

KELLY'S CORNER

by Jan Kelly

The beach plums are ready—those that grew this year. Beach plums are cyclical, and the bush that bears fruit this year may not for the next three or four years. Even within the same limbs, the fruits are not uniform. That is no problem to the jelly maker. With the addition of pectin, anything goes. But for the wine maker, that same variety causes havoc. We need every plum a perfect blushing purple; even then you risk a crop of vinegar. Our beach plum is wild, resists cultivation, and ornery Cape plant that makes you bend to it. It is thought that the largest beach plum bush in Provincetown is in Howie Schneider's front yard.

Plums are said to have been introduced from Seria or Persia by Alexander the Great. The crusaders brought the plum to western Europe, where it was widely cultivated. Perhaps the most exquisite of plums is the golden mirabelle, Alsace noted as cultivating the best mirabelle. From these small golden plums, carried to France in the Middle Ages, is made a delicious clear liqueur, simply named Mirabelle. Next time you are at a well-stocked bar, order a taste of time and excellence.

When dried, plums became prunes and were stored for times of frost or need. Along with the salt and spices, they helped with preservation of food. The American Indian was using plums at the time the crusaders discovered them. In Japan, they are a sacred plant. The spring and early summer bring constant heavy mists to Japan; they are called "Spring rains." Bonsai plants are cultivated from snow plums which bloom twice a year. Plums are the genus *prunus* of the rose family. The fruit is called a drupe. They have been cultivated since prehistoric times, perhaps longer than any fruit except for the apple. It may look humble to you, but its living history is impressive.

The Labor Day traffic was at trolling speed, that bumper-to-bumper slowness that can make a local happy they're not on vacation. The first three times I noticed it, I was wondering why the line of cars was so slow—I thought it was a funeral. The second view had me questioning, "I've never heard of a funeral on Sunday." My third glance observed, "No headlights." The light bulb finally went on, "Oh, Labor Day!"

38 PROVINCETOWN MAGAZINE

The Fifth Annual Cranberry Classic Tournament is being held at the Provincetown Tennis Club the weekends of Sept. 19 and Sept. 26. This is the "true" yearrounders' tournament. Tourists and summer boarders gone, the tough Cape Codders wield their racquets and cranberry scoops for the precious days before the first freeze. The residents of Provincetown, Truro, and Wellfleet are welcome. It is a complete mixed tournament. Not just all categories: men's singles, women's singles, mixed doubles, men's doubles, and women's doubles, but all levels and all ages.

You pay your tournament fees in wampum, the balls are cranberry colored. We wear cranberry necklaces and bracelets. Sachem Massasoit blesses the games, and Manshope, legendary Provincetown Indian giant, is the umpire. For prizes, we receive cranberry soap, cranberry candles, cranberry jelly and candles, and cranberries themselves. Last year someone dropped their soap in the parking lot, and each rainfall we had pink bubbles on entrance and exit. Last year's winners were: women's doubles, Rhoda Rossmore and Ellen Hawkes—second consecutive year. They won over Louisa Woodhull and myself. Women's singles, I won over Marion Harrison. Mixed doubles, Rhoda Rossmore and John Ciluzzi won. Men's singles, Chris Busa won, and men's doubles, Chris Busa and Gregory Savidge won over Chris Snow and Brian Hart. This year the courts are busy daily with practice sessions; Mae Bush took her vacation week to practice. Here she is with Louisa Woodhull, Rhoda Rossmore, and me at a practice session.



Louisa Woodhull, Rhoda Rossmore, Mae Bush, and Jan Kelly

Look at this great shot of David Nicolau and John Ciluzzi out for an Indian Summer day of



David Nicolau and John Ciluzzi

practice. David can relax a bit now. He is handing the office of president over to Cynthia Eileen Savidge after five years of diligent work. David Nicolau and Lincoln Sharpless worked in tandem to better the financial situation, the smooth running, and the social life of the club. We are all most grateful to them both, as well as their cooperative and capable board for these many years of service. The title and the work is passed now, though they will be on call to help Cindy and her board in any way they may. Tennis is a great game; our club is special! We would like many more of you to join us for this social and athletic activity. Our two pros, Jack Dunham and David Kay both had successful seasons. Each have individual and proven styles of tennis teaching. Come now, on the off-season, limber up, and get your game in shape. By next summer season you'll be ready for a full scale summer of tennis.

We have reason to celebrate at the Housing Authority. Collette Sullivan, our Executive Director, is a proud mother, but this time publicly. Her son, Kevin Michael Sullivan, has been asked by Harvard University to accept a teaching fellowship. His field is clinical psychology. Kevin graduated from Bishop Stang High School in North Dartmouth. From there, he went to Bristol Community College and earned his Associates degree in Civil Engineering. He continued his education at Southeastern Massachusetts University. His career at Harvard began with a Master's program. He achieved an MS in clinical psychology. Kevin was accepted into their doctoral program, which he is soon to finish. His detailed studies have been in alcoholism, handicapped children, and now is working on his thesis on the study of AIDS. He began teaching this month, as well as studying at Harvard.

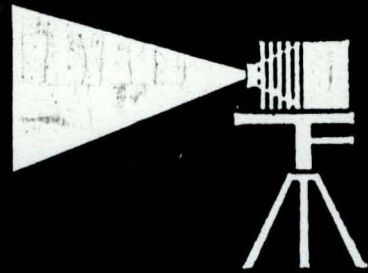
Kevin has earned his tuition from a very tender age, performing many jobs. His longest running job, and where you may know him from, was at PBA; he worked there for ten years, a student all the while! Kevin is quiet and modest, a worker. He does not seek glory, but it must come to him. This award and all others that will come to him, are well directed. We join proud mother Colette in wishing Kevin success in his career.

The Whaler

Restaurant & Lounge

For Your Dancing & Listening Pleasure

Entertainment 7 Days A Week



OUR MOVIE NIGHTS ARE BACK!

We Show the REEL thing
Not Video tapes!

SUNDAY thru THURSDAY
call for schedule. . .

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

The Whaler
Lounge

Provincetown's Most Comfortable, Air Conditioned
Night Spot for Lively Music & Generous Cocktails

The Whaler
Restaurant

Featuring Prime Beef & Fresh Native Seafood
From 6 pm until closing
Breakfast Served 7:30 am—11:30 am

RTE. 6A & SNAIL RD. • PROVINCETOWN • 487-1711

**Holiday
Inn**

OUR 14TH SEASON OF FREE
FULL LENGTH MOVIES...
and remember WE WERE THE FIRST
& OURS ARE THE REAL THING!

Schedule
Now Available
at Front Desk.