



Renovations in Rowley

Huge Housing Project Would Change Small Town

By Tim Clark *Staff Writer*

Founded in 1639, Rowley has a population of approximately 6,300 people. As the population grows, a proposed development project is set to reshape the town, adding new housing, businesses, and a redesigned golf course to the area.

If you don't live in Rowley or don't stay up to date with the local news, you may have never heard of the plans for Rowley Farms. But this large-scale initiative could have a heavy impact on Rowley and some of its bordering towns, bringing new housing, stores, recreational spaces and people. As discussions continue and plans grow, residents are weighing the potential benefits with some of the challenges of this transformation.

Supporters of the new project argue the increased housing, economic growth, and entertainment options will benefit the town. By introducing new businesses, dining options and community spaces, it's expected to boost the overall economy. With home prices rising across the North Shore, many families are struggling to find affordable options. The Rowley Farms project includes plans for mixed-income housing, something proponents say is desperately needed.

"Overall I think it will be worth it," said senior and Rowley resident Aiden Moriarity, "I think it's going to be great for people who live in Rowley to have something to do without driving so far."

Despite the enthusiasm from some, the Rowley Farms project has also been met with opposition. Some residents worry that adding more housing will increase traffic, put stress on local infrastructure, and change the town's more "rural" character. "I've never really thought that Rowley needed more added to it," said Brandon Clark, Rowley resident for over 20 years. "I've kind of enjoyed the

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Multifamily Development and Townhouses Plan



Working plans for the Rowley Farms multi-unit development in Rowley includes more than 850 total units. The most recent part of the development has come under close scrutiny by citizens in Rowley who are critical of the size of the development (Howard/Stein/Hudson Images).

Even in Arcadia

Time to Emerge with Sleep Token's Latest Singles, Album Announcement

By Xander Averill, *Staff Writer*

Part of the band Sleep Token's allure is the inherent mystique in everything they do. Even the wording on their advertisements offers little explanation or substance. "Obtain" or "Worship" are all the ads say. This mystique has added to every upcoming album release, as it is tradition with the band. This time is no different.

In the past few weeks, Sleep Token has emerged from the shadows and remains of what they once were, with a plentiful harvest for their worshippers.

The anonymous masked band known as Sleep Token, is a progressive rock/metal band springing from the United Kingdom. The group's leader, lyricist and vocalist, known as Vessel, weaves intricate stories on painfully real emotions that all humans face, while blending elements of rock, metal, R&B and more. Sleep Token is currently made up of two founding members, Vessel (vocals) and ii (drums), while iii (bass) and iv (guitar) are touring members as far as the public is aware.

In the latter half of 2024, clips of their song, 'The Summoning' granted them a rapid rise in popularity, something the band was not used to, having only played smaller shows and crowds beforehand, now reaching millions of monthly streams on Spotify and multiple sold out tours.

Their debut album 'Sundowning' had singles released weekly at sundown until it's full release. Their second album, 'This Place Will Become Your Tomb' had singles connected to coordinates that led to deeper points in the ocean, eventually ending in the Marianas Trench and the album release. 'Take Me Back to Eden's release followed a lengthy number of teasers and cyphers that the fans dutifully cracked.

The teasing for their latest album was more of the same, morse code, cryptic messages across their social medias and venues alike, coordinates and a scavenger hunt all culminated in the release of their first

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The band, from left to right: iii (bass), vessel (vocals), iv (guitar), ii (drums). Below, Vessel plays piano for worshippers in the Wembley Stadium, 2023



Triton Budget Passes Towns

Newbury, Rowley Pass Overrides

By Triton Voice *Staff*

Two of the three towns that make up the Triton Regional School District voted Tuesday to pass tax overrides and fund the school budget for next year.

Rowley and Newbury passed the special increases, which means there will not be any additional staff or services cuts to the schools. The district's third town, Salisbury, was able to pay for its share of the \$54.5 million school budget without a special vote.

Under Massachusetts law, towns are allowed to increase taxes by 2.5 percent each year. Anything more than that requires a special vote. Newbury's budget was over that amount by \$400,000 and Rowley's was over by \$1 million.

Triton expects significant increases in spending on bus transportation, special education, staff salaries, and health care next year. These factors led to the need for the extra money being spent. The schools had already made cuts before presenting their budget. In Rowley, the extra money will also cover increasing costs for town services.

In an email to the Triton community, Triton Superintendent Brian Forget expressed appreciation to the district's member towns. Together, the towns approved spending a collective increase of \$2.45 million dollars more for the schools next year.

"These continue to be challenging times for everyone, including our member towns, who have continued their support of our schools," Forget wrote. "We are grateful for their support!"

According to Rowley Town Clerk Catie McClenaghan, the turnout for the town election was "average." A total 462 voters approved of the override, with 348 opposed.

In Newbury, a smaller town, a larger portion of the population turned out to vote: 1,523 residents. In Newbury, 852 voters approved of the override, with 638 opposed.

Contested Elections

In Rowley's contested elections, Maura Mastrogiovanni and Christine Kneeland were elected to the Board of Selectman, both beating out Matthew Grenier. Ethan Young beat out Michael Sabatini for a seat on the planning board.

In Newbury, voters elected Patrick Heffernan over incumbent Dana Packer in that town's only contested race.

New Sport at Triton

Esports Welcomes New Coach

By Bradyn Lopes
Staff Writer

For the first time in its history, Triton has introduced an official esports team, bringing competitive gaming into the school's extracurricular lineup. The club is off to a strong start, with students competing in various online gaming tournaments, including Rocket League.

Triton alumnus Dan Langlois was named as new coach to the team last month and has big plans for its future. Graduating in 2010, and growing up in Salisbury, Langlois already knows the community and culture. In an email to the team, he says he is looking to propel the esports team to a level they haven't experienced yet.

Esports, a rapidly growing concept, has made its way into high schools across the US, providing students with opportunities to engage in teamwork, competition, and strategy—just like traditional sports. At Triton, the new program has sparked excitement among students, including junior Michael Coco, a member of the Rocket League team.

"It's a great experience, the team is so welcoming," Coco said. "It's great to be playing with friends and representing the school in a way that hasn't been possible before."

Aidan Cashman, who helped create the esports program, expressed optimism about the team's performance and growth. "I find that our team is doing great in terms of competition," Cashman shared. "We are winning in many aspects. The main goal is for students to have fun playing, but winning games is definitely a nice bonus."

However, as with any new initiative, the program has faced challenges. Cashman said timing has been a major hurdle. "The biggest challenge is getting people to play their games on time. In some cases, this is due to student schedules, but mostly it's just part of adjusting to a new system. It's all growing pains, and with time, we can figure it out."

As it is the first year of the club, these sorts of challenges are expected. This year is the 'trial' run to iron out all of the mistakes. It is better that the team encounters these challenges early so that they can get rid of them for future years, team members said.

Beyond the logistics, launching an esports program has required effort in securing funding, technology, and understanding the varying

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Triton Voice Takes on a Media Fast

The student-reporters of the *Triton Voice* took on a “media fast” on Thursday, May 1st. For 24 hours, we challenged ourselves to refrain from social media, our phones, texting, and, in some cases, all screen time or music. The result? A varying degree of success. Some of us stayed off media almost completely, while others could not resist the temptation to pick up our phone, tune into Spotify, or watch our favorite streaming service. Whatever the result, we all learned something. This week and next, we will offer our thoughts on the experience, through print, through podcasts, and through artwork.



Two episodes of the *Viking Voices* podcast dropped on our website, Tritonvoice.co this week. Both detailed the ups and downs of the journalism classes’ “media fast,” which called for a 24-hour blackout of screentime, online content, and all media intake.

In one episode, Tim Clark, Michael Coco, Bradyn Lopes, and Harry Pike dive into the media fast that the journalism classes participated in. They share their experiences with this challenge as well as explore the benefits that come along with participating in this type of fast.

The ideas that were presented make this podcast a must-listen and it may even change your mind about be-

ing on your phone so much. This podcast and many others can be found on the *Triton Voice* news website, tritonvoice.co. Look for the Viking Voices Logo!

In another episode of *Viking Voices* with hosts, Sophia Chapman, Luke Sullivan Sophia Stanley, and Adeline Stapleton, students discuss the media fast that Mr. Allen assigned the journalism students, making them give up their phones, social media and screens for 24 hours.

Some students participated and others failed the 24 hour challenge. In this podcast we talked about our personal experience of the media fast and how each of us did. We also talked about the pros and cons of the experiment and whether or not the experiment was a success. Make sure to stream in and learn about the media fast and how it went for some of the students!

Schools should teach medial literacy because...

- “People are more exposed to media than ever before” — Peter J.
- “It would give insight to students about how it affects them, how it changes people, and hopefully would make them put away their devices when they’re not needed” — Nancy A.
- “There are so many media dangers that are not talked about enough” — Adeline s.

“It shows the dangers of media and how different sites report different things in the same situations” — Luke S.

What I learned from my media fast was...

- “I really just can’t quit my hay day grind” — Anonymous
- “I was definitely addicted to my phone. I couldn’t stay off it. I constantly feel I need to check my phone and answer all my friends” — Sophia C.
- “Not having tech for a day isn’t unreasonable” — Adeline s.

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single for the new album ‘Even in Arcadia’, on March 14th — ‘Emergence’.

For me? ‘Emergence’ is currently a favorite. ‘Emergence’ features the classic Sleep Token sound, a soft beginning, hard-hitting, rap-like verses littered with science (“Are you carbid on my nano? / Red glass on my lightbulb / dark light on my Culture”, “Tell me what you meant by living past your half life”) and science-fiction references (“I’ve got solar flares for your dead gods / Space dust for your fuel rods”) rough guitars and painful words (“You might be the one to take away the pain and let my mind go quiet”) that can hit home with anyone. And a new feat for their music, a saxophone solo by Gabi Rose (member of Bilmuri, whom they toured with last year).

Following the release of this single, came an arena tour announcement — which was hinted at by venues across the country changing their icons to either the Feathered Host or House Verdian icons. This tour sold out almost instantly, speaking as someone who fought and lost the online battle for a seat. Their roll hasn’t slowed since, however. On April 4th, Sleep Token released another song titled ‘Caramel,’ which features a music box-like tune playing in the background. This music-box motif becomes more prevalent as Vessel talks about fame and the band (as well as his own) struggles with their sudden growth. It’s not that he’s ungrateful for the support and love and fame, (“And if you don’t think I mean it, then I understand / But I’m still glad you came so let me see those hands”) but it’s a criticism of the way he (and others) are treated, like wind up dolls, music boxes, for others to enjoy.

He also harps on the fact that since their rise to fame, their personal privacy has been under jeopardy with their identities being leaked in circles of the internet and even shouted at them (“Every time they try to shout my real name just to get a rise from me / acting like I’m never stressed out by the hearsay”) — which undermines almost the entirety of what Sleep Token is meant to be, an anonymous band that focuses on music and the emotion it brings, not who’s behind it.

Vessel simultaneously calls for fans to stop trying to peer behind the mask while also telling them that they need to remember he is a person

behind the mask. It’s all cemented with a painful bridge that has tugged at countless fans’ heartstrings: “Too young to get bitter over it all / Too old to retaliate like before / Too blessed to be caught ungrateful, I know / So I’ll keep dancing along to the rhythm / This stage is a prison, a beautiful nightmare / A war of attrition, I’ll take what I’m given / The deepest incisions / I thought I got better but maybe I didn’t”.

‘Even in Arcadia’ released May 9th, it is yours to consume.

The album, in short, is a masterpiece, a wonderful blend of descriptive, storytelling songs like ‘Look to Windward’ and ‘Even in Arcadia’, charged love songs such as ‘Dangerous’ and ‘Provider’ and of course, a Sleep Token record wouldn’t be complete without the emotionally devastating — ‘Gethsemane’ and ‘Infinite Baths’. My personal favorites, you’re looking for recommendations from this album are ‘Gethsemane’, ‘Dangerous’ and ‘Even in Arcadia’.

For an in depth, track-by-track review, view the full article on the *Triton Voice* website.

Worship.

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rules for each game. “Every new club is hard to start up,” Cashman admitted. “Raising money and figuring out technology and rule sets for different games is challenging, but I enjoy working with my fellow students. If we run into an issue, it’s easy to contact them, and they hear me out.”

Despite these challenges, enthusiasm for the esports team remains high. Cashman hopes students recognize the value in esports beyond just playing video games. “Esports is a fun activity where students can enjoy video games as part of their school experience. It’s a great way to hang out with friends, and for those who are competitive, it provides an opportunity to play games at a high level.”

With the foundation now set, the Triton High School esports team is poised for growth. As more students join and the program continues to develop, the future of esports at Triton looks bright.

For students interested in joining, Cashman encourages them to reach out and give it a try.

“After this year, it will only get easier. We are building something great, and I hope more students see the potential of esports at Triton,” said Cashman.

The Blind Following the Blind

By Addison Rowe



Gateway Addiction

By Riley McIsaac



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roads around here not being too busy, especially when I’m running late.”

Environmental concerns have also been raised. The project includes plans to develop a golf course, but some environmentalists argue that clearing land for commercial use could have negative effects on local ecosystems.

“Part of the charm of Rowley and our area is the fact that we do have a lot of natural space, untouched forests that create actual uninterrupted habitat for species that live in the area,” said Mr. Tom Horsley, environmental science teacher. “When you cut down trees, there are implications for climate change because trees are literally made from stored CO2 that used to be in the atmosphere.”

The Rowley Farms project is still in the planning stages, with town officials reviewing proposals and gathering feedback. Public hearings have been planned, allowing residents to voice their opinions, and more discussions are expected in the coming months.

For now, Rowley’s opinions are mixed, will the project bring the much-needed growth, or will it change the town in ways that can’t be undone? As debates continue, one thing remains clear, this large project will shape the future of Rowley for generations to come.