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**BANNED FROM THE AIR:
Mae West, The Garden of Eden, and the
Long History of Cancel Culture**

By Ryan Malyar, Executive Director, WMCT-TV

On December 12, 1937, Mae West appeared on NBC's Chase and Sanborn Hour alongside Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy. Her playful, comedic retelling of the Garden of Eden sent shockwaves through America's living rooms. The NBC switchboard lit up with complaints, religious groups were outraged, and the FCC took notice. Mae West was swiftly banned from American radio - her name could not even be spoken on air for years afterward. In fact, she did not appear on the radio again until 1950. Sound familiar?

What happened to Mae West was, in every practical sense, a cancel culture moment decades before the term existed. A powerful, boundary-pushing woman made the establishment uncomfortable, and the full weight of public pressure and institutional authority came down on her. The sketch was hardly scandalous by today's standards - witty, theatrical, and vintage Mae West. But in 1937, it was enough to silence one of the most famous voices in America.

The tension between free expression and community standards is not a modern invention. Every era finds its own version of this struggle and tends to believe it invented it. Mae West's banishment is a reminder that the impulse to silence an uncomfortable voice is as old as the voice itself.

Which brings us to something exciting happening right here in Marlborough. The Senior Center in collaboration with WMCT-TV is launching a brand new **Radio Drama Group** - and we're looking for voices. At our first meetup on **Thursday, April 24th at 1:00 PM**, we'll read sample scripts, explore characters, and discover what our voices can do, culminating in a live performance for family and friends in late May. A complimentary lunch is served at noon beforehand. Register today at the Marlborough Senior Center.

**Gogan Sworn In as Marlborough
Fire Chief: Two New Fighters
Take Oath**

By Mike Lawton, Assistant Executive Director, WMCT-TV

The City of Marlborough, Massachusetts has officially sworn in its new fire chief, marking a significant moment for the community and its fire department.

Longtime resident Jeffrey Gogan took the oath of office during a ceremony held earlier this month, alongside the swearing - in of new firefighters Maurice Jarmman and Seth Gilchrest. The event drew city officials, family members, and firefighters from across the region.

Gogan, a 25-year veteran of the Marlborough Fire Department, previously served as assistant fire chief. In remarks during the ceremony, he thanked his family, city leaders, and fellow firefighters for their support.

"I'm truly honored to have been selected for this position," Gogan said, adding that he is committed to delivering the highest level of service to residents.

Mayor J. Christian Dumais praised Gogan's leadership and dedication, noting his strong connection to the community and commitment to public safety.

The ceremony also highlighted the achievements of the department's newest firefighters. Gilchrest served as a class spokesman during training, while Jarmman received the Richard M. Bangs Award as the top recruit.

Looking ahead, Gogan outlined priorities including increased staffing, expanded training, and continued investment in firefighter safety, mental health, and department facilities. You can watch the ceremony in its entirety at wmct-tv.com.

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HEY! Can you find Cam?

They are hidden somewhere on this edition of Marlborough Mirror.

Good luck!

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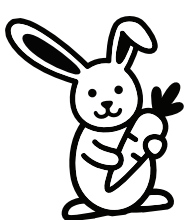
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	4				9	3		8

(Flip the bottom of the page for Sudoku answers)

Trivia

1. Where is the world's largest meteor crater?
2. Who hosted the 1997 Grammy Awards?
3. In what year did both the Titanic Sink and Fenway Park in Boston open?
4. Dr. Gregory House shares the same home address as which other fictional character?
5. What name did astronaut John Glenn give to the space capsule he used to orbit the Earth in 1962?

(Flip the bottom of the page for Trivia answers)

A.C.E. Expands Opportunities for Marlborough Residents

By Matthew Besachio, Sports Director, WMCT-TV

In a recent episode of Community Connections on WMCT-TV, host Matt Besachio sat down with Christine D. Jardin-Gauthier, director of Assabet Community Education, to discuss the growing impact of local education initiatives in Marlborough.

Christine, who stepped into the role seven months ago, brings more than a decade of experience as a vocational educator. With a background in cosmetology instruction and a passion for career development, she emphasized the importance of helping individuals find the right path - whether through college or hands-on training.

Assabet Community Education is structured around three key areas: the Assabet Technical Institute (ATI), community enrichment programs, and career exploration. ATI offers adults hands-on vocational training in fields such as electrical work, HVAC, and welding, preparing students for licensing and employment. Meanwhile, community enrichment courses - ranging from art and fitness to cooking - aim to foster personal growth and community connection.

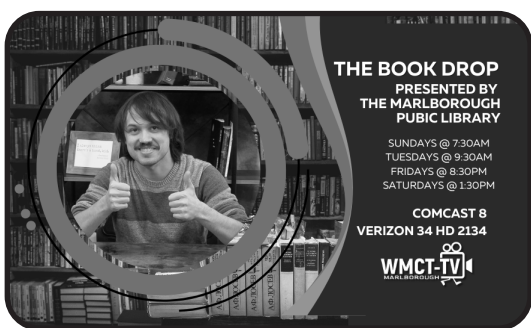
A newer initiative, career exploration, is designed to help learners of all ages better understand their options before committing to a specific path. Christine highlighted plans to expand these offerings beyond middle school students to include high schoolers and adults seeking career changes.

The program has already made a tangible difference. Christine shared the story of a young man who enrolled in an electrical course and, with the help of grant funding, began his journey toward a stable career. Stories like his underscore the program's mission to provide accessible, affordable education that leads to real-world opportunities.

Accessibility remains a priority, with financial assistance, payment plans, and multilingual support available to participants.

Upcoming events include a senior open house on April 7th and a summer career discovery program for middle school students.

For more information, residents are encouraged to visit the Assabet Community Education website.



Quotes

"Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect."
Mark Twain

"When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it."
Henry Ford

"If I have seen further than others, it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants."
Isaac Newton

Weed ID: What Are Your Weeds Telling You?

by the Marlborough Garden Club



This is the time of year when signs of life start reappearing in our gardens. Daffodils, crocuses, and other early bloomers are poking through the ground. Shrubs and trees begin to bud, and little bits of green are showing up everywhere.

Unfortunately, those bits of green are sometimes unwelcome weeds. These opportunistic plants thrive the very conditions that we experience here in late winter and early spring. Some even germinate in very cool temperatures, giving them a jump on other plants in your garden.

But weeds can also provide important clues about the health of your garden. While removing weeds as soon as you see them can minimize the problem, understanding *why* weeds are growing where they are is even more important. Nutrient imbalances, disturbed soil, bare spots, soil compaction, moisture levels, and pH levels can supercharge weed growth.

Rather than continually weeding, treating with herbicides, and mulching, learn how to decode the messages weeds are sending by attending this free talk: **Weed ID: What Are Your Weeds Telling You?** It will take place on Wednesday, April 8 at 7pm in the Grice Community Room at the Marlborough Public Library. Presented by the Marlborough Garden Club.



Drawing with Mark!

DRAWING A UNICORN!
This is good practice for drawing horses too. Start with an action line

Add some basic shapes to form the unicorn's body.

Add block & tube shapes to help form the unicorn's head and limbs.

Now you can start forming the outside of the unicorn. The legs can be curved out and detail added.

Now the foundation lines can be erased for a nice clean drawing!

If you wish, add wings to make a Pegasus!

Have fun!

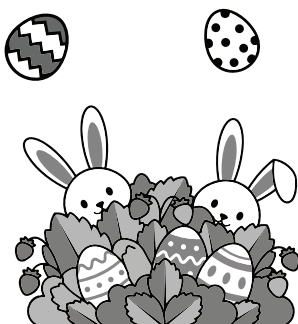
Jokes!

Why did the chick go to the party?
He wanted to see his peeps.

What's the best way to catch the Easter Bunny?
Have someone throw him to you.

Why are people so tired in April?
They just finished a 31-day March.

Why did the jelly bean go to school?
It wanted to be a Smartie.



The Kid Corner

by Lilian Roque

Egg Hunt with Challenges

A unique twist on the traditional egg hunt.

How to prepare:

Hide several eggs around the house or yard. Place funny challenges inside some of the eggs.

Challenge examples:

- Hop like a bunny for 10 seconds
 - Tell a joke
- Dance for 15 seconds
 - Imitate a chick

How to play:

Each person searches for eggs. When they find one, they open it and complete the challenge. Some eggs may contain candy or small prizes.

Learning Portuguese

It's Easter!

É Páscoa!

I like to eat chocolate on Easter.

Eu gosto de comer chocolate na Páscoa.

April City Events

Legal, Financial & Housing Decisions You Shouldn't Face Alone

Thursday, April 9th | 6 PM - 7 PM | Marlborough Public Library
Many families suddenly find themselves managing difficult questions about housing, finances, and legal authority - often without knowing where to begin. This educational event brings together trusted local professionals to help you understand your options before decisions become urgent.

RSVP at tinyurl.com/agingparentspanel.

Radio Drama Group for Seniors - First Meet-Up

Friday, April 24th | 1 PM | Marlborough Senior Center
Explore voice acting as the new Radio Drama Group dives into scripts from classic radio dramas and prepares a live presentation for family and friends. All are welcome.

Complimentary lunch at 12:00 noon! Register at the Senior Center.

Marlborough Project Clean Sweep 2026

Saturday, April 25th | Volunteers arrive at 9 AM | 135 Neil St.
Join the city's annual citywide cleanup! Each year the event grows, and together we keep Marlborough looking great. Groups and organizations are encouraged to participate. If your company or group would like to clean up on a different day or in a specific area, arrangements can be made for supplies and trash pickup.

Contact DPW dpw-disbatch@marlborough-ma.gov, (508) 624-6910 x33300

Junior Reporters Meet Dublin and Explore the Discovery Museum!

By Zachary Benton, Youth Coordinator/Producer, WMCT-TV

The Marlborough Junior Reporters spent their March exploring Acton's Discovery Museum, and meeting MPL's therapy dog, Dublin!

First, the Reporters met and interviewed the Discovery Museum's Senior Director Brindha Muniappan! The Reporters got into the spirit of learning through play in the Sound Gallery, discovering that thicker and longer physicality makes items have lower frequencies, while thinner and shorter items are higher pitched.

Using a harmonograph, a table hanging from the ceiling, the Reporters made a harmonogram with a marker, momentum, gravity, and friction. The resulting geometric drawing was one-of-a-kind.

The Reporters also interviewed Paige and Jennie at the Marlborough Public Library, where Monday nights feature the "Read to a Dog" program with golden retriever Dublin. Smiley and cuddly Dublin greeted the Reporters, and enjoyed being read storybooks by each reporter. Paige, Dublin's owner, remarked how fulfilling it is to have a therapy dog like Dublin meet with children weekly.

Jennie, head of the children's department, remarked that having children read to Dublin is a joy, and that her favorite part of her career is reading to pre-school children. She mentioned that there's now a second therapy dog that visits MPL, Maggie, who can be read to by children on Saturdays.

'Til next time!

6	4	1	7	5	9	3	2	8
2	5	9	1	8	3	6	7	4
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8	6	4	3	2	7	9	1	5
7	9	2	5	1	8	4	3	6
1	3	5	4	6	2	6	8	7
4	8	3	9	7	1	5	6	2
9	2	6	8	3	5	7	4	1
5	1	7	2	6	4	8	9	3

Sudoku Answers

1. South Africa - The Vredefort Crater 2. Ellen Degeneres 3. 1912 4. Sherlock Holmes (albeit in different countries) 5. Friendship 7

Answers