

One woman's pursuit of Tiverton's trash



At Fogland, a place that keeps her especially busy, Joyce Andrews uses her grabber to retrieve a diaper from the dunes.

Litter Committee volunteer Joyce Andrews has spent years devoting her free time to picking up litter and beautifying her town

BY KRISTEN RAY

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TIVERTON – When some people retire, they take some time to travel, try out a new hobby, rest. For longtime Tiverton resident Joyce Andrews? She has dedicated her free time to helping rid the town of its litter, one trash bag at a time.

It started over five years ago after Ms. Andrews left her career in healthcare and began spending more time outdoors. That's when she began to notice the litter that was scattered all over Tiverton – tossed in the bushes, dumped at the beach, strewn alongside the roadway.

"I just couldn't stand looking at this trash," she said.

And so Ms. Andrews decided to embark on "litter patrols" on her own, tackling areas such as Pond Bridge Road and



This grabber is an essential tool of the litter patrol trade — it's safer and easier on the back.

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Threats, blockades prevent land access, owner says

Council asks solicitor, police chief, others for details on Ag-Trust protected property

BY BRUCE BURDETT

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A Little Compton resident told the Town Council last Thursday that her efforts to access property she has owned for seven years have been met by "constant threats" and obstacles, and that her complaints have produced few results.

"I am told my house is going to be burned down, I'm going to get killed ... there are constant threats."

■ KAREN DAUBMAN

In the meantime, Karen Daubman said, others are continually trespassing and driving ATVs on her protected 12-acre piece of land east of South of Commons Road.

After discussion lasting for most of the meeting, council members voted unanimously in favor of Gary Mataronas' motion to direct the town solicitor, town administrator and police chief to meet with the head of the Little Compton Agricultural Conservancy Trust (Ag Trust). Their goal, in part, is to determine who is allowed to use a right of way that provides the only vehicle access to Plat 30, Lot 14-3.

The matter was brought to the council by Johanna McKenzie who said her family used to own the land and had donated its development rights to the Ag Trust, allowing the property to be preserved for agricultural use.

"It is very important to me that something be done to protect the rights of the owner of the property," she said, adding

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A new curator
Evelyn Ansel is looking forward to increasing accessibility of archives

EAST BAY LIFE



TRASH: She's made it a mission to keep her town clean

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hauling bags of trash back to her car. She did this for over three years until, during one of her outings, someone stopped to tell her about Tiverton's Litter Committee, which she joined as a volunteer early in 2018. It didn't take long for Ms. Andrews to become a vital part of that group, committee Chairwoman Vicki Revier said.

"She is just the anchor of our committee," Ms. Revier said.

As part of her volunteer efforts, Ms. Andrews took on cleaning up Fogland Beach – "never thinking it would be so bad in the summertime," she said. Instead, she'd arrive to find plastic bags full of garbage, or cups that had blown away in the wind; there'd be brooms, bikes and televisions that had been dumped in the sand. Portions of picnic benches would be sawn off and used for firewood, leaving behind nails, ash and broken glass.

She'd have to come nearly every day during the summer season, taking breaks and calling in the Department of Public Works (DPW) to help pick up some of the heavier items ("They've been awesome," Ms. Andrews said).

"She should just pack up her house and put it on Fogland, because she's there more than I think she's home," Ms.



Old fishing line, a lethal threat to all sorts of wildlife, is especially abundant at Fogland.

Revier said.

But it's work worth doing, Ms. Andrews said, knowing just how detrimental litter can be to the environment. If she didn't pick up the excess discarded line, wildlife

could get caught in it; the leftover bread crumbs, if digested, could be harmful to the birds. Much of her knowledge, Ms. Andrews said, comes from reading and talking with other people; she also cred-

its her mother for instilling in her a sense of environmental awareness at a young age.

"As a child, when my family went to the beach and the wind took your cup, my mother insisted we 'go get that cup!'" Ms. Andrews said.

Now that the weather is warming and people are spending more time outdoors, Ms. Andrews knows the busy litter-picking season will soon begin. Once again, she'll devote countless hours to keeping Tiverton beautiful – both for the environment's protection and residents' enjoyment.

"I really love this place, I truly do," Ms. Andrews said. "I want this area to remain beautiful for the next generation."

Ways you can help

Interested in helping the litter committee? Consider joining their Adopt-an-Area list. By signing up, residents can receive free bags to pick up trash in their designated area, and let DPW know when the bags are full and ready to be dropped off (if they're too heavy, just give the department a call, Ms. Revier said.)

"It gives us a break from the more problematic areas," Ms. Revier said.

And any little bit helps, added Ms. Andrews.

"That's the deal with the Litter Committee," she said. "Do it where you can, when you can."

To learn more about Adopt-an-Area and the Litter Committee itself, visit <https://letstalktrashtiv.wixsite.com/home>.

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<p>Family Pack Assorted Pork Chops \$2.59 lb.</p> <p>Certified Angus Beef Top Round London Broil \$4.99 lb.</p>		<p>Tom's Own, 24 oz. Red or White Clam Chowder \$5.99</p> <p>Vegan Delight Crunchy Sweet Chili Tofu \$4.99 lb.</p>		<p>32 oz. Gatorade 10/\$10</p> <p>5.5-7.3 oz. Kraft Mac & Cheese Dinner 10/\$10</p>		<p>Extra Fancy Sweet Yellow or Orange Peppers \$2.49 lb.</p> <p>A Roll Back Price From The 90's Ruby Red Imported Bartlett Pears .99 lb.</p>			
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BAKERY		DELI		DAIRY/FROZEN		SPECIALTY DEPT.			
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SEAFOOD									
<p>Your Choice, 10 oz. Tuna or Swordfish Steaks \$6.99 ea.</p> <p>Poor Man's Lobster Fresh Monkfish \$8.99 lb.</p> <p>For Your Chowder Fresh Minced Clams \$5.99 lb.</p> <p>Bake, Broil or Fry 2 lb Bag Scallop Chunks..... \$9.95 Bag</p>									

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