



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 6 • February 14, 2013

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

Blizzard packs a punch, but kids can handle it



TOP: The fierce winds did not stop Sisters Claire, Sadie and Laura Hebert from sledding with their friend Jack Burr down a hill at Fort Phoenix in Fairhaven on Saturday, 2/9. After being cooped up in the house during the storm that dumped 13.5 inches of snow on Fairhaven, the youngsters showed the grown-ups how to act when there's snow on the ground. ABOVE, L-R: Siblings Maggie and Teddy Carroll take turns sledding down the steps of Fairhaven High School on Saturday, 2/9, after the snowing subsided. See page 12 for story. *Photos by Beth David. See them in color at www.NeighbNews.com Visit us at www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews to see more storm photos.*



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Also Inside:

- **Selectboard:** page 4
- **Acushnet news:** page 16
- **Finance Committee:** page 18
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From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

Okay, I'm running at full speed. The storm really messed me up (as if I need that for an excuse).

Just wanna say: Public Works guys...you were GREAT. Plow work was wonderful.

See pages 12 & 13 for storm story and pics. Visit us on Facebook for lots of other pics.

Sorry kids, all of you I took pics of and didn't put in the printed paper. Just only so much room and I ran out of time to try to find more room by bumping, editing, or otherwise squeezing it. The printer is waiting for this baby.

Election update was supposed to go on page 3, but I just didn't have time to do everything, so....a storm picture instead. But you like that, right?

Best storm story that won't make it into any paper. West Island residents JP and Holly Lemieux were stuck in Newark, flight home cancelled. West Island resident Matt Brodo was stuck in Arkansas, flight canceled.

Through Facebook, texts and emails, the three devised a plan: Matt flew to Newark and they all rented a car and drove back.

So, how cool is THAT? I saw all three of them on the causeway on Saturday when I was taking pictures.



They said sometimes it takes a village, and sometimes it takes an island...

What fun! JP even met Matt at his flight with the obligatory name sign...see?

I must say that I had an absolute blast using Facebook during the storm. We had no power, but the satellites were up

so our cell phones worked. Lots of fun.

Random thoughts

- Walking around in snow boots for three days does interesting things to the leg muscles
- The wood stove was the best decision I've made for my little hovel. Thank you, hovel, sweet hovel, you done good
- Glad we took down the big fir tree this fall. The other one, the one that's not so bad, tried to kill my car, but one of my gnome trees stopped it.

Okay, seriously in a rush now. Hope there aren't too many typos in my storm story, hope I didn't forget too many things....wrote it in record time.

But, hey, we have a paper this week.

We also have lots of meeting cover for you this week, but you'll have to thumb through to find it. I'm getting this baby to bed...NOW.

Until next week then...See ya,



Beth David, Publisher

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

More storm photos



This space was set aside for an update on the election, but, alas, your illustrious editor didn't get it done by press time, so, she stuck a couple of storm photos here instead. We knew you'd approve. LEFT: A skiff moored at Hoppy's Landing is still iced up from the storm on Sunday, 2/10. RIGHT: A snow covered stone wall on Green Street stands sentry next to a perfectly cleared sidewalk stretching towards Washington Street in the center of Fairhaven. *Photos by Beth David. See them in color at www.NeighbNews.com Visit us at www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews to see more storm photos.*

Community Cares For Caregivers

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March 4 Grief with Jen Marszalek, LICSW

March 11 Dementia with Pat Midurski, RN



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Selectboard spars with schools over budget

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

The four Fairhaven departments with the largest budgets, otherwise known as the “Big Four,” each presented their FY14 requested budgets to the Selectboard on 2/11. Of the four — public works, School Department, Police Department, and Fire Department — the most contentious moments happened during exchanges between Executive Secretary to the Selectboard Jeffrey Osuch and representatives of the School Department.

Mr. Osuch called them out on a spreadsheet they submitted that showed the budget total for the current FY13 at \$18.1 million, roughly \$365,000 higher than the \$7.65 million actually approved by Town Meeting for FY13. The School Department is requesting \$17,978,499.00 for FY14.

“We’ve always done it this way,” said a defensive School Committee chairperson Pam Kuechler, stating that the \$18.1 million was what the department requested for FY13. Mr. Osuch, however, was not satisfied with the response.

“But if Town Meeting voted for (\$7.65 million) FY13, how do you start with a budget of \$18,015,000?” Mr. Osuch asked.

“I can’t answer that,” said Ms. Kuechler. She said the number has always reflected the budget amount that was requested.

Mr. Osuch later questioned why the salary line item still went up \$23,000 in light of expected staff reductions from combining the Rogers and Wood Schools, along with the retirement of two teachers and one paraprofessional.

School Administrator Paul Kitchen and the School Committee members who were present explained that one principal position, one school nurse, and two Bachelors step 1 teaching positions will be eliminated when the new Wood School opens; however, one new vice-principal position that will be responsible for both East Fairhaven School and Wood School will be added.

Mr. Osuch did the adding and subtracting aloud and stated that the math still did not explain why the salary line item still went up. He moved on to transportation costs which totaled \$653,000 in FY13, now jumping up to \$892,000 for FY14.

What followed was an explanation of the district’s plan to move from a three-tier busing system to a two-tier system by transporting both middle school and high school students at the same time on the same buses.

Ms. Kuechler said that bids for transportation went out that day. She stated that if the lowest bid turns out to be \$50,000 less than expected, then they’ll take it.

“But if it’s \$50,000 more I’m going to come back and ask for \$50,000 more,” Ms. Kuechler said. “If it’s \$450,000, what do you want me to do?”

If a line item goes up \$40,000, Mr. Osuch questioned, then shouldn’t the School Department have to show why? A back and forth between Mr. Osuch and the four school representatives ensued, leading up to a disagreement over the School Department’s line items — or lack thereof.

This being the largest
budget, it would be nice
to see some of the back-up
[Bob Espindola]

Mr. Osuch asked if the Selectboard would ever receive a line item breakdown for salaries to which the School Committee members responded: This is how we’ve always done it and this is how we will continue to do it.

“This being the largest budget,” said Selectperson Bob Espindola, “it would be nice to see some of the back-up.”

Every other department is required to provide a complete breakdown of each line item, including employee salaries. By law, however, the School Department is not required to provide any other line items beside the two generic “salaries” and “operating expenses” line items, and that was their defense.

Ms. Kuechler reminded the board that neither the selectboard nor the Finance Committee hold any line item authority over them.

This is an unusual year for the School Department, maintained the School Committee members, with the

consolidation of the two schools.

“The budget presented this year is probably the most reasonable I’ve ever seen,” said School Committee Member Bernard Roderick.

A discussion on an article to fund new fire escapes at the high school followed, with the School Department requesting \$200,000 to replace the corroded west and east side fire escapes; \$103,000 in leftover Community Preservation Committee will cover the rest of the project.

The Board of Public Works presented their budget; highlights of the discussion were a \$20,000 increase requested for street resurfacing, the continued costs of the anaerobic digester project, and an article requesting \$100,000 for “phase two of three” of a Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan.

“The less money you put into infrastructure,” said Highway Superintendent John Charbonneau, “the more you’re gonna pay for it in the long run.”

Linda Schick, sewer/wastewater superintendent, said many of her line items have increased. The common denominator, she said, is the digester.

Mr. Osuch interrupted Ms. Schick to ask her when the digester will cease draining funds from the budget and reflect savings in the budget.

“What is it costing us to operate?” asked Mr. Osuch, “Where are the savings?”

Ms. Schick said regular maintenance of the digester will require funding. She said, for example, changing the oil in the digester generator every 400 hours will cost \$8,000 per year. She said that there will be at least a \$60,000 decrease in sludge removal costs — a conservative total she hopes will be bigger next year.

Mr. Osuch said he did not think that “piece-mealing” the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan project was the way to go. He asked how much they would be requesting next year, and the next, but Ms. Schick stated that she did not have the figures with her.

“We just thought this was the biggest bang for our buck...with the way money is,” said Superintendent of Public Works Vincent Furtado.

The board also approved a motion for deficit spending on snow removal.

SELECT: cont’d on page 21



Re-elect
Peter DeTerra
Board of Health

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 - Provide mercury-free thermostats & thermometers to Fairhaven residents
 - Participated in public education events (Eco-Fair, etc.)

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just to say: *I truly enjoy*
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every week!

from Louise Dupre

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Preschool Applications

Preschool applications for the 2013/2014 school year are now being accepted for the Fairhaven Public School Integrated Preschool Program located at the East Fairhaven Elementary School.

The child must be 3 (by August 31) or 4 years of age and must be a resident of Fairhaven. Parents must arrange transportation for the child to and from the program. Children to be enrolled in the program will be determined by lottery.

If you would like an application please contact Beth Mitchell at 508-979-4058, or you can get them on line, or pick one up at the Administration Center, located at 128 Washington Street, or at any of the elementary schools.

Applications for the 2012/2013 school year **must be received by Feb. 28, 2013**. The Preschool screening times will be scheduled for Tues., March 5th and Wed., March 13th.

Caregiver Seminars

See ad on page 3.

Cataldo Scholarship

The North Fairhaven Improvement Association's Joseph Cataldo Jr. Scholarship applications are now available in the Guidance Offices of Fairhaven High School, Greater New Bedford Regional Voc/Tech High School, Bishop Stang High School, and Bristol County Agricultural High School.

The Joseph Cataldo Jr. Scholarships are open to qualified high school seniors who are Fairhaven residents enrolled in a full time degree program. **The deadline for filing applications is April 20, 2013.**

Applications may also be requested by mail: NFIA Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 877, Fairhaven, MA 02719

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!

Dems to Caucus

On **Saturday, Feb. 23**, members of the Democratic Party who are registered in Fairhaven will caucus to elect delegates and alternates to attend the party's state convention in June. The caucus will commence at 1 p.m. in the auditorium of the Millicent Library at 45 Center St. in Fairhaven.

Individuals wishing to run as a delegate or vote at the Fairhaven caucus must be registered Democrats in town as of December 31, 2012. The official purpose of the caucus is to pick delegates to the 2013 Massa. Democratic Party Platform Convention to be held at the Tsongas Center in Lowell on Saturday, June 1.

For Fairhaven Democratic caucus information, please contact Rich Taber, Chair at 508-542-6748.

Colonial Tea

Friends of Fairhaven are cordially invited to celebrate at The Colonial Club's Open Hose and Historical Tea on **Sunday, February 24**, at the Colonial Club, Six Cherry Street, Fairhaven 1-4 p.m. Refreshments by Ladies of the Colonial Club. Free, open to the public. Unfortunately, the historic building is not wheelchair accessible. For more information,

contact Doreen Nelsen, 508 994-1098.

Kindergarten Enrollment

Children who are expected to enter **Kindergarten or First Grade** in the Fairhaven Public Schools next September must be registered at their neighborhood school during the week of **March 4th-8th, 2013. Registration will be from 9:00-12:00 and 1:00-3:00 p.m.** Registration forms are available at each of the schools.

Entrance age Kindergarten: Any child, resident of Fairhaven, who **turns age five (5) on or before August 31, 2013 is eligible to register for Kindergarten.**

Entrance age First Grade: Any child, resident of Fairhaven, who is **six (6) years of age on or before August 31, 2013 is eligible for first grade.**

Children already attending Kindergarten in the Fairhaven Public Schools need not register for first grade.

Items that must be provided at the time of registration are: Birth Certificate, Immunization records, Proof of Residency

Certified copy of probate court order or judgment relative to the custody of the child. In the event of a restraining order or other legal decree, please ensure that up-to-date information is on file in the school office.

For additional information please visit www.fairhavenps.org

The Fairhaven Public Schools offers all programs, activities and employment opportunities without regard to gender, sexual orientation, race, color, marital status, disability, religion, homelessness, or national origin.

Questions can be answered by contacting your neighborhood school: East Fairhaven School, 508-979-4058; Wood School, 508-979-4073

Food Addicts Anon

Are you having a hard time controlling the way you eat? Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous meets **every Sunday at 6:30 pm, Atria Fairhaven**, 319 Alden Rd., Fairhaven. For information, contact: Paula G. 508-674-2128 / Carol X. 508-992-4656. No dues, fees or weigh-ins. <http://www.foodaddicts.org>, 781-932-6300.

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

Free Films

The following free film 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.

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.

At Whaling Mus.

The following events are at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, 18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford. Accessible. Call 508-997-0046 or visit www.whalingmuseum.org

Chocolate Primer

The "Chocolate Primer," which was slated for Saturday, February 9 has been rescheduled to AHA Night, **Thurs., Feb. 14 from 5 to 8 p.m.** The **free public event** will feature talks by two chocolate historians and sampling of authentic colonial chocolate beverage recipes. Accessible.

Christopher Kelly will present "Chocolate at Sea: Use Aboard Whaling and Merchant Ships in the 19th Century" at 5:00 p.m. in the Dutch Gallery.

Timothy D. Walker, Ph.D., will present "A History of Chocolate in early New England: Where does cocoa come from and how was it made?" at 7:00 p.m. in the gallery.

The program is sponsored by American Heritage Chocolate® – part of the historic division of Mars, Incorporated – which manufactures chocolate products using authentic colonial recipes made only from ingredients available during the 18th century. American Heritage Chocolate products will be available for sale, with demonstrations and free samplings at 5:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. in the museum lobby. Admission is free to this Valentine's Day Chocolate Primer. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

New Book Release

The Ambassador of Portugal, Nuno Brito, is scheduled to speak at a presentation celebrating the American publication of a major anthology on the diplomatic history between Portugal and the United States, on **Sat., Feb. 16 at 2:00 p.m.**

Titled, "The Dabneys: A Bostonian Family in the Azores 1806-1871," the anthology deals with the historic American Consulate of the Dabney family at Horta, Faial – Açores. For most of the 19th century, the family

made the island of Faial their home. Merchants with elite social connections, three generations of Dabneys were United States Consuls. Their impact on the growth of trade and their humanitarian activities earned them admiration throughout Portugal and America.

Ambassador Brito will be joined by local elected officials and community leaders at the event, which is sponsored by the New Bedford Whaling Museum and UMASS Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture.

Originally compiled by Roxana Lewis Dabney (1827-1913) from decades of letters and journals and privately printed for the family in 1899 as "The Dabney Annals," the new 250-page American edition is illustrated with dozens of photographs from the era.

A partnership of the Luso-American Development Foundation and the New Bedford Whaling Museum, the book is available for purchase following the program or online at: www.whalingmuseumstore.org.

School Vacation Events

Presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln will visit with children and enjoy birthday cake at the New Bedford Whaling Museum's Annual Presidents' Day Birthday Bash on **Monday, February 18, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** in the Jacobs Family Gallery.

The museum has a full schedule of events for the whole week. Visit <http://www.whalingmuseum.org/programs/childrens-activities/february-vacation> or call 508-997-0046.

Foster Parents

The Kennedy-Donovan center is seeking loving homes throughout SE Mass., Cape Cod and Metro-West for children and adolescents with developmental and/or medical disabilities.

Free training, 24-hour support, 14 days respite/vacation, tax-free daily rate, clothing allowance, holiday and birthday stipend, weekly home visits.

One person can make a difference. For more information, contact Ray Lima, 508-997-5875, ext. 1236, or rlima@kdc.org

HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

Valentine's Supper

The Acushnet Council on Aging will host a Valentine Spaghetti Supper and Dance at the Senior Center on **Saturday, February 16th**. Dinner will be available from 3:30-5:00 p.m. followed by 60's and 70's music from 5:00-7:00 p.m. No dance partner? No problem, line dancing will also be offered! **\$5.00 donation before the event, \$7.00 at the door**. For more information or to purchase tickets call 508-998-0280.

American Girl F-R

See ad on page 11.

"Rent" Performed

Ocean State Theatre Company (OSTC), the not-for-profit which brought new life to the historic Theatre By The Sea for the past five years, continues their Inaugural Season with Jonathan Larson's groundbreaking musical, RENT, which opens in previews on Wednesday, February 20.

RENT will be presented at Ocean State Theatre from February 20 - March 10. **Previews are scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 7:30 pm and Thursday, Feb. 21 at 2:00 and 7:30 pm**. All other performances will be held Wednesday (except March 6) through Saturday evenings at 7:30 pm, with matinees on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays at 2:00 pm. Conducting Conversations Live!, a free post-show discussion hosted by WCRI's Mike Maino, will follow the 2 pm performance on Saturday, February 23.

Following select Friday and Saturday evening performances, the theatre's lobby will be transformed into an intimate cabaret space, at which patrons will be entertained by cast members and OSTC staff members, while enjoying beverages and late night appetizers, which will be available for purchase from the theatre's lobby bar. Attendance at the performance preceding the cabaret is not required. The lobby doors will open for the cabaret at 10:30 pm. Tickets are \$10 per person, which directly supports OSTC's Live Music Initiative. Reservations are strongly recommended and can be made by calling (401) 921-6800.

The theatre is located at 1245 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, RI. **Tickets are \$39 for preview performances and \$39-\$54 for all other performances**. Discount rates for groups of 20 or more are available by calling (401) 921-1777 x112. \$25 "Rush" tickets are available on a limited basis one hour prior to curtain on the day of the performance. Tickets are on sale at the box office Tuesday through Friday from 12 noon - 6:00 pm, Saturdays from 12 noon - 4:00 pm, and from 12 noon until curtain on performance days. Tickets are also available online 24 hours a day at www.OceanStateTheatre.org and via telephone during normal box office hours by calling (401) 921-6800.

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.

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

Comedy Night F-R

Due to the blizzard conditions on February 8, the Showstoppers community-service singing troupe has rescheduled their **Adult Comedy Night fundraiser for Friday, February 22 at 6:30 p.m.** at Salerno's Seaside Function Hall located at 196 Onset Avenue in Onset Village

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

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Recipe of the Week

Pecan Pralines

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 cup milk
- 8 large marshmallows
- 2 cups chopped pecans
- 2 tbsps butter
- 1/2 tsp vanilla
- Dash ground cinnamon

Lightly butter two baking sheets, set aside. In a saucepan combine the two sugars, milk and marshmallows. Cook and stir over low heat until marshmallows are completely melted.

Cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally until candy thermometer reads 234°-240° (soft ball stage).

Without stirring or scraping, pour hot liquid into another saucepan; add pecans, butter, vanilla and cinnamon. Stir rapidly until the mixture is thickened and creamy. About 3 minutes.

Drop quickly by tablespoons onto prepared pans. Flatten slightly. Let stand until set. Store in airtight containers

By MJ Vassal

To share a recipe with your neighbors

Mail to 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719; fax to 508-991-5580; email to neighbnews@comcast.net

Students raise funds & food for causes

Each month the students at the East Fairhaven Elementary School will be learning facts and information about various disabilities and diseases that are affecting students at the school. Students will have an opportunity on spirit day to donate one dollar per family towards the cause. Thus far this year students have donated over \$200 to Autism and \$300 to diabetes. This past month students dressed in their

pajamas to support the cause. We were fortunate to have Mr. and Mrs. Fredette come to speak with the students about diabetes. Our dollars for the cause next month will be Cystic Fibrosis and the students will wear red and pink for Valentine's day.

Shepherd's Pantry Food Drive

Sponsored by the East Fairhaven Elementary School Student Council, Mrs. Mattos student adviser, The school nurse Mrs. Horsfall, and school counselor Mrs. Nogueira. Students collected 2362 cans to be donated to needy

families in the area.

During the month of January students were asked to bring in canned goods. The class that brought in the most cans would be treated to a pizza party.

Students took this challenge seriously with the winning classes were 1st place: grade four Ms. Peixoto with 513; 2nd place: grade two Mrs. Darling with 445; 3rd place: grade five Mrs. McGee with 234



Students at the East Fairhaven School collected 2362 cans for the Shepherd's Food Pantry in January. Photo submitted. See it in color at www.neighbnews.com

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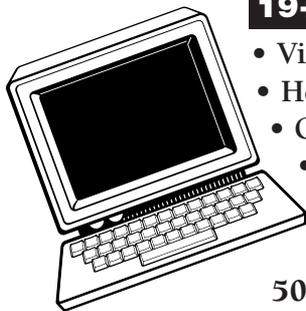
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Blizzard of 2013 packs a powerful punch

By Beth David
Editor

The region got hit with a bona fide blizzard on Friday, with high winds and heavy snow continuing into Saturday afternoon. The governor declared a driving ban on all roads in Massachusetts.

Widespread power outages sent residents to shelters in their home towns, with Fairhaven servicing about 10 people throughout the three days that the town experienced power outages.

Police spokesperson Kevin Kobza said no one was hurt in Fairhaven as direct result of the storm. He said the department received a lot of calls to check on relatives, alarms going off (usually due to the power outages), etc., and many calls for downed power lines. He said the department added dispatchers to handle the extra calls.

The fire department responded to 35 calls during the blizzard including two fires. Calls ranged from downed power lines, fallen trees, medical transports to St. Luke's & Charlton Hospitals, fire alarms sounding and transformer fires.

During the worst of the winds and snowfall, a fire broke out at 20 Hitch Street about 9:43 p.m. on Friday. The house is vacant and has been under construction.

The fire caused extensive damage to the home, estimated to be at approx. \$100,000. Crews were on scene for over 2 hours fighting the stubborn fire and brutal weather conditions. Cause of the fire is under investigation. One firefighter was burned at the scene but remained on duty.

The second fire was reported at

12:17 a.m. Saturday at 41 Bayview Street. That fire appears to have started by a candle too close to combustibles on a table during the power outage. Two occupants were in the home at the time of the fire but escaped injury. There was moderate fire and smoke damage to the home. Damage was estimated at \$30,000. Fairhaven received mutual aid assistance from the Acushnet and New Bedford Fire Departments for the two structure fires.

A fire in Mattapoisett also affected a well known Fairhaven woman, Judith Mooney and her husband Mark. Their home at 22 Crystal Spring Road was completely destroyed. The cause of the blaze is under investigation, but may have started in the chimney. The family was home at the time, but no one was injured.

Hastings Middle School served as Fairhaven's shelter, opening up late on Friday when a resident requested it from the police department. Town officials had decided to wait until it was needed before opening.

Some residents and officials complained off the record that school superintendent Robert Baldwin resisted opening the shelter. Dr. Baldwin said he was not resisting, but simply tried to point out that a blizzard is not a hurricane. He said the school department did not have the resources to clear the parking lot, and that personnel would not

BRISTOL COUNTY SNOWFALL REPORTS AS OF FEBRUARY 10, 2013	
FALL RIVER:	24.0 1122 AM 2/09 HAM RADIO
S. EASTON	23.0 240 PM 2/09 HAM RADIO
TAUNTON:	22.7 100 PM 2/09 NWS OFFICE
NORTON:	22.5 721 AM 2/09 HAM RADIO
S. ATTLEBORO:	22.0 314 PM 2/09 HAM RADIO
ACUSHNET:	21.5 259 PM 2/09 TRAINED SPOTTER
N. EASTON:	21.0 310 PM 2/09 GENERAL PUBLIC
N. ATTLEBORO:	20.0 1130 AM 2/09 TRAINED SPOTTER
DIGHTON :	20.0 619 PM 2/09 NWS EMPLOYEE
REHOBOTH:	18.2 1018 AM 2/09 NWS EMPLOYEE
SOMERSET:	17.5 210 AM 2/09 HAM RADIO
NEW BEDFORD:	16.5 744 PM 2/09 HAM RADIO
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FAIRHAVEN:	13.5 606 AM 2/09 HAM RADIO
WEST ISLAND:	11.5 930AM 2/09 TRAINED SPOTTER

*Compiled by The National Weather Service Taunton Office
Submitted by ML Baron, visit
www.WestIslandWeather.com*

necessarily be able to get there through the snowstorm.

"I didn't say I wouldn't open it, just that the logistics are different in two feet of snow," said Dr. Baldwin.

In the end, Dr. Baldwin himself opened up the school after 10 p.m. on Friday; the Emergency Management Agency staffed it. A school custodian and food worker also arrived the next morning. The EMA transported individuals who needed to get to the shelter and all individuals who needed to were able to use it.

He said the schools provided "everything we could provide," but large scale snow removal was simply not something they could do.

"We have pickup trucks," said Dr. Baldwin. "This is different than a hurricane. This is two feet of snow."

"We worked it out," said Dr. Baldwin. "It all happened because the DPW plowed, the custodian was there, the cafeteria worker got there and the EMA was there the whole time."

He also noted the dedication of head custodian Brad, who worked more than 20 hours of overtime during the storm.

"He emailed back at 4 a.m., and as dedicated as he is, he got in there," said Dr. Baldwin.

On the last day of outages, one person was sheltered at the EMA building on Scoticut Neck Road, which had power. The building, however, does not have a generator, so it is not used as a shelter for storms.



LEFT: Garrick Carreiro shovels off his pickup truck on Saturday, 2/9, as the storm abated. RIGHT: Don Vieira shovels off his carport roof on Sunday, 2/10. Photos by Beth David.

BLIZZARD: cont'd next page

BLIZZARD: cont'd from previous page

The Fairhaven Housing Authority had a tough time of it, with a combination of power and/or heating systems being out at Oxford Terrace, McGann Terrace and Anthony Haven, some for two solid days.

Executive Director Krisanne Sheedy said the parking lots got cleared, but the elderly people who live in the units couldn't get their cars out to drive to the shelter.

They ended up making do and not having to have a mass evacuation, but the FHA will be meeting with the EMA on Thursday to discuss ways to keep people safe and warm in the future.

She said the state is "not big" on generators for housing authorities, but it is something they will consider.

She said the maintenance crew scrounged up one small generator and plugged an electric heater into it in the community room. It provided some relief, but not much.

Some people went to stay with relatives, others just bundled up and waited for the power and heat to go back on.

We have four maintenance men who were busting their butts eleven-and-half-hours every day," said Ms. Sheedy, adding they did snow removal and taking care of any issues

that residents had.

"They walked around McGann Terrace saying people should go to the shelter, but they had no way to get there."

Selectboard Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch said he was very disappointed in NStar's response to the storm. He said the town's contact was not very helpful and did not seem to know what was going on, something he will be discussing with the Selectboard and NStar.

For more storm photos, visit us at www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews



This house in Mattapoisett was completely destroyed by fire during the blizzard. It is owned by Fairhaven native Judith Mooney and her husband Mark. *Photo by Heidi Winnett.*



LEFT: downed wires on Scoticut Neck Road on Saturday 2/9. West Island and Wilbur's Point did not have power until Sunday night. Parts of Fairhaven did not get power back until Monday. ABOVE: A snapped telephone pole on Oxford Street in Fairhaven is still not repaired on Tuesday, 2/12. *Photos by Beth David.*



Lenny Fleurent stands by the root system of a big fire tree that came down on his house in the middle of the storm. *Photo by Heidi Winnett.*

Riding in Style



ABOVE LEFT: Rebecca Hawthorne gets pulled along by her mother Carrie in Fairhaven on Saturday, 2/9, after the storm abated a bit. ABOVE RIGHT: Miles Gardner and his mom Laura know how to travel on a snow-covered Fort Street. *Photos by Beth David.*

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Session starts: Tuesday February 19; Time: 7:45-3:00pm; Cost 100.00 for members/\$125.00 for non-members

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Acushnet COA shelters residents from storm; TM postponed

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

The blizzard left a destructive path of downed electrical wires throughout Acushnet, leaving most residents snowed-in without electricity, and many without heat.

Those who sought refuge from their freezing homes witnessed a collaborative effort among Town departments that worked around the clock to transport people from their homes to the shelter at the Acushnet Council on Aging located on South Main Street.

The Fire Department, Police Department and EMT workers responded to calls from residents who could no longer bear the bitter cold inside their homes. A total of 18 residents were taken to the C.O.A in four-wheel drive vehicles during and after the storm. They were greeted by C.O.A. Director Heather Sylvia and Family Resources Officer Louann Jenkinson who both worked overnight shifts at the shelter that opened at 8 a.m. on Saturday until 8 a.m. Monday.

"It went very well," said Ms. Sylvia. "Everybody came with a good attitude."

Eight firefighters were on duty during the blizzard, as opposed to just one on a typical day, responding quickly to 911 calls from people who lost their heat, and driving them to the shelter. Some people were able to contact other family members who still had heat and were driven by emergency response workers to stay with relatives.

"I was really impressed by the level of effort everybody gave," said Selectboard Chairperson David Wojnar.

Ms. Sylvia said she could not praise the fire, police, and EMT workers enough.



Acushnet had its share of downed trees from the Blizzard of 2013. This one came down in a yard on Middle Road. Fire and police department personnel were kept busy transporting people to the shelter at the Council on Aging building on So. Main Street during the storm. Acushnet was 87% out of power on Saturday. As of press time on Wednesday, 1% of Acushnet residents were still without power. *Photo courtesy of Bruce David. See it in color at www.NeighbNews.com*

"The Council on Aging and the Police Department work hand in hand," she said. "We're lucky to have such a great police chief."

Fire Chief Kevin Gallagher said there were several calls reporting downed and sparking wires, but no fire suppression activity took place in Acushnet.

Acushnet firefighters did respond to and assist with fires in Fairhaven and Mattapoisett.

"It was a good team effort," said Mr. Wojnar. Still, Town Administrator Alan Coutinho will be organizing a meeting of all the departments for a debriefing and a discussion of how

the Town can continue to improve upon its efforts.

Acushnet schools were closed on Friday and reopened on Wednesday. As of press time, less than 1% of Acushnet residents were still without power, down from 87% on Saturday, according to NSTAR.

The town also postponed the special town meeting that was scheduled for Monday night to Monday, Feb. 25. The meeting will decide if Acushnet voters should vote on building a new library adjacent to the community center on Middle Road (see 2/7/13 issue available at www.NeighbNews.com).



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Exp. 3/31/13

Police confiscate crack cocaine

Fairhaven Police Press Release

Detectives from the Fairhaven, Acushnet and Dartmouth Police Departments, along with Investigators from the Bristol County Sheriffs Department South Coast Anti Crime Team executed a search warrant at 4 School Street in Fairhaven just after noon time on Tuesday, Feb. 12. During the search, Officers seized approximately 24 grams of crack cocaine, a digital scale and drug packaging materials.

Arrested at the scene was 35 year old Maurice Truell who resides at that residence. Truell, who has a suspended driver's license, was in the process of driving away from the house when Officers descended upon

him. He was taken into custody without incident and charged with trafficking cocaine, school zone violations and operating a motor with a suspended license. Truell's house is

located at the corner of School Street and Adams Street, yards away from a busy school crosswalk and within close proximity to Hastings Middle School. •••



Maurice Truell of School Street in Fairhaven was arrested and charged with trafficking cocaine after police executed a search and found 24 grams of cocaine on Tuesday, 2/12.

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-striping 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.

- 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.
- 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*

Conservation Commission

The Fairhaven Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on February 25, 2013 at 6:30 P.M. in the Fairhaven Town Hall, Purpose is for Request for Determination of the following matters as required By Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 131 Section 40 as amended.

- Notice of Intent Applicant N&T Realty Trust Fatima Cardoso Tr. Location Alden Road Plot 23 Lot 175H purpose construct single family dwelling within the 100' buffer zone to BVW.
- Request for Determination Applicant Jerry's

Auto Service Location 86-88 Middle Street Plot 11 Lots 6E & 7 Purpose install 50' x 30' storage building within an AE flood zone.

Respectfully Submitted
Joseph Taylor, *Chairman*

Fairhaven Conservation Commission

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

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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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FinCom chair continues spit-spat with Osuch

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

Voices raised and fingers pointed blame as the rift between Fairhaven Finance Committee Chairperson John Roderiques and Executive Secretary to the Selectboard Jeffrey Osuch became more evident on 2/7.

Toward the end, this FinCom meeting appeared more like a dysfunctional family Thanksgiving dinner, which is exactly what Mr. Roderiques called Fairhaven town government — a dysfunctional family.

The two went head-to-head in the final 30 minutes of the meeting, both men preaching the town government gospel according to himself as FinCom members looked on; some shifted in their seats and others managed to sustain slight smiles on their faces as the two had it out.

It seemed as though, at times, only the two men knew exactly what was being said to each other, with the conversation churning out rather vague allusions about policy, blame, and the building-up of hostility within town government.

Tension had been building throughout the meeting, evidenced by Mr. Roderiques's ruffling papers and tapping his foot whenever Mr. Osuch spoke to the committee. When Mr. Osuch's cell phone interrupted the meeting, Mr. Roderiques's glare followed him as Mr. Osuch walked out of the room.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Roderiques gave the committee an extensive monologue about surplus revenue before Mr. Osuch chimed in to address Mr. Roderiques's concerns over the topic. Mr. Osuch suggested they all slide the revenue surplus figures in each column for each fiscal year into the next fiscal year column, and then start weaning the Town off its reliance on revenue surplus to balance the budget.

The rising pressure in the room was palpable.

"This town has a policy, but it hasn't been written down," Mr. Roderiques said, claiming to have read the quote in the *Neighb News*.

After a few more increasingly heated exchanges, Mr. Roderiques asked Mr.

Osuch where the nonexistent three to five-year projections have been, and then stated that the Town has been "blindly going year to year to year" with "no direction on where to go."

Mr. Osuch began breaking down the process of town policy creation when Mr. Roderiques shouted, "Don't even attempt to explain to me what is involved in a policy. I'm not a third grader."

Mr. Roderiques pointed and shook his finger at Mr. Osuch and mentioned the Department of Revenue report, asking Mr. Osuch if he knew what the DOR had recommended to the Town about financial policy.

Mr. Roderiques said he blamed the members on the Selectboard who

of time and said, "Most people were like, 'get me out of here.'"

An invitation from Mr. Roderiques on 1/31 to the Selectboard to attend a FinCom meeting in the near future remained unaccepted. Mr. Osuch instead suggested FinCom should attend the Selectboard meeting on 2/11 when the BOS will have the fire, police, public works, and school departments on the agenda. Mr. Roderiques said he would be attending only "for the benefit of seeing what will go on."

The logistics of the 13 FinCom members attending a BOS meeting, said Mr. Roderiques, is not ideal. He said FinCom members would be sitting there "balancing our books on our legs." FinCom member Phil Washko concurred.

"If they don't want to come, I don't care," said Mr. Roderiques. It is not a power thing... I'm not issuing a summons for their appearance... I'm not going to go home and pout." Mr. Roderiques said he would not extend the invitation again, after Mr. Washko asked if they should.

The committee conducted some business as well, meeting with Fire Chief Tim Francis to discuss a reserve fund transfer request for \$5,000 to cover the cost of medications purchased from St. Luke's Hospital for use by the three running ambulances, as well as the Fire Department's FY14 budget.

Chief Francis said the ambulances, so far, have performed 100 runs over last year's total. After the motion was approved, Chief Francis went through his level-service budget that demands a \$24,487 increase; about \$20,000 of it contractual costs.

"I don't know what's going to happen... You've seen the projections," said Mr. Roderiques to the Chief. "The reality is...I don't know what the numbers are going to be..."

The Town will also eventually need to replace its ladder truck at a cost of over \$850,000. Chief Francis said the aging truck needs to be recertified every year and the repairs to meet the requirements of certification are becoming more and more costly.

FINCOM: cont'd on page 20

The two went head-to-head in the final 30 minutes of the meeting, both men preaching the town government gospel according to himself as FinCom members looked on; some shifted in their seats and others managed to sustain slight smiles on their faces as the two had it out.

give Mr. Osuch his "marching orders." He then castigated the Selectboard for their "dog and pony show" of giving the impression that town government members were working together on issues.

"I'm trying to get something started," Mr. Osuch responded. "That's what I am starting to do."

Mr. Roderiques opposed the action of appointing another flaccid advisory board that will "sit under the thumb" of the Selectboard with no decision-making power of its own.

"All three of them deserve blame," said Mr. Roderiques.

He then mentioned an unspecified Selectperson he said should stick to his opinions "whether or not the other two support you." Mr. Roderiques referred to a meeting he attended on 2/5 that he called a waste

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Appeals approves apartment on Bellevue

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

During a brief meeting that lasted about ten minutes, the Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals on 2/5 voted swiftly to approve the special permits of two applicants, finding no problems with either request.

Chairperson Peter DeTerra was standing on the staircase by the main entrance of town hall waiting for other board members to arrive, a little concerned about forming a quorum of five members. Three members were absent and former board member Joe Borelli's seat on the board is still vacant.

As soon board member Peg Cook arrived, the board opened the meeting, a couple minutes late, and voted unanimously in favor of the special permits after brief explanations from the applicants.

Kathleen M. Gallant for the Lydon Family Trust, 48 Bellevue Street, received a special permit for continuation of a non-conforming use, a lower-level apartment of a two-family home that was not previously accepted.

Building Inspector Wayne Fostin said he inspected the house and found no problems with the second apartment. He said he found no evidence that the apartment was added in recent years, appearing as though the apartment had existed prior to the request for the special permit. The two-family house has been owned by the applicant for about 27 years.

Fairhaven Selectboard Chairperson Brian Bowcock attended the meeting as an abutter, saying that he supported the special permit, attesting that the house has not undergone any alterations since Dr.

Bowcock began his business at 84 Huttleston Avenue many years ago.

Dr. Bowcock said his neighbors were good people and that he could not say enough positive things about them, adding that he was not even aware that the house was a two-family. The house already sits in a predominantly commercial area that Mr. Fostin said would not be altered in any way should the board approve the special permit.

Kathleen Melansen of 87 Green Street received her special permit for a home occupation that Ms. Melansen's representative, David Melansen, said would be used only as a home office for a contracting business. He stated that no operations such as the presence of trucks or storage would be conducted at the two-family house.

•••

FINCOM: cont'd fro page 18

"There is only so much to spend," said Mr. Roderiques, adding that all departments have what they consider to be needs, add-ons, and perks.

"If you (departments) want everything, and you want to keep everything, then you're gonna get a whole lot less of everything."

He said if the Town has to "keep cutting and cutting," then, "What you're offering is not soup anymore. It's hot water," he said.

Chief Francis also has several articles on the warrant for Annual Town Meeting which he discussed with the committee: one for increased fees for services such as permits and inspections, another for funds for a new phone system, a new security system, and the reauthorization of the hazmat account.

The committee also went through the warrant but did not make it through all the articles. The committee spent most of its time on the warrant discussing an article for street repairs and paving, with a requested amount of about \$666,000 that Mr. Roderiques said was unrealistic.

Before the discussion, Mr. Roderiques explained the ethics laws and asked if anyone on the committee might have a conflict of interest pertaining to the street work requests. He proceeded to run through about every type of

relationship possible from spouse to relatives, also including that if any FinCom member lived within a certain distance of one of the streets they should recuse themselves and leave the room. There were no conflicts of interest declared.

"We've got to start putting something more into infrastructure than we've been doing," said Mr. Roderiques. He said supporting a figure somewhere between \$325,000 and \$350,000 would be a good place to start. Last year, according to Mr. Roderiques, the Town spent just over \$100,000 on infrastructure, which he called "exceedingly low."

Mr. Roderiques told the committee they have an obligation to balance the budget while considering the future needs of the Town. He said the committee must also consider that the residents paying taxes have certain expectations of services provided by the Town.

The Town has reached the point where the Town must prioritize, said Mr. Roderiques. He asked, what should be cut? A teacher? A police officer? Cut services at Town Hall?

"Or close the rec center?" said Mr. Roderiques distinctly and then paused. "Or close the town beach?"

He said the Town has a maximum of \$44,560,816.333 to spend.

"The only variable is how close you want to get to that...or how far you want to stay away from that.

Letters from our readers

I found that with all the complaints about wind turbines in Fairhaven, I now read that Falmouth has come to the conclusion that the best way to solve their problem would be to have the wind turbines removed.

It is very unfotuantate that the elected officers of Fairhaven rushed into having the wind turbines placed where the whole neighborhood objected. If you cannot solve the problem, admit to the mistake and move on.

How many more ideas will our elected leaders dream up to save money, although I have high hopes by owning our street lamps.

This brings up another idea.

Think positive, we could generate power for the street lamps and lighting for the new Wood School. Case in point: Fairhaven is faced with a large problem that has become an eyesore, through neglect. I suggest that the Atlas Tack property should be taken by eminent domain for back taxes and use this environmentally clean land for a solar panel farm.

Why waste the site, no one can use it as it stands now. My suggestion could solve two problems.

Al Benac, Fairhaven

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SELECT: cont'd from page 4

"You have the right to deficit spend," BOS Chairperson Dr. Brian Bowcock told Mr. Charbonneau.

Police Chief Michael Myers gave the same pitch to the Selectboard that he gave to FinCom a week earlier. Mr. Osuch made a few minor changes to some line items of the requested budget of almost \$3 million.

Presenting the budget with the smallest increase of the evening, Fire Chief Tim Francis laid out his \$24,487 budget increase from last year, with about \$20,000 resulting from the 1% union contract pay increase.

Chief Francis called it a "bare bones" level-service budget that left no room for additional personnel.

"We're gonna tough it out," he said.

Also at the meeting, the board criticized NSTAR's response to the blizzard, specifically the company's

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BYLAW: cont'd from page 22

distance from a home.

The board voted to allow residents to continue to submit written testimony until 2/25. Adoption of the new bylaw will require a two-thirds majority vote by Town Meeting in May. If it fails, another attempt to modify the current wind turbine will have to wait until 2015.

"If we don't get this done and get it done the first time," said Mr. Hayward, "...then we'll be where we are now."

In a follow-up interview, Mr. Hayward said he found the hearing useful and he thinks he has a good sense of the pulse of the community. He commented that he found some of the suggestions helpful then added, "Whether we can actually put them in writing is another thing." ●●●

lack of communication with customers.

"I just don't think their system is very good," said Dr. Bowcock. The board was displeased by a report that two NSTAR workers were spotted sleeping in a utility truck parked near a dangling telephone pole on Scouticut Neck.

Selectperson Charles Murphy expressed his concern over the senior housing facilities that went without electricity and heat for two days. He said he wants to open up communications with the administrators of the facilities to discuss emergency generators to avoid problems in the future. The board ultimately voted to send a letter of correspondence to the senior housing personnel to address the concern.

Fairhaven Meetings

Board of Appeals

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

Commission on Disability

Wed., 3/6, Senior Ctr., 5:30 p.m.

Community Preservation

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

Conservation Commission

Mon., 2/25, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Espindola Office Hour

Wed., 3/6, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Finance Committee

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

Thurs., 2/21, BPW/Arsene St., 7 p.m.

Planning Board

Tues., 2/26, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 2/27, FHS Media Ctr, 6:30 p.m.

Selectboard

Tues., 2/19, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Acushnet Meetings

Conservation Comm.

Wed., 3/13, Town Hall, 7 p.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., 2/25, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

Special Town Meeting

Mon., 2/25, Ford MS, 7 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	Feb. 2013	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
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
Friday	22	0527	1746	1130	2317
Saturday	23	0607	1827	----	1208
Sunday	24	0645	1905	0003*	1244*
Monday	25	0722	1944	0046*	1318*
Tuesday	26	0801	2024	0128*	1351*
Wednesday	27	0842	2106	0208*	1424*
Thursday	28	0926	2151	0248*	1458*

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Neighb News!

Planning board hears comments on WT bylaw

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

One by one, members of Windwise trickled through the double doors guarded by two police officers during a relatively peaceful, perhaps a little anticlimactic, wind turbine bylaw public hearing on 2/12 with the Fairhaven Planning Board.

Anticipating a large turnout, or fearing an angry mob resembling the 1/7 Board of Health meeting shut down by the fire chief, Planning Board Chairperson Wayne Hayward hoped to avoid any heated situations by posting rules of conduct, accompanied by a warning that police would be present during the hearing. Testimony was limited to five minutes per person, and those wishing to speak had to sign-in.

Some Windwise members who oppose residential siting of industrial wind turbines came to make suggestions, while others picked apart the new bylaw draft that essentially bans industrial-sized wind turbines exceeding a height of 265 feet maximum tip height (MTH), and 660 kilowatts.

Some speakers at the hearing perceived the move to restrict the size of wind turbines and increase setbacks as acknowledgement that residents are experiencing negative impacts from the existing turbines on Arsene Street.

Chairperson Wayne Hayward described the working draft of the new bylaw one of the strictest in the state, which was still not enough for some IWT opponents in attendance.

Mr. Hayward opened the hearing by reading a prewritten statement, saying,

"The Fairhaven Planning Board is here tonight to present what we consider to be an appropriate design with improved safety and more stringent standards."

He informed those in attendance that the board would not accept personal stories of negative health impacts from the existing turbines, nor would any updates be provided on the MassDEP sound study.

"The future of wind in our town should be a proven generation of smaller generators," he added. "Please provide any input you feel we need to hear, before we finalize this draft proposal and move to the next step."

Windwise member Curt Devlin, increasingly outspoken about alleged health effects of infrasound produced

by IWTs, reproached the board for precluding any discussion of health effects and residents' personal complaints.

"The science is clear," Mr. Devlin said strongly. "Industrial wind turbines are toxic." Mr. Devlin said IWTs cause serious health issues such as cancer, brain tumors, late-onset epilepsy, and neurological impairment. One wind energy supporter got up and left during Mr. Devlin's outburst.

Mr. Devlin's suggestion for the bylaw was a setback of 16 times the MTH, which would essentially ban all wind turbines from Fairhaven, a measure Mr. Hayward said would ultimately be rejected by the Attorney General's office. Mr. Devlin finished speaking and then abruptly left the public hearing.

Dawn Devlin, associated with Windwise and a member of the Finance Committee, sobbed slightly as she told the board she has witnessed people suffering from IWT-related health effects. A real estate agent, her suggestion for the bylaw was a provision to compel wind developers to purchase residents' homes at preconstruction assessments, should they fall ill from exposure to the turbines.

Although she stated that the new bylaw was inadequate to protect the Town, she said she would support it, saying that at least some people would be protected.

Mr. Hayward repeated several times that the new bylaw would ban IWTs the size of the two on Arsenet Street, and asked people to take into consideration the reduction in size when suggesting setbacks.

Windwise Attorney Ann DeNardis criticized what she called the vague language in the bylaw, concerned primarily with the reserved right of the Planning Board to waive some requirements. Mr. Hayward pointed out that the waivers would require the written permission from direct abutters of proposed WT's.

"I think that you are not reaching your desired purpose to protect the community more," said Ms. DeNardis. "Unless 'waived?' What protection is



Wind energy supporter Ann Richard (middle) is flanked by Windwise members Barbara Acksen and Ken Pottel as Ms. Richards addresses the Fairhaven Planning Board about a new wind turbine bylaw on 2/12/13. Photo by Beth David.

that?"

Mr. Hayward replied, "If you were an attorney representing the wind turbine developer you would hate these regulations."

John Robson of 45 Jerusalem Road told the board the low frequency noise from the wind turbines, located roughly two miles from his house, is negatively affecting him. He said it surprised him since he lives so far away from them.

Zachary Aubot who lives at 16 Mill Road, about two-thirds of a mile from the IWTs, said he will be selling his house in the spring because noise from the turbines has affected his sleep.

Windwise member John Methia applauded the board for the effort to place tighter restrictions on wind development in Fairhaven.

He started out saying, "I do feel that the security is a little extreme," before stating that the adoption of a new bylaw is a form of admission that wind turbines cause problems for people living within close proximity.

"With these bylaws we're saying that people shouldn't be living this close to turbines," said Mr. Methia.

The new bylaw, explained Mr. Hayward, is not designed for the two existing IWTs in Town. He said the new bylaw will simply prevent more IWTs of equal size.

Mr. Hayward stressed that under present regulations, a developer could still erect a 515-foot wind turbine 515 feet from a residence as long as certain other requirements were met. The new bylaw cuts the allowable size in half, and requires four times the

BYLAW: cont'd on page 21

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