



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 46 • December 5, 2013

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

Fairhaven goes down to a strong DHS



Fairhaven High School's Kross Negalha maneuvers past Dartmouth High School's defenders for the only FHS touchdown of the game on Thanksgiving Day at Fairhaven High School stadium. The Blue Devils lost to a strong DHS 26-6, but not before putting up a good fight in the first half. *Photo by Beth David. See page 16 for story and more photos. Visit us at www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews to see more photos of this and other events. Individual photos are available for purchase.*



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From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.



Beth David, Publisher

Fairhaven lost one of its best this week. Myra Lopes, author, history lover, mother and grandmother, community organizer, volunteer with a passion for all things Fairhaven, died on November 30 at the age of 82. She had been pretty sick lately, but her mind was always going.

A few people asked me about her ailments, and although I managed to visit her sort-of regularly (well, kind of), I can't tell you about that. I know she had trouble breathing sometimes. How's that for an inquisitive reporter?

The thing is, Myra didn't want to talk about her ailments and all the things she couldn't do anymore. She wanted to talk about the things she could do. She was rummaging through boxes and boxes of old paper: letters, pictures, news clippings, notes, cards, postcards...you name it. She was reading them, organizing them and sending them to people she thought might enjoy having them.

That was Myra.

When I first self-published my book, I called Myra. Don't ask me how I first met her. I think it was to do a story on her latest book back when I was freelancing for the conglomerate on the other side of the river (read: a long time ago).

Anyway, I called Myra when it was my turn, and she instantly, without a second's hesitation, started to tell me how to market my book. She didn't hold anything back. Nothing. Nada. Zilch. Zero. She gave me the benefit of all her experience, every single bit, every tip or idea she used or could think of.

She was more excited than I was that I had a book under my belt. I could almost feel her extending her arms out through the phone to give me a hug.

That was Myra.

When I started this weekly sheet, she would call occasionally to make suggestions. She didn't like that I was publishing the police logs that first year. "It doesn't look good for the town," she would say.

That was Myra.

I told her it wasn't my job to make the town look good...or bad. It was just my job to report the news. Surely, she insisted, there was a way to do both. That was Myra.

I made the mistake of calling Henry Huttleston Rogers a Robber Baron once. WHOOOEEEE...Ouch, that hurt. Never, ever, ever, say anything bad about HHR, the man who built her beloved high school.

Watch what you say about the high school, too.

As I type, I keep thinking I should take out what I just wrote about HHR. I swear I can see Myra's face tsk-tsking at me and telling me it isn't fair because she can't fight back...and neither can he.

It broke her heart to see the political splits the town has suffered lately over the closing of the Rogers School and the wind turbines. Not that it would stop her from voicing her opinion. She wouldn't go that far. She just wanted to keep it civil, because it "doesn't look good for the town", when people snipe like that in public. In private, well, that's private, right?

That was Myra.

May you rest in peace, Old Friend.

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Myra Lopes, Fairhaven author, teacher, volunteer, dies at 82

By Beth David
Editor

Fairhaven lost one of its most active members of the community on November 30 with the death of Myra Lopes: author, teacher, history lover, volunteer, and passionate lover of the town of Fairhaven.

The author of 23 books, Ms. Lopes wrote mostly about Fairhaven's history and children's books on a variety of topics. A graduate of Bridgewater Teachers College in 1954, Ms. Lopes ran a private kindergarten for 16 years.

A true cheerleader for the town of Fairhaven, Ms. Lopes instilled the importance of community service in her five children and her grandchildren, famously recruiting them and all their friends to organize Fairhaven's Homecoming Day Fair. The vendor fair, featuring 175 craft booths, was run by her son Curtis, who died tragically at a young age. Myra and Curt took over the fair and ran it for more than 30 years, a role they only gave up a few years ago as Myra's health declined.

Known as a kind and giving soul with a strong will, Ms. Lopes would fully jump into any task she took on.

"What Myra did for the children of Fairhaven makes her not only a hero of Fairhaven, but a person who has changed so many lives," said Select-board chairperson Charles Murphy, who served with Myra in the Rotary Club and on many committees and in many organizations.

"When you had a conversation with Myra, she was totally present. She was invested in everything that

person was saying to her," said Mr. Murphy. "Even though we mourn the loss of Myra Lopes, I can't imagine what our town would be like if we never had her."

Myra self-published all her books, using local printers and artists, and enjoyed selling them at the Homecoming Day Fair at her booth, "Myra's Cool Books."

She was a mainstay at the guest reader days at the elementary schools, and never gave up a chance to educate children on the history of Fairhaven.

A prolific article writer, Myra also contributed often to local newspapers, especially *The Advocate*, for many years. She even wrote a book titled "Between These Pages," reprinting many of her articles from over the years.

Her long history of community service earned her numerous awards both locally and nationally, but it was her family that caused her to burst with pride. Myra made a point of knowing what was happening with eight grandchildren and their parents. She was the undisputed matriarch of a close family whose members are also very involved in local community events.

Her obituary reads: She was known for her love of family, love of town, genuine kindness and a giving heart.

A quick perusal of her books bears that out. She wrote about Fairhaven's history, the gifts of Henry Huttleston Rogers to the town, as well as very personal books. She wrote about her father's rescue by a Russian ship; a cow named Causy swimming across

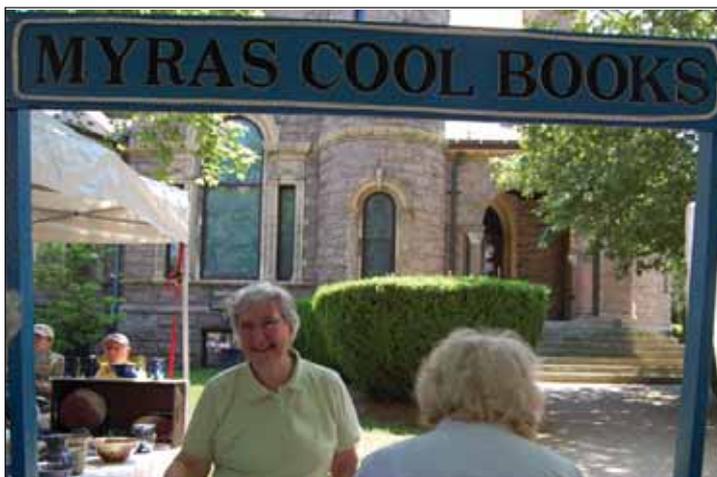


the Causeway; her family's very personal response to the 911 attacks, including some history for children; a book on stonewalls in Fairhaven; and books about HHR and his friendship with Mark Twain and their imprint on Fairhaven. She even wrote about her own heart attack and how it affected her. (<http://myralopes.tripod.com/>)

Myra died at home surrounded by family after a time of declining health as she battled pulmonary fibrosis the last couple of years.

She is survived by her husband of 58 years, Curtis, four children, and six grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

Arrangements were by Saunders-Dwyer Funeral Home in New Bedford. Funeral was scheduled for Thursday, 12/5 at St. Joseph's Church in Fairhaven, with burial at Riverside Cemetery. Visit www.saundersdwyer.com for guestbook.



TOP: Myra Lopes on February 25, 2012, in her role as history lover and educator speaking at the Bicentennial celebration's reenactment of the town's incorporation ceremony. ABOVE LEFT: Myra at her book booth during the Homecoming Day Fair on June 27, 2009. ABOVE RIGHT: Ms. Lopes and her husband Curt at Town Meeting on May 7, 2011. *Neighb News file photos by Beth David.*

Selectboard hires Animal Control Officer

By Beth David

Editor

The Fairhaven Selectboard chose Fairhaven resident Terry Cripps to be the town's new Animal Control Officer, despite glowing reviews on acting ACO Kelly Massey's performance over the last few weeks.

Mr. Cripps, a veteran and former corrections officer with the Bristol County Sheriff's Department, edged out the two other finalists and was voted in unanimously.

He stressed that he lives very close to the animal shelter, had 13 years as a CO, and has volunteered at the shelter regularly for two years.

Married, with two children in Fairhaven Schools, Mr. Cripps said his answer to stressful situations is to counteract them with positive influences.

When asked if he would be in it for the long haul, Mr. Cripps answered, "I planted roots here."

He said he loved working at the shelter and noted the saying that if you enjoy your work, you'll never work a day in your life.

What he lacks in knowledge of animal control regulations and on-the-road skills, he will learn quickly, promised Mr. Cripps, saying he was a "quick learner."

The other two finalists were Cassandra Thayer of Plymouth. Board members were concerned that she lived too far away for emergencies. Although she said she was willing to relocate, there is no legal requirement for her to do so.

Ms. Massey's extensive experience as an assistant ACO in Mattapoisett, working alongside her mother, was not enough to push her past Mr. Cripps, although selectboard members did say that all three candidates would be good choices.

After hiring Mr. Cripps and having him agree on the salary of \$16.82/hour, the board changed the position to salaried job, punching in and out at the police station. The change does not result in a change in pay, just in how it is calculated.

In another matter, the board met with attorney Joe Michaud representing the owners of a house on Adams Street that is affected by a change in parking rules voted on by the board. After the reconstruction of the corner due to the state's work on Route 6, the parking was further

restricted, resulting in difficulty for the residents.

Mr. Michaud said the owners do not necessarily want to change the on-street parking situation, but would like to widen their driveway to accommodate the vehicle they used to leave on the street.

The board suggested that the homeowner go to the Board of Public Works to request a wider driveway. Since there is no longer parking there, it should be approved because a wider driveway opening would not take away any on-street spots.

The board also held a public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant program.

Planning and Economic Development Director Bill Roth told the board that the evaluation showed that the Anthony School target area does

When asked if he would be in it for the long haul, Mr. Cripps answered, "I planted roots here."

qualify for the program, mostly due to the presumed presence of lead in the old buildings.

The program uses grant money to improve infrastructure and certain qualifying private properties in designated target areas.

In this round the town will seek funds for two areas, designated as the North Fairhaven area, defined as the area immediately north of Route 195; and the Anthony School area, which is the area just south of 195.

The board also made a decision, again, on selling the Staffon property at 124 Alden Road at auction. The board had decided to sell it with two other properties, but then decided to hold it back at the urging of Selectboard member Bob Espindola. He said it was a valuable piece of property and felt it would be worth more if they waited, especially if the overlay district for Registered Marijuana Dispensaries goes through.

Mr. Espindola also said that the BPW wants it for recycling and that the Fire Chief had his eye on it for a

new public safety building.

Selectboard chair Charles Murphy and board member Geoffrey Haworth disagreed.

It might be worth more, but it might worth less, said Mr. Haworth.

Mr. Murphy said there were plenty of other options for both a recycling center and a new fire/police building.

The board opened the meeting with a moment of silence acknowledging the death of author Myra Lopes on November 30, a well-known resident who volunteered on numerous committees for decades in the town.

"Myra is someone we all have a story about," said Selectboard chairperson Charles Murphy.

"She was a very special person who touched a lot of people," said board member Bob Espindola.

Board member Geoffrey Haworth said she was "very well respected" and noted that she was very instrumental in the Fairhaven Improvement Association and as chairperson of the annual Homecoming Fair.

"She meant a lot to the town," said Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch.

Selectboard office manager Anne Kakley was also asked to weigh in, saying that Myra said Anne "met with her approval," and it was a welcome endorsement.

The board also announced the unexpected death of James Oliver on 11/8, a sitting member of the Fairhaven Housing Authority. Mr. Oliver, who lived in housing and used two crutches to walk, was remembered by Mr. Haworth as "extremely dedicated to the Housing Authority."

Mr. Haworth said he encountered Mr. Oliver throughout the last campaign and that he had a lot of respect for Mr. Oliver, who "overcame his physical challenges."

The board is accepting letters to fill the vacancy, which will be filled by a vote of both the Selectboard and the FHA at a joint meeting.

The board held off on a vote implementing online permitting until the board can agree on some details of the project. At issue is the 3% processing fee for online use that will also be assessed to people who go in person to town hall. Mr. Espindola said it was essential for all the permits to go into the online system, even if initiated at town hall in order

SELECT: cont'd on page 21

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Howe Allen Realty
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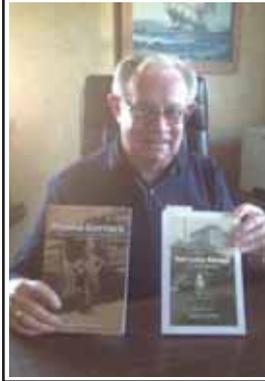


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MarianneLMT@gmail.com

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Mystery novels for the holidays



Clement R Beaulieu of Sciticut Neck, Fairhaven, announces the publishing of his second historical mystery novel, *Round Corners*.

His first mystery novel, *Bad Lucky Number*, published in 2011, is set in the mill city of New Bedford, circa 1930, during Prohibition and the Great Depression. The newly released *Round Corners* follows some of the same characters ten years later, circa 1940, and the era of World War II.

Order direct at 508-992-4123 or CLEMCTP@COMCAST.NET to receive personalized autographed copies. Also available at Baker Books in New Bedford and Partners Village Store in Westport.



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December Calendar of Events

Saturday, December 7th - Fall River Christmas Parade
Sunday, December 8th - Make Your Own Ornaments 12p-4p.
Saturday, December 14th - Pictures with Santa! Wine Tasting and Decorate your own Gingerbread Men 11a-4p
Sunday, December 15th - Decorate your own Gingerbread House 11:30a-12:30p and 1:30p-2:30p. Please sign your child up to reserve a space! 10 children per session.
Saturday, December 21st - Wine Tasting and Gift Basket Wrapping.
Sunday, December 22nd - Decorate your own Sugar Cookies
Tuesday, December 24th - Closing at 4pm
Wednesday and Thursday, December 25th & 26th - Closed
Tuesday, December 31st - Closing at 4pm
Wednesday and Thursday, January 1st & 2nd - Closed

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Lighting of Square

The annual Lighting of Benoit Square will take place on **Fri., Dec. 6, at 6:00 p.m. at the junction of Main and Adams Streets, Fairhaven.**

The North Fairhaven Improvement Association will light the decorated square and welcome Santa Claus to North Fairhaven. Free.

Douglass tree sales

For ALS. See details on page 10.

Christmas Trees

Troop and Pack 55 Fairhaven is holding its Annual Christmas tree fundraiser, selling both wreaths and Christmas trees. The height of the trees range from 5-8 ft, prices vary. Roughly \$30-\$55 per tree depending on the height and fullness of each tree. \$10-\$15 per wreath.

We are Located at Mike and Wayne's on Rte. 6 in Fairhaven. The scouts will be selling Monday through Friday from 5:00 PM to 7:30PM, Saturday & Sunday from 9:00 AM to 7:30 PM. Scouts and parents volunteer to help you choose a tree or help tie it to your car. Employees of Mike & Wayne's are gracious enough to collect money for the Scouts during the early hours on weekdays when the scouts are not there.

We have a total of 200 Christmas Trees consisting of Balsam and Frasier Firs and a total of 60 wreaths for sale this year. Come early and pick your tree, wreath or just walk through our selection. THANK YOU.

All Proceeds Benefit Cub Scout PACK 55 & Boy Scout TROOP 55 Fairhaven of the First Congregational Church.

Christmas Concerts

East Fairhaven School Concerts: "It's That Very Special Time of Year," **Tues., 12/10, at 9:15 a.m. & 1:15 p.m. at East Fairhaven School, 2 New Boston Rd., Fairhaven**

Students in Preschool, Kindergarten, & Grades 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 will be performing. The theme of this year's concert will be "It's That Very Special Time of Year." String students will be performing instrumental selections under the direction of Miss Chirigotis. Mr. Young will be directing band students with their instrumental selections and vocal

selections will be under the direction of Mrs. Campoli. All are invited to attend. Accessible. Free.

Ornament Making

Art On Center invites you to make your own ornaments for holiday decorating and gifting. Join us for cookies & cocoa, have fun and be creative! All materials are provided. Make & keep 2 ornaments for a \$5 contribution. All ages welcome! The fun begins **Saturday Dec. 7th, 1-5 pm** and continues through December at Art On Center, 15 Center Street, Fairhaven. For center hours & more info, call 774-206-1709 or email info@artoncenter.org

Art On Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

Solar Bus Tour

Sun., Dec. 8, from 1:15-3:00 p.m., meet at the Nemasket Gallery, 56 Bridge St, Fairhaven.

Please join us as we visit recent solar projects in the town of Fairhaven. Solar professionals and property owners will be on hand to answer your questions about going solar! Meet at the Nemasket Gallery at 1:15 to board the bus.

RSVP: 508-910-1871 or info@southcoastenergychallenge.org

Toys for Tots

The Fairhaven Fire/EMS is an official Toys for Tots drop off station. This is the 5th year that we have worked in conjunction with the Marine Corps and have had great success in collecting toys for needy children in our area. Toys for Tots accepts new, unwrapped toys for boys and girls of all ages. The box is usually collected in mid December so please drop off toys early. The collection box is located in the lobby of the fire station at 146 Washington Street and toys can be dropped off 7 days a week.

WI Toys For Tots

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, or at **Howe Allen Real Estate, 43 Center Street, Fairhaven.**

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. See ad on page 24 for list of events.

Animal needs drive

Howe Allen Real Estate is sponsoring a Pets' Needs Drive to benefit Fairhaven's Animal Shelter. Dog and cat toys, clean pet clothing, clean towels and blankets, pet food and treats, etc., may be dropped off at our office, 43 Center St., near Town Hall.

Tourism Video

Christine Neville's Digital Photography Class at Fairhaven High School just completed a video slideshow featuring some of Fairhaven's unique buildings. The students took the photos, selected the music and edited the piece. It was done as a community project in cooperation with the Office of Tourism. It has been added to the Office of Tourism web page and was also posted on Facebook.

To view the video, visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nvVjhBV7MQw> or the tourism offices website at <http://fairhaventours.blogspot.com/>

Bicentennial Book

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 and Euro at Center & Main St., Millicent Library, 45 Center Street.

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

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Free Parking to Shop

In an effort to encourage everyone to do their holiday shopping in New Bedford, the City is offering a special Holiday Parking Program. **Effective through Wednesday, 1/1/14**, the City of New Bedford will offer FREE 2-hour parking at metered spaces in both the **Downtown and on Acushnet Avenue and 2-hour FREE parking at the Elm Street Garage, and the Zeiterion Garage!**

Anyone parked at a meter in either the Downtown or on Acushnet Avenue while doing holiday shopping who receives a ticket as a result of parking in excess of the 2-hour limit, may mail or present their ticket along with a copy of a sales receipt for \$10.00 or more from a Downtown or North End Business District restaurant/merchant to the City of New Bedford Traffic Commission Office. The parking ticket will be forgiven with the presentation of the receipt.

Call the Traffic Commission Office at 508-961-3153 with questions.

Breakfast w/Santa

Holy Family-Holy Name School, 91 Summer Street, New Bedford, will host **Breakfast with Santa on Sat., Dec. 7th, from 8:30-10:30 a.m.**

Breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, hot chocolate, juice, milk, and coffee. Santa's Children's craft area. Holiday Scholastic Book Fair. Santa Gift Boutique for children. **Take a picture with Santa for \$3 and donate a canned good for the needy.**

Tickets: \$5/children \$7/adults. Call 508-993-3547 to purchase tickets!

Holiday Events/NB

The following community events will take place throughout the City of New Bedford during the month of December in celebration of the holiday season:

Cove Street Neighborhood Group Tree Lighting: Fri., 12/6 at 5:00 p.m. Park on the corner of Ruth Street and Salisbury Street

Annual Santa Sightings 5K Fun Run and Walk! Sat., 12/8 at 11 a.m. Race starts at City Hall in Downtown New Bedford, 133 William Street. Last year, nearly 1,700 runners in Santa suits participated in this family-oriented run through the historic city of New Bedford.

Downtown New Bedford Holiday Stroll: Sat., 12/7 and Sunday, 12/8 from noon to 4 p.m. Downtown New Bedford. During the first weekend in December, Downtown New Bedford will be bustling with holiday spirit, shoppers, families and festive activities. On Saturday, December 7th and **Sunday, December 8th from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m.** Downtown New Bedford Inc., will present the Annual Downtown New Bedford Holiday Stroll. Artisans, crafters, restaurants, specialty shops and boutiques will come together to create a unique holiday shopping experience. The two-day event is organized by Downtown New Bedford Inc., and aims to encourage holiday shoppers to buy local. Visit www.downtownnb.org/holidaystroll.html for full list of events.

City of New Bedford Official Christmas Tree Lighting: Sat., 12/7 at 4:30 p.m., City Hall Plaza. Join Mayor Mitchell and New Bedford officials for an annual New Bedford tradition!

At 4:30pm, the parade will step off from the bottom of William Street (at North Water Street) and will march up to City Hall Plaza for the lighting of the City's Official Christmas Tree on the steps of the Main Library. The New Bedford High School Marching Band, the All-City Middle School Marching Band and Colorguard will participate in this festive event for the whole family to celebrate the holiday season. For many years, beloved musician and vocalist Mitch Miller was featured in a popular series of Christmas festivities in downtown New Bedford and led large crowds in singing Christmas carols. This year, the University of Mass. Dartmouth Chorus will revive New Bedford's sing-a-long tradition as part of the tree lighting festivities!

Festival of Lights Celebration at Clasky Common Park: Sun., 12/8 at 5:00 p.m. at Clasky Common Park at County and Pope Streets. Join the countdown celebration to illuminate festive displays of dazzling lights throughout Clasky Common Park. Members of the Parker Elementary School chorus will perform and Santa Claus is expected to join the celebration.

Far North End Neighborhood Association Tree Lighting: Sun., 12/8 at 6:30 p.m., Fire Station # 5, 3665

Acushnet Avenue

South Central /South First Association Tree Lighting: Mon., 12/9, at 6 p.m., Monte Park on the corner of Russell Street and Acushnet Avenue

South End Business Association Tree Lighting: Tues., 12/12, 4:00 p.m. book reading, 5:00 p.m. tree lighting, Howland Green Library, 3 Rodney French Boulevard

Goulart Square Association Tree Lighting: Sun., 12/12 at 6:30 p.m., Ashley Park on the corner of Rivet Street and Bolton Street

Rockdale Avenue Neighborhood Association Tree Lighting: Wed., 12/13, at 6:30 p.m., Harrington Park on the Corner of Court Street and Liberty Street (across from Hathaway School)

Bullard Street Neighborhood Association Tree Lighting: Sat., 12/14 at 6:30 p.m., Riverside Park on the corner of Belleville Avenue and Tallman Street

Mt. Pleasant Street Association Tree Lighting: Sun., 12/15 at 6:30 p.m., Hayden McFadden Elementary School (County Street Side)

Coat Drive

Sunday, Dec 8th at the New Bedford Lodge Building, 435 County Street (corner of Union). During the Dinner for the Needy we will be distributing COATS for those in need...But that's only if we have them. PLEASE donate your unwanted coats

Bring them on Dec 8th or call Louie de Melo to arrange a pick up Wor.louis@gmail.com Or call 508-514-0775

Book Signing

Spinner Publications celebrates New Bedford and its new book, *A Picture History of New Bedford, Volume 1 (1602-1925)*, with a book signing at our offices on 164 William Street, New Bedford, on AHA! Night, **December 12 from 6 to 9 PM.** Throughout the evening, the book's five authors will sign both cloth-covered and paperback books. View a display of historical photographs and watch a presentation of historical films, refreshments.

This book is the first extensive city history to appear in decades. Its two volumes capture the city's journey through hundreds of photographs and stories.

For information call 508-994-4564, or visit www.spinnerpub.com

HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

Acushnet Lights

Sponsored by the Acushnet Firefighter and Police Associations, the annual lighting of the Acushnet Fire Station will be held on **Sunday, 12/8, at 6:30 p.m.** Santa will make an appearance and the Middle School Chorus will sing. Hot chocolate and cookies will also be served. Free. Accessible.

Santa Paws

"Santa Paws is coming to town," on **Saturday, Dec. 7 at the Humane Society and Shelter SouthCoast, 31 Ventura Drive, Dartmouth. From 11am to 2 pm** have your pet friends and family members join the staff at the shelter for pictures with Santa sitting in front of a holiday tree.

Please remember to keep your pets safe, we recommend bringing them in a carrier or on a leash. **For a \$15.00 donation** you receive the picture and a frame and the animals have a fun time too. The Shelter's goal is to ensure every adoptable animal finds a loving home. All proceeds benefit the Shelter.

For more information and to reserve a spot for your pet's picture visit www.hssc.org or call 508-995-6661. Accessible. Have a peaceful and joyful holiday from the staff at the SouthCoast Humane Society.

Living Nativity

A Living Nativity sponsored by Smith Neck Friends Meeting will be held at Alderbrook Farm, 1213 Russells Mills Road in the village. The public is invited to the farm on **Sun., Dec. 8 from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.** to enjoy the eighth annual living nativity celebrating the birth of Jesus.

Visitors will be able to walk through the Nativity scene displayed in a real barn, experience the sights, sounds and smells of the holiday season. Young people from Smith Neck Friends First Day School will reenact the Nativity scene. Visitors will be able to sing along with the young friends to some of their favorite carols.

Adding authenticity to the scene the Barn houses live sheep, cows, and a donkey. Outdoors there will be other talking barnyard animals. Inside at the farm stand, do holiday shopping with local coffee, honey,

dairy products and fresh vegetables, trees and wreaths. All are welcome to have hot chocolate, coffee and delicious holiday treats. The Living Nativity is **free of charge and open to the public.** Accessible. For further information please call 508-999-3526.

Santa at 1696 Smith-Appleby

Bring the kids and cameras to share Christmas Wish Lists and a photo opportunity with Santa and Mrs. Claus from **1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sun., Dec. 8, at the historic Smith-Appleby House Museum, 220 Stillwater Rd. in Smithfield, RI**, just off I-295. There is a \$5 donation for adults. Children are free.

Santa & Mrs. Claus will pose for photos with the children — and discuss their Christmas wish lists — as volunteers in Colonial-period dress present the history of the 315 year-old family farm home. Holiday snacks and treats will be served.

The Smith-Appleby House was built, circa 1696, as a one-room stone-ender with a loft by Elisha Smith, a grandson of John Smith "The Miller" — one of Roger William's original party of six men who left the Massachusetts Bay Colony to settle in Providence. Today, the House and grounds are a living Museum. Volunteers portraying Colonial-era characters conduct tours and demonstrations depicting life during the Revolutionary War. The historic House Museum features original furnishings, designs and exhibits.

For more information, visit the website at <http://www.smithapplebyhouse.org> or call (401) 231-7363.

Tide Calendars

Back by popular demand is the Westport River Watershed Alliance's 2014 Calendar. Each month is depicted with a beautiful photograph of the Westport landscape or river, and most useful is the daily tide information. Photos were provided by local photographers.

The calendar is a perfect holiday gift for everyone, but especially useful for boaters and shellfishermen who depend on the tide. **The calendar is \$15** and available at the WRWA office, 1151 Main Rd. in Westport and at the following Westport

businesses: Partners, Country Woolens, Lees Market, The Westport Apothecary, and A.S. Deams.

Order online at www.westportwatershed.org or call 508-636-3016 and have them sent directly to your home or gift recipient.

Proceeds benefit the programs that support WRWA's mission: to restore and protect the Westport River and its watershed.

Author Event

Southern New England Entrepreneurs Forum (SNEEF), "Holiday Networking," featuring Larry Blumsack, bestselling author of *Face-to-Face is the Ultimate Social Media*, and founder of Zoka Institute and Zoka Training®, **Thursday, Dec. 12, 5:30 p.m., Advanced Technology Manufacturing Center, 151 Martine Street, Fall River.** Become a SNEEF member for only \$75 and attend free; event non-member \$20 in advance, \$25 at door, includes dinner. Register at www.SNEEF.org.

December in VT

Downtowns and ski villages are all decked out for the holiday season in Vermont. Choose from slopeside events and special offers at ski resorts, plus festive holiday lodging deals at inns statewide. Enjoy bustling shops and vibrant galleries in Vermont's 24 Designated Downtowns. Several towns host the 50/50 Challenge, a series of holiday events and sales that ensure a jolly good time for shoppers filling hard-to-stuff stockings! For a complete list visit <http://www.vermontvacation.com/>

Miracle on 34 + Piano Bar

Ocean State Theatre Company (OSTC) is proud to announce the continuation of their Piano Bar Series. "Under the Mistletoe" will be held following select evening performances of the company's current production, the New England premiere of the popular holiday favorite, *Miracle on 34th Street, The Musical*. Free.

Tickets for the December 13, 14, 20 and 21 performances are on sale at the box office, 401-921-6800 or online at www.OceanStateTheatre.org.



ENTERTAINMENT:

Fri., 12/6, James Gagne, 8 p.m.

Sat., 12/7, Sage, 9 p.m.

Fri., 12/13, Cabana Boys, 8 p.m.

Sat., 12/24, Buzzard Blue Band, 9 p.m..

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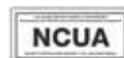
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Recipe of the Week

Healthy Eggnog

A lightened up, egg-free version of an all time holiday favorite.

You won't be disappointed!

Ingredients:

- 1 cup soy, almond or regular milk
- 4 ice cubes
- 1 banana
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp nutmeg
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 tsp almond or peanut butter
- 2 cinnamon sticks

Blend all ingredients in a blender until smooth. Sprinkle with extra cinnamon, sugar and nutmeg if desired. Add cinnamon sticks and serve.

Enjoy! Serves 2.

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

Douglass tree farm holding annual sale

Press Release

On Saturday & Sunday, 12/7 & 8, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Dick and Vivian Douglass of Fairhaven will continue their unique approach to fighting ALS by selling Christmas trees from their farm located on Scoticut Neck Road, where all proceeds will benefit research to end the disease.

The Douglass' Christmas tree sale began in 2001, shortly after their son, Ken, now 53, was diagnosed with ALS.

ALS, also known as "Lou Gehrig's disease," is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that leads to paralysis, and eventually death. It takes away a person's ability to walk, move, and talk, but keeps the mind intact. There is no cure for the disease, and no effective treatment. There are approximately 30,000 people in the US living with ALS, and the average patient survives only two to five years following diagnosis.

All proceeds from trees purchased will support the ALS Therapy Development Institute (ALS TDI), a Cambridge, MA-based nonprofit dedicated to developing treatments and cure for ALS. In the past 11 years, about \$170,000 has been raised through this sale.

With support from families like the Douglasses, ALS TDI has been able to move forward projects and partnerships with the goal of ending the disease, including clinical trials.

All trees from the Douglass family 12th annual Christmas tree sale will



be sold for \$40. There will be volunteers to help cut, carry and tie trees to cars.

In addition to the traditional

Christmas tree, the Douglasses also are offering live emerald green arborvitae that can be planted for future growth. These are between 2 & 4 feet tall and will be wrapped in burlap. This offering is prompted in part by the large number of children that request a tree of their own, young families that desire a live tree, and those with limited space. These will be priced at \$20 each or 3 for \$50.

ALS TDI is driven by a single, profoundly important goal — to discover and develop treatments for ALS as quickly as possible. With 30 full-time scientists, ALS TDI is the largest full-scale laboratory devoted solely to ending ALS.

Join the Douglass family in this important effort as they raise funds to find a cure for ALS and try to exceed last year's sales result of \$20,000.

To learn more about ALS TDI and how you can help, please visit www.als.net or call 617-441-7200.

For more information about the Douglass Family effort, visit <http://community.als.net/thedouglassfamily> effort.

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On Wednesdays, Dec. 11 and Dec. 18, we will again
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Acushnet could get rid of comp time

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

Compensatory time could become a thing of the past for Acushnet town employees. The Town adopted the policy around 10 years ago mainly for departments with no or with limited overtime budgets. Finance Director Cathy Doane, in a letter to the Selectboard, asked the board on 12/2 to discontinue the policy effective July 1, 2014 because, ultimately, the now excessive compensatory time-off owed is resulting in more overtime for other employees.

Compensatory time was implemented to serve as a substitute for overtime pay, compensating union non-salary workers with 1.5 hours of off-time for every one hour of overtime hour they worked.

According to Ms. Doane, however, some departments and offices are using compensatory time hours on a weekly basis, which was never the intention.

Town Administrator Alan Coutinho explained that certain changes at Town Hall have had an impact on the effectiveness of compensatory time, such as switching to quarterly billing this year. Mr. Coutinho said certain offices are busier than ever, now that they have double the number of bills.

"That's what's fueling this," said Mr. Coutinho.

He used words like "nightmare" and "out of control" to describe the situation and urged Selectboard members to consider the policy change.

Selectboard Chairperson Leslie Dakin said he could not possibly change a major policy like that without having all the facts in front of him.

Selectboard Member Kevin Gaspar

agreed, stating that he expected Ms. Doane to address the board that evening and requested that Mr. Coutinho run reports of each department's budget for overtime, as well as comp time usage.

Mr. Coutinho said adding overtime budgets rather than allow comp time would be more transparent and more traceable in the end.

The matter was tabled until the Selectboard could receive further information.

The discussion was preceded by a request for a reserve fund transfer for \$800 for the Collector's Office for over-

[Town Administrator Al Coutinho] used words like "nightmare" and "out of control" to describe the situation and urged Selectboard members to consider the policy change.

time to supplement the \$200 overtime budget that is not cutting it anymore.

The request was approved; however Mr. Dakin expressed concern over the clerk's description of "peak times" which spanned eight months from April to November.

Also at the meeting, the board filled one of the vacant Board of Public Works seats, appointing Matthew Goulet who resubmitted a letter of interest as per the Selectboard's request and specifications.

The board decided to hold off on appointing John Roy and seek advice from town counsel to be certain the

appointment would meet the requirements of the town charter.

Mr. Roy already sits on the Energy Committee and is also a technology teacher for Acushnet Public Schools.

The town charter states that no person who is an employee of the Town shall sit on the BPW, nor shall any member of any other board or committee.

"I think we should get clarification before we make any decisions," said Selectperson David Wojnar.

Town Meeting will vote at a special town meeting on Monday 12/9 on whether or not to dissolve the BPW by changing the town charter and granting authority to the Selectboard, which could render the appointments moot.

Mr. Wojnar made a public apology to Paul Pelletier who had previously expressed interest in serving on the BPW, but later chose to rescind his interest because of the board's rejection of Mr. Pelletier's method of simply phoning-in his interest. During the 11/18 meeting, the board requested more formality in the letters of interest from residents instead of a "sloppy" process of phone calls and one-sentence emails.

Mr. Wojnar said Mr. Pelletier was "somewhat offended" by the rejection.

"It wasn't my intention to offend anybody," said Mr. Wojnar.

Mr. Gaspar concurred with Mr. Wojnar.

"I understand why he took it that way," said Mr. Gaspar.

In other matters, the Mass. Department of Revenue audit of the BPW was set to begin on Wed. 12/4, starting with the DOR interviewing in several different departments.

ACUSHNET: cont'd on page 23

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Joyce Howland murder suspect arraigned in Superior Court

By Beth David
Editor

Joshua Silva, 36, of 26 Oak Street, New Bedford was arraigned in Fall River Superior Court on Monday, 12/2, charged with murder and armed robbery in the death of retired schoolteacher Joyce Howland, 69, of 12 Hamlet Street, Fairhaven.

Mr. Silva was arraigned in Third District Court on October 30th. A Grand Jury indicted Mr. Silva later in November and the case was moved to Superior Court.

Six of Ms. Howland's friends attended the arraignment on Monday when Mr. Silva pleaded not guilty to both charges. Attorney Christopher Belezos again did not argue for bail. Judge Thomas F. McGuire Jr. had Mr. Silva held without bail without prejudice, meaning the matter may be argued later.

The judge granted the defense \$1,500 to hire an investigator. A pre-trial conference was also scheduled for January 14 with the trial expected next June.

Mr. Silva is accused of slashing Ms. Howland's throat in an attack

described as "brutal" by prosecutors, cutting her so deeply he nearly decapitated her. Mr. Silva had installed insulation in Ms. Howland's attic. He returned on Columbus Day, 10/14, according to court documents, telling Ms. Howland he needed to retrieve his tape measure.

Also, according to court records, Mr. Silva told a co-worker that he

prescription bottle with Ms. Howland's name on it.

Police also allegedly linked Mr. Silva to the murder by matching Ms. Howland's DNA to a mark on a pair of pants that Mr. Silva disposed of in a trash can on McGurk Street in New Bedford, according to the records.

Assistant District Attorney Steven Nadeau, who is prosecuting the case with ADA Katie Rayburn, explained to Joyce's friends on Monday that the case is in a "discovery" process now. The next few months will allow both sides to gather and share evidence to prepare for trial.

He would not comment on the evidence, but said that local investigators did a "very thorough investigating the case" and that everyone's questions would eventually be answered.

"At some point it'll all come out," said Mr. Nadeau.

Mr. Silva has been held without bail since his arraignment on October 30.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Steven Nadeau and Katie Rayburn of the Bristol County DA's office.

At some point it'll all come out [Assistant DA Steven Nadeau]

noticed Ms. Howland's jewelry and said it would be worth a lot of money.

Police connected Mr. Silva to the murder using both video surveillance footage from various businesses on Route 6 and Alden Road. He was observed throwing away a piece of paper that allegedly was from a



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24 TUESDAY SPECIAL TIME: CHRISTMAS EVE SKATE 11AM-1:30PM	25 WEDNESDAY MERRY CHRISTMAS CLOSED	26 THURSDAY AFTERNOON SKATE 2-4:30PM ADULT SKATE 10+ 7-9PM	27 FRIDAY AFTERNOON SKATE 2-4:30PM TEEN SKATE 7-10PM
28 SATURDAY AFTERNOON KID SKATE 2-4:30PM FAMILY SKATE 7-10PM	29 SUNDAY AFTERNOON KID SKATE 2-4:30PM	30 MONDAY AFTERNOON SKATE 2-4:30PM	NEW YEARS EVE SKATE 2-4:30PM
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Basketball Clinic 4&5 year olds

Come sign up for our basketball clinic for ages 4&5. This program will give young children an introduction to the game, great for beginners!

Starts **December 14th 8-9am** Pre-registration is required. **COST \$10.00** membership is not required for this program. Runs for 3 weeks

Kool Kids Christmas Vacation

This 3-day program is a great opportunity to make new friends while participating in fun group activities such as pillo polo, floor hockey, dodge ball, cooperative games, flag football, arts & crafts, etc. Kids will need to bring their own lunch for the first 2 days of the program. The last day is a pizza lunch combined with a New Year's celebration. Come ready to party! Sneakers and active clothes must be worn each day. Kids will be grouped according to their current grade in school. Grades: K-5 Dates: Dec 23, 26, 27 and 30th. Drop off 8 a.m., pick up by 3 p.m. Cost: \$100. Member \$125. Non Member

Anniversary Extravaganza

Join us for a **FREE afternoon** of fun as we celebrate 12 successful years at Fairhaven Recreation!

Santa will be available from 10:30-12 p.m. for pictures for those who bring a camera, face painting, and decorate a candy Christmas tree. We will have local sport teams like POP Warner football, Little League baseball, Boy Scouts and more. Marco Falco will be buying your old or broken gold jewelry at top prices.

So if you are looking for some quick Christmas cash come on down!! Lots of sign up info and fun!!

Saturday Dec. 7th, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

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

Mall Trips

Wed. 12/11: Hyannis Mall, Xmas Tree Shop, Trader Joe's
Wed. 12/18: Emerald Square

Mon. 12/23: Providence Place
Mon. 12/30: Independence Mall

Entertainment

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

Special Activities

Holiday Schedule

The Senior center will be open half days on Dec. 24th and 31st

We will be closed all day Dec. 25th and Jan. 1st

New Activity

Line Dancing with Lyn, Mon. 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Singles CMas Party

Single Senior Supper Club Christmas Party on 12/17 from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

LGBT Supper

Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Supper Club Christmas Party on 12/18 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Legal Services for Seniors

South Coastal Counties Legal Services, Inc. Dec. 12, 9-11 a.m. Rosa Farizo will be here to answer questions about Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, housing issues, food stamps, nursing home related problems, physical and financial abuse. By appointment only, please call the Fairhaven Senior Center for appt. at 508-979-4029. This program is funded in part by Coastline Elderly Services to provide legal service to

seniors age 60 and over.

Medicare Enrollment

If you have missed an opportunity to make an appt. for open enrollment for Medicare please call the Senior Center and we will contact a SHINE volunteer who may be able to help.

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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.

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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Fairhaven loses to a strong Dartmouth team on Thanksgiving

By Beth David
Editor

The Fairhaven Blue Devils gave the Dartmouth High School football team a good run for their money in the first half, but just couldn't beat the much stronger team during the annual Thanksgiving Day game. The second

half saw the DHS lead go from 14-6 to a final score of 26-6.

Fairhaven's only touchdown came from Kross Negalha in the second quarter. A very cold and windy, but bright and sunny day tested the mettle of both teams and the crowd of spectators, too.

Fairhaven's quarterback, junior Cameron Charette, had 147 yards and completed 14 of 28 passes.

DHS's QB Matt Beuparland finished with 150 yards.

Both QB's had interceptions, but DHS was able to make them count for points.



LEFT: Fairhaven's David Santos, Jr., is airborne as he is tackled by Dartmouth High School on Thanksgiving Day at Fairhaven High School stadium. RIGHT: FHS's Kross Negalha gets tackled after FHS intercepts the ball in the second quarter. BELOW LEFT: FHS's Kevin Albano, #34, heads for Timothy Smith of Dartmouth. BELOW RIGHT: Mr. Albano catches Mr. Smith and tackles him before he can get the TD. DHS beat Fairhaven, 26-6 in the last game of the season. Photos by Beth David. Visit us at www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews to see more photos of this and other events. Individual photos are available for purchase.



Wood School pie daddies cause squeals of delight

By Beth David
Editor

Students at the LL Wood School positively squealed with delight on Wednesday, 11/27, as their fathers and some of the “school fathers” squared off in a pie eating contest, the reward students received for collected food for local food pantries. Principal Amy Hartley-Matteson and her husband Jesse were also compelled to join the contest when students reached their goal.

When students collected 1500 items, the contest would be held with their fathers competing. At 2,000 items, the “Wood School Daddies” would participate; that would be the various male staff members at the school. At 2,500 items, Mr. Hartley-Matteson would participate; and at 3,000 the ultimate “Pie Momma,” Principal Hartley-Matteson would

join.

As the moment approached, it looked like they would not reach that last goal to see their principal participate, but then some parents got together that very morning and bought 222 items to meet the goal.

A long line of contestants shoved their faces into pie plates while the entire student body cheered them on and hooted and hollered.

The two fastest, Andrew Tripanier and Rick Senna, squared off with last year’s winner and reigning champion Chris Leblanc. Mr. Senna is not technically Wood School Daddy, however. The project manager for CT Construction which built the school, Mr. Senna had arrived that morning with a punch list of items to discuss with school officials. Since one of the fathers was sick and had to cancel, Mr. Senna was recruited and he gladly



agreed.

He attended the old Wood School and he built the new Wood School, so he is definitely part of the Wood School family.

And then he won.

“The man who built our school,” called out Ms. Hartley-Matteson after Mr. Senna won, and the crowd went wild.



TOP RIGHT: Wood School principal Amy Hartley-Matteson and Wood School Daddy Brian Munce take a breather during Wood School Pie Daddy pie eating contest on Wednesday, 11/27. ABOVE LEFT: Wood School Pie Daddy reigning champion Chris Leblanc is cheered on by his sons (L-R) Ryan and Kyle. RIGHT: Andrew Tripanier encourages his father David. BELOW LEFT: Rick Senna is declared the winner of the 2013 contest. BELOW LEFT: Mr. Senna’s official “enourager,” Tristan deMedeiros reacts when his charge is declared the champ. *Photos by Beth David. 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.*



Planning will hold public hearing on marijuana bylaw

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

A draft bylaw for the zoning regulation of registered marijuana dispensaries in Fairhaven is ready now for a public hearing scheduled for 12/10, an opportunity for the public to weigh in on the Fairhaven Planning Board's proposed medicinal marijuana overlay district.

Board members during their 11/26 meeting considered four different options for limiting the zoning for medicinal marijuana, ultimately voting 6-2 in favor of option three, which is more restrictive than the State's regulated setbacks of siting RMDs at a minimum of 500 feet from residences and schools.

Option three kept the existing industrial district but removed lots adjacent to residential zones around the Alden Road industrial zone. Board Members Kaisa Cripps and Rene Fleurent Jr. voted against, wanting a more restrictive option.

Ms. Cripps favored option three, plus removing the four lots east of Route 240, including the Standard Times Building and Brahmin Leather on Alden Road. Mr. Fleurent wanted option 4 that restricted the zone even further, eliminating over more than half the lots within the proposed overlay district, which might not receive approval from the attorney general's office because of its very restrictive nature.

Ms. Cripps was strongly in favor of restricting RMD zoning from that area east of Route 240, saying that her middle school-age children often walk to the restaurants situated nearby on half-days of school and did not want them walking past "businesses like that."

Board Member Jeffrey Lucas disagreed, saying he rarely ever saw foot traffic in that area.

"Kids have more problems walking by bars and liquor stores," said Mr. Lucas.

Mr. Fleurent agreed with Mr. Lucas. "Get rid of the bars too," said Mr. Fleurent.

Chairperson Wayne Hayward, who said he favored option three and removing the four additional lots, cautioned the board on voting then for a more restrictive zoning, which would leave little wiggle room should someone at the public hearing argue

for more restrictive zoning.

"If we get overly restrictive now and if someone at the public hearing says 'take that out...,'" said Mr. Hayward, he foresaw problems. He urged board members to vote for option three alone for now while heading into the public hearing on the 10th.

Mr. Fleurent again made it clear that he opposed the use of medicinal marijuana and wished he could ban them from opening in Fairhaven.

"I'm not convinced it would bring a better quality of living for residents," said Mr. Fleurent. "Why does Fairhaven have to be the first for everything? Let them go somewhere else first." He later turned to Mr. Hayward, "Mr. Chairman, again I ask, do we really want them in our town?"

"You need to get yourself off that

Why does Fairhaven have to be the first for everything? Let them go somewhere else first...Mr. Chairman, again I ask, do we really want them in our town? [Rene Fleurent]

position," said Director of Economic Planning and Development Bill Roth.

Ms. Cripps was still stuck on the federal law aspect of marijuana possession, which prompted Board Member John Farrell to address her.

"This is a discussion that's really not up for debate," said Mr. Farrell. "Sixty-four percent of people in Fairhaven voted in favor."

He said he respected her opinion, but the board had to move past its personal views of medicinal marijuana.

"It's not our debate," said Mr. Farrell.

Board Member Jeffrey Lucas told Mr. Cripps, "I just think you're going down the path of further restriction."

He said he worried about "random exclusions" of lots from the zoning overlay district, concerned others would ask for their lots to be arbitrarily excluded without any real justification other than they do not want RMDs there.

"You should have a leg to stand on to deny it," said Mr. Lucas.

In a follow-up interview, board member Peter Nopper said he had not decided if he would abstain from voting on the RMD proposal or if he would file a "disclosure of appearance of conflict of interest" form with the town clerk disclosing the potential conflict and explaining why he felt he did not have to recuse himself. He said he might wait to decide until after the next meeting, which is the public hearing on the matter. Mr. Nopper's business is inside the proposed RMD overlay district.

Also at the meeting, the board discussed correspondence with the attorney for G. Bourne Knowles, who is seeking to remove an existing covenant that restricts future development of the land on Huttleston Avenue to 50 residential units with a maximum of two bedrooms. The board voted to hold an extra meeting during the month of December to hold a public hearing for the matter, scheduled for 12/17.

At the end of the meeting, the board met with representatives from the Town Government Study Committee and participated in an interview conducted by Phil Washko, Bernard Roderick, and Steve Riley about ideas on a more efficient government.

Mostly discussed were issues such as technology, communication among boards, virtual Town Hall, term limits, and whether the Board of Public Works should be dissolved.

Mr. Hayward suggested term limits for town employees.

"Why is it always us and never the employees?" asked Mr. Hayward.

Also discussed was the town manager and town administrator option. Mr. Washko spoke in favor of a town administrator, saying that, like a business that has a CEO, the town would be more efficient.

"We're not a business," said Mr. Hayward. "We have problems that businesses don't have."

The public hearing to discuss the registered marijuana dispensary zoning bylaw will be at 6:30 p.m. on 12/10 in the banquet room of Town Hall. The public is urged to attend to contribute to the final draft to be handed to Town Meeting.



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BPW grants flex time, puts cap on other requests

By Michael Smith

Neighb News Correspondent

The question of granting more flextime for town employees drew discussion and ire from a Fairhaven Board of Public Works member during their meeting on 12/2.

West Island Plant employee Douglas Pinard went before the board seeking a request to use flextime as stated in the contract. An employee working for the sewer department can request a change in his or her contractual set work hours up to 30 days. Any request needed past 30 days necessitates approval from the Board of Public Works.

Mr. Pinard requested permission to leave work one hour early every day so he can pick up his son, who is a sophomore at Old Rochester Regional High School, through June 30th. Mr. Pinard is contractually obligated to work from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m..

Board member Mike Ristuccia opened the conversation stating, "I don't like making exceptions for everybody," referring to another request for flex time by Robert Gomes of the Sewer Department on October 21, which the board approved.

The concern of setting a precedent was also echoed by board member Kathy Sturtevant. The biggest voice against Mr. Pinard's request came from board Vice-Chairperson Robert "Hoppy" Hobson.

"To tell you the truth, I don't like flex time," said Mr. Hobson bluntly, feeling six months is a long time for the request.

"Nothing against you, but I am against it," Mr. Hobson told Mr. Pinard.

However, Chairperson Steven Riley weighed in by stating, "this is more of

a personal matter" of the request, and was willing to grant it as long as further requests are "capped" and kept under two employees taking flex time at once.

"This should be done on a case by case basis," said Mr. Riley of following requests.

Mr. Hobson reiterated that six months was too long. Public Works Superintendent Vinnie Furtado explained to Mr. Hobson that, "contractually, he (Pinard) has the right to do that."

The board approved Mr. Pinard's request three to two with board member Brian Wotton and Mr. Hobson voting against, causing Mr. Hobson to walk out of the conference room muttering, "unbelievable."

Mr. Pinard explained to the board that he is only requesting one hour, which he says will not affect his job or the department. Mr. Pinard will leave one hour early, so he will arrive at work on hour early, giving him the same amount of time on the job.

A motion to deny was made by Mr. Hobson, which was not seconded. Ms. Sturtevant made a motion to approve, which was seconded.

The board approved Mr. Pinard's request three to two with board member Brian Wotton and Mr. Hobson voting against, causing Mr. Hobson to walk out of the conference room muttering, "unbelievable."

In a follow-up interview, Mr. Hobson said that he has several objections to the decision. One is that Mr. Pinard's request now takes away the right of any other sewer employee to use flextime all the way to June. Mr. Hobson said that the reason Mr. Pinard wants the flextime is strictly for his convenience because he has to drop his son off early to school.

The board continued to hear items for action in Mr. Hobson's absence, and voted 4-0 to set December 13 as last day for digging up roads for non-emergency work.

The board also approved 4-0 authorizing the payment of \$76,079.80 to NuWater, Inc. for work on Taber and South Street project for the Water Pollution Control Facility.

Mr. Hobson returned to the board, still seemingly angered, for the next item for action on awarding Waterline Industries on their low bid of \$9.997 to work on digester feed modifications for wastewater treatment, as he made a motion to deny the bid, even though he said "no problem" to

Mr. Riley when asked to weigh in on the bid.

The board approved the bid to Waterline Industries over NuWater, Inc. and WES Construction by a four to one vote, with Mr. Hobson voting against.

Visit editor
Beth David's blog,
"Musings from a
Small Island," at
www.BethDavid.net/blog

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SELECT: cont'd from page 4

for the system to be comprehensive.
"This is what we agreed to," said Mr. Espindola.

The board will discuss it at their 12/9 meeting.

In other business the board

- Accepted changes to the lease with the North Fairhaven Improvement Association for the old fire station in Benoit Square and sent it to them for review and comment.

- Approved the transfer of a liquor license for Frontera Grill at the old Uno's Restaurant building. There were no comments during the public hearing for the transfer.

- Met with representatives of the *Standard-Times* and with *Neighb News* Editor Beth David to discuss legal advertising. The board decided to leave things as they are, with some legal ads being placed in the *Neighb News*, *ST* or the *Advocate*.

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Some people are so afraid to die that they never begin to live.
Henry Van Dyke

Public Hearings/ Legal Notices

Town of Fairhaven Notice of Neighborhood Meeting FY 14 Community Development Block Grant Application

Town of Fairhaven will hold a Neighborhood Meeting at 6:30 P.M. on Wednesday, December 11, 2013, in the Banquet Room, Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA. The purpose of the meeting is to take in Public input on the Town's intention to apply to DHCD for up to \$900,000 to continue its Housing Rehabilitation Program and to reconstruct Francis Street (between Mayflower & Linden Streets). If you are interested in improvements within your neighborhood, you are urged to attend the Meeting, where the Town will be available to answer questions. The Town will also be taking applications for the current housing rehab program. The rehab program is first come first served.

*William D. Roth, Jr., Director
Planning & Economic Development
Department*

Fairhaven Meetings

Board of Public Works
Mon., 12/16, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

CDBG Meeting
Wed., 12/11, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Community Preservation
Thurs., 12/19, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Conservation Commission
Mon., 12/9, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Council on Aging
Tues., 12/10, Senior Ctr., 9:30 a.m.

Government Study Comm
Thurs., 12/5, Town Hall, 6 p.m.
Thurs., 12/12, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Historical Commission
Wed., 12/4, Academy Bldg., 7 p.m.

Planning Board
Tues., 12/10 Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Rogers-Oxford Bldg. Comm
Thurs., 12/5, Town Hall 6:30 p.m.

School Committee
Wed., 12/11, Media Ctr., 6:30 p.m.

Selectboard
Mon., 12/9, Town Hall, 12 Noon
Mon., 12/16, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Acushnet Meetings

Board of Assessors
Wed., 12/11, Town Hall, 5:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission
Wed., 12/11, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Planning Commission
Thurs., 12/12, Parting Ways, 6:30 p.

Selectboard
Mon., 12/16, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
Proposed charter change
Mon., 12/9, Ford Middle Sch., 7 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	Dec. 2013	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	5	0922	2148	0220*	1518*
Friday	6	1017	2244	0312*	1608*
Saturday	7	1113	2342	0407*	1701*
Sunday	8	----	1210	0508	1801*
Monday	9	0040	1308	0633	1913
Tuesday	10	0139	1407	0833	2022
Wednesday	11	0240	1508	0941	2113
Thursday	12	0341	1607	1034	2151
Friday	13	0439	1703	1117	2226
Saturday	14	0531	1752	1153	2303

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

Fairhaven Trots for Health and Hunger

Press Release by Colleen M. Kennedy

The Fairhaven Turkey Trot for Health and Hunger is getting bigger and better year after year!

On November 28, 2013, the fourth annual Fairhaven Turkey Trot for Health and Hunger took place in Fairhaven. The goal of the 5K race was to raise food and funds for local food pantries while promoting a healthy start to the notoriously indulgent holiday. Five hundred and seventeen enthusiastic runners and walkers bundled up to trot on the blustery holiday morning — more than ever before.

Runners from Massachusetts, New York, Virginia, and as far away as Poland returned home to Fairhaven to celebrate the holiday with family

and friends, excited to start Thanksgiving morning trotting around their old hometown.

Many runners got in the Turkey Day spirit by dressing up in homemade costumes and festive hats.

Organizers of the non-competitive event said, "We're so thrilled to see the Trot continue to grow and become a new pre-feast tradition for so many Fairhaven families. Whether to support those less fortunate or simply to burn calories, it's always touching to see the Fairhaven community come together."

The Fairhaven Turkey Trot for Health and Hunger raised \$10,000 to donate to Shepherd's Pantry, M.O Life, and Saint Anthony's Food Pantry this year, making for a grand total of

\$25,000 donated since the event was founded in 2010.

In addition to funds raised, participants donated enough non-perishable food items to fill an entire pick-up truck!

Organized by members of the Fairhaven High School class of 1999, the Fairhaven Turkey Trot Committee would like thank all in the community who participated in the race, volunteered, donated and sponsored the event.

Already planning for a successful 2014, Turkey Trot organizers are always looking for additional sponsors and volunteers. Details can be found throughout the year at www.fairhaventurkeytrot.com.

Tis the Season...for house fires

'Tis the season for family, friends, and creating happy memories. Unfortunately, it's also the season for house fires. In fact, most residential fires occur during winter months. The things that make the season warm and bright — candles, log fires, space heaters, and home-cooked meals — are also things that can spark a devastating house fire.

The hard-working folks at FEMA want us to know that: Cooking is the leading cause of all winter home fires; 5-8 p.m. is the most common time for winter home fires; December is the peak month for home candle fires; 905 people die in winter home fires every year

Check out their safety tips brochure

www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/l-97.pdf

The National Fire Prevention Association cautions us to connect no more than three strands of mini light sets. Their "Put a Freeze on Winter Holiday Fires" campaign has some great tips, fact sheets, and videos <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/holidays/put-a-freeze-on-winter-fires>.

You wouldn't dream of leaving a candle unattended. Does that make you a fire safety expert? Find out with the Winter Fires Quiz <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/holidays/put-a-freeze-on-winter-fires/put-a-freeze-on-winter-fires-quiz>

Another winter safety risk is Carbon Monoxide poisoning. CO is a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas. Generators and faulty, improperly-used or incorrectly-vented fuel-burning appliances such as furnaces, stoves, water heaters and fireplaces produce CO and cause more than 150 deaths every year. The Consumer Product Safety Commission has a sobering video with the facts you need about this silent killer <http://www.cpsc.gov/en/Newsroom/Multimedia/?vid=61664>

Let's make fire safety a holiday tradition!

Healthy Regards and Happy Holidays from your friends at Fairhaven Fire-EMS!

Nomination papers available

Fairhaven's annual elections will be held on Monday, April 7. Nomination papers are now available at the town clerk's office, Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Street. The last day for requesting papers is Thursday, February 13. Nomination papers must be returned with the required signatures by Tuesday, 2/8.

The last day for registering to vote is Wednesday, March 18. The clerk's office will be open until 8 p.m. that day to register voters.

Papers for town-wide office require 50 certified signatures; town meeting members require 10 certified signatures from the precinct.

Call 508-979-4025, Ext. 3 for info.

Fairhaven Snow Parking Ban

No vehicles shall be permitted to remain on the hydrant side of all streets in Fairhaven from December 1 to March 31 from midnight to 8:00 am and also during the time of any snowfall or snow removal operations. On streets with no hydrants, NO vehicles shall be permitted to remain either on the east side of streets running north and south or on the north side of streets running east and west.

Exceptions: There shall be a snow ban on Center Street from Chestnut Street to Pleasant Street only from the north side of the street to the south side of the street to coincide with the Rogers School parking ban. There shall be a snow parking ban on Pleasant Street from Center Street to

Union Street only from the east side to the west side of the street to coincide with the Rogers School parking ban.

The BPW is authorized to remove, or cause to be removed, to some convenient place, including a public garage, any vehicle interfering with the work of removing or plowing snow or ice from any way, and the cost of such removal with all storage charges resulting there from shall be paid by the owner of such vehicle.

The Fairhaven Police Department will strictly enforce this Parking Ban. Violators will be towed and/or ticketed.

By Order of: FAIRHAVEN BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

ZBA denies admin. appeal; turns down subdivision plan

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

Threatening a lawsuit against the Town, Donna Sowa and William Ashworth of 17 Nancy Street left Town Hall angrily after the Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals denied their administrative appeal of a building permit issued to Shawn Miranda and Kathy Rowse of 8 Mina Street.

Ms. Sowa opposed a building permit Building Commissioner Wayne Fostin issued to Mr. Miranda and Ms. Rowse for a 26 by 24-foot detached two-car garage back in September.

Ms. Sowa said she found out Mr. Miranda had gone to other neighbors and asked them if they would oppose the garage on his property but not her.

"I thought it was kind of funny," said Ms. Sowa, "because we are the closest abutters..."

Ms. Sowa disclosed that in the past there was strife between the neighbors over a variance the board granted Ms. Rowse and Mr. Miranda for a rear deck she said went "a little over" what the setback should have been.

She said she appealed the variance to Superior Court, but was interrupted by Chairperson Peter DeTerra.

"The problem here is the garage," said Mr. DeTerra. He adamantly stated the two-car garage met all the zoning requirements for an accessory structure.

Ms. Sowa said she wanted the property owner to mark both sets of plans specifically stating "no storage and no roof run-off." She was afraid the run-off would exacerbate what

she says is an already existing flood issue.

"All of a sudden that went away and it didn't need to be marked that way," say Ms. Sowa.

Mr. Fostin stated that he does not have the power to force the property owner to promise not to use the garage for storage and make extra efforts over run-off.

Ms. Sowa insisted the garage required a variance.

Mr. Fostin said, as long as the garage does not exceed 750 square feet, is within 5 feet of the property line, and storage is under 70 feet, no variance is required.

"The court's gonna do it," said Mr. Ashworth, "I mean it could be solved here. Here we go again."

Ms. Rowse and Mr. Miranda both gave a rebuttal and things got heated at times between the neighbors.

The vote to deny the administrative appeal was unanimous.

"This whole process with the Town of Fairhaven," said Ms. Sowa, "through every turn...there's just been no assistance whatsoever whenever assistance was needed."

Also at the meeting, the board denied a request for a variance for frontage only for 16 Narragansett Boulevard. Owner Bruce Medeiros bought the property with an existing house and a garage he wants to demolish, and hoped to split the property into two lots to create a new buildable lot to sell. Both lots would have been short 20 feet of the required 100 feet of frontage, but have enough square-footage to satisfy the buildable lot requirement.

Kerry Lyons of 1 Jordan Lane repre-

sented Mr. Medeiros as a business partner and begged the board for options after hearing the unanimous vote denying the variance.

Board members lacked confidence over whether they could legally allow the splitting of the two lots and at times could not answer their own questions. Mr. DeTerra stated that the lot split would be in character with the neighborhood, since several other lots also lack similar frontage.

Board Member Rene Fleurent Jr. referred to a past variance the board denied, that town counsel had ruled on. He stated that the law prohibits the board from splitting a lot to create a non-conforming lot.

In a post-meeting interview, when Mr. DeTerra was asked if he was 100 percent confident in the vote, Mr. Fleurent told Mr. DeTerra, "Don't answer that," and Mr. DeTerra gave no comment.

In a follow-up phone interview, Mr. Fostin said the board could have granted the variance if it so chose.

"They have the power to deviate from the standard of the bylaw if they feel it would not be detrimental to the neighborhood," said Mr. Fostin, adding that it is the reason for the board's existence, to allow deviations.

Mr. Fleurent, in a phone interview, said that the law is very clear and that the two lots would still be non-conforming even though they had enough square footage.

"It's still a non-conforming lot," said Mr. Fleurent because of the frontage, regardless of the overall area.

ACUSHNET: cont'd from page 12

"I'm looking forward to the results of this independent review," said Mr. Dakin, adding that the Town will use the results as "a blueprint." In his opinion, Fairhaven's DOR audit process was an "incredibly illuminating and constructive and good process to go through."

When asked how long it took, Mr. Coutinho pointed out that it took six months for the DOR to come back with the results for Fairhaven. He showed optimism that Acushnet's would be faster because the DOR is only auditing the BPW in Acushnet.

He said he expects the report will be returned in 30 days.

Also at the meeting, the board renewed all of the licenses for businesses in Acushnet for 2014; they forewent a right of first refusal for land consisting mostly of cranberry bogs on Braley Road; and read a letter from Senator Mark Montigny supporting Acushnet's application for Green Community status.

The board also voted to have Mr. Coutinho look into a one-hour parking sign by 5 Wilbur Avenue, as requested by a resident who asked to have the

sign changed in order to ease parking restrictions for residents while still accommodating clients of a home-based beauty salon on the street.

Town Counsel Leonard Kopelman of Kopelman & Paige who has represented the Town for decades, sent a letter to the Selectboard announcing his retirement after 45 years as a municipal law attorney.

Special Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday, 12/9 at 7 p.m. at the Ford Middle School. Residents should expect reverse 911 calls on 12/6 and the morning of 12/9 to remind them of it.

New historical group started in Fairhaven

From press release materials

There is a new historical organization in Fairhaven. A group that grew out of an attempt to “revive” the Fairhaven Historical Society met on Sunday, 11/24, and created “Old-Time Fairhaven, Inc.”

After a bit of controversy and complaints in recent weeks about the lack of activity and the lack of response from the Fairhaven Historical Society, the group decided to form its own organization.

A group of eight people met at the Hampton Inn and voted to adopt bylaws and incorporate as a non-profit group called Old-Time Fairhaven, Inc. The founding directors of the new organization are David Despres, Michael P. Dyer, Jeffrey Lucas, Wayne Oliveira, Vicki Paquette, Christopher Richard, Lori Richard and Kari Tyler. The board elected the following officers for the first year: Christopher Richard, president, Lori Richard, secretary, and Vicki Paquette, treasurer.

Old-Time Fairhaven was inspired by the newspaper columns and three Old-Time Fairhaven books published by local historian Charles Harris more than 60 years ago. According to the organization’s website, “Harris wrote about all sorts of historical

things all over town — schools, old stores, fire trucks, churches, Fort Phoenix, trolley cars, famous and not-so-famous people, old burial grounds, ice skating, his Sunday school teacher — some of them from long ago and some of them from his own younger days. He told stories about things people were interested in without being stuffy or boring. We want to be like that.”

The organization’s mission is to educate and interest the public in the history of Fairhaven and its surroundings in fun and engaging ways. To accomplish that goal they plan to collect, preserve and interpret artifacts, ephemera, photographs, art and oral, written or recorded histories related to the town; promote Fairhaven’s past with public displays, lectures, workshops, classes and printed, recorded or electronic media; and perhaps someday maintain a local history museum and library.

To begin with, though, they need to build membership and a group of interested and active volunteers. Members of the public, near and far, are invited to become annual members. Old-Time Fairhaven offers Annual Memberships to anyone who wishes to help support the group and help carry out its mission.

Membership benefits will include free or discounted admission to programs and events, a regular newsletter, email updates of activities, and the opportunity to help promote the history of Fairhaven throughout the community. Prices of Annual Membership are \$15 Individual, \$25 Family, \$150 Life, and \$250 Corporate.

“Once we get more members, we’ll set up some committees of volunteers to develop programs and plan events,” said Chris Richard. “We’d like to offer curriculum-based historical programs to the schools, some public lectures and workshops and maybe offer a special event next spring. We’ll also be posting old photos, picture postcards and stories on our website: <http://oldtimefairhaven.blogspot.com>.

We welcome anyone at all who would like to help.”

If you wish to join you may send a check payable to Old-Time Fairhaven, Inc. along with your name, address, phone number, email address, and a note about any special areas of interest you might have to: Old-Time Fairhaven, 441 Main Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719. Members joining now will remain in good standing through February, 2015. For more information about the group, email oldtimefairhaven@gmail.com.

Fairhaven’s Old Time Christmas offers jam-packed weekend



Fairhaven’s annual Old-Time Christmas will be held next weekend, 12/14 & 15. The weekend’s events include several appearances by Santa Claus. Many events are free. Here is a run-down of events. Be

sure to look on page 6, too, both this week and next week for more holiday happenings. For more information, call the Fairhaven Office of Tourism, 508-979-4085.

Pancake Breakfast

Sat., 12/14 from 9:00 a.m. to noon, at Leroy Wood School, 60 Scoticut Neck Rd. Sponsored by the Wood School PTO, the breakfast features

pancakes, sausage, orange juice and coffee for \$5. There will also be a Scholastic book fair, crafts, photos with Santa (10 a.m. to noon), a prize raffle and more. Donation of canned goods welcome. Accessible.

Town Hall Sing

Sat., 12/14 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 40 Center Street. Sponsored by the Fairhaven Improvement Association. An evening of caroling and fun on the Town Hall Steps, includes a special visit from Santa. Hot cocoa and treats inside Town Hall after Santa leaves. All are welcome. FREE. Accessible.

Town Hall Shops

Sat., 12/14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Town Hall, 40 Center St. Non-profit and church groups have booths to sell holiday related items and more. Some of the organizations with tables are: East Fairhaven Improvement Association, VFW Ladies Auxiliary, Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society, Fairhaven Mothers Club, Fairhaven

Historical Society, Fairhaven Bicentennial Committee and others. Entertainment provided by Fairhaven music students. There will also be a drop boxes for new, unwrapped toys to be given to the area’s needy children and for the United Way food drive. Free. Accessible.

The Brick Church Fair

Sat., 12/14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at First Congregational Church, 34 Center Street. The church will be alive with activity. Craft Vendors, Baked Goods, Cookies, Home Cooking, Vermont Cheddar Cheese, Chance Auction, Silent Auction, Coffee Shop and much more. We will be raffling off a custom made rocking horse. The “Heavenly Treasures,” second-hand shop will be open all day. Lobster roll luncheon will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or until sold out. Chowder and hotdogs will also be available. Accessible. For more

OLD TIME: cont’d on page 26

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from Louise Dupre

From our readers

Ideas for revenue from "The Bridge"

As I read Jean Perry's information packed article "Now, about that bridge" in the November 28 edition of the Fairhaven Neighborhood News I wondered if there is an opportunity for Fairhaven to reap the benefits of traffic delays caused by the bridge. Traffic delays will surely increase on the bridge with the introduction of train service at the end of Pearl Street* in New Bedford in the future.

Has anyone considered providing parking on the Fairhaven side of the bridge with water taxi service to and from the pier adjacent to the proposed train station similar to the Boston Harbor water taxi to Logan Airport in Boston? I would think it would be a much more pleasant experience for commuters over the foreseeable white knuckled stress filled wait in a traffic queue trying to

get across the bridge to access the train station.

Who knows, accommodating commuters on this side of the bridge would certainly introduce new sales to the local business between coffee and bagel sales in the morning and folks dropping in to get a bite on their way home from work. It would certainly allow some of the local businesses to be an active participant in the renaissance currently underway in the New Bedford waterfront area. I hear there is another high end restaurant opening there soon.

If the water taxi isn't a viable option, maybe a bus shuttle from a parking lot in town which is available during weekday commuter hours could be considered? Obviously none of this is imminent, but commuters will obviously have to pay to park in New Bedford once the station is open, so why not consider generating some income on this side of the bridge?

Perhaps the folks at SRPEDD could use their website to do a follow up survey after the sign survey is complete to see if there is an interest in this type of service in Fairhaven. Within the website created for the planned Pearl Street train station I have seen that the State has issued grant money to look at impacts associated with the train station. Perhaps a grant could be applied for to assess opportunities for Fairhaven to also gain from this regional improvement.

Cathy Hanley, Fairhaven

EDITOR'S NOTE: To learn more about the proposed rail station, visit <http://www.southcoastrail.com/>

**The Whale's Tooth Station would be located between Acushnet Avenue and Herman Melville Boulevard, and would be accessible from the foot-bridge at the end of Pearl Street near the Clasky Common Park.*

OLD TIME: cont'd from page 24

information, call 508-993-3368 or email firstcongfairhaven@gmail.com.

Holiday Marketplace

The Unitarian Memorial Church Holiday Marketplace on Sat., 12/14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the parish house, 102 Green Street.

The Unitarian Church parish house will be the site of stress-free shopping with a variety of fine crafters' booths, baked goods and the Women's Alliance holiday greens. Festive holiday music, a visit from St. Nicholas and a Christmas tree decorated with love will spread holiday cheer throughout the halls. Free Admission. Accessible. For more information, call 508-992-7081.

Gothic Church Tours

Unitarian Memorial Church Sanctuary Tour, on Sat., 12/14, from, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Unitarian Memorial Church, 102 Green Street

Guided tours of the English gothic church built in 1904 by Henry Huttleston Rogers. A \$1 per person donation is suggested. Accessible. For information, call 508-992-7081.

Soup & Sandwich Luncheon

Sat. 12/14, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Harrop Center of Unitarian Memorial Church, 47 Center St.

A luncheon of hot soup or chowder and sandwiches will be served at the

Harrop Center next door to the Unitarian Memorial Church. Prices vary depending on items ordered. For more information call 508-992-7081.

Holiday Ornament Crafting, Art Show and Sale

Sat., 12/14 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Art on Center, 15 Center St. Accessible.

Art on Center will have lots of great crafting materials on hand for you to design and make your own holiday



ornaments. The cost is two ornaments for \$5 (no limit). There will also be cookies and hot chocolate and an art exhibit of small works by Art on Center members. You'll find a fantastic selection of artwork priced for holiday giving. For more information, call 774-206-1709 or email info@artoncenter.org.

Lobster Roll Luncheon

On Sat., 12/14 from 11 a.m. until sold out, at the First Congregational

Church, 34 Center Street

Lobster roll luncheon will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. or until sold out. Hotdogs and chowder are also available. Accessible. For more information, call 508-993-3368 or email firstcongfairhaven@verizon.net.

Old-Time

Christmas Carol Sing

Sun., 12/15, at 1 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 16 Temple Place

TLC Play and Learn Campus Youth Choir and other voice ensembles will sing carols and other Christmas songs. A Sing-along will follow. All are welcome. Free will offering. Accessible. For more info: 508-994-3826.

Service of Lessons and Carols

Sun., 12/15 at 4:00 p.m. at Unitarian Memorial Church, 102 Green St.

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Fairhaven presents a service of lessons and carols, with seasonal readings and music performed by Music Director Dwight Thomas and the choir of the Unitarian Memorial Church. All are welcome. Free. (Donations accepted.) Accessible. For more info: 508-992-7081.



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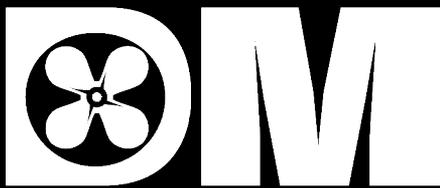
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