



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 8, Issue 5 • February 7, 2013

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

Fairhaven swears in three police officers



Fairhaven Town Clerk Eileen Lowney swears in three new police officers on Monday, 2/4. L-R: Andrew Quintin, Wayne Mello and Alexander Kisla take the oath in front of town hall in Fairhaven. The three Fairhaven residents graduated from the police academy in Plymouth on Friday, 2/1, and started work as patrol officers after being sworn in. See page 12 for story. *Photo by Jim Mahaney. See it in color at www.NeighbNews.com Find Jim's photography at JimMahaneyPhotography.Smugmug.com*



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- **Militia Encampment:** pages 12

From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.



Beth David, Publisher

Oh my, oh my...so much to rant about, so little room. Apparently, the "viability" of the Fairhaven Recreation Center is again being discussed (FinCom on page 18). I am so sick and tired of hearing this. Leave our rec center alone! Geesh, people, it can't always be about the money, about "generating revenue," (a favorite government term). Sometimes, it's just about the service.

Our tax dollars paid to build the center, our tax dollars pay to support it, which is as it should be. I think it's outrageous that we are also forced to pay to use it. Hell, we are already paying for it. Now, the push is for all these services to pay for themselves.

Stop it already, just stop it. Government is not a business and it shouldn't be. Government is not in the business of making a profit. Remember, the money comes from us, the taxpayers. Government should be taking in only exactly what it needs to provide the services we tell it to provide, no more, no less.

The recreation center is supposed to be a perk of living in town. It was designed to be a small place for Fairhaven residents. From the start we knew it wouldn't be big enough to sustain itself. Town Meeting soundly rejected the idea of making it big enough for the YWCA to take it over and price us out. We wanted it small, for us. We've already opened up membership to neighboring towns and it's already getting pretty crowded in there.

So, what's wrong with the town subsidizing it? THAT WAS THE IDEA ALL ALONG! It's a town department. We can't all afford to join a Y or a Gold's. Some of us want a nice little place that the serious muscleheads don't like, leaving us lightweights alone to huff and puff pushing 35 pounds around.

Hopefully, Town Meeting will see the Rec Center as a department that needs to be part of the town for everyone to benefit from. It's already only there for those who can afford to pay. Yes, I know the price is low. It's supposed to be because our taxes built it and support it, remember? It's a town service; it's not supposed to be a for-profit venture.

Okay, next topic: the Acushnet Community Center (do you sense a theme here?) and the new library proposal. (See page 16.) The ACC is an unrecognized pearl, hidden in the quahog so to speak, only noticed by those who stumble on it, only appreciated by those who know what it is.

The center will close down in June unless Acushnet voters decide to fund the new library, which will then merge with the community center. Director Nancy Francis has been doing hero's work behind the scenes for 15 years at the center. With a budget collected strictly from fund-raising, staffed only by volunteers, the center is a drop-in spot for youth of all ages. Nancy tutors students, listens to students, listens to parents, pays attention, and otherwise works to shape young minds and lives into healthy, happy, community-conscious citizens. She, too, is a town treasure.

Here's a quote from her explaining why the monthly dances for middle school students are so important, "Kids at that age so need to learn how to socialize and not what they see on TV."

Amen to that; especially if the superbowl commercials are any indication of what kids are learning on TV. The one that has the teenage boy getting punched in the eye for forcing a kiss on a girl at a dance is tailor-made for her point. But the commercials are fodder for another column (see my blog).

I hope the voters of Acushnet will realize that what you get for your money cannot always be measured in dollars and cents. The appreciation for books, learning, and each other is a priceless intangible that keeps places like Acushnet the precious places they are, filled with a small-town closeness, a sense of shared responsibility for each other, for each other's kids, for each other's parents.

There's a doozy of a storm coming this weekend, folks, so stock up on munchies, get the firewood covered up, and prepare to get all cozy inside. Then, be sure to go for a drive...yes, I mean it. Driving in the snow is one of life's greatest little pleasures in this part of the world. Just be careful about it. Until next week then...

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Fairhaven recycling now single stream

By Beth David
Editor

Fairhaven residents will no longer have to separate paper from plastics, or tie up the bundles of paper and cardboard. The town's recycle program is now "single stream," said Health Agent Patricia Fowle.

The change will not cost the town any extra, and did not require a new contract. She said the change came on the provider side, with ABC Disposal switching recycling plants.

"I'm excited," said Ms. Fowle.

Single stream has been shown "historically," to increase participation in recycling programs. Anything that makes it easier does, according to Ms. Fowle.

What it means in a practical sense is that residents may now simply throw all recyclables in one bin, any which way they can. Household trash must still be in a separate container.

According to the Mass. Department of Environmental Protection, Fairhaven ranks among the lowest in the state for recycling.

Fairhaven collects recyclables curbside every other week on the

same day as trash. The schedule is on the Board of Health website (http://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/Pages/FairhavenMA_Health/Trash%20Schedule.pdf), in a handy map that residents can print out.

Recyclables include plastics #1-7, but not styrofoam; all food cans and aluminum foil; all food glass jars; paper, including newspapers, magazines, phonebooks, cardboard that fits in the blue bin, food boxes, fliers.

Not allowed are plastic bags, juice boxes, ceramics, plate or mirror glass, aerosol cans, broken glass, motor oil or chemical containers, paint cans.

Bins should be placed on the curb by 7 a.m. on trash day.

The town no longer has bulky items pickup day once a year, so residents may place one large item per week with the regular trash. Details are on the website: http://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/Pages/FairhavenMA_Health/index

No mattresses or box springs.

The town's recycle center on Arsene Street also accepts recyclables. A permit is required. Hours are Monday through Friday,

8:15 a.m. to noon, and Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The center takes many of the items not accepted curbside for a fee. Call the Department of Public Works for details, 508-979-4030.

To get a blue recycle bin or a sticker to place on your own container, call the Board of Health, 508-979-4022.

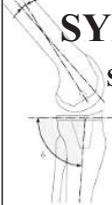
Free Political PR

The *Neighb News* will give all candidates for townwide public office in Fairhaven and Acushnet a chance to get their message out. You may submit an article of approximately 500 words, with a picture, and we will publish at no charge before the April 1 elections.

Please contact the *Neighb News* as soon as possible so we can plan for space allocation in the issues leading up to the election.

DEADLINE: Friday, 3/1.

Call 508-979-5593, fax 508-991-5580, email NeighbNews@comcast.net, or mail 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719. Email is the preferred method.



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- Participated in public education events (Eco-Fair, etc.)

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Selectboard and Planning choose Farrell for vacant seat

By Mali Lim

Neighb News Correspondent

After reviewing letters of interest from three candidates for the planning board, Fairhaven town officials voted Monday night to appoint John K. Farrell, Jr., an apartment complex manager employed in Milford, to fill the last vacant position on the board.

Local business owner Cathy Melansen, and Susan Spooner, a member of Fairhaven Sustainability Committee, were also candidates for the position. Ms. Melansen and Mr. Farrell appeared at the joint meeting of the selectboard and planning board to answer questions. Ms. Spooner, who was unable to attend, submitted an e-mail outlining her reasons for wishing to serve on the planning board.

The combined board members voted 7-2 to appoint Mr. Farrell, a Fairhaven resident since June of 2012, with Selectboard Chair Brian Bowcock and Planning Board Vice-Chair Gary J. Staffon casting the two votes for Ms. Melansen. Most of the planning board members cited Mr. Farrell's background in real estate management and law enforcement as factors in their decision.

The term Mr. Farrell is filling is due to expire in eight weeks; at that point the position will be up for general election. Both Mr. Farrell and Ms. Melansen expressed interest in running for the position.

The selectboard announced their intent to create, in the near future, a Capital Planning Advisory Committee tasked with identifying and prioritizing capital spending needs in Fairhaven. Residents interested in serving on this committee are requested to submit letters to the selectboard for consideration.

The board pulled slips to determine the order of articles for the annual town meeting, including an additional article proposed by Selectboard member Bob Espindola, calling for the creation of a capital improvement stabilization fund.

Although Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch questioned the need for creating a second stabilization fund, the board agreed the article should at least be brought up for consideration.

Mr. Espindola had also proposed another article to grant the select-

board authority to pursue contracts pertaining to installing photo-voltaic solar panels at the new Wood School, but he agreed to withdraw it for further revisions.

Policies for opening mail at the selectboard's office came under review, as Mr. Espindola questioned the practice of office staff opening mail arriving at the office, regardless of whom the letters were addressed to. Constituents writing to certain selectboard members may not be aware that letters could be opened by others unless the letters are specifically marked private or confidential, said Mr. Espindola.

Mr. Osuch pointed out that a large volume of mail arrives at town hall on a daily basis, and that even letters to

the public domain," he said.

The board did agree with Mr. Espindola's suggestions to develop a tracking system to ensure that important correspondence items are logged, dated, and initialed by board members before being filed, to make sure that appropriate replies are generated in a timely manner.

The board reviewed a financial policy draft submitted by Mr. Osuch, to serve as guidelines for future selectboards, in response to recommendations from the Department of Revenue. The town has always followed certain policies but they had never been put down in writing, Dr. Bowcock explained. The draft will be sent to town counsel for review, at Mr. Espindola's request, to ensure that there is nothing in the policies that could trigger legal scrutiny.

A significant portion of the meeting was devoted to the discussion of potential state aid, contingent on passage of new taxes and changes to income and sales taxes proposed by the governor, and the impact it could have on the town's FY14 budget.

Mr. Osuch gave Mr. Espindola, the newest member of the selectboard, a lengthy explanation on how he arrived at his figures for best and worst case scenarios for the next fiscal year and he also

repeatedly stressed to the board the deficit Fairhaven would face next year if the town insisted on spending every dollar possible. The board took his calculations for consideration, as budget hearings with the board of public works, police, fire, and school departments are scheduled for February 11th.

The board discussed a draft letter regarding the town's opposition to the EPA Harbor Cleanup Settlement which Buzzards Bay Coalition Director Mark Rasmussen intends to submit to AVX Corporation, a company which has connections with Kyocera Corporation of Japan.

Selectboard members expressed their unease with portions of the letter referencing Fairhaven's historical connections with Japan, and wondered if it could cause some tensions in its sister city ties to Japan. They tabled a vote to endorse the letter, pending input from Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society president

SELECT: cont'd on pag 17

Most of the planning board members cited Mr. Farrell's background in real estate management and law enforcement as factors in their decision.

selectboard members are often wrongly addressed.

"Most of the mail isn't addressed to you as an individual, but to town government in general," he said.

Some correspondence is time-sensitive and should be addressed immediately, and as selectboard members do not necessarily open their mail every day, office staff need to be able to alert the board members to these items, he added.

"In some cases letters have to be dealt with on a deadline, so it gets opened."

Dr. Bowcock admitted that there have been times that confidential letters have been opened by mistake, including patient medical files that were erroneously sent to town hall rather than his chiropractic office, but overall, he believed that selectboard staff should continue opening mail addressed to the board.

"Part of it is trusting the people who work with us and for us, and in my opinion it's mail that is meant for

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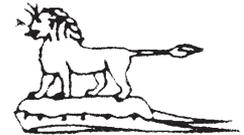
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from Louise Dupre

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

BDTV Telethon

It's time to start preparing for the 5th annual BD-TV (Blue Devil-TV) Telethon, which means a call out to businesses and individuals who watch Fairhaven Comcast's Channel 9.

This year's event is set for Friday, April 26 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Produced by the FHS students in the media classes, the telethon covers many aspects of Fairhaven High School and the community.

Students are hoping to surpass the \$2,000 raised last year through donations from area businesses and individuals. The money raised goes toward scholarships and field trips for the media program.

In past year, thanks to the telethon, the media students were able to buy memory cards, portable lighting, and boom microphones, and pay for the transportation/costs of a video contest. Scholarships were also given to students who took Advanced Media classes. The telethon can be viewed live on Comcast's Channel 9 in Fairhaven and also on the Internet. With more than 5,000 cable subscribers in Fairhaven, students are hoping to really get the message out.

Through a previous grant from the FHS Alumni for updated software, students will also be able to stream the telethon through the Internet at bdtv.us.to. Viewers can also find that site through fairhavenps.org, FHS, BDTV, and Telethon.

The success of a telethon relies on advanced advertising sales. BD-TV will be taking donations of any amount from viewers by email at bdtv@fairhavenps.org or mail to Fairhaven High School, c/o BDTV Telethon, 12 Huttleston Avenue, Fairhaven, MA 02719.

South Coast businesses have various tiers to choose from and their names will be posted and announced on the channel every hour. These postings also will be viewable on the bulletin board for four weeks after the event.

A five-minute segment is also available for Gold and Platinum patrons where they can be a part of an interview with the students. Students welcome any businesses to email them at bdtv@fairhavenps.org with a contact name and number or call 508-979-4051, ext. 0 and ask for the TV Studio.

Caregiver Seminars

Caring for loved ones is challenging, but with this increased stress comes the opportunity for greater satisfaction in the relationship. The Community Cares for Caregiver series encompasses useful, real-world information to not only cope but enrich your caring relationship.

Above & Beyond: "Getting Through" with Patricia Midurski, R.N., Janice Warr, R.N., & Jennifer Marszalek, MSW, LICSW of Community Nurse & Hospice Care

Join us on Three consecutive Mondays: February 25, March 4, & March 11, from 1:00-2:00 p.m. Fairhaven Council on Aging, 229 Huttleston Avenue, Fairhaven. **Please register by February 18**

For more information or to register for these or other support groups, please call our office (508) 992-6278 or visit www.communitynurse.com

Community Garden

Would you like to save on your grocery bill by growing your own vegetables, herbs or flowers? Would you like to eat food that is not treated with chemicals? Would you enjoy gardening with your neighbors, sharing information, skills and experience?

The Fairhaven Community Garden would like to know if you are interested in having a small plot in a community garden (our current location is at Hastings Middle School and a future location may be at East Fairhaven Elementary). For \$10 you will be given a 4 x 8 foot bed beside other Fairhaven gardeners to grow your own vegetables this summer.

Please let the committee know of your interest or questions by calling Laurie Hellstrom at 508-993-3802 or emailing lauriehellstrom@yahoo.com. Additional information and 2013 guidelines are available at www.fairhavencommunitygarden.org.

Little League

2013 Fairhaven Acushnet Little League Baseball signups will be held on **Sunday Feb 10 from 5-8** at the Fairhaven complex on Shaw Rd (upstairs), **Monday Feb 11 from 6-8pm** at the Acushnet VFW 28 Roosevelt St in Acushnet, **Tuesday Feb 12 from 6-8pm** at the Fairhaven

complex on Shaw Rd (upstairs), **Wednesday Feb 13 from 6-8pm** at the Acushnet VFW 28 Roosevelt St in Acushnet

For further details, please visit our Facebook page or email fairhavenacushnetlittleleague@gmail.com.

Valentine's Dance

Valentine's dance to benefit Fairhaven veterans at VFW Fairhaven, **Feb. 9. See ad on page 24 for details.**

Sponsors needed

The West Island 5 K is looking for sponsors for the second annual walk/race scheduled for April 28. Sponsors at all levels are needed. All proceeds benefit the Fairhaven High School Cross Country program. Last year's inaugural event raised \$12,800.

For information, contact Lyle Drew at WestIsland5K@yahoo.com or 571-765-0910. Visit www.westisland5k.org for more information about the race.

Vacation at Millicent

The following programs will be held on school vacation week at the Millicent Library, 45 Center St., Fairhaven. Accessible. To register, call the library at 508-992-5342, or email Jane Murphy (jmurphy@sailsinc.org). Visit <http://www.millicentlibrary.org/>

Monday, February 18th, Presidents' Day Holiday. The library is closed.

Tues., Feb. 19th, Storytime for all ages, babies & up! 10-11 a.m. Drop in.

Wed., Feb. 20 A.M. Program: Yoga with Stephanie, ages 4+. Sign up!

Wed., Feb. 20 P.M. Program: Lego Club. Ages 4 and up. Bring your own Legos, other building toys, Pokemon cards, etc. We'll have Twister and more games set up as well. 2:30- 4:30

Thurs., Feb. 21st 2-4:45 p.m. Gamernoon/Crafternoon. We'll be celebrating some Authors' birthdays.

Fri., Feb. 22nd A.M. Program: Aoife Clancy's "Musik 'N Fun" program returns! SIGN UP! Limited to 15 children per session.

10 a.m.: Babies to 2 ½;

11 a.m.: 2 ½ through age 4.

Fri., Feb. 22. P.M. Program: Tween and Teen Get Together and Book discussion. 2:30-4:30. We'll take a look at some of the recent Youth Media Award Winners (Caldecott, Newbery, Printz, etc.) Refreshments will be served, and you may come in costume!

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Bowl For Kids

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Child & Family Services' 9th Annual Bowl for Kids' Sake. This is a great event for family, friends, coworkers, and people of all ages to get together for a fun afternoon of bowling to benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Sunday, March 10 from 1:00pm - 3:00pm, at Wonder Bowl, New Bedford, MA

For more information, contact Deanna Bodeau at (508) 990-0894 or visit www.child-familyservices.org/whats-happening.

Vets Spaghetti Sup

3rd Annual Spaghetti Supper To Benefit The Veteran's Transition House of Greater New Bedford At the United Fisherman's Club, 639 Orchard Street, New Bedford

March 10, from 1600-2000 (4-8 p.m.)

Featuring "Video DJ Rick" From "Rick's Outboard" on the Bridge

Also Raffles, etc. Call Walter Baiardi at (508)989-0350 For Tickets. Adults \$10.00; Kids under 12 \$5.00

You can say you support Veterans, or you can show it! Come Eat, Drink, and Dance for a Great Cause!

Youth Basketball

Boys & Girls Club of GNB Annual Basketball Challenge Tournament for boys & girls. Division I — 4th & 5th Grade, Division II — 6th, 7th & 8th Grade (March 2nd & March 9th). The \$125 per-team registration fee includes team jerseys and trophies for champions. No AAU teams. Looking for sponsors or teams. Call Robert Mendes at (508) 992-8011. Visit www.bgcnewbedford.org for more information on the Boys & Girls Club of Greater New Bedford

Frederick Douglass Read-A-Thon

The New Bedford Historical Society invites the public to the 13th annual Frederick Douglass community read-a-thon of *The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*, written by Douglass himself (1845).

Read-A-Thon will be held on Sunday, February 10, from 2-6 PM, at Friends Meeting House, 83 Spring

Street, New Bedford.

If you would like to be a reader, please contact the NBHS office at 508-979-8828 or email Laurie Robertson-Lorant at info@nbhistoricalsociety.org

Program supported by the New Bedford Day Nursery Fund Helen Ellis Foundation and CHT Foundation.

Free Films

The following free films will be shown at the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, Corson Maritime Learning Center, 33 William St., New Bedford; call 508-996-4095, or visit www.nps.gov.

Proud to be Cape Verdean (PTBCV): A Look at Cape Verdeans in the Golden State, a documentary about the Cape Verdean community in California, will screen on **Friday, February 8 at 6:15pm**. PTBCV captures the essence of the Cape Verdean culture in California through an insightful look at individuals and organizations and their desire to maintain their cultural identity. The music of the Mendes Brothers, John and Ramiro, is featured. Actor/producer Michael Beach lends his voice talents as narrator.

The Dock-U-Mentaries Film Series continues at **7 p.m. on Friday, February 15 - Port of New Bedford Then and Now** Phil Mello has been documenting New Bedford's working waterfront since 1975. He will share his photographs and observations about the port. Mr. Mello is Plant Manager at Bergie's Seafood and is the immediate past President of the New Bedford Port Society.

Fish Ind. Antiques

The Working Waterfront Festival's Portholes Project is pleased to present **Industry Antiques Road Show, Saturday, February 9 - Seaman's Bethel, 2PM**. Explore the history of the fishing industry while learning about its' "antiques." Old machinery, tools, and gadgets will be displayed while a panel of "industry old timers" will discuss the use of these objects and how the industry has changed over time. Bring in an artifact of your own and try to stump our panel of experts.

Navigate to us at www.workingwaterfrontfestival.org.

Tax info for Artists

Saturday February 9th, from 4-6 p.m. \$10 at the door.

Have questions about financial planning, tax deductions, sales tax, lowering your risk of an audit? Join us for a workshop with CPA Richard Streitfeld who will be able to answer all these questions and many more!

Free Consultations: From 1-3 p.m. Rich Streitfeld will be offering FREE consultations with paid registration to the evening workshop. Pick his brain for 20 minutes on that nagging business question: should I be an employee or free-lancer? Be paying estimated taxes? Buy a company car? Become an LLC? If you have detailed questions about your tax return then you may want to bring your prior year's tax return. You must register in advance with Alicia at 508-984-1588 aliciam@artworksforyou.org if you would like a consultation.

At ArtWorks!, 384 Acushnet Ave., downtown New Bedford; <http://www.artworksforyou.org>, 508-994-1588

Sweet History Lesson

Impress your Valentine with your knowledge of chocolate at the New Bedford Whaling Museum's "**Pre-Valentine's Day Chocolate Primer**," on **Saturday, February 9 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** The free public event features talks by two chocolate historians and sampling of authentic colonial chocolate beverage recipes in the Jacobs Family Gallery at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, 18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford; 508-997-0046 www.whalingmuseum.org

Chocolate became a highly regarded addition to ship's fare on whaling and merchant vessels according to "Chocolate: History Culture and Heritage," a definitive 1000-page reference on chocolate and its development as a global industry. Two of the book's contributing authors will talk in the Cook Memorial Theater. The book is available in the Museum store.

Admission is free to the Pre-Valentine's Day Chocolate Primer. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Regular admission rates apply to the Museum galleries.

HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

Comedy Night

The Showstoppers community-service singing troupe will be holding an adult comedy night fundraiser at Salerno's Seaside Function Hall located at 196 Onset Avenue in Onset Village on **Friday, Feb. 8 at 6:30 p.m.**

Tickets are \$25 each and include an Italian dinner. Also available will be a Chinese auction, raffle, and cash bar.

Proceeds will be used to help cover expenses associated with the troupe's upcoming performance in Walt Disney World in August.

For tickets or more information, call Jamie Wiksten at 508-295-0379 or Erin Moreau at 508-758-7945.

Children's Theater

Buzzards Play Productions' Children's Theatre Presents "Shoo Fly Pudding." Take your children to see children perform. They might get hooked on a wonderful way to express themselves. The play "Shoo Fly Pudding" will be performed **Saturday, February 9th and Sunday, February 10th at 2pm. Tickets are \$5.00 for both children and adults.** Buzzards Play Productions is located at 3065 Cranberry Hwy, E. Wareham, MA (directly across from Benny's), 508-291-0865.

Directed by Janice Rogers, the Artistic Director of BPP, the cast of 11 children has been working hard for weeks. Ranging in age from 9 to 11, the actors have been working on character development and projection.

The plot of "Shoo Fly Pudding" revolves around a group of students who find it necessary to stand up for themselves against an unyielding establishment.

Come and be part of the audience for this fun frolic.

Acush. Scholarships

The Acushnet Teachers Association Scholarship application forms are now available for students and their families to download online.

In order to assist Acushnet residents in continuing to build their academic futures, the Acushnet Teachers Association annually awards scholarships to qualified students. Residents of Acushnet or individuals who have attended Acushnet Public Schools for any number of years enrolling in a full-

time college program in 2013-14 are eligible for these awards.

Visit www.acushnetteachers.com for printable application forms and more information about the ATA Scholarship Program. Hard copies of applications are available in the Ford Middle School main office at 708 Middle Road, Acushnet. **Applications and required paperwork are due on May 1, 2013.** For questions, please contact Kristine Daniels, A.T.A. Scholarship Committee Co-Chair, at kdaniels@acushnet.k12.ma.us or 508-998-0265 ext. 1205.

Black Hist Month

Sunday, February 10th, 2013 at 3:00, "JUBILEE: Music & Words Celebrating Black History Month 2013" at the First UU Society of Middleboro, 25 South Main St. Suggested donation is \$15. For more information or reservations, call 508-947-1935. Snow date: Feb. 17th.

GOP Meeting

The Dartmouth Republican Town Committee will meet on **Feb. 12, at 6:30 P.M. at the Southworth Library**

For more info or to join, please contact Bob Gauvin at dartrepublicantc@yahoo.com

Bird Club Mtg.

The Paskamansett Bird Club's monthly meeting will take place at 7:30 pm on **Wed., Feb. 13., at the community hall of Friends Meeting, 739 Horseneck Rd., S. Dartmouth.** Well-known bird photographer Geoff Dennis will show pictures of hummingbirds seen in our local area.

Geoff Dennis began photographing birds in his yard as a hobby, primarily to document the unusual birds he occasionally observed. His photography eventually led him into the unique niche of providing photographs for bird feeder companies. In his own yard, Geoff has observed more than 180 species of birds. His photographs have been used by RI Audubon, RI Nature Conservancy, US Fish and Wildlife, and Cornell University's online Birds of North America. Geoff lives in Little Compton, RI, with his wife Emily, and works as a commercial fisherman.

The presentation will be followed by refreshments and the opportunity

to speak with the presenter and club members. The meeting is accessible and open to the public at no charge.

NFIA Awards Banquet

The North Fairhaven Improvement Association will be holding its annual Outstanding Public Servant Awards Banquet. This year NFIA will be honoring former Selectman and current NFIA President, Mike Silvia. Special recognition will also be given to Police Sargent Stephen Foster, Firefighter/Paramedic Brendon Hayden and School Nurse Denise Valois. The event will take place on **Saturday March 2nd, 2013 at the Century House in Acushnet.** Social hour at 6:00 pm; dinner at 7:00 pm. The dinner will feature soup, salad, dessert and family style serving of two entrees, baked chicken and roast pork. Cost is \$26.00 per person. For tickets contact Mike at 508-990-3622 or send checks payable to NFIA to P.O. Box 877, Fairhaven, MA 02719

Call for Artists

Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust (DNRT) is seeking an artist to decorate an "iron ranger" to be placed at Parsons Reserve daffodil field, located near Russell's Mills Village in Dartmouth MA. Over 5,000 people visit the daffodil field each spring, and DNRT will use the decorated iron ranger to collect donations and memberships to support its ongoing work preserving the Parsons Reserve and other special places in Dartmouth.

The iron ranger is currently at DNRT office and can be viewed with prior notice to help with design inspiration. A picture is also on the website: www.dnrt.org.

All design submissions must be received by February 19, 2013, and sent in via email or the postal service, or dropped off at the DNRT office at 404 Elm Street, Dartmouth, MA 02748. The winner will be announced on March 1st. Once chosen, the artist will have until April 1st to complete painting before the box is installed at the Parsons Reserve.

If you have any questions, please contact Stasia at 508-991-2289 or stasia@dnrt.org

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| Feb 9: Valentine's Dance, 6-mid | Feb 23: Night Flight/Karaoke, 9-midnight |
| Feb 10: Vendor Fair, 10-3 | Meat Raffle: Every Thurs., 7 p.m. |
| Feb 15: WCW Wrestling, 7 p.m. | |
| Feb 16: Girl Friday, 9-1 | |



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Militia members brave the cold to make a point

By Beth David
Editor

Members of the Fairhaven Village Militia camped outside in frigid winter temperatures over the weekend to try to show what the country's revolutionaries had to endure when fighting the British in the 1700s.

Fairhaven saw its share of revolutionary war battles and boasts the first naval battle of the war.

Militia members enjoyed venison stew warmed over an open fire on the lawn of the Academy Building. Members wore authentic period clothing that included lots of wool. A few brave souls slept outside all night, for two nights.

Jonathan St. Leurent, 16, opted for a Subway sandwich, but did wear the traditional garb. A member of the militia, Mr. St. Leurent says he is able to shoot the muskets and take part in

all of the militia's activities. He did not, however, sleep out in the cold.

During the day on Saturday, people stopped by to hear and see demonstrations of life in the 1770s, including musket fire and firing of the small cannon.

Phil Martin walked over from his house on the block with his four children and their three cousins.

Ellsworth "Ellie" Sylvaria, a direct descendant of Bartholomew West, whose house was burned by the British in 1778, reached into a large chest to show the children various items that soldiers needed. He demonstrated how to load a musket, explaining the phrases, "lock, stock and barrel" (the three parts that make up the whole musket); "half-cocked" (the gun won't fire if it's only half-cocked); and "flash in the pan," (when the gunpowder in the pan burned without firing a musket ball).

Mr. Sylvaria also showed the children various pouches made of animal skins, a musket ball maker, musket balls, cannon balls for the small cannon, a tomahawk rock, and demonstrated how to start a fire with flint.

After a brief explanation of how his descendant's house ended up getting burned down, Mr. Sylvaria told the children that Fairhaven was a great place to live, with lots of history.

"There's lots and lots of history out there about Fairhaven," said Mr. Sylvaria, and he encouraged the children to learn more about their own family histories.

"That's why I do it, for the kids," said Mr. Sylvaria after his audience left. "I love it when they actually start getting it."

Then he went back to the venison stew on the fire.



TOP LEFT: Members of the Fairhaven Village Militia fire their muskets in a demonstration on Saturday, 2/2. Militia members camped out on the lawn of the Academy Building on Main Street to show what the revolutionaries endured in the 1770s. TOP RIGHT: Militia member Ellie Sylvaria shows how soldiers kept their money on their hats, along with a pipe on the other side. ABOVE LEFT: a collection of children's toys and other items used in 1770s America. ABOVE RIGHT: The Martin and Manning cousins take turns holding a cannonball for the small cannon. *Photos by Beth David.*

Fairhaven swears in three police officers

By Beth David
Editor

Friends, family and town officials gathered in front of Fairhaven town hall in the frigid cold on Monday morning, 2/4, to witness the swearing in of Fairhaven's newest police officers. Alexander Kisla, 23, Wayne Mello, 24, and Andrew Quintin, 25, all of Fairhaven, graduated from the police academy in Plymouth on Friday 2/1, and were sworn in by Fairhaven Town Clerk Eileen Lowney on Monday.

The three men endured a long road through a grueling academy to get to the point where they will be able to patrol the streets of Fairhaven. The next step is riding along with an experienced officer for awhile before they each get to go solo.

After swearing to uphold the bylaws of the town, the laws of the commonwealth and the constitution of the United States, the three new officers signed the book in the town clerk's officers acknowledging they had been duly sworn in. They loitered in and around town hall for a bit to take pictures with family members, before starting their new duties.

"I've wanted to be a police officer since I was a little kid," said Mr. Kisla. "It's always been a dream of mine."

His mother, Andrea, said he wanted to be a police officer since he was two.

"Two? Maybe five," said Mr. Kisla.

But mom knows best.

"At the time I thought it looked cool," said Mr. Kisla. "Now, I want to serve the community, to protect people."

Ms. Kisla said she felt "overwhelmed and very proud of my son and the other officers."

She said she encouraged him, because she herself had unfulfilled dreams of being a police detective.

Mr. Kisla, "born and raised in Fairhaven," admitted to being a little nervous, but said "There's probably no better feeling than this, other than Friday [graduation day]."

He said there were a "lot of emotions going right through my body," on Friday. "I don't think it can get better than a dream come true."



Mr. Quintin said he felt his strengths were geared to the job. He said he was a professional, dedicated and a hard worker who handles stress well.

Mr. Mello said he was drawn to the job because it would be different every day.

"This isn't your regular Monday through Friday job," said Mr. Mello.

He said from "half-hour to half-hour you don't know what will happen."

He said he wanted a chance to serve the community and the town.

The academy started out with 60 recruits, and graduated 57, including officers who will be working in New Bedford, Acushnet, and Dartmouth.

"I have high hopes for them," said Fairhaven police chief Michael Myers. "All three did a great job in the academy, and I'm very excited to get them out on the streets."

He said their first few days will include a lot of administrative work and ride-alongs.

Chief Myers said the department has been short-handed due to three retirements and two injuries, so the three new officers have been eagerly anticipated.

Last week the Selectboard voted to send two more officers to the police academy, including a woman. If she graduates from the academy, the department of about 30 officers will have four women.

In addition to passing the academy training, officers must pass a battery of physical and psychological tests, according to the chief.



ABOVE: Fairhaven town clerk Eileen Lowney looks on as newly minted Fairhaven police officer Andrew Quintin signs the book after being sworn in on Monday, Feb. 4. Officers Wayne Mello (Left) and Alexander Kisla (Back) wait their turn. TOP: Alexander Kisla poses in front of town hall with (L-R) his mother Andrea Kisla, Travis Clark and Meagan Ferreira after being sworn in as a Fairhaven police officer on Monday, 2/4. Photos by Jim Mahaney. See them in color at www.NeighbNews.com Find Jim's photography at JimMahaneyPhotography.Smugmug.com

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This four-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 19; Time: 7:45-3:00pm; Cost 100.00 for members/\$125.00 for non-members

Flashlight Egg Hunt

Join us for the 11th annual Flashlight Egg Hunt! Children will search for their eggs on the Recreation Center grounds, take pictures with the Easter Bunny and receive a special treat. Don't forget to bring your flashlight! NO LATE REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED. NO WALK-INS NIGHT OF THE EVENT.

Friday, March 22nd. Time 7:30pm
Cost \$5 per child Ages 10 and under

Deadline to register is Tuesday, March 19th

RI Flower Show

The Rhode Island Flower show attracts more than 30,000 attendees annually, showcasing garden displays and 250 larger-than-life garden marketplace vendors. Come think Spring!!!

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2/20: Warwick Mall

2/27: South Shore Plaza

Entertainment

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Special Activities

Tax Help Available

Tax Appointments available beginning 2/5 Tues. and Thurs., short form. Call Senior Center for appt.

Healthy By Choice

Pat Perryman presents Healthy By Choice Tues. 2/12 at 1:00 p.m and 6:00 p.m. If you are overweight, have diabetes, high blood pressure or depression, this is for you.

Foxwoods Trip

Tues. 2/26 leaves Sr. Center 7:15 a.m. \$20.00 per person includes \$10.00 food coupon or free buffet and \$10.00 KENO. Call Senior Center for more information.

SHINE Counselors

SHINE Counselors at the Fairhaven Senior Center are always available to answer all of your health insurance concerns even though the deadline to change your prescription plan has expired.

SHINE Counselors will determine

if you qualify for the Government to stop deducting the Medicare Part B Premium of \$104.90 from your Social Security check each month. They can also complete the Mass. Health application for you free of charge, if you meet the income and asset limits. Call 508-979-4029 and ask for Lucille.

Bowling

Every Thurs. 12:30-3:30 p.m. The Jolly Seniors at Bowlmoor Lanes Mattapoisett. To sign up, call Ron Swistak, 508-994-7773, or George Arruda, 508-995-5638.

Senior Work-Off Program

Earn a \$500.00 tax credit for 62.5 hours work. Work in a town department. Looking for someone to do custodial work at the St. Center and someone to do street listings. For more information call the Senior Center and ask for Phyllis.

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Acushnet town meeting to vote on new library/community center

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

A visit to Acushnet's Howard Memorial Library can be a daunting experience; for some Acushnet residents, it is simply impossible. First, if you manage to grab an empty parking space out of the five available, you've just met one challenge.

Next, you find yourself standing at the bottom of a steep set of stone steps that wind up to the entrance. If you can walk, then you are almost there. If you use a wheelchair, scooter, or cane, the wait for the elevator is a long one — because there isn't one.

You're in business if you planned on breezing in and grabbing your books to-go — the one table with four chairs smack dab in the middle of the room, especially in the afternoon after school, is probably full.

One of the four computers available might be open; if not, you could use the free Wi-Fi — that is, if one of those four seats at the table opens up.

The library that opened in 1913 for a population of 4,000 people now serves (or underserves) a community of more than 10,000.

On Monday, 2/11, town meeting will decide if the library will get an upgrade, along with the community center.

"People seem to think that since the Internet, people don't use the library anymore," said Library Director Jayme Viveiros.

Wrong, she says.

"Do people use the library anymore? Yes. People use the library every day," she said, "...and they certainly deserve more than what they have right now."

Acushnet's use of library resources is up 50% since 2006, and about 17,000 visitors use the library

annually. None of them in a wheelchair, though.

A library for Acushnet's growing population should have around 40,000 to 44,000 items in its collection for checking out; but Acushnet only has about 26,000.

The 3,600 square-foot facility, of which only 1,600 s.f. is public space, is filled past capacity, said Ms. Viveiros, and there isn't a square inch to spare. Half the book collection is stored upstairs away from public access, unable to be browsed by the community.

There is no area dedicated to children, no story time area and no

It's not a Taj Majal. This is a very basic design... it's very efficient.
[Jayme Viveiros]

little seats for little bodies. One small aisle serves the teen population, and there is no place for them to meet their friends, work on school projects, or do their homework. Ms. Viveiros says they offer what they can, as best they can.

"These stairs are killing me," Acushnet resident Connie Preston could be heard telling the librarian while checking out some books.

The two laughed as Ms. Preston confessed that she used to work at the library but has since retired.

"It's probably one of the reasons why I left," she said chuckling.

Residents will decide at the Special

Town Meeting whether or not to allow the Library/Community Center project to move forward onto the 4/1 ballot allowing voters to accept or reject a debt exclusion for \$2.9 million. State grant money will fund over 50%, or \$3.2 million of the \$6 million project that would bring the Acushnet library and community center into the 21st century.

A rear second-story addition to the former Howard School on Middle Street, the current location of the Community Center, would be the librar's new home. With ample space devoted to a children's area, a separate young adult area for more books, seating, and computer access, ample safe parking, and, most importantly, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility to all library and community center facilities, all the problems that exist now at the library would be solved.

"It's not a Taj Majal," said Ms. Viveiros. "This is a very basic design... it's very efficient."

As for the all-volunteer community center, the change would breathe new life into a town service that is vital to teenagers and pre-teens. The center's lease is up in June, according to director Nancy Francis, and the decision has already been made not to renew.

"Over the years the number of volunteers has dwindled and operating expenses have increased," said Ms. Francis. She said operating expenses are \$1200/month, with heat alone costing the center \$7,000 per year. The center receives no town funds to operate.

For 15 years, the center has provided a space for children to drop in for both structured and un-

ACUSH: cont'd on page 19



Chocolate Works

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Exp. 2/28/13

SELECT: cont'd from page 4

Gerry Rooney and further talks with Mr. Rasmussen.

The board is considering new locations for voting, in response to complaints from the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities about accessibility difficulties during the last town polling as well as concerns about security at schools. Dr. Bowcock noted that law enforcement officials go to great lengths to ensure security at schools all year long, yet four or five times a year the schools are expected to open and allow everyone in during voting. Other locations, including fire departments and senior centers have been used as polling sites in the past, and it may be useful to consider using those

options again in the future, added Selectboard member Charles Murphy.

In other business the board:

- Accepted a letter from Deputy Fire Chief Donn M. Fletcher requesting early retirement, set for July 1, 2015;
- Set town vehicle gas rates at \$3.60 gallon for estimating FY14 costs;
- Approved Aaron Cebula for a slip at the Union Wharf Small Boat Basin;
- Reconvened in executive session to discuss a police personnel hearing, clerical and police union (dispatcher) contract negotiations, an annuities proposal submitted by a company called Secure Benefits, and to pick candidates to interview for the town Finance Director position.

Fairhaven election update

The Fairhaven election has several contested races this year, with several more people throwing their hats into the ring since our last update.

In addition to incumbent Brian Bowcock and Geoffrey Haworth vying for one seat on the Selectboard, Fairhaven could see contested races for Board of Health, Planning Board and School Committee.

Board of Health incumbent Peter DeTerra could face two challengers on April 1st, including Windwings activist Curt Devlin. Mr. Devlin took out papers on 1/31, but had not returned them by press time. John

Wethington also took out papers for the one Board of Health seat.

John Farrell was appointed by the Selectboard on Monday night to fill a vacant seat on the Planning Board, disappointing Cathy Melanson, who also wanted the appointment. The unexpired term will be on the ballot and both Mr. Farrell and Ms. Melanson have taken out papers for the seat.

Three people have pulled papers for two seats on the school committee, newcomer Diane Hahn and incumbents Benerd Roderick and Stasia Powers.

Commissioner of Trusts could also see a race, with Barbara Acksen, who used to be on the board, and Mark Badwey, who is no newbie when it comes to town boards, both taking out nomination papers.

Papers need to be returned with the requisite number of signaures by Monday, 2/11.

Legal Notices/ Public Hearings FAIRHAVEN PLANNING BOARD

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Fairhaven Planning Board will conduct a Public Hearing at **6:30 P.M. on February 26, 2013**, in the **Banquet Room**, Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA.

The purpose of the hearing will be to receive information and public comment on the following application. The applicant, **BayCoast Bank**, is requesting Special Permit approval, for renovations to the drive-thru, modifications to site circulation, re-stripping of parking spaces and additional drainage improvements. The location of the property is 75 Alden Road, Map-30A, Lot-86D.

A copy of the application is on file for public review at the Planning Board Office, Town Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment to review the application call the Planning Department at (508) 979-4082.

Wayne Hayward, Chairman of the Planning Board

Board of Appeals

The Fairhaven Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 5, 2013, at 6:00 PM in the Town Hall to consider the following petitions:

1. **Petitioner: James R. Gilbert**, 58 Ocean Avenue; Plat 29C, Lot 249-250; Book 9563 and Page 17; 198-18: Short 9' of the required 30' front setback, short 10' of the required 20' east and west side setbacks & 5% over the maximum allowed building coverage of 15% all within a RR District.
2. **Petitioner: Edward E. Martin for EM & CM Family Limited Partnership**, 17 Shore Drive; Plat 29C, Lot 619-620; Book 6508 and Page 235; 198-18: Short 5' of the required 20' north and south side setbacks, short 10' of the required 30' front setback west side & 7% over the maximum allowed lot coverage of 15% in a RR District. A Special Permit is required for expansion of a non-conforming lot.
3. **Petitioner: Baycoast Bank**, 75 Alden Road; Plat 30A, Lot 86D; Book 3713 and Page 250; 198-18: Short 12' of the required 50' front setback within an Industrial District.

Peter DeTerra, Chairman

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Fairhaven's budget about \$4 million over projected revenue

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

Everyone played nice, for the most part, at this week's Fairhaven Finance Committee meeting on 1/30. Police Chief Michael Myers and Town Accountant Anne Carreiro both survived their budget presentations, and Executive Secretary to the Selectboard Jeffrey Osuch endured round two of budget talks with Chairperson John Roderiques. The uncertain future of the recreation center was also discussed with pessimism.

Mr. Osuch started out with a presentation on the governor's cherry sheet and the final budget numbers, including projected revenue, which was interrupted by the 7:30 appointment with the chief and continued later in the meeting. Both Mr. Osuch and Mr. Roderiques kept their cool, with the exception of Mr. Roderiques's lashing out once at Mr. Osuch over the correct time.

Even though Governor Deval Patrick is allotting \$10,355,000 in state aid to Fairhaven, Mr. Osuch said some of the amounts promised for specific uses are "shaky" and will probably wind up being less. He said all departments' budgets had been received, amounting to a total of \$48,053,000 for FY14, about \$1.6 million more than last year. Articles requesting funding for Annual Town Meeting total about \$1.1 million.

The committee received three different projected revenue totals for FY13: the maximum revenue, a mid-range amount, and a conservative estimate; \$44 million, \$43.2 million, and \$42.7 million respectively.

"There's some decisions that have to be made," Mr. Osuch said.

Mr. Roderiques replied, "It's a clear realization that we've got work to do."

"In all three scenarios you have to make cuts," said Mr. Osuch in a follow-up phone interview.

Since the last meeting, Mr. Osuch plugged in the dollar amount for Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech, \$2.3 million, including an approximate \$200,000 increase for the new renovations loan.

The viability of the Fairhaven Recreation Center remaining open in the future was questioned, with Mr.

Roderiques suggesting that the facility cannot sustain itself financially in the long-term.

Mr. Roderiques posed the question, "Do we continue to subsidize the recreation center?"

He said Town Meeting voted to keep the facility open, saying, "I was opposed to it...because of where we are now."

He said, "If you're going to shut it down next year, why not shut it down this year?"

He stated, however, that it was still too early to advocate for anything.

Chief Myers explained the significant increases in certain budget lines that swallowed up other line items that will no longer exist starting FY14.

The small tools line item has been taken out and the requested funds

The viability of the Fairhaven Recreation Center remaining open in the future was questioned, with Mr. Roderiques suggesting that the facility cannot sustain itself financially in the long-term.

added to the maintenance & repair line item, causing the budget item to increase. Also eliminated was a Town Meeting-approved police technology account that the DOR report advised was illegal, or not set up properly. The \$5,000 from the police tech account was moved to the maintenance & repair budget.

An increase in the budget for purchasing new police cruisers was up another \$7,000 because the Crown Victoria Interceptor, which has replaced the traditional Crown Victoria police cruiser, increased in price this year.

The Town's policy is to replace two vehicles every year, which Mr. Roderiques said was a good policy, in his opinion. Part of the increased cost is due to equipment incompatibility; for example, the backseat cages from the Crown Victorias do not fit in the

Interceptor.

Although the actual article has not yet been submitted for Town Meeting approval, Chief Myers will be seeking \$22,000 for a telephone system upgrade because maintenance of the outdated system is no longer feasible.

The system was installed in 1999 by a company that is no longer in business, making finding replacement parts more difficult with each passing year. Chief Myers said the voicemail system keeps crashing, becoming a significant issue.

Mr. Roderiques thanked Chief Myers for his time and said, "If the surgical knife has to come out, we'll bring you back."

Ms. Carreiro's presentation was brief, with most discussion focused on her request for an increase in seminar and travel expenses. Ms. Carreiro said she usually looks to other town accountants of surrounding towns to cost-share by carpooling and sharing hotel rooms because she has no budget for travel expenses.

"I feel as though I shouldn't have to piggy back on another town," said Ms. Carreiro. She told the committee every year she attends an annual tax re-cap meeting that she said she has to "eat at the end of the year."

"The budget is pretty straightforward and simple," Mr. Roderiques told Ms. Carreiro. He said if she thinks the seminars and travel expenses are something she deems necessary, then the committee will weigh the request with everything else.

"It would be wise for (the Selectboard) to adopt a formal policy for seminars," said Mr. Roderiques.

Before wrapping up the meeting, Mr. Osuch continued to stress the importance of maintaining the Town's bond rating. Fairhaven is tied with Plymouth, Somerset, Marion, Mattapoisett, and Dartmouth for the highest bond rating in Southeast Massachusetts.

"We are the poorest of those communities," said Mr. Osuch. With demographics that Mr. Osuch called "not good," a small tax base, a bad economy, high unemployment and a 9% poverty rate, Mr. Osuch said these red flags could potentially be strikes

FINCOM: cont'd on page 21

ACUSH: cont'd from page 16

structured programs. The operating hours have dwindled along with the people power, now operating only four evenings per week.

Ms. Francis still offers free math tutoring on Monday nights and has students from elementary through college dropping in for her expertise.

"It's an important part of the center that kids know if they need extra help that can come see me," she said.

The center also holds monthly dances for middle school students. The dances are well attended, with more than 200 showing up routinely.

"We have to turn them away," she said, adding that she believes it is one of the most important programs the center runs.

"Kids at that age so need to learn how to socialize and not what they see on TV," said Ms. Francis. "I'm a teacher and my partner running it is a teacher, so we know how to deal with kids, make sure they behave and are safe."

The center has other programs, of course, but those two are the most important in her opinion. She said most of the programs they run are not duplicated in town.

"If they are lost to the town, kids

are going to suffer big in town," said Ms. Francis.

The Cable Access studio is also housed in the building.

If the library and community center do merge under the same roof, the community center's fund-raising efforts will help with the library's budget. It will function as a volunteer group of the library.

Ms. Viveiros said she imagines that operating the library at the new location would cost less per square foot than it does now.

Upgrading the current library with ADA ramps and widening the aisles and spaces for wheelchair access is not a viable option. In order to comply with the ADA, half the existing collection would have to go just to make enough space.

Simply moving the facility to the Community Center space as-is, after the Center shuts down that is, would still cost the Town \$2 million out-of-pocket, and the major space issues would remain unsolved. Alterations such as reinforcing the floors to withstand 150 pounds per foot would be costly, with no assistance from grant money. Ms. Viveiros said it

would be a Band-Aid in the short run.

Residents interested in voting on the Library/Community Center project are encouraged to attend Special Town Meeting on 2/11 at Ford Middle School at 7:00 p.m. The project needs a 2/3 majority vote to make it to the 4/1 ballot.

"This project is absolutely needed for the Town," said Kristen Leotti, the chairperson of the Library Board of Trustees. "A lot of people want this project but it won't happen unless people show up at Town Meeting to vote."

Ms. Leotti said the library and Community Center could offer Acushnet so much more as a combined entity than they ever could under the existing circumstances.

"Libraries are not just book depositories anymore," said Ms. Leotti. There is a tremendous variety of what it has to offer."

Ms. Francis noted that the library is also "financially strapped" as a town funded entity. She said it cannot do a lot of the "extra stuff for kids" that the community center does, so "we will do that."

Beth David contributed to this report.



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Think it's been cold? Think again.

By Beth David
Editor

In response to what he called the "Great Frozen North" pictures of the north side of the causeway in last week's issue, Chuck Aston, Fairhaven High School class of 1960, sent some photos of his own. He said in an email that the area experienced a "monumental cold" back in the 1950s.



Our pictures of the frozen marsh triggered Chuck Aston's memories of a winter in the late 1950s, when he and a couple of friends were able to walk all the way to Girl Scout Island in Little Bay on the ice. ABOVE: Mr. Aston's Air Force picture taken right after he graduated from Fairhaven High School in 1960. *Submitted photo.*

And he had the pictures to prove it. He wasn't sure of the date, but said the snow pictures on this page were taken in the late 1950s. He was 15 or 16 years old.

He and his friends, John Everett and the late Dan Bolton, braved the salt water ice one day and walked all the way to Girl Scout Island in Little Bay. Chuck is in the leather jacket, Mr. Bolton is pictured with him. Mr. Everett was the photographer of the day.

"We used to ride sleds down the lawn of one of the palaces near Fort Phoenix," wrote Mr. Aston. "When it had been cold enough, long enough, we managed to slide all the way out onto the ice in New Bedford Harbor!"

In one of the photos, Mr. Aston is climbing on a pipe on Girl Scout Island. "Why I bothered is anyone's guess!" he wrote.

Mr. Aston joined the Air Force right after graduating from high school.



ABOVE, L-R: The late Dan Bolton and teenage friend Chuck Aston look like they are standing on clouds as they perch atop some ice in frozen Little Bay in the late 1950s. The water froze enough for the teenagers to walk all the way to Girl Scout Island. LEFT: Chuck Aston shows off by hanging on a pipe sticking from the ground on Girl Scout Island in this picture from the late 1950s. RIGHT: Chuck Aston and the late Dan Bolton pose on the ice with Girl Scout Island in the background. In the late 1950s, the temperature was low enough long enough for the bay to freeze over completely. *Photos submitted by Chuck Aston.*



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FINCOM: cont'd from page 18

against the Town's bond rating in the future.

Mr. Roderiques asked Mr. Osuch if he was willing to take a final stand on using \$3.60/gallon for estimating gas budgets for FY14, and the two argued over the uncertainty of the future of gas prices.

Mr. Roderiques said fine, Mr. Osuch could use the \$3.60 number, adding, "But I'm not gonna be stuck with it if we plug it in today."

There was a brief discussion on a few Community Preservation Committee article for the warrant for road paving, along with a couple of other articles. Mr. Roderiques said he wants to set up a "Selectmen's Night" and will keep the Thursdays in March open for the Selectboard members to attend a FinCom meeting.

"I want to get it all done in one night," Mr. Roderiques said, "and have the pleasure of their company for the whole evening if they want."

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J.W. Eagan

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~Ann Landers

Fairhaven Meetings

Board of Appeals

Tues., 3/5, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Board of Public Works

Thurs., 1/28, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

Commission on Disability

Wed., 3/5, Senior Ctr., 5:30 p.m.

Community Preservation

Thurs., 2/21, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 2/11, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Council on Aging

Tues., 2/12, Senior Ctr., 9:30 a.m.

Finance Committee

Thurs., 2/7, BPW/Arsene St., 7 p.m.
Thurs., 2/14, BPW/Arsene St., 7 p.m.

Planning Board

Tues., 2/12, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 2/13, FHS Media Ctr, 6:30 p.m.

Selectboard

Mon., 2/11, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.
Budget talks with department heads

Acushnet Meetings

Conservation Comm.

Wed., 2/13, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Council on Aging

Tues., 2/14, Senior Ctr., 10 a.m.

Planning Commission

Thurs., 2/21, Parting Ways, 6:30 p.m.

Police Sta. Bldg. Comm

Tues., 2/26, Town Hall, 3 p.m.

Selectboard

Mon., 2/11, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

Special Town Meeting

Mon., 2/11, Ford MS, 7 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	Feb. 2013	HIGH a.m.	p.m.	LOW a.m.	p.m.
Friday	8	0602	1823	----	1209*
Saturday	9	0654	1914	0005*	1255*
Sunday	10	0743	2003	0058*	1336*
Monday	11	0830	2050	0147*	1413*
Tuesday	12	0917	2137	0232*	1449*
Wednesday	13	1003	2223	0314*	1524*
Thursday	14	1049	2310	0354*	1600*
Friday	15	1136	2357	0434	1638*
Saturday	16	----	1223	0518	1721
Sunday	17	0045	1312	0613	1812
Monday	18	0136	1405	0733	1915
Tuesday	19	0234	1504	0908	2028
Wednesday	20	0339	1606	1005	2133
Thursday	21	0439	1700	1050	2228

*= Predicted minus tides from -0.1 ft. to -1.0 ft
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Sat., 2/23: Headcase

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Entertainment & Upcoming Events

Sat., 2/9:

The Relics, 8:30-12:30

FAT TUESDAY, 2/12:

Mardis Gras Party with Wicked Weezy, 8-midnight

Valentine's Day, 2/14:

The Relics, 8:30-12:30

Every Thurs.:

Karaoke with Cowboy Al, 7-11

Wicked Weezy, Karaoke

Every Tues, 8-midnight, Every Friday, 9-1 a.m.

54 Main Street • Fairhaven • 508-993-0046

Valentine's Day Dance

VFW Fairhaven To Benefit the Fairhaven Veterans



Hosted by George and Cheryl Brownell

At VFW Fairhaven Post 2892

109 Middle Street • Fairhaven • 508-997-1707

February 9 • 7 p.m. • Tickets: \$20.00 pp

Hors d'oeuvres, 7–9 p.m. • Dancing, 9 p.m.–1 a.m.

Music by Reliable Source (Motown Classics)

Tickets available from bartenders at VFW and the Bayside Lounge

