Police Department for its work, Mr. Barron made a mockery of tragedies that have recently affected members of our community. If Mr. Barron intended to write a light-hearted humorous piece, he failed.

You may print this comment in the next issue of the paper.

— Cecile Rouleau

To the Editor:

On Sunday, November 13th, the Nahant Country Club held the fifth annual Visions of Nahant art show, food and wine-tasting. Hundreds of people spent a very enjoyable afternoon and raised funds for the Nahant Historical Society.

The Social Committee of the Club would like to thank all those who worked, donated and contributed. Ulrike Welsch, Gary Reynolds and Ben Gross did a great job judging the artwork. Cliff Ansara of Lynnway Liquors donated wines from around the world. And the following businesses donated food: the Nahant Country Club, Tony C's at Kelley Greens, The Porthole, Brothers Deli, The Oxford Street Grill, Mt. Vernon at the Wharf, Tides Restaurant and Pub, Gourmet Garden, Frank Cardile, The Bayside, Periwinkles Food Shoppe, The Red Rock Bistro, Captain's Seaside, Breakfast at Captain's and Trader Joe's.

We hope all Nahanterers will patronize these businesses to thank them for their public-spirited donations.

— John Welsh, for the Social Committee,
Nahant Country Club

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Dick Newton wants your business.



Equitable Bank is pleased to announce that Richard C. Newton has joined Equitable Bank as Vice President of Commercial Lending.

An experienced business and commercial banker, Dick Newton grew up with the Danversbank. He is recognized as a knowledgeable lender and plans to bring this area of service to the local business community on behalf of Equitable Bank.

As such, we plan to be very cooperative and expand with a variety of general business banking services, engage in commercial lending which will include small business loans, lines of credit, construction and development loans, add a night depository and become active in the U.S. Small Business Administration Loan Program.

If Dick Newton doesn't get to you first, you can call him here at Equitable Bank, 781-599-5600 or email him at DickNewton@EquitableBank.com.



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Got a story, poem, or photo to share with your neighbors? Send it to Editor, PO Box 88, Nahant, MA 01908. As space allows, it will be published. If you want it back, send a SASE with your submission.

Johnson School News

by Dr. Denise Littlefield, School Principal and Superintendent

With winter approaching so quickly and almost 3 months of the school year gone by, Johnson School continues to move forward, working towards our curriculum goals and improving our instruction, to meet the diverse needs of all our learners. On Thursday, November 10th, while our students had no school, the teachers and staff had an exhilarating day of professional development. This day together provided us with the opportunity to work together, examine our academic practices, review our curriculum, and re-establish our grade-level standards. As the research on good schools encourages, it was "teachers talking about teaching" throughout the day. Most excitedly, was the formal kick-off of a stronger and consistent writing curriculum, that was a year in the making. Good writing improves all literacy achievement and is a life-long skill. Special thanks to Peg Silva, Jen Durant and Christine Johnson-Liscio for all of their efforts in this initiative and guiding us through the process.

Halloween has come and gone, but this year, the 6th-grade students (under the supervision of their parents) initiated and held an informal Halloween get-together in the cafeteria on Friday, Oct. 28th. The Kindergarten experienced their first field trip (actually riding the yellow school bus), when they visited Drumlin Farm, with the first-grade students on Halloween day. The fourth-grade students visited Old Sturbridge Village and returned a little more appreciative of things like running water and electricity.

As each day passes, the reality of a new building gets closer. Contractors have been invited to submit bids on the project and it is expected that the bid will be awarded by the start of the New Year. Stay Tuned!!! Updates will be provided in this monthly column. FYI: The community group, SWING WITH ME, has accepted the challenge of raising funds for a new playground, to be built for the new school. As a fundraiser, "lucky calendars" are being sold by the students of the Johnson School. If you buy a calendar, your name will be entered in a daily drawing, to be held each day, during the months of January and February, for prizes, as marked on the calendar. Please call the school for more information.

Our school year is made up of trimesters, with report cards going home at the end of each trimester. The first report cards of the year will be distributed on December 2nd. Parent conferences will be held the next week, which provides the opportunity for parents and teachers to exchange information about individual student progress.

Nahant is a very caring, quick to help community. Nevertheless, while we welcome parents into the school, we must continue to maintain security. To do this, we always ask about the nature of a visit to the school and insist that parents and outsiders alike, sign in at the office and wear a visitor's badge. Though it may be an inconvenience, we appreciate your working with us, to protect your children.

Please join me in welcoming the newest members of our staff, Colleen Shaw and Judee Davis. Additionally, Julie Tarmy has joined our staff, as a teaching assistant. It is full steam ahead for the rest of the school year.

In the meantime, on behalf of the staff of the Johnson School, please accept many wishes for a safe, healthy, and happy, holiday season.

Art School has Holiday Offerings!

by Carol Hanson, Director

Get a jump on your gift-giving, while having a little fun! The School of Refrigerator Door Art is once again offering Holiday Floral Arranging classes for adults and Sea Glass Mosaic workshops for adults and parent-child combos. There are a few options, so please call 781-599-2222 for times and costs.

Children's classes are being held now through the week of Dec. 19th, and will start up again on Jan. 17th. Classes are offered for preschoolers through adults.

The School of Refrigerator Door Art has been selected to exhibit student work in the children's gallery at LynnArts, during the December Show and Sale. The opening reception will be on Saturday, December 3rd. Please call LynnArts for details.

Have an art party for a special occasion, or just for fun, with some family and friends. It is close to home and events can be planned for large groups, or a few people. Hope to hear from you! Our e-mail address is refrigdoorart@aol.com.

SPED PAC MEETING

"Planning for the Future"

A Special Education Parent Advisory Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 1st, at 6:30 p.m. At this meeting, discussion and potentially decision-making regarding the future leadership of the PAC will occur. All members who are interested in participating in the ongoing mission of the PAC are urged to attend.

Johnson School Playgrounds Need Your Support Lottery Calendars and Christmas Trees!!!

The Swing With Me Association has been working with the Johnson School, over the past few months, to create a plan for new playgrounds and organize a group of fundraisers to help with that effort.

Current plans include two playgrounds: one for pre-K and lower elementary grades, the other for upper elementary-age students. The younger children's playground includes a playstructure with slides and climbing features, a Crescent Climber, a Superdome Climber, two Toss-Up basketball hoops, and a Tetherball unit. The older children's playground includes a fitness course, a Toss-Up hoop, a Tetherball unit, and a full-court basketball court. The equipment for these play areas will cost over \$30,000, and this does not include the court surface, or wood chip surfacing. We have a lot of money to raise, in order to complete this project.

That being said, we need your help. Currently, students at the Johnson School are selling Lottery Calendars as we have done in the past. Swing With Me will also be selling Christmas trees, at the Lowlands parking lot, again this year. With lots of support, we should be able to raise a great deal of the funds needed for these playgrounds. Please help when you can.

If you have given in the past, we thank you again. Without your assistance, we wouldn't have the quality play areas that we do today. Let's continue this effort, by giving Johnson School students the opportunity for safe outdoor play and physical fitness.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation, please send to: Swing With Me Association, c/o Erin DiGrande, 47 Willow Road, Nahant, MA 01908.

Parent Child Play Group at Nahant Community Center submitted by Carolyn Osbahr

The Parent Child Play Group for children 5 years old and younger has begun at The Nahant Community Center, on Valley Road. Several children enjoyed an informal Halloween party during the play group in October. The play group meets in the multi purpose room, adjacent to the School of Refrigerator Door Art, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Monday through Thursday from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. No pre-registration is required and the room is available on a drop-in basis for a fee of \$2 per family, per visit. Baby and preschool toys and books are available.

The play group was organized by Nahant parents, who want to have a comfortable safe space to take their children, for unstructured fun during the winter, when outdoor play is not always practical. It is also a great way to get to know other parents and caregivers, so please stop by with your children and enjoy this great program. The entrance is through the back of the building and parents are required to sign in each time they attend.

Ice Skating Classes at the Lynn Connery Rink

The Lynn Connery Memorial Ice Rink is currently holding ongoing ice skating classes. Lessons are available to children ages 4 1/2 and up, as well as to adults. Skaters can wear either figure or hockey skates. Each class includes a small group lesson and a supervised practice.

The Lynn Connery Rink is located at 190 Shepard Street. Classes are held on Sundays, at 1:40 p.m. The Lynn rink is convenient for residents of Saugus, Revere, Nahant, Swampscott, Peabody, Salem and Marblehead.

Come join the fun at the Lynn Connery Rink or at any of the other 13 Boston-area locations. To register for classes, or for any additional information, please call the Bay State Skating School, at 781-890-8480, or visit www.baystateskatingschool.org.

Ice skate and feel great!

Thanks to the Knights of Columbus

The Johnson School Gymnasts thank the Knights of Columbus for their generous contribution. The \$500 donation financed the purchase of a critically needed crash mat. The instructors and students appreciate the kindness and support of the Knights of Columbus.

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Holiday Eating

by Sallee Slagle, Director, Dance Dimensions

Wow the holidays are here again already! Wasn't it just New Year's Eve! For many of us, the holidays are a hectic time, with additional commitments and we feel the stress and anxiety that go along with it. Want to enjoy them more? Take the time, now, to review what you feel is important for you, during the holidays. Include your favorite events and traditions. Look over all the things to be done, too. Which ones are most stressful? See if there is a less stressful way to handle it, or could you eliminate, or delegate it? Don't forget, most importantly, the philosophy you believe makes the holidays so special. For me, it's a spiritual time, a joyful time, a giving time and a family time.

Remember, stress is all a matter of how you view something. It is a response to something. If we keep in mind our philosophy as above, it may bring an activity more into focus, as to the true reason behind it and make the task at hand more enjoyable. View extra commitments as a challenge and only take on the ones that help you fulfill your philosophy. Be willing to say no and pace out your plans, starting now.

Aside from extra activities, we have the added challenge, nutritionally, during the holidays. Many of us may over-indulge, especially as a release for our stress. This actually adds to our physical and mental stress. Managing what you eat over this time, can help keep your moods more festive, your stress levels more manageable as well as help your immune system stay high and avoid the flu. Here are some tips.

There are always a lot of sweets around and I say enjoy your favorite treats, but be sure to eat all the food groups. Too often, we may fill up on a sweet treat and then skip a meal, to make up for it. This only adds to the sweet cravings, sugar highs and lows we experience.

Be sure to get all your 5 servings of fruits and vegetables, especially fresh and raw, where the vitamins, minerals and other nutrients are most available. Cooking destroys many of these essential factors, so snack on a piece of fruit, head for the veggies and dip and make a meal of a salad. Also, eat smaller amounts of food and more often. This can help to keep your blood sugar levels even and help keep you from desperately craving that sugar lift. Small amounts of sweets are fine and are a special part of holidays. Enjoy. Don't feel guilty. If you over-indulge one day, just eat better, more nutrient-rich foods the next day and relax.

Also, alcohol is part of our holiday cheer. Remember alcohol turns to sugar in our bodies, so with sweets, it's a double jolt. Try drinking a glass of water also, whenever you drink alcohol. Have a large glass of water before each meal. Sugar and alcohol dehydrate you, so drink extra water. Water can also satisfy other cravings too. Thirst can be misread as hunger, so have a glass of water, then see if you still feel hunger.

High-fat sweets trigger endorphins that make us feel good. This same chemical is released when exercising. So don't let the sweets replace your exercise routine. The routine may go out the window, but keep in some exercise each day. Try to make it a separate activity, but if you can't, park farther away from the shops, walk briskly and take the stairs, to help keep exercise part of everyday. If you're feeling so stressed you don't know which way to run first, take a moment, even though you think you can't spare one. Take a moment and BREATHE. Review mentally your holiday philosophy, decide what's next and take on the challenge, not the stress of it all. Here's hoping you all enjoy this wonderful season with renewed spirit.

Happy Holidays!



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Dance Dimensions 20th Anniversary

Wow, it doesn't seem possible. Twenty years! I don't feel any older! When I began Dance Dimensions, I wanted to share my knowledge, my love, my passion: dance. All kinds of dance. I always danced as a child and it was my haven, my escape, my joy and even my therapy. I have now had the joy of watching so many children grow and learn, not only the lessons of Ballet, but also the lessons of life. I have seen many students overcome shyness, teenagers pass gracefully through puberty and experience the joy of their accomplishment, as they master a difficult move. As they grow and go off for college, career, family, I see the way they hold themselves, with the pride of a dancer, poised and graceful. Some have even returned, to keep dance and fitness in their adult lives. Some are now bringing their children, too. The work of owning a studio is often hard and long. Anyone owning his or her own business understands, you never just walk away. Sometimes, I may feel burnt out and I wonder if I can continue, but my love for my students has always rallied me to continue. The joy of dance and movement is missing in our lives, if we don't put it there. Maybe you don't miss what you don't know, but what a shame to not know the joy of dance. I feel lucky, to have this passion and to have the chance, to share with all who have come to Dance Dimensions and all who will. I want to thank you all. I am planning a 20th Anniversary party for January 8th and wish to invite all my students, past, present and future.

Please watch for more information and be sure I have your current contact info, too.

Acupuncture, Chinese Medicine and the Common Cold by Cory Walsh, Lic.Ac. and Tess McGinn Bois, Lic.Ac.

Now that the cold and flu season is upon us, we brace ourselves for the inevitable: the common cold. Some of us get only one cold each year, while others are sick for the entire winter. Over-the-counter remedies may help with the symptoms, but will not treat the root causes of the illness. Other than stoic resignation, other options to consider are acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine, as alternatives, to treat and prevent the common cold. Here are some facts about the common cold:

- * The common cold is responsible for more days lost from work and school than any other illness.
- * Adults average 2-3 colds per year, children average 6 or more.
- * The average cold lasts 5-7 days.
- * Recent studies have demonstrated an increased susceptibility to colds in subjects who smoke, as well as those who are experiencing psychological stress.

If used before the onset of colds and flu, acupuncture and herbs can stimulate the immune system and support its function of warding off infection. If an infection does take hold, due to suppressed immune function from smoking, stress and/or concurrent illness, acupuncture and herbs can lessen the severity and duration of a cold. Even if you choose to turn to antibiotics, or over-the-counter remedies, acupuncture can support your body's resistance to the cycle of infections you may experience each season.

From a Chinese medical perspective, colds are caused by external pathogenic factors, such as wind, cold, heat, damp, dryness and infectious disease. If the body's defense system called Wei Qi (pronounced "way chee") is strong, you will not succumb to a cold. You can see this happen all the time, when one family member in a household full of sick people remains perfectly healthy. If Wei Qi is deficient or blocked, pathogens will penetrate and a cold will manifest. In this event, acupuncture can be used to drive out these pathogens and strengthen the immune system, to keep symptoms from getting worse. Patients who have suffered for years with frequent colds, report a significant reduction in the occurrence of infection, with regular acupuncture treatments. Once the body's Wei Qi is regulated, regular acupuncture treatments for immune-system function can be reduced to a seasonal "tune-up." The regulation of the immune system can also be incorporated into treatments for other acute conditions, such as musculoskeletal pain, arthritis, infertility, headaches and the many other ailments that respond so well to acupuncture.

Here are some tips to avoid catching a cold:

- * Keep warm in the winter and always wear a scarf, as wind pathogens most commonly enter through the neck. Early signs of a wind invasion are stiff neck, muscle aches and migrating joint pain.
- * For those with stronger constitutions, if you feel the symptoms of a cold coming on, do something physically exerting to stimulate a sweat. As soon as the sweat appears, stop the exercise and get immediately into bed under warm blankets and rest. Be careful not to prolong the exertion and sweat too much, as this can cause further illness.
- * Never eat shellfish when catching a cold, as it can drive the illness further into the body.
- * Avoid greasy and fatty foods.
- * Do not drink orange juice, or other juices, as they are acidic, sweet and dampening. These qualities suppress immune function.
- * The ideal beverages would be water, herbal tea and clear broths.

Letter to the Editor

After eight years of serving all of my wonderful customers, the time has come for me to pursue other ventures. I leave Beachcombers with sadness, gratitude and anticipation. Sad to leave such incredible people; thankful for all the wonderful experiences I've had; and eager to begin a new chapter in my life.

Beginning November 1, 2005, Beachcombers Salon will be under new management. Beth Rigol, an outstanding hairdresser, with over 18 years experience, will take over the salon. Beth will offer such services as: coloring, highlighting, perms, adults and children's haircuts, styling and waxing. Her sister, Robyn, will offer manicures and pedicures. I hope you will all stop by, to meet Beth and welcome her to Nahant and continue to help Beachcombers thrive.

Mrs. Antoinette Spinucci will remain working at Beachcombers Salon with Beth. Toni will continue working Fridays at the Salon. I would like to personally thank Toni for all her guidance, laughter and support, over the past eight years. She has been excellent and outstanding in helping me run Beachcombers Salon. I wish her the best of luck at the New Beachcombers.

I wish you all the best and thank you for all the good memories I take with me.

— Shane Codispoti, Nahant

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Think Yourself Healthy!™
The Effectiveness of Hypnotherapy
 by Juliette Lackey, CH, Certified Hypnotherapist

It's July 2000. I am sitting on a paper sheet in my doctor's office in Beverly Hills, California, and am anxiously looking at my watch. Doesn't he know I'm busy?! Dr. Michael Soffer finally walks in and tells me that I had to quit smoking. "Funny," I said. "My OBGYN just said the very same thing a few days ago, but now just isn't a good time for me." I was responsible for six companies and was under a lot of pressure. He then suggested I see a hypnotherapist. "A whatie what"?! Having my conservative and highly-respected doctor tell me to see a hypnotist was like, well, "like so totally LA."

I loved to smoke! You see, I was born, raised and educated in Switzerland. After age 12, it was illegal "not" to smoke. Nevertheless, I made the appointment (to get the doc off my back) and smoked 4 cigarettes on my way to Terrie Huberman's office. I was nervous, guarded and more than dubious. Aren't hypnotists voodoo-practicing, devil-worshipping vampires? Terrie opened her door, looking like a normal human being—go figure. She asked me a ton of questions about my smoking, relaxed me to the point where I felt like dozing off, and 3 hours later, I was a non-smoker.

Terrie recorded our session and gave me the tape to take home. I listened to it every night while falling asleep. That's it. That's all I had to do. It was so easy, but it didn't make sense to me! Why did I not go crazy? Why wasn't I tense and driving everyone around me nuts? Well, let's just wait and see until that one big, bad, dramatic thing happens, that always threw me off the wagon in the past. And then it did—big, bad, dramatic divorce! And during the entire process, I never even thought about smoking.

I was so intrigued that I began looking into these "mind-over-matter" topics. The more I read, the more impressed I became. I dreamt about being a hypnotist one night and the next day, enrolled in the Cara Institute of Advanced Hypnosis.

So how does it work? When we repeatedly do something, a network of kindled nerve cells is created. These nerve cells are in a constant state of "firing," ready to do that one thing over and over again (smoking while drinking a cup of coffee, or grabbing a bag of chips while watching TV). When we go into a deep state of relaxation, somewhere between Theta & Delta, those cells relax and calm down. A "communications" channel is established between the two sides of the brain and by using guided imagery, visualizations and positive suggestions, new nerve networks can be created. By repeatedly listening to the new suggestions, these newly-created cell networks begin firing more and more consistently, while the "old" networks start losing their firepower. That's how we change a behavior, or a habit like smoking, overeating and overreacting during stressful situations.

Being hypnotized does not mean you'll have an out-of-body experience. You always remain in control. I cannot make you say or do anything you don't want to. Think about going to sleep at night – it's like that very last thought that crosses your mind. Like: "I have to remember to buy toilet paper tomorrow." Now, you won't wake up in the morning, yelling at the top of your lungs: "TOILET PAPER!"

Think you cannot be hypnotized? The only people that cannot be are the severely retarded and children under the age of 7.

I absolutely love what I do. There's nothing better than to help someone quit smoking and see them two weeks later smelling great, skin glowing and eyes sparkling. Their breathing has already improved; they are back in control and feel free from the addiction. How about Robert, who smoked 3 packs of cigarettes a day for 45 years, tried to stop countless times and hasn't had a cigarette since our first meeting, well over a year ago.

Smokers have different habits. Some smoke everywhere in the house, some only in the kitchen and the bathroom. Some people's cars won't start unless they light up and others only smoke at social functions. That's one of the reasons I do not conduct group sessions. Each hypnotherapy session is completely personalized.

I get equally excited when an overweight person starts losing weight easily and effortlessly. One of my clients called one day saying: "Juliette, I just walked into a fudge shop and walked back out realizing I didn't want any! I'm not sure how this works and I don't care, I'm just so happy!" This star of mine has lost 30 lbs so far and continues to do great. Not everyone is heavy for the same reasons. Some don't feel satisfied unless they've eaten 3 plates full of food. Others eat all day long, never allowing their stomach to rest. Some have sugar addictions and others go nuts about salt, there's emotional eating and irrational eating. Stress can be a causative factor for eating or overeating. Thus, my weight loss program is completely personalized, addressing each client's specific needs.

In my next article, I will go more in depth about weight loss. Right now, I'm running out of room.

If you have a behavior or a habit you'd like to quit or change, I want to help. It's time to ...THINK YOURSELF HEALTHY!™

Christine M. Menzies Donald W. Menzies, CPF
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Useless Information

by Ray Barron

Remembering The Veterans

The Veterans' Day tribute, held at the Johnson School, was a heart-stirring event, featuring the fifth and sixth graders. In short, the combined classes honored the men and women veterans of Nahant, with patriotic songs and recitations. What's more, the students created essays honoring the veterans. Add to this, their parents created a delicious luncheon for the veterans. It was a day to remember, especially for the World War II veterans, since many of them are passing away at the rate of a thousand a day.

Thanks to all of the children, and the Johnson School faculty and especially Peggy Silva, for honoring the men and women, whose military service has kept our nation safe and strong, whose sacrifices have helped preserve the freedoms Americans enjoy today.

Nahanters: About Christmas

Cal Hastings, of Nahant Road, says, "Christmas holidays mean: anticipation, preparation, recreation, prostration and recuperation."

Cal's attractive and brilliant wife, Marrit, says, "Perhaps the best Yuletide decoration is being wreathed in smiles."

Henry Hanagan, Hasting's friendly neighbor, says, "Last year, a department store in Milwaukee started its Christmas sale so early, that Santa Claus wore Bermuda shorts."

I believe it was the noted, attractive educator Mary Dill, of Cary Street, who once said, "The three stages of a man's life are, he believes in Santa Claus, he doesn't believe in Santa Claus and he is Santa Claus."

For the record, Mary and Dan Dill and their attractive daughters, Kerrian and Kelsey, will be celebrating their second Christmas in their impressive home on Cary Street. Gee, it is rumored, on Christmas Eve, the Dills will be touring the neighborhood, singing Christmas carols.

The spirited Cay Cusack, of Nahant Road, remembers when the famous child star, Shirley Temple, said, "I stopped believing in Santa Claus when my mother took me to see him in a department store and he asked for my autograph."

Our distinguished, long-legged Assistant Assessor, Sheila Hambleton, says, "How wonderful holidays would be if there weren't the day after!"

Paintings of people and places in Nahant



by
Carolyn
Jundzilo Comer

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Nahant's December Birthday Babies!

December 1 birthdays: Lillith Weiskel, Mary Maclone, Alice Martin, Jeannie Delaney, Dick Catalani, Errol Baker, Al Petrovick, George Richardson, the noted Massachusetts General Hospital cardiac surgeon, Dr. David Torchiana, Ron Zagarrri and George Veloudis. Thanks to Dr. Torchiana, I became a member of the Zipper Society. Also born on December 1, Woody Allen, film actor, writer and director. Bette Middler, singer and actress.

December 2 birthday kiddies: Patricia White, Bernadette Gaynor, Libby Wright, Maggie Musmon, Helen Mayo, Paul Belliveau, Dylin Billias, Tom McDevitt, Francis Valenti, Charlie DiGrande, Bob Doe and actress Julie Harris. December 3: Bob Wilson, the brilliant John Cort and singer Andy Williams.

Our December 4 birthday babies: Lovely Helen Brownlie, Kathy Canty, Don Savino and the personable Bob Gaudet will be celebrating his birthday at the Porthole Restaurant & Pub and you're all invited! Also born on December 4, Jeff Bridges, film actor.

Our December 5 birthday kids: Margaret Meagher, Regina McArdle, Lottie Barnhill, Christine Lazzaro, Dave Migliaccio, Manuel Hernandez, Coast Guard veteran Maurice Poulin, John Walton, Bob Fray and Little Richard, rock 'n' roll pioneer.

December 6: Lisa Perkins, Nicoletta Silveri, Mike Dunn, Tyler Devens, Don Sigourney, Roger Paine and Dave Brubeck, jazz musician.

December 7 candle-blowers: The alluring and sweet Maryanne Lermond, Bob Rafuse, Pete Flaherty and Ellen Burstyn, actress.

December 8: Susan Kane, Doreen Falzone,

Joyce Maroney, sweet Muriel Mosychuk, Dave Brahm, Dave Parr, Greg Klee and Jim Morrison, singer, Kim Basinger, actress. Also born on this date, the late John A. Volpe.

December 9: Lovely Lissa Keene, Karen Carmody, Maryanne Cassidy, Mary Catalina, Hartman, Joyce Morganstern, Costantinos Bryanos, Martin Keenan, actor Mike Douglas and pop singer Donny Osmond.

December 10: Pauline Farrell, Sara Rooney, Maura Abate, Linda Witol, Brendan Davis, John Collins, handsome Gordon Hall and poet Emily Dickinson.

December 11 birthdays: Nice guy Cornelius Foley, Chris Whitlock, Bill Kasperowicz and country singer Brenda Lee.

Our December 12 birthdays: The compassionate Sister Barbara Ann Molloy, Linda Macone, sweet Rose Tirrell, baby Gryce Murray, Johnny Scovell, Tim Barry, Doug Sherber and Tony Staffier. Other notables born on December 12, Frank Sinatra, Connie Francis and Dionne Warwick.

December 13: Johanne Paula, Peg Casey, Lucy Mycko, Joanne Colwell, Linda Medeiros, Joanne Marie, Jim Palumbo, Bob VanCampen, Tim Nolan, Marine Corps veteran Frank Culver and comic actor, Dick Van Dyke.

December 14: Marie Hyde, Jean Ball, Patricia Arzillo, John Gavin, Tony Spaziani, Rich D'Orlando, Pat O'Conner, the illustrious John Osbahr, the brilliant Jim Dolan, Jr. and actress Patty Duke.

December 15 birthday-candle-blowers: John Curtis, Tim Vonaschwege and John Crowley.

December 16: Cathy Mahoney, Jennifer Demember, Mike Goode, Mark Scaglione, Charlie Jessome, Henry Hall and

composer Ludwig van Beethoven.

December 17: Alice Houlihan, Nora Gergely, singer, Kim Basinger, actress. Also born on this date, the late John A. Volpe.

December 18 birthday kids: Kim Legare, Chris Turner, Jason Mantzoukas and Eric Koehler. Also born on this date, Betty Grable and film director Steven Spielberg.

December 19: Megann Cassidy, Judy Flynn, Judi Marie Moccia, Beth Lehman, Katarina Peterson, Ellen Antrim, Frank Novello and one of my favorite singers, Edith Piaf.

December 20 birthday-cake-eaters: Janice Hall, Joyce Loguercio, Kathy Mackin, Betty Steriti, dearest Maureen Sanphy, Ed Legault and rock 'n' roll pioneer, Bo Diddley.

December 21: The attractive Noel Spinney-Costin, lovely Dorothy Huston, Tom Daley and actress Jane Fonda.

December 22: Barbara Devens, Laura Michaud, the "Mother Moses" of Nahant, Lucy Doane, Joe D'Agostino, John Wynne, Ken Cook, Jim Caloggero, Giacomo Puccini, Italian composer.

December 23: Harriet Magro, brilliant Laurie Meagher, Ann Marie Daniels, Dick Doucette and Joseph Smith, founder of the Mormon Church.

December 24: The stunning Beverly English, Nicole Passanisi, Dante Palumbo, Brian Donahue and Phil Albondi.

Christmas Day birthdays: The inspiring Holly Twiss, Ben Moser, Chris Kline, Tom Coffey, John Mason, Eric Vonaschwege and actor, Humphrey Bogart, actress, Sissy

(Continued on next page.)

Spacek and jazz musician, Cab Calloway.

December 26: Christina Roberto, Nicole Elias, Brigitta Gere, Janice Bowering, Adelaide Frisoli, Edna Coakley, Muriel Webster, Maureen DeCenzo, Laurie White, Paul Power, Dave Tillinghast, Ray Jelley and actor, Richard Widmark.

Our December 27 birthdays: Bernie Bishop, Warren Parks, Dan O'Connor, lovely Penny Billias and singer and actress, Marlene Dietrich.

December 28: Lisa Strutz, Joel Durgin, Colleen Dawson, Karen Lospennato, Lisa Arena,

Gifford Wigglesworth, Dick Savage, Dave Gallagher, the noted psychologist Edward Manzano and such other notables as Woodrow Wilson, 28th US president.

Our December 29 birthdays: Lovely Andrea Fuccione, Cathy Scaglione, Susan DeBenedetto, Christine Alexander, former First Lady of Massachusetts, Jennie Volpe, Dan Walsh, Klee Shaw, the noted auto executive, Gene Canty and such other notables as Andrew Jackson, 17th US president.

December 30 birthday-gift-openers: The jolly Michael Gray, Nancy Wilson, Colleen Quinn,

Carolyn Osbahr, Maria Speridakos, Mildred McLaughlin, sweet Denise Nicketakis, Chris Walsh, Pete Fitzpatrick, Sam Spirm and author Rudyard Kipling.

December 31 birthdays: Brian Hambleton, Rachel Oliver, Tim Kirkman, Eva Pusich, French painter, Henri Matisse, folk singer, John Denver and actor, Val Kilmer. It was on this date, December 31, 1943, Frank Sinatra started a singing engagement at New York's Paramount Theater and became the idol of the nation's "bobby soxers."

Priestly Nahanters?

At the first gathering of Catholic bishops under Pope Benedict XVI, church leaders affirmed the doctrine of priestly celibacy. Some of the bishops had urged that celibacy rules be relaxed, so that some married men could become priests. Gee, it would have been great, if they had agreed to allow married men to become priests.

Some Nahanters who would make great priests; Peter Przybycien, Bob Silva, Dan Dill, Bob Scalise, John Mackey, Tim Moran, John Cort, Jim Dolan, Richie Lombard, Jim Devereaux, Richard Conigliaro, Tom Costin, Dave Conlin, Mark Cullinan, John Dineen, Perry Barrasso, Peter Barba, Walter Spinelli, Michael Manning, Edwin Manzano, Joseph Moccia, Richard Arzillo, Leonard Kavanagh, Dan Fiore, Richard Adamo, Robert Frary, Cornelius Foley, Jr., Thomas Loftus, Andy Puleo, John Toomey, Charles Arena, David Torchiana, Joe Muzzioli, Mario Forgione, Mario Spinucci, Robert Scanlan, Jason Angiulo, Richard Capozzi, James Hosker, Ed Poulin, Jim O'Brien, Mark Scaglione, David Barile, Peter Davis, Dan deStefano, Charles Riley, Robert Barreda, Edward Steriti, Tom Famulari, James Savino, Henry Hanagan, Ernest Messina, Joseph Klink and Giuseppe Barisano.

Sheila Hambleton says she heard a group of preachers in Lynn and Revere are planning to form a bowling league, calling themselves, "Holy Rollers."

Nahanter's Thoughts About A Man and Woman

Carol Munnelly, of Castle Road says, "Women think about love more than men, and men think about women more than love."

Joanna Reardon, of Nautical Lane says, "Women talk among themselves about other people; men talk to other people about themselves."

Jayne Solimine, of Fox Hill Road says, "A man likes to feel he is loved, a woman likes to be told."

The electrifying Ed Poulin, of Irving Way says, "Nothing so unmans a man as a woman."

And Ed's stunning wife Gayle of New Orleans, says, "Every man has his price and every woman her figure."

Happy anniversary to Annie Rooney, of Irving Way, who is celebrating her first anniversary as a resident of Nahant. The attractive and personable Annie Rooney is Gayle Poulin's mother, who has left New Orleans to settle here. She surely added a touch of class to the town!

Dick Bailey, of Sunset Road, says, "When a woman has a love affair, she goes into ecstasies; a man goes into details."

Beverly English, of Little Nahant Road, says, "A woman knows the value of love, but a man only knows its cost."

A reminder from Jean Hosker, of Valley Road, "Women talk more than men because woman's work is never dumb."

Happy Belated Birthday!

Greetings is extended to Bill Kennedy, who celebrated his birthday on November 25th..

Happy Holidays!

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FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY Tree Lighting Ceremony in Central Square Thursday, December 1, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Join Mayor Edward "Chip" Clancy, Jr., to celebrate the beginning of the Holiday Season, with live entertainment.

Central Square Third Thursday December 15, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

A wonderful variety of activities are planned for this special Third Thursday celebration. Start at the Lynn Heritage State Park Visitors Center to view the Lynn Festival of Trees and meet Father Christmas. Listen to the joyous sound of live carolers in the Square. Contribute to the toy drive at any of the venues. Shop at the LynnArts Fabulous Holiday Show and Sale.

For more information please call LynnArts, Inc. at 781-598-5244. or see www.lynnareachamber.com.

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Summer In Nahant



A collaboration of old photographs, letters and memories of those who lived and resorted on this seaside peninsula before us.

Nahant's First Inhabitants

The Breeds of Nahant

Whittier and Holmes came to Nahant frequently and Webster, Choate, Sumner, Story and Winthrop, the orator and statesman, were among the many notable persons who were habitual visitors to its rock-bound shores. But Nahant holds yet another claim to the interest of those of us who belong to the Breed Clan, in the fact that Samuel Breed, the Patriarch of the Quaker branch of the family, from whom so many who have honored the name descend, lived here soon after his marriage, in 1691, to Anna Hood.

Samuel, as you know, was the youngest son of Allen Breed, Jr. and grandson of Allen and Elizabeth (Wheeler) Breed, the original emigrants. Edward J. Johnson of Nahant, who for many years made an exhaustive study of its history and whose valuable collection of early deeds and old documents is in the possession of the Nahant Public Library, states, in his published account of the town, that "the Breed family were among the first inhabitants of Nahant, Samuel Breed having lived there previous to 1706." "His marriage to the sister of the wife of Hugh Alley, Jr. may have induced him to make Nahant his home. Some of his children were born there." He then proceeds to give a list of these children, the first of whom, Samuel, Jr., was born November 11, 1692. So, giving these statements of Mr. Johnson due credence, it appears that Samuel and Anna (Hood) Breed were living at Nahant as early as the last decade of the seventeenth century.

At this time the entire peninsula, outside of the Alley farm, was a pasture used in common by the townspeople of Lynn. The Alley holdings, eight acres of which Hugh Alley claimed were granted to him by the town for services in the Pequot War, were fenced in and held by him, in opposition to the decree of Lynn that the entire peninsula "be sown down to English grass and that no house should be left standing."

The house in which Hugh and Rebecca Alley lived is thought to have been located not far from the picturesque Chapel, the Nahant Church, a short distance back from Cliff St. Samuel and Anna Breed doubtless made their home with them here, or somewhere near them, on the Hope Well farm. Hugh Alley's holdings, subsequently owned by the Breeds for a period of a hundred years, extended westerly from Bass Beach, where the "Forty Steps" now are, and off which lies the majestic Castle Rock. Hugh Alley, the father, lived in a house near by the Whitney homestead, which at his death, fell to his daughter, Martha, who married James Mills, who had been employed by her father to care for their sheep.

In 1635 the town of Lynn ordered the forest trees cut off Nahant, offering acres of land to those who had cleared it, within a limited time. The scheme worked, apparently only too well, for not long afterwards they put a strict limit on cutting trees, finding there was little or no shade left for their cattle. But the calm peaceful days of the Breeds and Alleys were soon to be broken by the distressing news of the terrible ordeals to which members of their family were being subjected. The delusion and intolerance holding sway in the settlements, at this period, are almost beyond belief in this present day. Many worthy persons were subjected to harsh treatment at the hands of the bigoted authorities. Among them Sarah, a sister of Rebecca and Anna, who was the wife of William Bassett, was imprisoned for seven months in Boston, having been accused of being a witch. She took a young child to prison with her and soon after her release, a daughter, whom she named Deliverance, was born. This daughter afterwards became the wife of Samuel Breed, Jr. and spend the rest of her life on Nahant.

In 1706, Nahant was laid out in lots which were allotted to the inhabitants of the town by a Committee of three men from other towns. (Pat and Phil Roland in Boxford have the original map). Hugh Alley's claims to his farm were ignored and the land allotted to others. Law suits followed, resulting in Alley's losing his land and moving to Lynn. Samuel Breed, at this time, received an allotment of land consisting of a little more than four acres, situated on the opposite side of the road from where the Whitney Homestead now stands. Samuel's father, Allen Breed, Jr., died the following year, having bequeathed to Samuel, the youngest son, his homestead at Breed's End. Samuel Breed, Sr., made his home there during the rest of his life.

The year after this bequest from his father, Samuel sold his allotment of land at Nahant to Dr. Burchstead, who was buying up small holdings from the townspeople. In 1717, he rebought from the Doctor his original allotment and other land amount to 60 acres, including the old Alley place. Samuel soon afterwards built a house, which is believed to be the original part of the Whitney Homestead still standing, using probably in its construction, material from the James Mills house close by, which, it is said, dated back to the time of the first Hugh

Rhyme and Reason of Time and Season

by Allen Breed

In days of old, when Allen Breed
Across the marshes came,
He naturally took the lead
(Or so in history we read)
Of those who bear the name, sir,
Of those who bear the name.

He brought his chattels and his goods
Close up to Houghton square;
And in those western neighborhoods,
Two hundred acres, fields and woods
Were sliced for Allen's share, sir,
Were sliced for Allen's share.

He farmed it, then, on marsh and lea,
And made those borders hum;
For here, said he, there ought to be
Room for those Newhall folks and me,
And all the Breeds to come, sir,
and all the Breeds to come.

That muscular old frontiersman,
Could he the future read,
And see the armies of his clan,
With honest pride that host he'd scan,
And say: "It's in the Breed, sire,
"It's doubtless in the Breed."

SOURCE: April 17, 1915. Xeroxed from scrapbook of Mrs. Edwin Breed, Swampscott. Property of the Nahant Historical Society.

Alley. This house was occupied by Samuel Breed, Jr., after his marriage to Deliverance Bassett in 1719. Samuel, Jr., at the time of his death, was the largest land owner on the peninsula.

In the year 1723, Jabez, Samuel's third son, married Desire Bassett and they made their home in a house Samuel, Sr. had built for them, on the three acre lot he had received from the town. This house was across the road from that of his brother, Samuel, and stood where the lodge of the Upham Estate is now. This house remained in the Hood family for generations, passing from Richard to Abner, then to Benjamin, until 1869 when it was bought by G. A. Upham.

In 1735, Samuel, Sr., conveyed all of this Nahant property to his sons Samuel and Jabez, who divided it. In 1738, Jabez exchanged his peninsular home with a cousin, Richard Hood, for his property on Nahant St., in Lynn. This exchange is of considerable significance as it brought about the establishment of the Hoods at Nahant and the Breeds in the eastern part of Lynn. The land which Jabez Breed acquired



Original Townies

Part 3 of a 4 part series.



Whitney's Hotel, 369 Nahant Road

from Richard Hood was not the original Hood property on the east side of Nahant St. This tract of land was on the west side. It was bequeathed to Richard five years previously by Thomas Farrar, Jr., husband of Richard's aunt Elizabeth Hood. The Farrars had no children and they willed their land to Samuel Newhall and Richard Hood. Richard Hood was given the southerly portion called Sagamore Hill Field which extended from the present Sagamore St. to the sea. Samuel Breed, Jr. continued to live at Nahant. When Richard Hood moved there, they were the only two families on the peninsula. In 1770, Jonathan Johnson came, making a third. He had married, at about that time, a granddaughter of Hugh Alley.

The Breeds and Hoods both had young families. Samuel and his wife had two sons, Nehemiah and William and three daughters and the Hoods had one son Abner and six daughters. Nehemiah Breed and Abner Hood became the Nahanters. Abner Hood married Kezia Breed and the ties of kinship became even closer. Samuel Breed took out an Innkeeper's license in 1738. Persons coming to Nahant were often obliged to remain overnight as unless the tides were right it was sometimes possible to make but a hurried trip to the peninsula and back on the same day. There was no road at that time and the three-mile stretch across the beaches had to be travelled over when the tide was low.

The Breeds and Hoods at this time owned practically the whole of the eastern end of the peninsula. Nehemiah Breed's land which he had inherited from his father together with what he had purchased amounted to upwards of 120 acres. Nehemiah Breed sold in 1821, 18 acres of his land to Perkins and Paine for the site of the Nahant Hotel which opened in June 1823 and upon which later the Lodge and James estates were located. Mr. Breed Wilson calls attention to the interesting coincidence that the only residents at Nahant in the beginning of the 19th century belonged to the same three families living in the same three homes, occupied by Nehemiah Breed, Abner Hood and Caleb Johnson, sons of the only residents 30 years before.

Daniel Breed's father William died two years after he left Nahant and his heirs sold the old homestead which had been occupied by the family for nearly a century to Jesse Rice who had in 1928 a public house in the village which he kept for 24 years. In 1841, he sold it to his son-in-law Albert Whitney. His descendants continued to run it as Whitney's Hotel and now as the Whitney Homestead. It is, in part, the oldest house on Nahant. The original structure it is believed dates back to the first Samuel Breed. Old doors, cupboards, ceiling beams, door latches and other fittings show that parts now in useful existence reach back doubtless to 1758 and probably to a still earlier time. Material used in its construction may date back to the first Hugh Alley.

Extensive additions and improvements were added to the old Breed house before it became the Rice House later Whitney's Hotel. It was much frequented by families who came for the summer and by visitors who came for the day to Nahant for the sake of its famous fish dinners.

This, the oldest building standing in Nahant, was constructed by Samuel Breed in the early 1700s and was opened by him as an inn as early as 1738. In 1817, Jesse Rice bought the property and ran the well-known "Rice House" there, until 1841, adding an easterly wing "for dining and sleeping accommodations," in 1820. This hotel was patronized and mentioned by Nathaniel Hawthorne and other writers of note.

About 1840-41, Albert Whitney, son-in-law of Mr. Rice, acquired the building, added the westerly wing in 1859 and ran the successful "Whitney's Hotel" there, until 1883. In 1896, the house was reopened by Whitney's daughter, Mrs. Frederick McIntosh, and her family, as a summer boardinghouse, continuing into the 1930's under the name of the "Whitney Homestead."

In 1944, the building was purchased by Mr. John Jarl, who has done extensive work in restoring it to its present fine condition. In connection with the celebration of our country's two hundredth anniversary, Mr. Jarl has graciously agreed to allow the Nahant Historical Society, newly formed under the auspices of the town's Bicentennial Committee, to use a portion of this most historically significant structure as a place where artifacts and memorabilia, relative to Nahant's past, can be stored, catalogued and displayed.

Picture and text above is from the collection of the Nahant Historical Society.

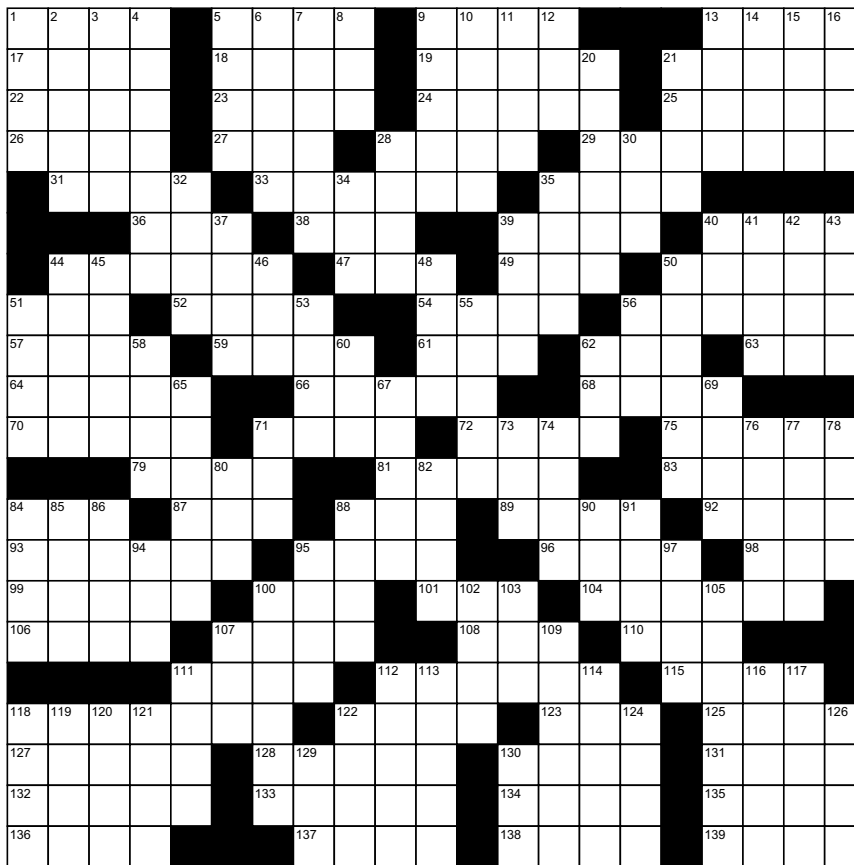


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Sumner In Nahant
 c/o Bumper Gooding
 PO Box 5, Nahant, MA 01908
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NAHANT PUZZLE PAGE

"Good Eats"

by Rick Kennedy



- 41 Grape ___ (Salem)
- 42 Signs
- 43 Mislaid
- 44 Tattoo artist?
- 45 ___ Delight (Peabody)
- 46 Jack-___ (Marblehead)
- 48 On the briny
- 50 NE French region
- 51 Halt
- 53 Zeus' wife
- 55 Wild ___ Cafe (Beverly)
- 56 Mink or sable
- 58 Ardor
- 60 Klutz
- 62 With 80D - Lynnfield restaurant
- 65 Writing tablets
- 67 See 29 Across
- 69 Crazy
- 71 Top
- 73 Window boxes? (abbr.)
- 74 Inert gas
- 76 Black or white critter
- 77 Regulation
- 78 Plod
- 80 See 62 Down
- 82 Computer image
- 84 Opaque gem
- 85 "as you ___"
- 86 Auspices (var.)
- 88 24-hour periods
- 90 Cut
- 91 New ___ (Danvers)
- 94 Allow
- 95 Grabs
- 97 Women's magazine
- 100 Bay ___ (Salem)
- 102 ___ water Cafe (Salem)
- 103 ___ Center Street (Newburyport)
- 105 The ___ (Marblehead)
- 107 Unrefined metal
- 109 Chinese food brand
- 111 Evils
- 112 Centers
- 113 ___ days (long ago)
- 114 Hot embers
- 116 Engraver Albrecht
- 117 Hit the puck in
- 118 Nuisance
- 119 Early Peruvian
- 120 Ocean Spray's drink starters
- 121 King ___
- 122 Bowlers
- 124 Droop
- 126 Recognize
- 129 N.A. nation
- 130 Educational channel

ACROSS

- 1 Knight's companions?
- 5 Pack
- 9 Cologne (Gr.)
- 13 Head
- 17 Plug
- 18 Astute
- 19 Negative particle
- 21 Wireless
- 22 Lawyer (abbr.)
- 23 Attention-Deficit Hyperactive Disorder
- 24 Eastern religion
- 25 Heroes
- 26 Maddie's ___ Loft (Marblehead)
- 27 Worker or drone
- 28 Tab's partner?
- 29 With 67D - Beverly restaurant
- 31 Vexation
- 33 Longbranch, e.g.
- 35 Competent

- 36 Sent by the Police?
- 38 Sun's name
- 39 Prate
- 40 Cruel
- 44 Deepfrying need (2 wds)
- 47 Green ___ (Lynn)
- 49 Ironic
- 50 Type of acid
- 51 Jiffy
- 52 Beehive State
- 54 Patronize
- 56 Fails
- 57 See 104 Across
- 59 Hydrox rival
- 61 Goddess
- 62 Clear tables
- 63 Compass pt.
- 64 Racetracks
- 66 Cpl. O'Reilly
- 68 Persia today
- 70 Punitive
- 71 Grand ___ (Rockport)
- 72 Participated in Karaoke

- 75 Regulates
- 79 Nothing
- 81 Bit
- 83 Type of alcohol
- 84 IOU part
- 87 Hill ___ (Saugus)
- 88 Word extension?
- 89 Beverly restaurant
- 92 Grainery
- 93 Wooden prop
- 95 Treaty org.
- 96 Smeller
- 98 Nettle
- 99 Zodiac sign
- 100 ___ Bridge (Salem)
- 101 Yield
- 104 With 57A - Peabody restaurant
- 106 For fear that
- 107 Globes
- 108 1st state
- 110 In the manner of
- 111 Spring flower
- 112 French brandy

- 115 Aborts
 - 118 ___ Onion (Beverly)
 - 122 Port ___ Pub (Lynn)
 - 123 Black ___ (Hamilton)
 - 125 Evade
 - 127 Sign up (var.)
 - 128 Protect
 - 130 ___ Place (Salem)
 - 131 ___ City beer
 - 132 Looks over
 - 133 ___ Lauder
 - 134 Lounge
 - 135 Roman emperor
 - 136 Apollo potable
 - 137 Org.
 - 138 Saclike structure
 - 139 Raised
- DOWN**
- 1 Parent groups
 - 2 Tiny amounts
 - 3 Russian leader

- 4 Hairdresser
- 5 Mop
- 6 Nahant restaurant
- 7 Kitty ___ (Beverly)
- 8 Married
- 9 Painter Freida
- 10 See 118 Across
- 11 Fuzz
- 12 Head motion
- 13 ___ Fountain (Gloucester)
- 14 Smell
- 15 Goat ___ Grille (Beverly)
- 16 Curious
- 20 Lumpily
- 21 Rend
- 28 Il ___ (Peabody)
- 30 Wapiti
- 32 Meat alternative
- 34 Destiny
- 35 Retired persons org.
- 37 ___ Il (Stoneham)
- 39 Deuces
- 40 Flightless bird

**Spectacular, Fully-Restored Classic Boat
Featured at NVC "Chirstmas by the Sea"
Silent Auction on December 10th**



1959 Chris Craft-13' Classic Boat

Beautifully restored 13' Christ Craft wood boat with red fiberglass hull and 25 HP Evinrude motor; less than 20 hours on the engine. Includes 4 anchors, Coast Guard kit-life jackets, paddle, etc., battery, large gas tank and a pristine 1998 Magic trailer. Garage stored for the last two years.

Nahant Harbor Review

PO Box 88 • Nahant, MA 01908 USA

**DEADLINE INFORMATION for
JANUARY 2006**

All Community Calendar items, personal ads, classifieds, business ads, articles and short stories.
Thursday, December 15th • 5:00 P.M.
Mail Date: **Wednesday, December 28th**

STAFF

Owner/Editor: Donna Lee Hanlon 592-4148
Sales Director: Suzanne Hamill 592-1263
Assistant: Mary Lowe
Proofreader: Harriet Steeves

The **Nahant Harbor Review** is published monthly and distributed to over 2,300 homes and businesses in Nahant and beyond by Seaside Business Services, PO Box 88, Nahant, MA 01908, (781) 592-4148, Donna Lee Hanlon, Owner, Editor & Publisher.

Editor reserves sole discretion for inclusion of ads, articles, letters and other submissions.

Anonymously submitted articles and / or letters, unsigned or lacking author contact information, will not be published. Exception: although not a regular practice, a writer's identity may be withheld by request, at the sole discretion of the editor.

Articles, Notices, Letters and Calendar Items may be submitted by: **email**, donna@nahant.com, or **fax**, (781) 581-0158, or **mail**, Editor, PO Box 88, Nahant, MA 01908, or to our **drop-off box** at the **Equitable Cooperative Bank** on Nahant Road.

The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the management and staff of the Nahant Harbor Review or Seaside Business Services.

All articles are voluntarily submitted to the Nahant Harbor Review without compensation.

Help support Nahant's **ONLY** community newspaper. Become a voluntary subscriber today! Send \$15 per subscription with mailing address to: Nahant Harbor Review, PO Box 88, Nahant, MA 01908. Thank you.

NOVEMBER 2005 PUZZLE WINNER

Congratulations to RALPH CANALI who successfully completed last month's puzzle. You, too, can win a FREE breakfast for two. Just complete the crossword puzzle, bring it to Captain Seaside Restaurant on Nahant Road and put it in the PUZZLE BOX on the counter. For more information, see Chris at Seaside Breakfast.

**Lions and Tigers and Bears...
by Rick Kennedy**

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K	N	E	E				O	L	E	S					M	I	N	E		S	A	S		

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November 11th is Veterans Day
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Help Support Your Community Newspaper
 Season's Greetings to you all! Many thanks to those of you who had opportunity to send in a subscription last month. Thank you, thank you!
 If you haven't already done so, now is a good time to renew your voluntary subscription to the Nahant Harbor Review, or to begin a new subscription, for the year 2006. Although the Nahant Harbor Review is FREE to all Nahanters, your voluntary subscription check for \$15 will help defray the cost of mailing to your door. Send name(s) and mailing address(es) and \$15 for each subscription of 12 monthly issues, beginning with the January 2006 issue, to: Nahant Harbor Review, PO Box 88, Nahant, MA 01908. Or, save a stamp! Drop an envelope with your subscription info and check in the black box on the Teller's Counter in Equitable Bank on Nahant Road.

For Nahant Residents Only
"Firewood makes a great Christmas Gift."
DECEMBER 2005 Firewood Sale
1/2 cord \$160 **Full Cord \$250**
 Ask about cash price. All Types of Hardwood. Mainly Ash.

Call Frank in Nahant 781-858-6318

Nahant Community Classified Ads Page
Advertise your yard sales, moving sales, car and boat sales, apartment rentals, personal messages, birth announcements, memoriams, holiday and birthday greetings in the JANUARY 2006 issue of the Nahant Harbor Review!
 Fill out the form below, cut out and mail to: Nahant Harbor Review, PO Box 88, Nahant, MA 01908.....OR..... Save a stamp! Take the envelope to the Equitable Cooperative Bank on Nahant Road and drop it in the black box on the Teller's counter. Payment must be included with the form and made payable to Seaside Business Services.
 Photos will be returned if accompanied with a self-addressed, stamped envelope.
Deadline for the JANUARY issue is THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15th.

Name: _____
 Telephone: _____
 Photo Enclosed? _____
 Ad Size: _____
 Amount enclosed: _____
 Print Message (or attach to form): _____

Price List	
One column wide by	
1" box	\$12.00*
1.5" box	\$18.00*
2" box	\$24.00
2-1/2" box	\$30.00
3" box	\$36.00
Two columns wide by	
1" box	\$24.00*
1.5" box	\$36.00*
2" box	\$48.00
*Text Only	

For more info., call Suzanne at 781-592-1263.

Community Calendar • DECEMBER 2005

To have your event listed on the Nahant Community Calendar, please mail note, letter or postcard to: Community Calendar, Nahant Harbor Review, PO Box 88, Nahant, MA 01908 or email: donna@nahant.com

DECEMBER

THU	1	6:30P	SPED PAC Meeting.
FRI	2	8:00P	Concert Singers at Unitarian Universalist Church
SAT	3	5-8:00P	Ham & Bean Supper. Village Church. Till 8:00 p.m.
SUN	4	2:30P	Concert Singers at Sacred Heart Church
SUN	4	3:00P	"The Salem Witch Trials." Delvena Theater at Library.
WED	7		Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
WED	7	10:00A	Nahant COA Trip. Christmas Bright Lights.
SAT	10	MANY	Northeast Youth Ballet production of The Nutcracker at Lynn City Hall Auditorium. For tickets & times, call 781-665-2236. Thru December 18th.
SAT	10	9A-3:00P	Christmas by the Sea Fair. Nahant Village Church.
SAT	10	6-9:00P	10th Annual Christmas Parade Fundraiser at Tides
SUN	11	1-4:00P	Garden Club's Holiday House Tour. Till 4:00 p.m.
TUE	13	11:30A	Woman's Club Holiday Luncheon at Village Church.
SAT	17	6:00P	10th Annual Christmas Parade
WED	21		Winter Begins
SAT	24	6:30P	Lessons & Carols Christmas Eve Service. Village Church.
SUN	25		Christmas
SUN	25		Hanukkah begins at sundown
SUN	25	10:30A	Christmas Day Worship Service. Village Church.
MON	26		Kwanzaa begins
SAT	31		New Year's Eve

JANUARY

SUN	1		New Year's Day
SUN	1	NOON	4th Annual New Year's Day Dip with the Sea Serpents.
SAT	7	TBA	Nahant Laugh-In. More info to come.
SUN	8	TBA	Dance Dimensions Celebrates 20 Years!

School Committee meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Meetings start at 7:00 p.m. and are held at the Town Hall.
School Council Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Meetings start at 6:30 p.m. and are held at the Johnson School.

Starting in 2007, the United States will have new dates for Daylight Saving Time: Daylight Saving Time will begin on the second Sunday in March (2007), at 2:00 a.m., local time. We will return to standard time on the first Sunday in November (2007), at 2:00 a.m., local time.

NHT and HOOMPA Stickers are available FREE at the Nahant Cleaners. Compliments of Rob Scanlan.

The **Nahant Historical Society** is open to the public on Wednesdays, Thursdays and on the first Sunday of each month, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. (except holidays).

The **American Legion** meets on the first Tuesday of every month, at 7:00 p.m., at the American Legion Hall, 5 Coolidge Road, in Nahant.

Public Library Hours
Mon. thru Thurs.
10:00 a.m. to Noon. & 2:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Fridays: 10:00 a.m. to Noon & 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Saturdays and Sundays:
2:00 to 5:00 p.m.
781-581-0306

CHRISTMAS AT SEA

The sheets were frozen hard, and they cut the naked hand;
The decks were like a slide, where a seaman scarce could stand;
The wind was a nor'wester, blowing squally off the sea;
And cliffs and spouting breakers were the only things a-lee.

They heard the surf a-roaring before the break of day;
But 'twas only with the peep of light, we saw how ill we lay.
We tumbled every hand on deck instanter, with a shout,
And we gave her the maintops'l, and stood by, to go about.

All day we tacked and tacked, between the South Head and the North;
All day we hauled the frozen sheets, and got no further forth;
All day as cold as charity, in bitter pain and dread,
For very life and nature, we tacked from head to head.

We gave the South a wider berth, for there the tide-race roared;
But every tack we made, we brought the North Head close aboard:
So's we saw the cliffs and houses, and the breakers running high,
And the coastguard in his garden, with his glass against his eye.

The frost was on the village roofs, as white as ocean foam;
The good red fires were burning bright in every 'long-shore home;
The windows sparkled clear, and the chimneys volleyed out;
And I vow we sniffed the victuals, as the vessel went about.

The bells upon the church were rung with a mighty jovial cheer;
For it's just that I should tell you how (of all days in the year)
This day of our adversity was blessed Christmas morn,
And the house above the coastguard's was the house where I was born.

O well I saw the pleasant room, the pleasant faces there,
My mother's silver spectacles, my father's silver hair;
And well I saw the firelight, like a flight of homely elves,
Go dancing round the china-plates that stand upon the shelves.

And well I knew the talk they had, the talk that was of me,
Of the shadow on the household and the son that went to sea;
And O the wicked fool I seemed, in every kind of way,
To be here and hauling frozen ropes on blessed Christmas Day.

They lit the high sea-light, and the dark began to fall.
"All hands to loose topgallant sails," I heard the captain call.
"By the Lord, she'll never stand it," our first mate Jackson, cried.
..."It's the one way, or the other, Mr. Jackson," he replied.

She staggered to her bearings, but the sails were new and good,
And the ship smelt up to windward just as though she understood.
As the winter's day was ending, in the entry of the night,
We cleared the weary headland, and passed below the light.

And they heaved a mighty breath, every soul on board but me,
As they saw her nose again pointing handsome out to sea;
But all that I could think of, in the darkness and the cold,
Was just that I was leaving home and my folks were growing old.

This is my favorite Christmas poem. Enjoy the holidays and look for me in the Christmas parade o' lights again this year. Keep in mind all of you; there are only 19-weeks left till' boating season starts again !

Rob Scanlan, Marine Surveyor

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&
Happy New Year**

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Valerie Richardson 781-479-4017
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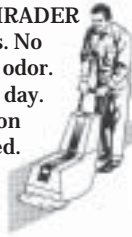
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