



# 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 11 • March 21, 2013

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

## Wood School project moving along



The new Wood School building was 100% enclosed as of last week. Workers have started painting walls in some classrooms and the project is on track to be finished by August, as scheduled. The new building will be home to the students of the Wood School who are currently being educated at the old Oxford School building and the Rogers School. The "model school" is very close in design to the East Fairhaven model school that welcomed the students of the old Oxford School and East Fairhaven School in the fall of 2007. See story on page 16. *Photo by Beth David. See it in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com) Visit us at [www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews](http://www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews) to see more photos of this and other events. Individual photos are available for purchase.*



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### Also Inside:

- **Selectboard:** page 4
- **Candidate statements:** page 25
- **Acushnet candidates:** page 12
- **Letters:** page 22

# From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —  
A day late and many dollars short.



Beth David, Publisher

Well, at least when it got dark early I KNEW I was running late. Now, I keep thinking I'm early, but it's just the time change. Geesh.

We have a ton of great election stuff in this issue for both Fairhaven and Acushnet. See candidate statements on page 25 and 26, and Acushnet candidates' debate on page 12. Next week we'll have the other Fairhaven debate and then...the big day.

Meanwhile, though, I'm a crazy woman...but you knew that.

I went to see *South Pacific* at Fairhaven High School this weekend. Those kids never disappoint. I got to sit right in front this time. I've never been close enough to watch the orchestra....way cool, really.

The two youngsters were great, and the acting of the high school students was very professional. They had to act, sing and dance, and they were great at all of it.

If you have never seen a show at FHS, plan on it for next year. If you have seen one...well, I don't have to tell you that, do I?

Great job, everyone. It was lots of fun and I thank you for the escape from reality for a couple of hours.

I had planned a whole big rant on the coverage of the Stuebenville rape case, but it's getting too late and I won't be able to do it justice.

I will keep it short: those boys do NOT deserve your sympathy: the woman they raped is the one who was wronged, NOT the men. The media coverage of this verdict on CNN and other places was an insult to the profession. All they talked about was how those poor boys' lives were changed, ruined forever. HELLO: It's called facing the consequences of your OWN actions. The woman who was raped will also have to face the consequences of the actions of those young men.

So then there was a backlash about the slanted coverage, and I thought, "phew, good." Until...until...I heard what those idiots were saying about it: Things like, she is someone's daughter, sister, wife, blahblahblah. Well let's set the record straight right now: SHE IS A PERSON IN HER OWN RIGHT, YOU IDIOTS! Why do I have to be someone's daughter for you to care? Why can't I just be me?

It's 2013, people. STOP defining women by the men around them.

I remember being about 6 years old and hearing a commercial on the radio. I remember listening and thinking, "yes, I want that thing," and then voice asked about "your wife." I was crushed...the message clearly was not meant for me, it was meant for a man.

The message hasn't changed much in 50 years.

Pitiful. Just pitiful.

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

Volume 8, Issue 11

Thursday, March 21, 2013

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Published weekly on Thursdays by  
Fairhaven Neighborhood News, LLC, at  
166 Dogwood Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719

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www.NeighbNews.com

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## Contents

Acushnet candidates square off.....	12
Candidate statements: Fairhaven Planning/BOH.....	25
Classifieds .....	21
COVER: Wood School progress report.....	16
Driver who killed Mike Powers sentenced .....	16
Fairhaven Finance Committee .....	24
Fairhaven Planning board .....	17
Happenings .....	6,7,8
Legal Notices/Public Hearings.....	20
Letter from the editor.....	2
Letters to the editor.....	22
Recipe of the week.....	10
Recreation Center this week.....	14
Roth headed to state geobee.....	10
Senior Center this week .....	14
Tides .....	21
Upcoming meetings/Fairhaven & Acushnet .....	21

## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our issue last week, we made an error in our Finance Committee story. Chairperson John Roderiques notified us that we were mistaken: he does not, in fact, have a heart. We apologize if our error defamed him in any way.

## St. Patrick's Day at Fairhaven Social Day



On Wednesday, March 13, the staff and volunteers of Fairhaven Senior Social Day held a party and luncheon in honor of St. Patrick's Day. In the St. Patty's Day tradition, everyone wore green, lunch consisted of corned beef and cabbage with pistachio cake for dessert. Submitted photo. See it in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com)



We, Brian Wood, Mike Silvia and Ron Manzone, were proud to serve with Brian Bowcock on the Fairhaven Board of Selectmen. Brian is a hard worker who devotes countless hours for the benefit of the people of Fairhaven. With his leadership skills and experience, Brian can make the hard decisions needed to move Town Government in a positive direction. Please join us in voting for Brian Bowcock for Selectman on April 1.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Brian Bowcock

# Selectboard hears complaints about shipyard noise, pollution

By Jean Perry

## Neighb News Correspondent

Concerned residents on Water Street and Middle Street blame the Fairhaven Shipyard for the noxious paint fumes, airborne paint and rust particles, and the loud noise that one resident said once measured at 108 decibels from his backyard.

The neighbors on 3/18 appealed to the Fairhaven Selectboard to address their health and environmental concerns, hoping for a solution before the seasonal weather approaches when work picks up at the north site of the shipyard.

The board listened to both sides of the story and then subsequently advised the residents to approach the Board of Health.

The previous owners of 23 Water Street say they were driven from their home after 18 years of ownership because of the noxious paint fumes. Their house was purchased by Gail Isaksen, an owner of the Fairhaven Shipyard.

Beth Luey, 31 Middle Street, said she is not trying to shut down Fairhaven Shipyard; the shipyard is not going away, she said, "...but neither are we."

Fay Bartling of 12 Middle Street said the noise and pollution have escalated since the shipyard started modifying and expanding operations.

The noise and fumes, said Ms. Bartling, have at times driven her from her home or forced her to wear earplugs. She said she wears a mask when she rakes the leaves that are covered in dust and particles that allegedly float over from the shipyard. She also said the pollution has killed off all the slugs and snails on her property.

Garth Rowe of 16 Middle Street said noise and pollution have intensified over the past six years with loud grinding sounds, sandblasting, nail gunning, and paint and rust removal techniques causing noise and airborne dust particles to settle on his vehicle.

Debra Bacon, who moved from 22 Middle Street to 111 Middle Street because of the noise and pollution, alleged that the current owners of the Fairhaven Shipyard purchased the shipyard in cash because, if the property had been financed, an environmental impact study would be mandatory.

"Funny how that environmental impact study was never done," said Ms. Bacon.

Mr. Rowe said he has seen plumes of smoke rising from the shipyard with workers wearing masks while he sits 50 feet away at his property unprotected, with no containment system put in place. He said the shipyard offered to wash his car after he approached them.

Marcia Fernandes, owner of the Sea Witch at 36 Main Street, complained about an "awful stench" that smells of "incinerated fish" coming from the direction of the shipyard.

Kevin McLoughlin, an owner of the shipyard, said they do not sandblast or spray paint and Fairhaven Shipyard's use of the property is the same as it was back in the 1860s.

Mr. McLoughlin stated that they are zoned for industrial use, so they are allowed to operate 24/7 if they so choose. He said they chose to limit their hours to about 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m..

He said the shipyard does its best to comply with all the regulations and that they are committed to being a good neighbor.

Mr. Rowe said the proof is in the videos he and other neighbors have of workers sandblasting and spray painting, all without the use of a required containment system.

Dr. Bowcock said he was unaware of the extent of the matter, but Ms. Bartling told the board members that residents appeared before the Select Board back on 3/29/11. Dr. Bowcock said he could not recall the meeting.

"Let's move forward," Dr. Bowcock told her. "I have to apologize for not taking action earlier."

The residents' next move will be

to get on the agenda to address the Board of Health. Residents said past attempts to communicate with the BOH were unreciprocated.

In another matter, the Selectboard interviewed the two finalists for the Treasurer/Director of Finance position.

Wendy Graves has her BA in finance and accounting, 15 years of experience as a municipal treasurer, and has significant knowledge of the Vadar accounting software the town uses.

"I would be diligent in doing my job," said Ms. Graves. "I would hit the ground running."

Joseph DeVito told the board, "I will make you look good in a year from now."

"If you're going to make me look good," replied Dr. Bowcock, "You must be a magician."

Mr. DeVito has experience as an assessor, treasurer/collector, with policy development and payroll. He said he could easily learn the Vadar system.

The board will make the final

SELECT: cont'd on page 20

Committee to Elect

## Geoff Haworth Fairhaven Selectman

### Spaghetti Supper



Thursday March 28, 2013  
5pm - 8pm

Seaport Inn  
110 Middle St  
Fairhaven

Call 774-202-9997  
for Tickets

Donation: \$10  
Children under 12 free

Tickets available at the door

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Geoff Haworth



**Re-Elect  
Dr. Brian K. Bowcock  
Board of Selectmen**

# Spaghetti Dinner

Fairhaven VFW • 109 Middle Street

**March 26th • 4:30-7:30**

\$10.00, under 12 free  
Contact 508-997-3600

Paid for by the Committee to re-elect Brian K. Bowcock



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(standard portion)

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1/2 appetizers w/entrees not on special

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Sun., Wed., Thurs. & Sat

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Night, starts 7 p.m.

Every Thurs.: Trivia  
Buff, 7:30

Every Friday: Couto  
& Mulligan, 5-8 p.m.

Every Fri.: Taraoke  
Karaoke, 9:30

p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Sat., 3/23: MOTOWN

NIGHT w/ Reliable  
Source

Sat., 3/30: Acoustic

Dynomite, 9 p.m.

Every Sun.: Bar  
Bingo, 8 p.m.

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with **RELIABLE**  
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Sat., 3/23,  
9 p.m.

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- Repair any breaks in your jewelry

- Replace skinny ring backs (shanks)

- Reset stones that have fallen out

- Tighten loose stones

- Set new stones if you lost them

- Repair worn or broken prongs

- New settings for your stones

- Solder charms on a bracelet

- Replace old clasps

- Repair broken necklaces or bracelets

- Reinforce worn loops (bails) on pendants

- Restring necklaces

- Repair pins

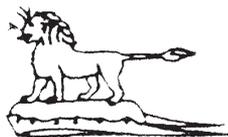
- And the list goes on....



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just to say: *I truly enjoy*  
reading the *Neighb News*  
every week!

from Louise Dupre

# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## Candidates night

The West Island Improvement Association will hold its annual Candidates' Night on **Wednesday, 3/27, at 7 p.m., at the Community House, 41 Causeway Road.**

Candidates have been invited to participate and share their views regarding the upcoming election to be held on Monday, 4/1. All are welcome to come and meet the candidates and get their questions answered. Refreshments will be provided immediately following the presentations.

## Antique Books

Kenneth Gloss, proprietor of the internationally known Brattle Book Shop in Boston's Downtown Crossing section will give a free and open talk **Thursday March 21 at 6:00 P.M.** entitled "Is There Value in Your Old and Rare Books?" at the **Millicent Library, 45 Center Street, Fairhaven.**

The Brattle Book Shop is one of America's oldest and largest antiquarian bookstores. 2013 is the 64th year of Gloss family ownership. Kenneth Gloss succeeded his late father, George Gloss, a well known figure both in Boston and national antiquarian circles. He had worked in the store since childhood and chose to go into the book business rather than pursue a doctorate in chemistry. He became the sole proprietor upon his father's death several years ago.

For further information about this talk, book-collecting, appraisals and future free and open talks, please call the Brattle Book Shop at 1-800-447-9595 or visit [www.brattlebookshop.com](http://www.brattlebookshop.com).

## Indoor Yard Sale

Indoor Yard Sale: The FHS Class of 2016 will hold a Community Yard Sale, **Saturday, March 23rd 10:00-2:00 in the FHS gymnasium.** Rent a 10'x10' floor space with or without a table, prices vary. No commercial vendors.

Contact Lorrie Fernandes 508-979-4051 ext. 1015 for more information or an application form.

## Scallop Supper

The 10th annual scallop supper will be held on **Friday, 3/22, at St. Mary's Church, 440 Main St., Fairhaven, from 4:30-7:30 p.m.**

Tickets are \$12, and orders are available to go. Tickets are available

at St. Mary's Church rectory, M-F, 9-12 or by calling Robin Canastra, 508-997-9019. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door. All proceeds benefit the Shepherd's Pantry and St. Mary's Church.

## Little League Tryouts

Fairhaven Acushnet Junior tryouts/registrations, Fairhaven Acushnet Little League Junior League. Players age 13-15 on May 1, 2013. **March 23 at 3:30 PM, Shaw Rd Junior Field, Fairhaven, MA**

Visit us on Facebook or at [fairhavenacushnetll.com](http://fairhavenacushnetll.com)

## Bridge work on 195

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation detailed plans to replace the I-95 bridge decks that carry traffic over River Avenue in Fairhaven, near the New Bedford line, in four weekends within a six week period **beginning on March 22.**

The rapid bridge construction technique, which calls for the use of eight prefabricated bridge units, will allow MassDOT to limit traffic disruptions and replace the deteriorated bridge decks before the busy spring and summer travel season begins.

At no time will I-95 be closed completely to traffic. During construction, drivers will follow a lane shift through the work zone.

The deck replacement work will be performed in two phases. During the first phase, (I-95 Westbound work), two lanes of traffic will be maintained in both directions. During phase two (I-95 Eastbound work), there will be one travel lane heading eastbound with restricted access from Route 18 and Washburn Street during the weekend deck replacement. Ramp detours will be in place during this period. Two lanes of westbound traffic will remain open during phase two.

Using traditional construction methods and overnight roadway closures to replace the superstructure, the project would take between 12 to 18 months to complete. The bridge carries, on average, 50,000 vehicles a day. The construction cost to replace the superstructure is approximately \$5 million.

Motorists are encouraged to monitor MassDOT's Twitter page for

project photos and details @MassDOT or call 511 for traveler information during the construction periods.

For transportation news and updates visit MassDOT at our website: [www.mass.gov/massdot](http://www.mass.gov/massdot), blog: [www.mass.gov/blog/transportation](http://www.mass.gov/blog/transportation), or follow MassDOT on twitter at [www.twitter.com/massdot](http://www.twitter.com/massdot) and Facebook at [www.facebook.com/massdotinfo](http://www.facebook.com/massdotinfo).

## Easter Egg Hunt

The North Fairhaven Improvement Association is pleased to announce that our annual Easter egg hunt will be held Saturday, **March 30th. The event starts promptly at 9:00 am in Livesy Park** located behind the Oxford School in North Fairhaven.

Wooden eggs, hidden throughout the park, will be returnable for prizes. Participants are separated by age category, and parents are able to assist younger children. Please bring a plastic bag to collect the eggs. We expect a visit from the Easter Bunny so also bring your camera.

The event is free, and everyone is welcome.

## Golden Agers

The Fairhaven Golden Agers Club will hold an open house on **Wed., 3/27 in the Oxford Terrace Community Room, 275 Main St., Fairhaven,** from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Accessible. All ages, 18+ are welcome to the Open House. Do come by to see how to spend a pleasant afternoon.

On Open House day, membership is not required to take part in club activities, including: Bingo, 25 cents/card; 10 different games including dogs (\$1/ball) and a chance to win \$5 if you're a dog winner.

Raffle of household items (tickets 4 for \$1), food, refreshments, coffee, cake and door prizes (free).

Call Dot for more information, 508-991-5936.

## Food Addicts Anon

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous meets **every Sunday at 6:30 pm, Atria Fairhaven, 319 Alden Rd., Fairhaven.** 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

## STEM series

The Ocean Explorium announces the fifth annual speaker series aimed at promoting the "STEM" fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to girls and young women.

Doors open at 5 pm each Wednesday in March for mingling in the Ocean Explorium and for a special presentation, related to the evening's topic, to be shown on Science on a Sphere® before the talks begin at 5:30 pm. Thanks to the Women's Fund, this series is free and open to the public.

- **3/27 - Melissa Walsh and Jessica Chery**, PhD Candidates, Brown University

The Ocean Explorium is located at 174 Union Street in downtown New Bedford. Accessible/rear entrance. Call 508.994.5400 or visit the Ocean Explorium website, [www.oceanexplorium.org](http://www.oceanexplorium.org), for information.

## Women in Fishing

During the month of March, the Working Waterfront Festival's Portholes Project is pleased to present programs which explore the theme Women in the Industry. All programs are presented free of charge and open to the public. Visit [www.workingwaterfrontfestival.org](http://www.workingwaterfrontfestival.org)

- **Thursday, March 28 - Zeiterion Performing Arts Center, 7PM. Linda Greenlaw.** Famed swordfisherman and bestselling author Linda Greenlaw survived the perfect storm and lived to tell the tale, but when faced with the prospect of raising a deeply troubled teenager at the age of 40 plus, Greenlaw finds herself in more turbulent waters than she could have ever imagined. She will read from and sign her latest book *LIFESAVING LESSONS: Notes from an Accidental Mother*.

## Walk-A-Thon & Wellness Fair

Join Coastline Elderly Services on **Saturday, March 23rd from 9am-2pm for the second annual March for Meals Walk & Wellness Fair at Fort Taber in New Bedford** to support an end to senior hunger. To walk, Coastline is asking for a donation of \$20, and all walkers will receive a

shirt. The Wellness Fair is free, and both are open to the general public. All proceeds benefit Coastline's Nutrition Program.

To register to walk, you can visit your local Council on Aging to pick up a registration form, print the registration form off of Coastline's website and mail it in, or call Abigail Hevey at 508-742-9175. (You can also register the day of the event, but Coastline cannot guarantee you will receive a T-Shirt.)

For more information about Coastline or their Meals On Wheels program, please visit their website at [coastlineelderly.org](http://coastlineelderly.org) or call them at 508-999-6400.

## Easter Egg Hunt

The City of New Bedford has announced the Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held at **Hazelwood Park at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, Mar. 30th**. The event is open to children ages 1-12 years and will include a variety of eggs filled with goodies for all participants. The day will include egg hunt, plenty of games including an egg toss, egg rolling competition, an egg relay, and more.

**Free and open to the public.** Games will begin at 12:00 p.m. and the Egg Hunt will commence at 1:00 p.m. The Annual Easter Egg Hunt is sponsored by the City of New Bedford Mayor's Office, Parks, Recreation & Beaches, and the Community Development Block Grant Program.

For more info and to register please call the Administrative Offices of Parks, Recreation and Beaches prior to the event at (508) 961-3015.

## Interns Available

The Inner City Youth Foundation is looking for paid internships for high school and college students repairing and maintaining computers.

The New Bedford based foundation teaches students office and workplace skills. For more information, call Shirley at 774-992-0089

## Nunsense

The Laurel Tree Players present The Zany Nuns of Nunsense in... "Nunset Boulevard: The Hollywood Bowl" Sinfully funny laughs for the entire two hours. Nunset Boulevard is structured in the tried and true

variety format, but as always, things go awry. The Sisters have to contend with announcements from the bowling alley public address system as well as the activity on the lanes. See what happens as the Little Sisters try their hand at Hollywood in this new reincarnation of the Nunsense series!

**Friday, 3/22 at 8 pm; Sat., 3/23 at 8 pm; Sun., 3/24 at 2 pm. \$15 Adults; \$10 Children/ Seniors**, Holy Family Holy Name School, 91 Summer Street, New Bedford, MA, 508-993-3547

## Grants Available

The City of New Bedford, through the Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD), has launched CitiWorks, a neighborhood improvement min-grant program for eligible neighborhoods citywide.

The program provides seed grants of up to \$2,000 to neighborhood and community organizations. The grants must be used to plan and implement projects that improve the quality of life of people living in low and moderate-income neighborhoods throughout the City of New Bedford.

For more information, contact the City of New Bedford OHCD at 508-979-1500 or visit [www.newbedford-ma.gov/cd/welcome.html](http://www.newbedford-ma.gov/cd/welcome.html)

## Proposals wanted

United Way's Summer Fund is seeking proposals for Summer 2013. Summer Fund strives to provide youth in Greater New Bedford with the opportunity to enjoy summer while learning and developing valuable leadership skills.

Non-profits with a determined 501(c)(3) status in Greater New Bedford offering on-site programming are encouraged to apply. Grants are awarded up to \$5,000 to provide youth 6-21 with camperships, youth employment, or cultural enrichment opportunities.

Applications must be submitted by April 5. The guidelines and application are available at [www.unitedwayofgnb.org](http://www.unitedwayofgnb.org). Summer Fund grants are made possible through a pooled fund of contributions from a number of local foundations

For more info please contact Victoria Grasela at 508-994-9625 x10 or [vgrasela@unitedwayofgnb.org](mailto:vgrasela@unitedwayofgnb.org).

# HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

## Seal Walk

Join the Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust and Lloyd Center Research Director Mark Mello for our popular annual late-winter walk from Salters Point to Mishaum Point on **Sat. 3/23 10:30-1:00**. Participants will look for wintering waterfowl and hope to see seals off the shoreline. The walk is free, but registration is required and limited to 60 people. **Register by calling DNRT at 508-991-2289 before noon on March 22.**

Walkers should wear sturdy shoes, dress appropriately for the day's weather (the wind off the bay can be very cold, even if it is sunny), and be prepared for a walk of about 3 miles. (No pets, please.)

DNRT is a non-profit, membership-supported land trust. To become a member visit [www.dnrt.org/membership](http://www.dnrt.org/membership)

## Rail Trail Summit

The South Coast Bikeway committee, which represents communities from Wareham to Swansea, is sponsoring the South Coast Bikeway Summit-Economic Impact of Rail-Trails. Guest speakers include: Rails to Trails Expert Craig Della Penna, John Walkey (T4MA) from Transportation for Mass. Building Tomorrow's Prosperity, and Representative Bill Straus, House Chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation. The summit will be held on **Thursday March 28, from 6:00-8:00 PM at the UMass Law School at 333 Faunce Corner Road, Dartmouth.** Register on line at [southcoastbikeway.com](http://southcoastbikeway.com) or call SRPEDD at 508-824-1367.

## Music Scholarship

The Sippican Choral Society is accepting applications for a Music Scholarship. Members of the Class of 2013 from Southeastern Massachusetts who plan to study music in college are invited to apply. Consideration will also be given to students who plan to continue participation in choral singing while in college. Applications are available from high school music directors/choral directors. Applications can also be requested and submitted by email: [osuch1@aol.com](mailto:osuch1@aol.com). Recipients may reapply while in college with proof of continued matriculation in a

music program. For more information visit: [www.sippicanchoral.org](http://www.sippicanchoral.org).

## Women's Walk

This year's Women's History Month theme honors women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. Celebrate the accomplishments of astronomer Williamina Fleming, cardiologist Helen Taussig, physicist Katharine Burr Blodgett, and architect Lois Lilley Howe, among other notable women. On **Sat., 3/23, from 1-2:30 p.m., at Mount Auburn Cemetery, 580 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge; 617-547-7105; info@mountauburn.org; \$5 for Members of the Friends and \$10 for non-members.**

Join us for our annual Women's History Month Walking tour where we will celebrate the lives of some of these women buried at Mount Auburn who worked and were pioneers in these fields. For more on Women's History Month Visit the National Women's History Project.

## At Mattapoisett Lib.

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

### Author Event

Join author Anne Rachin on **Tuesday, March 26th at 6:30 pm** when she will speak about her research and her book *All That's Familiar: how to remain in your home and age in place* is drawn from her thirty years of experience as a home care administrator. Emphasis is placed on the necessity of knowing one's options and how to implement a plan of action before a medical crisis rather than afterwards when decision-making can be clouded with emotion and panic. Comprised of vignettes describing how home care can be tailored to individual needs, this valuable resource includes frequently asked questions as well as a check list for setting up a personal care plan. Copies of the book will be available for purchase.

### Wacky Weather Talk

Our Wacky Weather and Climate Change: Are They Connected? Extreme and unusual weather has been increasing all around the northern hemisphere. On **Wed., March 27th at 6:30 pm** Dr. Jennifer

Francis will discuss how various aspects of climate change may be playing a role, including the record Arctic melt in 2012.

## Free Film

Mattapoisett Friends of the Eldery presents the March Movie & Pizza: *ARGO* (rated R), **Tues., 3/26, 12 noon at Mattapoisett CoA, 17 Barstow St. (Center School):** Movie is free; Pizza \$2, **RSVP by 10 AM on 3/26**

Award winning film starring and directed by Ben Affleck also starring Alan Arkin and John Goodman. Based on true events, this political thriller tells the tale of six Americans after Iranians storm the American Embassy (1979) and they take refuge in the Canadian Embassy. An elaborate plot is developed by the CIA to rescue them. A fascinating movie, beautifully told with a great mix of humor and suspense.

## Spaghetti Supper

On **Sunday, April 7th from 1:00 - 6:00 p.m.**, Acushnet's Boy Scout Troop 51 will host their Annual Spaghetti Supper at the Acushnet Senior Center building, 59 1/2 South Main Street, Acushnet. Tickets are **\$5.00 per person (\$2.50 for children under 12)** and include spaghetti, dessert and choice of beverage. Purchases can be made from any Troop 51 member or at the Acushnet Council on Aging and Senior Center. Call 508-998-0280 for more info.

## STEM program

On **Saturday, April 27, 2013, greenlight for girls**, in partnership with the Kaput Center for Research and Innovation in STEM Education, will host the third annual Greenlight for Girls Day South Coast at the UMass Dartmouth. This free event aims to encourage 10-15 year old girls to take up careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics by emphasizing the link between science and fun!

**There are only 150 spaces** so be sure to sign up soon. You can register by going to either of the following links <http://greenlightforgirls.org/g4gsouthcoast-2013> or [www.kaputcenter.umassd.edu](http://www.kaputcenter.umassd.edu)

For more information contact: [sarah@greenlightforgirls.org](mailto:sarah@greenlightforgirls.org)

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# A&A

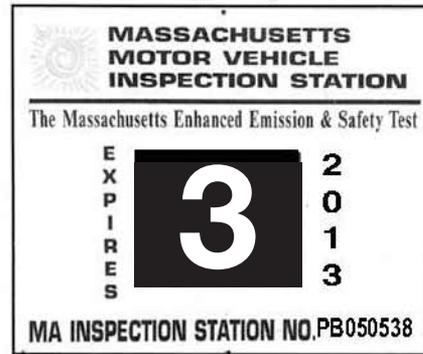


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# Recipe of the Week

## Herb-Roasted Lamb

- 12 large unpeeled garlic cloves, divided
- 1 tbsp chopped fresh rosemary leaves
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 2 tbsps unsalted butter, melted
- 1 (6-pound) boneless leg of lamb, trimmed and tied
- 4 to 5 pounds small unpeeled potatoes (16 to 20 potatoes)
- 2 tablespoons good olive oil

Preheat the oven to 450. Place the oven rack in the lower third of the oven so the lamb will sit in the middle of the oven.

Peel 6 of the cloves of garlic and place them in the bowl of a food processor fitted with the steel blade. Add the rosemary, 1 tbsp salt, 1 tsp pepper, and butter. Process until the garlic and rosemary are finely minced. Thoroughly coat the top and sides of the lamb with the mixture. Allow to sit at room temperature for 30–60 mins.

Toss the potatoes and remaining unpeeled garlic in a bowl with the olive oil and sprinkle with salt. Place in the bottom of a large roasting pan. Place the lamb on top of the potatoes and roast for 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 hours, or until the internal temperature of the lamb is 135° (rare) or 145° (medium). Remove from the oven and put the lamb on a platter; cover tightly with aluminum foil. Allow the lamb to rest for about 20 minutes. Slice and serve with the potatoes.

# Roth headed to state geography bee

By Beth David  
Editor

Savannah Roth knows where stuff is...big stuff, like countries and capitals and where rivers originate and things like that. She has won the geography bee for the last four years: two years at Rogers School and two years at Hastings Middle School. This year the seventh-grader also passed the state qualifying test to put her in with 99 other semifinalists at the state level. The next bee she competes in will be in Worcester. The winner of that competition will head to the nation's capital to represent Massachusetts in the national finals at the headquarters of the National Geographic Society, which sponsors the "geobee."

Ms. Roth said geography has always been her favorite subject and probably stems from her frequent trips with her grandmother and aunt. They took Savannah and her twin sister Sydney to Alaska, Peru, and on a cross country road trip.

"I just love geography and looking at maps, places," said Savannah, who said she has maps decorating her walls at home.

Social Studies teacher and geography coach Dan Marshall said teaching geography is a bit more challenging these days with the way countries are changing. But, he added, it's also easier because of the internet.

"You just have to stay on top of it, you can't rely only on the textbook," said Mr. Marshall. "There are a lot more countries now."

But, the questions are not only about countries and capitals. Students face questions about rivers and other geographic features throughout the world, culture, economics and



Twelve-year-old Savannah Roth of Hastings Middle School poses with her Social Studies teacher Dan Marshall. Ms. Roth is headed to the Mass. Geography Bee in Worcester next month. Photo by Beth David

politics.

Ms. Roth said she reads a lot of magazines, such as Time and National Geographic.

And, yes, she likes the paper copies. She said they are easier to read and she can read them anywhere.

Ms. Roth said she does study a lot, but when it comes to geography: "it just sort of stays in my brain."

If she wins at HMS next year, she will have a perfect sweep, as the contest is only open to grades 4–8.

If she wins in Worcester, she will win \$100 and a trip to DC for the nationals. The national winner receives \$25,000 and lifetime membership in the National Geographic Society.

"I'm totally excited," said Ms. Roth, trying not to think too far ahead. "I made it this far, so I'm really happy."

Win or lose, she said, "I'm really proud of myself."

For info on the geobee, visit [www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee)

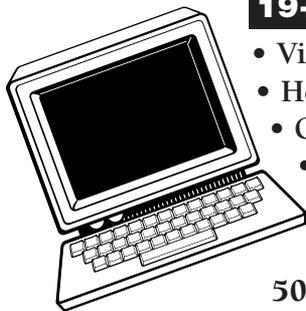
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# Acushnet candidates square off

By Jean Perry

## Neighb News Correspondent

The two remarkably different candidates in the race for Acushnet Selectboard participated in a candidates' debate to convince voters that each is the better person for the job. Current Chairperson David Wojnar and his opponent, Former-Selectperson Michael Cioper, argued the issues, as well as the facts, during the 3/19 debate at the Acushnet Community Center, moderated by Neighb News Publisher and Editor Beth David and filmed by government access Channel 18.

"I believe we have two different philosophies," said Mr. Cioper, reading from his prewritten speech. He called Mr. Wojnar the "spend now" candidate.

During his opening remarks, Mr. Cioper explained that he resigned from the Selectboard back in 2009 when his family hit tough times after the economic decline. Mr. Cioper said he was unemployed and obligated to turn his attention toward the welfare of his family.

Mr. Cioper, a maintenance mechanic for the Acushnet Housing Authority, called himself a blue-collar worker who is devoted to helping the elderly, has over 25 years of service to the community, and will focus on the needs of the Town, not the wants.

"A vote for Michael Cioper is a vote for affordability," he said.

Mr. Wojnar opened by listing his accomplishments as a selectperson of 15 years. He said proudly and unscripted that he assisted in the development of the golf course, solved overcrowding at school with new construction, and worked with the Finance Committee to put the Town's finances "on track," including funding a stabilization account of \$2 million.

Mr. Wojnar, who took full advantage of his allotted time for opening remarks, cited the Town's Master Plan and ran down the checklist of completed projects such as drawing in the solar energy

industry, the new police station project, and now the library/community center project, still to be decided by voters.

"I understand that people are hurting," said Mr. Wojnar. "I understand the challenges." He continued listing his successes as selectperson, like the Town's A-1 rating by the Town's auditor, and the recent reestablishment of the position of police resource officer in schools.

When questioned about why the library/community center undertaking was so important, Mr. Wojnar said wheelchair access was a problem and it was important to act now because the state grant money will pick up half the tab for the project.

Mr. Cioper said he supports the concept of the new facility, but the timing was all wrong and taxes are too high, so he does not support the project at this time. He said the elderly he spoke with told him their taxes are already too high, and Mr. Cioper reminded everyone that the tax increase for the new police station is still to come.

"If he wanted to, he would have done [the library/community center project] first or with the police project," said Mr. Cioper.

Mr. Wojnar argued that the timing was now because the Town was waiting to hear if they received the grant money from the state or not. He said the two projects were running on parallel tracks according to the Master Plan.

Mr. Wojnar was asked why there was little effort to inform the community of the election to approve the police station project. Mr. Wojnar said he could dispel that notion, pointing out that there was roughly 12 to 13 percent voter turn-out, which is the typical average for any municipal election.

He stated that 300 residents

showed up for Town Meeting and voted overwhelmingly for the project, and all three of the local newspapers consistently covered the project. He added that the town website also featured details of the project.

Mr. Cioper said the Standard Times hardly covered the project, that a lot of people do not have computers, and he said money could have been saved if both projects were approached at the same time.

"It's not done two weeks before Christmas when everyone's Christmas shopping," said Mr. Cioper, implying that the project was pushed through quietly.

The subject of the discontinuance of community access Channel 95 came up and became contentious toward the end when resident James Madruga, also a former selectperson and current Housing Authority chairperson, accused Mr. Wojnar and the Selectboard of eliminating Channel 95 to silence the dissenting voice of the residents, and specifically mentioned the show Wake up Acushnet that he himself hosted.

"How many times have I been a guest on your show?" Mr. Wojnar said to Mr. Madruga to prove the show was not the reason for ending public access TV.

Mr. Cioper accused Town Administrator Alan Coutinho of lying about a survey about Channel 95 that was, or was not, disseminated throughout Town.

Both candidates agreed that taxes and spending are the most important short-term issues facing the Town. Mr. Cioper said people can hardly afford to live in Acushnet, and Mr. Wojnar highlighted various ways he

ACUSH: cont'd on page 20

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Friday, March 22nd. Time 7:30pm  
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**Deadline to register is Tuesday, March 19th**

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Ages: 11-14 Date: March 25th  
Instructor: Beth Oleson. Time: 5:30-8PM. Cost:\$40 members/ \$45 non-members

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Tuesday, April 16-19. Grades K-5.  
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4/10: So. Shore Plaza  
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4/3: Warwick Mall

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### March for Meals

3/23, 9:00 a.m -2:00 p.m. Join the Fairhaven Council on Aging Team! Coastline Elderly Services is sponsoring the Fun Walk to help end senior hunger. \$20.00 sign-up includes a t-shirt.

### Food Safety Presentation

The Bristol Community College nursing students will be giving a presentation on Guidelines on Basic Food Safety **Wed. 3/20 at 10:15 a.m.**

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# Wood School construction going as planned

By Beth David  
Editor

On time and on track, that was the mantra at last the weekly job meeting for the new Wood School being constructed on Scoticut Neck Road. Ed Pereira and Richard Senna of CTA Construction, bantered about with HMFH's Bobby Williams and Richard Marks and Peter Zychowicz of Daedalus Projects. Fairhaven's Selectboard Executive Secretary Jeff Osuch echoed the sentiment that the project would, indeed, be finished by August.

Mr. Osuch stressed that it was the same team that had been assembled to build the East Fairhaven School in 2007. He said they were "well within budget," and that there were only minor glitches that were worked out as they arose.

According to Mr. Senna, the Project Manager, the project is "under budget," meaning change orders and unforeseen issues have been minimal.

On site last Tuesday, there were 12 subcontractors with 80-90 workers.

The entire building is now enclosed and finish work, such as painting in classrooms and tile work in bathrooms, has begun.



TOP: The round windows of the cafeteria will have a design resembling waves to make the windows look like they are floating. The gym is on the other side of the wall. ABOVE, L-R: Antonio Mattos, Jr., proud member of local 385, hauls some sheetrock with Joe Ferro at the new Wood School being constructed on Scoticut Neck Road in Fairhaven. Mr. Mattos's three children, Toryn, Natalie and Milane, will all attend the school that daddy helped to build. Photos by Beth David. See them in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com)

The colors are bold, with each classroom a different color scheme. Large windows in each classroom will let in a lot of sun, and open six inches to get some fresh air in.

Mr. Senna said the accelerated schedule of 12 months, decried by naysayers as impossible, has not been a problem. The school has the same basic design as EFS with some modifications. EFS took 17 months to build. Unless something very bizarre happens to slow things down, the Wood School should be finished in the 12 months allotted.

"I went to this school, I live in town," said Mr. Senna. "So my reputation is on the line. We're going to get this job done."

He said file floors will be put down starting the first week of April.

The whole building is steel, to withstand hurricanes and blizzards. It has a full kitchen and its own power to be the designated shelter in storms.

## DUI driver who killed Michael Powers sentenced to 15-18 years

Bristol County DA Press Release

Patrick Coelho, 38, of Dartmouth was sentenced on Monday, 3/18, to 15-18 years in state prison after pleading guilty to a litany of charges including vehicular manslaughter.

Mr. Coelho was accused of striking and killing Michael Powers, 51, of Fairhaven while Mr. Powers was driving a motorcycle on Hawthorn Street in Dartmouth on August 1, 2011. Mr. Coelho was intoxicated at the time of the crash and bottles of alcohol were found in his vehicle.

Witnesses observed the defendant driving recklessly and at high rates of speed in the minutes preceding the crash. After striking Mr. Powers' motorcycle from behind with his Mercedes Benz, Mr. Coelho did not slow down and continued driving west on Hawthorn Street where he ended up colliding with a vehicle that resulted in minor injuries to the driver. Mr. Coelho then fled the scene of the second crash on foot before being apprehended by Dartmouth Police officers minutes later.

On Monday in Fall River Superior Court, Mr. Coelho pled guilty to charges of vehicular manslaughter, leaving the scene of an injury — death resulting, leaving the scene of personal injury, and operating a motor vehicle under the influence — fourth offense.

During a plea hearing before Judge Gary Nickerson yesterday, First Assistant District Attorney Thomas M. Quinn argued that due to the

**POWERS: cont'd on page 20**

# Planning board votes for new WT draft bylaw

By Jean Perry

## Neighb News Correspondent

After months of preparation, the Fairhaven Planning Board on 3/12 finally approved the new wind turbine bylaw and voted unanimously to recommend it to Town Meeting for adoption.

Board members had one final discussion on some of the final changes, with Chairperson Wayne Hayward entertaining some last minute questions and nitpicking over grammar from the board.

"We're up against the wall with this particular document at this time," said Mr. Hayward. "We have to act this evening."

This has been a year-long endeavor for the Planning Board since making their first attempt at a new bylaw in April of 2012 when Town Counsel Thomas Crotty put the process to a halt after he issued his opinion that the Planning Board did not follow the proper procedure.

"We've held hearings...modified the document several times...and we've been working on this [for a year]," Mr. Hayward said before Board member Gary Staffon made the motion to recommend the bylaw to Town Meeting.

Mr. Hayward stated that the bylaw accurately reflects the Planning Board's vision for the future of wind turbine development in Fairhaven.

"This is it. This is our best attempt," said Mr. Hayward. "I think the board's done its job here."

The new bylaw would prohibit wind turbines the size of the two existing 397-foot, 1.5 megawatt WTs off Arsene Street, restricting new WTs to a maximum tip height (MTH) of 200 feet, and a maximum capacity of 660 kilowatts. Setbacks were also increased to four times MTH for commercial sites.

The new bylaw requires a two-thirds vote by Town Meeting on 5/4, and then needs approval from Mass. Attorney General Martha Coakley.

"It still has a ways to go, but this is a big step this evening," said Mr. Hayward.

The board moved on to discuss the latest draft of the new solar energy bylaw. It was the last working meeting before the solar energy bylaw public hearing on 3/26.

Just as the dialogue got started, a sudden power outage at Town Hall

left everyone startled and sitting in a pitch black banquet room. The generator turned on seconds later, restoring the lights, but the government access channel was unable to recover the live coverage of the meeting.

After the brief interruption, the discussion resumed, mainly focusing on three significant issues: clear-cutting, glare, and minimum acreage.

Board members spent a lot of time discussing the dilemma of clear-cutting forested land for the purpose of constructing solar farms, which Mr. Hayward insisted would contradict the goals of developing green energy.

"It just detracts from the whole purpose," said Mr. Hayward pointing out the irony of cutting down acres of

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The board also voted to discontinue three paper streets: Ebony Street, Dogwood Street, and Fir Street, which go through thickly wooded property owned by Michael Ristuccia between Rocky Point Road and Bass Creek Road.

---

trees in order to produce green energy. "It doesn't make much sense."

The current bylaw draft proposes a two-year moratorium on clear-cutting before beginning the application process for developing a solar farm to deter land owners from clear-cutting for the sole purpose of solar farming. Mr. Hayward said this measure is recognized in the Commonwealth's model bylaw for solar energy facilities.

Board member Rene Fleurent Jr. argued that land owners can legally clear-cut land for other purposes such as regular farming or commercial development, so why should the Town restrict clear-cutting for solar farming?

"I just found it very restrictive," Mr. Fleurent said.

The board was unable to find an immediate solution to the solar farm

paradox, which Mr. Hayward said could end up being the most contentious part of the bylaw.

Mr. Hayward said potential glare from solar arrays needs to be prevented by a definitive "glare plan" that can only be determined on a case-by case basis. He suggested some glare plans, depending on location and geography, may require screening such as fencing, berms, or natural vegetation.

Mr. Hayward mentioned that he would like the bylaw to grant the board the authority to place conditions specific to each solar facility permit on a case-by-case basis.

The new bylaw draft, at this time, restricts commercial-class solar energy facilities to a minimum of ten acres, with no minimum lot size for smaller-scale on-site solar energy facilities.

The public hearing is scheduled one week after the deadline for article submissions for the 5/4 Special Town Meeting but, as Mr. Hayward explained, the solar bylaw has a placeholder on the warrant. He stated that the Select Board will accept the updated bylaw after the public hearing.

Before adjourning, Mr. Hayward told the board there are already developers waiting for the Town to adopt a solar energy facility bylaw "to do this," holding up a photograph of a solar farm and pointing to it.

In a follow-up interview, Building Inspector Wayne Fostin confirmed that there is one developer interested in constructing a solar energy facility off Mill Road by the AT&T building.

Also at the meeting, the board approved a street discontinuance for Maciel Street, petitioned by the Melansons, owners of Emma Jean's Cupcake factory & Ice Cream Shoppe at 115 Huttleston Avenue.

The paper street is currently a dirt driveway that accesses Bridge Street from behind the property.

The board also voted to discontinue three paper streets: Ebony Street, Dogwood Street, and Fir Street, which go through thickly wooded property owned by Michael Ristuccia between Rocky Point Road and Bass Creek Road.

Mr. Ristuccia, however, chose to leave a 20-foot right-of-way path he said some people use as a walking

**PLANNING: cont'd on page 21**

# Cookies for a Cause says "thank you"



Girl Scouts Troop 80070, 80100, 80031 and 68116 would like to thank everyone who donated to our Cookies for a Cause during our Cookie Booth sales. With the help of many, we collected over 75 boxes to send to our troops serving overseas. If you have any questions or want information about joining Girl Scouts please contact Debbie Rock at 508-984-5123. Submitted photo. See it in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com)

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**POWERS: cont'd from page 16**

egregious nature of the crime and the fact that this was Mr. Coelho's fourth conviction for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence, the defendant should serve 18-25 years in state prison.

Judge Nickerson, however, decided to sentence Mr. Coelho to a total of 15-18 years in state prison on all charges in addition to placing him on probation upon his release from

prison for an additional two years.

"This is one of the most egregious cases I have prosecuted in my 14 and a half years as an assistant district attorney," said First Assistant District Attorney Quinn. "As always, my first thoughts today are with the family of Mr. Powers, whose life was cut short by this senseless act of recklessness by the defendant. I hope this lengthy prison sentence brings a small measure of justice to the family of the

victim."

District Attorney Sam Sutter echoed Mr. Quinn's comments regarding the victim's family, and went on to say that he hopes this lengthy prison sentence sends a clear message that drunk driving is being taken as seriously as ever by this office, and that irresponsible decisions can have tragic consequences for both the individual and the general public.●●●

**ACUSH: cont'd from page 12**

saved the Town money.

Throughout the debate, Mr. Cioper criticized the police project "override" as contributing to higher tax rates, and Mr. Wojnar corrected him, saying it was not an override, but a debt exclusion.

Mr. Cioper said that under Mr. Wojnar, the Town has the highest tax rate in the Southcoast.

That is false, said Mr. Wojnar, stating that Acushnet is actually 11th place out of 28 for tax rates in the region, to which Mr. Cioper said, "taxes have doubled during David's 'savings years.'"

Mr. Cioper concluded by saying, "I've always looked at taxpayers' best interest."

Mr. Wojnar urged voters to look at his track record of fiscal responsibility and allow him to continue to "preserve the quality of life in Acushnet."

**SELECT: cont'd from page 4**

decision and vote at the next meeting.

In other business the board scheduled public hearings on 4/5 and 4/24 to address the Department of Revenue recommendations.

The board voted to request a civil service list for a new police officer to fill a vacant position and reviewed the

Council on Aging budget.

Town Collector Carol Brandolini explained the fee for paying taxes online that one resident complained about. She said it was the bank's fee, not the Town's.

Director of Planning and Economic Development Bill Roth ran down the status of the block grant projects, resulting in the board approving a

\$700,000 from the Annual Town Meeting warrant, mostly in road work, and ran through the warrant, making several recommendations. They decided to wait another week before voting on drafts for Special Town Meeting articles pertaining to the DOR recommendations.

Selectperson Bob Espindola recommended eliminating health insurance for part time town officials to save the Town money. At the end of the meeting, Mr. Espindola wanted to discuss his proposed policy changes, but Dr. Bowcock told Mr. Espindola to wait until next week because it was already 10:15 p.m. There was a brief discussion with a bit of friction. Dr. Bowcock said some of the proposals may not be viable or legal.

ConCom member Cora Peirce asked to discuss the Town's discrimination policy, but Dr. Bowcock said the item was not on the agenda and would not be discussed. She said she would continue to press the issue.

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change in policy to allow residents without home equity to apply for block grant loans.

The board informally adopted a projected revenue figure for FY 13, which now calls for a \$1.3 million reduction in the FY14 budget. The board cut roughly

## ★★★★★ VOTE MONDAY, APRIL 1 ★★★★★



- 5 years Board of Public Works (3 years as Chairman)
- Emergency Management Field Supervisor
- Little League Coach and Concession Manager
- Former Fairhaven Call Firefighter
- Small Business Owner
- Licensed Construction Supervisor
- Life Long Town Resident
- Fairhaven High School Graduate



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Just once it might be instructive to pretend you're accepting an award for failure, just to see who you would thank.

Robert Brault

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**REPORTER WANTED:** To cover meetings for the *Neighb News*. Must be available on Monday evenings and able to get story done on Tuesday. No reporting experience necessary, but good writing skills a must. If you don't know what a double negative is, or you don't understand the difference between its and it's, please do not contact us. Requires ability to quietly observe meetings and write objectively and accurately about what happened. A commitment to accuracy, thoroughness and objectivity essential. Call or email: 508-979-5593, NeighbNews@comcast.net

**PLANNING: cont'd on page 21**  
path on Fir Street.

"To try not to be greedy, I'll leave that 20 feet free," Mr. Ristuccia told the board. "It's quiet and peaceful there."

The only issue that needs to be resolved before Mr. Ristuccia files a Form A to combine multiple lots owned by Mr. Ristuccia into one larger lot, is back taxes owed on the property.

Mr. Ristuccia will pay the back taxes within 30 days, he said, to which Mr. Hayward replied, "Well, the Town could certainly use the money."

### Landscaping Help Wanted

Growing business needs one person for seasonal landscaping help (April–Nov.). Experience working as a landscaper preferred. Knowledge of commercial walk-behind and zero-turn mowers, hedge trimmers, and weed whackers is a plus!

All hard working and reliable applicants should email resumes no later than April 1st. Your resume should consist of details of your experience, skills and up to three work related references with phone numbers. Email to [ronslawnmaint@gmail.com](mailto:ronslawnmaint@gmail.com). NO PHONE CALLS.



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## Fairhaven Meetings

### Bike Path Committee

Thurs., 3/21, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

### Board of Public Works

Mon., 3/25, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

### Conservation Commission

Thurs., 3/25, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Finance Committee

Thurs., 3/21, BPW/Arsene St., 7 p.m.

Thurs., 3/28, BPW/Arsene St., 7 p.m.

### Housing Authority/Special

Fri., 3/22, Oxford Terr., 10 a.m.

### Planning Board

Tues., 3/26, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### School Committee

Wed., 4/3, FHS Media Ctr, 6:30 p.m.

### Selectboard

Mon., 3/25, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

## Acushnet Meetings

### Conservation Commission

Wed., 3/27, Parting Ways Bldg., 7 p.m.

### Housing Authority

Wed., 3/27, 23 Main St., 9 a.m.

### Planning Commission

Thurs., 3/28, Parting Ways, 6:30 p.m.

### TIDE TABLE

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

	March 2013	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	21	0338	1619	1019	2203
Friday	22	0442	1717	1108	2303
Saturday	23	0539	1807	1149	2353
Sunday	24	0627	1852	----	1227
Monday	25	0711	1934	0039*	1303*
Tuesday	26	0753	2015	0123*	1339*
Wednesday	27	0836	2057	0207*	1416*
Thursday	28	0920	2142	0251*	1454*
Friday	29	1006	2230	0334*	1533*
Saturday	30	1056	2321	0418*	1615*
Sunday	31	1149	----	0504*	1701*

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

I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work.

Thomas Edison

I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody.

Bill Cosby

## From our readers

### **Perry's writing appreciated**

Just LOVE Neighb News Correspondent Jean Perry's write-ups of the town committee meetings she attends. She's developed a journalistic dry sense-of-humor that makes one smile. She certainly has plenty of "material" to work with.

If we only knew how funny we were!

Anything that can make you laugh in print is GOOD writing; and in her case it's all true — nothing is made up!

This kind of reporting lightens the seriousness of some of the problems we face in town. We need that.

*Sallie Johnson, Fairhaven*

### **Opportunity for More Change**

One year ago this week (3/11/2012) the Standard Times printed an article foretelling changes in Fairhaven's political future. It is worth revisiting as another election approaches.

Selectman Brian Bowcock had very critical remarks of citizens who had opposed different initiatives in town, saying, "It's a minority of people who speak loudly. They think that the more noise they make, it makes their numbers look better."

Bob Espindola, who was involved in opposition initiatives, went on to win the selectmen's race by a large gap and in his push for more transparent government has repeatedly butted heads with Bowcock.

A year ago Bowcock also stated, "I'm planning to run again for re-election (next year) and I wouldn't be surprised if I was unopposed."

Elected officials should remember that they serve the public and should not get complacent in their roles.

Now Bowcock himself is opposed by Geoff Haworth in a heated battle. Haworth is an ambitious businessman, lifelong resident of the community and wants to leave his own stamp on the office. He stands for more transparent government and better communication with residents and the business community. Haworth has served for five years on the Fairhaven Board of Public Works and has been actively involved in the community for years

Likewise, Board Of Health Chairman Peter Deterra faces challenger John Wethington. Wethington works as an infusion nurse and with his family has been part of the Fairhaven community for 20 years. He is particularly qualified to bring the scientific background, diligence, and human compassion needed to do the job well. He's

prepared to stay ahead of the important health issues rather than waiting by and reacting to them.

There are times when change in government can be a very good thing, at the national, state or local level. It's an opportunity to bring in fresh energy and new, unbiased ideas.

Last year started the process in Fairhaven and now is an opportunity to continue it.

*Patrick McGowan, Fairhaven*

### **DeSousa Supports Haworth**

I'm going to get right to the point: I'm proud to support Geoff Haworth for Fairhaven Selectman. One might ask why? I will briefly reflect back a few summers ago when I ran into Geoff digging holes for a fence at the baseball field on Shaw road. I chatted with him for a few minutes, and he explained to me what he was doing. I remember thinking, what a guy he is for giving up his personal time after work, to better the baseball grounds, so people like me can enjoy it with their children. Over the years I have developed a friendship with Geoff. I've gotten to know him well and his dedication to Fairhaven.

His dedication doesn't stop with volunteering for our children. He has proven himself as a leader serving on the BPW for 5 years, 3 years as the Chairman. One has to only watch him in action during the BPW meetings to see how well he ran the meetings as a Chairman. He will bring this same leadership and dedication to the Selectmen's office.

On Monday, April 1st, I ask that you please join me and vote for Geoff Haworth for Fairhaven Selectman. The statement that is often used, "Time for change," couldn't be more apparent in the Selectmen's race.

*Jaime C. DeSousa, Fairhaven*

### **Lack of Leadership with incumbents**

This year's town election on April 1st is an important one as always. For me, two races seem particularly important, Board of Health and SelectBoard. As the incumbents for each of these boards are currently Chairmen, I have witnessed their lack of representation and lack of consideration with Fairhaven residents.

At the recent candidates' Fairhaven Business Association event, small business owners described how they were "bullied" by town hall when trying to start or expand their businesses. Mr.

Brian Bowcock stated this had been an issue for years that he has experienced firsthand yet he has not specifically addressed a plan for improvement for either the "town hall" culture or individuals responsible for this ongoing problem.

When the town vote was taken regarding the fate of Rogers and Wood schools at the end of 2011, no one was told that wind turbines would be going up a week later so close to the new school. This serious breach of public trust was kept hidden by Brian Bowcock as he worked closely with Executive Secretary Jeff Osuch and the turbine developers to keep the project on the QT. This breach has been verified through a Freedom of Information Act request. These two major town projects should have been discussed openly so that the public would have full disclosure to make an educated vote on projects that impact the whole town for years to come.

As evidence for negative health impacts mount around the state and the world, town residents that are effected are still routinely denied a concerned ear or even to be put on a meeting agendas by the Chairmen of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Health, respectively Brian Bowcock and Peter DeTerra. Since the DEP noise study from October was recently found to be flawed, they still refuse to pay attention to residents who have been looking to these boards for some type of resolution. Would any of us want to be treated this way by our elected officials?

It should be noted that Peter DeTerra is also already the Chairman of the Town Board of Appeals. If there are different Chairs for each board then it seems to follow that a checks and balances system can help to avoid conflicts and ensure better communication to the members of both boards. Mr. DeTerra is also not a health professional. His challenger, John Wethington, RN, has been in the medical field for over 20 years.

There should be no more room in our town government for secret deals and belligerent use of authority. We absolutely need people representing all of the town that will listen to and work with its residents. I hope you share this belief and can join me in voting for John Wethington for BOH and Geoff Haworth for Selectman on April 1st.

*Chris Andersen, Fairhaven*

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# Finance Committee drawing the line on spending

By Jean Perry

## Neighb News Correspondent

He wasn't buying it. Just because other towns are doing it is not a good enough reason.

Fairhaven Finance Committee Chairperson John Roderiques listened on 3/14 as Board of Health Chairperson Peter DeTerra and BOH member Barbara Acksen tried convincing the committee that a \$1,615 increase in the pest control budget line was essential in order to combat the growing threat of mosquito-transmitted Easter Equine Encephalitis (EEE).

The BOH is proposing to spend \$1,000 for 1,200 mosquito "dunks," briquettes that residents can drop into stagnant fresh water to stop the breeding of mosquito larvae and hopefully decrease the chances of spreading EEE.

Mr. DeTerra said residents on Sciticut Neck and West Island are at risk because the areas are not sprayed for mosquitos during the summer like other parts of the Town. He said the dunks would give those residents a little relief from mosquitos.

Why, asked Mr. Roderiques, are these dunks necessary? He also reminded Mr. DeTerra that FinCom asked departments for a level-funded budget.

Mr. Roderiques did not like Mr. DeTerra's answer and interrupted him.

"Mattapoisett is doing it, and other towns are..." said Mr. DeTerra.

Not good enough.

Dr. Acksen jumped in, appealing to the committee and attempting to explain why the dunks are essential but was immediately shut down by Mr. Roderiques.

"This isn't open session," he sternly told her.

"I get we want to prevent everything," said Mr. Roderiques. "Everyone who comes in here says the same thing."

"What's one person's life worth?"

Mr. DeTerra asked Mr. Roderiques.

Then things escalated.

"You're gonna use that?" Mr. Roderiques replied.

Mr. Roderiques told Mr. DeTerra he was just "jumping on the bandwagon" of the latest trend. He questioned the effectiveness of the dunks if everyone did not use them.

Dr. Acksen tried her best to persuade Mr. Roderiques, who was chewing the end of his pen and looking impatient. Mr. Roderiques pointed out that the funds to buy the dunks would not even be released until 7/1, suggesting that the endeavor might be futile.

Mr. Roderiques also read a lengthy list of different boards and associations to which the Fairhaven BOH is a member and asked why the board needed to belong to so many associations that require dues each year.

Mr. DeTerra told him they gain access to websites and seminars on important matters like policy and procedure and it was "a small price to pay" for what they get.

The committee turned to the budget lines that Mr. Roderiques

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I get we want to prevent everything,. Everyone who comes in here says the same thing.  
[John Roderiques]

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dubbed "the easy ones," voting on the ones with the least contention and picked apart others before taking votes to recommend them.

The committee voted in favor of recommending the town insurance budget, which is expected to rise about 10%.

Some budgets passed without much resistance, but at other times committee members second-guessed their earlier motions after an informative talk with Mr. Roderiques. Some committee members even withdrew their prior motions or just changed their minds altogether.

"I'm not seconding it," said FinCom member Sid Martin about a budget of \$2,000 for a rape crisis intervention program provided to the Town by a non-profit organization in New Bedford.

"It's been \$2,000 forever," said Mr. Roderiques. He explained that the Police Department has a system for

the immediate response to sexual assault, but does not have a program in place for what happens in the aftermath of sexual assault. He said the police chief says Fairhaven is "certainly getting your \$2,000 worth."

The board voted and approved it, but Mr. Martin suggested that if cuts need to be made, they revisit the budget item and vote again.

Mr. Martin next suggested not funding the \$1,000 fine arts budget for restoring artwork inside town hall. The board was split 6-5 in favor of recommendation.

The committee chose to hold off on voting on the stabilization fund; \$50,000 is proposed, but Colin Veitch suggested the board leave that budget for last.

The committee approved the municipal debt and interest figure of \$3.3 million and change.

"You owe the money," said Mr. Roderiques. "You have to pay it."

Lastly, the committee deliberated an article on the Town Meeting warrant for road work proposed by the Board of Public Works.

At the last meeting, Mr. Roderiques told the BPW to "pick two" out of the seven. The BPW chose North Street, a paved road, and Dogwood Street, a gravel road, as their priorities.

Kim Hyland was the first to stand by the BPW's recommendation after other committee members disagreed with the board's choice of Dogwood Street.

The committee went rogue and recommended North Street and Cooke Street after a 6-3 vote.

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# Candidate Statements: Board of Health



## Peter DeTerra

Hello my name is Peter DeTerra and I am running for re-election for the Fairhaven Board of Health, and have been a board member since 2005. I enjoy working for the people of Fairhaven, listening to their concerns and working within the Town Government to make things better for everyone.

My roots are strong in Fairhaven with my dad being born and raised here. My wife and I are life long residents of Fairhaven. We have been married for 25 years and reside in East Fairhaven on the family farm with our four children: Kayleigh, Chelsea, Peter Jr. and Noah. All of my children attended Fairhaven Schools, as did I.

There are many responsibilities of the Board of Health and the Board's commitment to these responsibilities can affect all of us. Knowing this after these years of service I have always taken my position on the Board very seriously. The two main keys to my commitment are learning how things work within the laws that govern Board of Health and respect for those I serve — the people Fairhaven.

My Certifications and accomplishments: Massachusetts Assoc. of Health Boards/Boards of Health Member Certification; Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Licensed Title V System Inspector; Massachusetts Department of Environmental protection Licensed Soil Evaluator; Licensed Title V System Installer; OSHA trained; Licensed sewer drain-layer; Licensed water drain-layer; National Association of Local Boards of Health; Eljin Drain Certification; Presby System Certification; Oakson Dispersal System Certification; NIMS 700 Certification; ICS Certification; National Certified Food Manager; Fairhaven Medical Reserve Corps; Emergency Preparedness — Risk Communication, Flu Pandemic, Personal Protection Equipment; CPR and deliberator trained; Infant CPR trained.

I love this Town and because of that I am an active member and involved in many organizations in the community:

Town meeting member; Board of Appeals member; North Fairhaven Improvement Assoc member; East Fairhaven Improvement Assoc member; Faith Formation/ Youth Ministry Leader at St. Joseph's Church; Former Fairhaven Little League board member; Fairhaven Recreational Youth Basketball sponsor; Knights of Columbus, 3rd degree; Asst Boy Scout leader at St. Mary's Church, pack 52; President of the Fairhaven Gridiron Club

There is always so much work to be done through the Board of Health: disease prevention through education and preventative action, promotion of healthy lifestyles, restaurant inspection and education awareness by the food managers in those restaurants and stores, flu vaccination clinics, emergency preparedness for our families and community, regulation enforcement and consistency in the application of public health law, septic system maintenance, safe and clean Bay waters, and eco-friendly "green" community programs and many other things. I ask all Fairhaven residents to join me and get involved in their community because each of us can make a difference.

In closing, I ask you please, as your candidate for re-election, allow me to continue this valuable journey and work to continue to make a contribution to this Town. I am deeply grateful to the citizens of Fairhaven for allowing me to serve and I ask for your support and your vote on Monday, April 1st.



## John Wethington

My name is John Wethington. I have lived in Fairhaven for 15 years in the same house on Century Drive. I am married to the most beautiful, kind and understanding wife a man could have. We will be celebrating our 20th anniversary this year. We have been together for 23 years. I have been blessed with three wonderful boys. Drew will be graduating FHS this year and will be attending University of Maine in the fall. Blake is 13 and will be attending high school in the fall, and Jack is 11 and will be going into 7th grade. I have been a registered nurse for 10 years and have worked in the healthcare field for 20 years.

I have a very caring and compassionate quality to me when it comes to people with health issues. I have to thank my mother Carol for that. She passed away 8 years ago from ovarian cancer. My dad passed away from lung cancer 10 years ago. There are people in this town who are suffering from ill health directly related to the wind turbines. At the very least these people should feel that they can approach the Board of Health with their health issues and have them be heard with a kind and compassionate board listening and doing whatever can be done within the limitations of the board.

There are other things I would like to implement in the town to assist the residences. I would like to set up learning opportunities for our residents in the safe disposal of their old expired medications and educate them on the safe use of antibiotics with informal meetings at our local elderly housing complexes.

I also look forward to participating in the flu clinics and blood pressure clinics in and around our town and also getting into our local schools and educating our youngest residents in drug safety and obesity prevention and the importance in getting up and moving.

The children of Fairhaven have one of the highest BMIs in the state. The BMI is an indicator for obesity. This certainly is an issue the Board of Health should be looking into. Also the board has instituted a recycling program and yet we still produce roughly 2250 lbs of garbage per household, right up there with some large cities.

With the advent of the state passing the medicinal marijuana law the Board of Health needs to be proactive in assisting the Planning Board in zoning laws to again assist our residents in maintaining a safe and secure Fairhaven.

If elected to the board of health I will bring a refreshing change to Town Hall. I will bring a compassionate, kind, and caring voice to all of the residents in Fairhaven. I will listen and I will research any and all issues that are brought to my attention while serving the people.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this and I truly look forward to serving this great town.

## The Fairhaven-Acushnet Land Preservation Trust Annual Meeting

The FALPT will hold its annual meeting on  
Wednesday, March 27, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium  
of the Millicent Library, Fairhaven. Use Walnut Street Entrance.

# Candidate statements: Planning Board



**John Farrell**

My name is John Farrell. I am running in our town election on April 1st for the 1-year Planning Board seat. I want to take an active role in our community and our local government. I fully support the Planning Board's mission of studying and planning based on the needs of the town and the public's safety and

well-being as it pertains to land use and development. My interest is to serve the community of Fairhaven with a focus on the quality of life and health and welfare of the residents coupled with economic stability and growth. I am dedicated to serve our town and the residents of our community.

I have held many leadership roles over the years. I am a member of the National Center for Housing Management and I have achieved my designation in housing as a Certified Occupancy Specialist and Site-Based Budget Specialist. I am also a member of the National Apartment Association. In 2006, I received awards from the City of Boston, Massachusetts State Senate and Massachusetts House of Representatives for life saving during an incident that same year.

From 2006 to 2010, I was on the board for the Columbia Point Safety Committee in Dorchester, MA. The board was represented by several law enforcement agencies including the MBTA, Boston, State, UMass Boston and the Boston school police. The Committee's mission was to share information between law enforcement agencies, and strategize ways to improve the quality of life for all residents with a focus of educating first and enforcement second. I enjoyed my years serving and building community partnerships while on the Columbia Point Safety Committee.

I currently am a property manager in the town of Weymouth, where I manage a mixed income multi-family housing development that has a total of 590 apartments. I have a vast knowledge of private housing. Prior to my current position, I was the Director of Public Safety at Harbor Point Apartments located in Dorchester. I have years of experience with budgeting, financial analysis, quality of life issues, conflict resolution, business contracts, fair housing and enforcing civil contracts and Massachusetts General Law.

I look forward to offering my work experience and skill sets to help our planning board adequately plan for the challenges of present and future growth. My work on the board will be fair and unbiased and based on the best interests of our community as a whole. I would appreciate your vote for me, John Farrell, to serve on the Fairhaven town Planning Board.

## Support the Food Pantry

The Shepherd's Food Pantry at the Long Plain United Methodist Church in Acushnet spends more than \$5,000 each month to keep the shelves stocked. It serves more than 100 families each week and has seen a sharp increase in families seeking food.

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**Cathy Melanson**

VOTE CATHY MELANSON  
PLANNING BOARD

My name is Cathy Melanson and I am running for a seat on the Planning Board. I have lived in Fairhaven all my life, and with my husband of 37 years, Kenneth, we have raised four daughters here and are the proud grandparents of eight.

Three of my daughters still live here in town, but all four will always call Fairhaven their home.

I have a long history of volunteering and being involved with different organizations to improve and help maintain their stability in their respective communities. I have been a member of the Saint Joseph Church Parish Council the Saint Joseph School Committee, volunteered as the Saint Joseph School Development Director for 12 years, member of the Board of Directors for Better Community Living, current Town Meeting Member, and board member and president of the Fairhaven Business Association.

In addition to my civic and volunteer services, I also worked for 10 years in several managerial positions at a large local retail store, and built a thriving business from scratch. I have worked on many renovation projects and built my home. I have dealt with contractors, architects and engineers. As a resident, I have seen firsthand the difficulties of getting things done and having a clear picture of the proper channels and procedures.

As a business owner, it is not any better. Unfortunately, when someone has a project, there is no clear cut guidelines to follow that will get them through the whole permit process. In a lot of situations an individual or business owner may have to go through more than one board or department.

If elected, I will work with the Planning Board to keep the guidelines and procedures clear. This will assure that we do all that we can to expedite the permit process, when feasible, so no one has unnecessary delays. Taxpayers, whether they are town residents or business owners, need to know that we are here to help them and to make their interaction with the Planning Board a positive experience.

What we need to be looking at:

- Re-development of some of the older properties
- What we would like to see Route 6 look like in the future
- We need to think of future development and growth
- We need to take a look at the zoning map and look for opportunities to expand commercial and industrial areas to help with our tax base; it may not be there but we have to look and develop a long range plan
- If we do not like what we see it is up to us to change the guidelines.
- We can keep Fairhaven's charm and appeal by strategic long range planning for our future.

I believe in this town and I want to help make it even better.

I have the utmost respect for those who give their time to help keep Fairhaven on the right track and to be proactive, and it would be an honor to work alongside those who have the same goals. I kindly ask for your support and vote. Thank you!

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