



# Fairhaven

# Neighborhood News

**A FREE!** publication of all things Fairhaven  
*Including event listings from Cape Cod to RI*



*The little paper  
with a big voice!*

Volume 11, Issue 16 • April 21, 2016

**Teeming with information you need.**  
**(And some you don't need, but will be glad you have anyway.)**

## 105 and counting



Family members surround Ethel Seifert at her 105th birthday party at Whaler's Cove Assisted Living in New Bedford on Thursday, 4/14. **STANDING**, L-R: Ethel's granddaughter Lisa Pacheco, Ethel's great-granddaughter Melanie Pacheco, Ethel's grandson Glenn Pacheco. **SITTING**, L-R: Ethel's daughter Diana Pacheco, Ethel Fielding Seifert (nee Harrison), Ethel's son-in-law Bob Pacheco. See page 13 for story. *Photo by Beth David.*



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### Also Inside:

- **Selectboard:** Page 4
- **Acushnet News:** Page 16
- **Planning Board:** Page 3
- **Happenings:** Pages 5, 8, 9

# From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —  
A day late and many dollars short.



Beth David, Publisher

It's Earth Day this Friday, the day we're supposed to pay attention to the earth and try to mitigate some of the damage. See the happenings pages for a few events, like beach cleanups and the bike path cleanup, so you can do your part.

We had quite the influx of residents at meetings in the last couple of weeks. The Selectboard (see page 4) had a full house to talk about the disposition of the Oxford School building, and the Planning Board had a full room to talk about the proposed bylaw changes.

The Planning Board was nice and feisty, and your favorite local yokel paper was there to cover it for you. Not that it matters, apparently. Ah well. See page 3 for that.

Our cover story was lots of fun to cover. Ethel Seifert is 105 years old (see page 12). Wow. She, of course, is a little less impressed by the number than the rest of us.

She declined to give her secret, said she had none. She did say she never got drunk, though. So, if that's the key, I'm doomed...doomed I tell you, doomed.

She does like crossword puzzles, though, so that's hopeful.

My friend Dave Cardin is home (see page 22). Dave was the man whose pickup truck took a tumble off the rocks on Goulart Memorial Drive.

He looks great and the island is happy to have him back.

Ashley's Peaches in Acushnet has been in the news this week. I admit it, I totally did not have time to call them or get over there. I took the easy way out and grabbed up the information from their GoFundMe page (see page 16). This weather destroyed their crop for the year. Yup, the whole year. They are asking for the community's help to keep them afloat.

Boy, do I know that feeling or what?

Anyway, if you can help them out, please do. Farms are so cool. I was driving through Acushnet the other day from Lakeville and just had to say out loud at one point that Acushnet is really pretty. That's because of the farms, so, here's your chance to keep one afloat.

This weekend coming up there's all kinds of stuff happening. The West Island 5K, followed by the senior talent show and bunches of other stuff. See page 5.

On page 8, under happenings overtown, you'll find a rather different event going on in New Bedford. Our Lady of Purgatory Maronite Catholic Church is hosting some relics from the Lebanese Saint, Charbel Makhlouf. This is a big deal for our little parish. We got a Sunday!

If you are the least bit religious, especially Catholic, you will not want to miss your chance to be in the presence of these relics.

There's other stuff in here of course. Be sure to notice who our advertisers are and tell them you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*. And please consider a donation to help us continue to provide the quality coverage of local events that you expect from us. Hmm... I sound like your local PBS station. Well, it works for them, so, why not?

The only way this baby will continue is if my readers support it. Find the coupon in the paper, use PayPal on our website, or visit [www.GoFundMe.com/NeighbNews](http://www.GoFundMe.com/NeighbNews)

Until next week then...see ya,

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our story of lost fisherman, we made a mistake in a name. It was Russell W. Lees lost on the Navigator in 1977. We apologize for any confusion our error may have caused.

# Auto dealers, marinas protest proposed bylaw changes

By Beth David  
Editor

Owners of auto dealerships, service stations and marinas turned out in force at the Fairhaven Planning Board's meeting on Tuesday, 4/12, to protest proposed changes to the bylaw regulating their businesses.

They all said they had no idea the changes were being proposed until after the public hearing was closed and the PB had voted to submit the article to Town Meeting.

The changes include requiring a special permit for businesses that sell and service motor vehicles and boats, and new setback requirements for those facilities in residential neighborhoods.

More than 30 people filed into the banquet room, including owners of other small businesses in town, all expressing concern that their businesses would be adversely affected by the changes.

PB chairperson Wayne Hayward started by saying that the issue was added to the agenda at the last minute, so the board would not deliberate. They would listen to the input from residents, he said, but not vote on anything.

The changes have been discussed for more than a year at PB meetings and a public hearing stretched over several meetings to discuss each and every word of the changes. The process started back in October of 2014.

Mr. Hayward said the whole thing started when the Selectboard was allowing auto dealers to add cars to their permits with "napkin plans." The added cars affected neighbors and caused complaints. The Planning Board wanted to change the bylaw to require the plans to go in front of them. They added boats to the bylaw to be regulated the same as autos at those businesses.

Kevin McLaughlin, owner of Fairhaven Shipyard, said that he and other business owners were not informed, and only heard about the changes after one person found out about them and told everyone else.

He said the changes prohibit the exact kinds of things that the shipyard does.

He said that he should have received a notice in the mail, because

his business is affected, and contended that the whole process was done improperly.

Mr. Hayward explained that the requirements for notification of a bylaw change are different than an abutter for a variance.

The two went back and forth a bit about notifications, the dates of the hearing, legal notices, and the newspaper coverage.

Mr. McLaughlin insisted that they should have been notified by mail.

"We didn't violate any law," said Mr. Hayward, and noted that the legal notices ran in the *Neighb News*, which, he said, is the most popular of the three papers. "We did not intentionally leave out anybody."

Mr. Hayward and town planner Bill Roth both also made it clear that the

waterfront was not affected.

Mr. McLaughlin said he felt he was specifically being targeted. He moves boats into the parking lot for the winter, more than the allowed 60 days, and he often has to do work in the yard. He said he could not possibly build a building large enough to accommodate the ships they service.

"It does sound ridiculous if you apply it to boatyards," admitted Mr. Hayward. "But it doesn't apply to boatyards."

He explained that the parking lot provisions is meant to stop a West Marine type business from using parking spots to display boats, or to prohibit a Kmart or Wal-Mart from using customer parking to display merchandise.

"It doesn't apply to your shipyard," insisted Mr. Hayward. "It's not meant for a boatyard."

"It says 'boat services.' That's what it says," said Mr. McLaughlin. "It says 'boat repair.' That's what we do."

Mr. McLaughlin also took issue with the provision that requires permission for "expansion" and "intensity." He questioned what that meant. If he takes on a new line of boats, is that expansion? If he hires two new people, is that expansion? If he has a lot of work one

week, is that intensity? He also noted that a special permit means the town can put any restrictions it wants on the operation.

As a property in a designated port area, the use is restricted and the property would be worthless, said Mr. McLaughlin, if they cannot operate a shipyard there.

"Nobody wants you out of business," said board member Rene Fleurent.

Board members tried to explain that the existing auto businesses would not be affected by the changes. New businesses would have to adhere to the changes.

But Mr. McLaughlin said he could not see that provision anywhere in the bylaw, but he could see how neighbors who have been complaining about the shipyard's operations might use the new bylaw against him.

"This effectively will take the Fairhaven Shipyard and put us out of

---

This town was built on this waterfront. New Bedford was the place where you dumped your catch, and then you came across the harbor to get your boat worked on.  
[Kevin McLaughlin]

---

proposed changes have not gone into effect. They need to be approved at Town Meeting and by a 2/3 vote.

Mr. Hayward explained that the current bylaw is nearly 40 years old and simply needed updating to reflect changes in the way business is done. They added boats, he said, because boats were not included. If something is not included, then that means it is not regulated; if it is not regulated, it means anyone can do anything, he said.

He also tried to assure Mr. McLaughlin that marinas and shipyards were under a "different classification," and would not be affected by the bylaw at all.

They went back and forth, with Mr. McLaughlin repeating the same parts of the changes that prohibit working on engines in the parking lot, that boats and merchandise cannot use parking that is designated for customers.

Mr. Hayward said the working

PB: cont'd on page 20

# Selectboard hears from public on Oxford School deal

By Pattie Pacella

## Neighb News Correspondent

The Fairhaven Selectboard received input and heard concerns at a special meeting on Wednesday, 4/13, from residents regarding the proposal for sale of the Oxford School building.

The North Fairhaven Improvement Association, which occupies a town-owned building on the site, had suggested the meeting to be held at its building. However, the Selectboard decided that if all three board members would be there, it should be held at town hall.

With the room full of residents, and more waiting in the hallway, the Selectboard took a five minute recess to move the discussion upstairs to the auditorium. During that time they realized there was no way to video the meeting upstairs as there was no camera available from government access. They went back and forth on how they were going to tape it, with board members calling or texting school committee members to see if their meeting was over yet, since that was where the portable camera was.

Finally, they decided that Selectboard Administrative Assistant Anne O'Brien would tape the meeting with her phone, until a camera arrived. About 20 minutes into the meeting, the government access camera did arrive. The meeting should be available online through the town's website.

At 7:50 p.m., with approximately 50 residents in attendance, the meeting moved upstairs. No representatives from the Stratford Capital Group were present. Town Planner Bill Roth, Town Administrator Mark Rees and Selectboard member Bob Espindola, who negotiated with the SCG, were at the meeting.

Mr. Espindola apologized for the SCG saying they were out of state, but were reachable by phone.

Mr. Roth went over the site plan that was proposed stating it was two parcels and two paper streets creating the two lots. He stated there was still a final site survey due.

Lot 1, said Mr. Roth, is where the NFIA is with 3-4 parking spots behind the building and an access easement to the back. There would be a second easement on Morton and Livesey Park Way to a 30-space parking lot for the public.

The SCG is proposing to build 63

units with 80 bedrooms, eight units in the existing building and the rest in a new building.

Town Counsel Tom Crotty spoke about the purchase and sale agreement. He said it was a draft that was close to being finalized.

The P&S is an option to purchase the building for \$325,000 with a proposed closing date of December 31, 2018. Mr. Crotty stated that if SCG does not receive the low income tax credits by that time they had the option to extend it out one year, subject to approval by the town.

He explained that the SCG could cancel if they didn't get approval from the Town. Mr. Crotty also stated that the Town could rescind the offer if any changes to the 62+ senior housing are proposed.

Negotiations capped the building department fees at \$90,000, which Mark Rees advised was negotiated down from \$101,000. These would be fees for all building permits, electrical, and plumbing through the

---

There is no intention to  
throw you out of there  
[Tom Crotty to the NFIA]

---

building department.

Fairhaven resident and NFIA member, John Medeiros said he had read the P&S and called it the "B&S" agreement. He said that the SCG has a project in Bourne they have been working on since 2011, and have only recently received the tax credits in 2016. He wondered if the same thing would happen in Fairhaven.

Mr. Crotty answered that with the proposed closing in 2018 and a one-year extension if needed, the town is looking at only a three-and-a-half-year wait.

Bob Cormier, President of the NFIA, introduced himself and then said, "And yes, I live in New Bedford."

Mr. Cormier referred to specific sections of the 28-page P&S, noting that there were no exhibits A, B and C. He also asked if the new building would match the brick of the old building.

Mr. Crotty rebutted every question with an answer and/or a change that

would have to be made to keep things consistent in the agreement.

Mr. Espindola said that the SCG would offer up the exhibits once they know that the proposal is passed at Town Meeting. He stated that the SCG did not want to spend more money on engineers to write up a site plan for the exhibits if the proposal wasn't going forward.

Resident Gary Lavalette, who sits on a number of committees, said that he had read the P&S and he believed the town is nickeling & diming it to death. He said he would have liked to see the Town ask for a larger down payment commitment from the SCG, versus waiting two+ years to get started on the project.

"I'm disappointed that SCG is not here," said Steve Parr, a north Fairhaven resident. "This is the second neighborhood meeting that I have been to that they haven't been present."

Mr. Espindola said that he had asked for people to give the board questions in advance, and they would have gotten answers from SCG. He offered to call them if anyone had a specific question to ask.

"I appreciate your comments," Mr. Parr said. "But they should want to be here."

North Fairhaven resident, Ann Richard, who is also a Planning Board member and member of other town committees, asked what the building was going to look like, since there were no drawings of the buildings listed on the exhibit pages.

She also stated that on the SCG's website it listed 25-35 people and she hoped they would be able to send at least one to Town Meeting to really hear the neighborhood concerns and answer our questions.

Again, Mr. Espindola said that he would be happy to call them on the spot with any specific question.

Ms. Richard asked questions regarding the parking lot alongside Livesey Park.

"They're not giving us anything," she said. "It's our park. Will it be paved?"

Mr. Roth answered that it would be paved and would not be used for their overflow parking, but for Livesey Park. He said it would be up to the Town of Fairhaven to put up tow signs and monitor who parks there.

He did explain that the project falls

**SELECT: cont'd on page 12**

# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## Earth Day

Earth Day is this week, on **Fri., 4/22**. The first Earth Day on April 22, 1970, activated 20 million Americans from all walks of life and is widely credited with launching the modern environmental movement.

The passage of the landmark Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act and many other groundbreaking environmental laws soon followed. Twenty years later, Earth Day went global, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries and lifting environmental issues onto the world stage. More than 1 billion people now participate in Earth Day activities each year, making it the largest civic observance in the world.

To learn more, visit <http://www.earthday.org/earth-day/>

## Bike Path Cleanup

Third Annual Fairhaven Bike Path Volunteer Clean Up will be held on **Sat. 4/23 from 9 a.m.-noon. Registration behind the Rec Center**

Volunteers who register early will be entered into a raffle to win a \$50 gift card from Stop and Shop.

Free donuts and coffee will be provided by BRW Property Services.

## Beach Cleanup/Ft

**Annual Earth Day Cleanup at Fort Phoenix with Be the Solution to Pollution and Gloria and Company, on Sun., 4/24, from 9 a.m. to noon**

Meet near the cannons. Volunteers of all ages are welcome, but children must be accompanied by an adult.

Gloves, tools, bags and refreshments provided. T-shirts for volunteers. Please wear closed toe shoes. For more info visit [www.facebook.com/pollutionsolution](http://www.facebook.com/pollutionsolution) or [bethesolutiontopollution@gmail.com](mailto:bethesolutiontopollution@gmail.com)

## Beach Cleanup

**Fairhaven Acushnet Land Preservation Trust Beach cleanup along Winsegansett Marshes beach front. Meet at Shipyard Farm, Sciticut Neck Rd.**

Bring work gloves, we supply the bags and...**Free tree saplings to all who participate, Sun., 4/24, 9 a.m.**

## Senior Talent Show

The Fairhaven Rotary Club and the Council on Aging will present the **first**

**annual Senior Talent Show at the Fairhaven Council on Aging, 229 Huttleston Ave., Fairhaven, on Sunday, 4/24, from 2-4 p.m.**

During this fun community event, area seniors will display their talent. The Fairhaven High Interact Club will serve as judges.

Prizes will be awarded to first, second and third place winners. The high school's BDTV crew will videotape the event. Light refreshments will be served.

**Call Anne Silvia at the Fairhaven COA, 508-979-4029, to sign up.**

The event is free, but a free-will offering will be accepted with proceeds to benefit the Rotary Fairhaven Student Scholarships. Accessible. For more information, email [MK@fsuinc.com](mailto:MK@fsuinc.com).

## Tennis Clinics

The Fairhaven Tennis Association is now offering tennis clinics for juniors 13 and Under. Our first Clinics will start on **Sun., 4/24**, and go for five weeks. Clinics will be held on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at Cushman Park. To register go to our web site at [www.fairhaventennis.org](http://www.fairhaventennis.org) and click on the link on the left side of the page for 14 and Under.

Our pro Aaron Petrusky will be heading up our instructional Program. Aaron is the pro at the Lakeville Indoor Tennis Club and is considered one of the leading tennis instructors in the area. For more information call Ken at 508-280-3150.

## West Island 5K & Spag Dinner

Registration is open for the 5th annual **West Island 5K Run/Walk to be held on Sun., 4/24, at 11 a.m., starting and finishing at 41 Causeway Rd., West Island, Fairhaven**

The Fairhaven High School Cross Country program benefits from this event, run on a US Track and Field certified course. **Entry fees range from \$15 to \$25. There is also a Kids Mile Run with an entry fee of \$5.** Shirts to first 600 5k registrants; neoprene wrist bands to Kids Mile entrants. Cash prizes.

Register online at <https://racewire.com/register.php?id=5932> For more information visit <http://westisland5k.org> or email [info@westisland5k.org](mailto:info@westisland5k.org).

## Spaghetti Dinner

Join us for a pre-race spaghetti dinner on **Sat., 4/23, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the West Island Community Center, 41 Causeway Rd.** Everyone is welcome! **\$10 per person.** Reserve your seat by sending a note to [westisland5k@yahoo.com](mailto:westisland5k@yahoo.com)

## Fine Craft Fair

One-of-a-kind, hand-crafted items made by local artisans are available at Art On Center's **Spring Fine Craft Fair, Sat., 4/23, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** Stained glass, rugs, all-natural candles, jewelry, and textiles are among the offerings. You are sure to find wonderful, unique gifts for upcoming occasions such as Mother's Day, graduations, and weddings. Some of the artisans will be on hand to share how they make their crafts.

Art On Center is located at 15 Center St., Fairhaven. Ample parking. Accessible. For more information email [info@artoncenter.org](mailto:info@artoncenter.org) or call 774-206-1709. Art On Center is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization.

## HARC Meeting

Local environmental advocacy group Hands Across the River Coalition, Inc. will hold its annual meeting on **Wed., 4/27, from 6-7:45 p.m. at the Millicent Library, Fairhaven, MA.** Open to the public. Attendees are advised to use the Walnut Street entrance on lower level.

For more information, please contact Karen Vilandry (508) 951-1184 Email: [harcgnb@gmail.com](mailto:harcgnb@gmail.com)

## Garden Lots Avail.

Have you ever wanted to try a garden but didn't know where to start? Interested in saving money by growing your own organic vegetables? Want to be part of a "growing green" community? If so, you are in luck because there are Fairhaven Community Garden beds available at three school locations: East Fairhaven, Hastings Middle School and Wood School. **The fee is \$10 per 4x8 foot bed.**

Organic practices only please. Contact Laurie at 508-993-3802 or [lauriehellstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:lauriehellstrom@yahoo.com) if you are interested or have questions. More information can be found at [fairhavencommunitygarden.org](http://fairhavencommunitygarden.org).

**HAPP: cont'd on page 8**

# Guest reader program brings in local adults to EFS



The East Fairhaven School welcomed adults into the school last week to read to students. This year's theme was heroes. LEFT: *Neighb News* editor Beth David reads to Mrs. Panell's second grade class. RIGHT: Students in Mrs. Panell's second grade class smile for the camera after *Neighb News* editor Beth David read from three books about Wangara Maathai, who returned to her native Kenya after college in the United States and was saddened to see that so many of the trees had been clear cut by multi-national corporations. She started planting trees in her own village, with nine trees in her back yard. The movement grew as women told other women about the idea and eventually more than 30 million trees were planted. Wangari Maathai won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004, the first African woman and the first environmentalist ever to do so. *Photos by Beth David (well, sort of...Mrs. Panell took the one on the left).*

## ATRIA FAIRHAVEN

***Our residents are looking forward to an exciting, eventful April here at Atria Fairhaven. We'd love for you to join us.***  
 (RSVP: 508-994-9238)

Join us for:

**Musical Entertainment By  
Chris Waters**

Mon., 4/25, 2:30 p.m.

Chris Waters returns to Atria! Join us for a lively afternoon and sing along to your favorite tunes!

**Birthday Bash with Tom & Betty**

Tues., 4/26, 2:30 p.m.

The Dynamic Duo is Back! come & celebrate our amazing residents Birthdays! We look forward to seeing you soon!



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# Fairhaven's Keegan Fike receives national award

Press Release

Fairhaven resident Keegan Fike, 17, received the Operation Home Front 2016 Coast Guard Military Child of the Year Award during Operation Home Front's eight annual Military Child of the Year Award Ceremony on Thursday, 4/14.

The national nonprofit organization that builds strong, stable, and secure military families annually, gives the award to an outstanding military child from each branch of service: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and the National Guard.

Each award recipient receives \$10,000. Ideal candidates for the Award demonstrate resilience and strength of character, and thrive in the face of the challenges of military life. They also demonstrate leadership within their families and within their communities.

United Technologies Corp. was the presenting sponsor for the Military Child of the Year® Awards Gala. Other sponsors were Wounded Warrior Project, Southern New Hampshire University, Murphy-Goode Winery, MidAtlanticBroadband, La Quinta Inns & Suites, and Aflac.



Keegan Fike, 17, of Fairhaven, Mass., receives the Operation Homefront 2016 Coast Guard Military Child of the Year Award, during Operation Homefront's Eighth Annual Military Child of the Year® Award Ceremony here on Thursday, April 14.

Presenting the award are Marine Corps Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr., Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (right); Adm. Paul F. Zukunft, Commandant of the Coast Guard; Catherine Blades, Chairwoman of the Board at Operation Homefront and Senior Vice President, Corporate Communications, at Aflac; and Brig. Gen. (ret.) John I. Pray Jr., President and CEO of Operation Homefront. *Operation Home Front photo.*

For more information, visit [www.militarychildoftheyear.org](http://www.militarychildoftheyear.org).

A national nonprofit, Operation Homefront builds strong, stable, and secure military families so that they can thrive in the communities they have worked so hard to protect. With more than 3,200 volun-

teers nationwide, Operation Homefront has provided assistance to tens of thousands of military families since its inception shortly after 9/11.

Recognized for superior performance by leading independent charity oversight groups, 92 percent of Operation Homefront's expenditures goes directly to programs that provide support to our military families. For more information, go to [www.OperationHomefront.net](http://www.OperationHomefront.net).



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## Who Makes the Magic?

A Nikommo Island Tale With Bedtime Version  
By Beth David

Available for Nook; and for Kindle and other ebook formats on Amazon.com  
**Only \$1.49**

A Christmas tale of magic on a small island. Written for adults, but suitable for all ages. (Approx. 9,600 words; bedtime version, 2570 words.) For links to all Beth David's books and stories visit [www.Zorena.com](http://www.Zorena.com)



### Fairhaven Visitors Center & Historical Society Museum

Academy Building, 141 Main St.  
next door to Fairhaven High School

508-979-4085

M, T, Th, F: 8:00-noon & 12:30-4:30  
Sat: 8:00-4:30

<http://FairhavenTours.com>



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## HAPPENINGS/STILL IN TOWN

### Calling All Artists

Art On Center proudly presents its 4th annual "Art of Fairhaven" art exhibition and is now **accepting entries**. Share what's special to you about Fairhaven: historic architecture, your school or church, the waterfront and more. Whether you grew up here, went to school here, or came to our town later in life, show your love of Fairhaven with art in any media.

Juried cash prizes, all ages are welcome and there is no residency requirement.

**The opening reception is Saturday April 30th from 1 to 4 pm**, with light refreshments and a talk by the Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society at 2:30pm. The exhibition runs through May 28.

Artwork must be delivered to Art On Center, 15 Center St., Fairhaven, **by April 27, accompanied by entry**

**form and fee.** For more information and entry form, email us at [info@artoncenter.org](mailto:info@artoncenter.org) or call 774-206-1709. Art On Center is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization.

### Cherry Blossom Fest

Japanese Cherry Blossom Friendship Festival, **Sun., 5/1, from 11 a.m.—4 p.m. at Cooke Memorial Park, Fairhaven** (corner of Cherry & Pilgrim Streets). **All outside activities FREE** including: names written in Japanese, origami (paper-folding) instructions & demo, Japanese (taiko) drumming & kempo karate, local elementary school vocalists, raffle, Japanese & American craft vendors, kamishibai (paper theater — Manjiro story)

**Value combo ticket: Adults \$20, under 12 \$10:** Fairhaven Colonial Club house tours, tea & dessert, kimono display, ikebana flower demo,

Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Museum, museum tours, bonsai display, kimono, quilt & document displays, Bento picnic box lunch (no raw items)

To reserve tickets: call Gerry at 508-995-1219 or e-mail: [Gerry@WMFriendshipHouse.org](mailto:Gerry@WMFriendshipHouse.org)

Sponsored by: Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society and the Fairhaven Colonial Club

### BPW vacancy

The Fairhaven Board of Public Works and the Fairhaven Selectboard announce a vacancy on the BPW due to the resignation of Daniel Freitas, who won a seat on the Selectboard. Any Fairhaven residents interested in serving on the BPW should send a letter of interest to the Selectboard with a copy to the BPW **by Monday, 4/29, at 4 p.m.** The position will be filled by a vote of the Selectboard, with input from the BPW.

## HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

### Religious Relics in New Bedford

In 1977 Pope Paul VI canonized a Maronite Monk by the name of Charbel Makhlof as a Saint of the Universal Church. **On Sun. & Mon., 4/24 & 25, the Relics of St. Charbel will visit Our Lady of Purgatory Church, 11 Franklin St., New Bedford.**

The Parishioners & Friends of Our Lady of Purgatory Church will join Pastoral Administrator Fr. Fadi Rouhana for the Celebration of the **Divine Liturgy on April 24, 2016 at 10:30 am.** During the Liturgy there will be a **Healing Ceremony with the Relics.** The Church will remain open for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the presence of the Relics until **7 pm at which time there will be a Eucharistic Adoration, followed by a Solemn Candlelight Procession with the Relics to the American-Lebanese Veterans Memorial at the Clasky Common Park.** Following a brief ceremony at the Memorial, the Relics will return to the Church. **The Church will reopen on Mon., 4/25 at 8:00 am to allow the faithful to visit the Relics. At 11:30 am the Divine Liturgy will be celebrated followed by a Luncheon.**

St. Charbel was born in 1828 in

North Lebanon. He entered the Monastery of St. Maron at Annaya at the age of 23 and took the name Charbel in honor of a second century Antioch Church martyr. He became a priest in 1859 and was very devoted to the Blessed Sacrament. He lived as a hermit but his reputation for holiness caused people to seek him out. He died on Christmas Eve, 1898 and was buried in the Monastery cemetery.

According to written reports, "A few months later, dazzling lights were seen around the grave. From there, his corpse, which had been secreting sweat and blood, was transferred into a special coffin. Hordes of pilgrims started swarming the place to get his intercession. And through this intercession, God blessed many people with recovery and spiritual graces."

When his grave was opened in 1950 during the canonization process the number of healings multiplied.

Our Lady of Purgatory Church was founded in 1917 and some of the original parishioners had served as altar servers for St. Charbel when he was alive. The Parish has begun preparations to celebrate its 100th Anniversary in 2017.

For further information please contact Our Lady of Purgatory Church at 508-996-8934.

### WWII Exercise Tiger

The City of New Bedford Veterans' Advisory Board and the Fort Rodman-Fort Taber Historical Association will honor the 749 United States sailors and soldiers who lost their lives during the devastating April 28, 1944 attack on the United States military training operation, Exercise Tiger.

Exercise Tiger was a D-Day dry run which was ambushed by a German E-boat flotilla and resulted in America's costliest incident of World War II, second only to Pearl Harbor. The surprise attack sank two American vessels and severely damaged a third. This year marks the 71st Anniversary of Exercise Tiger.

A memorial ceremony is planned to honor the service members who perished in this incident at **1 p.m. on Sun., 4/24, at Ft. Rodman-Ft. Taber, 1000 c South Rodney French Blvd., New Bedford.**

The ceremony will include remarks by Mayor Jon Mitchell, guest speakers and honored guests, including Vincent Ricciardi, 92, of Dennis Port, MA, one of the last surviving local participants in Exercise Tiger.

All veterans are invited to attend and are asked to proudly display their

**HAPP NB: cont'd next page**

## HAPPENINGS: STILL OVERTOWN

service insignia. Refreshments will be available inside the Military Museum following the service.

For more information about the ceremony, please contact Bob Bromley, Chair of the Veterans' Advisory Board at (774) 357-9591 (rbromley@juno.com) or Peter Clark, Chairman of the Exercise Tiger Service at petewclark@hotmail.com.

### Wresting F-R

House of Bricks Pro Wrestling returns to New Bedford for a very special event on **Sat., 4/23**. HoB will be making its debut at the Moose Lodge 914, 119 Rockdale Ave, for HoB

WishAMania. **ALL TICKETS for this event are just \$10** with proceeds going to benefit the Make A Wish Foundation. Come on out to the Moose Lodge and help raise money for a wonderful cause and check out a great night of Professional Wrestling action, provided by House Of Bricks Pro Wrestling

Long list of wrestlers scheduled to appear. For more information visit [www.HoBWrestling.com](http://www.HoBWrestling.com)

### Free Exercise Class

Give yourself the gift of good health by getting outdoors and getting a workout at New Bedford

Whaling National Historical Park on National Park Rx Day, **Sun., 4/24, from 2-4 p.m.** Wayne Goulart, Certified Functional Trainer at the YMCA Southcoast, will show us how simple exercises can help our bodies move more efficiently, prevent injury, improve balance and flexibility, build strength, and improve one's overall quality of life.

In the park garden at New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, **33 William Street, downtown New Bedford. FREE**; participants are encouraged to wear comfortable, loose clothing and bring a mat, if possible.

## HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

### Free Workshops

Join the Buzzards Bay Coalition for a fascinating three-part series of free outdoor Friday evening programs called "**Art at The Sawmill.**"

Participants will be inspired to create poetry, music, and artwork by the sights and sounds at The Sawmill, a 19-acre park that the Coalition restored and opened to the public in 2015. Walk along the Acushnet River, explore a red maple swamp, and discover a herring run while you write, draw, and enjoy music.

The first program in the "Art at The Sawmill" series will take place **Fri., 4/22 from 5:30-7:30 p.m., 32 Mill Rd., Acushnet**. At this **poetry workshop**, Pat Gomes of Greater New Bedford Writer's Block will lead participants through a poetry writing exercise.

At the second program on **Fri., 4/29 from 5:30-6:30 p.m., live fiddle music** will be provided by the Mud Daubers, **with instruments available for children to play**.

On **Fri., 5/6 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the final program, capture The Sawmill's natural beauty on canvas with acrylic paints**. (Supplies are limited, so bring your own if you can!)

"Art at The Sawmill" is part of the Coalition's Bay Adventures series: programs designed for explorers of all ages to get outside and discover Buzzards Bay. To learn more about all our upcoming Bay Adventures, visit [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/events](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/events).

Registration is required for all Bay Adventures. To RSVP online or learn more about any of these programs,

visit [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/) events or contact the Buzzards Bay Coalition at (508) 999-6363 ext. 219.

### Author Event

Come to the **Carver Public Library, 2 Meadowbrook Way, (508-866-3415, [www.carverpl.org](http://www.carverpl.org)) on Wed., 4/27, at 1 p.m. to hear Edward Lodi** talk about his latest book, *Who When Where in King Philip's War*. He will give a brief overview of the war, including its causes, its beginnings in Plymouth Colony, its rapid spread throughout New England, and its long-lasting effects on both the English and the Indians. He will focus on various individuals who fought in the war, or were its victims, or who otherwise played significant or memorable roles.

Lodi, author or editor of more than a half dozen books pertaining to King Philip's War, spent years researching material for his book, which includes an alphabetical Who's Who of approximately 450 entries, with a brief biographical sketch for each; an almost day-by-day chronological listing that begins with events leading up to the war and continues until its tragic conclusion; and a listing of Indian Place Names. The book also features twenty-four illustrations.

He welcomes questions during and after his talk; a book signing follows.

### WHOI Exhibit Open

The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) Ocean Science Exhibit Center is now open for another fun and engaging summer

season. Learn about what's happening with the world's oceans and the innovative ocean science and engineering being done by WHOI researchers.

Visitors can sit inside a full-sized model of the Alvin personnel sphere, complete with control panels containing equipment and switches used in Alvin over the years. Also on display is the REMUS SharkCam that was used to track great white sharks off Chatham, Mass., and Guadalupe, Mexico, which bears the bite marks from an attack by sharks off Mexico. Other exhibits include a Titanic room, a life-size display of a hydrothermal vent community and incredible video footage from vents in the Pacific Ocean, and fun marine mammal sound recordings, to name just a few.

Center hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. until Memorial Day. After Memorial Day, the Center is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

In the summer, the Ocean Science Exhibit Center also offers special programs.

**Admission to the Ocean Science Exhibit Center and public events are FREE of charge but donations are always appreciated.**

The Center is also home to the WHOI Gift Shop, where visitors can purchase WHOI-branded gear as well as fun and interesting marine-related gifts and books.

For additional information please visit: [www.whoi.edu/main/ocean-science-exhibit-center](http://www.whoi.edu/main/ocean-science-exhibit-center)

## Recipe of the Week

### Campfire Banana Splits

6 large bananas, unpeeled, stems removed

2 cups semisweet chocolate chips

1 large package miniature marshmallows

Preheat the grill for high heat.

Spray 4 sheets of aluminum foil, large enough to wrap bananas, with cooking spray.

Slice the peel of the banana from stem to bottom, while slicing the banana inside lengthwise. The bananas can be cut into slices instead if you like (while still in the peel) for easier handling later.

Carefully open the banana just wide enough to place the chocolate chips and marshmallows inside the peel with the banana. Stuff with as much of the chocolate chips and marshmallows as desired.

Wrap the bananas with the aluminum foil and place on the grill or directly in the coals of a fire. Leave in long enough to melt the chips and the marshmallows, about 5 minutes.

Unwrap bananas, open the peels wide, and eat with a spoon.

From [www.allrecipes.com](http://www.allrecipes.com)

## Weeden Road fire damages home

### Press Release

Fairhaven Firefighters responded to a reported house fire at 68 Weeden Road on Saturday evening, 4/16, after receiving a 9-1-1 call from the residents of the home at 9:30 p.m.

Two engines and a ladder responded to the scene to find heavy smoke and flames coming from a window on the second floor. The fire was extinguished within 30 minutes but it caused substantial damage to the home with smoke and water damage.

The fire was accidentally started by one of the residents who was refilling a Zippo lighter which started

the blaze and they were unable to put out the flames before calling 9-1-1. The home is owned by Gary Rosa.

There were four occupants home at the time of the fire. No injuries to occupants or firefighters were reported.

The family was being assisted by the American Red Cross to set them up with temporary shelter. The estimated loss from the fire is \$50,000.

The Mattapoisett Fire Department assisted at the fire scene while the Acushnet Fire Department covered the Fairhaven Fire Station.

## Fairhaven resident nominated for EMMY

### Press Release

WLNE/ABC6's production of the *230th Bristol 4th of July Celebration* presented by Cardi's Furniture has been nominated for an EMMY® by the Boston/New England Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

The production, Directed by Executive Producer John Methia and Executive Producer Judy Shoemaker was nominated in the *Special Event Coverage* category and will compete against The Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular, Faneuil Hall Tree Lighting Spectacular, Home Base/Boston Red Sox Veterans Day Special, and the Portland Maine Tall Ships Parade of Sail for the coveted

EMMY® statue.

This year it was especially competitive with the Chapter receiving more than 1,000 entries from all six New England states for the first time in its history. The 39th Boston/New England EMMY® Awards Ceremony will take place June 4th at the Westin Copley Place in Boston.

The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) is the premier and most recognized non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of excellence in television. The Academy awards the EMMY® Award, the most prestigious, peer-judged honor in television for outstanding creative achievement.

### To share a recipe with your neighbors

Mail to 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719; fax to 508-991-5580; email to [neighbnews@comcast.net](mailto:neighbnews@comcast.net) (Email preferred)

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## SELECT: cont'd from page 4

under the Zoning Board of Appeals, "comprehensive permit," which is 40B affordable housing where everything is negotiable. He stated that the ZBA will be the authorizing board for the permits.

Selectboard chairperson Charles Murphy reiterated that he was one of the Selectboard members who originally voted against the project. He stated that whenever something like it comes before him he has to think about it as if he were going to be the purchaser, and would he do something like this at the facility.

He said there are too many "what ifs" on the project; and he too is wondering whether or not the SCG will be at Town Meeting to hear the concerns and answer questions.

Mr. Murphy said his question to the SCG was whether or not they would allow the seniors to vote at this facility in the future and they said a resounding, "NO." He was not too fond of that answer.

Mr. Espindola said that the SCG said they would be at the will of the board, if the board wanted them at Town Meeting, they would make efforts to get there. Regarding the voting for seniors held at the facility, Mr. Espindola said that the group was concerned for about security and that the gymnasium would no longer be there to have the room for voting booths.

Mr. Cormier spoke again regarding the NFIA lease agreement.

"With all due respect to Attorney Crotty," he said. "Where [are] the Selectmen now in giving the building to NFIA?"

He stated the NFIA is there without a signed rental agreement in place; and the building is in need of repair however with all the monies that the NFIA has spent over the years, they were not going to put any more money into it until they were sure there would be a signed rental agreement in place.

Mr. Crotty said that now that there is a proposal from SCG to do a survey the next step would be to sign a lease agreement with the NFIA.

"There is no intention to throw you out of there," he said.

"Do we have to wait until 2019," asked Mr. Cormier.

Resident Margaret Gray referred again to the proposed town parking.

"Let's be honest," she said. "They

are going to use that parking lot as overflow."

Another resident shouted out that it seems the selectboard was not listening to the people that live in that neighborhood.

Mr. Espindola stated this his role in this was to bring something to Town Meeting to vote on.

"It's not finalized with the Selectmen," he said. "It has to be voted for or against at Town Meeting, by the members. If Town Meeting does not vote in favor of it, it would not go through."

"How is the parking lot going to be monitored?" North Fairhaven resident Anne Gardella asked. "Come on, parking is a big issue in this town, I believe we laid down and let them walk all over us. I'm sorry, but I just had to vent. I think the senior housing is a good idea, but not how they are proposing it."

As it was nearing 10 p.m., Mr. Murphy noted that they had to end the meeting soon, as it was being taped for government access and the camera operator is under the age of 18, and "we have to abide by the Child Labor laws."

Mr. Murphy announced that there openings in all precincts for Town Meeting members, and encouraged people to go to the Town Clerk's office to learn how to become a TM member.

In the meeting's final words, newly elected Selectboard member Dan Freitas said that he is definitely going to request that the SCG be present at Town Meeting and that he has no problem with the NFIA staying in their building.

In other business, the Selectboard

heard Council on Aging Director Anne Silvia, who informed them of new groups and events starting at the senior center, including a pet loss support group, Soup for Healthy Souls, a Mother's Day tea party, the Fairhaven Rotary sponsored Senior Talent Show, and a bike group. She asked residents to

call her for additional information, at 508-979-4029.

The board also heard from some auto dealers/service stations and marina operators concerned about a proposed bylaw change.

Fairhaven Shipyard owner Kevin McLaughlin was added to the agenda at the last minute, so the board noted that it could allow discussion, but would not deliberate

Mr. McLaughlin told the board that he was there representing himself as a taxpayer and business owner, and that he was upset and concerned about a zoning bylaw change that the Planning Board has proposed for town meeting in May.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that he was never informed of the proposed change, and neither were his fellow business owners that will be affected. He said that many businesses met with the PB about their concerns, and although the PB said the changes would not affect the waterfront businesses, Mr. McLaughlin was still concerned with the wording, and that someday it may affect them.

"I don't understand why this burden is being placed on businesses in this Town, especially with so many businesses leaving Fairhaven," he said. "Why do we think this change in this by-law is necessary?"

Mr. Roth said the planning board would discuss it at its next meeting on April 26th.

Mr. Crotty did state that the article is on the warrant for the May 7th town meeting and at this time the Board of Selectman could not pull the article, but could recommend passing it over.

Mr. Murphy, stated he would place the issue on the agenda for May 2.



The town has been negotiating with the Stratford Capital Group to sell the former Oxford School building (ABOVE) and build senior housing on the site. *Neighb News file photo by Beth David.*

# 105 and counting

By Beth David  
Editor

She just grabbed the microphone and started singing. She's the family's go-to person for lyrics of all the old songs. And she's a voracious reader, mostly of so-called "cat mysteries," where your friendly feline solves the mystery, or at least helps.

Ethel (Harrison) Seifert was born in 1911 and, at 105, still enjoys a good book, a good song and a good laugh.

"Can you imagine," said her long-time friend Lillian Poirier. "Getting up and singing like that at a hundred-and-five."

But no one had to imagine it, because Ethel did just that at her 105th birthday party, held a few days early on Thursday, 4/14, at Whaler's Cove Assisted Living, where Ethel lives. The festivities included a little speech-making, a big cake, and entertainment by Matty B.

When Ethel Harrison was born, William Howard Taft was president, neither of the World Wars had happened, and the textile industry was booming in New Bedford.

When Ethel was a child, her father had a cottage built on Seaview Avenue in Fairhaven, where she spent many happy summers.

Her parents died when she was only 14, so Ethel and three of her siblings moved into the summer place with their oldest sister, Bertha.

"She was like a fish," said Ms. Seifert's daughter Diana Pacheco, adding that her mother would swim all the way from the bottom of Seaview Avenue to West Island.

She has lived in New Bedford, Fairhaven and East Freetown. One of five children, including her twin who



died as an infant, Ethel is the last survivor.

Mr. Seifert worked at various jobs, including the textile mills. Her first job was at J. I. Paulings, which made electrical supplies for small appliances. She was 14 years old and made \$6.17 a week. And she had to use an automatic screwdriver.

Then she worked at the Tabor Mill inspecting cloth. Eventually she went to the Beryle Hairdressing School in New Bedford. After working there for a few years, she and her sister-in-law teamed up to open their own shop called The Vogue in the North End of New Bedford.

Married twice (her first husband died suddenly in 1960), Ethel has one daughter, three stepchildren, 15 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

She looked a tad puzzled when asked her secret to living to 105.

"I don't have any," she said, just no

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Just try to be good  
to people, and be  
good to yourself  
[Ethel Seifert, 105]

---

drinking, lots of exercise, especially outdoors, and reading and staying active.

Well, maybe a little drinking, like a shot of Drambuie now and then.

"I'll tell you one thing," said Ms. Seifert. "I never got drunk."

In Freetown she was active with the Council on Aging and produced many shows, musicals and plays that she perform in and helped to write.

Now, she mostly reads mysteries and does low impact exercises on her own as often as she can.

"I like a good mystery," she said, but she also does crossword puzzles,



ABOVE: Ethel Seifert listens to the entertainment at her 105th birthday party celebration at Whaler's Cove Assisted Living on Thursday, 4/14. BELOW LEFT: Ethel sings a song at the party. Photos by Beth David. BELOW: Ethel as a young woman.

mostly from a book now.

She used to do the New York Times puzzle every day, but she no longer gets that paper.

Ms. Pacheco said that when she does give her mother the paper, the crossword has usually already been done, by Ms. Pacheco.

Ethel's advice is simple: "Be happy." She admits she had some sad times, who doesn't?

"You can't be smiling all the time. You have to be serious sometimes," said Ms. Seifert. "Just try to be good to people, and be good to yourself."

"I never thought I'd live to be this age," she added.

"She was a very, very hard worker," said Ms. Pacheco, noting that her mother worked 9 to 9 at her shop. "I grew up in the beauty parlor with her."

Ms. Seifert is also a big animal lover, feeding birds, deer, squirrels and other animals at her property in East Freetown.

Granddaughter Lisa Pacheco said she remembers the days at the summer cottage on Long Pond and a group of ladies who would get their hair done on Saturday mornings.

"It was more about the gossip than the hair," said Lisa, who remembers her grandmother hand-feeding the chickadees, and squirrels that would actually sit in her lap. "She always loved animals."

"She's always been a nature lover," said Lisa, crediting her love of the

**ETHEL: cont'd on page 18**

# Fairhaven Recreation Center

Open Mon-Thurs, 6 a.m.-8 p.m.;  
Fri., 6 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.-  
2 p.m.; Closed Sunday • 227  
Huttleston Ave, 508-993-9269  
<http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net>

## Kool Kids Summer Registration April 30th & May 7th 8am-2pm

Kool Kids is for children entering grades 1-age 12. Children will have fun each day by participating in a variety of sports, games and art activities. Each session will also include special themed events. Children are grouped by the Grade they will enter in the Fall. Don't miss out on this great summer program. Last year's program was full almost every week. Sign up early so we can take more participants than last year \$130. Per week for members, sibling discounts available, also non member rates. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Drop off 7:45 a.m. Pick up 3 p.m. \*Extended day will be available; AM only (7AM) - \$25, PM only (4PM) - \$25 Both \$40

## Youth Track & Field

This summer, Fairhaven Recreation will be continuing our youth track and field program for children ages 3 through grade 8. This program starts at the end of the school year and runs for 4 weeks. The program is Free with your play card or \$20. without, and will meet 2 days a week at Cushman Park from 6-8 p.m. Starts June 20. Program is open to everyone

## Counselor in Training Program

Teens ages 13-16 learn to become summer counselors. Included in this program is CPR, early education tips and job interview skills and much more. CIT's will plan and run a theme day for the summer Kool Kids program, run games, assist senior counselors with projects, etc. Field trips and a pizza lunch every Friday are included. Program runs for 2 week sessions. Cost per session \$200 for members \$230 for non Members

You must be 13 to attend this program no exceptions. Space is very limited. Register on 4/30 and 5/7, 8-2

# Fairhaven Senior Center

508-979-4029 • 229 Huttleston Ave  
Supportive Senior Day Care Program, 9-3 • 508-993-9455  
Respite Care: one day, half-a-day. Regular rates apply.

Visit our new website at:  
[http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA\\_COA/index](http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA_COA/index)

## Mall Trips

Apr. 27: Hyannis Mall, Xmas Tree Shop and Trader Joe's  
May 4: Twin Rivers  
May 11: Prov. Mall, and Whole Foods.

## Entertainment: 12:30-2:30 p.m.

4/21 Dancing with D&D • 4/27 Dancing w/D&D • 4/28 Ray J

## Special Activities

### Sewing Group

Come join the sewing Group. The group meets Monday afternoons April 25th, May 9th and 25th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. It also meets Thursdays April 28th May 12th and 26th from 5:45-7:45 p.m. at The Fairhaven Senior Center.

### Older Americans Month

Coastline & New Bedford Council On Aging invites you to a Healthy Aging Fair, Friday May 6, 2016 from 10-2:00 p.m. at 181 Hillman Street, New Bedford, Mass. The Southcoast Mobile Van will be on-site. Free lunch, refreshments and raffles throughout the day.

### Pet Loss Support Group

Have you recently lost your beloved pet or do you have a pet who you anticipate will be crossing the rainbow bridge soon? Sadness can be overwhelming. Don't grieve alone. Carol Snow Keyes LSW will be running a pet loss support group to help heal the hearts of those in need. At the Fairhaven COA every 2nd Thursday from 1-2 p.m. Please call to sign up, 508-979-4029. There is no cost for this group.

### Senior Talent Show

The Fairhaven Rotary Club and the Fairhaven Council on Aging will

be having a senior talent show on Sunday April 24, from 2-4:00 p.m. at the Fairhaven COA. We are recruiting seniors who would like to participate in this event by sharing their talent whether it be singing, dancing, comedy, magic or any other fun talent. Call the Fairhaven COA at 508-979-4029 and ask for Anne Silvia to sign up. This is a FREE EVENT for the public. Refreshments will be served and prizes will be awarded.

### Mothers Day Tea Party

On Sunday, May 8th, 11:30-1:00 p.m. at the Fairhaven Senior Center, we will be having a Mother's Day Tea Party for ladies who find themselves alone this mother's day. Whether you are a mother with children who live out of town or someone who has no children but celebrates Mother's Day because you cherished your own mother, you are invited to attend this special event. Light sandwiches and pastries will be served with a variety of teas. Please call the Fairhaven Senior Center to reserve your seat at 508-979-4029. This is a FREE EVENT For ALL.

### Volunteers needed

For the 3rd Annual Fairhaven bike path cleanup this Saturday, 4/23, from 9-12. Registration is behind the Recreation Center. Free donuts and coffee.

## Ongoing Programs

### Call 508-979-4029 for days and times

A/G Consumer Mediator; Bingo; Board Meeting/monthly; Bridge; Caregiver Support & Education Group; Chair Yoga, Computer Training; Fit Quest; Friends of Elderly/monthly meeting; Grocery Shopping; LGBT Supper Club; Line Dancing; Live Band; Medical Transportation; Nutrition Program/ meal served; Osteoporosis class; Outreach Coordinator; PACE Fuel Assistance; Pitch; Reassurance Program; Shopping; Singles Senior Supper Club; Supportive Senior Social Day Program; Tai Chi; Tap 'N' Time, Walking Clubs, Zumba.

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# Ashley's Peaches loses whole crop, starts GoFundMe page

Ashley's Peaches in Acushnet has started a GoFundMe page to save the farm. This winter's crazy weather has destroyed the entire crop.

This is the entire text from the GoFundMe page. In eight days, the effort raised \$18,605 of \$25,000 sought. Visit <https://www.gofundme.com/7eymbz4c> to donate.

## *From GoFundMe*

Hello. My name is Jeff Ventura, the oldest son of Diane and Ernest Ventura, owners of Ashley's Peaches. This small family farm, located on Route 105, on Main Street, in Acushnet, has been in my mom's family since 1850, and my parents have farmed this land for over 30 years.

Many of the residents of Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island have made buying peaches at my parents' small roadside stand a summer tradition.

For six to eight weeks, from late July to early September, my parents — both in their late 60s — wake before dawn, head into the orchards before the heat overwhelms them, and pick some of the most gorgeous peaches you've ever seen or eaten.

Some people call them "leaners," because you have to lean over before

you bite into the juicy, fresh perfect fruits of their labor, which is a labor of love both for farming, but also for all of you, their customers.

Year after year, farming has become increasingly hard on them, though.

It's hard labor, and contrary to what some believe, they have no employees. Some people, I think, when they see the lines of customers waiting to buy fruit every day when they open, assume my parents are making money hand over fist. But, like so many American farms, much of the surrounding land had to be sold off to keep things running (at a post-2008 discount), and my parents borrow from Peter to pay Paul.

After my mother had heart surgery last summer, I encouraged them to consider 55+ housing, but they said "no."

But why, I asked my mother?

And her answer was as simple as it was resolute: "We wouldn't do that to our customers. They love our fruit. [Their] kids love our fruit. We will do this as long as we financially can."

Their luck unfortunately has run out, however. For the first time in 100 years, the farm has completely lost the peach crop due to below zero Spring temperatures that destroyed all of the buds. If what my parents say

is true, hopefully you, their loyal customers, do in fact love them and their fruit.

I have seen you wait in line. Your families have grown up eating Ashley's Peaches and apples.

My mom and dad are prideful people, but they recognize how dire things have become and have agreed to let me do this. There may be no farm next year without your help.

I know my family treasures your patronage. For the cost of one basket of peaches — \$17 — or a donation of any amount, you can help ensure this proud New England tradition of summer peaches in Acushnet continues, next year and beyond.

*Sincerely, Jeff Ventura*

*On April 20, Mr. Ventura*

*posted this update:*

Response has really just been tremendous! We thank you all so much for your generosity!

It really has been an unbelievable blessing to know that the community values fresh produce and family farms and has rallied to help my mom and dad keep things going.

We are closing in on our goal! And it's all because of the kindness of all of you.

Thanks again.

s

## Scenes from the farm



TOP LEFT: Ernie and Diane Ventura packaging peaches at the roadside stand. LEFT: Ernie on the tractor. ABOVE: The trees in springtime. Photos from the "Save Ashley's Peaches from Closure" GoFundMe page

# FHS girls softball team improves to 2-0



Fairhaven High School's Lady Blue Devils improved to 2-0 on the season after mounting a late comeback to beat Dighton-Rehoboth 5-3 at Hastings Middle School on Wednesday, April 13. Trailing 3-0 early in the game, Fairhaven chipped away at the lead by scoring two runs in the fifth inning. Brianna Cruz started the rally with a leadoff triple. Cruz and Mackenzie Bourgault crossed the plate on Grace Pelletier's two strike single. The Lady Blue Devils tied it in the bottom of the sixth after Laela Pepin walked and stole second base as well as third base. With two outs and Pepin at third base, Bourgault singled her home. In the bottom of the seventh, Elyse Rebelo hit a game ending two run home run to send the Falcons home with a tough loss. ABOVE LEFT: Shaina Thomas picked up the 5-3 victory over Dighton Rehoboth. ABOVE RIGHT: Cailin Aubut holds on tight after stealing second base against Dighton Rehoboth. BELOW LEFT: Elyse Rebelo pops up to field the bunt for the Lady Blue Devils. BELOW RIGHT: Leah Major Makes the strong throw from shortstop. Photos by Ryan Feeney.





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**ETHEL:** cont'd from page 13 earth to her grandmother.

Ms. Seifert's grandson Glenn Pacheco said he remembers playing cards for pennies at the cottage, and thought he was quite the big deal for being allowed to "play cards for money" with the grownups.

"I loved the yard in Freetown," said Mr. Pacheco, with its 3+ acres. "It was a little adventureland."

"She's an inspiration," said Pat Teixeira. "Losing her parents young made her life a little more difficult. But with all the problems she had, she faced them."

Freetown friends Lillian Poirier and Charles Gray said that Ethel was known as the "cookie lady," for always having cookies at COA events.

A charter member of the COA, Ms. Seifert was instrumental in putting on shows and plays, and singing and dancing.

"She was fabulous," said Ms. Poirier. Evelyn Crawford is one of Ethel's Whaler's Cove neighbors.

"Ethel is just...I get choked up," said Ms. Crawford. "She's just so special."

Maureen Costa, Executive Director at Whaler's Cove, told Ethel it was an "honor" to share her life.

"It makes what I do a better part of my day," said Ms. Costa. "I love you."

"I'm not having any more birthdays," said Ethel. "I'm getting too old."

But then she stood up, with a little help and a few "It's tough to get old" comments, and thanked everyone for attending her party.

Ms. Seifert received citations from the New Bedford City Council, the Mayor, the Governor, and Massachusetts Senate; and a letter from Senator Elizabeth Warren that included a Lucille Ball quote: "The secret to staying young is to live honestly, eat slowly, and lie about your age." ●●●



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**PB: cont'd from page 3**  
 business,” said Mr. McLaughlin. “I’m really saddened by this situation. No one was given the opportunity to speak.”

He said he would have attended the public hearing if he had known about it.

“This town was built on this waterfront,” said Mr. McLaughlin. “New Bedford was the place where you dumped your catch, and then you came across the harbor to get your boat worked on.”

Mr. Hayward tried to explain that the shipyard was a “separate use” not affected by the changes.

But the crowd was not buying it.

Mr. Roth gave it a shot, too.

“[Section] 198-25 doesn’t apply to boatyards,” he said. “That’s what they’re trying to tell you.”

“It says boats and repair,” said Mr. McLaughlin.

The auto dealers and service stations also had their complaints, saying they should have been notified directly despite the legalities.

Rui DaSilva, who owns Artistic Auto Body, said that he also felt that he, personally, was being targeted because of the way some of the

changes are worded. He has the only auto body/paint shop in Fairhaven.

He said they are all small business owners who work long hours and do not have time to read the “local yokel” paper.

“I just want to be left alone. I’m sick of this,” said Mr. DaSilva. “I’ve got to build a superdome because I’ve got to hide my business? Is my property worth anything?”

He and Mr. Roth went back and forth, with clearly old issues underlying the exchange.

“I just hope this thing goes away,” said Mr. DaSilva. “We’re losing businesses left and right.”

Business owners also worried that even if their businesses are not affected now, that might change with a new board and a new “interpretation” of the bylaw. Then their businesses and properties would be worthless to sell.

Gerry Bettencourt also spoke against the changes.

“Everybody is afraid of not being politically correct,” said Mr. Bettencourt, and accused town officials of letting some people get away with more than others.

He specifically mentioned the

businesses on Bridge Street and Route 6 as getting away with violations,

“Why,” asked Mr. Bettencourt, “Because they’re foreigners? Why? Because the guy on Bridge Street is black?”

The board has put the item on its agenda for the 4/26 meeting. They will be able to vote and deliberate.

The article is already on the Town Meeting warrant and cannot be pulled. However, the PB can recommend passing over the article.



Rui DaSilva, owner of Artistic Auto Body in Fairhaven, makes a point at the Planning Board meeting on 4/12. He said small business owners work long hours and do not have time to read legal notices in “local yokel” papers, such as the *Neighb News*. Photo by Beth David.

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## Public Hearings/ Legal Notices

### Board of Appeals

The Fairhaven Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at 6:00 PM in the Town Hall to consider the following petition(s):

#### NEW HEARINGS:

1. Petitioner: David Dias, RE: 528 Bridge Street, Plot 38, Lot 17; Cert. #13442; 198-16 Special Permit required for an Animal Kennel within an RR District.

#### RESCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Petitioner: Ronald Oliveira, RE: 33 Charity Stevens Lane, Plot 40, Lot 15C; Book 11410 and Page 129; 198-28 G-1 Special Permit required for construction in the Nasketucket River Basin.

2. Petitioner: Ronald Oliveira, RE: 31 Charity Stevens Lane, Plot 40, Lot 15B; Book 11410 and Page 129; 198-28-G-1 Special Permit required for construction in the Nasketucket River Basin.

3. Petitioner: Ronald Oliveira, RE: 27 Charity Stevens Lane, Plot 40, Lot 15; Book 11410 and Page 129; 198-28-G-1-Special Permit required for construction in the Nasketucket River Basin.

Peter DeTerra, Chairman



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## Fairhaven Meetings Bell Comm./Oxford Comm.

Mon., 4/25, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.  
At Selectboard meetig

**Bikeway Committee**  
Thurs., 4/21, Town Hall 7 p.m.

**Board of Appeals**  
Tues., 5/3, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

**Board of Public Works**  
Mon., 4/25, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

**Conservation Commission**  
Mon., 4/25, Town Hall, 6:00 p.m.

**Finance Committee**  
Thurs., 4/21, Arsene St., 7 p.m.  
Thurs., 4/28, Arsene St., 7 p.m.

**Planning Board**  
Tues., 4/26, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**Selectboard**  
Mon., 5/2, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

## Acushnet Meetings

**Agricultural Commission**  
Thurs., 4/21, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**Board of Health**  
Fri., 4/22, Parting Ways, Noon

**Housing Authority**  
Wed., 4/27, Nate Gomes Ctr. 9 a.m.

**Selectboard**  
Mon., 4/25, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

## TIDE TABLE

US Army Corps of Engineers, Cape Cod Canal/Wing's Neck

	April 2016	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	21	0814	2032	0309	1336
Friday	22	0853	2110	0215	1405
Saturday	23	0932	2150	0244	1441
Sunday	24	1013	2230	0319	1520
Monday	25	1054	2311	0356	1600
Tuesday	26	1138	2357	0433	1639
Wednesday	27	----	1228	0512	1721
Thursday	28	0050	1324	0557	1812
Friday	29	0146	1418	0656	1919

\*= Predicted minus tides from -0.1 ft. to -1.0 ft.  
\*\*Predicted minus tides from -1.1 ft to -2.0 ft or more

I had reasoned this out  
in my mind, there was one  
of two things I had a right  
to, liberty or death; if  
I could not have one,  
I would have the other.

Harriet Tubman

# Welcome home, Dave!

By Beth David  
Editor

David Cardin, 61, the Fairhaven man whose truck flipped into the water on Goulart Memorial Drive in Fairhaven in February, went home last week after stints at Tufts Medical Center in Boston and Vibra Rehabilitation in Springfield.

Mr. Cardin still has a long way to go, but being home has already helped him a lot. He was relaxing, watching TV and enjoying a cup of coffee with friends last Friday.

Mr. Cardin's pickup truck landed roof down in the water off Goulart Memorial Drive on Wednesday, 2/17. Doctors believe he had some sort of medical episode that caused the accident.

Police pulled him out of the water and he was revived by paramedics

and transported to St. Luke's Hospital in New Bedford. A few days later, he went to Tufts.

The family has created a GoFundMe page to help pay for expenses, available at <https://www.gofundme.com/peq32wek>.

Mr. Cardin, an independent carpenter and stevedore, will probably not be able to work for a long time.

He was under water for an undetermined amount of time before police rescued him from the vehicle. He had to be revived by paramedics.

The family wants to thank all those who have donated and who helped make the fundraiser a success.



David Cardin relaxes at his home on West Island on Friday, 4/15, after spending time in the hospital and in rehab recovering from injuries he received when his pickup truck flipped over into the water off Goulart Memorial Drive in Fairhaven in February. Doctors said that Mr. Cardin suffered from a medical episode that caused the accident. Photo by Beth David.

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