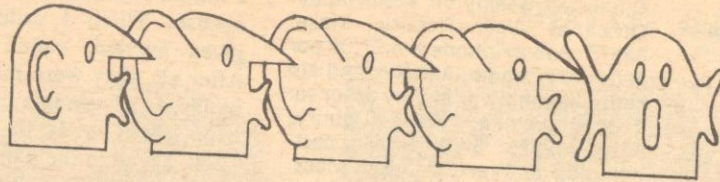


Volume IV

Number 12

25<sup>c</sup>

# THE GRAPEVINE



SERVING:  
Chilmark  
Edgartown  
Gay Head  
Oak Bluffs  
Tisbury  
W. Tisbury

MARTHA'S VINEYARD WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

JULY 10, 1974

## Tax Collector Vanderhoop Vindicated

The gathering of the Gay Head Taxpayers Association last Friday night resembled a New York cocktail party where nobody has seen anybody else for at least a year and there is all that catching up to do. A hearty hullabaloo reigned until chairman Alvin Lane called the meeting to order and Harold Montamat read the financial report which contained no surprises.

The surprises were in the chairman's rather wry acknowledgement that the other Gay Head group were "the good guys" and in the vindication of Gay Head's financial situation by Walter Delaney who said the reports that the state auditor had been dismayed by the town's books were exaggerated. Gay Head citizen Nell Howell also brought the association up to date on the good things that had been accomplished in Gay Head.

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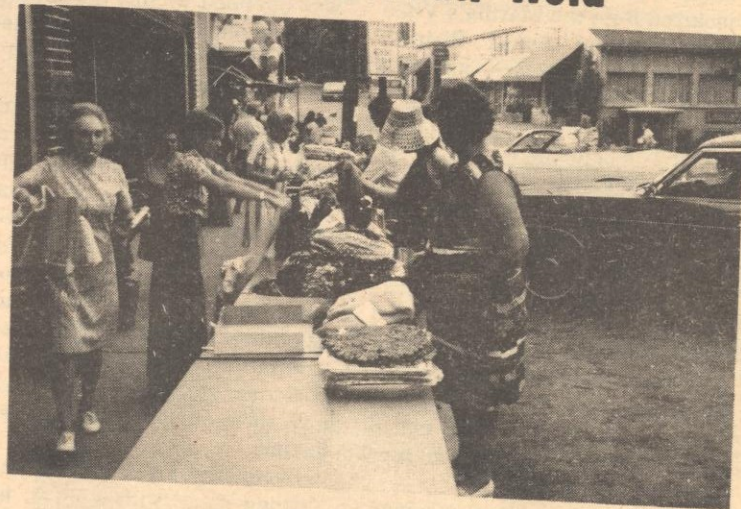
Alvin Lane presides over a meeting of the Gay Head Taxpayers Association.

The big scene had finally arrived. After waiting and milled for endless days in a spring fog, the production company of "Jaws" finally saw the light as the sun came out. About

instant panic would send all the extras screaming and running out of the water.

The early prognosis was that the water would be too cold in June to get any good shots.

## '74 Street Fair Held



Food & Fun at the Street Fair

## Jaws Exodus





# Tax Collector Vanderhoop Vindicated

'74 Street

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Melvin Leventhal started off with a brief history of the parking lot fiasco. "In the annual town meeting of 1972, the selectmen appointed a parking lot committee to draw up a plan. The parking lot committee submitted the plan and it was publicized in both newspapers. The selectmen presented that plan to a special town meeting and the town meeting approved that plan; however, there was nothing in the warrant that required the selectmen to act on it. Consequently, the selectmen, if they so chose, could do nothing about the plan even though the town had approved it. Since that time the selectmen have not imposed that plan. The petition (for a special town meeting) that is being circulated would require the selectmen to implement the basic requirements of the plan that was submitted. The basic requirements are that the established fee will be fifty cents for the first hour for the use of the parking lot, and a dollar for each additional hour, not to exceed a fee of \$3."

Leventhal asked the association to support the petition being circulated. He added that there was no assurance that the special town meeting would approve the implementation of the parking lot at this time. The group voted to support the petition.

Walter Delaney then reported on the state tax auditor's report, a hotly controversial criticism of Gay Head officials that had been sent to local newspapers by the association. Said Delaney: "On June 29, 1974, I attended the regular meeting of the Gay Head



Alvin Lane presides over a meeting of the Gay Head Taxpayers Association.

The big scene had finally arrived. After waiting and milled for endless days in a spring fog, the production company of "Jaws" finally saw the light as the sun came out. About 300 extras were located through the tireless efforts of Shari Rhodes who learned a firsthand lesson about the transient patterns of Islanders in the spring. People she had hired in the winter for this scene had moved to summer quarters and were hard to find. Somehow she managed to get about 300 people in varying stages of undress out to the beach.

One of the assistant directors told the Grapevine photographer to move on. "I wish you amateur photographers would stop getting in the way," said he.

"It's okay; he's local," said publicity director Al Ebner when apprised of the confrontation.

"I wish you'd tell me before I embarrass him and the company," said the assistant director, a young man who is hired to be the "heavy" in the production. He is the one saddled with the thankless task of herding the "atmosphere" extras around and keeping things in line.

The director, Steve Spielberg, was at the ocean's edge, nearly drowning an elderly gentleman who seemed ready to do anything at all. It was his cinematic task to flop into the water at the shore and to lay face down in the brine, exhausted. The director kept repeating the scene, and the extra kept getting more exhausted until the right note of realism was attained.

A loudspeaker on the state beach in Oak Bluffs, just before the bridge leading to Edgartown, blared: "WILL ALL THE PEOPLE IN FRONT OF THE CABANAS GO DOWN TO THE WATER.

instant panic would send all the extras screaming and running out of the water.

The early prognosis was that the water would be too cold in June to get anyone into the water. The weather, however, delayed the production long enough so that the scene was shot in the same week of the Fourth of July. The water was cold, but not freezing, and 300 people were lured, albeit unwillingly, into the water.

"SPREAD OUT! EVERYONE FROM THE GAZEBO ON DOWN, MOVE OUT INTO THE WATER!"

Some people did. They had been in and out of the water all morning, simulating panic, and were tiring of the sport.

"They made us swim," complained an extra. "The water is very cold and they keep telling you not to laugh." She sidled away from the action area, hoping to avoid being ordered back into the ocean.

The scene at the beach was an incredible snag of people — a vision of Island beaches in a decade, with cars lining both sides of the road to the state beach for miles, and everything steaming in the hot sun. The beach had inlaid toweling, and it was possible with great tact and balancing to make it down to water's edge. A hundred or so people were wading dispiritedly out into the sea.

"EVERYONE WILL BE RUNNING TO THE SHORE WHEN WE CUE YOU! NO SMILING AND NO LAUGHING. LET'S HAVE A LOT OF PANIC! EVERYONE BY THE VOLLEYBALL NET — PLEASE! OUT INTO THE WATER!"

Extras edged sullenly into the cold blue sea. "LET'S GO. OUT FARTHER!" screamed the loud-



Food & Fun at

## Jaws Exodus



1] "Jaws" extras stand around in panic in a scene in which the shark



2] Panic! When the director gives anything for art.

walkie-talkie?" someone asked. The old gentleman lying face down in the water was looking



to support the petition being circulated. He added that there was no assurance that the special town meeting would approve the implementation of the parking lot at this time. The group voted to support the petition.

Walter Delaney then reported on the state tax auditor's report, a hotly controversial criticism of Gay Head officials that had been sent to local newspapers by the association. Said Delaney: "On June 29, 1974, I attended the regular meeting of the Gay Head selectmen. Present at the meeting were the selectmen: Luther Madison, Leonard Vanderhoop and Walter Manning; town clerk Jeananne Jeffers; town treasurer Ann Vanderhoop; and town tax collector Mayselle Vanderhoop.

Continued on Page Four

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A loudspeaker on the state beach in Oak Bluffs, just before the bridge leading to Edgartown, blared: "WILL ALL THE PEOPLE IN FRONT OF THE CABANAS GO DOWN TO THE WATER, PLEASE?"

This was one of the most talked about scenes in the production. The plan had been to get 300 or 400 Islanders down to the beach and into the water in a simulated Fourth of July scene. Then word of the shark would spread, and

was possible with great tact and balancing to make it down to water's edge. A hundred or so people were wading dispiritedly out into the sea.

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The assistant director looked up from where the director and cameraman were drowning the elderly gentleman and yelled, "We need a lifeguard right here, please."

No one moved. "Where's the



**2) Panic! When the director gives the Anything for art.**

walkie-talkie?" someone asked. The old gentleman lying face down in the water was looking a little apoplectic, but still willing to oblige.

"I thought this was going to be fun," complained Lorraine Clark, an extra. "At 9 o'clock in the morning that water was freezing. Yesterday it wasn't too bad,



# Jaws Exodus

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1] "Jaws" extras stand around in the water, waiting for the word to panic in a scene in which the shark causes a mass exit from the sea.



2] Panic! When the director gives the word, 300 swimmers flee the sea. Anything for art.



# Through the Grapevine

## Jaws Exodus

Continued from Page One

## Fourth of July '74



3] No smiling and no laughing. "Look scared" is the word as people mass emote in a sea exodus scene for "Jaws".

WATER! HE'S KILLING PEOPLE!"

Pandemonium. People screamed like scared gulls at a raw dump and flew out of the water, flailing, falling, kicking, and hauling. The high pitched screams of enthusiastic young

girls dominated the scene.

"THAT'S A CUT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!" roared the loudspeaker. "THAT WAS A PRINT! WE'LL GO ONCE AGAIN, PLEASE. EVERYONE BACK INTO THE WATER."

The production crew of "Jaws" put out a general call to find a young child of around 2 or 3 years who could be dropped by a nervous mother and disappear mo-



4] Peter Benchley, author of "Jaws", looks on with bemusement as hundreds of extras act out a scene from his book.

mentarily into the sea for the big scene. One mother volunteered her child but said he was at home, and she would have to go and get him. She was dispatched for the droppable, submersible child but the production people did not really think she would deliver the goods.



The Fourth of July parade featured Islanders in many guises.



Every uniform on the Island was brought out for the parade on the Fourth.

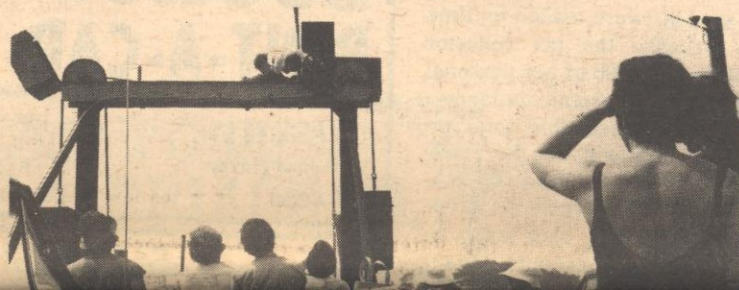
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