



# 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 9, Issue 18 • May 8, 2014

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

## Vroom, vroom!!



Motorcycles line Spring Street as they file past St. Joseph Church in Fairhaven to be blessed with holy water by two priests. The 16th annual event drew about 400 motorcycles on Sunday, 5/4, and included a two-hour ride along the backroads and a bikers barbecue at the Ice House. See page 3. *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:

- **Town Meeting:** page 12
- **WT suit dismissed:** page 4
- **BPW:** page 22
- **Acushnet News:** page 16

# From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —  
A day late and many dollars short.



Beth David, Publisher

Oh, gee...I had a rant from last week, didn't I? It seems so long ago, I can't even remember it. If I do, I'll let you know.

Meanwhile, only 216 town meeting members out of about 450 showed up for TM on Saturday. Ask your TM reps if they showed up, and also ask if they came back after lunch. Our tax dollars, to the tune of about \$57 million all told, got spent by fewer than half the number of elected TM representatives. And that's the high number. After lunch, who knows how many came back.

For heaven's sake, even one of the selectboard members slipped out in the middle of the afternoon. I'm not sure if Mr. Haworth thought no one noticed, but his empty seat on the stage was pretty obvious. He lingered in the foyer for awhile, but then he was gone.

I guess the big question is: Would those two very important articles about restructuring our entire town government have passed if everyone had returned after lunch? I don't know the answer to that, but it's not a question we should even have to ask. Town Meeting in Fairhaven is a 3 or 4 day a year commitment. If you can't do that, you shouldn't put your name on the ballot. It's always the first Saturday in May, so using Little League or Kentucky Derby as an excuse doesn't cut it, either.

We have some good stuff happening this weekend. First and foremost: The letter carriers' food drive is Saturday. Put out a few cans on, in, or near your mailbox and the volunteers will do the rest. See page 6 for details.

The dedication of the playground being named after Fairhaven Marine Matthew Rodriguez, who died in Afghanistan last December, is also on Saturday. The playground is at the New Bedford Airport because his mother is a member of the Atlantic Aviators, the group that raised money and oversaw production of the park. Matt was a Fairhaven resident, and we are all touched by his loss. It would be really great if we had a nice strong showing of Fairhaven community support for this event. Take your kids, the playground will be open.

Town Meeting was very entertaining, as usual, this year. I wrote a mammoth article about it (starts on page 12). I know it's a bit much, but, hey, you all want the blow-by-blow, right? There was still so much I had to leave out, so many entertaining moments. See page 18 for some quotable quotes.

The articles changing town government passed, and so did the pot tax. Now that was a fun discussion. You'll find it all on page 12.

Be sure to check out the happenings pages (6, 7, 8). It really is spring and things are picking up all over the region.

Well, time to go. Please take a minute to notice who's advertising with us and tell them you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*. Until next week...

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our story on the Selectboard meeting last week, we made a mistake in the section on the bikeway committee. There are plans to paint fog lines on Sconticut Neck (not a bike lane). We apologize for any confusion our error may have caused.

## Blessing of the Bikes draws around 400



The annual Blessing of the Bikes sponsored by St. Joseph School in Fairhaven drew around 400, according to organizers. Riders met at Ft. Phoenix in Fairhaven, rode by St. Joseph Catholic Church, where priests blessed each bike and rider, then took a two-hour ride through the backroads of Fairhaven, Acushnet, Rochester and Middleboro. Riders returned to the Ice House for music by Shipyard Wreck and refreshments, including a special bikers barbecue. Proceeds of the event benefit the school. LEFT: Motorcycle riders gather under a nearly cloudless sky at Fort Phoenix before the 16th annual Blessing of the Bikes on Sunday, 5/4. RIGHT: Priests in front of St. Joseph Church on Spring Street in Fairhaven bless bikers as they ride by at the 16th annual Blessing of the Bikes on Sunday, 5/4. Photos by Beth David. See them 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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\*Discount off regular price, most vehicles. Valid at Fairhaven only. Not valid with other offers. Other restrictions may apply. Exp. 5/29/14

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Mass. Inspections/No appointment necessary

## Second Amendment Lecture



Featuring

Sheriff Thomas M. Hodgson

Phil Lacerda, firearm instructor

and a

representative from

GOAL (Gun Owners' Action League)

**Wednesday, May 14 • 7-10 p.m.**

at

West Island Community Center

41 Causeway, Road, Fairhaven

Free to the public. Come and learn. Features lecture, question and answer period, refreshments.

Sponsored by the Fairhaven Republican Town Committee.

# Rogers/Oxford Building Commtee explains a few things

*Submitted by Tom L. Alden  
Vice Chairperson, Rogers/Oxford  
Building Study Committee*

The Rogers/Oxford Building Study Committee, since last September, has been hard at work assisting the Board of Selectmen (BOS) with the successful resolution of the sale of the Rogers and Oxford Buildings (Schools). There are two paths to this objective.

The first method of sale is by auctioning and the other is through Request For Proposal (RFP). The auction method is the way in which to expedite the sale. The properties are sold to the highest bidder.

It has been said by real estate and auctioneer professionals that the amount the town could obtain is between \$200,000 to \$400,000.

The BOS may choose to place restrictions on the sale. The caveat offered by the auctioneer interviewed by the BOS, in this regard, was that to place restrictions on the sale would severely impact the final sale amount and narrow the market of potential

buyers, thus prolonging the sale.

The restrictions he rejected were the demolition of the buildings, adherence to current landscape theme, parking limitations, architectural and historical theme, and compliance with the town center and neighborhood appearance.

Also, the auctioneer advised through his proposal to the BOS that in order to enhance the sale the area an adjacent lot containing the public play ground and baseball field may have to be included.

Secondly, the RFP method of sale is designed to accentuate the highest and best use of the properties. Just as the auction method, it would be presented to the commercial real estate market investors through advertisement in several trade and news publications.

The system of determining the eventual purchaser is through a weighted system formulated so that the BOS and Town Meeting Members can choose the purchaser that best

suits the economical and cultural needs of the town. The BOS may choose to place conditions and restrictions on the sale of the properties that will be instituted in the deeds of sale. This will place in perpetuity the restrictions and conditions the citizens believe are essential.

These restrictions and conditions could be the adherence to the historical and architectural theme, additional parking, retention of present greenery of the properties, non-demolition of the buildings, and neighborhood and town center appearance.

The reader can glean from this information what he believes is the best method of sale for the Rogers and Oxford buildings. Your input and recommendations are welcomed by the BOS and the committee. We can report that the majority of the committee and comments from the public have been in favor of the RFP. What are yours?

## Man arrested for drug trafficking

*Fairhaven Police Dept. Press Release*

Fairhaven Police arrested a man for drug trafficking Saturday afternoon, 4/26, just before 3 p.m. Officer Janis Bubluski observed a red Chevy Blazer fail to stop for a red light while turning left onto Route 6 from Green Street. Officer Bubluski stopped the vehicle, which was being operated by 27-year-old Alexander Delorbecasilda of 168 Rockdale Avenue, New Bedford, in front of Fairhaven High School.

During the motor vehicle stop, it was determined that Delorbecasilda had a suspended license. Officer Bubluski placed him under arrest for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license. During an inventory search of the vehicle, officers discovered a large amount of two different substances, one of which field tested positive for heroin, the other field tested positive for cocaine. The total weight of the heroin was 95 grams and the total weight of the cocaine was 7 grams.

Delorbecasilda was charged with trafficking heroin, possession with intent to distribute cocaine, operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, failing to stop at a red light and school zone violations.

Trafficking heroin of this amount carries a twenty year sentence in state prison, with a minimum mandatory sentence of seven years. Delorbecasilda was arraigned at Third District Court on Monday morning.



LEFT: Alexander Delorbecasilda of New Bedford was arrested in Fairhaven and charged with motor vehicle and drug violations after being stopped for going through a red light. BELOW: Bags of substances that tested positive for heroin and cocaine. *Fairhaven police photos*



## WT lawsuit dismissed

Mass. Superior Court Justice Angel Kelley Brown has dismissed the latest lawsuit brought by opponents of the wind turbines on Arsene Street. The lawsuit, which was heard by the judge in a trial that lasted seven days ending on 4/1, was brought by a group of residents claiming that the building permit was not properly issued and that one turbine is on the wrong lot and should be dismantled.

The judgment was announced on Tuesday and made available to the *Neighb News* on Wednesday, but too late to include details this week.

Meanwhile, the judge's full decision will be available on our website at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com)

According to the judgment all counts found in favor of the town except one that the court said it did not have jurisdiction on and should be heard by the State Building Appeals Board.

Thirteen plaintiffs filed the lawsuit in July of 2012 against the Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals and individual members, Building Commissioner Wayne Fostin, the Town of Fairhaven and Fairhaven Wind, LLC, which owns the wind turbine project.

# THE CLEANUP OF NEW BEDFORD HARBOR HAS ACCELERATED...

...Thanks to funding secured by EPA and MassDEP from companies responsible for the contamination in the harbor.

EPA, MassDEP and the US Army Corps of Engineers are proud to announce that dredging of the harbor north of Coggeshall Street has resumed for 2014 — and that this year's effort will continue for at least twice as long as recent years due to increased funding. Work also continues south of I-195 on EPA's Lower Harbor CAD cell.

The community should be aware that there will be significant vessel traffic in the harbor as work continues. There will also be train traffic entering and exiting our sediment dewatering plant from time to time at Hervey Tichon Avenue and Herman Melville Boulevard. .

We are committed to the goal of completing cleanup construction work in the next 5-7 years. In the meantime, we remind the community not to eat any seafood caught inside the hurricane barrier and to observe the EPA seafood consumption advisories and recommendations for designated areas outside the barrier. These restrictions can be found at: <http://www2.epa.gov/new-bedford-harbor/fish-consumption-regulations-and-recommendations>.

We thank the people of New Bedford, Fairhaven and Acushnet for your patience and look forward to completing the Superfund cleanup that will contribute towards making the harbor a thriving commercial, residential and recreational area.

For further information on the New Bedford Harbor cleanup, please visit our web site at [www.epa.gov/nbh](http://www.epa.gov/nbh) or contact Kelsey O'Neil, EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator at [oneil.kelsey@epa.gov](mailto:oneil.kelsey@epa.gov), or by calling 617-918-1799.



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# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## NALC Food Drive

The upcoming National Association of Letter Carriers national food drive on **Sat., May 10**, is the largest one day food drive in the nation that combats hunger in the U.S.

Simply **leave non-perishable food items on your porch or near your mailbox by 8 AM on the day of the food drive. The letter carriers and their helpers will do the rest.**

Any questions on the day of the food drive, please call the Fairhaven Postal Annex at 508-9975248.

## Save Livesey Park

This coming **Saturday, May 10th** come and celebrate the skatepark at **Livesey Park**. We are excited to announce the approval of a grant that we received to rehab and rebuild the park. **From 12-5** the public is invited to attend and celebrate.

We will have raffles, contests and prizes. For more information please contact [ann.richard@gmail.com](mailto:ann.richard@gmail.com) or 508-991-8315.

## Mothers' Club

The Fairhaven Mothers' Club will hold its **board meeting on Thursday, 5/15, at 10 a.m.** at the Millicent Library, 45 Center Street, Fairhaven. The club will hold its **Directors' Luncheon on Tuesday, 5/20**, at Pumpnickel's Restaurant, at noon.

## Bike Rodeo, Bike Bus & Bike Ride

The Fairhaven Bikeway Committee has added **Tuesday to the Bike Bus**. Students at the Wood School who are involved in this project should meet at the Pleasant Street Entrance to the Phoenix Bike Path from 8 to 8:15 a.m.

On **Sat. 5/10**, the Fairhaven Bike Way Committee will be sponsoring a **bike rodeo at 9:00 AM. at Fort Phoenix followed by a family bike ride at 10:00 AM.**

## 2nd Amendment Night

See ad on page 3.

## FYFA Sign-ups

Fairhaven Blue Devils Football and Cheer Registrations, Last Spring Sign

Ups, on **Fri., 5/16, from 6-8 p.m., and Sat., 5/17, from 11-2 p.m.** at North Fairhaven Improvement Center (Next Door To Oxford School), Main Street, Fairhaven. **Fees: Tiny Mites, \$100.00; Mighty Mite-Unlimited, \$125.00**

New Players: Please bring raised seal birth certificate and Physical Form. Returning Players-Please bring Physical Form. Please bring player for new helmet sizing.

Please make checks to: FYFA. Contact: [fyfabluedevils@gmail.com](mailto:fyfabluedevils@gmail.com)

## Ham & Bean Supper

**Old Fashioned Ham and Bean Supper on Saturday, May 17, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Council on Aging, 229 Huttleston Ave., Fairhaven**

A fundraiser sponsored by the Fairhaven Lions Club and the Fairhaven Village Militia, will include the supper of ham, beans, coleslaw, rolls, beverage and dessert, a vintage cruise night, music with a DJ, and a mini colonial encampment by the Militia. **Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 5 and under.** Tickets are available from members of the two groups; at Mike & Wayne's Uniforms, 163 Huttleston Ave.; at the Fairhaven Visitors Center, 141 Main St.; and at the Fairhaven Council on Aging. Accessible. For more information, contact [asilvia@fairhaven-ma.gov](mailto:asilvia@fairhaven-ma.gov) or call 508-997-4029 or 508-979-4081.

## Tennis Drop-In

The Fairhaven Tennis Association invites anyone who would like to go to our Drop in on Sunday Mornings at Hastings Courts at 8:00 AM. You do not have to belong to the Fairhaven Tennis Association but just show up by 7:50 and you will be placed on a court with other players. **This open invitation is for the month of May** so come on down to Hastings and try us out. All ability levels are welcome. For further information contact Ken Pottel at [K\\_pottel@hotmail.com](mailto:K_pottel@hotmail.com)

## Lavender Lady

Carolyn McMorrow, former owner of the **Rosemary Inn in Wareham** will speak at the annual meeting of the **Friends of the Millicent Library, 45 Center Street, Fairhaven.** All are invited to listen to this fabulous speaker who shares old New England recipes made with herbs. She pro-

vides extensive information about how to raise herbs, and where to buy the seed, as well as providing resources for locating unusual dried herbs.

The meeting is on **Wed., May 14, at 6:30 p.m. at the Library's meeting room.** Please use the Walnut Street Entrance, which is accessible. The meeting will end at or before 8 p.m.

## Book Discussion

*The End of the Point: A Novel* by Elizabeth Graver, has been described as "domestic fiction" and the "conflict of generations." It is also known as a novel taking place within the elite summer areas found within Old Dartmouth, easily recognizable. **On Thurs., 5/15, at 10 a.m.** this novel will be discussed by the Thursday Morning Book Discussion Group. All are welcome to attend. Meet in the **Millicent Library's meeting room, 45 Center Street, Fairhaven**, easily accessible from Walnut Street.

The book can be borrowed from the Millicent Library, as well as from the SAILS web-site. For more information please call 508-992-5342.

## Nemasket 5K

5K Walk/Run on **Sat., 5/17**, at the Nemasket Group, 56 Bridge St., Fairhaven. Registration, 8-9 a.m. Race starts at 9:15. Register online at [www.NemasketGroup.org](http://www.NemasketGroup.org), email [patricijaniak@nemasketgroup.org](mailto:patricijaniak@nemasketgroup.org) or call 508-999-4436

## Celebrity Bartender

Celebrity Bartender Bash to benefit Rotary Club of Fairhaven Scholarships. **At the Town Crier, 5 Maitland Street, Fairhaven, on Friday, May 16, from 5:30-8 p.m.**

Local celebrities include: State Rep. Bill Straus, Selectboard members Bob Espindola, Geoff Haworth and Charlie Murphy, Fire Chief Tim Francis. Plus some surprises!

Free appetizers (provided by the Town Crier). For more information, contact Ivan Brito, 774-263-8897; [IvanBrito@hotmail.com](mailto:IvanBrito@hotmail.com)

## Poker Tourney

Bristol County Bandits Senior Hockey present their 2nd annual Texas Hold 'Em Fundraiser Tournament on **Sat., 5/17 at The Town Crier**,

HAPP: cont'd on page 9

# HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

## Women on Target FREE Women's Instructional Shooting Clinic

Receive basic level firearm safety instruction so that you will know how to safely handle firearms. Then, under the direction of Certified Firearms Instructors, you will enjoy some hands-on experience with both revolvers and semi-automatic handguns.

This clinic is FREE for any woman. Just come on down and learn the proper and safe way to handle firearms: **On Sunday, 5/18, from Noon to 5 p.m., at the New Bedford Revolver and Rifle Club, 246 Bolton St., New Bedford** (behind Treeland on Rockdale Ave.). Free refreshments. This event does NOT fulfill the requirements to obtain your Mass. License to Carry.

For more information, or to register (not necessary, drop-ins welcome), contact Joe Perez at 508-287-1639 or Art Landry at 508-965-2808. Visit [www.nbrcc.com](http://www.nbrcc.com)

## Playground Dedic.

The newly built playground at the New Bedford Regional Airport will be dedicated and renamed to the "LCpl Matthew Rodriguez Playground."

Matthew's mother, Lisa, is Vice President of the Atlantic Aviators, the organization that oversaw the fundraising and building of the playground. Matthew spent many hours helping with the playground's fundraising efforts. The playground is near and dear to the Rodriguez family!

Please join our family, friends & community on **Sat., 5/10 at 2 p.m. at the New Bedford Regional Airport** as we dedicate this incredible family play space to our hero!

For more information please contact Lauren Webber, 774-202-9660 or email [lauren@thesmilingwarrior.org](mailto:lauren@thesmilingwarrior.org)

Visit us at [thesmilingwarrior.org](http://thesmilingwarrior.org) or "like" us on Facebook [www.fb.com/thesmilingwarrior](http://www.fb.com/thesmilingwarrior)

## Man of La Mancha

The Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech Theatre Company presents *Man of La Mancha*, **Thurs., Fri. & Sat., May 8-10: at 7 p.m.; and Sun., 5/11, at 2 p.m.**, at GNB Voc-Tech, 1121 Ashley Blvd., New Bedford. Reserved seating: **\$12/adult, \$10/seniors, \$6/students**. For reservations call 508-998-3321, Ext. 424.

Artistic direction by Gerald A. Morrissey, Jr., Associate Direction by Marianne Morrissey, Musical Direction by Nancy Sparklin, Choreography by Beth A. Methia. Presented through special arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc.

## Spring Concert

The Greater New Bedford Choral Society, directed by Gerald P. Dyck and accompanied by Christopher Ricci, will present its **Spring Concert on May 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church in New Bedford** and on May 18 at 7:3 p.m. at St. Bonaventure Church, 803 State Road in Plymouth.

Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased at the door or from any chorister. Children 12 and under are admitted free. For more information call 508-644-2419 or visit [www.gnbcs.org](http://www.gnbcs.org)

## Women's Milit. Mem

The public is invited to join the Women's Military Memorial Committee for the official unveiling of the new "Women in Military Service" memorial. The new memorial will honor all women in military service from the Revolutionary War to the present. The ceremony will take place **at the Fort Taber Community Center, 1000 South Rodney French Boulevard in New Bedford, on Saturday, May 10, at 10:30 a.m.** Light refreshments will be served. For more information on the ceremony and unveiling, email Stephanie Poyant Moran at [spoyant@gmail.com](mailto:spoyant@gmail.com).

All women veterans, active duty servicewomen, their families and friends are especially requested to attend. Women veterans and active duty servicewomen are encouraged to wear their military uniforms.

## Blueways Tour

Today's paddler setting off in a kayak from New Bedford for a day of adventure on Buzzards Bay follows in the long wake of the whaling ships of the past. A new outdoor artwork by Hannah Verlin, Setting Forth, will use text and song to link paddlers to the region's maritime history and to introduce SoCo Blueways, a National Water Trail initiative along the South Coast. ([www.socoblueways.org](http://www.socoblueways.org))

**AHA! Night Opening. Setting**

**Forth Artist Talk at UGLY Gallery Followed by trolley tour of sites May 8 at 6:30pm. Setting Forth (Hannah Verlin, Artist) Exhibition at UGLY Gallery May 8 -20, 2014**

Setting Forth will be a series of temporary installations at five SoCo Blueways access sites featuring lyrics from the traditional maritime song "Rolling Home." At each of the sites, multiple lines of text will be stenciled onto the pavement, marking the access points and leading people to the water. For more information, visit [www.socoblueways.org](http://www.socoblueways.org)

## Whale Park Cleanup

**On Sat., 5/10 from 9:30 AM-12:30 PM, New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park will host a Volunteer Cleanup Day.** The annual event provides New Bedford's national park with the people-power to prepare the historic downtown for the busy summer season. The event kicks off with volunteer **check-in and registration at 9:30 AM at the park visitor center at 33 William Street**, downtown New Bedford. Box lunches will be provided to volunteers by the Whaling History Alliance, the friends group that supports New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park.

To learn more or to sign up for this worthwhile community event, call Emily Prigot at (508) 996-4095 extension 6105 or email [emily\\_prigot@nps.gov](mailto:emily_prigot@nps.gov). Drop-ins welcome.

## Author Event

The New Bedford Whaling Museum will welcome author and cultural historian, Philip Hoare on **Wed., 5/14, at 7 p.m.** for a presentation of his new book. A pre-lecture reception will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a book signing and meet-and-greet taking place after the presentation. Admission is **free for Museum Members and \$10 for Non-Members**. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 508-997-0046 ext. 100 or visit <http://www.whalingmuseum.org/programs/public-talk-with-philip-hoare>.

## Save the date

Bike tour from Ft. Taber to Ft. Phoenix, Sun., 5/18, 10 a.m. FREE. Registration required. To RSVP, email [bayadventures@savebuzzardsbay.org](mailto:bayadventures@savebuzzardsbay.org) or call (508) 999-6363 ext. 219.

# HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

## Festival of the Arts

On **Thurs., 5/8, Ford Middle School in Acushnet** will hold its annual "Festival of the Arts" from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Features art and music created and performed by students in grades 5 through 8 at FMS.

FMS students and their families are invited to this event as well as the general public. Admission is free. Visitors should use the north (gym) entrance of Ford Middle School on 708 Middle Road in Acushnet.

For more information call or email Kristine Daniels, 508-998-0265 ext. 1205 kdaniels@acushnet.k12.ma.us

## Acushnet Art Show

The 55th annual Art Show featuring Acushnet artists will be held next weekend, Saturday, 5/17, from 2-8 p.m., and Sunday, 5/18, from 1-5 p.m., at the Acushnet Council On Aging, 59 1/2 So. Main Street. Free admission.

Free refreshments and reception on Sunday, 1-5. Chinese Auction.

For more information, contact Dianna Couto, 508-995-4238.

## Tiara Run

Registration is now open for the 8th Annual **Women's Fund Tiara 5K on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11, hosted by Oxford Creamery, Kids Fun Run at 9 a.m., 5K at 9:30;**

The Tiara is a fun, healthy way to celebrate the women in our lives, while raising money to support the important efforts of the Women's Fund in their mission to advance the educational attainment and economic security of women and girls in our region. **Register online at [www.womensfundtiara5k.com](http://www.womensfundtiara5k.com)**

Last year's race raised more than \$40,000 and attracted more than 250 volunteers, 50 sponsors and 1,100 runners, walkers and fun run participants!

## Bird Club

Lions, leopards, rhinos, lemurs and over 200 species of birds!! Bob and Joanne Kowalczyk will give a slide and video presentation on their recent trip to South Africa and Madagascar at the Paskamansett Bird Club's May meeting. The meeting is free, open to the public, and accessible.

The Paskamansett Bird Club will meet at **7 p.m. on Wed., 5/14, at The Meeting House in Tiverton, R.I.** To enter the Meeting House, use the driveway between **3848 and 3852 Main Road (Tiverton)**. Club members Bob and Joanne Kowalczyk spent 11 days on safari, visiting Kruger National Park, Sabi Sands Private Game Reserve, and a few birding "hot spots." A South African Company, Lawson's Birding, Wildlife, and Custom Tours, arranged this independent safari for them with an expert birding guide.

## At the Sanctuaries

The following events are taking place at the Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary, 1280 Horseneck Road Westport. Registration is required Register online or call 508-636-2437

**Birding:** Friday, May 30, 8-11 a.m. Adult program; members: \$6.00 and nonmembers: \$8.00

### At Goosebury Island

**Early Birding** with Paul Champlin: **Sunday, May 18 from 5:30 a.m. until noon.** Location: Gooseberry Island, Westport. Adult program. Members: Adult \$15.00; Nonmembers: Adult \$18.00. Registration is required. Register online or call 508-636-2437

## Flag Retirement

Boy Scout Troop 333 has begun its final push to collect worn, torn, faded or badly soiled American Flags which they will honorably retire during a **solemn ceremony on May 31st.** This ceremony, sponsored annually by the East Freetown Troop, will burn hundreds flags which have been collected from cities and towns in the South Coast region.

**The public is invited to attend the 1 p.m. ceremony at Cathedral Camp, 167 Middleboro Road, E. Freetown** and are welcome to bring any flags that may need to be retired. It is suggested that visitors bring a folding chair for their comfort.

Additional information about Troop 333 may be found at the Troop's web site: [www.CCTroop333.com](http://www.CCTroop333.com) or by calling Committee Chairman, Mike McCormack, 508-965-1075.

## Support Free Art

As the beautiful spring weather starts to come into full swing, come

join the Dream Out Loud Center for the Arts at our first Spring Fling to help support free youth creative programs.

**On May 9, the Spring Fling will take place at 6pm in the Eagle Event Center, 35 N. Main Street, Fall River.** Tickets will be \$10 in advance or at the door. Don't worry if you can't make it, donations are encouraged and it will help a great cause!

Don't miss out on this night of fun and fellowship. Live music featuring Ryan Connerney will be accompanied by food and a cash bar.

For more information or to buy tickets before the spring fling sells out call 508.990.9090 or visit our office at One Johnny Cake Hill NB. To stay up to date with the Dream Out Loud Center, please also friend us on Facebook!

## Animal Advocates

Animal Advocates is celebrating Mother's Day by having a fundraising event on Sat., 5/10, from 11:30 am to 6:00 pm. This special event to honor Mothers is being held at The Sail Loft Restaurant in Padanaram village, 246 Elm St., South Dartmouth, MA. The Sail Loft Restaurant serves lunch and dinner, and has appetizing food and a beautiful atmosphere at the Padanaram Harbor.

Our Mother's Day Gift Sale will be in time to buy Mother's Day gifts. Many of the items at the Mother's Day Sale are unique — you won't find them anywhere else.

Proceeds benefit homeless and abandoned cats and dogs. These wonderful and deserving dogs and cats need our support.

For more information please call 774-888-9008, (508) 991-7727, or e-mail [animaladvocates@comcast.net](mailto:animaladvocates@comcast.net)

## Sanity Chase

Searching for your Sanity? You can find it on 9.14.14!. Women Run is proud to host our 2nd annual "Sanity Chase" at Fort Adams State Park in Newport, Rhode Island.

The Early Bird gets the something special, right? **Register for the Sanity Chase early and save money!** Register by Mother's Day 5.11.14, use COUPON CODE: earlybird and save \$5 off your registration. (This would make an awesome Mother's Day gift!) Visit <http://TheSanityChase.com/>

**5 Maitland St., Fairhaven. Complimentary buffet and cash bar.**

Registration, 6 p.m., tournament begins at 7. \$60 buy-in (3000 chips); \$20 add-on (1000 chips). Preregister and receive an extra 1000 chips! Blinds: 20 minutes for the first six rounds; 15 minutes each round thereafter. Contact Marc Santos, 774-473-0563. Must be at least 21 years old. Prizes will be 50% of game proceeds.

**Memorial Present.**

**John I Bryant, 1850-1929**

In honor and memory of a true American, Civil War Veteran, Selectman, Postmater, County

Commissioner, John I Bryant, a memorial dedication presentation will be held on Armed Forces Day, **Sat., 5/17, at noon on the corner of Washington Street and Bryant Lane (near the fire/police station).**

**Death & Dying**

The First Congregational Church of Fairhaven will present a workshop on Talking About Death and Dying on Thursdays 7:00-8:30, May 8 & 15.

Many of us find it hard to talk about the topic of death and dying, especially with those we love most. Yet death is something unavoidable for all of us and it is important to plan ahead for the inevitable. In this three week workshop we will cover a

variety of subjects including what our faith has to say about death and dying, talking with our families about our wishes, practical matters to consider, as well as hospice care, funeral arrangements, health care proxies, making your wishes known to your family, legal matters, writing an obituary, etc.

Along with our pastor, the Rev. Bette McClure, workshop presenters will include the Rev. Mary Fynnin, Hospice Chaplin at the Community Nurse Association of Fairhaven and Ms. Aime Delaney a representative of a local funeral home. This workshop is free and is open to all but you must pre-register by calling the church office, 508-993-3368.

**Fhvn Vet's Office seeks relatives of vets in unmarked graves**

**Veterans' Corner, Veterans' Unmarked Graves**

*Press Release*

There are several unmarked Veteran's graves located in Fairhaven Cemeteries. The Veteran's Office is attempting to locate any relatives of the following Veterans to assist in placing a military headstone at their burial site. The stones are furnished at

no cost by the VA Memorials Program.

- **JOHN WILLIAMS, US REVENUE SERVICE/CIVIL WAR** Buried in Nasketucket Cemetery. Died March 22, 1869. Reported to have served as Quartermaster on S.S. Kankukkee
- **OLIVER T. MENDALL, SN, US NAVY/CIVIL WAR** Buried in Nasketucket Cemetery. Born 10/10/1837, Died 3/31/1866. Served on USS Iosko

- **CAMILLE. CHARBONNEAU, PVT, US ARMY/World War I** Buried in River Side Cemetery. Born 8/29.1896, Died October 31, 1982. Served in Troop B, 17th Calvary

If you have any information on the above Servicemen, please contact Jim Cochran or Jane Bettencourt, Fairhaven Veteran's Office, 508-979-4024, extension 114 or 115.



**ENTERTAINMENT:**  
 Fri., 5/9, James Gagne, 8-Mid.  
 Sat., 5/10, Johnny Edwards, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.  
 Fri., 5/16, Gerry Dineen, 8-Mid.  
 Sat., 5/17, Daddy Don't Jump, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

**MONDAY NIGHT PIZZA SPECIAL:**  
 Two for one (eat-in only) • 6 p.m.-Midnight

**Hours:** Mon.-Sat., 11:30-2 a.m. • Sun., Noon-2 a.m.  
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Filet Mignon & Eggs	Fresh Strawberry Creme
Benedict .....\$14.95	Crepes (2) .....\$5.95
Eggs Ben., Oscar Asparagus & Crab .....\$13.95	Chourico and Sharp Cheddar Cheese Omelet.....\$6.25
Strawberry Cheesecake	Banana Foster's Crepes.....\$5.95
French Toast.....\$5.25	Italian Sausage, Tomato and Caramel Apple Waffle.....\$5.95
	Swiss Cheese Omelet .....\$6.95

**Mother's Day Eat-At-Home Dinners**  
 Call 508-992-8615 and reserve your choices along with a pick-up time (between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.)

*Filet Mignon, Baked Potato, Asparagus and Dessert: \$20.00*  
*Turkey or Ham with Dessert: \$12.00*

(The price on take-out meals includes tax and packaging.)  
 The special meals are also available in the dining room as well as the regular menu.  
 The Dining Room closes at 4 p.m.

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# Recipe of the Week

## Wholesome Granola Bars

- 3/4 cup butter, softened
- 2 tablespoons powdered sugar
- 1 cup flour
- 1/2 cup seedless raspberry jam
- 1/4 cup honey
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 cup quick cooking rolled oats
- 1 cup granola (without dried fruit)
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 350. In a mixing bowl cream together 1/2 cup butter and powdered sugar; stir in flour. With lightly floured fingers, pat dough into an ungreased 9x9 inch baking pan; bake 10 minutes. Remove from oven and cool for 10 minutes.

Spread jam over crust. Combine in a bowl remaining 1/4 cup melted butter, honey, brown sugar and vanilla; stir in oats, granola, pecans and chocolate chips. Pat firmly over jam layer.

Bake 30 minutes or until golden brown. Cool completely, then cut into squares.

*By Ilda Santos*

# Alferes Realty Celebrates 20 years

## Press Release

Darlene Alferes from Alferes Realty would like to congratulate all her agents for 20 years of business.

Alferes Realty was established in 1994 by Tom and Anita Alferes and has remained a successful local business since. Darlene was promoted to Head of Operations in April of 2011 and has been a successful leader of the company.

The office is strongly supported by its long-time agent and office manager, Frank Faria. Supporting staff members include: Karen Pinto, Janet Hemingway, Marissa Garcia, Joyce Schell, Coral Azevedo, and Jesse Moniz.

Dedicated agents include: David

Andrade, Roy Aviles, Robin Canastra, Betty DeFrias, Dawn Devlin, Lorrie Ducharme, Bill Dumas, Katie Elderkin, Victor Fernandes, Stacie Hallal-Moussa, Bill Krause, Tim Leong, Maria MacKay, Jane Seiders, and Marc Tetrault.

Alferes Realty is proud to say that in 20 years of servicing the community's real estate needs, they have closed over \$250,000,000 in sales. Alferes Realty has maintained its title as one of the top local offices in the Greater New Bedford area.

Place your confidence in Alferes Realty and START PACKING! Their main office is located at 14 Tarkiln Hill Road, New Bedford, 508-998-6900, StartPackingNow.com

## Rain barrels still available

### Press Release

Don't forget to order your rain barrels. We are still taking orders. Now is the perfect time to start collecting all that rain water so you can water the garden all summer long.

Acushnet and Fairhaven are offering the Great American Rain Barrel for \$65, 45% off the retail price of \$119. The barrels come in three colors; Forest Green, Earth Brown or Nantucket Gray. The rain barrels are on display at Fairhaven and Acushnet Town Halls and the BPW building in Fairhaven where order forms are also available.

To take advantage of this community program discount please visit [www.greatamericanrainbarrel.com](http://www.greatamericanrainbarrel.com) look for "shop local programs" in the left side bar, and find "Acushnet Fairhaven," email [info@tgarb.com](mailto:info@tgarb.com) or call 800-251-2352. Barrels will be available for pick up on Saturday, 5/17 at the Acushnet DPW 700 Middle Rd., Acushnet, MA 02743 from 9-11 a.m.

Don't forget to tell our advertisers you saw their ads in the *Neighb News!*

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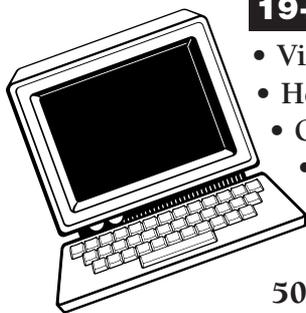
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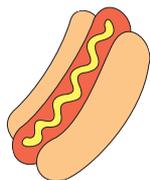


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# TM approves government change articles, supports pot tax

By Beth David  
Editor

Fairhaven Town Meeting members got through 55 articles on the annual and special town meeting warrants on Saturday, 5/3, finishing at just about 4 p.m., and still managing to get in some colorful debate on several articles.

The meeting began with a moment of silence for School Committee member David Gonsalves and Fairhaven Housing Authority member Jimmy Oliver, who both died unexpectedly in office this year.

According to the town clerk, 216 members checked in for the morning session. It was clear, however, that not all returned after lunch on a sunny day. Sometime in the middle of the afternoon Selectboard member Geoffrey Haworth also disappeared, with his seat on the stage glaringly empty.

The big discussions revolved around the major changes to town government proposed by the Government Study Committee. The GSC proposals to create a town administrator form of government and gut the authority of the board of public works, making it an advisory board, both passed, despite not being supported by either the Selectboard or the Finance Committee.

As predicted, BPW members spoke against both articles. Article 15 gives authority over the Department of Public Works to the TA and article 31 takes away power from the BPW. Either way, the BPW loses its authority. After much discussion and a count of votes, both articles passed.

Article 31 was moved up to allow discussion on both articles.

The argument for the TA from GSC chairperson Phil Washko included that the town would function as a “cohesive whole,” rather than a collection of departments; Fairhaven is the only town in Mass. with more than 10,000 people still using the Executive Secretary model and one of only a handful of any size in the state.

Finance Committee chairperson John Roderiques disagreed, saying he supported the concept of the TA, but that the specific article was not strong enough. And he argued against changing the BPW to an advisory board saying an elected board should have real power. He said the job of the BPW as written would be to advocate for the individual citizen before it and not for the good of the whole town.

“It just doesn’t work,” said Mr.

Roderiques. “I keep trying to wrap my head around it.”

BPW chair Mike Ristuccia spoke against the measure saying that the town should hold off another year.

“If we’re going to do it, do it once and do it right,” said Mr. Ristuccia. “Let’s get it right and do it right.”

“Change is hard,” said Veronique Sylvia, adding that people are proud of Fairhaven, but it is time to change. “We’ve grown a lot over the years and we have to embrace that growth.”

Former Selectboard member Michael Silvia spoke in favor of the article, saying that the “most volatile” people opposed to the measure are “trying to protect their pieces of power.”



Christopher Richard speaks on the pot tax at Fairhaven Town Meeting on Sat., 5/3, eventually comparing it to taxing one kind of meal over another, such as tacos, “because tacos cause more gastric distress,” and getting a few laughs. *Photo by Beth David.*

“I won’t let the perfect become the enemy of the good,” said Mark Badwey, speaking for the BPW change. He added that the TA should be “in control of the BPW.”

“His job is not to stick his fingers [in] and micro-manage everyone’s job,” said Mr. Washko, explaining that department heads would still run their departments.

“This town is a small town,” but it does not have the same population as it did 20 years ago, said Planning Board chair Wayne Hayward. He said people are “passionate” about the town and he took aim at the constant comparison to the way businesses are run. “We are not a business. Believe me when I say it. We are not a business.”

The question got called before BPW member Robert “Hoppy” Hobson had a chance to speak, but that did not stop him from making a ruckus about it.

“I was here before he stood up,” said Mr. Hobson.

But Moderator Mark Sylvia said the questions alternate between microphones and that was the end of it.

The article changing the BPW to an advisory board passed 79–62 in the afternoon session.

The Town Administrator article garnered just as much passion, with the Selectboard and FinCom both opposing the measure. However, their opposition was based on the weakness of the position as written, not the strength of it. Both boards argued that the description did not give the TA enough power.

Lisa Plante agreed, arguing that the article is rife with clauses requiring the TA’s actions be approved by the Selectboard.

“It’s like the Executive Secretary position, just tweaked a little,” she said.

Henry Ferreira told TM that he was “ambivalent” about the TA article. He said he probably is in favor of the TA concept, but, “what it boils down to for me is who that person is.”

“There seems to be a lack of transparency going on,” said Mr. Ferreira, adding that the rumored retirement of Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch “seems to be what’s driving this issue.”

He then tried to get Mr. Osuch to tell TM when he was retiring and if he would be the new TA.

“It’s not my decision,” said Mr. Osuch.

Mr. Espindola said it was the decision of the Selectboard to pick the TA.

A bit of back and forth with Mr. Ferreira trying to get Mr. Osuch to decide on the spot when he would retire and if he would apply for the TA job provided some classic Town Meeting entertainment.

Mr. Osuch explained that his contract expires in 2015 but he had not made any decisions beyond that.

And, to be honest, he added: “It’s a headache for whoever takes that job.”

“It don’t know that I really want to be involved in that transition,” he said, adding that he did not necessarily mean that negatively. “It’s not my call to make. It’s the Board of Selectmen who I work for.”

The measure passed with no call for a count.

The “pot tax,” which would add a 5% local tax on prescription sales of medical marijuana at the Registered Marijuana Dispensary (RMD) proposed for Pequod Street in Fairhaven, also

TM: cont’d on next page

garnered some rather colorful debate, eventually passing handily. The measure will have to be approved by the legislature.

Arguments against the tax mostly claimed unfairness at singling out a certain prescription drug over others. Arguments for the tax pointed out that the organization is a non-profit and will not be paying any taxes to the town, but will be using town services. Some argued that town services will be strained, due to the number of people and type of clientele the RMD could draw.

The measure would have to be approved by the legislature, which wrote the provision into the law allowing host communities to petition for the tax.

"How can we even think of putting a tax on that?" asked Christopher Richard.

"It's a prescription, and should be treated like any other prescription," said John McGowan, adding that people using the RMD will also visit other merchants in town. "It just seems like a money grab."

Finance Committee chairperson John Roderiques said that the state taxes a can of soda, so why not this.

"I'm sorry," said Mr. Roderiques. "We have the right to expect something out of this."

After a bit of talk about the numbers (possibly 2% of the county) and the amount of money to be made, Gayla M.D. Reilly had a question for town officials: "Is this a non-profit for profit?"

She said it sounded like they would be making a lot of money from the operation, so the town should try to get something out of it.

Mr. Richard argued that the pot tax should not be compared to other taxes such as the meals tax or the hotel tax.

He said the pot tax is like saying you will pay a 5% tax for a meal, "But if you buy tacos, you'll pay another 5% because tacos cause more gastric distress."

Although the comparison got a few laughs, it did not sway the members who voted overwhelmingly for the tax.

Also during the special TM, members debated and ultimately did not pass a request by the Community Preservation Committee to restore an old table in town hall. Town art curator Al Benac argued for the \$2,000, saying the table was oak, had clawed feet and had been mistreated. Apparently, it has been used as a paint table for years.

Finance Committee chairperson John Roderiques argued that CPC funds

probably could not legally be used for the table because, "There is no finding that his table is historically significant."

"It's an old table," said Mr. Roderiques. "Not everything old is worth restoring. It's that simple."

"I know Mark Twain didn't carve his initials in this table," said Mr. Benac, but added that Henry Huttleston Rogers probably bought it for town hall and used it himself.

The measure failed, 59-131.

Members also approved an article in the Special TM authorizing the Selectboard to swap a 2,158 square-foot piece of the parking lot on Union Street, used by Union Wharf boat owners, for a



Gayla M.D. Reilly speaks at Fairhaven Town Meeting on 5/3. "Is this a non-profit for profit?" she asked when confronted with projected sales for the Registered Marijuana Dispensary. Photo by Beth David.

900-square-foot center section of the dilapidated building on Union Wharf. The 30x30-foot piece of the building was sold to William "Biff" MacLean's father decades ago. Gail Isaksen and her son Max bought it a couple of years ago, outbidding the town at the foreclosure auction.

They are now negotiating the deal to get more parking for their building adjacent to the parking lot.

The town has a grant to demolish the Union Wharf building.

Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch told TM that making the swap made the most sense financially, as any other option would require going to court, which would cost the town more money. The deal calls for the Isaksens to pay the difference in value if the assessment shows one.

Robert "Hoppy" Hobson spoke against the measure, saying that the boat owners at Union Wharf need all the parking they can get. He said the town should explore other options, such as taking the 900 s.f. piece by eminent domain.

TM members, however, voted to approve the swap.

In one of the few articles not to pass, TM rejected a Selectboard-petitioned article to appropriate \$8,000 for a consultant to review and rewrite job descriptions and compensation levels for non-union personnel.

Mr. Osuch said the job descriptions have not been reviewed for many years.

Mr. Roderiques, however, argued that, in the first place, the article is a perfect example of what should not be on the special TM warrant, but should be on the annual warrant.

He said the article came out of "grumblings" by some employees in town hall after some positions were upgraded.

"We are living in the age of consultants," said Mr. Roderiques, arguing that department heads and employees should be doing the reviews as part of their regular duties. He said it does not matter what other towns do.

"It's what Fairhaven can afford to pay its employees," he said. "Because we all already know: We don't do things like everybody else."

TM passed all CPC articles on the annual warrant, including \$60,000 for the revamping of the Livesey Skate Park.

A bit of discussion and an attempt to indefinitely postpone \$136,000 for restoration of the brick sidewalks on William and Center streets along the side and front of Town Hall and the Millicent Library were initiated by Town Curator Al Benac.

He argued that narrowing the sidewalk would take away from the "historical view" of the block.

In many places the bricks have sunken in and tree roots have popped them out of place, creating a hazard for walkers, strollers, and wheelchairs. The project will also create wheelchair access on each corner. Other phases of the project will include the bricks around the Unitarian Church. All three phases of the project are estimated to cost a total of \$800,000. The project will use as many of the old bricks as possible, keep the sidewalk to a minimum of six feet wide, shunt away rainwater, and relocate catch basins.

Mr. Benac was not sold on the idea. He said he would like to see the plan delayed and a committee created to "look at things intelligently."

He said the town should use old-style street lamps and other measures

**TM: cont'd on page 18**

# Fairhaven Recreation Center

Open Mon-Thurs, 6 a.m.-8 p.m.;  
Fri., 6 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.-  
2 p.m.; Closed Sunday • 227  
Huttleston Ave, 508-993-9269  
<http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net>

## Kool Kids Summer Registration May 3, 8 -2

Kool Kids is for children entering grades 1 to age 12. Children will have fun each day by participating in a variety of sports, games and art activities. Each session will also include special themed events. Children are grouped by the Grade they will enter in the Fall. Don't miss out on this great summer program. Last year's program was full almost every week. Sign up early so we can take more participants than last year \$130 per week for members; sibling discounts available; also non member rates. Hours: Monday thru Friday 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Drop off 7:45 a.m., Pick up 3 p.m.

Extended day will be available; AM only (7AM) - \$25, PM only (4PM) - \$25 Both \$40

## Track & Field

This summer, Fairhaven Recreation will be continuing our youth track and field program for children ages 3 through grade 8. This program starts at the end of the school year and runs for 4 weeks. The program is Free with your play card and will meet 2 days a week at Cushman Park from 6-8 p.m. Program starts July 1st

## Summer Tennis

Tykes (ages 5-8) And Superstars (ages 9-10)

**Tykes:** July 7-August 1, Tuesday & Thursday, 9:00-10:00AM.

**Superstars:** July 7-Aug. 1, Tuesday & Thursday, 10:00-11:00 AM

**Futures (ages 11-16)**

**Session 1:** August 4-August 8, Mon-Thur, 9:00-12:00 Noon

**Session 2:** August 11-August 15, Mon-Thur, 9:00-12:00PM

**Session 3:** August 18-August 22, Mon-Thur, 9:00-12:00PM

**Fees:** Tykes & Superstars, \$50 Members/\$60 Non Members; Futures, \$65 Members/\$75 Non Members

# Fairhaven Senior Center

508-979-4029 • 229 Huttleston Ave  
Supportive Senior Day Care Program, 9-3 • 508-993-9455  
Respite Care: one day, half-a-day. Regular rates apply.

Visit our new website at:  
[http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA\\_COA/index](http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA_COA/index)

## Mall Trips

5/14: Southshore shopping

5/21: Emerald Square Mall

## Entertainment

EVERY THURSDAY, 12:30-2:30 p.m., \$2 donation. Featuring Ray/Jay on the first and third Thurs.; and the OT's on the second & fourth Thurs.

## Special Activities

### Spaghetti Supper

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser Fri. 5/16 4:00-8:00 p.m., at the Fairhaven Council on Aging. Sponsored by The Livesey Club and hosted by the Friends of the Fairhaven Council on Aging. Benefits the Social Day Program.

### Single Seniors

Single Seniors Supper Club Chowder and Stuffed Quahog Night Tues. 5/20, 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Fairhaven Senior Center. Sponsored by Emeritus Assisted Living and Brandon Woods Nursing and Rehab.

If you are a single senior 60 or older and would like to attend, please call the Sr. Center by Mon. 5/12, at 508-979-4029

### Volunteer Needed

The Fairhaven Council on Aging needs a volunteer to deliver the Fairhaven Senior News letter to various locations once a month. For information call the Fairhaven Senior Center at 508-979-4029 or 508-979-4081.

### South Coast LGBT Seniors

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender seniors meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month from 5:00-7:00 for supper and socialization. This is a nice opportunity to meet

new friends. Please call Fairhaven senior center by the Thursday before the event to reserve from 5:00- 8:

### Ham & Bean Supper

The Fairhaven Lions Club and the Fairhaven Militia will be holding a ham and bean supper at the Fairhaven Senior Center on Saturday May 17 from 5:00-8:00. The Militia will set up camp under the pines. Enjoy music provided by the DJ as you stroll through the car show in the parking lot. This is a fun event for the whole family. Tickets can be purchased at the Fairhaven Senior Center and are \$10.00 (children 5 and under \$5.00)

### Quilt Show

At the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. Enjoy the beauty of art in fabric form at the MFA on Thursday May 29. Trip leaves the Fairhaven Council on Aging at 10:00 a.m. Cost for the trip is \$30.00 which includes transportation and admission to the museum. Lunch is on your own. Sign up soon. Seats are limited to 14.

### Ghosts & Gravestones

Boston Ghosts and Gravestones Trip, Thursday June 26. Hosted by Nancy. For more information call the Senior Center @ 508979-4029.

## Ongoing Programs

Call 508-979-4029 for days and times

A/G Consumer Mediator; Bingo; Board Meeting/monthly; Bridge; Caregiver Support & Education Group; Chair Yoga, Computer Training; Fit Quest; Friends of Elderly/monthly meeting; Grocery Shopping; Knitting classes; LGBT Supper Club; Line Dancing; Live Band; Medical Transportation; Nutrition Program/meal served; Osteoporosis class; Outreach Coordinator; PACE Fuel Assistance; Pitch; Reassurance Program; Shopping; Singles Senior Supper Club; Supportive Senior Social Day Program; Tai Chi; Tap 'N' Time, Walking Clubs, Zumba.

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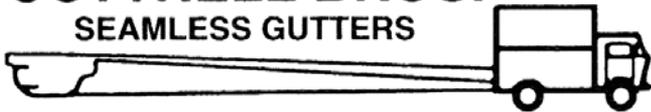
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# Little League opens in Acushnet



The Fairhaven-Acushnet Little League opened up for the season on Saturday, 5/3, with a parade down Main Street and a full day of games at Pope Park. LEFT: Christopher Cardoso, of Fairhaven T-Ball team Emma Jean's, makes great contact during the Fairhaven Acushnet Little League opening day parade and games on Saturday, 5/3. RIGHT: Niko Tavares, of Elf's Landscaping in Major Division, helps power his team to a win over Superior Logo. *Photos by Ryan Feeney. See them in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com)*

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(not applicable on Fridays): \$12.

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(while they last)

### Everyday Special:

**Fish & Chips: \$7.95** (not  
applicable on Fridays)  
Light or English Batter

### Sunday

### Dinner Special\*

\*with purchase of  
bar beverage ONLY  
Handcut Sirloin Steak & Fries, or  
Fried Shrimp Plate: \$5.00

### Blackboard Specials

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT:

**Every Thurs.:** Trivia Buff, 7:30

**Every Fri.:** Taraoke, 9 p.m.

**Every Sat.:** DJ Tara, 9 p.m.

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

**Fri., 5/9:** Couto & Mulligan, 6 p.m.

**Fri., 5/9:** Taraoke, 9:30 p.m.

**Sat., 5/11:** TBA, 6-9 p.m.

**Sat., 5/11:** DJ Tara, 9 p.m.

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## From our readers

### Library at the community center is a good deal

If you haven't been following the news lately, Acushnet has been working on plans to put the library into the Marie S. Howard school building on Middle Road, and it sounds like a very good deal for Acushnet. The building will be renovated inside so the library can fit.

The Library Trustees have put together a plan that would use Community Preservation funds and some town money, plus the Trustees are going to use \$300,000 of their own

funds. The trustees say the building can be renovated and the library moved in for \$675,000 total, and their plan does not require raising residents' taxes.

I like the idea of having a library that anyone can enter because it's all on ground level. It must be very frustrating for some of our older or disabled residents who cannot use the Library as it is now, even though it's a town service that their tax dollars pay for.

The new location for the Library means our school children could go there after school, since it's along the

bus route. There will be more room for people to sit and read, use the computers and plenty of off-street parking, big improvements over what we have now.

We have waited a long time for a better library and this plan does not increase anyone's taxes and will benefit everyone in Acushnet, especially those who can't get up all those stairs at its current location. Everyone who wants something better for all our residents should go to Town Meeting on Monday, May 12th and vote YES.

*Donna Forand, Acushnet*

**TM: cont'd from page 13**

to try to get a "better view of what Henry Huttleston Rogers gave us in the 1890s."

The spending measure passed despite Mr. Benac's pleas.

An article to allow the Sustainability Committee to have a revolving account and the authorization to expend the funds caused a bit of debate when Planning Board chairperson Wayne Hayward said the Committee has not filed agendas and minutes.

"I can't see anything on what this committee does," said Mr. Hayward. "We have to jump through hoops to get \$5,000 and we [Planning Board] have to report to everybody."

SC member Anne Richard said they hold meetings regularly and file minutes properly, but she had no idea how to put them online or why they are not on the website. She said she welcomed the challenge as a chance to tell people what the committee does: organize the farmers' market, create community garden plots, and educate the public about sustainability issues. They need the money for printing posters and other educational materials.

Ms. Richard said the committee spent \$3,100 last year and did get approval from the Selectboard for their spending.

The measure passed.

In a rare defeat for the GSC, the creation of an Information Technology Advisory Committee failed to pass. Mr. Roderiques argued that the Selectboard can create an advisory committee, so it does not require a by-law change.

"Let's not have the tail wag the dog," said Mr. Roderiques.

The creation of a capital planning committee, however, passed.

An article for \$157,351 to replace some tile floors at Hastings Middle

School passed easily after a bit of discussion on the cracked and lifting tiles. Replacing tiles over the years has created "patterns" down the halls, said School Department Business Manager Paul Kitchen.

Spending articles from previous years and contract/salary articles for employees all passed with little or no discussion.

The total tally was somewhere in the vicinity of \$57 million including the regular town budget (just a tad under \$52.9 million) and articles on both the special and annual TMs. Money for articles came from the tax levy (property taxes and permit fees), state aid to cities and towns, surplus revenue (money left over from the last fiscal year), the ambulance fund (from ambulance runs), and water and sewer enterprise funds (from water and sewer rates).

The school department, the largest budget in town, passed with no discussion at \$18,348,083 plus \$2,268,877 for Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech and \$20,604 for Bristol County Agricultural HS.

The new traveling "Chair of Honor," recognizing those missing in action in all wars, made its first official appearance. A permanent chair will be place in town hall to remind all residents of those who never came back. It will be empty, signifying that there is still a place for them.

Town Meeting also approved:

- \$16,500 for repairs to the west chimney on the Millicent Library.
- \$5,000 for a study of the Oxford and Rogers school buildings to evaluate their assets. FinCom recommended Indefinite Postponement, but that measure failed by a 93-96 vote. Discussion revolved around whether

or not the town should sell the buildings at auction or create an RFP with restrictions to protect the neighborhood from certain uses. "We can't carry these buildings forever," argued Mr. Roderiques.

- An article giving the Selectboard the authority to petition the legislature to allow the town to charge up to \$200 per acre for shellfish aquaculture farms in town waters. The town presently charges \$25/acre.
- \$5,000 for the town Government Study Committee to continue next year. The GSC wants to explore the creation of a town charter. The FinCom recommended against the appropriation.
- \$20,000 for the demolition of three portable classrooms at Rogers School and one at Oxford School, as well as the building at 87 Main Street. The tax title property was condemned after a fire.
- \$253,717 for a new roof on the fire department and police department building, after amending the article to allow for solar panels on it.
- \$42,500 from surplus revenue to apply for a matching grant from FEMA for a new ladder truck. The article originally called for the money to come from the Stabilization Fund, with rigorous opposition from Mr Roderiques.
- Two articles totalling \$1 million for improvements to the water and sewer collection systems. The money will come from water and sewer fees.
- \$5,100 for a new copy machine for the Fire Department.
- \$45,644 for six steel doors for the BPW building, despite opposition from the Selectboard, which argued they doors could wait one more year. "We couldn't just say 'yes' to everything," said Mr. Espindola. ●●●

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# Town Meeting Quotable Quotes

I know Mark Twain didn't carve his initials in this table  
[Al Benac]

You can't put two hands up, Ms. Bishop. I saw *that!* [Mark Sylvia alluding to Ms. Bishop's assertion that the moderator was not paying close enough attention to a previous vote]

It's a nail-biter [Mark Sylvia on the 93-96 IP vote on STM article #9, asset evaluation for Rogers/Oxford buildings]

Unfortunately, you'll have to see my ugly face here next year at Town Meeting. [Jeff Osuch, debunking the notion that his retirement is imminent]

I recognize the guy with the mustache....Bernie.  
[Wayne Vieira showing that he did not know any of the GSC members personally]

You went so fast I didn't have time to get up out of my seat to challenge it [Al Benac on an article to spend \$750 for a street light]

Are you aware it passed?  
[Mark Sylvia realizing that Mr. Benac was trying to speak in favor of the article]  
It went so fast I missed it.  
[Al Benac]

But if you buy tacos, you'll pay another five percent because tacos cause more gastric distress [Chris Richard in opposition to the pot tax]  
That was an interesting example [Mark Sylvia]

Because we all already know: we don't do things like everybody else [John Roderiques on the idea that a consultant should be hired to tell the town what to pay employees]

We are living in the age of consultants...Even in the age of consultants, we need consultants now and then.  
[John Roderiques]

It just seems like a money grab  
[John McGowan]

So we're not making that up either [Phil Washko telling TM that Hanover has an elected BPW advisory board]

So we will walk through this slowly so there will be no confusion [Mark Sylvia on moving Article 31 to be discussed and voted on before article 15]

Is this a non-profit company for a profit? [Gayla M.D. Reilly on Compassionate Care, which has a provisional license to open a Registered Marijuana Dispensary in Fairhaven]



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## TIDE TABLE

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

	May 2014	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	8	0329	1602	0852	2125
Friday	9	0425	1659	0942	2224
Saturday	10	0524	1751	1032	2320
Sunday	11	0613	1835	1120	----
Monday	12	0655	1915	0006	1204
Tuesday	13	0736	1955	0047	1247
Wednesday	14	0818	2038	0129*	1331*
Thursday	15	0904	2125	0216*	1420*
Friday	16	0953	2214	0307*	1512*
Saturday	17	1043	2305	0356*	1603*
Sunday	18	1136	2359	0441*	1653*
Monday	19	----	1234	0529*	1745*
Tuesday	20	0059	1335	0624*	1852
Wednesday	21	0159	1433	0736	2020

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

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

### YARD CLEAN UP

Lawns mowed, weed whacking, reasonable.  
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## Veitch chosen for school committee

By Beth David  
Editor

At a joint meeting of the Fairhaven Selectboard and School Committee on Friday, 5/2, the two boards chose a familiar face to fill the seat vacated by the unexpected death of School Committee member David Gonsalves.

Colin Veitch, a former SC member and chairperson, who lost his last two bids to gain a seat on the SC, once in 2011, when he lost the seat he held, and once in 2013, when he tried to regain the seat, told the boards he "thoroughly enjoyed the work," and that he understood the challenges facing the school department

Diane Hahn, an outspoken advocate for special needs students who lost a bid for SC last year, told the boards that her perspective would help to diversify the thinking of the board. She said although the school system does well for the average student, 50% of special needs students do not meet target.

She also said that many school

## Fairhaven Meetings

### Board of Public Works

Mon., 5/19, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

### Conservation Commission

Mon., 5/19, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Council on Aging

Tues., 5/13, Senior Ctr., 9:30 a.m.

### Cultural Council

Mon., 5/19, Nemasket Bldg., 6:30 p.m.

### Personnel Board

Tues., 5/20, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

### Planning Board

Tues., 5/13, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Rogers/Oxford Study Com

Thurs., 5/1, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Selectboard

Mon., 4/12, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### School Committee

Wed., 5/14, Media Ctr., 6:30 p.m.

## Acushnet Meetings

### Board of Appeals

Mon., 5/27, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Planning Commission

Thurs., 5/22, Parting Ways, 6:30 p.m.

### Selectboard

Mon., 5/12, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

Wed., 5/28, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

### TOWN MEETING

Mon., 5/12, Ford Middle Sch, 7 p.m.

department employees do not understand the law surrounding the rights of special needs students.

"It's not just about my kids, it's about the town's kids," she said.

Newcomer Michael Furtado said he actually had more experience than it seemed because his father was a superintendent and talked about his work all the time while Michael was growing up.

"I've been exposed to this my whole life," he said.

"I like to think I'm a product of success of the Fairhaven School system," said Mr. Furtado, who is a high school history teacher.

He said students need to learn real life skills.

Mr. Veitch and Mr. Furtado were nominated, with Mr. Furtado gaining the votes of Selectboard members Geoffrey Haworth and Bob Espindola, and SC member Donna McKenna. Mr. Veitch received the other five votes. Ms. Hahn was not nominated.

# BPW approves driveway, balks at change order

Michael Smith

## Neighb News Correspondent

Driveway waivers and change orders were on the docket on a light agenda for the Fairhaven Board of Public Works on Monday night, 5/5.

Board member Brian Wotton was not in attendance for the meeting.

For the lone appointment of the evening, Linda and Patrick Nugent sought approval from the board for a driveway waiver for their property at 888 Sconticut Road.

Moving to Fairhaven in October, Ms. Nugent and her husband purchased their home supplied with two unfinished foundations: the garage and a potting shed. Mr. Nugent indicated the incomplete buildings were part of the original design for the property, and the garage area already had crushed stone for a temporary driveway.

Ms. Nugent told the board the garage is now completed and she would like to install a 26-foot driveway from the street to the garage using cobblestones to contain the crushed stone.

The board unanimously approved the Nugents' request.

In items for action, the board discussed a change order request from NuWater, Inc. The order is for electrical work for the Taber Street pump station, but board member Steven Riley had a problem with the change order.

With previous change orders

representing over 17% of the scope of projects, Mr. Riley's concern was NuWater not indicating the pump station's automatic transfer switch — at forty years old — needed to be replaced before doing the work.

"Why couldn't they have found that out in the beginning and put that into the scope of the work?" asked Mr. Riley.

"I can't answer that," said Board Superintendent Vinnie Furtado of the electrical work. "But it (the transfer

bottom line is, the money's in the contract."

Mr. Riley had another question on NuWater's not carrying over \$1,000 for a start-up by NStar onto their payment schedule, which had Mr. Riley wondering "where is that money going to come from further down the road."

"When NStar shuts down, if it's after work, it's going to be considerably more than a thousand dollars," said Mr. Riley, asking to table the issue for another time.

"I think we should carry this until the next meeting," said Chairperson Mike Ristuccia.

The board unanimously voted to table it until the May 19 meeting.

In old business, board clerk Kathy Sturtevant asked if public works would be responsible for laying down wood chips at the playground at the Rogers School. Ms. Sturtevant said an undisclosed person approached her asking if the department could do that.

In the past, the school department was responsible for placing wood chips, but now that the buildings have been vacated and turned over to the town, the school department is no longer responsible for the buildings or the grounds.

Ms. Sturtevant said she was not sure if the department did or not have responsibility for the playground.

"We should, because it's for the children so they won't get hurt," said Mr. Ristuccia.

Mr. Furtado agreed to look into the details of who should be responsible and the costs of adding the playground to the others it supplies wood chips for, which include Livesey, Macomber and Cushman parks.

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"It was on the wish list," said Mr. Furtado [in a follow-up interview]. "The bottom line is, the money's in the contract."

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switch) may have been (found out) and just not part of the original scope. The change order is because we had extra money to do the electrical."

In a follow-up interview, Mr. Furtado said the transfer switch was not part of the original contract, but the actual cost of the work came in lower than estimated, so it was added.

"It was on the wish list," said Mr. Furtado. "The

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