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NEW & noteworthy

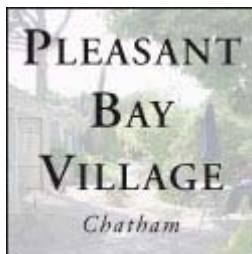
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SPRING/SUMMER 2006

**FLYOVER UPDATE**

It's been a year since work began on the \$59.3 million transportation project intended to rid Cape Cod of summer gridlock at the **Sagamore Rotary**. The "flyover" project is on schedule and within budget, according to MassHighway officials. In order to install a new roadway drainage system, the canal-side Scenic Highway will be reduced to one lane in each direction until late spring. The construction zone extends from the Sagamore Rotary to the lights at Herring Pond Road. Lane closures will be in place 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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**ZIPPING TO OAK BLUFFS**



COURTESY OF HY-LINE CRUISES  
Hy-Line's *Lady Martha* now zips year-round from Hyannis to Oak Bluffs in 55 minutes.

Exciting news from **Hy-Line Cruises** (800-492-8082): High-speed ferry service between the Ocean Street Docks in Hyannis and Oak Bluffs Harbor on Martha's Vineyard has begun and will be available year-round! Five daily trips are scheduled for and from each port, conveniently slated for

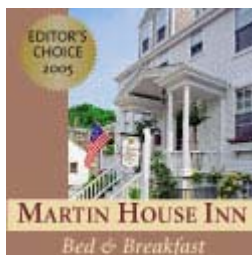
early morning through evening. The new service will deliver you to the island within 55 minutes, cutting almost in half the duration of the trip by standard ferry. Round-trip rates are \$52 adults; \$39 children (5-12); free for children under 5. Bring your bike along to explore the island up-close for an additional fee of \$10.

**SEASHORE WELCOME**

**The Salt Pond Visitor Center** (508-255-3421), which has been closed for the past two years for \$3 million renovations, has reopened. While many of the improvements to the utility and septic systems are not visible to the naked eye, National Seashore visitors will discover new restroom facilities, increased accessibility, and refreshed and reconfigured interior spaces that include a new theater. The Center's lobby, theater, bookstore and restrooms are open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; the museum will reopen just as soon as the extensive exhibit is reinstalled. Rangers are back on duty to assist with trip planning, and a full complement of ranger programs is again underway.

**FLEX TRAVEL**





**Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority** is making travel on the Lower/Outer Cape much more available this summer with its new Flex Route bus. It's scheduled to run every half hour and connect to off-Cape coach service, the Provincetown airport and fast ferries to Boston. The Flex Route incorporates a traditional transit bus service (with a defined route, schedule, and bus stops) and a "route deviation" concept that allows the bus to serve areas up to a mile from the defined route (with only a 2-hour advance reservation requirement). Call the CCRTA (800-352-7155) for more information.

### **WHAT, A NEW THEATER?**

After more than 15 months of dogged negotiations, the **Wellfleet Harbor Actor's Theater** finally has permits in place for the construction of its new theater. The new theater will have 189 seats (the original theater has only 90), a larger stage and, blessedly, a larger backstage area. When the new building is complete, productions will be mounted on both stages and afford the opportunity for off-season programs, winter workshops, and perhaps a playwrights' lab.

### **MUSEUM TIDBITS**

**The John F. Kennedy Hyannis Museum** has reopened at the Old Town Hall on Main Street, having been closed for renovations that took almost a year to complete. The museum has been painted, carpeted, and made handicapped accessible via a wheelchair ramp and elevator. Fifteen new photographs from the family's collection have been added, and a new alarm system will allow artifacts from the Kennedy Library in Dorchester to be loaned to the local museum. The old Trayser Museum, which had been deteriorating for years, was finally vacated in 2004 by the Barnstable Historical Society. After a great deal of loving labor and renovation, the old building has reopened as The Coast Guard Heritage Museum (3353 Route 6A, Barnstable Village). Here you will find a rich collection of artifacts that celebrate not only the Coast Guard but also its predecessors, the U.S. Lifesaving Service and the famed volunteer surfmen who saved shipwreck victims. Additional items on display include ship models, artwork, medals and a video presentation. Open from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Adult admission is \$5; children are free.



COURTESY OF CAPE COD MARITIME MUSEUM  
In the workshop of Cape Cod Maritime Museum, a replica of the 1886 Catboat is under construction.

**Cape Cod Maritime Museum** (135 South St., Hyannis; 508-775-1723) has an exciting new exhibit: "For Those in Peril on the Sea." Also on exhibit are displays of famed shipwrecks (the 1626 Jason, the 1893 Sparrow-Hawk), complete with the logs of nearby station keepers. There are oral histories, video

reenactments, U.S. Lifesaving Service equipment, and a fully restored 1937 surfboat. In the museum workshop, boat builders are fashioning a replica of the 1886 Catboat. Open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; adult admission \$5, free for 10 and under.

After the infusion of more than \$5.5 million, the **Provincetown Art Association and Museum** (508-487-1750) has gone state-of-the-art and has doubled its size. There's a new wing, a bigger, climate-controlled vault, and new security as well. Recently the museum added a new Robert Motherwell painting and a new Hans Hoffman, and additional new collections can now be expected.

### **ONLY NATURAL**

**Cedar Spring Herb Farm** (508-430-4372) has recently opened at 159 Long Pond Drive in Harwich. The seven-acre rural property includes a treatment and teaching facility, herb specialty shop,

walking trails, herb identifications gardens, a meditation garden and a purification lodge. A host of educational classes are offered as well. The farm is open Wednesdays through Sundays, May through October, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

### FOR FLYFISHERS

A new Orvis dealer has opened a shop in Eastham. **Aarons of Eastham** (508-240-1700) is located right on Route 6 in the Main Street Mercantile Center. Inventory includes Orvis fly tackle, Barbour jackets and a special "closeout" corner with fly-fishing tackle and equipment at 30 to 50 percent off. Open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### TABLE HOPPING

**The Pilot House** at the Buzzard's Bay Rotary is being replaced by a CVS pharmacy, and Quintals, that long-established favorite along the Scenic Highway, has closed its doors.

Deer Crossing Market Place at 681 Route 28 in Mashpee is the location of **Soprano's Ristorante** (508-477-7475), a new year-round restaurant whose head chef, Steven Frasier, practiced his culinary skills at Casa Mia in Harwich and Alberto's in Hyannis. His truly fine Italian cuisine is served nightly from 5 p.m., and live entertainment is offered on weekends... The casual cuisine of Tuscany is now available at the new **Café Villagio** (508-540-6400) at 188 Main St. in Falmouth. Open year-round for lunch from 11:30 a.m. and for dinner from 5 p.m...Follow the heavenly aromas to Dana's Kitchen (508-540-7900) in Falmouth at 881 Palmer Ave., where homemade pastries and specialty sandwiches are prepared.

### Lots of changes to the dining scene in Hyannis:



La Petite France Café

Ian Parent is the new owner of **La Petite France Café** (508-775-1067) at 349 Main St., where breakfast and luncheon treats may be purchased... The former Main Street Seafood Grille at 462 Main St., Hyannis is now **Fresh Ketch Seafood 'n Steak** (508-771-8585). In addition to an extensive menu

(including one for children), entertainment is also offered on most nights – live music on Tuesdays and Thursdays, karaoke on weekends...The renovated West End Building at 615 Main St. is home to **Hannah's Fusion Bar and Grille** (508 778-5565), an urban-chic café that features city fusion cuisine and sushi, prepared in a high-performance open kitchen. Flavored sake martinis are offered at the 25-foot long bar, and alfresco dining is available. Open year-round for dinner from 5 p.m. Closed on Mondays and Tuesdays in quiet months...The Jamiel family, former owners of Christine's in West Dennis, has taken over the helm of **Sweetwater's Grille** (508-775-3323) at 644 Main St., where entertainment is offered on Monday through Saturday nights...

**The Prodigal Son** at 10 Ocean St. is now **Island Merchant** (508-771-1337). Proprietors Beth and Joe Dunn offer freshly prepared island cuisine (the Cuban sandwich, West Indian pumpkin bisque, and a salad of pulled pork and mangos) as well as such comfort foods as burgers, macaroni and cheese, and smoked salmon. Open year-round from 5 p.m. until 1 a.m. Monday through Wednesday and from noon until 1 a.m. Thursday through Sunday. Live entertainment – be it reggae, jazz or calypso – is scheduled on most nights...**The Wianno Grille** (508-778-5587) has opened its doors at 380 Barnstable Rd., the former location of **Windjammer's**. It's a casual pub and sports bar serving lunch, dinner and Sunday



Brunch. Open from 11:30 a.m. to 1 a.m. year-round... **Polcari's** has disappeared from the Cape Cod Mall, replaced by **Not Your Average Joe's** (508-778-1424), a casual, affordable restaurant that already has 11 locations all over the Boston suburbs... **Chili's** and **Star City Grill**, both on Route 132 in Hyannis, are no longer operational.

#### And elsewhere:

**Blue Moon Bistro** (508-385-7100) is Dennis' newest restaurant. It is located at 605 Main St., Route 6A (former site of Contrast Bistro) and is open year-round, serving lunch, dinner and Sunday brunch. Chef/owner Peter Hyde cut his teeth at the Culinary Institute and offers an extensive menu of realistically priced cuisine, both fine and casual. The Blue Moon is destined to become a popular neighborhood bistro...Harwichport's former Country Inn at 86 Sisson Road has been reincarnated as the **Circadia Bistro** (508-432-2769). In its brand new kitchen Executive Chef Franck Champely creates fine New American fare for the bistro and a menu of casual fare for the restaurant's rustic tavern. Open for dinner year-round, Wednesday through Sunday from 5 p.m...Harwichport's former New Moon Café is now Ron Leidner's **Hot Stove Saloon** (508 432-9911) at 551 Route 28. It's a cozy place decorated with local baseball memorabilia; it is family-friendly and serves up casual fare for lunch and dinner year-round...**LoCicero's** in Orleans is now a Brooks Pharmacy.



Edgartown's D tente focuses upon contemporary cuisine.

Martha's Vineyard's new restaurants include **D tente** (3 Nevin Square; 508-627-8810) in Edgartown, a small restaurant and wine bar with a focus on contemporary cuisine and sophisticated tapas. Open from April through December, serving dinner from 5:30 p.m. on all evenings but Tuesdays... **Nicky's**

Italian Caf  (508-696-2020) has opened in Vineyard Haven at 395 State Rd., behind Radio Shack. It's a tiny spot with wonderful northern and southern Italian comfort food; lunch is served from 11:30 a.m. during the week, and dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. every night except Sunday... The owners of Sweet Life Caf  have opened **Slice of Life** (508-693-3838) at 50 Circuit Ave. in Oak Bluffs. Open daily year round, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., for coffee, pastries, sandwiches and light meals... Pastries and panini sandwiches are available from **Beetlebung Coffeehouse** (508-696-7122) at 32 Beach St. in Vineyard Haven, and English tea, muffins and tea cakes may be procured from Edgartown's **English Butler** (508-627-1013), located at 22 Winter St.

After 35 years, Nantucket's **Chanticleer** has officially closed its doors. Chef Jean Charles has moved to Florida and is reportedly running a restaurant there. Rumor has it that the former restaurant will become a private residence.

## SPATULA SWAPPING



Bob Calderone is the new owner/chef of the **Barnstable Tavern** (508-362-2355), right across the street from the Barnstable Courthouse on Route 6A. Bob has replaced some of the restaurant's standard American fare with a wide array of expertly prepared

pastas...Anthony Annaruma is the new owner of the **Cape Cod Claddagh Inn** (508-430-2440) at 77 Route 28 in West Harwich. His menu of "Gaelic and Garlic" is available from 11 a.m daily in the cozy pub. A Sunday brunch buffet is offered from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and includes a traditional Irish breakfast in addition to quiches and French toast. The pub provides entertainment on weekends... Toby Hill is the new proprietor/owner and executive chef of the **Eldredge Room at the Queen Anne Inn** (508-945-2990) in Chatham. Hill has transferred his talents from Chatham Bars Inn and from Boston's Spire Restaurant at the Nine Zero Hotel, presenting to dinner patrons a light-hearted a la carte bill of fare as well as a chef's tastings menu. Open year-round. Serving dinner nightly in summer from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.; closed on Tuesdays during spring and fall...Michael Gregory, formerly of The Cloisters, is the new executive chef of all culinary operations at **Ocean Edge Resort** in Brewster. All of the resort's restaurants are open to the general public, so one need not be a guest of the resort to sample Gregory's expert culinary skills.

### SLEEPING AROUND

Hyannis' former Ramada Inn has undergone almost total renovation and will be opening this season as a **Holiday Inn Select**...Welcome new owners of **Cape Winds by the Sea** in Harwichport and Provincetown's **The Inn at Cook Street**... **Nantucket's Point Breeze Hotel** has been sold and will be closed this season for renovations; several cottages, however, will remain open to guests. Resorts, motels and inns that are transferring to condominium or timeshare ownership include **The Breakers** and **Pelham House Resort** in Dennisport, Harwichport's **Augustus Snow Inn** and **Wychmere Village**, and **The Colonial Inn of Martha's Vineyard**.

**The Moorings of Chatham** has been sold and will not be reopening as an inn. Provincetown's **Best Western Tides** is being leveled to make room for 10 single-family homes.

**Point Way Inn** of Edgartown is no longer open to the general public; instead, the inn will be hosting visiting artists and lecturers via its new "Artists Pointing the Way" program.

Recent sales of lodging accommodations that will now be enjoyed as private residences include **Dolphin Guest House** and the **Breakers Hotel**, both on Nantucket.