



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 13 • April 4, 2013

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

Bowcock loses; BOH & Planning will recount



Geoffrey Haworth is sworn in as the newest member of the Fairhaven Selectboard by town clerk Eileen Lowney after the election on Monday night, 4/1. Ms. Haworth scored a big upset over longtime selectboard member Brian Bowcock in a decisive win with 260 votes. The Board of Health race will require a recount. See story on page 16. Photos by Beth David. See them in color at www.NeighbNews.com. Visit us at www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews to see more photos of this and other events. Individual photos are available for purchase.



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- **FinCom:** page 18
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From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

If you think for one moment that your one little vote doesn't count, then you need to talk to Peter DeTerra or John Wethington (see page 12). Holy Moly. One mistake after the other, and it all would not have mattered, if it did not come down to just one vote...or three..depending on how you look at it.

Read the story on page 12, really. The straight-up news is better than any editorial this little brain can write.

Okay, so, there's a three-vote margin of victory to Mr. Wethington, who is declared the winner. Of course there will be a recount, it's too close not to be. But for some unfathomable reason, the town clerk swears him in anyway. Then she remembers the "hand counts," ballots that need to be hand counted. Usually there are only a few (which is more than three), so she usually counts them the next day (yeah, I know).

She counts 'em (I was there, by the way), and guess what? Yup, you guessed it: now Wethington has lost, but only by ONE vote to incumbent Peter DeTerra, who is home asleep thinking he lost. Probably the best night's sleep he got in a long time, too. I should've asked him that...shoot, I only thought of it now.

Okay, so what next? Who's going to ask for the recount? Peter says he won, it should be John. John says he was duly sworn in, so it should be Peter. Then John says he'll be the "bigger man" and ask for it. Then his lawyer sends a letter saying he is duly sworn in and the legitimate member of the BOH.

So who's going to ask for the recount? Beats me.

What I do know is this: Mr. Wethington, who ran on a platform of promising to listen to people with compassion because the charge against Mr. DeTerra has been that he won't let people have a voice (or, dare I say it...a count?), wants to discard the votes of 48 people. Those people went out to vote and their votes should count.

Period.

AARRGGHH!!! I could go on forever, but John Roderiques did a fine job of it on his blog, so visit <http://www.fairhavenandmore.blogspot.com> for more.

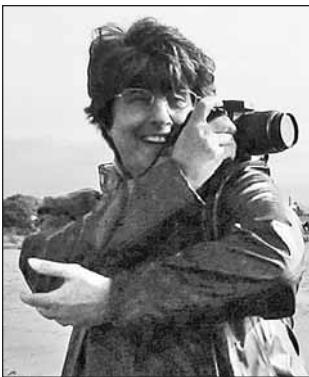
The letter from Mr. Wethington's attorney is on our website.

But wait, we're not done here, not by a long shot. The election day drama didn't start after the polls closed. The real fun started in the bright and early sunny afternoon,

Someone flagged me down while I was taking pictures at the various polling places to tell me that the election results were not going to be televised that night as they have been for.....FOREVER! Since the very first year that the town had cable access.

It's one of my favorite things about Fairhaven's local elections: everyone crowds into the clerk's office to hear the results. She gives everyone a sheet to write in the numbers. The people good at arithmetic have it all figured out right away (I always have to ask..ahem).

People are crowded in the hall, in the banquet room



Beth David, Publisher

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

Volume 8, Issue 13
Thursday, April 4, 2013
Copyright 2013 Elizabeth A. David
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Published weekly on Thursdays by
Fairhaven Neighborhood News, LLC, at
166 Dogwood Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719
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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our Finance Committee story last week, we made a mistake about Harbormaster David Darmofal. He is not retiring next year, he is simply leaving in December as he always does because the job is seasonal. We apologize if we aged him in the eyes of the public.

Letter cont'd from previous page

(where the meetings are held), and you get to see the reactions of the candidates right there...raw and unfiltered. It's a beautiful thing.

Then they all take a turn sitting in front of the cameras to address the voters one last time. I love it. Really.

Not going to do it? Why not, say you?

Well, the first story was that they didn't want to pay the camera operator for her minimum 4 hours since it would only be about a half hour. Hmm...who is "they" you ask?

Well, that's the question, eh? I have it on good authority that it was Brian Bowcock, the incumbent who got ousted from his Selectboard seat. He denies it of course. He says it wasn't up to him. Funny, though, that's the same thing the other two selectboys said and Jeff Osuch, too. Four little boys in the playground all blaming the other guy.

Okay, then the story changed and they said it was because Dr. Bowcock felt uncomfortable moderating because he was a candidate. Well, yeah, duh.

You guys all knew there was an election coming right? No one thought about this until Monday morning when Jeff brought it up?

Oh, did I mention that Finance Committee chair John Roderiques said there was about \$500,000 in the account? That must be why the story changed. I mean, really, don't they think I know how to ask him the question?

Even Hoppy offered to pay for the stinking four hours.

So, I did what any 21st century person would do: I

posted it on Facebook. After being inundated with calls, "they" decided it would be televised. That's the power of social media. Score one for the little guys.

I'm told you couldn't get through to the Selectboard's office for two hours and the clerk's office was also swamped.

Good work, everyone. Every single person who called: Good job.

This is an issue that never should have come up.

So no one "arranged" it, it's not in a policy somewhere, so there's no one to blame.

Boys, boys, boys....it really didn't occur to anyone that someone has to call the camera operator and approve her pay for the night?

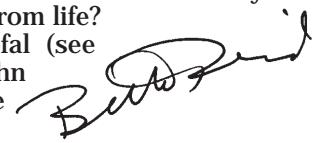
This never should have been an issue, not for a second. I could go on and on for pages, but...alas.

You just can't make up this stuff.

Okay, just enough room to say take a look at page 4 for the North Fairhaven Improvement Association's egg hunt. It usually makes the cover, but the election trumped it this year. That egg hunt is one of my favorite events: it's free, it's open to everyone, it has hot chocolate and candy.

What more does one need from life?

Apologies to David Darmofal (see correction). First, we give John Roderiques a heart, then we age our Harbormaster. Oh my.



Millicent reader wins Bruins jersey

Press Release

Morgan Elliott, a seventh grader from the Hastings Middle School in Fairhaven, has won a Bruins team jersey signed by the members of the Bruins 2012-13 team, along with a certificate of authenticity.

"I was so surprised!" said Morgan, "I didn't expect to win. I'm glad the Bruins are having a good season."

Morgan posed for photos in her autographed jersey, which she plans to frame. Her sisters, twins Haley and Hannah, joined her in a photograph, as did Jane Murphy, Youth Services Librarian at the Millicent Library. Morgan's parents, Sandra and Shawn Elliott of Day Street in Fairhaven, were delighted. The girls have all been actively involved in library activities for most of their lives, and Morgan has been volunteering at the library as well this year.

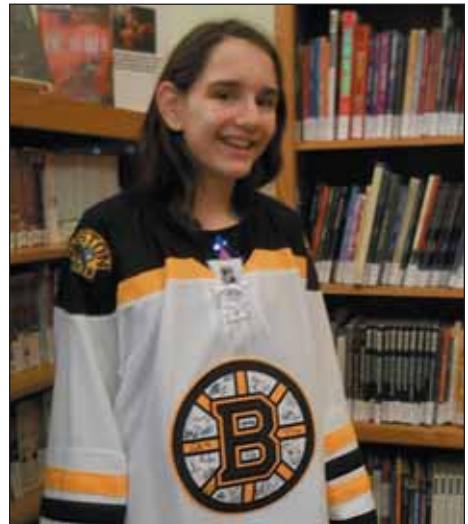
In February, young readers across the Commonwealth received Bruins prizes based on their participation in the statewide summer reading programs at public libraries.

The Bruins began partnering with the Mass. Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) and the Massa. Library System in 2008. Together the organizations developed "When you

read, you score" that works with the MBLC and the Massachusetts Library Systems' (MLS) existing summer reading program to encourage children and teens to keep reading over the summer. Research has shown that summer reading helps kids maintain skills they've learned over the academic year and grow towards the skills required for the next school year.

Librarians from across the state were asked to submit names for the random prize drawing conducted by MLS. In all, 27 children and teens received Bruins prizes ranging from team-signed Bruins jerseys to Bruins pucks signed by Brad Marchand to at-game experiences like riding the Zamboni, high-fiving players as they leave the locker room, or the opportunity to sit on the Bruins bench during pre-game warm-ups.

More than 300,000 children, teens and adults participated in summer reading events at libraries across the Commonwealth during summer 2012. The Bruins' financial support of the statewide summer reading program, along with funding from the MBLC and the Mass. Library System, has allowed libraries to receive summer reading materials at no cost to the



Hastings Middle School seventh-grader Morgan Elliott shows off the authentic, signed Bruins jersey she received in a drawing as part of the Millicent Library's summer reading program. Submitted photo.

local library. Summer 2013 is just around the corner. Sign-up begins the week of June 24th at the Millicent Library.

For further information, contact Jane Murphy, jmurphy@sailsinc.org, 508-992-5342, the Millicent Library, 45 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719. Accessible.

Annual NFIA Egg hunt delights the neighborhood

By Beth David
Editor

The cold didn't stop that north Fairhaven crowd from getting up at the crack of dawn and seeding Livesey Park with eggs and candy for the annual Easter Egg hunt sponsored by the North Fairhaven Improvement Association. Hundreds of little ones, with their adults in tow, showed up on Saturday morning, 3/30, at Livesey Park to chase candy and wooden eggs around the park.

The eggs had numbers and corresponding prizes for the lucky youngsters who found the eggs.

Everyone also got a raffle ticket and had a chance to win more prizes and toys. Hot chocolate and pictures and hugs with the Easter Bunny rounded out the event.

As they waited for the moment, children literally jumped up and down in anticipation. Volunteers made the mistake of throwing out extra candy on the lawn before the playgrounds. The children gradually made their way forward before the call was made. But, not harm, no foul. The crowd still swarmed over the park when the moment arrived.

The free event is possible every

year thanks to people who donate candy and prizes. This year's donors included Gail and Andy Koneth, Kathy Sturtevant, Deb and Steve Davis, Leslie Stykowski, Jyzair Hart, Pat and Gary Mello, the Raphael family in memory of Chief Alfred Raphael and Clementine Raphael, Jackie Kenworthy, Lori Medina. Marc Jodoin and Steve Pennington of the Emergency Management Agency loaned their sound system to the event. Egg hiders included Isaiah Medina and Aiden Deconinck, while Jewlyn Sturtevant was a special helper to the Easter Bunny.



ABOVE LEFT: A group of children pose with the Easter Bunny at the North Fairhaven Improvement Association's annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, 3/30, at Livesey Park in Fairhaven. MIDDLE & RIGHT: One little guy clings to his big brother to stay away from the Easter Bunny. BELOW LEFT: Taylor Cook managed to find one of the coveted wooden eggs. MIDDLE: Delilah Marcal walks off with her prize basket, nearly as big as she is. RIGHT: The basket is bigger than the winner. Photos By Beth David. See them in color at www.Neighnews.com. Visit us at www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews to see more photos of this and other events. Individual photos are available for purchase.



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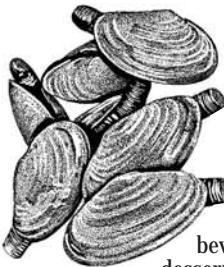
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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Mr. Fairhaven

The Fairhaven High School After Prom Committee will be hosting the **Mr. Fairhaven contest on Friday, April 5 at 7:00 PM** at the Performing Arts Center in the school. This year eleven seniors will be vying for the title. Contestants are judged in categories including Casual Wear, Beach Wear, Formal Wear and Talent. Audience members can also vote for the People's Choice award winner.

Contestants this year include: Eamonn Andre, Ryan Baldwin, Christian Braga, Jacob Carvalho, Giuliano Conte, Jamaul Jones, Dan McLaughlin, Jackson Oliva, Tyler Pereira, Billy Pires and John Stapleton. Judges for this year's contest are Shawnte Paris-Stokes from the FHS staff, Larry Soares from Fun 107 and Pam Kuechler from the Fairhaven School Committee.

Tickets are \$8.00 and will be sold at the door. It is sure to be a fun night and the After Prom Committee would like to thank Main Street Formals for sponsoring the event by donating the use of tuxedos for the contest. All proceeds will benefit the After Prom Event to be held in May.

Bikeway Forum

On Thursday April 11, 2013 the Fairhaven Bikeway Committee will be hosting a forum on the future plans to promote bike safety and to link different parts of town to the main bike path. Steve Miller from Livable Streets will be speaking and answering questions. Come and hear about linking North Fairhaven and West Island to the main path and about future plans to make the crossing at Sconticut Neck safer. The Forum will start at 7:00 PM in the banquet room, Fairhaven Town Hall.

Masons Open Hse

George H. Taber Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts welcome the public to an open house on **Saturday, April 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 20 Center Street, Fairhaven**, to raise awareness of Who the Freemasons are and what they do.

Members of George H. Taber Lodge comprised largely of Fairhaven residents belonging to a society dedicated to the principle of "making good men better" by providing

opportunities for fellowship, charity, education, and leadership, while creating friendship and understanding between men without regard to nationality, religion, race, background or opinion.

Freemasons trace their history back to the stonemason guilds that built Europe's cathedrals and castles. Organized in Massachusetts over 275 years ago, they have been an integral part of our nation's history. Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Thurgood Marshall, and John Glenn are among the many famous men who joined the organization before achieving the greatness they are recognized for. North American Freemasons donate more than \$3,000,000 every day to charity; more than 70% benefiting the general public.

FREE Registration

The waters of New Bedford Harbor and Buzzards Bay may still be chilly, but it's not too early to show your support for clean water by registering to swim in the **Buzzards Bay Coalition's 20th annual Buzzards Bay Swim on Saturday, July 13. Swimmers who sign up through Monday, April 15 will enjoy free registration.**

The Buzzards Bay Swim is a 1.2-mile open water course across outer New Bedford Harbor, starting at Davy's Locker in New Bedford's South End and ending at Fort Phoenix State Reservation in Fairhaven. The Swim draws participants of all ages and abilities, including families, swim teams, serious competitors, and individuals seeking a new fitness challenge. Three hundred swimmers are expected to participate in this year's Buzzards Bay Swim.

The Buzzards Bay Swim is the Bay Coalition's longest-running fund-raising event. All funds raised from the Swim will support the Bay Coalition's work to restore clean water, conserve natural lands and engage the community in protecting Buzzards Bay.

To register and learn more about the Buzzards Bay Swim, visit www.savebuzzardsbay.org/swim.

The Buzzards Bay Swim is a Waterkeeper Alliance SPLASH Series Event, presented nationally by Toyota. The SPLASH Series engages local citizens in recreational use of

our waterways to celebrate access to clean water with activities that the whole community can enjoy as they raise critical funds to support their local Waterkeeper organization. Visit www.splashseries.org.

DOR hearings

The Fairhaven selectboard will be holding two public hearings to discuss the Department of Revenue (DOR) report with the public prior to the Annual Town Meeting. The DOR report contains 34 recommendations for Fairhaven's governmental practices. The two hearings will outline these recommendations and the Board will solicit comments and answer questions from the public.

The DOR public hearings will be held on **Wednesday, April 10, 2013 at 6:00 p.m., and Wednesday, April 24, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.**, in the Town Hall Conference Room. A PDF copy of the DOR report is available on the Town website: www.Fairhaven-MA.gov. For more information, contact the Selectboard Office: 508-979-4023.

Rummage Sale Items Needed

The Unitarian Memorial Church, 102 Green Street, will be having a rummage sale on Saturday, April 13.

If you have things in good condition for sale, please bring them to the church 9 to 2 pm Monday-Thursday or on a Sunday at 12 noon. Or call us for an alternative time.

All items in good condition accepted except clothing.

This is a good opportunity to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Thank you for your support: 508-992-7081.

Save the Date

The second annual West Island 5K will be held on **Sunday, 4/28**. All proceeds go to the Fairhaven High School Cross Country program & The Crispin Demers Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Children's fun mile starts at 10 a.m., 5K starts at 11. Registration: \$5.00 kids; 5K Run/Walk, \$15.00, K-12 students registering for the 5K; **\$20.00 postmarked by April 14th;** \$25.00, registrations after April 14th

Visit WestIsland5K.org

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Two Plays at YTI

As a Director's Showcase production, Your Theatre, Inc. will present two one-act plays Thursday through Saturday, **April 4, 5 and 6 at 8 p.m.** and Sunday, **April 7 at 2:30 p.m.**

Linda Monchik of Fall River will direct William Inge's "Glory in the Flower." Suzanne Bergeron of New Bedford will direct Glenn Hughes' "Red Carnations."

In the Inge play, strains of love remembered and imagined permeate the Paradise Bar, recalling times of splendor in a once prosperous Midwestern town that knew glory amid a remaining flower field.

A three-character comedy of manners dealing with the suspense, deceptions, and complications a boy faces as he seeks the affection of a young lady, "Red Carnations" will feature Tony Oliva of Fairhaven as Mr. Smith, Tyler Rowe of Fall River as the boy, and Diane Correia of Taunton as the girl.

Produced in part by Bank Five, a Your Theatre, Inc. corporate sponsor, both plays will be held in the Your Theatre, Inc. Performance Complex at St. Martin's Church, 136 Rivet St. at County St., New Bedford.

The theatre is accessible; parking is free in the church lot on County St.

For tickets call Your Theatre, Inc. at 508/993-0772, or send an e-mail to info@yourtheatre.org. The theatre's web site is www.yourtheatre.org.

Benefit Party

Our Lady of Angels Catholic Association of Fairhaven will be hosting a Benefit for Joe Garcia, our former President. This event will be held on Sunday April 28th from 1pm-5pm at the Madeira Feast Grounds in New Bedford. There will be food, music and raffles. Donations are \$20 each. For more information or to purchase tickets please contact Ed (508) 558-2058, Jeff (508) 965-0820 or Dave (508) 717-9007.

Summer Job Apps

The City of New Bedford Office of Parks Recreation & Beaches announced applications for seasonal summer jobs are now available. The department offers positions for New Bedford youth ages 16-24 for 8-10 weeks during the summer working in

a variety of programs.

Applications are available at the Administrative Office of Parks Recreation & Beaches at 181 Hillman St. Bldg 3; All applications must be returned to the Administrative Office Monday-Friday between the hours of 1:00pm-4:00pm. **Applications will be accepted until May 17, 2013**

For more information interested applicants may contact the Office of Parks Recreation & Beaches at (508) 961-3015 or stop by the office at 181 Hillman St. Bldg #3

Author Event

Dick Lehr and Gerard O'Neill recently released *WHITEY: The Life of America's Most Notorious Mob Boss*, the final book of a trilogy on Whitey Bulger, the Boston Mafia, and the corrupt FBI that allowed Bulger to inflict a twenty-year reign of terror on the city. The biography is a thorough analysis of the crime boss and killer, James J. "Whitey" Bulger and documents the making of America's most notorious mob boss.

The public is invited to attend an author discussion with Dick Lehr at the **New Bedford Whaling Museum on Friday, April 5th at 7:00 p.m.** New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell, the lead federal prosecutor on the Bulger Task Force, will offer thoughts on the Task Force's search for Bulger and then introduce the author, Dick Lehr.

Tickets for this event are \$25 per person with the proceeds to benefit expanded summer programming for AHA! a monthly celebration of Arts, History and Architecture in downtown New Bedford. A reception will follow the book discussion. To purchase a ticket call AHA! at (508) 996-8253 x205.

The book will be available for purchase on the night of the event from Baker Books.

Rabies Clinic

New Bedford Animal Control will host a low-cost rabies clinic to vaccinate dogs, cats and ferrets from New Bedford and the surrounding communities on **Saturday, April 6, from 10:00am to 12 Noon**

The clinic will be held at two locations in New Bedford; Fire Station #11 located at 754 Brock Avenue at the corner of Mott Street and Fire

Station #9 located 799 Ashley Boulevard on the corner of Tarklin Hill Road. **The vaccination fee is \$10.00 per animal.**

Pet owners must properly restrain their animals. The public is encouraged to help protect their pets, family and community from rabies by vaccinating all dogs, cats and ferrets. For more information visit www.nbac.info or call (508) 991-6366.

New Bedford dog licenses will also be available at the clinic. For information on dog licenses, contact the the City Clerk at (508) 979-1450.

Benefit Concert

United Way of Greater New Bedford and Senator Mark Montigny are once again teaming up to host a benefit concert by the Pearly Baker Band at the Zeiterion, with all proceeds going to United Way's Hunger Commission. This year's concert will be held on April 6 at the Z at 7pm; tickets are \$15.

Concert goers are also asked to bring non-perishable food to donate with them to the concert. All food collected will be distributed by the Hunger Commission to local food pantries and soup kitchens.

For tickets visit www.zeiterion.org. To learn more about the Hunger Commission or United Way please visit www.unitedwayofgnb.org.

Care Seat Safety Check

St. Luke's Hospital will host a free Car Seat Safety Check event at St. Luke's Hospital on **Saturday, April 6 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** in St. Luke's parking lot the corner of Hawthorn and Page Streets. Registration is recommended, but walk-ins are welcome. To register, please call the Southcoast Wellness Line at 1-800-497-1727.

The public is invited to have their child's car seat checked at no cost. Certified child passenger safety technicians will teach attendees how to properly install car seats in their vehicle and provide education on child passenger safety and seat belt use.

For more information on car seat safety visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at www.safercar.gov/Safety/CPS.

HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

Ballroom Dance

Everyone is invited to the Ballroom Dance Party. Live music by the Meadow Larks will help you twirl and whirl! Put on your dancing shoes and join friends and neighbors on **Saturday, April 6, from 7-11 PM at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 57 Fairhaven Road (Rte 6), Mattapoisett.**

Tickets are \$25 per person at the door. Light refreshments are included in the ticket price. A cash bar will be available in addition to door prizes and a Chinese auction.

Sponsored by the Mattapoisett Friends of the Elderly to benefit the Mattapoisett Council on Aging and other senior activities.

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.

Camp Angel Wings

Southcoast™ VNA, will host its 10th annual bereavement camp, "Camp Angel Wings," in July. This is an exciting, fun-filled, two-day camp experience for children and teens, ages 6 through 15, who are grieving the loss of a loved one. The camp will be held on July 13 and 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Cathedral Camp for Boys & Girls, 167 Middleboro Road in East Freetown.

Camp Angel Wings is free for all campers, but space is limited and registration is required. Applications to attend Camp Angel Wings will be accepting online **beginning April 1.**

Please visit www.southcoast.org/campangelwings/ for more information. Applications should be submitted as soon as possible as space is limited. The deadline for registration is June 9. For questions contact Lindsay Coe, Camp Angel Wings Coordinator, by phone at 508-973-3219 or by email at coe@southcoast.org.

Quilters

The Shining Tides Quilt Guild has added an evening meeting. It will take place on the second Monday of the month. Coffee and.... will start at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7. If you are interested, please attend a meeting as our guest. The next meeting will be **Monday April 8th 6:30pm** at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 57 Fairhaven Rd (RT. 6), Mattapoisett, MA. Dues are \$20.00 per year and membership enables you to attend both day (4th Monday at 9:30am) and evening (2nd Monday at 6:30p) meetings as you please.

Fo more information contact us through our website at <http://shiningtidesquiltguild.com>.

Bird Club

The Paskamansett Bird Club's monthly meeting will take place at **7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 10**, at the Community Hall of Friends Meeting, 739 Horseneck Road, S. Dartmouth. After a brief business meeting, Bob and Joanne Kowalczyk will give a slide presentation on their recent trip to Chile and Easter Island.

Their journey took them to a diverse array of landscapes, from the modern city of Santiago at the foot of the snow-covered Andes mountains, to the Atacama Desert. They visited salt pans that were home to three species of Flamingo, and saw the three-mile high geyser basin at El Tatio. They went to Patagonia's magnificent glaciers and to Maipo Canyon, seeking the Diademed Sandpiper-Plover — a plover with the bill of a sandpiper! The highlight of Patagonia was visiting the Otway Sound Penguin Colony with its ten thousand penguins.

Their Chilean adventure ended twenty-two hundred miles out in the middle of the Pacific Ocean on Easter Island. Easter Island is best known for the giant stone monoliths, known as Moai, that dot the coastline. The Kowalczyks will share their photos of the trip, including flamingos in the northern desert area of Atacama, shorebirds in the central lake-district, penguins in the southern Patagonian wilderness, and stone sculptures on Easter Island.

Refreshments and conversation will follow the presentation. The

meeting is free, open to the public, and accessible.

Glass Managerie

Buzzards Play Productions of East Wareham continues its production of the American classic play, Tennessee Williams' *The Glass Menagerie*. Directed by Santiago Gonzalez, the production continues the first two weekends in April: Fridays and Saturdays April 5th & 6th, and 12th, & 13th at 8pm and two Sunday Matinees, April 7th and 14th at 2pm. Tickets are \$15.00 for General Admission and \$12.00 for Seniors, Veterans and Students.

For reservations call or text Janice at 508-596-9221 or E-mail: buzzardsplayprod@aol.com. Performances will be held at Buzzards Play Productions 3065 Cranberry Highway, East Wareham, MA (Directly across from Benny's).

The Glass Menagerie has long been considered one of America's greatest plays and Tennessee Williams one of America's greatest playwrights. The play concerns the Wingfield family, Amanda and her adult children Tom and Laura. During hard financial times, Tom, who is anxious to make a life of his own, feels obliged to remain at home to care for his over-bearing mother and overly shy sister. Hope enters the picture with the appearance of a suitor for Laura, referred to as "the gentleman caller." It is a critically acclaimed play of great tenderness, charm and beauty.

Volunteers Needed

The Team Noah Foundation is joined by Cameron's Kids, and the Traver/Jordan Alves Foundation (TJA), to build a home addition for 62-year-old grandmother caring for her grandchild with special needs and his sibling. The 20 by 30 foot addition will include a basement for storage, a handicap accessible bathroom, kitchen and a bedroom for the 12-year-old boy who is wheelchair bound. The build is planned to begin and end in a record 7-day span with the help of volunteers.

Currently, the family's home in Wareham is very small. Anyone interested in donating labor or materials, please contact Victor Fernandes at 774-473-9776.

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Recipe of the Week

Baked Cinnamon Apple French Toast

Cooking spray

1 cup light brown sugar

1/2 cup light butter, melted

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

3 Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored, and thinly sliced

1/2 cup dried cranberries

1/2 cup chopped pecans

1 loaf Italian bread, cut into 1/2" slices

1 1/2 cups egg substitute

1 1/2 cups skim milk

1 tablespoon vanilla extract

2 teaspoons ground cinnamon

Spray 9x13-inch casserole dish with cooking spray. Mix brown sugar, butter, and 1 tsp cinnamon in the bottom of the prepared casserole dish. Add apples, cranberries, and pecans; toss to coat. Evenly spread apple mixture to cover bottom of dish.

Arrange bread slices atop apple mixture, overlapping slightly until apple layer is completely covered.

Whisk egg substitute, skim milk, vanilla extract, and 2 tsps cinnamon in a bowl; evenly pour over bread slices. Cover dish with aluminum foil and refrigerate 4 to 24 hours.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C). Bake covered casserole in preheated oven for 40 mins. Remove foil and continue baking until lightly browned and egg mixture is set, about 5 mins. Cool 5 mins before serving.

Note: If you use sweeter apples, decrease the amount of brown sugar.

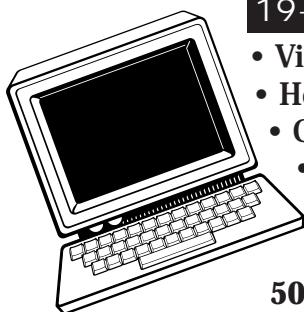
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Acushnet Officials help Meals on Wheels

Press Release

Acushnet Selectboard member David Wojnar and Chief of Police Mike Alves joined Coastline Elderly Services on Wednesday 3/27, to deliver meals to four Acushnet residents who receive Meals on Wheels. They then returned to the Acushnet Council on Aging to serve meals to seniors attending lunch.

The event was a part of Coastline's March for Meals Campaign, a national event to raise awareness about senior hunger and the vital role Meals on Wheels (MoW) plays. Many of the local MoW providers, including Coastline, hold fundraisers and other events, and encourage local politicians to participate.

Coastline kicked off their campaign with Mayor Mitchell, teaming up to deliver meals to seniors living in New Bedford.

The Acushnet group delivered meals to four Acushnet residents (including three over the age of ninety) who all live alone and depend on Meals on Wheels to help them remain living in their own homes, independently. Coastline and the Acushnet COA work together to provide services and programs to the town's senior population that works toward this exact goal.

The Acushnet Council on Aging provides services to seniors in Acushnet and surrounding towns,

including among other things wellness programs, social activities, and transportation. To find out more about the Acushnet Council on Aging, call 508-998-0280 or visit their facebook page.

Coastline Elderly Services is located in New Bedford and provides programs and services to residents of New Bedford, Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Gosnold, Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester. To learn more about Coastline, call 508-999-6400.



TOP: Acushnet police chief Michael Alves serves meals at the Acushnet Council on Aging on Wednesday, 3/27. ABOVE: Acushnet Selectboard member David Wojnar hands a Meals on Wheels meal to Raymond Vary. Submitted photos. See them in color at www.NeighbNews.com

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Fairhaven election not over yet

By Beth David
Editor

Challenger and Board of Public Works member Geoffrey Haworth's stunning upset in the Fairhaven Selectboard race against longtime selectboard member and incumbent Brian Bowcock got upstaged by the ongoing saga of the Board of Health.

The decisive 1370 to 1110 win just did not have the drama to compete.

In a bizarre turn of events, the BOH race will face a recount, probably, maybe, sort of.

At first it would have fallen to incumbent Peter DeTerra to call for the recount, because it was announced that he had lost by three votes. Then the "hand counts," which were not included in the totals, were counted, giving Mr. DeTerra the edge by one vote. The hand counts are ballots that were rejected by the counting machines for various reasons. They are put into a special slot on the side of the machine and put in an envelope to be counted separately.

Mr. DeTerra left town hall on Monday night, 4/1, after the results were announced on government access cable TV, believing he had lost. He said he had no idea the vote was changed until the next morning.

Meanwhile, town clerk Eileen Lowney had sworn in challenger John Wethington. Mr. Wethington was at a campaign get-together about an hour later when he found out the vote had changed.

According to Ms. Lowney, the final tally is Mr. DeTerra 1247, Mr. Wething-

ton 1246, with two write-ins and 51 blanks.

She said the numbers had not been certified by press time because she was still tallying some other races with write-ins, especially town meeting members and the Fairhaven Housing Authority.

Mr. Wethington said he felt he was the winner and that Mr. DeTerra should be the one to file for the recount. Mr. DeTerra said he was the winner and Mr. Wethington should ask for the recount.

In a press release by Ken Pottel, a member of WindWise which supported Mr. Wethington, Mr. Pottel said that Mr. DeTerra was behind the counter with the unattended ballots, implying that he tampered with them.

Ms. Lowney said either she or her assistant, Carolyn Hurley, was in the room at all times and that no one had access to the ballots.

In a phone interview, Mr. Wethington said that although he felt he was the legitimate member of the board, he would ask for a recount. A recount requires getting 10 certified signatures from each precinct.

"I'm sure I'll have to be the bigger man and file the paperwork for the recount," said Mr. Wethington.

He said he couldn't just "let it go" because more than 1200 people voted for him.

He said he had no knowledge of what was in the press release sent by Windwise and that he was not accusing anyone of anything illegal.

"I would never make that accusation," said Mr. Wethington. "It's not coming from my mouth."

Right after the election, Mr. Wethington was clearly delighted with his win, however short-lived. He said he knew there would be a recount and, "either way it's pretty cool. Even if I lose, I think it speaks volumes because 1200 people are not all Windwise."

In the phone interview, he showed a little of that sentiment

"I would've been thrilled if I lost by 200, thrilled that I came that close," said Mr. Wethington. "I wouldn't have lost a second of sleep, but losing by one leaves a bitter taste in my mouth."

He said he was going to do some research and then ask for a recount.

That was on Tuesday.

On Wednesday, just before press



Peter DeTerra addresses the voters through government cable access television after the election in Fairhaven on Monday, 4/1. Mr. DeTerra is telling voters he will ask for a recount because he lost by three votes, however, after the hand counts were tallied up, he won by one vote. Challenger John Wethington (BOTTOM LEFT with his wife Lisa), was sworn in before the hand counts were included and feels he is the legitimate winner because he was sworn in. He may (or may not) ask for a recount. Photos by Beth David.

time, the *Neighb News* learned that attorney Ann Ponichtera DeNardis sent a letter* to the town clerk to say she represented Mr. Wethington, "the duly sworn and declared winner of the April 1, 2013 election to the Board of Health."

In the letter, Ms. Ponichtera DeNardis also states that Ms. Lowney had no authority to "access the votes after they were initially counted," and that "any violation by you of the counting of votes, or other election procedures, does not affect the title of Health Board Member, John Wethington..."

It is unclear if Mr. Wethington still plans to ask for the recount or if Mr. DeTerra will.

In a phone interview before the *Neighb News* knew about the letter, Mr. DeTerra said he was the duly elected member of the board and would not ask for a recount. He said it was Mr. Wethington's responsibility to do so.

He said the accusation of any

ELECTION: cont'd next page



ELECTION: cont'd from previous page



wrongdoing on his part was unfounded and that he went to bed that night thinking he had lost.

"I was not left alone with the ballots," said Mr. DeTerra.

He said he spoke with Ms. Lowney before he went on TV and then left the building directly from the banquet room.

"I never went back in that room," he said, meaning the clerk's office.

He said before he went to the banquet room to address the voters, he asked Ms. Lowney about the procedure for a recount. He also asked her if there were any other ballots to count and she said there were still some hand counts or "spit-outs" to count. He went to the banquet room and said that on TV.

The press release by Mr. Pottel states that Ms. Lowney "apparently bowing to pressure from Deterra, and without apparent authority, reviewed the votes again and discovers 48 more ballots."

"He was never alone with the ballots," said Ms. Lowney flatly.

She said she always counts the hand-counts the next day because there are usually so few of them. This time, there were 45 in precinct one, two in another precinct and one in another. Three of the six precincts had no spit-outs.

"In the past the hand counts were never that many," said Ms. Lowney. "When I was done and cleaning up I realized there were a lot in that envelope."

So she decided to count them there. Several people were still in town hall, including the *Neigh News*, some Wethington supporters and the

Selectboard's executive secretary Jeffrey Osuch, who examined the ballots himself.

After those 48 ballots were counted, Mr. DeTerra was up by one.

Ms. Lowney, who has been clerk for 18 years, said she will no longer announce a winner until the hand-counts are included, and they will be counted at the precincts instead of at the clerk's office.

"It's not going to be like that anymore," she said. "It'll change in the future."

She admitted that she acted hastily by swearing in Mr. Wethington. She said she just got "caught up" in the excitement of the moment.

"I take full responsibility for it," she said.



Everything is, then, basically on hold. Mr. DeTerra said he will not hold a meeting until he knows if there will be a recount. Mr. Wethington has 10 days to request one.

The rogue ballots also tightened up the race between John Farrell and Cathy Melanson, who ran for an unexpired seat on the Planning Board.

Mr. Farrell still maintained a lead of four points. Ms. Melanson said she will ask for a recount, only because it was so

close.

She said she was a newbie to politics, and all the veteran politicians urged her to ask for the recount because it was so close.

She also said she would run for "something" next year because she wanted to say involved.

Meanwhile, the big upset of the night was Mr. Haworth's 260 vote win over Dr. Bowcock.

"The voters have spoken," said Mr. Haworth, adding that they said it was time for change. "I'm excited. I'm happy. It wouldn't be possible without all the support I received from everybody. It was overwhelming."

He said it was a clear choice that voters wanted "to see some changes."

Mr. Haworth said the key was the support he received from groups and individuals, including Windwise, but he stressed that Windwise was just one of many groups that supported him.

When asked if the letter that Dr. Bowcock sent to Henry Ferreira's boss may have had an impact, Mr. Haworth was noncommittal.

"I don't know," he said. "I know it was a bad move on his part and it speaks to character."

When he had his moment in front of the cameras, Mr. Haworth told his fellow selectboard members, "I'm looking forward to serving with you gentlemen....and hopefully we can make some change."

Dr. Bowcock did not go to town hall to be available for comment or to address the voters.

ELECTION: cont'd on page 19



TOP: Fairhaven Selectboard member Bob Espindola gets ready to vote at the Recreation Center in Fairhaven on Monday, 4/1. MIDDLE: School Committee member Stasia Powers signs the book after being sworn in after winning re-election. ABOVE: Candidates and supporters crowd around the counter in the Fairhaven town clerk's office as the totals are called out. Photos by Beth David. See them in color at www.NeighbNews.com Visit us at www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews for more photos .

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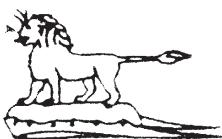


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Acushnet re-elects Wojnar, rejects library

By Beth David
Editor

In the only contested race on the ballot, Acushnet voters re-elected longtime Selectboard member David Wojnar over challenger and former Selectboard member Michael Cioper, 1062 to 911. Voter turnout was around 27% with 2000 of 7268 voters casting ballots.

In a heart-breaker for supporters, the combined library/community center project failed to pass by 36 votes (964-928). The project would have cost the town 46% of the projected \$6.2 million cost, due to a state grant.

"It was a big disappointment," said Kristen Leotti, chair of the Acushnet Library Trustees. "I think the town really lost out on what would be a real asset for the whole town."

The library, which is not wheelchair accessible, and the community center both would have benefited from the project. Community center volunteers have said they will close the center when the lease is up in June.

"There's still a need," said Ms. Leotti, adding that it is a "real disaster" for the community center.

"I think that we did everything that we could do," said Ms. Leotti. "I'm really heartened by how many 'yes' votes there were, even though we lost in the end."

She said she "shed some tears" after the vote, but now is the time to look forward and find other "possibilities for the future."

"The need is still there. That's not going to go away," she said. "So hopefully something will be in the future for Acushnet."

Community Center director Nancy Francis could not be reached for comment by press time.

Question one passed by 29 votes (870-859), and changed the way Community Preservation Funds are calculated. The changes will exempt people who qualify for low income housing or low or moderate income senior housing from paying the surcharge. It also exempts the first \$100,000 on commercial properties.



Supporters of Michael Cioper hold signs at the Acushnet Council on Aging on election day, Monday, 4/1. Mr. Cioper lost by 151 votes to incumbent David Wojnar. Photo by Beth David. See it in color at www.Neighbnews.com

Acushnet Selectboard reorganizes after election

By Jean Perry
Neighb News Correspondent

After beating challenger Michael Cioper by significant numbers on Monday night, re-elected Acushnet Selectboard Member David Wojnar was sworn in on the chilly morning of 4/2 in front of a room of supporters and town officials.

Mr. Wojnar seamlessly transitioned from swearing-in to taking his regular seat at the middle of the table before introducing the re-organization of the board and switching seats with Selectboard member Leslie Dakin, the new chairperson of the board.

Mr. Dakin, in the last year of his term, said that the three Selectboard members do not always agree, but that is in no way to the detriment of the Town of Acushnet.

"If the three of us always agree, then two of us are unnecessary," said Mr. Dakin.

There was no mention during the meeting of the library/community center project being voted down the night before, but in a follow-up interview, Mr. Dakin expressed some sympathy to those who worked hard to bring the project to fruition.

"It was a long, tough road for the library trustees," said Mr. Dakin. "I'm certain it was a big disappointment to them."

Mr. Dakin also remarked on the timing of the project, just a few months after the \$7.5 million appropriation for the police station project. He commented that with the failure of the library/community center project, the town also forewent the \$3.1 million in state funding that he called "a better financial deal than the police station."

"In the future, I'm not sure if we will have another bite at that apple down the road," Mr. Dakin said.

The next scheduled meeting is on 4/8.

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Fairhaven School Committee



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SELECTMAN

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Geoff Haworth

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Respectfully, Geoff Haworth



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**To all the people who voted for me
and supported me.**

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT BRIAN K. BOWCOCK

FinCom still trying to hold the line on spending

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

With most of the lively budget discussions with department heads and nitpicking by committee members starting to dwindle, Fairhaven Finance Committee meetings appear to be diminishing in excitement.

On 3/28, committee members got down to business, approving each department budget one after the other with some discussion and a few stimulating statements by Chairperson John Roderiques.

"This is déjà vu all over again," Mr. Roderiques told Executive Secretary to the Selectboard Jeffrey Osuch as they discussed a Town Meeting article requesting \$20,000 for computer upgrades at Town Hall.

Mr. Osuch said, in the past, the person in charge of computers was the former finance director. Mr. Osuch said there is no one in Town Hall with IT expertise.

A lengthy discussion ensued about forming a town-wide IT Department which went nowhere. Mr. Roderiques said he did not intend to discuss the IT issue all night.

"I don't want to beat a dead horse too hard and kill it," said Mr. Roderiques. He simply stated the Town needs to head in a new direction.

Still, the discussion continued until Phil Washko pointed to the budget sheet and said, "I thought we were going to read this."

"Let's move on," Mr. Roderiques replied immediately.

Mr. Roderiques recalled that "enjoyable evening" when Town Clerk Eileen Lowney presented her budget to the committee and then turned to the Elections and Registration salary and wages budget line that has increased \$2,000 for FY14. Ms. Lowney said she needed an increase in part time work to help out, especially during elections.

The committee, despite a recommendation from the Selectboard for the full \$15,414 requested, instead approved the \$13,414.

While running through its own budget, the Finance Committee poked a little fun at the \$1 appropriation for the salary and wages budget line, the amount appropriated to pay the volunteer recording secretary.

Currently, Robert Furtado is recording secretary, whom Mr. Roderiques praises weekly for a job well done. He stated, however, that he worried the euphoria experienced by Mr. Furtado could wear off.

After a five minute recess, the committee addressed the Town Counsel budget line which increased from \$130,000 for FY13 to \$140,000 for FY14.

Mr. Roderiques suggested that the selectboard needs to make more of its own decisions without the aid of town counsel. He said the board asks town counsel for advice "from paperclips to policies and procedures of their own."

Mr. Osuch said legal representation in Windwise matters for the current fiscal year prompted the increase, and that Town Counsel Thomas

Mr. Roderiques suggested that the selectboard needs to make more of its own decisions without the aid of town counsel. He said the board asks town counsel for advice "from paperclips to policies and procedures of their own."

Crotty's hourly rate has gone up.

Mr. Roderiques said it should go out to bid then. "I need a better rationale than 'his rates went up.'"

The committee recommended a level-funded \$130,000 and not the requested \$140,000.

Mr. Roderiques paused at the budget for Care of Dogs and 'Others.' "That must be me," said Mr. Roderiques.

FinCom member Sid Martin suggested cutting back on the Emergency Management Agency budget, and voted against approving the budget in an 8-1 vote, with Scott Fernandes abstaining.

The mosquito dunks, an item of contention in the Board of Health budget, was ultimately put on hold after two

motions, one to include the \$1,000 for the 1,200 dunks, and one without the \$1,000, were both withdrawn and the committee chose to wait until next week to decide.

Mr. Washko strongly supported the dunks, as well as Terry Szala.

The last item discussed was the Special Town Meeting article that would combine the assessor and finance director positions into one position.

"I am not supporting that article as written," said Mr. Roderiques, adding that it does not spell out the specific duties nearly enough. He added that other towns who combined both job titles into one had articles as long as 12 pages; Fairhaven's is significantly much shorter.

Mr. Roderiques also stated that he did not think Town Meeting will accept the article that would change the way FinCom members are appointed. The article would take appointing authority away from precinct chairpersons and give it to the town moderator, the BOS chairperson, and the FinCom chairperson.

Talk about stacking a committee, Mr. Roderiques grumbled. The way he described it, it began to sound more like the television show Survivor.

"Bye," laughed Ms. Szala, implying that she would be one of the first to go.

"I would keep Terry," said Mr. Roderiques. "Maybe in a weak moment."

With an empty Double Gulp, Mr. Roderiques adjourned the meeting; the committee will continue to review the Special Town Meeting articles at the next meeting.

Wisdom is knowing
what to do next;
virtue is doing it.

David Star Jordan,
"The Philosophy of Despair"

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.

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

Singing trooper entertains at OLH



Sgt. Dan Clark, known as the Singing Trooper, entertaining the residents at Our Lady's Haven in Fairhaven recently. The retired state trooper has performed at over 2,500 events during his 20-year career as a state trooper. He has also performed frequently at Fenway Park, and with the Boston Pops at the "Pops Goes the Fourth" concert held each year on the Esplanade. The residents really enjoyed his performance and clapped and sang along to every song. *Submitted photo.*

ELECTION: cont'd from page 13

Cathy Melanson, who lost her bid for a seat on the Planning Board, told voters that Fairhaven "could not lose," with her race because "I think a lot of John Farrell."

"If I wasn't running, I would've voted for John," she said.

The third contested race, for school committee, saw wins by both incumbents, Stasia Powers and Bernard Roderick. Newcomer Diane Hahn made an impressive showing with 923 votes, especially considering she did not make it to one of the debates and spent no money on her campaign.

Ms. Hahn thanked her sons for letting her share their stories of being special education students.

"It goes a long way for educating and advocating," she said, adding that she was not sad she lost because it helped increase awareness of special education.

"People are talking about it more than ever," said Ms. Hahn. "And the board knows that even if I'm not at the table, I'll be at the meeting."

In behind-the-scenes drama made public by Facebook, the traditional broadcasting of the election results

almost did not happen. According to reliable sources knowledgeable about the matter, Dr. Bowcock, as chair of the selectboard, made the decision not to run the program, a charge he denied flatly by phone.

At about 1 p.m. on Monday, the *Neighb News* caught wind of the possibility that the election results would not be broadcast on the government access channel. It has run every year since the inception of cable television in Fairhaven.

After confirming the information, we posted our opposition to the decision on our Facebook page. After being inundated with phone calls, the selectboard office decided to run the program, with selectboard member Charles Murphy as moderator.

Dr. Bowcock said it was not his job to make the decision, and because he was a candidate, he did feel it was right for him to organize it.

Mr. Murphy said he was told by Mr. Osuch that the decision had been made by Dr. Bowcock. Mr. Osuch said no one had made the arrangements for the programming as of Monday morning and so he asked Dr. Bowcock

From our readers

Perry's writing is "cleverly written"

Jean Perry is doing such a good job for you, reporting on the election debates, as well as the FinCom/CPC meeting — so cleverly written, humorously as well, that I've read it three times. Thanks to you both.

Martha Berg

That you may retain
your self-respect,
it is better to
displease the
people by doing
what you know is right,
than to temporarily
please them by doing
what you know
is wrong.

~William J.H. Boetcker

about it. According to Mr. Osuch, Dr. Bowcock said there was no sense in doing the program.

Mr. Osuch said that selectboard member Bob Espindola called and said he would make the decision to run the program, but someone still needed to arrange with the camera operator.

"Whatever they wanted, we were able to get accomplished," said Mr. Osuch.

Several other races were uncontested. In those races: Ms. Lowney was re-elected as town clerk; Michael Ristuccia was elected to the Board of Public Works; Barbara Acksen was re-elected Commissioner of Trust Funds; Gary Staffon and Kaisa Holloway Cripps were re-elected to the Planning Board. Jimmie Oliver, who ran a write-in campaign for Housing Authority, is most likely the winner of that seat, but no numbers were available at press time.

Although the final count was not available by press time, the turnout is estimated by the town clerk to be about 22%.

*See the letter on our website: www.neighbnews.com

Solar bylaw has smoother road than wind turbine draft

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

A new bylaw regulating solar energy facilities in Fairhaven will be featured on the warrant at Special Town Meeting, now that the Fairhaven Planning Board completed its drafting and public hearing process on 3/26. The board voted unanimously for on the draft.

With very little restrictions placed upon private and on-site "behind the meter" solar facilities, commercial facilities would be restricted to a minimum lot size of ten acres. In addition, there is a five-year moratorium for clear-cutting property proposed for solar farming.

Board member Rene Fleurent Jr. maintained his position that the five-year moratorium was too restrictive, pointing out that clear-cutting is allowable for pretty much every other industry from agricultural farming to subdivisions.

"I have a real hard time digesting this piece," Mr. Fleurent said, adding that he vehemently opposed the restriction.

Chairperson Wayne Hayward, pointing out that restricting clear-cutting can be found in the state's model bylaw. He said it just does not make sense to remove trees from the green energy equation.

Director of Planning and Economic Development Bill Roth said clear-cutting has raised significant concerns in neighboring communities, resulting in a public outcry from citizens who do not directly benefit from solar facilities installed in their neighborhoods.

"They (developers) don't really care what community they go in," said Mr. Hayward. "The community is just the host. And the easiest community is where they'll go."

Mr. Fleurent again asserted, "I believe anyone should be able to clear-cut for any purpose..."

Board members tossed around a few hypothetical situations, such as

whether or not the board could approve a solar facility on a 10-acre parcel where four acres had been clear-cut within the five year moratorium. The bylaw does not include a definition of clear-cutting so the board will decide based on individual circumstances.

The board crafted the bylaw in such a way that would allow it to grant permits on a case-by-case basis and issue conditions that would be specific to each site.

Mr. Hayward said clear-cutting costs money, and the margin of profit for a solar facility, as it is, is marginal.

"We may be barking up a tree that nobody is proposing to clear-cut," said Mr. Hayward.

Only one person attended the solar bylaw public hearing. There is one confirmed case of a developer showing interest in building a commercial solar energy facility in the vicinity of the AT&T building.

Jeffrey Lucas argued that being more restrictive in the beginning of the permitting process is more beneficial to the Town than being too lenient, allowing "something we would regret."

Mr. Lucas made a hasty motion which was quickly seconded by Gary Staffon, but ruled out of order by Mr. Hayward, who wished to discuss the matter further.

Mr. Hayward pointed out that although Precinct 1 will more than likely not have any issues with solar energy facility development, Precincts 5 and 6 should be "a little

more leery."

Only one person attended the solar bylaw public hearing. There is one confirmed case of a developer showing interest in building a commercial solar energy facility in the vicinity of the AT&T building.

The board took a straw vote, 6-2, in favor of leaving in the five-year moratorium on clear-cutting.

"Let Town Meeting make an amendment," said Mr. Hayward. "I'd be curious to see what Town Meeting wants."

It will require a two-thirds majority vote at Special Town Meeting to adopt the new bylaw.

Also during the meeting, the board continued the public hearing for David and Sandra Teves of 3 Judson Drive. The board did not approve of the initial plans that come up short on required frontage. The board urged David Davignon, representing the applicants, to seek a frontage variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals on 5/6. The applicants want to subdivide their property into two lots.

The board agreed to provide the applicants with a letter of support addressed to the ZBA.

Before moving on, Mr. Staffon pointed out to the applicants that one needs to demonstrate a hardship in order to be approved for a variance. The matter was continued until 5/16.

In other business, the board approved the bill for the purchase of a plaque honoring former Planning Board member Al Borges for his 43 years of service.

Mr. Roth announced that a public hearing for the street discontinuance for Fir Street, which was not included in the legal advertisement first time around, will take place on 4/23. ...

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Fairhaven Planning Board will conduct a Public Hearing at **6:30 P.M. on April 23, 2013**, in the **Banquet Room**, Town Hall, 40 Center St., Fairhaven, MA.

The purpose of the hearing will be to receive information and public comment on the following application. *Unaccepted Street Discontinuance*, the applicants, *Michael and Donna Ristuccia*, are requesting a Street Discontinuance of the western 20 feet of Fir Street, a paper street. The location is between Rocky Point Road and Bass Creek Road. Map-43C, between Lots 389-414.

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

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Meetings are generally held at night, but follow-up calls and emails to town officials will have to be made during business hours. You will be expected to write stories on your own and submit them by email.

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Visit the archives section on our website at www.NeighNews.com to see samples of our news coverage.

Interested parties should email editor Beth David at NeighNews@comcast.net or call 508-979-5593.

If I despised myself, it would be no compensation if everyone saluted me, and if I respect myself, it does not trouble me if others hold me lightly.

Max Nordau

Fairhaven Meetings

Bike Path Committee
 Thurs., 3/21, Town Hall, 7 p.m.
 Conservation Commission
 Mon., 4/8, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.
 Contributory Retirement
 Public Hearing re: COLA
 Fri., 4/26, Town Hall, 8:30 a.m.
 Council on Aging
 Tues., 4/9, Senior Ctr., 9:30 a.m.
 Finance Committee
 Thurs., 4/4, BPW/Arsene St., 7 p.m.
 Thurs., 4/11, BPW/Arsene St., 7 p.m.
 Housing Authority/Special
 Fri., 3/22, Oxford Terr., 10 a.m.
 Planning Board
 Tues., 4/23, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.
 School Committee
 Wed., 4/24, FHS Media Ctr, 6:30 p.m.
 Selectboard

Acushnet Meetings

Community Preservation
 Thurs., 4/4, Grange Bldg., 7:30 p.m.
 Conservation Commission
 Wed., 4/10, Parting Ways Bldg., 7 p.m.
 Selecboard

Tues., 4/8, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	April, 2013	HIGH	LOW
		a.m.	p.m.
Friday	5 0427	1656	1103
Saturday	6 0530	1756	1145
Sunday	7 0627	1849	0018
Monday	8 0717	1936	0102*
Tuesday	9 0802	2019	0140*
Wednesday	10 0845	2101	0215*
Thursday	11 0926	2141	0249*
Friday	12 1007	2220	0324*
Saturday	13 1048	2259	0400
Sunday	14 1130	2339	0436
Monday	15 ---	1214	0515
Tuesday	16 0019	1259	0557
Wednesday	17 0103	1346	0648
Thursday	18 0150	1437	0756

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

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

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ConCom split on enforcement order for stream bridge

By Jean Perry

Neigh News Correspondent

In the end it was all water under the proverbial bridge, but an existing unpermitted bridge was an object of contention among members of the Fairhaven Conservation Commission on 3/25, leading to a heated debate and two tie votes.

Thomas and Donna Kirk, prospective buyers of lot 5 on Welcome Street, recently approached Conservation Commissioner Wayne Fostin about the existence of a stream crossing on the property that would, by default, become their liability as land owners. The property is currently owned by Island Associates, Inc. and abuts farmland owned by Philip DeNormandie. The bridge links the plot to the farmland.

ConCom member Andrew Jones, who felt strongly about taking immediate action in the form of an enforcement order, compared the degree of this type of violation to that of Bella Vista Island.

Mr. Jones did not care why the bridge was built; all he knew was that it was willful, because back in 2005, Mr. DeNormandie approached Mr. Fostin and inquired about building the stream crossing. Mr. DeNormandie was told on three occasions that he could not build a bridge. According to Mr. Fostin, Mr. DeNormandie built the bridge anyway.

"A stream crossing is on the higher end of a violation," said Mr. Jones. He later stated, "It's akin to clearing a dune."

He told commission members, some who were leaning more toward sending the property owner a "nice letter," that there was a violation and that was all they needed to know. Other details and facts were unimportant.

"I'm very serious about what I believe in," said Mr. Jones, "maybe to a fault."

Commission member Janine Peccini wondered why they could not simply send the property owner a letter, wait two weeks to hear back from, and then issue the enforcement order. She stated, in the meantime, she wanted to do her own research so she could have the full story for herself.

"Normally it is not a big deal," said

Ms. Peccini "Why is it tonight?"

Joining the debate, commission member Jay Simmons suggested putting the enforcement order on the 4/8 agenda so all members could get the facts.

"I say issue the enforcement order and let the law do what it does," replied Mr. Jones.

Voces raised as both sides of the table went back and forth on whether to issue the enforcement order, or wait two weeks when the commission would issue the order anyway.

"We don't know all the facts," said Mr. Simmons to Mr. Jones. "You seem to know more facts."

It doesn't matter who, when, or

A stream crossing is on the higher end of a violation. It's akin to clearing a dune.
[Andy Jones]

how, Mr. Jones retorted. "It is still a violation."

The Kirks stood on the side, watching their can of worms being thrown open.

Mr. Jones vehemently opposed writing the property owners a nice letter, and sat with his arms and legs crossed with a befuddled look on his face. He said he remembered a time when the board decided unanimously to cease sending the so-called nice letters and take immediate action by issuing enforcement orders.

Ms. Peccini said she thought the violation was "not a big deal" and that it could be fixed easily.

"You can't build a stream crossing. That's it," Mr. Jones said. "I don't know what to tell you. It's pretty cut and dry."

Mr. Jones's motion to issue the enforcement order failed after a 3-3 tie vote.

"I haven't seen one of these in a while," said ConCom member Steve Pereira.

Mr. Simmons's motion to send the letter also failed after another 3-3

split.

So what happens if none of the motions carry? "Then you get two weeks, and no letter," said Mr. Jones.

"It's piss poor," said Mr. Jones. It's a dereliction of our duties."

Cora Peirce motioned to issue the enforcement order, but left the box for restoration unchecked, which passed unanimously.

"Wasn't that simple?" Mr. Simmons commented.

Also at the meeting, the commission approved work proposed by David and Sandra Teves of 5 Judson Drive. The owners are subdividing their land into two large plots and are planning to build a catch basin for run-off that will lead to the preexisting drainage system on the street.

The commission continued until 4/8 the request for determination for Gregory and Margaret Kulpinski of Goulart Memorial Drive to allow Wetlands Consultant John Rockwell to visit the site before a percolation test can begin.

The notice of intent for N&T Realty Trust Fatima Cardoso Tr. on Alden Road was continued until 4/8 at the applicant's request.

The commission is still planning on having Department of Public Works Superintendent Vincent Furtado go before the commission to address DPW wetlands violations. A date was not set.

The commission issued a certificate of compliance to 342 Huttleston Avenue.

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