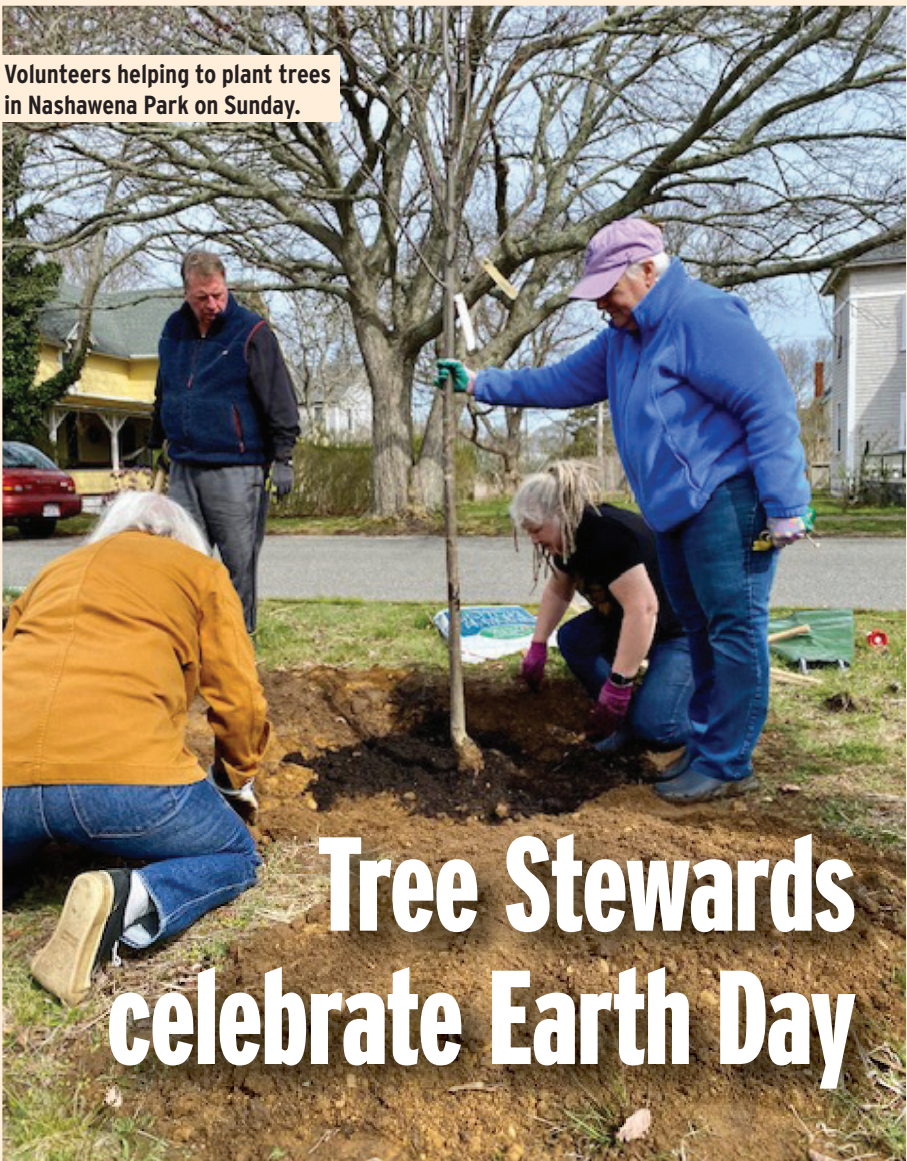


news in brief

Volunteers helping to plant trees in Nashawena Park on Sunday.



Tree Stewards celebrate Earth Day

On Sunday afternoon, Tree Stewards and the Island community celebrated Earth Day by planting 10 trees in Oak Bluffs' Niantic and Nashawena parks. More than 30 volunteers gathered to help as diggers, mulchers, waterers, stakers, and refreshment givers. Included in the plantings were oaks, sycamores, and lindens. As an extension of the Oak Bluffs climate and energy advisory committee, Oak Bluffs Tree Stewards is a nonprofit organization. Its mission is to connect with community members to spread awareness about environmental issues, and provide opportunities for people to get involved to mitigate them. "It's very easy to get overwhelmed by climate change," organizer Peter Meleney said. "We wanted to do things we felt we could do to make a difference, working on a local level." Sunday's bare-root trees were purchased with donated funds, and selected and placed with the natural ecosystem

and biodiversity in mind. Meleney hopes to continue this tradition of planting trees, aiming to plant eight new trees at Healey Square this fall. "There's a lot of work going on," Meleney said. **MVT**



Kelly Joyce helping to plant a tree in Oak Bluffs on Sunday. Behind her are Susie Schofield and Bonnie Stacey.



Dana Hughes taking matters into her own hands.

PHOTOS: COURTESY PETER MELENEY



Tea Lane Associates have joined the international real estate network Forbes Global Properties.

COURTESY TEA LANE ASSOCIATES

Tea Lane joins global network

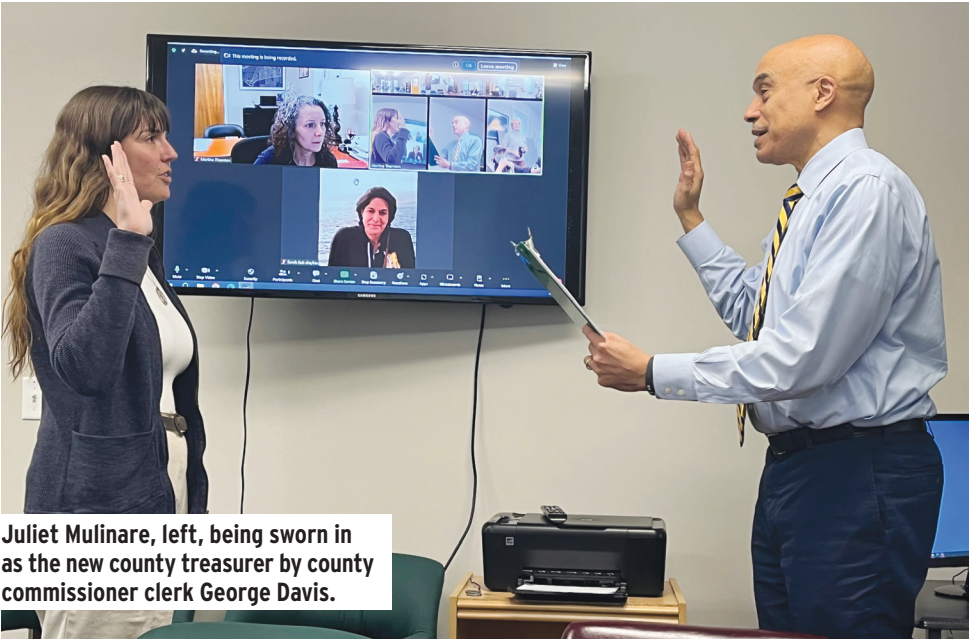
Longtime Island brokerage firm Tea Lane Associates has joined an international networking and listing organization for real estate companies. Forbes Global Properties is an invitation-only network with a platform that provides a reach to buyers and sellers worldwide. Tea Lane representatives say the inclusion in the global brand will help their reach. "We have been looking for a way to expand our global reach while maintaining our independence and proud identity as a Martha's Vineyard company. Forbes Global Properties is the perfect match," said Abby Rabinovitz, owner and principal broker of Tea Lane. "Tea Lane Associates will continue to operate as we have for more than five decades, with the additional benefit of unparalleled global exposure for our high-end listings." Michael Jalbert, CEO of Forbes Global Properties, says that adding Tea Lane will give a boost to their listings. "Forbes Global Properties was founded to champion and bolster the success of independent real estate firms like Tea Lane Associates, who are leaders within their market," Jalbert said in a press release. "We are so proud to welcome a company with such a rich legacy, unrivaled local knowledge, and an incredible future." Tea Lane Associates was founded in 1967 by business and life partners Eleanor D. Pearlson, one of the first women to join the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) during World War II, and Julia Green Sturges, an active philanthropist. The two women operated out of a small office in Chilmark what the company says was one of the first to be women-owned and -run on the Island. Tea Lane is now owned and run by Elea-

nor's nieces, Rabinovitz and Leslie Pearlson. "Our founder and aunt, Eleanor Pearlson, was adored throughout the community and recognized for her hallmark wit, acumen, and deep love for our Island," Pearlson said. "She'd often say at office gatherings and to clients living and vacationing on the Island about life on the Vineyard, 'Aren't we the lucky bums?' We could not agree more, and are honored to continue to share the place she so proudly called home." Tea Lane listings will be presented across Forbes' and Forbes Global Properties' print, digital, and social media channels.

County swears in new treasurer

The new treasurer for the Dukes County Commission was officially sworn in on Wednesday. County commissioner clerk George Davis swore in Juliet Mulinare during a ceremony at the commissioners' regular meeting. Mulinare has a background in management; her previous work experience includes four years as purchasing manager and bookkeeper at general contracting firm Colonial Reproductions, based in Edgartown, and nine years working for the town of Edgartown as a procurement officer, dredge committee administrator, and facilities manager. She takes over from Judy Soules, who had been in the role for a little more than a year. The position is elected, but Mulinare will be appointed to fill out the remainder of Soule's term. "I'm thrilled and honored to be given the opportunity to take on this challenge, meet new people, apply my skills, and learn new ones," Mulinare was quoted in a release announcing her appointment in March.

Continued on A3



Juliet Mulinare, left, being sworn in as the new county treasurer by county commissioner clerk George Davis.

DOUG RUSKIN