



Pictures by Ivy Ashe

WILLIE BERGER and sister Helen touch the wing of a model plane on display.

## Heat, Hundreds Welcome Historic Planes to Grass Strip in Katama

By IVY ASHE

History buffs and aviation enthusiasts alike gathered at the Katama Airfield in Edgartown on Saturday afternoon for a chance to see restored World War II airplanes in action. The planes — two trainer aircraft and a transport plane — were flown in as a spinoff event to the Those Who Serve exhibit at the Martha's Vineyard Museum.

"It's important to show that exhibitions in museums come off the walls, that they're alive. Some of them are

living history," said museum executive director David Nathans during an interview at the event.

The planes began to arrive at noon, each cruising once over the airfield to give attendees a good look before circling around to touch down on the grass runway. Pilots brought the aircraft back to park outside the hangar area, where past met future as the young children in attendance clustered around the planes to ask questions.

The vivid blue and yellow wings of Dave Fetherston's 1941 Boeing Stearman drew many onlookers throughout the day. Mr. Fetherston, who is from Mansfield, bought his plane in 2004, marking the latest chapter in the Stearman's long history. The aircraft was primarily used to train new pilots during World War II; following the war, it was put to use as a crop duster until being fully restored in 1990.

The many past lives of Mr. Fetherston's Stearman underscore the idea that every plane, like every pilot, has a history all its own. In bringing the planes to the airfield for the public to see in person, these stories could come to life.

"People that love aviation talk about aviation all the time," said Heather

### Corrections

A story in Friday's Gazette about Sail Martha's Vineyard reported inaccurately on the origins of the program. The program was founded by the late Nancy Haskell and Nancy Hoffman.

A story in Friday's Gazette about commercial fishermen affected by the Menemsha Coast Guard fire contained errors. Stanley Larsen's blue mussel work has no connection to the experimental offshore blue mussel farm. And Wayne Iacono's lobster pots cost \$65 apiece.

The Gazette regrets the errors.



MAURA ROBILLARD on the wing of Dave Fetherston's Boeing Stearman.



TOM MORLEY, Robert Conway look over René Robillard's 1947 Super Cruiser.

Robillard, also of Mansfield, who had flown in for the event with husband René and daughter Maura in their 1947 Super Cruiser. The Robillards were among several Massachusetts-area pilots in attendance, and are regular visitors to the Katama Airfield.

Mrs. Robillard also noted the importance of the fly-ins for passing on the spirit of aviation to a new generation. "Unless you're brought up with [flying], you might not be exposed to it except at events like these," she said.

A more scaled-down spirit of aviation was on display at the Martha's Vineyard Model Club's booth, where local model builders had brought some of their handmade planes to exhibit at the event. Carl Watt of Edgartown, who has been creating models since Christmas of 1943 and often designs his own miniatures, pointed out that the construction of the small aircraft was sometimes as complex as that of

their full-sized counterparts.

While the model builders were a hit at the airfield, however, the real powerhouses were the vintage planes.

"It's a very exciting and emotional experience for some people," said Mr. Nathans. "I think because we're at war again — maybe not as big, but as emotionally engaging for many people — it reminds us of why we do those things. It reminds us that people do sacrifice for freedom."

Mr. Fetherston echoed the sentiment as he explained why he had joined the ranks of modern-day aviators. "Freedom — that's what flying is all about," he said.

## Georgia Ellis Ireland Was Community Services Director

Georgia Ellis Ireland, late of 190 South Road in Chilmark, died at the Elizabeth Residence on Bayside, Wisc. on Feb. 28.

Georgia was born Georgia May Ellis in Melvin, Ill. on June 24, 1918. Her mother was Georgia May (Boshell) Ellis, and her father, Oliver Ellis. Georgia graduated from Melvin High School and the University of Illinois.

After college, she worked as an interior decorator for Marshall Field & Co. in Chicago from 1940 to 1944, when she married Emory Ireland, who was then a Navy officer teaching at Abbot Hall in Chicago, and later became chief structural engineer for Stone and Webster Engineering Corporation of Boston.

Georgia lived for many years in Wellesley, where she was active in civic affairs. She served on the board of directors of the following civic organizations: Hardy School Parent Teachers Association, Friends of the Wellesley Free Library, Wellesley League of Women Voters, Wellesley Community Chest and Council, United Community Services of Greater Boston, and National Federation of Republican Women. She held office as

vice president of the Wellesley Central Council of Parent Teacher Associations, president of the Wellesley Friendly Aid Society (dual purpose agency supplying social work and visiting nurse services to the town), president of the Wellesley Women's Republican Club, president of the Massachusetts Federation of Republican Women, and vice chairman of the Massachusetts Republican State Committee. She was elected to four three-year terms as a member of the Wellesley town meeting, three four-year terms as a member of the Wellesley Republican town committee, delegate to the Massachusetts Republican primary convention twice, delegate at large to the Republican National Convention in 1964, and alternate delegate at large to the Republican National Convention in 1960. She is particularly remembered for her work as regional coordinator for the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, and as administrative assistant for Sen. Edward Brooke, who was the first black senator since Reconstruction.

After her husband's death, Georgia moved to Chilmark, where she built both a main house and a guest house, and served as executive director of Martha's Vineyard Community Services until her retirement. She greatly admired Ed Brooke, Lena Horne and Abraham Lincoln. She doted on her children and grandchildren and loved the Vineyard, ballroom dancing, her discussion groups and the New York Times crossword puzzle. She was still enjoying the Vineyard, and could be seen riding her lawn tractor, until a year before her death. She spent the last year of her life in the Elizabeth Residence in Wisconsin.

Georgia was an independent spirit with great energy and vitality. She was always willing to pitch in and had a great impact on everything she undertook.

She is survived by two sons, Emory Ellis Ireland of Milwaukee, Wisc., and Oliver Ison Ireland of Alexandria, Va., and five grandchildren; Jonathan and Robert, sons of Emory Ireland, and Olivia, Genevieve and Fiona, daughters of Oliver Ireland.

## Tisbury-Born Norma Falce Loved Island Summers

Norma (Smith) Falce of Wethersfield, Conn., beloved wife of Peter A. Falce, died on Wednesday, July 14. She was 73.

She born on Nov. 25, 1936, in Vineyard Haven on Martha's Vineyard to the late Joseph Ferreira and Virginia Smith and graduated with the class of 1954 from the Tisbury High School. Norma and her husband Peter raised their family in the south end of Hartford, Conn., before retiring to Wethersfield, Conn., where they spent their summer vacations with her family on the Island for 50-plus years, enjoying all the beaches and restaurants and having dinner on the beach. She enjoyed volunteering for the Newington Senior Center for many years. She was employed for the past 10 years by Executive Network and Alfin, Fagan & Falce Accountants, both in Farmington, Conn., where she made many new and wonderful friends.

Besides her husband, Norma is survived by her three sons and their families: Peter and his wife Christine of Broad Brook, Conn., and their children Nicholas and Zachary; Wayne and his wife Lisa of Wethersfield, Conn., and their children Allyse, Alexander and Andrew; and Mark and his wife Karen-Lee of Stafford Springs, Conn., and their children Jake, Serra, Sydney, Taylor and Benjamin. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews including: Robert Falce and his wife Wauline of Newington, Conn.; Richard Alward and his wife Joanne of Cape Coral, Fla.; and Michael Colaneri and his wife Karen of West Tisbury. She was predeceased by her sister, Beverly Martin Keuhnemund and her nephew, Frank Alward.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Norma's name may be made to the Helen & Harry Gray Cancer Center, 80 Seymour Street, P.O. Box 5037, Hartford, CT 06102 or to the American Diabetes Foundation, 306 Industrial Park Road, Suite 105, Middletown, CT 06457. For on-line expressions of sympathy to the family, please visit [desopo.com](http://desopo.com).

## Bobby Pachico Dies at 81, Worked in Sheriff's Office

Madeline Bobby E. Pachico of Vineyard Haven died on Friday morning March 12 at her home surrounded by her family. She was 81.

She was the wife of Ernest W. Pachico and the mother of Thomas W. Pachico, Paula Pachico and Pamela Benner all of Martha's Vineyard.

Bobby worked for the sheriff's department in the communications center for many years.

She was the best friend and partner of 60 wonderful years to her husband Ernest, who gave all he had to take care of her in her final years and give her all she wanted. They loved to travel together, visiting Las Vegas often and wintering in Pompano Beach, Fla.

She was a wonderful and caring mother and grandmother. She loved a good laugh, a good joke and a good party. She will be missed by all those people whose lives she touched.

A graveside service for the interment of her remains will be held on Saturday, July 24, at 10 a.m. in the Oak Grove Cemetery in Vineyard Haven officiated by the Rev. Michael Nagle. All are invited to the PA Club in Oak Bluffs following the burial. Please bring a dish to share.

Donations may be made in her memory to the Windmere Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Facility, P.O. Box 1477, Oak Bluffs, MA 02557 or to the Alzheimer's Research Association, MA Chapter, 311 Arsenal Street, Wattertown, MA 02472.

Arrangements are under the care of the Chapman, Cole and Gleason Funeral Home in Oak Bluffs. Please visit [ccfuneralhome.com](http://ccfuneralhome.com) for online guest book and information.

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## Vineyard Gazette Crossword Puzzle Tuesday Edition

ACROSS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13						14	
15		16						17		
		18				19				
20	21			22	23					
24			25				26	27	28	
29			30						31	
32		33							34	
		35				36				
37	38	39			40					
41				42	43				44	45
46				47				48		
49				50					51	

DOWN

1	Fool	8	Leap	28	Fixes a seam
2	Meadow	9	Tense	10	Cartel
3	"Auld —"	11	acronym	30	Guitarist Atkins
4	Basketball	12	Lave	33	Traffic cones
5	Eager	13	"And so it —"	34	Caffeine-rich nut
6	X rating?	14	Reagan Cabinet member	36	Former capital of Nigeria
7	Earlier than	15	Chills and fever	37	Cast a ballot
		16	Knitting stitch	38	Vicinity
		17	Word on the street?	39	AOL client, e.g.
		18	Departed	40	Dangling site
		19	Carpet type	42	Japanese pond carp
		20	Parasite	43	Joan of —
		21	Genealogy chart	44	Have bills
		22		45	Inseparable

### Weekly Sudoku

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

Every Tuesday — A Sudoku puzzle that's more challenging than our Friday puzzle. Answers to these puzzles are found on page 11.

Thirty-second Treasure Hunting

Tune in for a quick visit to the Featherstone Flea & Fine Arts Market.

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