



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 12, Issue 2 • January 12, 2017

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

Region gets socked with snow



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Geese fly over the frozen and snow-covered marsh on Goulart Memorial Drive in Fairhaven on Sunday, 1/8, after the second of two storms last week. The Saturday storm dumped 14.5" in Fairhaven. Temperatures reaching the mid 40s on Tuesday Wednesday melted most of the snow by Wednesday night. See pages 6 & 7 for more snow pictures. Photo by Beth David.

First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

Okay, now that's how I like a snowstorm: Big and fast and gone in a few days.

We got socked this weekend with two storms back to back (see pages 6 & 7). The second one dropped 14+ inches on us. Then it got really cold and it seemed like winter was here to stay. Then, it all melted. Cool, huh?

I like that. I can see my (uncut) grass again (and all those leaves I never raked).

Maybe I'll even get that wood stacked before it's time to use the boat!

Only 67 more days till spring!

Meanwhile, you can still get outside and enjoy the great outdoors. See page 9 for a couple of fun outside things to do this week and next.

And...the sports leagues are starting to register kids for the spring and summer sports. So, you can at least THINK spring.

New Bedford is also holding some events in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr., this weekend. See page 8 for that. The events are free and open to the public.

In other news...

The Selectboard met with the Stratford Group this week (see page 3) to talk about the CPC money. Not...even...going...to...go...there. Maybe next week.

The other school building that is hanging around our necks is also in this issue. See page 12 for a story about the preliminary report on the Rogers School.

The consultants are trying to figure out how the building can be used. Residents have made it very clear that they want the town to retain ownership. That message seems to have gotten through.

The real issue, in my humble opinion, is getting a realistic estimate on what it will cost. I, personally, am pretty tired of these wild numbers and exaggerations about how much it costs to do anything.

The upshot is, if town residents really want it, they can make it happen.

We have other meeting coverage this week. See page 13 for Fairhaven BPW and page 16 for Acushnet Selectboard.

I'd like to thank everyone who supported the *Neighb News* with donations. For those of you who did not, please consider just \$20 to help keep us going. Our advertisers are great, and important. We couldn't do it without them, but it's just not quite enough. If each of our faithful readers gave just \$20 a year, we'd be all set.

If you really don't have it, or have some sort of aversion to it, I understand, so please just tell our advertisers that you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*. And if you go to a place that does not advertise with us, ask them why and tell them how much you love the little paper with a big voice.

Until next week then...see ya,



Beth David, Publisher

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Editor: Beth David

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Selectboard hears from Stratford on CPC request

By Beth David
Editor

At its meeting on January 9, the Fairhaven Selectboard heard from Richard Hayden of the Stratford Capital Group (SCG) about its request for \$325,000 in Community Preservation funds for its proposed housing development at the former Oxford School site.

Selectboard members had previously expressed dismay at the request, saying they had no idea the project developers would be asking for CPC funds. The \$325,000 is the same amount the company has offered to pay for the building.

At the meeting, Mr. Hayden told the board that the community match shows the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) that there is community support for the project, which will rely heavily on grants and tax credits from both state and federal sources.

He told the board that the \$325,000 would be the maximum amount he would ask for.

"This is the one and only request," he said.

Then he acknowledged that the town might not be able to grant the whole amount in one year, and that SCG would be able to take the money over two or three consecutive years.

When it became clear that the Community Preservation Committee was not allowed to allocate future funds, Mr. Hayden had to amend his promise to say that the \$325,000 would be the maximum amount the company would request, but that they would, indeed, make multiple requests to receive that amount if necessary.

The town generally has about \$400,000 in CPC funds each year, including the state's match. Ten percent of that money must be set aside for each of three categories (historic preservation, open space & recreation, and affordable housing). This means that the town simply does not have \$325,000 to give to one project in one year, even if inclined to do so. Town Meeting must approve CPC requests.

As for the amount being the same as the purchase prices, Mr. Hayden said that the figure was arrived at by

figuring out available funding sources, the cost of the project, and figuring out what they were left with.

"It's a total coincidence," he said Mr. Hayden.

He said the money is not "earmarked for a specific use," but if the town insisted on the money being specified for, say, construction costs, he could do that.

Mr. Hayden said that not mentioning the possibility of applying for CPC funds during all the negotiations on the sale of the building was an "oversight."

"We regret that now," he said. "We won't do it again."

"I was deeply disappointed. We didn't know anything about this," said Selectboard member Bob Espindola, who was involved in the negotiations from the start.

"I understand," said Mr. Hayden.

Mr. Espindola asked Mr. Hayden to spell out the "gap" that the money is supposed to fill.

Mr. Hayden said they have "maxed out" all the funding sources and still fall short. DHCD also has become

SELECT: cont'd on next page



St. Anne Credit Union

NOTICE:

105th Annual Meeting of
the Members of St. Anne Credit Union
will be held at 93 Union St.,
New Bedford, MA, on
Thursday January 19, 2017 at 7 PM.
The order of business will include
Annual Reports and
the election of directors.
All members are invited to attend.



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SELECT: cont'd from previous page

stricter on requiring the local match.

In its materials on applying for low income housing funds, the DHCD states that it requires a match of local funds from communities that have Community Preservation funds or other funds, such as the HOME Program.

Economic Development Director Bill Roth explained that Fairhaven is not eligible to be part of the HOME program. Mr. Hayden verified that his company had originally planned to seek those funds, not realizing that Fairhaven does not participate in the program.

Reiterating that he was always for the project, Selectboard member Daniel Freitas said he wanted to make sure that SCG was not going to be asking for additional funds "down the road."

He said they sold the building so it would not cost the town money, not so the town would then pay back the purchase price.

"We sold the building to you," said Mr. Freitas. "It doesn't look good."

Resident Margaret Gray spoke against using the CPC funds for the project. She said there was no promise that the housing would be for Fairhaven residents, that there was not a need for more senior housing in Fairhaven and that \$325,000 is "nothing for a project this size," although it is significant for the town.

"If we're [going to] spend this money, it should be for the town," said Ms. Gray.

Selectboard Chairperson Charles Murphy made Mr. Hayden spell out exactly what he meant by no more requests.

"This surprised all of us, so," said Mr. Murphy, the town needs to know

if next year they will be coming back for more.

Mr. Hayden insisted that the \$325,000 figure would be the maximum, but they will make multiple requests to reach that number if necessary.

The Community Preservation Committee will vote on the allocation of the funds. The Selectboard will also make a recommendation to Town Meeting. Ultimately, Town Meeting members will make the final decision.

In another matter, the board set in writing some rules and regulations for use of the town hall auditorium for private events.

The new policy sets rates and requirements, such as proof of insurance and the amount and kinds of insurance necessary for certain kinds of events.

In other business, the board approved a draft of a letter to be sent by Town Administrator Mark Rees to Sears Holding Corporation in response to the news that the Fairhaven Kmart will close this year.

The letter asks for an opportunity to meet with company representatives to "discuss ways we could work with you to keep Kmart in Fairhaven."

The letter cites the improving economy in the region, excellent location of the store near highways and high traffic routes, and the availability of state and local grants and tax incentives that could make the location more economically viable.

"Kmart is an integral and vital member of the Fairhaven business community and we want to do whatever we can to keep your presence in Fairhaven," reads the letter. "Please give us the opportunity to convince you that staying in

Fairhaven is the right thing to do for your company."

The store is slated to close at the end of March and has already held a liquidation sale.

The board also announced a vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals, created when Keith Silvia resigned so he could be appointed to replace Kathy Sturtevant on the Board of Public Works.

Residents interested in the ZBA appointment should send letters of interest to Anne O'Brien at the Selectboard office, aobrien@fairhaven-ma.gov by 4 p.m. on January 30.

Nick Sylvia appeared in front of the board asking to be appointed to the Conservation Commission. Mr. Sylvia had sent a letter of interest several weeks ago.

He said he wanted to contribute to the community and the ConCom seemed like a "fun way to solve problems."

He was appointed unanimously to the ConCom.

The board approved April 30 for the sixth annual West Island 5K.

In a letter to the board, Race Director Lyle Drew said that in the last five years the race has raised \$57,000 for the Fairhaven High School Cross Country program, Crispin Demers Memorial Scholarship, and Strive and Achieve Corporation.

In 2015, the race awarded six graduating seniors with \$500 scholarships, \$1,000 to the West Island Improvement Association scholarship fund, and \$1,300 to the Hastings Middle School Field Day.

"Our ability to provide this funding was due to the generous support of local businesses, private donations, and our race participants," wrote Mr. Drew.

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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Book Group

The Millicent Library book discussion group meet on **Thurs., 1/19, at 10 a.m.**, to discuss *438 Days at Sea, An Extraordinary True Story of Survival at Sea*, by Jonathan Franklin, at the **Millicent Library, 45 Center St., Fairhaven**. Accessible.

The author spent a year interviewing the survivor of a violent storm off of the coast of Mexico, a fisherman, Alvarenga, who devised ways to catch fish, turtles, birds and water. He repaired his tattered clothing with a fish fin fashioned into a needle, and survived longer at sea in a small boat than anyone previously recorded.

This book is available to borrow through SAILS, the inter-library site. Also check the Millicent Library website for further details. The discussion is free, open to the public, and lasts about an hour. For questions or directions, please call Norma Markey at 508-993-3745.

OLH Job Fair

New Year, New Career

Our Lady's Haven will hold a Job Fair for nurses & CNAs on **Thurs., 1/19, from 12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m.** at **OLH, 71 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719 508-999-4561**

Competitive Wages & Benefits, Shift & Weekend Differentials, Monthly Employee Recognition Events, Referral Bonuses, Perfect Attendance Raffles

Free Attendance Raffles for all who join us. If you unable to attend and interested in joining our team, please contact Bethany Camara, Human Resources

TM Deadlines

Deadline for articles for the Fairhaven Town Meeting in May is **Jan. 12 at 4 p.m. at the Selectboard office**. Contact the town clerk or the Selectboard's office for details on how to get an article on the warrant.

Hazard Mitigation

The Town of Fairhaven is officially launching the process to develop a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. This new plan is considered essential to the Town's efforts to improve emergency preparedness and identify ways to become less vulnerable to disasters caused by natural hazards.

The Town's first Public Meeting will be on **Thurs., 1/12, at 6:30 at Town Hall, 40 Center St., Fairhaven, MA**.

Nomination papers

Nomination papers are available for candidates interested in running for office in Fairhaven. The annual town election will be held on Monday, April 3, 2017. The last day for requesting nomination papers is Thurs., 2/9, at 5 p.m. The last day for Town Meeting incumbents to file written requests for re-election is Mon., 2/6, at 5 p.m. The last day to file all nomination papers with the Town Clerk's Office is Mon., 2/13, at 5 p.m.

The last day for residents to register to vote in the town election is Tues., 3/14.

Papers for town-wide office require 50 certified signatures. Papers for Town Meeting Members require 10 certified signatures.

You may register to vote any day from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM – Monday through Friday Mail-in Voter Registration Forms are available at the Town Clerk's Office, 40 Center St., Fairhaven, 508-979-4023, Ext. 3.

Urgent Care has online check-in

Southcoast Health announced today that patients who seek services at its Urgent Care Centers in Wareham and Fairhaven can now wait in the comfort of their own home until it's their turn to be seen with its new online check-in system. Visitors to www.southcoast.org/urgentcare can find the closest center, its current wait time and click "Save My Spot" to get in line electronically.

"More and more each day, patients are approaching their healthcare needs from a consumer perspective. They want timely and convenient access to care that fits their unique needs. At Southcoast Health, we are rapidly evolving to meet those needs — from walk-in urgent care 7 days a week and this online check-in tool, our award-winning, informative and interactive website, Southcoast.org, and online scheduling coming to select primary care offices in early 2017," said Keith A. Hovan, President & CEO of Southcoast Health. "We will continue to deliver the same high quality healthcare to this region, but

in a refreshingly unique approach to patient and consumer experience."

Patients will have the ability to choose the next available appointment or a later time that may be more convenient for them. They will also be able to indicate how many minutes prior to their designated arrival time they want to be notified and will receive their choice of a text message or email letting them know when it's time to come in. Upon arrival, patients will check in at the registration kiosk to let the Urgent Care staff know they are there. If a patient misses their scheduled arrival time they will receive a text alert letting them know that they have been rescheduled for 15 minutes later. If the clinic is experiencing a delay, the patient may also receive a text letting them know that their expected arrival time is being pushed back a certain number of minutes.

The system works for same day appointments only. There is also a drop down of potential emergency conditions which may suggest a redirect to call 911 or go to the nearest hospital's emergency department.

Millicent's Birthday

Millicent's Birthday Party, Sat., **1/28, from 11 a.m.–1 p.m.**, **Millicent Library auditorium, 45 Center St., Fairhaven (use Walnut St. entrance)**.

Celebrate Millicent Rogers' birthday with cake, bookmarks, selfies with Millicent, and other activities. Sponsored by Friends of the Millicent Library. Accessible. Free. For more information, email friendsofmillicentlibrary@gmail.com or call 508-992-5342.

SAVE THE DATE!

Fairhaven Historical Society presents: **Henry H. Rogers Lecture, Fri., 2/10, 7 p.m., Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center St., Fairhaven**

Guest speaker Christopher Richard will talk about the life and times of Fairhaven's benefactor Henry H. Rogers, a town native who struck it rich in the petroleum industry and became a top executive of Standard Oil. Sponsored by the Fairhaven Historical Society, Inc. Accessible. Donation requested. For more information, call Ricky Goytizolo at 508-991-5675.

Fairhaven gets 14.5", warming trend will be here for a bit



Fairhaven residents Aubrie and Brett Pomfret took advantage of 14.5" of snow on West Island during the last snowstorm with this giant sledding hill in their yard. They used water, food coloring, and an old spray bottle to create the message.

*Photo courtesy of
Scot Pomfret.*

The region got hit with two storms last weekend. Thursday night, 1/5, into Friday, the area got hit with a smaller storm, 4–6 inches, in Fairhaven (depending on the part of town) and about 5 inches in Acushnet. The biggest winner on the 6th was New Bedford with 5.7".

The second storm started on Saturday morning and continued throughout the day with blizzard conditions in some areas. Fairhaven got socked with 14.5", but Wareham saw more than 18" and Acushnet saw 16.5". New Bedford got 15.5" in the second storm. Temperatures that reached into the mid-40s on Tuesday night and all day Wednesday melted most of the snow by Wednesday afternoon.

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Not pictured:

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(\$700/month)

1/2 page vertical or horizontal
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4+ weeks: **\$100.00 each week**
(\$400/month)

1/6 page vertical (only)
One week run: \$70.00
4+ weeks: **\$50.00 each week**
(\$200/month)

1/3 page vertical (only)
One week run: \$125.00
4+ weeks: **\$115.00 each week**
(\$460/month)

2/3 page, Special Obituary rate
One week run: \$200.00

At Little Peoples College, snow is time for fun



Fun, friends and fresh fallen snow! Little People's College on Bridge Street in Fairhaven took advantage of the first snow of the new year on Friday, 1/6. Laughter and giggles filled the neighborhood as children ran around, made snow angels, and otherwise just romped in the white stuff.

Photos submitted.



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-noon & 12:30-4:30

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By Beth David

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HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Fishing Photos Scanning Day

The New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center will host **Scanning Day on Sat., 1/14 from 10:00 a.m. to noon.** Scanning Day is an opportunity for the public to share and preserve a digital image of their fishing industry photographs, documents and other records for future generations.

The Center invites the public to bring their fishing industry related photographs, both historic and contemporary, as well as documents such as settlement sheets, union books, or news clippings to be scanned. Staff will scan the materials and record any information the owner shares about each piece. The owner will leave with their originals along with a digital copy of the scans on a flash drive. The Center is working to create a digital archive of these materials which will be made available to researchers and the public. These documents will help us to tell the story of the fishing industry. Scanning Day will take place the second **Saturday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to noon.** This event is free and open to the public.

For more information please contact the Fishing Heritage Center at: info@fishingheritagecenter.org or call (508) 993-8894.

Baseball Reg.

The Whaling City Youth Baseball League Instructional League and T-Ball registration will take place on **Fri., 1/20, 6-8 p.m., and Sat., 1/21 from 9 a.m.-noon.** at the Whaling City clubhouse on Brooklawn Street in New Bedford. There will also be registration the following week at the same times. There is a **\$90 fee for T-Ball, and a \$100 fee for Instructional League.** Please note that the fee is completely recouped through the sale of raffle tickets. Children from New Bedford, Fairhaven, Acushnet, Dartmouth, Freetown, Westport, Mattapoisett and Rochester are eligible to play at The Whale. At registration please bring 2 forms of proof of residency along with your child's birth certificate. Children who are 4 to 6 years old as of May 1 are eligible for T-ball, those ages 7 to 10 are eligible for Instructional League.

MLK Day Events

Birthday Celebration

The New Bedford Mayor's Youth Council presents a Martin Luther King Day **Birthday Celebration at Global Learning Charter Public School, 190 Ashley Blvd, on Sun. 1/15 from 1-4 p.m. Doors will open 12:45 p.m. for the public.**

This free event for local youth entitled "Empowerment through Expression" will offer an afternoon of inspiration, poetry and music, refreshments, community service projects and a raffle. Youth are encouraged to bring a nonperishable food item to donate at the door.

Day of Remembrance Celeb

Mayor Jon Mitchell is pleased to join with the Greater New Bedford Area Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee in welcoming the public to attend the **"Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Remembrance Celebration" on Sun., 1/15, from 4:00-5:30 P.M. at the Pilgrim United Church of Christ at 635 Purchase Street in New Bedford.**

Dr. King was an integral part of the Civil Rights Movement which laid the foundation for the theory and practice of inclusion and diversity in American society and around the world. Though he was assassinated in 1968, Dr. King's dream lives on, touching the hearts and minds of people throughout the world.

The theme for New Bedford's 2017 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Remembrance Celebration is "# MLK Then and Now — Words for a new generation" and was selected by the committee as it continues to cultivate the millennial generation in civic engagement and civil rights.

The 2017 keynote speaker will be Toyan (TJ) Harper. He is the Mass. Conference's new Associate for Racial Justice Ministries. Harper operated a racial justice summer program for teenagers in Chicago and the San Francisco Bay Area that assisted hundreds of area youth; and prior to that worked with the Strive Together Foundation, a network dedicated to improving educational outcomes for children.

Other program highlights include musical selections by the Deliverance Gospel Choir along with a community choir and student vocalists from New

Bedford Public Schools. The program will also include the announcement of the 2017 Annual Essay Contest winners — a special feature of the annual event for the last 10 years. Dori Rubbicco will provide a special vocal performance to complete the program.

All are encouraged to attend. For more information contact Marci Pin-Christian or the Department of Community Services at 508-979-1464.

Never the Sinner

On January 12 Your Theatre, Inc. will open the 3rd show of their 70th consecutive season with an eight show run of *Never The Sinner* by John Logan. With a cast of eight experienced South Coast actors, the play is directed by Edward J. Maguire of Fairhaven.

Set in 1924 Chicago and dubbed "The Crime of The Century," the play tells of two handsome and wealthy college students, Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb, accused of murdering 14 year old Bobby Franks. The country demands to know if these two young men could be capable of committing such an act. This thrilling 95 minute courtroom drama by John Logan ("The Last Ship" and Tony Award for "Red" on Broadway) explores a complex and twisted relationship between two young men in search of passion, intellect, and the perfect crime.

Your Theatre, Inc. is grateful to our 70th Season Sponsor, Bank 5, for their fifth year of strong support for the arts and to Hawthorne Medical for sponsorship of this production.

Never the Sinner runs Thurs. through Sat. Jan. 12, 13, 14 and 19, 20, 21 at 8 p.m. with 2:30 p.m. matinees on Sun., 1/15 & 22 Performances are held at the wheelchair accessible Your Theatre, Inc. Playhouse, 136 Rivet St. (corner of County St.), New Bedford, at St. Martin's Episcopal Church complex. Free off-street parking entrance is on County Street.

Tickets are \$15 general admission, \$12 for season subscribers, and \$13 for senior citizens, students, and military personnel. For further information call Your Theatre, Inc. at 508-993-0772, or send an email to info@yourtheatre.org. The theatre's web site is www.yourtheatre.org

HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

Nomination papers avail. in Acushnet

Nomination papers are available for those wishing to run for office in Acushnet.

The last day to take out nomination papers is Thurs., 2/9, by 5 p.m. Candidates must get a minimum of 31 signatures from registered voters. The last day to submit nomination papers to the Board of Registrars for certification of signatures is Mon., 2/13, by 5 p.m.

The town election will be held on Monday, April 3. The last day to register as a voter is Tues., 3/14, by 8 p.m.

For more information on how to run for office or register to vote, contact the town clerk's office at 508-998-0215.

Town Moderator Robert Francis has announced that he will not run for re-election this year.

Candidates up for re-election include Pamela Labonte, Town Clerk; Garry Rawcliffe, Selectboard; Assessor Marc Cenerizio; Robert Medeiros, Board of Health; David M. DeTerra and Jody Tavares, School Committee; Leo Rousseau, Commissioner of Trust Funds; Marc Cenerizio, Planning Commissioner, and one vacancy on the Planning Board; Joanne Cioper, Cemetery Board; Henry Preston, Library Trustees; Robert St. Jean, Park Commission; Lawrence Mulvey, Housing Authority, and a vacant seat; and Tree Warden Raymond Barlow.

Winter Walk Series

Discover how animals prepare for winter on a guided family walk during "Saturday at The Sawmill" (32 Mill Rd., Acushnet) with the Buzzards Bay Coalition on Sat., 1/14 at 11 a.m.

During the walk, kids and families will answer questions and learn fun facts about the winter wildlife that lives along the Acushnet River. Families with children of all ages are welcome on this free walk. Please dress warmly and be prepared to walk on a trail for approximately a half-mile.

During Saturdays at The Sawmill, held once a month, the Hawes Family Learning Center will be open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

During this time, all visitors to The Sawmill can explore the learning center and speak with Coalition educators about the park and its restoration.

To learn more and register for the family program, visit savebuzzardsbay.org/events/saturday-at-the-sawmill-preparing-for-winter-jan-14-2017 or contact the Buzzards Bay Coalition at (508) 999-6363 ext. 219.

This program is part of Discover Buzzards Bay, a resource to find unique and exciting ways to explore the outdoors, get some exercise and connect with nature. Use Discover Buzzards Bay to get outside and discover woods, wetlands and waterways from Fall River to Falmouth. To learn more, visit savebuzzardsbay.org/discover. Discover Buzzards Bay is sponsored by Southcoast Health. This program is also supported in part by a grant from the New Bedford Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

The Buzzards Bay Coalition is a membership-supported nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection, restoration, and sustainable use and enjoyment of Buzzards Bay and its watershed. Supported by more than 8,000 members, the Coalition works to improve the health of the Bay ecosystem for all through education, conservation, research and advocacy. Learn more at savebuzzardsbay.org.

Mariner Soccer Mtg

The Mariner Youth Soccer Association would like to announce that its **Annual General Meeting will be held on January 17th at 7 pm in the Parent Conference Center at Old Rochester Regional High School**. All members of the Association are welcome to attend.

For more information, contact marinersoccer@gmail.com.

Matt. Woman's Club

Come join the Mattapoisett Woman's Club on **Thurs., 1/19, at Reynard Hall of the Mattapoisett Congregational Church, 27 Church Street, Mattapoisett**. We gather at 11:30 a.m. to socialize with members, followed by a luncheon at noon.

Mr. Ross Moran, Trustees of the Reservation, is our guest speaker and will talk about the Allen C. Haskell Public Gardens in New Bedford, which are located in the heart of New Bedford and consists of six acres of landscaped gardens, historic buildings, and greenhouses. Mr. Moran's slideshow will give us a tour through the gardens and the property. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Gardner at 774-377-5810.

SAVE THE DATE:

Women's March Boston

The Boston Women's March for America will convene on Saturday, 11 a.m., January 21, 2017. Marchers will gather on the Boston Common's "Carty Parade Ground" on corner of Beacon and Charles Streets.

On this day after the Inauguration, people from Boston to Anchorage will march for American ideals in the spirit of democracy. Women are leading the march, and men and children are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Food trucks, portable lavatories and support for marchers with disabilities will be available. There will be no warming areas.

Visit <http://bostonwomensmarchforamerica.org> for schedule and transportation information.

At Mattapoisett Lib.

The following events are being held at the Mattapoisett Free Public Library, 7 Barstow St., 508-758-4171. Accessible.

Film and Book Discussion

Join other film enthusiasts for a screening of *The English Patient* on Sun., 1/15 at 1:30 p.m. The group will be discussing the film and the book, with suggested questions and free refreshments. Sign up to attend and pick up the discussion questions by emailing spizzolo@sailsinc.org, or by calling the library.

Tech Help

Got a new tablet, smart phone or e-reader as a gift? Work with librarian Elizabeth Sherry to learn how to use it efficiently. Download free books from the library to enjoy any time, any place. For an appointment, call 508-758-4171.

Recipe of the Week

Sour Cream Bars

6 tbs butter, softened
1 cup sugar
2 eggs
1 1/3 cups flour
1 1/2 tsps baking powder
1 tsp baking soda
1 tsp cinnamon
1 cup sour cream
6 oz. chocolate morsels
1 cup chopped walnuts

Butter a 9x13 inch pan, set aside.

In a medium bowl mix together butter, sugar, eggs, flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon and sour cream until well blended. Mix in morsels and nuts.

Pour into prepared pan and bake in a 350° oven for 35 minutes.

Remove from oven, cool completely, then cut into bars.

Snow provokes responses that reach right back to childhood.

Andy Goldsworthy

To share a recipe with your neighbors

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From our readers

instead of just capitulating for fear they might walk away.

It was mentioned how we have the building sitting this long and basically keep the project going and maybe give 100k each year... but where are we at 3 or 4 years further down the road and deeply embedded with Stratford when they could come back and say... oops... funding is lower than thought and we need more money ... what shall we say then... with a building now sitting 6 or 7 years?

Doug Brady, Fairhaven

Mr. Brady's opinion is his, and not those of any committee(s) he serves on.

State: Don't crowd the plow

Press Release

The Mass. Department of Transportation (MassDOT) has announced its "Don't Crowd the Plow" campaign highlighting the serious need for drivers to exercise caution and give extra space to snow fighting equipment. In the first four snow events this year alone, eight snowplows were struck by other vehicles. A fully loaded snowplow weighs roughly 20 times more than the average passenger vehicle, which can lead to a dangerous situation for drivers that are following too closely behind.

MassDOT will be displaying informational messages as part of its "Don't Crowd the Plow" campaign on 80 of its VMS messaging boards along highways throughout the state.

Drivers are also encouraged to lower their speeds during inclement weather and use the appropriate resources to make an informed decision regarding their travel plans. MassDOT strongly urges drivers to always wear their seat belts, minimize distractions, turn off or put away cellphones and devote their full attention to the road.

For updates on road and traffic conditions drivers can:

- Utilize Mass DOT's Real-Time Traffic

("Go-Time") displays at: www.massdot.state.ma.us/highway/TrafficTravelResources/TrafficInformationMap.aspx

- Dial 511 to hear real-time conditions on I-90 and other roads.
- Visit www.mass511.com, which provides real-time traffic and incident advisory information, and allows users to subscribe to text and email alerts for traffic conditions.
- Follow MassDOT on Twitter @MassDOT to receive regular updates on road and traffic conditions and MassDOT's efforts to treat major highways.

Other winter driving tips include:

- Clear snow and ice from all windows and lights, even the hood and roof, before driving.
- Leave plenty of room for stopping.
- Remember the posted speed limits are for dry pavement.
- Use brakes carefully. Brake early. Brake correctly. It takes more time and distance to stop in adverse conditions.
- Bridge decks freeze first. Due to the difference in the exposure to air, the surface condition can be worse on a bridge.
- Exit ramps are an even greater challenge during the winter since they may have received less anti-icing material than the main line.
- Most importantly please remember to slow down. Also, seat belts should be worn at all times: It's the law.

For more information visit: <http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/highway/departments/snowice/safewinterdrivingtips.aspx>

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Rogers School consultants present preliminary report

By Beth David
Editor

The consultants working with the town to figure out what to do with the Rogers School building presented a preliminary report to about 100 people in the auditorium of the town hall on January 5.

Brett Pelletier from Kirk & Company, and Albert Rex of MacRostie Historical Advisors presented their report after meeting with town residents in November and gathering information about the area and the town, including demographic information, economic outlook information, written comments from residents and a variety of other information.

Although pressed by residents to come up with some hard numbers, the two consultants said they were not at that stage yet. They would not estimate how much money would be required to rehabilitate the building for various uses.

The pair reiterated that the building is sound, but has some "water penetration."

"But nothing major," said Mr. Pelletier.

"It's structurally sound, but it certainly isn't move-in ready," he said.

The pair said that their research included median age in the area (Fairhaven is slightly older at 47 vs. 40 in the region vs. 36 in the state), growth rate, school enrollment projections and stability of the housing market.

The point, they said, was to try and figure out what kind of facility would

be useful in the building, such as housing, or commercial, educational, or medical offices; all of which was mentioned by the public, either pro or con.

The consultants were careful not to make any conclusions at the meeting, but simply reported their findings.

They also explained the various funding sources that could be used to renovate the building and bring it up to code. Although there is some overlap, funding sources would be different for the town as for a private non-profit or a for-profit business.

From all of that information, they would try to come up with the best chance for funding the rehab of the building, said Mr. Rex.

"Is it the use the community wants to see? Not necessarily," he said.

One thing was made clear to the consultants, though, said Mr. Rex, the public has shown a very strong preference for keeping the building owned by the town.

"We clearly understand that municipal use seems to be what most people want," said Mr. Rex.

He cautioned, though, against moving some town departments into it, such as Emergency Management, that uses a building on Sconticut Neck Road, and the School Department, which uses a building on Washington Street.

That is how the town got in the situation in the first place, he noted, by consolidating. He cautioned against working so hard to fill up one large building only to end up with two smaller vacant ones.

He reminded residents that most towns are trying to keep staffing levels low, not expand them. And Fairhaven simply does not need the extra space.

Both consultants showed the layout of



ABOVE: Brett Pelletier from Kirk & Co., and Albert Rex from MacRostie Historical Advisors, at the meeting on January 5..
Photos by Beth David.



the building and explained how costs to renovate affect the final bottom line. The large corridor, for example, is dead space, not efficient space, meaning it will not be rented out or used as a per-foot return on investment. An elevator, for example, will have to be installed no matter who uses it. That is true no matter how big the building. In a larger building, the cost of that elevator gets spread out a little more, because it costs the same for a big building or a small one.

The upshot is: The building needs to produce enough revenue on a monthly basis to pay the debt.

The consultants would not estimate the cost of demolishing the building, saying only that it would be "substantial," and that the 1950s addition would be more expensive because of environmental hazards.

They cautioned, though, against the town jumping the gun to demolish the addition, because it does offer wheelchair access to the old building.



ABOVE, L-R: Fairhaven Town Administrator Mark Rees listens as Selectboard member Bob Espindola speaks to the crowd at the meeting held on January 5 in the town hall auditorium for a presentation by the town's consultants on possible uses for the old Rogers School building.
Photo by Beth David,

BPW hires for Highway, discusses snow plow efforts

By Mary Macedo

Neighb News Correspondent

At its meeting on Monday, 1/9, the Fairhaven Board of Public Works hired a new employee for the Highway Department, discussed snow plowing efforts during the last storm, and welcomed Keith Silvia to the board.

Last week the Selectboard held interviews to fill the vacant spot vacated by former BPW member Kathy Sturtevant. Mr. Silvia was selected to fill the spot and was welcomed by the BPW at the start of their meeting.

The board also interviewed one person, Sean Simonin, for a Heavy Motor Equipment Operator for the Highway Department. The board interviewed one candidate for the position, Sean Simonin.

Mr. Simonin told the board that the job would be closer to home and utilizes his licenses more than his current job does.

DPW Superintendent, Vincent Furtado, explained to the board that Mr. Simonin was aware that the job requires a lot of labor, as well as truck driving.

"The job is 75-80% labor," said board member Robert "Hoppy" Hobson. "I just want you to understand it is not all truck driving."

Mr. Simonin explained that he has been a laborer his whole life, which is what he is good at, and what he looks for in a job.

Board member Brian Wotton explained that Mr. Simonin is different because he had all the licenses, but is not utilizing them at his current job.

Board member Jarrod Lussier said he was impressed by Mr. Simonin's engineering license.

"It's a huge plus," Mr. Lussier said.

The board voted unanimously to hire Mr. Simonin.

In another matter the board discussed budgets for the 2018 fiscal year. The Highway Department budget did not have any large changes. One concern in the Highway Department budget was the 2% price increase for the contract with ABC Disposal.

"I am twisted about paying the extra money," Chairperson Michael Ristuccia said.

He had expressed at previous meetings that ABC Disposal has not been following the criteria they set out in their contract. Instead of picking up only the trash left in the

two ABC Disposal bins, ABC has been picking up anything and everything in some Fairhaven neighborhoods.

Mr. Ristuccia said that the ABC Disposal contract is something that needs to be discussed with ABC because, instead of saving money, it is costing the town more money, especially with a 2% increase in ABC's contract.

The Water and Sewer Department budgets were also relatively the same as last year.

The Water Department allotted some extra money for the well maintenance, such as cleaning, repairing, etc.

The only concern the board had with the Sewer Department was when the digester would be back up and running.

Typically we get
four to five pages of
complaints... this year
we had four complaints
[John Charbonneau]

Sewer Department Superintendent Linda Schick said that the digester is ready to go, but the winter time is not a good time to start it up again. The digester needs to be filled with water and the water must be warmed to 100 degrees, which makes it very difficult to get started in the cold weather.

Ms. Schick said they will try to put the digester online again when the weather is consistently in the upper 40's to low 50's, so probably sometime in April.

In another matter, Mr. Wotton commended Highway Department Superintendent John Charbonneau, his employees, and all other employees from other departments who plowed in the two snowstorms that just occurred.

"It was the best plowing, I have seen in four or five years," Mr. Ristuccia said.

"Typically we get four to five pages of complaints... this year we had four complaints," Mr. Charbonneau said.

Mr. Hobson brought up a concern with some plowing on West Island.

Mr. Charbonneau explained that some of the people plowing ran different routes than usual, so they had to get used to the different streets. Mr. Charbonneau expressed his pride and gratitude for all the drivers who plowed.

"They did an amazing job, I don't want to hear it," Mr. Charbonneau said.

"I want to talk about it, so you're going to hear it," Mr. Hobson said.

Mr. Hobson also asked if the town had any sort of plow or machine that was able to plow the bike path, so people in town can still have a place to take walks.

Mr. Charbonneau informed the board that they currently do not have the proper machine to plow the bike path, but one could be added to the budget for next year.

Mr. Hobson suggested hiring a contractor who has the correct machine to plow the bike path.

Mr. Wotton showed some concern with the clearing of the bike path. He said they would have to spend extra money to hire the contractor, as well as extra money to salt and sand the area.

"I'm not opposed to it, but financially we have to see," Mr. Wotton said.

Mr. Furtado said that he will look at the costs of getting the bike path plowed and they can discuss it at the next meeting.

The board also was supposed to meet with contractor Peter DeTerra about water service at 232 Huttleston Avenue, but Mr. DeTerra was not able to attend the meeting.

Water Department Superintendent, Edward Fortin expressed his concern that the water has not been turned on for 12 years, so he is not sure it will work.

The property owner plans on a commercial development that will most likely require a water service with more capacity than it currently has. Right now the property has residential water service only.

Mr. Ristuccia explained that the owner needs to hire an engineer to get the water calculations before the BPW can approve anything.

There is also a five-year moratorium on digging up Route 6, a state road, because it was just resurfaced.

The matter will be discussed at a future meeting.

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Kool Kids February Vacation

This 4 day program is a great opportunity to make new friends while participating in fun group activities, like basketball, dodge ball, tag and hockey. Kids need to bring lunch and a snack for the first 3 days of the program, Friday a pizza lunch will be served. Sneakers and active clothing must be worn each day of the program. Session starts: Tuesday February 21st -24th. Time: 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Cost \$100.00 for members / \$125.00 for non-members

Home Alone Safety Class

This course is designed to encourage children to be more independent. Topics covered will be basic first aid, door and telephone protocol, accident prevention, first aid for choking, and safety measures. Pizza will also be provided. Space is limited... sign up soon.

Ages: 9-12 Date: January 31st
Instructor: Beth Oleson Time:
5:30-8PM

Cost \$45 members/\$50 non-members

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Foxwoods Saturday, Jan 28th

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Mall Trips

1/18: Providence Place Mall and Whole Foods

1/25: Hyannis Mall, Xmas Shop and Trader Joe's

2/1: Twin Rivers
2/8: Warwick Mall

Entertainment: 12:30–2:30 p.m.

1/12 Ray J • 1/19 Ray J • 1/25 Music w/D&D • 1/26 Ray J

Special Activities

Healthy Cooking Class

Mondays at 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Starting February 27th and ending on April 3rd At the Fairhaven Senior Center. These classes are sponsored by Coastline through the Harvard Pilgrim Health Care grant "Healthy Food for Every Age." Please call the Fairhaven COA to sign up to participate in this fun and informative program at 508-979-4029.

Weather Cancellations

If we have any amount of snow accumulation, there will be no shopping that day and activities may be cancelled. Call the Senior Center, 508-979-4029, to confirm. So please, stock up on non-perishable food items. If the Town Hall is closed because of bad weather, the Fairhaven Senior Center will also be closed.

PACE Assistance & Recertification Form/Fuel

The fuel assistance program starts in November for the 2016-2017 season. If you received fuel assistance last year you should have already received a renewal in the mail to be filled out. If you need help filling out the recertification form or a new

application for fuel assistance, call the Senior Center 508-979-4029 for an

Sewing Group

Come join the sewing Group. The group meets Monday afternoons: Jan. 9th and 23rd from 1-3:00 p.m. and Jan. 12th 19th 26th from 5:45 to 7:45p.m. at The Fairhaven Senior Center.

Project Bread

Get the food you need to stay healthy. Apply for SNAP/Food Stamps, Project Bread's Food Source Hotline offers free confidential screenings for SNAP/Food Stamps eligibility as well as assistance completing the application over the phone. Counselors are also available to help current recipients ensure you are receiving the maximum benefits. Call Today! 1-800-645-8333. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. & Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Special Hours for Seniors: Monday& Wednesdays 2 p.m.- 7 p.m.

Senior Single Supper Club

Will start up in January 2017 The first supper club will meet Jan. 3rd at 4:00 p.m. Going forward the club will met the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. Hope to see you all back.

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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Acushnet gets budget process underway; fees to increase

By Beth David
Editor

Trying to play catch-up, newly hired Acushnet Town Administrator Brian Noble laid out a tight, but doable plan for getting the budget process finished in time for Town Meeting in June, he reported to the Selectboard at its meeting on 1/9.

Mr. Noble told the board that he was aiming for an early June TM date. He said he already received some budgets and the rest were due on Monday, 1/16.

Department budgets are requested to be level funded, except for contractual obligations.

Mr. Noble said he is not "shutting down" on all requests for budget increases, but expects departments to justify them.

The board also met with Building Inspector James Marot to discuss raising various permit fees. Mr. Marot gave the board a list with suggested increases, saying it would put the department "in line with our budget," meaning it would get them closer to being self-funding.

Selectboard member Mike Cioper,

however, recommended going further, and made his own suggestions on each permit, each of which was higher than Mr. Marot's recommendations.

Mr. Cioper said that he is in the building trades and knows that Acushnet's fees are low, compared to area municipalities, and that Mr. Marot's suggestions were still too low.

He went down the list and suggested increases on almost all of Mr. Marot's recommendations.

New fees include: .40 per square foot for new dwelling; roofing, \$50; siding, \$50; windows, \$50.

"I'm in favor of the higher fees," said Mr. Noble.

Mr. Marot said that using Mr. Cioper's numbers would make the department self-sufficient. He said he went a little lower because he did not want to "squash" building in town. He said it has been steady in the past few years.

Selectboard member Kevin Gaspar said that Mr. Cioper's changes were not that far off from Mr. Marot's suggestions.

Mr. Gaspar asked Mr. Marot to "stay on top of it," to try to make sure the

building department is self-sufficient.

His own changes, said Mr. Marot, "would be pretty much in line with what our budget is now."

He added that Mr. Cioper's changes would probably keep it "in line" for four to five years.

In other business the board appointed Richard Miranda to the Agricultural Commission, which now has a full board for the first time in years, according to Selectboard members.

The Selectboard also announced vacancies on two boards.

Richard Forand sent a letter of resignation from the Planning Commission, saying that after 50 years of public service, he was stepping aside to give others a chance to serve.

Board members praised Mr. Forand's long history of public service, starting with his military service.

The Fairhaven Housing Authority also has a vacancy, with the resignation of James Madruga. Nick Gomes also resigned, but his position

ACUSH: cont'd on page 17



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ACUSH: cont'd from previous page

is the Governor's appointee slot.

The vacancies are the result of a lawsuit filed by Mr. Madruga.

Both positions require a joint meeting of, and vote by, the Selectboard and the board with the vacancy.

The Selectboard will try to get the FHA and the PB in at the next meeting.

Those appointed will have to run for the unexpired terms in the April election to finish out the time left on those terms.

The board set a date of January 16, for residents to submit letters of interest for both boards to the Selectboard, 122 Main Street, Acushnet, MA 02743-1548.

The board also discussed the proposed ballot question on the proposal to expand the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facility on Peckham Street.

Selectboard chairperson Garry Rawcliffe explained that the process for the facility had stalled for various reasons and there would not be sufficient details to put a question on the ballot.

"We're asking people to vote on something we have absolutely no information on," said Mr. Rawcliffe.

As for the progress of the project: "I can tell you nothing has happened," said Mr. Rawcliffe.

The only certainty is that the project will change.

Mr. Rawcliffe said he believed the project will have to be scaled back due to "environmental issues" at the property. He also said that the project received a setback when the courts ruled that the companies could not pass on the cost of the expansion to customers. He said that Access Northeast has been pursuing investors.

Bonville's Market notified the board that it is passing the torch to the next generation.

In a letter to the Selectboard, attorneys for Bonville's Market told the board that a new LLC (Limited Liability Corporation) had been set up by Alfred Bonville's two children, Richard and Ann, who are taking over the business.

The board needed to approve transfer of the all liquor license to the LLC.

No members of the public attended the public hearing to comment and the board voted unanimously to approve the transfer.

The board praised Mr. Bonville, the market, and the Bonville family.

Mr. Gaspar wished Mr. Bonville a "happy retirement," and said the family had done a "phenomenal job

with that store," and had provided a valuable service to the town for decades.

The state will have to approve the transfer.

The board also addressed an open meeting law complaint brought by Patrick Higgins, who has been filing similar complaints against communities across the Commonwealth.

The town has added more detail to its agendas, as a result of the complaint, said Mr. Rawcliffe.

He did, however, take issue with one of the complaints on a specific agenda item. Mr. Rawcliffe said that the board did not know what the group was going to talk about at the meeting, that is why they were invited to a meeting in the first place.

"I had not idea what they [were coming] in front of us for," said Mr. Rawcliffe. "I didn't even know."

Mr. Noble said the end result was a good thing because some of the issues that Mr. Higgins brought up were "legitimate."

He said it is important to write the agendas in a way that is clear to everyone, not just people who know the issus in town.

He is it was good for someone to hold their "feet to the fire."

Drought conditions change very little in Mass.

Press Release

Although many areas of the state experienced some precipitation in December and the early portion of January, large portions of the state continue to experience a water deficit. As a result, Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Secretary Matthew Beaton declared the following drought levels throughout the Commonwealth: a Drought Warning for the Connecticut River Valley, Western, Central, and Southeast Massachusetts, unchanged from the month of December; a Drought Watch for Northeast Massachusetts, down from a Drought Warning in the month of December; and a Drought Advisory for the Cape and Islands, unchanged from the month of December. The declaration was the result of a recommendation issued from a recent meeting of the Drought Management Task Force, comprised of state, federal and local officials, and will remain in effect until water levels return to normal in the

affected regions.

"With below average rainfall over the course of the previous month, drought conditions have changed very little as the Commonwealth heads into the start of 2017," said Mr. Beaton. "We all must continue to administer best indoor water conservation practices to ensure we avoid water sources from becoming stressed and are allowed to rebound faster."

"While recent precipitation has helped to reduce the severity of the drought in parts of the state, drought conditions continue and the public is urged to take steps to reduce indoor water usage," said Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) Director Kurt Schwartz. "Recovery from this long-term drought will require both continued conservation measures and above-normal levels of precipitation for the foreseeable future."

A Drought Warning, as outlined in the Massachusetts Drought Management Plan, indicates over six consecu-

tive months of groundwater and stream flow levels being below normal, and larger reservoirs at below normal levels. This initiates a much more concerted set of government responses including instituting water restrictions, and more intensified monitoring and coordination between the agencies.

The state continues to intensely monitor and assess the drought situation, and any associated environmental and agricultural impacts. Furthermore, the state asks the public to be mindful of the amount of water they are using, and to reduce indoor water use, address leaks as soon as possible, and for larger buildings and businesses to conduct water audits to ensure they identify areas of leaks and potential water conservation.

For further information on water conservation and what you can do, visit <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/watersheds/water-conservation.html>

Your Theatre Inc. recognizes volunteers of the year

Press Release

Your Theatre, Inc. held its annual volunteer appreciation event Sunday, 12/11, at the Wamsutta Club in New Bedford. The theatre honored two volunteers of the year.

Attended by more than 40 theatre devotees who enjoyed coffee and desserts, the Volunteer of the Year gold stars went to Barbara Jasmin of Mattapoisett and Karen Peckham of Dartmouth.

Your Theatre, Inc. is known for high quality theatrical productions featuring all volunteer talented actors, experienced directors, and skilled technicians, as well as volunteers that staff the box office, concessions and ushering.

YTI offers opportunities for volunteers to participate in such areas as set construction, lighting/sound, publicity and much more. Also offered, from time to time, are workshops on technical sound, lighting, acting, makeup and more. Check the web site for updates.

Your Theatre, Inc. opened its 70th season of continuous quality community theatre on September 8, 2016

with California Suite followed by *Born Yesterday* in November. Upcoming shows are *Never the Sinner*, playing this weekend and next (see page 8 for details), *The House of Blue Leaves* in March and *What the Butler Saw* in May.

Your Theatre, Inc. is most grateful

for the continuing season sponsorship by BankFive.

For further information about becoming a YTI volunteer call the theatre at 508-993-0772 or e-mail info@yourtheatre.org. Information and volunteer application forms are available at www.yourtheatre.org.



Your Theatre Inc. held its annual volunteer appreciation event on 12/11 and honored two volunteers of the year. ABOVE: Susan Richard, President of the YTI Board of Directors (MIDDLE), holds a plaque with the names of volunteers of the year from 1998 on, including 2016's Karen Peckham (LEFT) and Barbara Jasmin (RIGHT). Submitted photo.

YTI holds semi-annual meeting, new members welcome

Press Release

The semi-annual Members Council Meeting of Your Theatre, Inc. was held at the Seaport Inn in Fairhaven on Tuesday, November 29, 2016.

Located in St Martin's Church Hall at 136 Rivet St. in New Bedford, YTI, founded in 1946, is incorporated as a non-profit community theatre which seeks to enhance the cultural life of New Bedford, Southeastern Mass., and nearby communities through the study and regular presentation of dramatic productions and other

programs of high quality and professional standards.

The company also develops and encourages artistic talent through the establishment and operation of workshops, theatre productions and other dramatic training opportunities.

"The Members' Council provides an opportunity for participants to help determine the future of Your Theatre by voting on bylaws, major policy changes, and members of the Board of Directors," said Caroline Paradis, Members' Council Chair.

The cost of membership is \$10 annually, and includes access to Your Theatre's financials, new initiatives, and the organization's artistic direction.

"We invite anyone who's interested in helping us shape the future of Your Theatre to join," said Paradis.

Anyone wishing to learn more about YTI may visit our web site, www.yourtheatre.org, call the theatre at 508-993-0772 or email info@yourtheatre.org.



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The beginning of Cross Country at FHS went through Riverside

By Steve Bender

Special to the Neigh News

Last, but not least, in this reminiscence series comes the co-ed sport of Cross Country which was introduced to the FHS athletic program in 1985.

Cross Country is a Fall Sport and involves distance running over varied terrain....up hills, down hills, curves and different distances of each competitive course. To determine the winning team it's basically one team's top five *vs.* the other team's top five. You add the two and the lowest score wins.

There was a great deal of planning before the CC program could get under way. First, a coach was needed. The program had a coach that stepped forward and made a commitment.

Second, was having enough to form a team. There was a core of runners that wanted to run but more were needed.

Third, a place to train and hold CC meets. The most challenging need was having a place to compete.

Area high schools had access to local golf courses to compete. Fairhaven had no golf courses. The bike path had not been built and the current Mariner 5K course had not been built yet either.

Then the thoughts turned to Riverside Cemetery. It had the hills with twists, turns and there was enough distance to be a competitive site. The coach approached Mr. Reid, who managed Riverside, with the novel idea of competing there. He gave a surprise answer.

"OK, I don't see a problem."

All funeral services were held in the morning so the traffic problem and respect for a funeral ceremony, made the task possible.

Now comes the task of designing a course at Riverside. The coach borrowed a surveyor's wheel from the Fairhaven Department of Public Works and began the design. He walked through Riverside several times and finally came up with a challenging 2.45 mile course. There were many twists, turns and hills.

To compete there required 32 orange cones with arrows for direction. It was a home site advantage because the runner had to pay attention as to where he/she was going. FHS runners had the course

memorized. The opposing teams did not. FHS provided the cones and "spotters" that would go to the key turns for directing runners. So, check that off the list: "All Systems Go," "Cleared For Take Off."

The training for Cross country involved running distance at a slow pace [LSD...long slow distance], running at a varied pace [Fartlek] and hill work like Coggeshall Street, Hill Loops [up Coggeshall St. hard and recover down Dean Street]. There were several more training phrases like intervals but let's stop here.

The boys team took a couple of years to be league competitive. The girls team was good from the start. Over a six year period of time the girls team ran to an amazing 40-8

Then the thoughts turned to Riverside Cemetery. It had the hills with twists, turns and there was enough distance to be a competitive site.

record and were Co-Champs in 1991.

Nineteen-ninety-one was a hallmark year for both the boys and girls teams. Both teams posted 11-1 records.

The FHSCC team had a motivational phrase that each CC runner understood. It is a condensed quote from the famous Green Bay Packers Coach-Vince Lombardi: "Hard work Breeds Success."

This statement applies to so many areas in life but the applied version for FHSCC was "The harder you work in practice, the better you will be when you compete."

The human body has the ability to adapt to physically taxing activities. You just don't wake up one morning and decide you will compete in a distance event. It takes a great deal of time to physically and mentally prepare for a race.

The same is true for Cross Country competition. It takes a great amount of time to get to a competitive level

and then when that plateau is reached, the CC runner must go on to break through what had been accomplished to be better. Maybe this sounds confusing but getting back to the original slogan of "Hard Work Breeds Success" becomes easier to understand.

Cross Country is an everyday challenge not only in competition but practice also. The runner knows if he/she slacks in a workout, it will affect the performance in competition. So with this in mind, the runner has to decide, how good do they want to be.

The fans at a Cross Country meet won't fill a stadium, there won't be air horns, cheerleaders or bands.

The meets are attended by dedicated parents and that's the fan base.

In bringing this reminisce series to a close which began last January, I would like to thank Beth David of *Neigh News* for allowing space for some special years in FHS Athletic history. It's always nice to reminisce while the memory still works.

Below are the top 10 times by FHS athletes at the Riverside "Complex."

Girls

1. Julie Isaksen	13:56	1988
2. Katie Cozzens	14:51	1992
3. Zapata Courage	15:34	1992
4. Meressa Borges	15:43	1991
5. Jessica Duval	15:57	1989
6. Becky Patenaude	16:00	1986
7. Melissa Fletcher	16:09	1986
8. Julie Morris	16:11	1995
9. Julie Berard	16:17	1989
10. Carrie Ashley	16:29	1986

Boys

1. David Crabbe	12:04	1991
2. Nephi Tyler	12:49	1996
3. Patrick Gallagher	12:52	1995
4. Russell Patenuude	12:54	1992
5. Sal Corrao	13:06	1987
6. Erik Jensen	13:09	1992
7. Bob Demanche	13:10	1989
8. Jon Bourgeos	13:16	1994
9. Crispen Demers	13:18	1992
10. Chris Carreiro	13:19	1995

Steve Bender

Head Spring Track Coach 1970-1981

Head Winter/Indoor Track Coach

1970-1986

Assistant Football Coach 1971-1981

Cross Country Coach 1985-1992

Whaling museum receives grant for HS apprenticeship prog.

Press Release

The New Bedford Whaling Museum received a three-year \$144,500 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to implement a suite of outreach services for its successful New Bedford high school Apprenticeship Program. Over the last seven years, 47 students have successfully completed the Apprenticeship Program. One hundred percent of those apprentices graduated from high school and 100 percent were accepted to college or the military. One current apprentice is on track to receive her Ph.D. in May, while another was recently accepted into Cornell University.

From a pool of 548 applications, 206 museum projects were selected for the highly competitive Museums for America grant program.

"Museums play a vital role in their communities supporting learning experiences and inquiry for people of all ages, fostering civic engagement, and serving as stewards of collections that represent the nation's cultural, historical, and scientific heritage," said IMLS Director Dr.

Kathryn K. Matthew. "The federal support provided by IMLS will help museums all over the country, enabling their best efforts to provide the highest level of public service."

The Apprenticeship Program offers an opportunity for disadvantaged high school students to gain experience in a professional environment while engaging in college and career-readiness activities. Apprentices receive stipends and are expected to commit four days each week to the museum.

Apprentices are mentored in humanities and marine sciences. As they become fluent with the museum programs, high school seniors are encouraged to lead museum tours and actively participate in public programming.

The expanded suite of services supported by this grant will contribute to the program's overall goal of developing pathways to success for apprentices and improving college persistence rates. Services incorporated into the program will include expansion of the program to high school sophomores;

the formalization of a three-year curriculum that prioritizes academic achievement, college readiness, and career exploration; development of Apprentice Alumni support at Bristol Community College, the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, and Bridgewater State University.

Apprentice Alumni programming will establish support groups, workshops and events, and internships at the Museum to support apprentices while in college.

"Thanks to this grant, the Museum is better positioned to help students move past common obstacles as they transition to postsecondary education and earn degrees that lead to career success. We could not do this work without the support of IMLS," said Sarah Rose, Vice President of Education and Programs, New Bedford Whaling Museum.

The New Bedford Whaling Museum is the world's most comprehensive museum devoted to the global story of human interaction with whales through time, and the history and culture of the South Coast region. Visit www.whalingmuseum.org.



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Public Hearings/ Legal Notices

NOTE: All legal notices are available on the Neigh News website, www.NeighNews.com, under the "Legal Notices" tab on the top of the main page.

Legal ads are also available at <http://masspublicnotices.org>, search for "Fairhaven Neighborhood News"

Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals

The Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 6:00 PM in the Town Hall to consider the following petition(s):
1. Petitioner: Daniel Secia, RE: 27 Cherry Street, Plot 15, Lot 99; Book 10324 and Page 135. 198-18 Short 3' of required 10' side yard, north side; short 17' of required 30' rear set back and 2% over max building coverage of 30% all within an RA District.

2. Petitioner: V-Corp., LLC, RE: Charity Stevens Lane, Plot 40, Lot 14; Book 11779 and Page 270. Special Permit required for construction within the Nasketucket River Basin.

RESCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Petitioner: Oxford School Residences LP, RE: 347 Main Street, Plot 22A, Lot 192, 193. Comprehensive Permit required under Town Code 493 (aka 40B).

Peter DeTerra, Chairman

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TIDE TABLE

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Jan. 2017	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.
Thursday 12	0724 1951 0040*	1444*	0835 2058	
Friday 13	0814 2042 0138*	1515*	0927 2149	
Saturday 14	0903 2131 0232*	1543*	1016 2238	
Sunday 15	0950 2219 0313*	1612*	1104 2327	
Monday 16	1037 2308 0349*	1646*	1153 ---	
Tuesday 17	1128 ---	0426 1646	0019 1244	
Wednesday 18	0001 1220 0509	1728	0112 1336	
Thursday 19	0053 1312 0610	1825	0205 1427	
Friday 20	0143 1402 0915	1924	0259 1522	
Saturday 21	0234 1457 1029	2015	0402 1631	
Sunday 22	0331 1559 1122	2106	0510 1735	
Monday 23	0430 1656 ---	1205	0603 1823	
	--- --- ---	2201		
Tuesday 24	0520 1742 ---	1242	0645 1902	
	--- --- ---	2249		
Wednesday 25	0601 1822 ---	1202	0723 1939	
	--- --- ---	2330		

* = Predicted minus tides from -0.1 ft. to -1.0 ft.

**Predicted minus tides from -1.1 ft to -2.0 ft or more

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Fairhaven Meetings

Board of Appeals

Tues., 2/7, Town Hall, 6:00 p.m.

Board of Public Works

Mon., 1/23, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

Community Preserv. Com.

Thurs., 1/19, Town Hall, 6:30p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 1/30, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Hazard Mitigation Planning

Thurs., 1/12, Town Hall, 1:30 p.m.

Hazard Mitigation Meeting

Thurs., 1/12, Town Hall, 3 p.m.

Planning Board

Tues., 1/24, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 1/11, FHS Library, 6:30 p.m.

Selectboard

Mon., 1/23, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Town Meeting D/L

Deadline for Town Meeting articles is January 12 at 4 p.m.

Wellness Committee

Thurs., 1/12, Arsene St., 4:45 p.m.

Acushnet Meetings

Selectboard

Tues., 1/24, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

Planning Board

Thurs., 1/26, Parting Ways, 5 p.m.

Support the Food Pantry



This bin is in the Walnut Street lobby of the Millicent Library in Fairhaven. Another bin is at Stop & Shop. All food goes to the Shepherd's Pantry, 1215 Main Street, Acushnet (508-763-9289).

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Tax deductible donations may be sent to Shepherd's Pantry, PO Box 760, Fairhaven, MA 02719. Visit www.shepherdspantry.org

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Rogers Cabral announces run for Selectboard in Acushnet

Press Release

Acushnet resident Roger A. Cabral filed his Nomination Papers on 1/9 and announced that he will be a candidate for Acushnet Selectman in the Town election which will be held on Monday, April 3rd.

Mr. Cabral has been a resident of the Town of Acushnet since 1994 and has been an active member of the Acushnet community for the past 20 years. He has held leadership roles in the Acushnet Finance Committee, the Acushnet Parent-Teacher Organization, the Acushnet School Building Committee and ACTION among other local activities.

Mr. Cabral stated: "I would now like to serve this Town as a member of your Board of Selectmen and I am asking for your support. My past involvement in this community, particularly the 12 years that I spent as a member of the Finance Committee, including four as chairman, has given me some great insight into the resources and needs of this

community.

"The Board of Selectmen in Acushnet exists to serve the residents of this community. There is no "THEY" that manages our Town. Acushnet Government is supposed to be "WE". Government in Acushnet is the result of all of us pooling our collective resources to pay for and provide services. The Board of Selectmen are entrusted to manage those resources on our behalf and to make decisions that are in the overall best interests of our Community.

"I love this Town and I tell people with pride that I live in Acushnet. We have a great Town with a proud history. I am confident for our future as well if we manage our resources carefully and make well considered decisions.

I hope that you will consider voting for me and will support my candidacy for Acushnet Selectman."

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Snow Parking Ban RESIDENTS OF FAIRHAVEN ONE SIDE SNOW PARK BAN

No vehicles shall be permitted to remain on the hydrant side of all streets in Fairhaven from December 1 to March 31 from midnight to 8:00 am and also during the time of any snowfall or snow removal operations. On streets with no hydrants, NO vehicles shall be permitted to remain either on the east side of streets running north and south or on the north side of streets running east and west.

The BPW is authorized to remove, or cause to be removed, to some convenient place, including a public garage, any vehicle interfering with the work of removing or plowing snow or ice from any way, and the cost of such removal with all storage charges resulting there from shall be paid by the owner of such vehicle.

The Fairhaven Police Department will strictly enforce this Parking Ban. Violators will be towed and/or ticketed.

By Order of: Fairhaven Board of Public Works

ROGERS: cont'd from page 12

"The 1950s addition isn't all bad," said Mr. Pelletier. "There are positives. There are virtues to that building. It's accessible, and allows access to the old building."

Once the actual costs are figured out for the various uses, they will be able to give some concrete possibilities for the uses.

Mr. Rex said that the best thing might be for the town to partner with a developer and then offer a long term lease for a specific use.

He said that was probably the direction he would go in because the clear preference was for the town to keep ownership of the building.

The task would be to figure out funding sources for a project that includes keeping the town as owner.

As for actual costs, Mr. Rex said they would estimate the costs of the various uses based on standard criteria.

"We're not [going to] get hyper specific," said Mr. Rex.

Resident Al Benac got some applause when he said that the town should stop thinking about the costs of a wholesale rehab of the building.

He said it was not about to fall down and eventually the town would need more space.

"[The building] can be brought up slowly," said Mr. Benac, and then offered to pay to fix the leak himself.

And then the crowd clapped.

The meeting is available on YouTube through a link on the town's website, www.fairhaven-ma.us; public comments, the presentation and the preliminary report are also available on the town's website. Click on "Documents and Contracts," and then on "Rogers School Documents."

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*Requires a minimum down payment of 5% of purchase price or NADA value whichever is less. Available to qualifying members based upon established underwriting guidelines and creditworthiness. Refinancing existing SMCU loans excluded. This offer may be withdrawn at any time. Some restrictions may apply. Federally insured by NCUA.



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We thank everyone for their loyal support that made 2016 our best year ever.

At Mac's your business is always appreciated.

Jevon, Lisa, Brittany, Brianne, Taylor, Jill, Samantha, Dave, Jenna, Jackie, Elizabeth, Reggi and Chad

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We can supply Superbowl platters to add enjoyment to the final football game. We would like to compete for your catering business, both family and commercial. All catering work is personally done by Chef Jevon using only fresh ingredients purchased solely for your event. For a free consultation, call Jevon at 508-992-8615.

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ATRIA FAIRHAVEN

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(RSVP: 508-994-9238)

Join us for:

Tap 'n Time with Bell Fri., 1/20, 2 p.m. Come tap your feet and dance during this musical seated exercise performance.

Entertainment with Chris Waters Thurs., 1/26, 11:30 a.m. Enjoy many of Chris Waters' classics and a delightful afternoon with our fabulous residents. We look forward to seeing you.

Entertainment with Jillian Jensen Fri., 1/27, 2 p.m. Come see Jillian Jensen perform here at Atria. Her beautiful voice has been heard all over the country, including on the hit TV show "The X Factor."

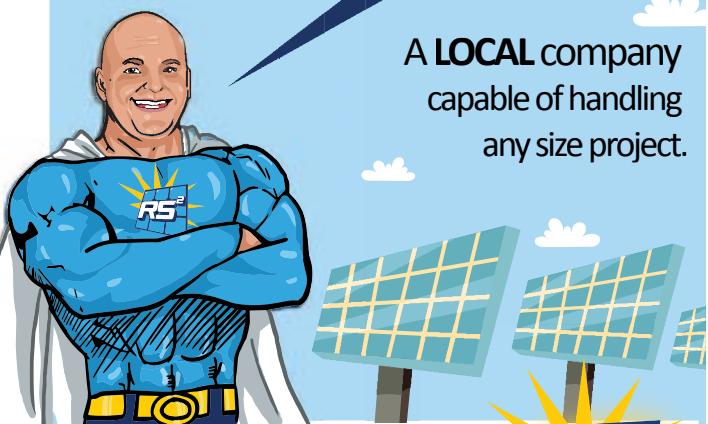


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