



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 44 • November 21, 2013

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

104 years...and counting



Four generations of Wilsons gather around to celebrate the 104th birthday of Charles Wilson (in center, wearing crown) on Sunday, 11/17, at Our Lady's Haven in Fairhaven. Mr. Wilson, a New Bedford native, served in World War II in the US Navy. He was also a featherweight boxer and motorcycle enthusiast. See page 12 for story. *Photo by Beth David. See it in color at www.NeighbNews.com.*



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Also Inside:

- **Board of Health:** page 3
- **Acushnet News:** page 22
- **Selectboard:** page 4
- **FinCom:** page 18

From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.



Beth David, Publisher

Hey, it's still light out! Really, I'm not lying. Wow. It's good practice for next week since we'll be going to print a day early for Thanksgiving. The paper will be distributed on Wednesday, so if you have any listings, you'd better get them in by Friday.

Same goes for the ads. It's our annual shopping issue, too, so if you've been thinking about advertising in the best little paper in town but haven't gotten around to it, now's the time.

We have no murder talk this week. I know, I know, you're all anxiously awaiting the next installment of Murders Past. I plan on making a trip to the Microfilm Torture Room this weekend. I had trouble finding details on the next murder on the list and I didn't want to go too skimpy on it unless it's absolutely necessary.

Mostly, I'm using old newspaper reports for this stuff, but I do plan on trying to get some state/court records, too. That requires a trip to Boston, though, for the older stuff.

I'll get to it, honest.

We have some fun stuff in this week's issue. Our cover story is the best. Charlie Wilson turned 104 this weekend. A bunch of his relatives showed up to celebrate with him and it was a blast. Do I have a great job or what? See page 12 for that.

We also have a fair amount of meeting coverage this week. The Board of Health had a...ah...an energetic meeting on Monday. See page 3 for that.

We also covered Selectboard (page 4), Conservation Commission (page 13) and Finance Committee (page 18). Check out page 22 for Acushnet's Selectboard meeting for information on the special town meeting being called to eliminate the BPW.

The weather has turned to winter, with Thanksgiving around the corner. It's a time to indulge with big meals, big food, big eating, big...everything. But for a lot of people, that's not possible. So, it's also a time for collecting food for the pantries and other organizations that help people have a good holiday. See page 19 for a picture of almost 3300 items collected by the elementary students at East Fairhaven School. Sadly, however, those items will be gone way too soon, so be sure to support the pantries if you can. It'll make it easier to enjoy all that extra food on Thanksgiving.

There's other good stuff in here, of course. Take your time, thumb through, and be sure to notice who are advertisers are so you can tell them you saw their ads in the Neighb News.

Until next week then...

Support the Food Pantry

The Shepherd's Food Pantry at the Long Plain United Methodist Church in Acushnet spends more than \$5,500 each month to keep the shelves stocked and serves more than 120 families weekly.

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

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Feisty crowd joins Board of Health at mitigation plan meeting

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

It's a start, said Fairhaven Board of Health Chairperson Jeannine Lopes while releasing details of a recent mitigation plan proposed by Fairhaven Wind LLC. The discussion on 11/18, before a roomful of rivaling residents from both sides of the wind turbine debate, led to tempers flaring when the board refused to hear any public comments, although that did not stop them from making any.

"There has to be some kind of compromise between the town, the townspeople, and Fairhaven Wind," said Ms. Lopes.

The mitigation plan calls for the shutting down of one or both wind turbines during three specific wind directions as well as during the six weather conditions that the Mass. Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) sound study identified when the turbines were out of compliance.

The three wind directions are North-west, Northeast, and South/Southwest, and apply when wind speeds are below 7 meters per second (15.68

mph) with no projected precipitation.

The mitigation plan would be in effect from November 15 through April 15 only, with curtailments during the weather conditions between the hours of 12 midnight and 4 a.m.

The plan calls for one of the turbines to shut down automatically during the specified wind and weather conditions, but the developer currently does not have the ability to do so and is seeking to acquire the software for the automatic shutdown.

"I find this mitigation plan very reasonable," said Ms. Lopes. "We have to do something. We can't keep going back and forth."

The plan was only discussed that evening and not officially adopted. Board Member Peter DeTerra, the appointed negotiator between the BOH and the developer, will take the board's concerns to his next meeting with Fairhaven Wind which is undetermined at this time.

Ms. Lopes commented that she wanted a notification process included in the plan to inform the board when the turbine is shut down

in order to match-up those times with complaints the board might receive.

Mr. DeTerra said he wanted to hear what the MassDEP thinks of the mitigation plan before forming his opinion.

For Dr. Acksen, the devil was in the details. In a post-meeting interview, she expressed concern that the data that was used to create the mitigation plan was from the developer and from only six sound measures from the MassDEP.

In addition, she said Fairhaven Wind LLC would be self-monitoring, and the operation of the turbines during the adverse weather conditions would be at the developer's discretion.

It was the perfect storm for an explosive meeting.

Windwise, Friends of Fairhaven and the Board of Health all in one room, a mitigation plan, and not permitting public comment led to a breakdown in order with shouting matches and resistance.

"What about the concerns of the citizens?" shouted out Little Bay Road

BOH: cont'd on page 18

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Selectboard signs onto Community Development Strategy

By Beth David
Editor

The Fairhaven Selectboard commended the town's Director of Planning and Economic Development Director Bill Roth on his success in getting Community Development Block Grants for the town and on his latest Community Development Strategy at their 11/18 meeting.

The board voted unanimously to approve the strategy outlined by Mr. Roth and to support pursuing the application to receive the grant money. The two target areas are North Fairhaven, which is designated as north of Route 195; and the Anthony School area, which is the area around the old school that is now senior housing.

The streets slated for improvement in the proposal will include Francis, Hedge, Plymouth, Green, Sycamore, Main and Garrison, with Francis Street being the highest priority.

No members of the public spoke out during the public hearing. Several more public hearings will be held as the grant process advances.

The board also reviewed the marijuana bylaw submitted by the Planning Board. The Selectboard sent it back to planning so it can now be placed on a town meeting warrant. The bylaw creates an overlay district on Alden Road, near the former Lottery site, which is where an applicant has proposed to locate a Registered Marijuana Dispensary. Town Meeting must approve the bylaw change.

The board also met with Shellfish Warden/Assistant Harbormaster Timothy Cox and three prospective Assistant Deputies. Cliff Patenaude and Erich Druskat were approved by the board, with Steve Riley's request being approved on the condition that it is not a conflict of interest according to town bylaws or the state ethics commission. Mr. Riley is currently a member of the Fairhaven board of Public Works, an elected position that does not receive a

stipend.

Mr. Cox told the board that Mr. Druskat has been helping the department map out the mooring fields in anticipation of revamping them. The appointment will allow Mr. Druskat to continue with the work.

Mr. Cox also told the board he wanted to start the three in the winter to ease them into the position. The department has lost four people for various reasons.

Also at the meeting, Selectboard member Bob Espindola announced a change in his office hours. He will still be holding them on the first Wednesday of each month, but from 6:30 to 8:30. The first hour will now

The streets slated for improvement in the proposal will include Francis, Hedge, Plymouth, Green, Sycamore, Main and Garrison, with Francis Street being the highest priority.

consist of a free program, craft lesson, workshop, etc.

His next scheduled event is on 12/4 when his wife Ann will give a lesson in tying a fleece blanket. People are asked to contribute a canned good for the food pantry.

Selectboard member Geoffrey Haworth said he had started leaving early during his scheduled office hours if no one showed up, but realized he was missing people. He said people should call him and he will meet with them.

Selectboard Chair Charles Murphy said he stopped his office hours, but is willing to meet with constituents by appointment.

All three can be contacted through the selectboard office in town hall or

by email through the town's website.

In other business the board

- Approved a common victualer license for the Hollywood Scoop, formerly Vivvy's; approved an all alcohol license for Turan Irge at the old Uno's location; approved a change of manager at Pub 99.
 - Voted to approve an on-street handicapped parking spot in front of 57 Walnut Street, on the condition that the applicant and resident at that address understand
 - Approved the use of the town hall auditorium and a one-day beer and wine license for a wedding next October. Michael MacLeod and Meredith Bailey were on hand to thank the board.
 - Heard from editor Beth David of the *Fairhaven Neighborhood News* who asked the board to use the *Neighb News* for its legal ads. At present, some boards use the *Neighb News* for their legal ads. The Selectboard uses the *Neighb News* for some ads, but not for all. The board invited the *Neighb News* to return on 12/9 when the *Standard-Times* will also make a pitch for legal advertising.
 - Reminded the public that the second annual toy drive is underway at town hall, which is also a drop-off for the United Way Food Drive. Questions should be directed to the Selectboard office.
 - Voted to support the annual Polar Plunge, which will be held at Fort Phoenix on New Year's Day at 10 p.m. Proceeds benefit various scholarships and local nonprofits.
 - Received a letter from Susan Sullivan about the new FEMA flood maps and possible actions the town can take. Ms. Sullivan will be scheduled to appear at a meeting in January.
- The Board reconvened in executive session to discuss tax title auction properties; police, fire, dispatcher union negotiations; the Fairhaven Wind LLC contract; and a police officer who was injured in the line of duty.

•••



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an easy one -
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and gravy!

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associate make a
hostess basket for you!



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- *Wine



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ENTERTAINMENT:

Fri., 11/22, James Gagne, 8 p.m.

Sat., 11/23, The Relics, 9 p.m.

Planning a holiday party? Book your reservations now!
Holiday Gift Cards available and can be redeemed at both
of our locations: Ice House Bar & Grill & Fathoms Bar & Grill.
SPECIAL THANKSGIVING DAY HOURS: On Thurs., 11/28,
we will be closed all day and will re-open at 6 p.m.

MONDAY NIGHT PIZZA SPECIAL:

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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Multi-Faith Service

Community All-Faith Thanksgiving Service for all people on **Sunday, 11/24 at 6 PM** at First Congregational Church, 34 Center Street, Fairhaven. The clergy of Fairhaven churches are offering this service to the entire Fairhaven and greater-Fairhaven community to enjoy the spirit of gratitude, togetherness, and joy at this wholesome time. Please join us at the service and share refreshments afterwards in the parish hall. **Note that you do not have to be a member of any church to attend.** Please come and give us the gift of your presence. And bring friends and family.

Christmas Fair

Annual Christmas Fair, **Trinity Lutheran Church, 16 Temple Place, Fairhaven, Saturday, 11/23, from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Knitted, crocheted & other handmade craft items plus homemade baked goods table. Delicious luncheon items include seafood specialties (featuring lobster rolls, chowder and scallop casserole), chicken, sandwiches & desserts. (Take-out available)

Guided Hike

Join the Fairhaven-Acushnet Land Preservation Trust on a guided, **easy hike Sat., 11/23 at 10 a.m., beginning at Shipyard Farm** on Sconticut Neck Road. See ad on page 23 for details.

Turkey Trot

Join your family, friends, and neighbors to kick off the holiday on the right foot: running for a reason! Burn calories while raising funds and food for local pantries, including Shepherd's Pantry, MO Life, and more. The 2013 Turkey Trot 5K will include Tuesday night number pick-up, t-shirts for the first 300 adult registrants, an 8 a.m. event start, and warm indoor pre- and post-Trot festivities! See you on Thanksgiving!

Event schedule and times follow:

Start time: 8 a.m. Number and t-shirt pick-up: Tues, Nov 26 4pm-8pm OR Thurs, Nov 28 7am-7:45am

Online registration for the Fairhaven Turkey Trot will be available until Monday, Nov 25. (Note: Adult price jumps to \$25 online on Nov 20!) You may also register in person on Tuesday, November 26 from 4pm-8pm

at the Nemasket Group on Green St. and Bridge St. Or, register on Thanksgiving morning between 7am and 7:45am at the Nemasket Group, where number pick-up will be located. Both \$25. T-shirts will be provided to the first 300 adult registrants and are not guaranteed to in-person registrants.

Starts and ends at Cushman Park. Route is along Green and Fort Streets to Fort Phoenix.

For more information visit www.fairhaventurkeytrot.com; register at www.active.com, <http://beta.active.com/fairhaven-ma/running/races/fairhaven-turkey-trot-for-health-and-hunger-2013>. To volunteer, email fairhaven_turkeytrot@gmail.com

Art Show

Art On Center "Small Works" Exhibition & Holiday Open House. Hand-crafted gifts are always special! Come to Art On Center's 2nd **Annual Small Works Exhibition and Holiday Open House on Saturday, November 23rd from 4 to 6 pm.** One-of-a-kind artwork and fine craft created by the Center's member artists will be available for holiday gift-giving, including paintings (under \$250), photography, jewelry, stained glass, woodcraft, textiles and more.

Support local artists and your local art center while you shop for loved ones this year! The show runs through January 11th. Art On Center is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, located at 15 Center Street, Fairhaven. For more information call 774-206-1709 or email info@artoncenter.org

Volunteer Reading Tutor Needed

Adult man looking for a volunteer tutor to help learn how to read 1-2 hours/week. in the area of the Fairhaven library would work best but can be flexible. For more information, please call Karin Bonesteel at 508-999-4436.

West Island Toys For Tots Christmas is the time for giving

Toys for Tots provides toys to kids who might not otherwise get any

presents for Christmas

West Island is sponsoring a Toys for Tots gift drive. Your generous donation of a new toy or money to purchase a new toy will be greatly appreciated.

Please drop your toys or donation off by Dec. 15, at 151 Balsam Street, the residence of Bob and Cathi Konicki, who have volunteered to assist the Marines in this worthy project.

Blood Drive

The Southcoast® Blood Bank will be giving away two family four-packs of Providence Bruins tickets to blood donors during the month of November to thank and celebrate the critical role blood donors serve in helping to ensure blood is available for patients.

A blood drive will be held in Fairhaven on **Wed., 11/27, at Barley Family Healthcare & Rehab/Patient Appreciation Day, 270 Huttleston Avenue, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

Youth Lacrosse

Youth Lacrosse Registration for Spring 2014 Now Open! Boys and girls in grades 1-8 are welcome. We serve children from Fairhaven, Mattapoisett, Marion, Rochester, Acushnet, New Bedford, Wareham. Please visit www.orylax.com for details

Zumba class

At Atria Senior Living, 391 Alden Road, Fairhaven. **Zumba Gold Class:** with Instructor Linda Kearley every Tuesday & Thursday Evenings from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Cost \$5.00 per class for more information please contact Wendy Carr-Cabral at 508-994-9238.

Save the Date

Fairhaven's Old Time Holiday Weekend will be held on Sat. 7 Sun., 12/14 & 15. The weekend includes craft fairs, caroling and visits from Santa. Look here for more details next week.

Save the Date

The Douglass Family's 12th annual Christmas tree sale to benefit ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) research will be held on **Sat. & Sun., 12/7 & 8, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.** For more on the Douglass Family's efforts, visit <http://community.als.net/thedouglassfamily> effort.

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Open Studios

New Bedford's most comprehensive group of artists welcome you inside their studios. New Bedford Open Studios is pleased to announce the North End Open Studios event which includes 88 Hatch Street and The Darn It! Artist Studios at 630 Belleville Avenue. **The North End Open Studios will take place on Friday, November 22 from 5-9pm (Hatch Street location only) and Saturday and Sunday November 23 and 24 from 11am-5pm (both locations).** The artists will open their studio doors to the public to share what they have created through the past year. Whether you are a collector or casual observer this FREE event is for you.

The event combines the best of the annual open studios event and the traditional Hatch Street Holiday Sale. Join the artists on **Friday November 22 from 5-9 at 88 Hatch Street** for a free, special festive evening of art and music featuring the performers Joanne Doherty who spins her own magic on a wide variety of songs selected from an eclectic catalogue of folk, blues and old standards and Greg Harper whose repertoire is vast and varied, and includes everything from traditional to modern folk.

For more information, visit: www.newbedfordopenstudios.org or email info@newbedfordopenstudios.org. Link to all NBOS artists: www.newbedfordopenstudios.org/artist-list/

YTI Play

Under the direction of Swansea's Stephen R. Kay, Your Theatre, Inc. will produce John Belluso's gripping drama *Henry Flamethrower*.

Sponsored in part by BankFive, a Your Theatre, Inc. corporate sponsor, the play is inspired by real-life events and deals thematically with such topics as journalistic ethics, religion, and the value of life.

LAST WEEKEND: Nov. 21-23 at 8 p.m. Sunday matinee Nov. 24 at 2:30 p.m. General admission is \$15; students, seniors, and military personnel \$13. For tickets and other information call Your Theatre, Inc. at 508-993-0772, or send an e-mail to info@yourtheatre.org. Visit www.yourtheatre.org.

All productions will be in the

theatre's wheelchair accessible performance complex at St. Martin's Church, 136 Rivet St. at County St., New Bedford. Parking is free in the church lot on County St.

Raffle for YTI

The following raffle will benefit Your Theatre Inc. Drawing on 12/1.

1st Prize: Patriots Package. Featuring 2 Tickets to the Pats/Bills game 12/29/13. Approx. Value - \$300.00

2nd Prize: Healing Package. Featuring Acupuncture and Comfy blankets by Joan Lunden. Approx. Value - \$180.00

3rd Prize: Theatre Package. Featuring 2 tickets to the Final 3 YTI productions and 3 Dinner Gift Certificate. Approx. Value - \$150.00

To purchase tickets please contact the Your Theatre Office, 508-993-0772, the office is usually staffed Tuesday-Friday 10-1.

Clothing Drive

BankFive is pleased to announce their partnership with Hathaway Family Funeral Homes for the community-service campaign, Share Some Warmth for the fourth year. The program's purpose is to collect new articles of warm clothing, which will be donated to Bristol Elder Services and Coastline Elderly Services to distribute to seniors who are in need. The program has been in existence since 1999 through Hathaway Family Funeral Homes.

From November 22nd through December 6th BankFive will be lending all 12 branch locations as collection sites along with Hathaway Family Funeral Homes, Foley Funeral Home, Crapo-Hathaway Funeral Home, Fairhaven Funeral Home, Coastline Elderly Services and WBSM. New articles of warm clothing that are accepted include hats, scarves, mittens, gloves, sweaters, slippers, blankets and coats.

For further information, contact Maryse Hathaway, Community Outreach Director, Hathaway Family Funeral Homes at 508-673-0781.

Mercy Meals & More

We are in the midst of a Fundraising effort to stabilize our program. If you don't have the ability to donate funds but would like to donate some items, we can use the following: Pancake Mix, Syrup and

Sugar Free Syrup, Sugar, Equal, Tea, Coffee, Instant Coffee, Oatmeal, Butter, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Styrofoam Plates, Hot cups 8 ounce, Cold Cups 7 ounce, Plastic Knives, Forks and Spoons, Napkins, Aluminum Foil, Disposable gloves, Dish soap and Floor cleaner and Toilet Paper.

There are many ways to give! Including donations through PayPal on our website! We would love you to volunteer time, clothing, books or furniture to Mercy Meals and More.

We also appreciate your monetary support! **Each meal costs Mercy Meals approximately \$3.00, and we have served over 60,000 breakfasts!**

Donations can be mailed to: P.O.Box 40515 New Bedford, MA 02744. Located at Pilgrim U.C.C., 634 Purchase St., New Bedford MA 02740; 508-728-1489; Visit <http://mercymealsandmore.com/>

Adult Ed Program Volunteers

If you have a minimum of a high school diploma and a maximum amount of interest in helping others learn and improve their lives, you could be a perfect candidate to become an adult literacy volunteer.

The New Bedford Public Schools Division of Adult and Continuing Education is currently seeking volunteers to help teach adult learners. Volunteers are needed to assist in Adult Basic Education as well as English for Speakers of Other Languages classes.

If you decide to sign on, you'll likely be spending one morning or evening per week helping out teachers in the classroom or tutoring students in small groups or one on one.

Classroom teachers and a volunteer facilitator are there to provide tutors with whatever is needed in the way of direction, guidance, and training.

Want to know more? Call Dr. Michael Gauthier at 508-997-4511, ext. 2419.

Save the Date

New Bedford's 6th annual Downtown Holiday Stroll will be held on Saturday, December 7 from 12 noon to 4 pm. Santa Claus will arrive at Custom House Square by antique fire truck at noon. Visit www.downtownnb.org/holidaystroll.html

HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

Car Raffle

The Apponequet Gridiron Club, CertaPro Painters and Goodfellow's Brewery, are selling tickets to a raffle for **\$50 a piece (all proceeds go to the school)**. The winner has the choice of **\$10,000 cash or a brand new 2013 Kia Soul!** Our goal is to sell out all 800 tickets and raise \$40,000 for the school's sports teams. It's truly a win-win for everyone! The drawing will be held at the Ted Williams Camp Function Hall in Lakeville on 11/27.

Buy tickets 3 ways: 1) Visit <http://apponequetlakerfootball.com/raffle/> and purchase by 5:00 p.m., Nov. 27 to be included in raffle. 2) Mail cash or check with your name, address, phone number to: Gridiron Club Raffle, 4 Lambeth Park Dr., Fairhaven, MA 02719. Must be received by Nov. 26 to be included in raffle. 3) Join the Apponequet High School Alumni Event on November 27 beginning at 8:00 p.m., where tickets will be sold. Organized by Apponequet Gridiron Club and sponsored in part by CertaPro Painters and Goodfellow's Brewing Co. LLC, the event will be held at the Ted Williams Camp Function Hall, 28 Precinct St., Lakeville, MA 02347. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated. Free appetizers will be available.

At Mattapoissett Lib.

The following events are being held at the Mattapoissett Free Public Library, 7 Barstow St., 508-758-4171. Accessible.

Jewelry & Ornament Sale

The Friends of the Mattapoissett Library are once again holding a jewelry and accessories sale. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to see the funky and the sublime on **Fri. and Sat., Nov. 22-23 from 10 am to 4 pm**. Great items are available for crafters. Lovely jewelry, handbags, scarves and other accessories are available for unbelievably low prices. Holiday ornaments and decorations will also be for sale. If you would like to donate jewelry, accessories or decorations, please drop them off any day at the library's circulation desk. All proceeds benefit the work of the Friends of the Mattapoissett Library, a non-profit charitable organization that provides needed items and programming for the library.

Memoir Writing

Have you tried to write down a few anecdotes for your children and grandchildren? Interested in writing your family stories but don't know where to begin? Join the memoir writing group that meets the fourth Friday of each month at the library from 10:30 am to noon. **The next meeting will be Nov. 22.** Everyone is welcome. Call for info, 508-758-4171.

Bird Club

The Nasketucket Bird Club will be meeting at the **Mattapoissett Public Library at 7 Barstow Street on Thursday, 11/21 at 7 pm**. Bob and Joanne Kowalczyk will share their experiences in mainland Chile and Easter Island. Both of these trips combined cultural travel and birding. The meeting is open to all birders of every level. We will also be talking about bird sightings and upcoming walks and trips.

For more info contact Justin Barrett jmbarrett426@gmail.com.

Auction for Animals

Animal Advocates will be hosting its 17th Annual Four Paws Charity Auction for Homeless Animals on Friday, Nov. 22, from 7:00 to 10:00 pm. It is being held at Hawthorne Country Club in Dartmouth, MA. The Silent Auction for Animals is our largest annual fund raiser; it's a chance to meet with friends, have a fun evening out and support a worthy cause.

Admission is free with complimentary appetizers. We are looking for donations for our Auction. If you have an item to donate, please call us at 508 991-7727, or 774-888-9008; or e-mail animaladvocates@comcast.net

Animal Advocates is a nonprofit charitable humane animal organization for cats and dogs committed to preventing overpopulation and the needless suffering of homelessness.

Craft & Vendor Fair

The **Acushnet Council on Aging and Senior Center, 59 1/2 South Main Street, will host a Holiday Craft and Vendor Fair on Sat., Nov. 23rd from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.** Over 15 vendors with handmade jewelry, painted glassware, needle arts, white elephant table, baked goodies and much more! **The kitchen will be open**

and serving lunch from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Ample parking in rear of building, accessible. For more information call 508-998-0280.

Free Movie

On **Tues., Nov. 25 at noon**, the Mattapoissett Friends of the Elderly will host a free showing of "The Artist" (PG-13) at the Council on Aging, 17 Barstow Street. Pizza is available for \$2.00. Pizza requests must be pre-paid by Mon., 11/24 at 3:00 PM. Please sign up so we know how many seats to set up even if you're not having pizza, RSVP to the Mattapoissett Council on Aging or call 508-758-4110.

"The Artist" won five Academy Awards. It is an artful black and white, silent film. It follows the romance between a silent film superstar on a downward spiral and a rising young starlet who embraces the future of cinema at the dawn of talking films. This movie impresses on many levels: costumes, dance, scenery, story lines, and surprises.

Christmas Concert

The Sippican Choral Society will present its 2013 Christmas concert, including "A Ceremony of Carols" by Benjamin Britten, on **Fri. Dec. 6 and Sun. Dec. 8**, celebrating the 100th anniversary of Britten's birth. The chorus is directed by Brian Roderick, and accompanied by pianist Michelle Gordon and organist Dwight Thomas. The Sippican Chamber Choir will perform additional seasonal pieces. The Sippican Children's Chorus will sing with the adult Chorus in the Britten presentation as well as perform other pieces, under the direction of Leslie Piper.

The Choral Society will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2015. Please visit our website at www.sippicanchoral.org.

Friday, December 6, at 8:00 PM, Grace Episcopal Church, County Street, New Bedford MA; Sunday, December 2, 2013 at 4:00 PM, Wickenden Chapel, Tabor Academy, Spring Street, Marion, MA

Tickets: Adult, \$12.00; Students, \$ 6.00. Available at: The Bookstall in Marion; Gail's Goodies & More, 58 Fairhaven Road (Rte 6), Mattapoissett; and the Symphony Music Shop, 94 State Road (Route 6), Dartmouth. Tickets also available at the door



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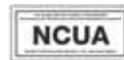
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Recipe of the Week

Cranberry-Orange Nut Bread

Preheat oven to 350°

Combine:

- 2 cups flour
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp salt

Stir in:

- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- 1 cup chopped cranberries

Beat together:

- 1 egg
- 3/4 cup orange juice
- 2 tbsp veg oil

Mix egg, orange juice and veg oil with dry ingredients. Pour into greased loaf pan, 9 1/2x5x3, and bake for 50 mins in 350 oven.

By Janice (Girard) Rose

To share a recipe with your neighbors
 Mail to 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719; fax to 508-991-5580; email to neighbnews@comcast.net

Cross Country results

Fairhaven's Bay Gammans came in 64th of 180 runners in the 2.9 mile with a time of 19:02 in the 11/16/13 Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association Cross Country

meet at Gardner Municipal Golf Course, Gardner, MA
 Only 2 girls in South Coast area competed Bishop Stang's Theresa Gallagher came in 68th with 19:09

Bicentennial souvenir booklets available

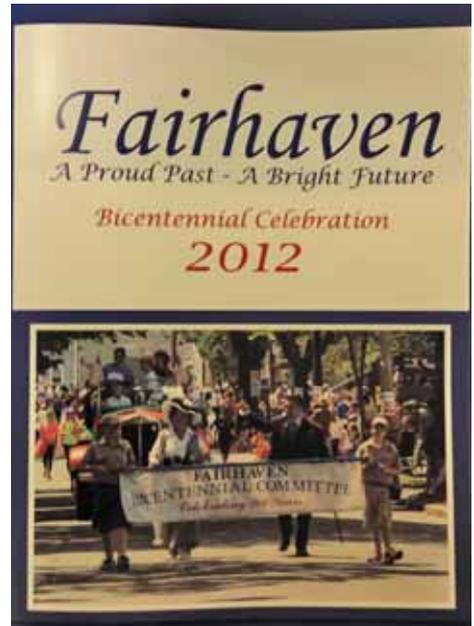
Press Release

The Fairhaven Bicentennial souvenir book is now available! With nearly 100 color photographs, the book covers all the Bicentennial events—the incorporation ceremony, fireworks, Maritime Day, the Moving Wall, the Grand Parade, and more. It lists all donors and includes some fun facts about Fairhaven in 2012.

It's a great keepsake of the fun filled year during Fairhaven's 200th Birthday.

The book is on sale at Mike & Wayne's Uniforms at 163 Huttleston Ave., Art on Center at Center & Main Streets, the Millicent Library, and Euro at 41 Center Street

Cost is \$10. It will also be available at Town Hall during the Old Time Holiday Weekend. For more information e-mail Wayne.Oliveira@Comcast.net



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Every Friday: Couto &
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Every Sun.: Bar Bingo, 8 p.m.

Sat., 11/23.: No Stress, 9 p.m.

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Charlie Wilson, 104 and counting

By Beth David
Editor

From the cavalry to the technology of World War II, that's what Charles Wilson, 104, can recall with surprising clarity. The resident of Our Lady's Haven in Fairhaven shared a bit of his past, some birthday cake and some apple pie with a roomful of relatives on Sunday, 11/17, to celebrate his 104th birthday.

Right by his side was PM Wilson, a relative by marriage who said her birthday was also on November 17. She would not, however, share her age with the group, and certainly not with a reporter.

Four generations of Wilsons were in the room, with Faro Bliss being the youngest at 17 months old.

Nephews, great nephews, nieces and great nephews surrounded Uncle Charlie on his special day. In addition to the traditional birthday cake, Mr. Wilson's party also included apple pie, at his request.

His secret to long life?

"Just try to be decent to everybody," said Mr. Wilson.

When asked about his work, Mr. Wilson mostly talked about his time in the US military, first at 16 years old in the Army's cavalry, then in the infantry, and then the Navy during WWII.

Mr. Wilson remembers hitchhiking to Boston to re-enlist for WWII because he had no gas in the car due to rationing.

He also remembers needing a note from his mother to join the cavalry at

16 years old.

His job in WWII was transporting personnel to ships and planes. He was a coxswain, the one who steers the boat.

Mr. Wilson was also a feather-weight boxer and loved to ride motorcycles. According to relatives he delivered the local newspaper when he was a youngster, and worked on the ferry to the islands. He held many different jobs, according to his nieces.

His wife, Doris, worked in the art department in the New Bedford school system. The couple had no children.

"He's loved by everybody here," said OLH activities director Maria Catanho.

Jeffrey Wilson's father Malcom was Charlie's nephew, but he was only 11 years younger than Charlie, so they were good friends.

He said Uncle Charlie's father was from Scotland ("that's where the red hair comes from") and his mother was French-Canadian, born in New Bedford.

Charlie had four sisters and two



Birthday cake is a necessity, but when you are 104 and you ask for apple pie, then apple pie it is. L-R: Our Lady's Haven activities director Maria Catanho and assistant Betty Costa present an apple pie to Charles Wilson on the occasion of his 104th birthday on Sunday, 11/17. Photo by Beth David. See it in color at www.NeighbNews.com

brothers, one who died when he was 11 years old, but it is unclear how he died.

Many of the cousins were at the party including Dawn Costakes and Anne Milholme.

"All the credit goes to the nursing home," said Ms. Costakes. "They put it on, we had nothing to do with it. Anne and I got cake and coffee. They did everything else. They put it on for him as their oldest resident."

Ms. Costakes said it was a "pretty good turnout."

"I hope the same thing can happen to me when I'm 104." ●●●



Celebrating with Great-Great-Uncle Charlie. LEFT: 17-month-old Faro Bliss and 104-year-old Charles Wilson wave "hello" to each other on the occasion of Mr. Wilson's 104th birthday party at Our Lady's Haven on Sunday, 11/17. Holding young Faro is his grandfather, Richard (Axel) Magnuson, who is the son of Mr. Wilson's sister. RIGHT: A young Charles Wilson in his U.S. Navy uniform from the 1940s, when Mr. Wilson served during World War II. Beth David photo. See it in color at www.NeighbNews.com

ConCom approves Brahmin, continues NSTAR again

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

Brahmin Leather got the go ahead from the Fairhaven Conservation Commission to install a temporary bridge to cross over to the old Standard Times property so employees could park their cars. The approval did not come easy, though, after several continued meetings and one last minor dispute with commission members over the wording of the special conditions.

The business at 77 Alden Road had run out of parking for its employees and originally sought to construct a bridge to connect the two properties, and pave over some historical wetlands for a new parking lot while replicating the wetlands on the other side of the property.

ConCom had a problem with that, and told Engineer Jon Keegan and Brahmin President Scott Martin back on 9/30 that they could not approve the work. Brahmin settled for a scaled-down, temporary solution to get employees through the winter without having to park in the snow until they can come up with a new plan that will spare the wetlands from being paved.

"We have been struggling desperately trying to comply with the terms...in order to finish the project so people can have a place to park," said Mr. Martin, who asked the commission specifically for some "expediency."

Neither ConCom nor the applicant seemed to be able to come up with the right wording for condition #6, which requires a notice of intent be filed within one year.

"Believe it or not," said ConCom Member Jay Simmons, acting chair, "we are doing what we can to allow you to move forward."

Mr. Martin, with his hands up in the air, said, "Right now my business is drowning. I can't afford to wait."

Commission Member Steve Pereira asked Mr. Martin to please not get too excited.

After minutes of finagling, both parties were satisfied with the language and the order of conditions for the temporary bridge was approved.

Later in the meeting, after receiving an enforcement order for putting a hot tub on a sand dune, Mario Gomes of 26 Cove Street finally

responded to the two enforcement orders issued back in August and June of this year.

Mr. Gomes convinced the commission to go for an on-site visit on 11/24 to survey what he had done, which Mr. Gomes maintained was the placement of "temporary" structures like a removable deck that can be disassembled, and the hot tub that is only placed on top of a wooden platform that can be moved.

"I didn't realize it was on a dune," said Mr. Gomes. "I just thought it was on the beach."

Mr. Rockwell told Mr. Gomes that if he did not want to file with ConCom for a permit, he should remove what is there and consult a professional for assistance.

Believe it or not, we
are doing what we can
to allow you to move
forward [ConCom
Member Jay Simmons,
acting chair]

"The whole property is a sand dune," said Mr. Rockwell.

Mr. Gomes was unaware that he was in violation of the Wetlands Protection Act and said he did not know he had to file with ConCom before performing any work.

Also at the meeting, commission members grappled with the holiday conundrum, debating over whether to schedule a meeting for 12/23 or 12/30, or just wait until January. No one seemed to know what to do as some members stated they would not be there on the 23rd, and others would be away the 30th. Mr. Pereira finally motioned not to schedule a meeting after 12/9 and let Conservation Agent Wayne Fostin look for "the next most logical date after that."

In another matter, the commission is considering creating a policy that would require applicants to re-advertise and re-notify abutters if the requests continue for longer than one month's time. An applicant would

have to re-file altogether if the applicant continues the matter past six months.

This would be a policy change, not a bylaw change, so it would not require town meeting approval.

Also at the meeting, Antonio and Valentina DaCunha received a Positive 3 (requiring a notice of intent) for their after-the-fact request for determination filing for unpermitted clearing and going beyond the scale of their previously approved plan while constructing their deck. They also constructed two stone walls that were unpermitted. The DaCunhas will have to file an NOI after the fact.

Other items on the agenda that were approved that evening:

- Karen Goodhue of 280 Bridge Street received a Positive 2b (wetlands boundary not confirmed, no work in area) and a Negative 2 (work not subject to Wetlands Protection Act) for a percolation test.
- Karen Goodhue of 345 Bridge Street received approval for a new septic system.
- Joseph Batista of 32 Nakata Avenue was approved for a new septic system.
- Ann Bojack of 18 Church Street approved for replacement of existing stone wall.
- Lee Castignetti of 26 Welcome Street was approved for construction of a single-family house. Hearings Continued for 12/9:
- Carl Gustafson of 7 Sippican Street with an on-site for 11/24
- Jose & Maria Garcia of Jenny Street with an on-site for 11/24
- Mary Vander Pol of Welcome Street with an on-site for 11/24
- Jose Valentim of 8 Windward Way
- Roger Deshaies of 10 Hacker Street
- Robert Ferreira of 6 Newton Street
- Six properties for NSTAR along Thompson, Doane, and Farmfield Streets
- Heiam Alsawalhi of Bella Vista Island

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Youth Basketball

Fairhaven Recreation Youth Basketball League. Cost: \$10. Age is determined as of 12/1/13.

Divisions will be as follows with sufficient numbers: Pee Wee (Co-Ed) Ages 6-8; Junior Ages (Co-Ed) 9-11; Senior (coed) Ages 12-14.

Open to all Members! Please bring 2 proofs of residency and a copy of child's birth certificate to registration. Information on new evaluation schedule available at registration.

Attention!!!

Calling all basketball enthusiasts! We are looking for motivated, committed individuals to volunteer as basketball coaches for this league. We are also in need of officials for the league, pay is roughly \$13 per game. For more information and to fill out a volunteer application please call or stop by the Recreation Center during league registration hours

Kool Kids

Thanksgiving Week

Fairhaven Recreation is here to help with a half day program. Children can come to the rec after school and have homework time, snack and enjoy a variety of sports and games. Sign up for 1, 2 or even all 3 days. Have any questions? Give us a call 508-993-9269. Fairhaven Rec staff will offer supervised walks to our program for Wood school students. One day with membership \$25.00 sibling \$20.00 Two days with membership \$45.00 sibling \$42.00 All three with membership \$60.00 sibling \$54.00 please add \$5.00 per children with no membership card program runs 12 noon to 5:30 p.m **No drop ins, must be pre-registered Nov 25th, 26th and 27th**

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Mall Trips

11/27: Warwick Mall

Entertainment

EVERY THURSDAY, 12:30-2:30 p.m., \$2 donation. Featuring Ray J and the OTs on alternating weeks

Special Activities

Thanksgiving Dinner

The Fairhaven Council on Aging will be hosting a Thanksgiving Dinner on **Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28**, for any Fairhaven seniors who will be alone for Thanksgiving this year. A turkey dinner, with all the fixings and wonderful desserts will be served at 12 noon. Transportation can be arranged. If you would like to join us, **please call the Fairhaven COA by Nov. 21** to sign up at 508-979-4029.

Medicare Open Enrollment

If you have Medicare, sometime during the month of September, you received important information from your Prescription Drug Plan, your Medicare Health Plan and/or Prescription Advantage (if you are a member). Please save all your letters and do not ignore any letters from your plans.

During the annual **Medicare Open Enrollment, (Oct. 15-Dec. 7)**, you will have a chance to change your coverage for next year. State-certified SHINE (Medicare) Counselors can help you to understand your plan changes as well as any other options you may have.

ASAP bring in or mail a list of your medications with the dosage, your name and telephone number or pick

up a form at the senior center. When the senior center receives your list of medications an appointment will be made with a SHINE counselor.

Lost a Loved One?

The butterfly is a sign of new life ... a sign of hope. Learn how the butterfly effect got one mother to cope with the loss of a beloved daughter. Listen to her story then share yours with us if you'd like.

We can get through this holiday season together. You are not alone. Please call Senior Center to sign up, 508-979-4029. **Wed. Dec. 11 6:00 p.m.**

Fuel Assistance

If you need fuel assistance, call 508-979-4029 for an appointment.

Senior Work Off Program

There are still a few openings in the work off program for seniors who are interested in working in a town department in exchange for a credit of \$500.00 on your property taxes. Call the Sr. Center and ask for Phyllis.

Volunteers needed

The Fairhaven Senior Center needs a variety of volunteers. Contact Anne Silvia, 508-979-4029.

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; A Grant is available for heating your home; Grocery Shopping; LGBT Supper Club; 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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Southern Mass Credit Union Sponsors Veterans' Luncheon

Press Release

Southern Mass Credit Union, Fairhaven, sponsored a Veterans' Luncheon at the Fairhaven Council on Aging on November 6th and 7th. SMCU is honored to have sponsored this event for the past eight years for local veterans. Approximately 212 veterans and guests enjoyed a hot meal served by Southern Mass employees and board members.

Veterans attending this year's luncheon served in various divisions of the U. S. Armed Forces including Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Air Force, Merchant Marines and National Guard. Also attending the event were Fairhaven Selectmen Charles Murphy, Sr., Robert Espindola and Geoffrey Haworth, as well as members of the Fairhaven Council on Aging.

Anne Silvia, Director of the COA, stated during the luncheon ceremony, "On behalf of the COA, I would like to thank the Southern Mass Credit Union board members and employees for volunteering to serve lunch to our local heroes in honor of their sacrifice and dedication for our nation."

Daniel Waltz, SMCU President and CEO, commented, "It is a privilege to provide a free meal for local veterans and their guests. We thank the

Veterans for their service to our country and look forward to participating in this event again next year."

Southern Mass servers included board members David Darmofal, Chairman, Richard Ellis, Clerk Treasurer, Alfred Peccini, 3rd Vice Chairman and employees Daniel Waltz, President/CEO, Jo-Ann Rose, V.P. Corporate Services and Human Resources, Ricky Pimental, Collections Manager, Marian LaMarra, Support Services Manager, Debra Perrin, Marketing Manager, Lucy Machado, Consumer Real Estate Loan Program Manager/Assistant Member Service Manager and Rose M. Ferreira, School Savings/Youth/School Branch Manager.

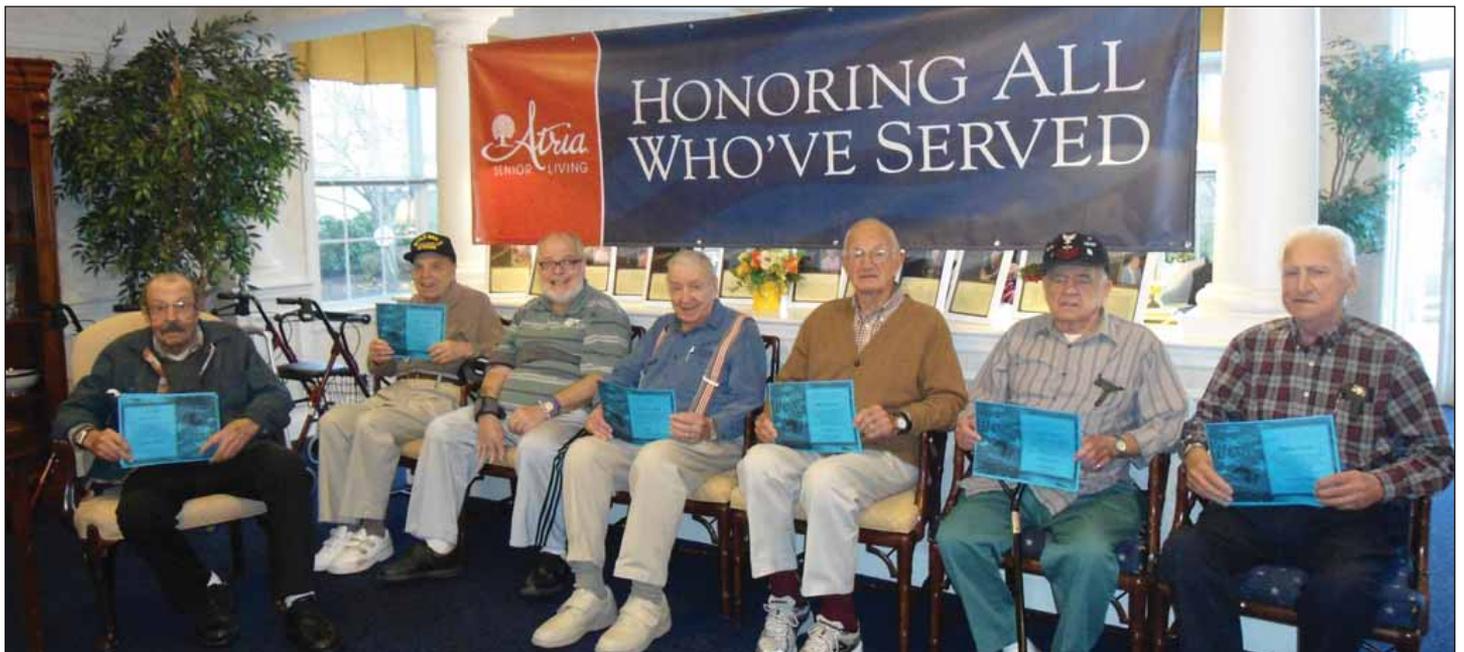
Southern Mass Credit Union, established in 1922, is headquartered at 123 Alden Road in Fairhaven with a branch office at 2926 Acushnet



ABOVE, L-R: Serving lunch to veterans at the Fairhaven Council on Aging are Southern Mass Credit Union employees Marian LaMarra and Lucy Machado. SMCU sponsored the luncheon that served more than 200 veterans and their guests on November 6th & 7th at the Senior Center in Fairhaven. Submitted photo. See it in color at www.NeighbNews.com

Avenue in New Bedford, and approximately \$192 million in assets and 10,377 members. SMCU offers a variety of competitive savings, checking, auto loans, mortgage loans and equity lines of credit to everyone who lives, works or attends school in Bristol, Barnstable and Plymouth counties. For more information on SMCU services or products please call 508-994-9971. SMCU is one of the strongest and oldest credit unions in Massachusetts.

Atria honors its veteran residents



Atria Senior Living in Fairhaven honored their residents who are veterans this week in commemoration of Veterans Day. L-R: L to R Robert Mello, Atria Greeter Robin Holmes, Rene Lionel Rochefort, Howard Sample, Richard Daniels, Eugene Cabral, Eugene Hodson, Not in Photo, Joseph Arsenault, Terrence Farrell. Submitted photo by: Wendy Carr-Cabral. See it in color at www.NeighbNews.com

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FinCom funds buildings for now, Osuch & Roderiques play nice

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

Fairhaven Finance Committee Chairperson John Roderiques was adamant on 11/14 that the committee would not be a stand-in for Town Meeting as the Oxford and Rogers Schools remain vacant, in need of winterization and security, and with no determined use for the future.

A reserve fund transfer request for \$22,000 brought the committee together, a couple months before budget season swings back around, to cover the "extraordinary and unforeseen circumstances" of winterizing and providing security for the two empty schools.

Executive Secretary to the Selectboard Jeffrey Osuch explained that the town accountant purposefully segregated from the budget maintenance expenses for the old school and assigned no specific line item in the budget in the wake of the School Committee declaring the two schools as surplus and transferring them to the Selectboard on 10/3.

"Who am I to argue with the town accountant? Not that I haven't before," said Mr. Roderiques, calling the town accountant "the real power of the town."

The \$22,000 was to cover the maintenance expenses for a total of nine months, but Mr. Roderiques unilaterally decided that the committee would only provide enough funding for three months, just enough to cover things until a tentative special town meeting in January or February.

"(FinCom) is not meant to sub-

stitute Town Meeting," said Mr. Roderiques. Somebody should have foreseen this, he added, but also acknowledged that it as a unique situation.

"If we do nothing relative to the winterization of these buildings, the pipes are going to freeze before the next town meeting," he said, as he calculated the amount for the reserve fund transfer for three months only, totaling \$12,600.

Mr. Osuch told Mr. Roderiques that the expenses will date back to

**"Crow away now,"
Mr. Roderiques told
Mr. Osuch, "before
we're at each other's
throats soon enough."**

October, leaving only until the end of December funded.

"We all pay our bills thirty days behind," Mr. Roderiques said. "It ain't gonna kill ya," he told Mr. Osuch.

The committee moved on to the draft of the annual pre-budget season letter the committee sends out to department heads.

In his customary gloom-and-doom rhetoric, Mr. Roderiques peppered his talk about a projected \$400,000 deficit in the FY15 budget with phrases like "down the tubes,"

"beating horses," and "sinking the ship."

He took a long sip from his half empty soda and said, "You can't hold out hope anymore. Hope is no longer realistic."

The only thing left to cut out of the budget is salaries.

Mr. Roderiques made the switch from the "Big Gulp" to the recyclable "Chug Jug" from Cumberland Farms, which often serves as a gauge of how much longer the meetings will last relative to the volume of soda remaining.

His cup suddenly half full, Mr. Roderiques proudly spoke of how Fairhaven has weathered the storm since "the Great Recession" began, and even told Mr. Osuch he deserved some of the credit.

"We haven't even touched our stabilization fund and managed to put some, not enough, but some away," said Mr. Roderiques, despite Fairhaven's bleak demographics.

Mr. Osuch reveled over the low 3.08% interest rate the Town secured for the new Wood School loan. He had anticipated between 3.25% and 3.5% originally, saying that it was "no small feat" obtaining the lower rate.

"Crow away now," Mr. Roderiques told Mr. Osuch, "before we're at each other's throats soon enough."

Mr. Roderiques said he was proud of the "wonderful things" Fairhavenites enjoy as far as amenities, daring anyone to compare Fairhaven's snow plowing to surrounding towns.

"I'm not sure how we're going to continue to go on like this," he stated.

BOH: cont'd from page 3

resident Susan Powers.

Ms. Lopes replied, "There is no reason to have a public hearing...and there is nothing new that anybody can offer this board at this time."

Dawn Devlin argued with Mr. DeTerra as the board attempted to shift gears and turn to other issues on the agenda.

Friends of Fairhaven Member Dan Freitas lost his patience and started shushing members of Windwise.

Carolyn Young swore that, since the board was disrupting her life, she would disrupt their meeting, which she did while speaking out loudly over Health Agent Pat Fowle as she tried to address the board in other matters.

Fairhaven Curbside Leaf Collection Nov. 5 - Nov. 30

<i>Regular</i>	<i>Leaf</i>
<i>Rubbish Day</i>	<i>Collection</i>
Monday	Tuesday
Tuesday	Wednesday
Wednesday	Thursday
Thursday	Friday

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Ramp's return is no small feat



The floating ramp at Hoppy's Landing was returned to the water on Thursday, 11/7 after being on dry land for maintenance for three days. Maintenance and repairs included replacing some rotten boards, replacing all bumpers, the annual power-washing, and installing two bumper wheels on the outside corners. TOP: a bucket loader pushed the floating ramp at Hoppy's Landing down the ramp to be refloated. ABOVE RIGHT: Scuba diver Jim Rocha waits for his turn. The floating ramp needs to be secured with chains underwater. ABOVE RIGHT: Shellfish Warden/Assistant Harbormaster Timothy Cox directs the bucket loader. Photos by ML Baron. See them in color at www.NeighbNews.com

EFS food drive breaks record



Students at East Fairhaven School met this year's food drive challenge with great vigor, turning in a record 3,299 items that were taken to the Shepherd's Food Pantry on 11/15. Each grade competed for bragging rights and a secret prize. According to principal Wendy Williams, it was such a "tight race" that school officials decided to award prizes to both the second and third place classes, too, giving all those students a free Homework Pass. According to Ms. Williams, the winning class was Mr. Dempsey's Grade 4 with 563 items. Those students "will get to spend an afternoon taking a break from their studies and will be watching a fun movie," wrote Ms. Williams in an email. Mrs. Castello's Grade 3 (454 items) and Mrs. Mattos's Grade 5 (438 items) came in second and third. ABOVE: The 3,299 items collected by students at East Fairhaven School await transport to the Shepherd's Food Pantry. Submitted photo.



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Coakley files amicus brief in FEMA maps suit

Press Release

In support of a Mississippi lawsuit that alleges the new Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood rates are arbitrary and unlawful, Mass. Attorney General Martha Coakley has filed an amicus brief in federal court arguing that FEMA failed to collect accurate data before rolling out its new rates.

"These new rates will devastate many families and businesses throughout Massachusetts. The federal government should delay these changes until FEMA has followed all the steps required by law," AG Coakley said. "In setting these new flood insurance rates, FEMA not only failed to evaluate their economic impact, but also failed to gather all the data required to ensure the new rates are accurate."

The brief, filed in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi, points out that the sudden jumps in flood insurance costs will increase the risk of a new wave of foreclosures, as struggling homeowners are hit with yet another significant mortgage-related cost. In addition to failing to weigh the known consumer harm, the brief says that "FEMA ignored the opportunity to use tools provided by Congress," and has engaged

in "bureaucratic ostrich headedness."

In addition, the AG's brief explains that FEMA has great leeway regarding when and how they set rates under the new law. Nonetheless, "FEMA has opted to plow forward instead of waiting to make more informed decisions," according to the brief. FEMA is also pushing out these rates ahead of the required affordability study. The brief urges the court to take action to prevent the "potentially irreversible consequences of arbitrary action by FEMA."

In response to the devastating impact of the new federal policy on flood insurance, AG Coakley has already taken several steps to assist homeowners. Last month, AG Coakley and House Speaker Robert DeLeo filed state legislation that would cap the amount of flood insurance mortgage lenders may require of homeowners.

The proposed legislation, An Act Relative to Flood Insurance, would prohibit creditors from requiring homeowners to purchase flood insurance in an amount that exceeds the outstanding balance of their mortgage, requires coverage for contents, or includes a deductible of less than \$5,000. Tying the amount of coverage to the

outstanding mortgage balance, instead of the replacement value of the home, would lower premiums for the homeowners impacted by the new change. Homeowners would still have the option of purchasing a greater amount of insurance.

In addition, AG Coakley has called for a delay in the implementation of flood insurance hikes under the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012. In a letter to Congress sent last month, AG Coakley requested that the new bill be delayed until FEMA complies with Congress' mandate to undertake an affordability review and a peer review of the new flood zone maps.

Insurance rates under redrawn flood maps will not only increase for those already in the flood plain, but many homeowners and small businesses will be required to buy flood insurance for the first time. Some are now required to purchase flood insurance at costs of \$10,000 and up. By eliminating various federal subsidies in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and requiring the redrawing and expansion of flood zone maps, Biggert-Waters will pose harsh economic consequences for many homeowners and small businesses in Massachusetts and across the country.



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ART SALE
Tricia Caron, Fairhaven oil painter, is having a sale on the porch of Flour Girls, 230 Huttleston Ave. (across from Stop&Shop). **Sat., 11/30, from 9-3.** Rain date 12/14. TriciaCaronArt.com

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Fairhaven Meetings

- Board of Appeals**
Tues., 12/3, Town Hall, 6 p.m.
- Board of Public Works**
Mon., 12/2, Arsene St., 6 p.m.
- Community Preservation**
Thurs., 12/19, Town Hall, 6 p.m.
- Conservation Commission**
Mon., 12/9, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Government Study Comm**
Thurs., 12/5, Town Hall, 6 p.m.
- Planning Board**
Tues., 11/26 Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- School Committee**
Wed., 12/11, Media Ctr., 6:30 p.m.
- Selectboard**
Mon., 12/2, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Acushnet Meetings**
- Board of Assessors**
Wed., 12/11, Town Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- Conservation Commission**
Tues., 11/26, Town Hall, 7 p.m.
- Selectboard**
Mon., 12/2, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	Nov. 2013	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.	LOW a.m.	LOW p.m.
Thursday	21	0958	2229	0250	1537
Friday	22	1038	2313	0333	1616
Saturday	23	1119	2359	0417	1659
Sunday	24	---	1203	0506	1749
Monday	25	0046	1250	0604	1849
Tuesday	26	0134	1342	0716	1954
Wednesday	27	0226	1438	0830	2049
Thursday	28	0320	1537	0931	2135
Friday	29	0415	1635	1022	2219*
Saturday	30	0508	1729	1111*	2304*

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

Public Hearings/Legal Notices

Board of Appeals

The Fairhaven Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 3, 2013, at 6:00 PM in the Town Hall to consider the following petitions:

1. **Petitioner: William Ashworth,** RE: 8 Mina Street, Plat 37A, Lots 487, Book 7708 and Page 007; **Administrative Appeal:** Administrative Appeal of the issuance of a building permit for a two-car garage at 8 Mina Street.
2. **Petitioner: Bruce Medeiros,** RE: 16 Narragansett Boulevard, Plat 30A, Lots 101, 102, 103, Certificate #23138; **198-18:** Short 20' of the required 100' frontage on lots 101, 102 and 103 in a RA District.

Peter DeTerra, Chairman

FAIRHAVEN PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Fairhaven Planning Board will conduct a Public Hearing at **6:30 P.M. on December 10, 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 applications. 1) The applicant, *BlueWave Capital, LLC*, is requesting a Special Permit to build a 1-megawatt solar photovoltaic energy facility. The location is 211 Mill Road, Map 38, Lot 14.; 2) The applicant, the *Fairhaven Planning Board*, is proposing to amend the Zoning Bylaw.

The proposal is to add a new Chapter 198, Section 29.7-Medical Marijuana Facilities, revise Ch. 198.16-Use Schedule and Ch. 198.33-Definitions. The Public is encouraged to attend or submit written comments. The proposed bylaw is available on the Town's Web Site: www.fairhaven-ma.gov/pages/Fairhaven_MA_Planning/index.

Copies of the applications are 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, Ext. 9.

Wayne Hayward, Chairman of the Planning Board

Conservation Commission Public Hearings

The Fairhaven Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on December 09, 2013 at 6:30 P.M. In the Fairhaven Town Hall, Purpose is for the Request for Determination of the following matters as required by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 131 Section 40 as amended.

- Notice of Intent Applicant Joseph Luiz Location 32 Welcome Street Plot 31B Lot 1F Purpose construct single family dwelling within 100' buffer zone to BVW.

*Respectfully Submitted
Fairhaven Conservation Commission*

I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back.

Maya Angelou

Acushnet schedules town meeting to dissolve BPW

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

There will be a Special Town Meeting in Acushnet on December 9 at 7 p.m. with an article to change the town charter to dissolve the Board of Public Works, and restore control over water, sewer, and the Department of Public Works to the Selectboard.

The board received 271 verified signatures petitioning for the Special Town Meeting at its meeting on 11/18, and set the date with the three sitting members of the BPW in attendance, minutes after having discussed filling the two vacancies on the board, which may or may not be a moot point after December 9.

BPW Member Philip Melo said he would prefer an investigation of the BPW, as previously proposed by Selectperson Kevin Gaspar. Mr. Melo suggested an investigation combing the last ten years when "some things happened that just weren't right."

"We're (the current BPW) getting the black eye from something that happened a long time ago," said Mr. Melo.

Chairperson Leslie Dakin said an investigation was a separate issue from the Special TM.

"This train has left the station," said Mr. Dakin. "We need to call a Special Town Meeting...it's the will of the people."

The board adopted a new policy of using reverse 911 to inform residents of all future town meetings, and will utilize signs at various points in the town to further get the word out.

Two people expressed interest in the two vacant seats on the BPW, but both were rejected due to what Selectperson David Wojnar called a "sloppy process."

Mr. Wojnar's concern was the informality of the expressions of

interest. Matt Goulet, a former BPW member, sent in a "one-sentence email" while Paul Pelletier, a former Finance Committee member, phoned-in his interest on 11/14, one day after the deadline for letters of interest.

"We're talking about a board that's dealing with some major issues," said Mr. Wojnar, adding that the manners of expressing interest in sitting on the BPW "spoke volumes."

"We need an airtight process," continued Mr. Wojnar. He called for re-opening the recruitment window for the positions and adopting a policy that is "hard and fast."

The board looked to BPW Chairperson Jeffrey Schuster for his opinion which he refused to give.

We're (the current BPW)
getting the black eye from
something that happened
a long time ago
[BPW member Phil Melo]

"My input doesn't matter," said Mr. Schuster. "You have your process."

Mr. Melo told the board he was in favor of both candidates at this point.

"We just need two more guys," said Mr. Melo. "I say we fill it as soon as possible."

Mr. Gaspar said it all came down to technicalities, and motioned to table the matter and set a new deadline for interested parties to express interest in the two vacancies.

Mr. Schuster suggested that the Selectboard did not provide specific criteria for the letters of interest, and they had accepted emails in the past.

He added that at least Mr. Pelletier's email was submitted before the deadline. This later prompted the Selectboard to vote to adopt a stricter policy for letters of interest.

Phone calls will not be accepted, but "well thought-out" emails and letters will be.

The deadline

for accepting BPW letters of interest is 11/27 by 11:30 a.m. due to the ensuing holiday.

In another matter, the Selectboard voted to appeal to Land Court an 8/15 Zoning Board of Appeals decision to grant a variance to Joseph Botelho for Botelho Family Realty Trust on the basis that Mr. Botelho created the hardship himself.

The Planning Board had formerly allowed Mr. Botelho to divide his 0 Village Avenue lot into two lots, creating a non-conforming lot short 36 feet of the minimum 100-foot rear footage.

The ZBA granted the variance to build on the lot after Building Inspector James Marot denied the building permit. The ZBA grants variances to alleviate hardships, but the Selectboard said Mr. Botelho created his own hardship when he divided the two lots and said they want the decision overturned.

The Board of Assessors released \$372,000 from the overlay account, and Selectboard members discussed either putting the money toward next year's fiscal budget to offset the 2.5% tax increase allowed by Proposition 2½, or put the money directly toward the cost of the police station project.

Mr. Wojnar turned to the Finance Department to help assess which option, not increasing the tax levy or putting the money toward the police project, would be better for the Town.

"It will save taxpayers either way," said Mr. Dakin.

The annual audit performed by Powers & Sullivan went well, according to Michael Nelligan. He said everything was in good order, but told the Selectboard that they should consider a new investment strategy and adopt a trust fund in order to more aggressively pay off unfunded liabilities, most notably Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) like retiree health and life insurance.

Finance Director Cathy Doane said she will analyze adopting an OPEB trust fund and possibly put it before Town Meeting in the spring.

Also at the meeting, the board voted to table a letter from the Buzzards Bay Coalition asking for Acushnet's support for an on-going oil spill prevention program in New Bedford Harbor because board members had more questions about a possible future financial cost to the Town.

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Guided Hike by The Fairhaven-Acushnet Land Preservation Trust

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All are invited and welcome to come and get to know some of the properties that are preserved by the FALPT and available for public hiking.

The Fairhaven Acushnet Land Preservation Trust will hold a guided hike of the SHIPYARD FARM and WINSEGANSETT HEIGHTS/MARSHES PROPERTIES on **Saturday November 23, 2013**. This hike will be approximately 2 hours of easy walking starting at 10:00 a.m. It is possible to do half the hike.

These properties (225 acres) contain many diverse ecological areas including tidal flats, salt marsh, upland maritime forest, wooded swamp and open fields. John Darwin, President of the FALPT, will talk about the history of these properties, while Ken Lipman can speak about how the trails were created.

Meet at the Shipyard Farm sign on the east side of Sconticut Neck Road, five miles south of Huttleston Ave. There is ample parking along the side of the road.

The Fairhaven Acushnet Land Preservation Trust is a non-profit organization. As such, it depends on membership fees to function. For more information, contact John Darwin at (508) 667-1040, or visit our website at www.falpt.org.

Fairhaven

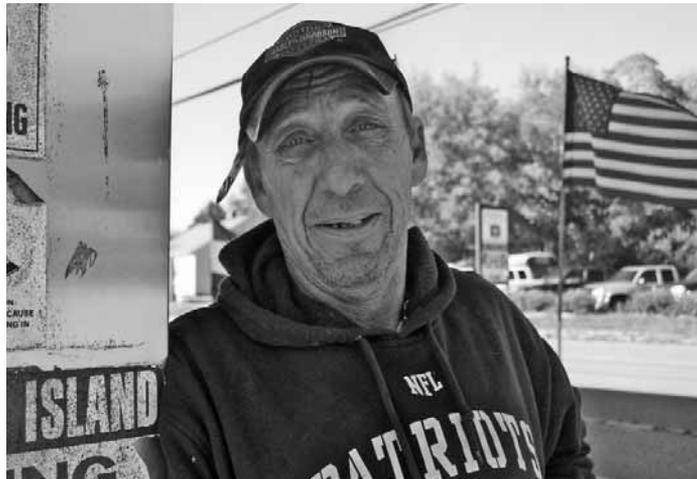
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