

## 4th Quarter 2023

WQRC (7 a.m.) / WOCN (8 a.m.) / WFCC (6 a.m.) / WKPE (5 a.m.)

Segment times 17:30 unless otherwise indicated.

October 1 - Sunday Journal Program

**Program Title:** Falmouth Native Takes Top Military Post

**Program description:** At a recent ceremony aboard the aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower, Naval Air Force Atlantic (AIRLANT) welcomed Falmouth native, Rear Admiral Douglas Verissimo, as its 35 Commander of the naval aviation wing of the Atlantic. Admiral Daryl Caudle, Commander of US Fleet Forces Command served as presiding officer over the ceremony in which Rear Admiral John Meier, who plans to retire after 37 years, relinquished command to the incoming Verissimo. Verissimo brings recent experience as the Director of the US Fleet Forces Command, Maritime Operations to his new position, where he will lead AIRLANT's seven nuclear-powered aircraft carriers, 54 aircraft squadrons, and over 50,000 officers and civilian and military personnel as they protect US interests in the Atlantic. "To all of you, I will do my best so that naval aviation leads us into the future with clarity and innovation," said Verissimo as he spoke before a crowd of friends and family.

**Program Title:** Cape Cod Five Announces New Affiliation

**Program Description:** The parent companies of Cape Cod 5 and Fidelity Bank have agreed to combine into one holding company, though representatives said each will continue to operate independently. The Cape Cod 5 name and brand will stay, and officials with the organization said the new structure will open up more opportunities through shared resources. Cape Cod 5 has 26 locations across the Cape and Islands region and holds over \$5.5 billion dollars in assets. The partnership will result in more than \$7 billion in combined assets. Matt Burke will continue as Chairman and CEO of Cape Cod 5, as well as for Mutual Bancorp: the new multi-bank holding company. "Fidelity Bank and Cape Cod 5 are both long-standing institutions with very similar cultures and values. We both focus on personalized service to consumers and businesses, and a commitment to making a positive impact in our communities," said Burke in a statement. "This partnership will strengthen Mutual Bancorp and enable us to utilize shared resources and best practices so that each bank can grow in size, strength, and offerings to customers. The combination will allow us to adapt to an ever-changing environment, as well as provide additional growth and development opportunities for our dedicated teams."

According to Cape Cod 5, as part of the partnership agreement, Fidelity Bank will form a \$5 million Charitable Foundation, providing increased and ongoing support to non-profit organizations, causes, and events in their market areas.

**Program Title:** Climate Change Collaborative

**Program Description:** The Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative recently announced the hiring of Miranda Daniloff Mancusi as its full-time Executive Director. A resident of Barnstable Village and the holder of a Bachelor of Science in Speech from Northwestern University and an MBA from Simmons School of Management, Mancusi has extensive experience as a consultant and volunteer for climate-focused non-profits such as Mothers Out Front, and as a journalist and editor for outlets such as WGN Radio and New England Cable News. She also brings previous experience in a leadership role as the executive director of one of the divisions of Harvard University's School of Public Health, where she oversaw strategy, growth, administration, outreach, and more. "Climate change and the breadth of its impact demands a breadth of response," said Mancusi. "That's what the Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative is assembling – speedily, strategically, and in partnership."

October 8 - Sunday Journal Program

**Program Title:** Barnstable Land Trust

**Program Description:** Barnstable Land Trust is celebrating four decades of land conservation and environmental advocacy this year. Director of Communications and Programs Sue Dahling Sullivan said 2023 was full of many programs to commemorate the occasion, including the Tour de Barnstable Charity Bike Ride. "It's a bike ride that goes through all seven villages. It's 38 miles with a 2-mile extra add-on in honor of our 40th anniversary," said Sullivan. Proceeds will benefit the Trust as well as DEVO cycling. Other festivities included a photo session at Fuller Farm, wildflower walks and a three-month Hike Barnstable Challenge highlighting over 90 miles of trails in the town.

**Program Title:** Breast Cancer Awareness

**Program Description:** As the calendar changes to the month of October, Cape Cod Healthcare is helping to improve awareness for breast cancer. Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in women in the United States, said Dr. Jill Oxley, breast surgeon and Director of Breast Care Services at Cape Cod Healthcare, and early detection is the most important thing for quality care. "The American Cancer Society estimates that this year approximately 297,790

women will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer, and over 55,000 more will be diagnosed with non-invasive breast cancer,” Dr. Oxley said. She said that in the case of Massachusetts that means that one in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime, and specifically in Barnstable County, the second highest county diagnosis rate in the state, 154 women per 100,000 will receive the diagnosis. Diagnosing cancer at the earliest stage is going to lead to the highest rate of cure, says Dr. Oxley, screening detected diagnoses tend to have more favorable results and that is why she says awareness is extremely important. “The stage at diagnosis is related to the survival. A cancer that is diagnosed at an early stage is limited to the breast, then a slightly more advanced would be limited to the breast and the lymph nodes in the region, and a more advanced cancer would have spread to other organs,” said Oxley. With screenings the doctors are able to detect over two thirds of breast cancer limited to the breast, and over 90% limited to the breast and the lymph nodes.

October 15 – Sunday Journal Program

**Program Title:** National Seashore Dune Shack Controversy

**Program Description:** 94-year-old artist Salvatore Del Deo has returned to the Outer Cape dune shack he has occupied and maintained for over seven decades after reaching a deal with federal officials from the Department of the Interior and the Cape Cod National Seashore to stay five more years.

Even though the shack was boarded up and the families rights to anything in it were revoked, Romolo Del Deo, Salvatore’s son, said the family never truly believed they were evicted, and he knew he would be back to see his mother’s portrait again. “I looked at it and I said I’m not taking her portrait, we’re coming back, and when we did get back in I walked over to her portrait and I told her ‘mom we’re back, don’t worry we’re back’ and it was a very moving moment for me,” said Del Deo. Romolo’s mother Josephine Del Deo fought to create the Cape Cod National Seashore, but then had to fight against it to preserve the dune shack community, says Romolo. The return comes after protests and prolonged talks between the Del Deo family and members of the National Park Service, as well as previously rejecting a two-year permit to stay. The Del Deo family said in a statement that they look forward to cooperating with the Seashore on continued preservation of the natural and cultural environment. The Cape Cod National Seashore had been looking to evict current occupants of the Outer Cape shacks and put them up for seasonal rental application through a new caretaker initiative.

**Program Title:** Sandwich Arts Alliance

**Program Description:** The former town offices within the Sandwich Historic Town Hall are welcoming a new resident as the Sandwich Arts Alliance moves into its new home on 130 Main Street. The non-profit begins a three-year lease approved by the town and its voters, who chose to repurpose the 200-square-foot space after the town relocated its offices to their current location at 100 Route 6A in November 2022. The new headquarters will feature an art gallery, classroom space, gift shop, and bookstore to aid the Alliance in its mission to cultivate and support artistic events and programming within the area, such as the upcoming 2023 Porchfest, to be held on September 16 from 1 to 4 pm. As the oldest continuously operated seat of government in Massachusetts, the historic town hall is a centerpiece of the Glass House Historic District, one of two designated cultural districts on the Cape. “This is a dream come true for many who have long desired to create a cultural center in the heart of Sandwich Village,” said Katherine Aubin, President of the SAA. “We’ve been looking for the perfect place for over 18 months to grow all of our initiatives under one larger roof,” she said.

**Program Title:** Cape Cod Canal Bridge Replacement

**Program Description:**

Local leaders applauded Gov. Maura Healey’s efforts to replace the aging Bourne and Sagamore Bridges, though they add that her proposed one-at-a-time approach may not cut it as heavy maintenance work looms for the Bourne. As state officials have sought to acquire the roughly \$4.5 billion needed to replace the two aging bridges, Healey has placed an application for federal funds totaling about \$1.6 billion to replace the Sagamore Bridge, with the state matching a significant portion of the funds. Although Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce CEO Paul Niedzwiecki supports the replacement of the Sagamore Bridge, he stressed the need for urgency in replacing the Bourne Bridge, citing economic stress caused by recent bridge work. “It’s a major detriment. It’s a major economic drag,” said Niedzwiecki. “The construction on Sagamore in the spring was also very disruptive to the economy, and as those bridges approach 100 years old the maintenance on them is going to become more intense and more frequent, and so that means disrupting the economy more often. So the bridges need to be replaced.”

October 22 – Sunday Journal Program

**Program Title:** Cape Cod Migrant Controversy

**Program Description:** With the migrant situation on Cape Cod creating a strain on the region, some officials are looking to change the right to shelter law, which is only in place in the state of

Massachusetts. As the Cape continues working on the struggle for affordable housing, Fifth Barnstable State Representative Steven Xiarhos said there are current residents of the area who do not have a place to live, and he believes the law passed in 1983 was intended to help United States citizens. “The right to shelter law is what is creating this situation in Massachusetts, and remember we’re the only state in the country, out of 50 states we’re the only one with a right to shelter law,” Xiarhos said. He recently filed a bill that would ask for a hearing to discuss the right to shelter law and make it more clear to him on who it is actually for. Xiarhos believes the law should still help pregnant women and families, but is looking for a better clarification as to who else it should be helping, and could it be changed to better help everyone involved in the situation. “I think it’s time to look at that law and to update it to the 2023 version, not the 1983 version,” said Xiarhos.

**Program Title:** Housing Money for Cape Cod

**Program Description:** Members of the Cape and Islands legislative delegation are applauding Governor Maura Healey’s new housing bond bill that will create 40,000 units and provide more tools for towns. The \$4.1 billion dollar record investment in housing includes 22,000 new homes for low-income households and 12,000 new homes for middle-income households, as well as money to rehabilitate about 25,000 homes. The act also includes a local-option “Mansion Fee” on multi-million-dollar home sales to help support sustainable housing initiatives, said Barnstable/Dukes/Nantucket State Representative Dylan Fernandes. Affordable housing on Cape Cod has posed a significant challenge as many older residents are on fixed incomes. The Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce said it also throttles workforce capacity, with about half of all local workers commuting from off-Cape.

October 29 – Sunday Journal Program

**Program Title:** Cape Symphony Director Search

**Program Description:**

The application period has closed for the Cape Symphony’s Music Director role left vacant by Jung-Ho Pak. Over the next few weeks, a search committee consisting of musicians, board members and community representatives will narrow down candidates. The application window for the Music Director position officially closed on September 30. “We are thrilled with the level of interest and the caliber of candidates who have applied. It is a testament to the reputation and appeal of the Cape Symphony,” said Mike Albaugh, Executive Director of the Cape Symphony. Three to five finalists will be selected to spend one week’s time on the Cape, answering questions, meeting with residents at public events, and immersing themselves in the community,

said Symphony officials. The Cape Symphony Orchestra said it is committed to a transparent process, and that the community's involvement will be essential in the selection process. The Cape Symphony's 2023 to 2024 season will feature a variety of guest conductors, with plans to announce the next director in the spring.

**Program Title:** Right Whale Speed Restrictions

**Program Description:** The International Fund for Animal Welfare is seeking support for vessel speed restrictions to help protect North Atlantic Right Whales. As data continues to grow showing the importance of specific regions for the whales to inhabit, Katie Moore, Deputy Vice President of Animal Rescue at IFAW, said that things will need to change to enforce more strictly supervised speed restrictions. "The Right Whales are the most endangered large whales in the world, and they're in U.S. waters throughout the year, but they migrate up and down the east coast, so there are ways we can protect them as they're moving," Moore said. Moore said changes should be made to the rules set in place, as the current laws only apply to vessels that are 65 feet or longer, and some seasonal zones are considered voluntary instead of mandatory.

November 5 – Sunday Journal Program

**Program Title:** Family Table Collaborative

**Program Description:** The International Fund for Animal Welfare is seeking support for vessel speed restrictions to help protect North Atlantic Right Whales. As data continues to grow showing the importance of specific regions for the whales to inhabit, Katie Moore, Deputy Vice President of Animal Rescue at IFAW, said that things will need to change to enforce more strictly supervised speed restrictions. "The Right Whales are the most endangered large whales in the world, and they're in U.S. waters throughout the year, but they migrate up and down the east coast, so there are ways we can protect them as they're moving," Moore said. Moore said changes should be made to the rules set in place, as the current laws only apply to vessels that are 65 feet or longer, and some seasonal zones are considered voluntary instead of mandatory. The meal at the Family Table Collaborative on Thanksgiving will have 225 spaces available for those looking to eat with the community on the holiday, and organization officials consider the meal a "pay what you can" event.

**Program Title:** Conservation Group Welcomes Brazilian Colleagues

**Program Description:** The Center for Coastal Studies recently welcomed conservationists from three Brazilian NGOs to participate in entanglement response training as part of an international effort to train and deploy emergency responders. The participants, which came from the Instituto Chico Mendes de Conservação da Biodiversidade, Instituto Argonauta para Conservação Costeira e Marinha, and VIVA Instituto Verde Azul, joined CCS staff members at the Hiebert Lab in Provincetown under the International Whaling Commission’s Global Whale Entanglement Response Network. Over 14 days, CCS staff shared their expertise in techniques and safety protocols for whale disentanglement, such as proper boat handling and navigation and freeing distressed whales from complex tangles, with simulations performed at sea aboard the Marine Animal Entanglement Response (MAER) vessel, the Ibis.

November 12 – Sunday Journal Program

**Program Title:** Cape Cod Dredge Costs

**Program Description:** Barnstable County is currently in the midst of doing a study on rates for dredging, which in the past few years has forced the county to dip into reserves to underwrite the dredging program costs. The county will need to realign their dredge rates, said Commissioner Mark Forest, with their costs and the report they will be receiving soon from the study will help in the process. “This is a very popular program. We have an outstanding dredging department, we’ve got terrific staff, it’s well led, and has enormous support throughout Cape Cod, but the cost of dredging is going up,” Forest said. Once the study is completed and reviewed, the commissioner’s office will be talking to officials in local towns to discuss what the revised rates might mean and what the towns would need. The dredge department is a very important program, says Forest, and it is utilized by almost every Cape Cod town which is why the commission is focused on keeping its funding in a positive state. “In the past we’ve had to tap into reserves, so our hope is that we won’t have to do that. We did develop an overall plan and set of recommendations which we discussed with the assembly the other day,” said Forest.

**Program Title:** Cape Cod Broadband Access

**Program Description:** As regional officials push for wider access to broadband on Cape Cod, the Massachusetts Broadband Institute at Mass Tech is launching the Broadband Infrastructure Gap Networks Grant Program, a \$145 million initiative to bring high-speed internet to areas lacking broadband-level service and infrastructure. The program will place an emphasis on low-income communities and disadvantaged population groups in an effort to fix the digital divide.

The program will contain two solicitation grant rounds, with application deadlines on December 11, 2023, and April 17, 2024. Private entities, non-profits, tribal entities, co-ops, and public-private partnerships are all welcome to apply.

November 19 – Sunday Journal Program

**Program Title:** Local Author Casey Sherman

**Program Description:** Recent writers and actors guild strikes have led to big changes across the industry and left no part of the nation untouched, including on Cape Cod. Best-selling author Casey Sherman discusses what it was like from inside the industry, especially as his book “Helltown” gets ready to take to the TVs everywhere through Amazon. The book shows the story of a serial murder case that took place on the Outer Cape in the 60s and 70s. The production is being handled by Team Downey and will star Oscar Isaac.

November 26 – Sunday Journal Program

**Program Title:** Invasive Ticks

**Program Description:** A new invasive species of tick has been found on Martha’s Vineyard and Cape Cod and local experts are urging people to be mindful. The Asian longhorn tick is sturdier to winter conditions and can carry serious illnesses, said the CDC in a statement about the insect. Cape Cod Cooperative Extension Entomologist Larry Dapsis says the ticks are more attracted to livestock like cattle than humans and described the threat as low, but added that precautions should always be taken when outdoors.

**Program Title:** Christmas Wishes and Family Services

**Program Description:** It’s been a busy but successful year for Child and Family Services (CFS), a local organization providing mental health support for those in need. Program Director for Therapeutic Mentoring Services Nora Kent and Nicole Kominsky Director for In-Home Therapy says they’ve knocked their waitlists down from months to just days or hours, and that Christmas Wishes is off to a bright start as holidays begin.



December 3 – Sunday Journal Program

**Program Title:** Dylan Fernandes State Senate Run

**Program Description:** Barnstable/Dukes/Nantucket State Representative Dylan Fernandes has announced that he is running for the Plymouth and Barnstable State Senate seat. In a statement, he said he brings six years of legislative experience to the table, including working on issues including environment, affordable housing, and public health. He said he will also address the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station decommissioning process, saying that he believes Holtec International has been negligent in both terms of environmental impacts and public health. The seat is currently occupied by Susan Moran from Falmouth. She will be leaving the position to run for Barnstable County Superior Court Clerk.

**Program Title:** Turtle Stranding Season

**Program Description:** As sea turtle stranding season picks up steam, the New England Aquarium has announced that it is treating over 200 sea turtles suffering from hypothermic conditions at its Sea Turtle Hospital in Quincy. Turtles began washing ashore in November, and staff and volunteers with Mass Audubon Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary are scouring beaches in search of turtles in distress. The vast majority of arrivals have comprised of endangered Kemp's ridley turtles, which make up 189 of the 214 turtles undergoing treatment, but among them are also 19 green turtles and six loggerheads. In a rare event, several turtles washed up as far ashore as Hull and Hingham, which turtle experts said could reflect a widening range for the scaled reptiles. "This sea turtle stranding season has gotten off to a later start than the past few years," said Adam Kennedy, Director of Rescue and Rehabilitation at the New England Aquarium. "We are ramping up now and have seen 134 turtles in just the past five days. Whether it is one or 100 turtles in a given day, our team at the New England Aquarium is ready to help give these turtles the best shot of being returned home." As space in the hospital fills up, turtles further along in the rehabilitative process will be moved to secondary rehabilitation facilities, such as North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores, to await their return to sea in the warmer months.

December 10 – Sunday Journal Program

**Program Title:** Owen Fletcher Campaign

**Program Description:** Democrat Owen Fletcher has announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for 5th Barnstable State Representative. Fletcher has been with

Barnstable County since 2016, and has worked for the county administrator along with the Board of Commissioners for five years, while his current position is as the clerk for the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates. He's looking to unseat Republican incumbent State Representative Steve Xiarhos. "I learned a lot working for the legislator, but when you work for an entire caucus or a group of legislators, you really see that there are many different ways to do it, and many ways to be successful as a state representative," Fletcher said. Fletcher said he has worked on regional issues and spent seven years working for state representatives, gaining knowledge and learning strategies to help the community grow and improve. Fletcher believes that talking to people in the community is the best way to find out what to improve most in the region, and he has stated his enjoyment of getting out to make those conversations happen so that he can learn what residents truly want to change. "If I were lucky enough to have the people choose me to go to Boston, what I would be thinking about is what are the ways we can bring different pots of money to bring back to the Cape," said Fletcher.

December 17 – Sunday Journal Program

**Program Title:** Whale Protection

**Program Description:** More than \$4.6 million dollars is being awarded to the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game's Division of Marine Fisheries from a congressional appropriation through the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission to enhance the conservation program for endangered North Atlantic right whales. DMF will use the funding and an additional \$475,000 grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), to help development of innovative fishing gear technologies, increase ongoing research and monitoring, and provide fishing gear to lobster industry participants to reduce harm to the right whales. As part of a 5-year program, DMF anticipates receiving more than \$23 million from NOAA Fisheries between now and the end of 2028 subject to annual congressional appropriations. "We have a special responsibility to help these endangered animals, and to promote innovative measures to support whale recovery and Massachusetts' important lobster industry," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper.

December 24 – Sunday Journal Program

**Program Title:** Local Officials Support Bridge Plan

**Program Description:** As the Barnstable County Commissioners look back on the year of 2023, one of the important topics that they feel has made significant improvements is the funding and ramp up for the replacement of the Bourne and Sagamore bridges. Previous attempts to make progress on receiving funding for the project had been unsuccessful, says Mark Forest, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, but Governor Maura Healey has made significant progress towards the ultimate goal. “We’re excited about that. We get regular updates from the congressional delegation and clearly there’s a lot of work that’s been done on this initiative over the past year. We’re very excited about that and we’re very bullish on the prospect of things coming together,” said Forest. Recently \$372 million dollars in federal funding was approved for the Sagamore and Bourne bridge replacement project and there is also a federal application for approximately \$1 billion dollars being worked on as officials continue to work towards the \$4 billion dollar total replacement cost.