



# 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 47 • December 12, 2013

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

## Benoit Square Gazebo is star of the show



The North Fairhaven Improvement Association held its annual lighting of Benoit Square, the first year with the new Gazebo. Santa came and the neighborhood children sang Christmas Carol in the chilly air on Friday, 12/6. See page 16 for story and more photos. *Photo by Beth David.* See it in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com). Visit us at [www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews](http://www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews) to see more photos of this and other events. Individual photos are available for purchase.



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### Also Inside:

- **Selectboard:** page 4
- **Myra Lopes laid to rest:** page 23
- **Acushnet Town Mtg:** page 12
- **Planning Board:** page 18

# From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —  
A day late and many dollars short.



Beth David, Publisher

Okay, let's see how fast I can write this letter. I told my printer it would be a half-hour and it's been 45 minutes already.

First, we have lots of fun stuff this weekend, with all the Old Time Holiday happenings going on. If you don't have that holiday cheer, or just can't find that Christmas magic, then Fairhaven is the place to be this weekend. See page 3 for details.

You also might want to check out page 24 for a very brief account of how one woman found some holiday cheer in the simple honest act of a stranger.

Now, onto some town business. The Planning Board (page 18) voted on the marijuana bylaw. It now needs to be passed at Town Meeting. Meanwhile, at their next meeting, they will consider making a change to the covenant on the G. Bourne Knowles property. The property was supposed to be developed in 2006, but then the economy tanked and it wasn't. One of the conditions of changing the zoning from single family to multi-family was to limit the number of units and the bedrooms each unit could have. In 2010, the board almost removed that covenant in a move that would've left the public totally out of the picture. But, the Selectboard did not support it and so it remained.

Town Meeting voted for the residential change on the condition that the limits would be there: 50 units with a maximum of two bedrooms. Now they want to add a bedroom. That's a lot of extra people living in that space. And, it's not what town meeting wanted. The public hearing is on 12/17 at Town Hall at 6:30. If you want your voice heard, this is your chance.

Remember, we only have one more issue this year. After next week we will be taking two weeks off, so if you have any listings to get in, better send 'em early.

Well there's lots of other good stuff in here, but I've got to run. Be sure to tell our advertisers you saw their ads here. And, if you can swing it, try to send a few bucks or a few cans or something to the food pantry. Details below.

Until next week then...See ya,

## 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. It serves more than 120 families each week and has seen a sharp increase in families seeking food.

Tax deductible donations may be sent to Shepherd's Pantry, PO Box 760, Fairhaven, MA 02719. Visit [www.shepherdspantry.org](http://www.shepherdspantry.org)

## CORRECTION

In our Planning board meeting last week, we misidentified the lots that board member Kaisa Cripps referred to. The lots she referred to for removal from the Registered Marijuana Dispensary overaly district were: Lots north of Bridge Street and east of 240, Lots south of Bridge Street and west of 240.

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## CLARIFICATION

Ms. Cripps also sought to clarify that when she said used the phrase "businesses like that." In an email she wrote: "The quote 'businesses like that' occurred while discussing foot traffic in the area, as well around my statement we as a board and town need to push forward with a new Master Plan.

## Old Time holiday this weekend

Fairhaven's is holding its annual Old-Time Christmas this weekend, 12/14 & 15. Many events are free. Here is a run-down of events. 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: **\$5 pp.** Photos with Santa from 10 a.m. to noon. 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. Caroling on the Town Hall Steps, 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. Entertainment provided by Fairhaven music students. Drop boxes for new,

unwrapped toys to be given to 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, Auctions, raffles and much more. 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.

### 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.

Stress-free shopping with a variety of fine crafters' booths, baked goods and the Women's Alliance holiday greens. Free Admission. Accessible.

### 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.

### 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 Street. Prices vary.

### Ornament Crafting

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

Make your own holiday ornaments, two ornaments for \$5 (no limit). Cookies, hot chocolate and art exhibit.

### 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.

### Service of Lessons & Carols

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

Seasonal readings and music performed by Music Director Dwight Thomas and the choir. Accessible.



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# Selectboard sets tax rate, approves e-government fees

By Beth David  
Editor

The Fairhaven Selectboard voted to approve the Board of Assessors recommendation for a tax rate, although the numbers still must be approved by the Mass. Department of Revenue. At a mid-day meeting on Monday, 12/9, the Selectboard also voted, with dissension, to approve the fee structure with Des Lauriers Municipal Solutions/GeoTMS, which will allow the public to apply for various permits online.

The proposed FY2014 tax rate for residential properties is \$11.48, up from \$10.77; and a commercial rate of \$23.16, up from \$21.58. The tax rate is the amount a property owner pays per thousand on the assessed value of a property.

The average homeowner will see an increase of about \$50 per year, according to Selectboard Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch.

Due to Proposition 2 1/2, the town is allowed to increase the amount of money raised on the tax levy (with property taxes), by a maximum of 2.5% on the total levy. That does not

mean that individual properties will only increase by 2.5%. Some will actually see a decrease because of the drop in property values. Others will see an increase because of the increase in the tax rate, if their property values did not go down.

The total levied by the town cannot exceed 2.5% of the previous year. The proposal will have to be approved by Mass. DOR, which will make sure the numbers comply with the law.

The difference in percentage between the commercial and residential rates did not change.

The board also signed the contract with Des Lauriers Municipal Solutions for their GeoTMS software which allows the public to apply for permits through the town's website. At issue from the last meeting, was a 3% fee that Selectboard member Geoffrey Haworth objected to because it would be assessed even if people applied inside town hall.

Mr. Haworth said he had no objection to people paying a premium for the convenience of applying online, but said he felt it was unfair for those who physically went to town hall to be assessed the extra fee.

Selectboard member Bob Espindola, a long-time proponent of the plan and the board's point person on the project, said all permit needed to be entered into the system because transparency and access to records are a big part of the reason for using the system.

In the course of the discussion, it also became clear that those who use credit cards would have to pay an additional 3% processing fee to their credit card companies. Mr. Haworth called that fee "hidden," and argued

against it.

"It's fee after fee after fee," insisted Mr. Haworth. "So we're nickel-and-diming people."

Dorian Des Lauriers told the board that the user fee is in lieu of a software licensing fee, which would undoubtedly be more expensive for a town the size of Fairhaven at a minimum of \$5,000. He also said that the 3% fee was half of the usual amount. The lower fee structure was created, he said, because the town worked with SRPEDD (Southeastern Regional Planning & Economic Development District) and grouped Fairhaven with other towns.

Mr. Espindola, said that business owners told him the 3% was "well worth" it because of the time it will save architects, contractors and home owners.

The board voted 2-1, with Mr. Haworth opposing, to sign the contract. The system should be up and running in a couple of weeks for most departments.

Building Inspector Wayne Fostin said his department is ready to go, and it will be the first department online. Director of Planning and Economic Development Bill Roth, said he needed a little more time for some of his forms and the more complicated fee structures.

Other departments will go online one by one. The Fire Department may have software compatibility and connectivity issues, but Mr. Des Lauriers said he was certain they could be worked out.

The only real issue was with the Board of Health, as the health agent had not completed the training and had not scheduled a time to do so.

Once the system is online, property owners will be able to fill out all the forms via internet for various permits, such as building, electrical, plumbing, etc.; for dog licenses, beach stickers, etc. Users will have the option of paying online or going to town hall to pay. Some permits will still require the user to go to town hall to see officials, but the application process will already be done. The system will flag any problems so people should not face the issue of returning more than once to fill in gaps in the process.

The company also offers online-real-time chatting with a representative during regular town hall hours.



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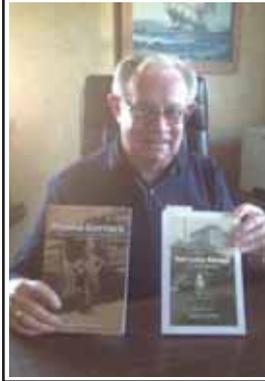


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## Mystery novels for the holidays



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  
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## December Calendar of Events



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

## Old Time Holiday

Fairhaven's Old Time Holiday Weekend will be held on Sat. & Sun., 12/14 & 15. The weekend includes craft fairs, caroling and visits from Santa. See details on pages 3 and 28.

## Sing-A-Long

The Church of the Good Shepherd, 357 Main St., Fairhaven, will hold a Christmas Concert and Sing-a-long with organist, Maurice Greer on **Friday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m.** We look forward to sharing the joy of Christmas with you. Anyone interested in singing or playing an instrument should contact Kathy DeCosta at 508-245-2792.

## Christmas Trees

Troop and Pack 55 Fairhaven is holding its Annual Christmas tree fundraiser, selling both wreaths and Christmas trees. Prices from \$30-\$55; \$10-\$15 per wreath. 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. and will help you load your tree. Employees of Mike & Wayne's will collect money during the early hours on weekdays.

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

## 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.**

## Candlelight Vigil

Vigil for non-violence and to honor those who have died by violence, by the Southeastern Mass. chapter of Parents of Murdered Children, for the family and friends who have suffered a loss from a violent death. **At The Unitarian Memorial Church, 102 Green Street, Fairhaven, on Sunday, 12/22, at 5 p.m.**

Bring a picture of your loved one to be hung on our memorial tree and words or a poem to share. Refreshments after the vigil.

POMC is a non-profit national organization for families and friends who have endured the pain of losing a loved one from violence. We offer support, advocacy and education to members and to the public. We meet every third Thursday of the month at the Unitarian Church in Fairhaven. from 6:30-8:30 p.m. We welcome anyone who needs the help and support during the aftermath of murder.

For more information call Anne at 617-947-1639, or Sue at 508-993-6610, or visit [www.pomc.org](http://www.pomc.org)

## Spread the Warmth

Mobile Loaves and Fishes is collecting warm clothing, coats, hats, mittens/gloves and blankets. Any new or gently used items will be distributed weekly in downtown New Bedford to area homeless. Drop boxes are located in the Fairhaven Town Hall and the Fairhaven Fire Station. For large donations please call Jenn at 774-263-9280 to arrange pick up. Please remember those in need of warmth this winter.

## Food Drive

What A Find! Consignment Furniture is again conducting a Holiday Food Drive benefiting our local food pantries. Please drop off any canned or boxed donations **by December 18 to What A Find, 154 Huttleston Ave., Rt. 6, Fairhaven.**

## Festival of Carols

For All Ages at the Unitarian Memorial Church, 102 Green St., Fairhaven on **Sun., Dec. 15, at 10:30 am**

We will gather to learn about and sing many of the carols and songs that enrich our holiday season. Children in grades 1 and above will join the adults for this intergenerational service. Childcare will be available in Harrop Center for younger children. For more information visit [UUFairhaven.org](http://UUFairhaven.org). Accessible.

## Book Discussion

"The Great Gatsby," a novel by F. Scott Fitzgerald, will be discussed on Thurs., Dec. 19th at 10 a.m., by the Millicent Library's Book Discussion Group, in the Library's Conference Room. Walnut Street entrance. Accessible. All are welcome. Refreshments.

The book, which has a fast moving plot, is about a Long Island, mysterious millionaire whose efforts to recapture the love of a beautiful woman ends in tragedy.

The book is available at the library and can be reserved at [www.MillicentLibrary.org](http://www.MillicentLibrary.org). Future dates and book selections are also listed for this discussion group. For more information please contact Norma Markey at 508-993-3745.

## 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](mailto:Wayne.Oliveira@Comcast.net)

# HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

## Holiday House Tour

The New Bedford Preservation Society will hold its **22nd annual Holiday House Tours** this weekend. The Candlelight Tour will be held on Sat., 12/14 from 4-8 p.m.; the afternoon tour will be on Sun., 12/15 from 1-5 p.m.

All are invited to tour the city's historic homes, beautifully decorated for the season on this time-honored holiday event, which will feature costumed portrayals and the popular peppermint pig scavenger hunt. Tour at your own pace beginning at Gallery X, 169 William Street, where the holiday raffle and silent auction will be held during tour hours.

**Tickets are \$23. Call 508-997-6425 or visit [www.nbpreservationsociety.org](http://www.nbpreservationsociety.org) for more information.**

All proceeds will benefit the work of the society in its efforts to maintain and promote historic preservation in New Bedford.

## Benefit Concert

See the Harpoon Harmonizers in concert on **Sat., Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m.** at the Pilgrim United Church of Christ, corner of Purchase and School Streets, New Bedford. Accessible. Tickets at Door: adults, \$10; children 12 and under \$5. Proceeds benefit Pilgrim Church programs.

## Christmas Pageant

Come and celebrate the Birth of Jesus in song and tableau at the Holy Family-Holy Name Pageant on Sun., Dec. 15th at 3 p.m. at St. Lawrence Church. \$2 donation and a canned good for the needy will be taken at the door. Come and bring your grandparents, friends, and neighbors!

Christmas Blessings to all our family and friends throughout this Holy Season! May you have a happy, healthy, and peaceful New Year!

## Zoobilee

The Buttonwood Park Zoo's second annual Holiday Zoobilee offers visitors the chance to experience the holidays in a unique way. The Zoo is open exclusively for Holiday Zoobilee on Saturdays, December 14 & 21 from 11:00am-4:00pm. Visitors will be able to learn how the zoo's animals stay active through holiday themed keeper chats

and animal enrichments each Saturday.

The Holiday Zoobilee admission prices for Zoo Members are \$9/adult and \$6/child and the pricing for Non-members are \$14/adult; \$11/child and all children under 3 are free. The Zoo will be closed for regular admission on December 14 & 21, 2013 and is open exclusively for Holiday Zoobilee from 11:00am-4:00pm. For more information about Holiday Zoobilee, please visit [www.bpzoo.org](http://www.bpzoo.org).

## Toy Drive

Join the New Bedford Firefighters' Union and United Way of Greater New Bedford in their 15th Annual toy drive to provide toys to local youth this holiday season. Dolls, trucks, building toys, toddler toys, games and movie and gift cards for teens are needed to make this season bright.

All of the items collected will be separated and delivered to local nonprofit organizations that serve youth. Some organizations that have received toys from the drive in the past include: Greater New Bedford Women's Center, Schwartz Center for Children, NorthStar Learning Centers, Donovan House and HarbOUR House/Family Preservation Program. These agencies will distribute the toys to children through their various holiday activities.

New, unwrapped toys can be dropped off at any New Bedford Fire Station from 8am-6pm **Donate toys now through Mon., Dec. 16.**

Please do not contact the New Bedford Fire Department with toy requests. Please contact United Way of Greater New Bedford with any questions at 508-994-9625 ext. 20.

## Party w/a Purpose

The New Bedford Chapter of WOCOTOMADI (World Coming TOgether to MAke a Difference), will present a benefit celebration with dignitaries representing state, local and Cameroonian governments, and featuring performances of singers and dancers. The purpose of the event is to honor the work of WOCOTOMADI and thank all its supporters.

WOCOTOMADI is an international non-profit organization dedicated to the exchange of culture and aid.

**Open to invited guests, so please**

**call to RSVP. At the United Fisherman's Club, 639 Orchard St., New Bedford, on Dec. 14.** Five dollar suggested donation for adults at the door. **RSVP is required by emailing [contact@wocotomadi.org](mailto:contact@wocotomadi.org) or leaving a voicemail at 774-955-0551.** Further details are at [www.wocotomadi.org](http://www.wocotomadi.org)

After official welcoming remarks at six o'clock, a buffet-style dinner from 6:30-8 will feature Cameroonian and American cuisine. Appearances and remarks from Cameroonian and local dignitaries will be followed with performances by Queen Dayenu of France, Georgette Adjie of Cameroon and Quinn Charmer of New Bedford. Students from Our Sisters School will also present Cameroonian dances.

All proceeds will go to assist cultural exchange programs in New Bedford and to support development of a regional center devoted to an exchange between the U.S. and Africa of solutions to social problems.

## Music at St Anthony

Come and create happy memories of Christmas. **On Sun., Dec. 15, at 3:00 p.m.** the Spirit of St. Anthony Choir celebrates this joyful season with their annual Christmas Concert and Caroling sing-along. Free Trolley ride to the church from the Whale's Tooth ferry parking lot in downtown New Bedford.

Enjoy the 50 voice choir directed by Cassandra Morgan, accompanied by Isleila Rodrigues on piano, and many star quality soloist singers and musicians. Hear the gigantic St. Anthony's historic 1912 Casavant organ played by Steven Young. One of the best parts of the event is when the 5,500 lights are all turned on in the 100 year-old church, highlighting the art and structure of the building, including the multitude of life size angels. Complimentary hot chocolate and cookies served by the North End Business Association.

The Christmas program promises to meet the high expectations set by this choir. The reputation of the Spirit of St. Anthony Choir is growing and gaining popularity. St. Anthony church is a spectacular venue and inspirational holy space. Come and sing along, and find some of the spirit of the season.

For info call 508-993-1691 or visit [www.saintanthonynewbedford.org](http://www.saintanthonynewbedford.org).

# HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

## 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 \$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](http://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.

## 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 Towns. 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 Dec. 13, 14, 20 and 21 performances are on sale at the box office, 401-921-6800 or online at [www.OceanStateTheatre.org](http://www.OceanStateTheatre.org).**

## Time Exchange Meet

The Dartmouth and Westport members of the Southeastern Mass.

Time Exchange will hold a Meet, Greet, and Share on **Wed., Dec. 18, from 6-8pm, at the Smith Neck Friends Meetinghouse, 594 Smith Neck Road, in South Dartmouth.**

All members, friends, and others interested in the Time Exchange are invited to share food, tell exchange stories, get to know each other, welcome newcomers, discover more about timebanking (also called time exchange), and even join on the spot.

Those attending are invited to bring instruments and perhaps make some informal, festive music together.

The Time Exchange is about making friends and finding new ways to help each other and our community by giving and getting service hours. We will meet and greet, then eat, play and visit. Please RSVP to 774-955-0551, or email Bob Bailey at [exchange.timesmass@gmail.com](mailto:exchange.timesmass@gmail.com). Visit [exchangetime.org](http://exchangetime.org)

## Fish Meeting

Under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A and pursuant to the authority found at M.G.L. c. 130 § 2, 17A, 38 and 80, the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) and the Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission (MFC) have scheduled a public hearing and public comment period to accept comment on proposed regulations to amend 322 CMR 3.00, 4.00, 6.00 and 8.00.

**Meeting will be held on Thurs., Dec. 19, at the Jonathan Bourne Public Library Community Room 19 Sandwich Road, Bourne, MA 02535, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.**

Public comments will be accepted until 12:00 PM (Noon) on Thursday, December 26, 2013. Please e-mail all public comments to [jared.silva@state.ma.us](mailto:jared.silva@state.ma.us) or send to 251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114.

For further information or to obtain a copy of the full proposed regulations please contact Jared Silva by phone (617-626-1534) or through e-mail ([jared.silva@state.ma.us](mailto:jared.silva@state.ma.us)), or visit our website ([www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries)).

The Dec. 19 public hearings will include: (1) Winter Flounder Management (322 CMR 6.03); (2) Asian Horseshoe Crabs (322 CMR 6.34); (3) Expand the Small Mesh Squid Fishery (322 CMR 8.07); (4) Authorization to Sell Non-Conforming Aquaculture Raised Finfish (322 CMR 14.02); (5)

Marking of Lobster Gear (322 CMR 3.04 and 4.13); (6) Groundfish Rolling Closures Clarifications (322 CMR 8.12); (7) Reorganization of Bluefish Regulations (322 CMR 4.05 and 6.18).

## Gala Fund-raiser

Buzzards Play Productions is celebrating its first official season with a Gala Fundraiser and invites you to join in the celebration **at our theater, 3065 Cranberry Highway, Wareham, on January 25th from 7 p.m.-midnight. Tickets are \$35.**

Appetizers, a cash bar and entertainment will be provided. Support BPP and all the local artists and entertainers who've helped BPP bring theatre, comedy, music and so much more to Wareham and the South Coast. We'll look back at the past year, where we are now and where the future will take us! Join us for a fantastic evening and support the local arts!

Buzzards Play Productions is a local non-profit theatre that has been producing family friendly theatrical productions since 2011. Now a 501(c)3 organization, 2013 is the first official season of Buzzards Play Productions. In addition to theatre, the venue houses 3065 LIVE, a fully functional music venue which brings in acts from all over the country.

## Bubbleology

Have you ever wondered "How bubbles do that?" The answer will be revealed when Keith Michael Johnson returns to the new Ocean State Theatre in Warwick with his enormously popular production.

*Bubbleology* will be presented on **Sat., Dec. 14, at 11 a.m., at 1245 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, RI. Single tickets are \$10.00 each.** Discount rates are available for groups of 20 or more by calling (401) 921-1777 x112. Tickets are on sale at the box office Monday through Friday from 12 noon - 6:00 pm, Saturdays from 12 noon - 4:00 pm, and from 12 noon until curtain time on performance days. Tickets are also available online 24 hours a day at [www.OceanStateTheatre.org](http://www.OceanStateTheatre.org) and via telephone during normal box office hours by calling (401) 921-6800.

Introduce your child to the magic of live theatre at the new state-of-the-art Ocean State Theatre!



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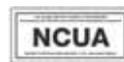
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# Recipe of the Week

## Sour Cream Rolls

- 2 1/4 cups flour
- 2 tbs sugar
- 1 envelope rapid-rise yeast
- 1 tsp salt
- 3/4 cup sour cream
- 1/4 cup water
- 1 tbs butter or margarine
- 1 large egg

Combine 1 cup flour, sugar, undissolved yeast and salt in a large mixer bowl. Heat sour cream, water and butter until very warm; add to flour mixture.

Beat 2 minutes at medium speed with electric mixer, occasionally scraping mixture; add egg and remaining flour to make a soft batter.

Spoon evenly in 12 greased 2.5" muffin cups. Cover, let rise until double in size, about 1 hour.

Bake in 400° oven for 15–18 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from pan and cool on wire rack.

By Lucy Peixoto

### 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](mailto:neighbnews@comcast.net)

# High school has possible “sexting” case

By Beth David  
Editor

The Fairhaven School Department sent out a press release and the High School place calls to parents announcing an investigation into a case of “inappropriate material” that “may have” been seen by students. School officials were careful not to say what exactly the material was, or how many students were involved, citing student privacy.

Several parents, however, said that a partial picture of a naked sophomore girl was sent to another student via cellphone, known as “sexting,” but using an application that does not keep the picture on the screen for long. The result is that police and school officials are having difficulty proving that anything happened at all.

“At this point in time, there is no probable cause that a crime has been committed. As a result, this remains a school matter,” reads the press release.

In a follow-up interview, FHS Principal Tara Quirk Kohler would not give any more details, except to say that all students involved are minors.

Ms. Kohler said her main concern was “restoring the dignity” of the students involved and not making the matter any worse for those involved.

She emphasized that the activity did not rise to the level of criminal

charges.

“We are not immune to the problems out there in society,” said Ms. Kohler. “We are trying to help kids make better choices.”

She said the school resource officers have been informed since the beginning and were investigating.

She said that they had not found and probable cause for criminal charges.

Fairhaven police department spokesperson Kevin Kobza would not comment on the case specifically, but said that it is illegal to send a picture of anyone under the age of 18 in “various stages of undress.” It is considered child pornography, even if sent by a person of him or herself if the person is under 18.

Sgt. Kobza also said that “inappropriate material” could mean a variety of things, not only naked photos.

Sources in the school, however, confirmed to the Neighb News that sexting was being investigated.

It is unclear how many students were involved.

Sgt. Kobza said that police would need concrete evidence, such as a the picture still being on a cell phone, in order to charge someone.

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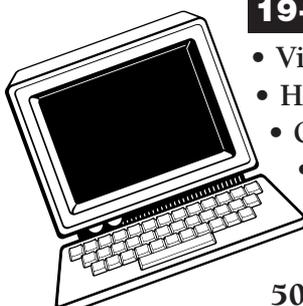
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**Sat., 12/14:** DJ Tara, 9 p.m.

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# Acushnet votes to abolish Board of Public Works

By Jean Perry

## Neighb News Correspondent

The Acushnet Board of Public Works got the boot, 125 boots to be precise, when Special Town Meeting members on 12/9 voted in favor of eliminating the BPW in a decisive majority vote of 125-37.

The article called for an amendment to the town charter abolishing the BPW, leaving the Selectboard as the lawful successor of the authority and responsible for all matters in the Department of Public Works.

The Special Town Meeting came as a result of a petition signed by 271 Acushnet residents, mostly angry over what they considered a sudden and unexpected hike in their water bills because of a new universal \$168 base fee.

"This is the democratic process in action," said Selectboard Chair Leslie Dakin, "and we will honor the will of you people tonight."

Some residents took the floor and spoke in favor of the charter change while others spoke to preserve the status quo, mainly concerned that the change would deprive the citizens of their right to vote, or vote out, members of the BPW if they were dissatisfied with their performance.

First to take the floor, current BPW Member Norman Fredette cautioned voters against jettisoning the BPW saying, "Be careful what you wish for 'cause you just might get it."

"I just don't like the concept of getting rid of a board and adding responsibility to a different board," said Conservation Commission Member Robert Rocha.

School Committee member John Howcroft quoted Thomas Paine when urging voters to vote in favor of the charter change. "A body of men hold-

ing themselves accountable to nobody ought not to be trusted by anybody."

Mr. Howcroft spoke of the struggling citizens who were "hit with an unfair bill," and was cut off by Moderator Robert Francis.

"This is not about the water rates," said Mr. Francis. "I don't want discussion on the water rates."

Oh, but it was about the water rates, whispered some voters in attendance among themselves. And that was not the only time water rates would be brought up that evening.

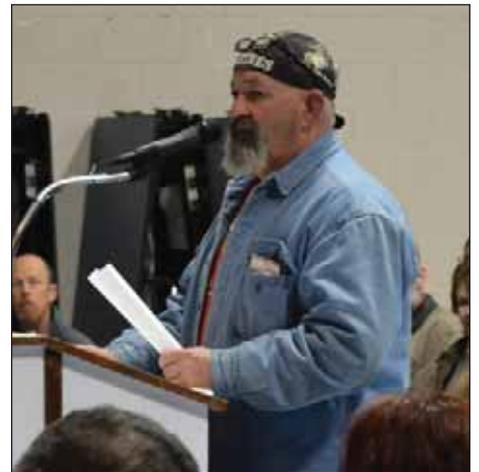
Following Mr. Howcroft, Edward Hardy brought up his outrageous water bill, but promptly stated that he was not there that evening for that. His concern was over taking his right away to vote out BPW members and hold them accountable.

"Don't give up your right to vote," Mr. Hardy advised residents.

Gail Rodrigues, a former Finance Committee member, said the problem is that no one runs against those seeking to be elected to the BPW and the seats cannot even be filled. She also asked what the financial impact of eliminating the BPW would be to the Town.

Mr. Dakin offered up some "facts and history" on the BPW and brought up how poor communication is between the BPW and other town boards, and the expired water contract with the City of New Bedford that has not been negotiated since 2010. He was interrupted by the moderator to stick to Ms. Rodrigues's question about financial impact.

Mr. Dakin continued, though, saying the Selectboard has what it takes more than the BPW to oversee the DPW on a day-to-day basis and then stated, "I'd say there are significant savings to be had."



Roland Lavallee, who initiated the citizens petition to have the Acushnet Board of Public Works eliminated, addresses Town Meeting on Monday, 12/9. The measure passed overwhelmingly and will now have to be approved by the legislature. *Photo by Jean Perry.*

Selectboard Member Kevin Gaspar said it was not the Selectboard's objective to take over the BPW, and the last thing he wanted to do was arbitrarily change the water rates "on a guess" without enough forethought. He added that day-to-day duties would have to be delegated to town employees "lightly" to avoid budget increases and overburdening of responsibilities.

Finance Director Cathy Doane said she normally does not speak at town meetings, but she wanted everyone present to hear about her "complicated relationship with the Board of Public Works and with other elected boards" and how often she is not included in many of their financial decisions, yet she often takes the heat for them.

She said the BPW is a group of

**ACUSHNET: cont'd next page**

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Kelli Tomlinson

# ACUSHNET: cont'd from previous page

elected volunteers who are hard to get a hold of with only one full-time and one part-time clerk.

"I think they do the best they can with the manpower they have," said Ms. Doane, "but there simply aren't enough people to serve the residents today."

Former Selectperson Mike Ciopper had harsh words for Ms. Doane, questioning her own availability, and later telling to the *Neighb News* after the meeting that Ms. Doane also holds a full-time accountant position for the Town of Rehoboth and is now serving as a full-time employee to both towns.

In follow-up phone interviews, however, Town Administrator Alan Coutinho, Ms. Doane, and the assistant accountant for Rehoboth all confirmed that Ms. Doane's position with Rehoboth is part-time, with Mr. Coutinho stating that Ms. Doane's hours with Rehoboth do not conflict with her contract hours of 9-4 with Acushnet and that she has "an impeccable reputation with the Department of Revenue and with the Town of Acushnet."

The man who initiated the petition to eliminate the BPW, Roland Lavallee, told residents not to fear that they are giving up their right to vote out board members who do not perform their duties, reminding voters that they can always vote out the Selectboard members.

Paul Pelletier, a former FinCom member who recently sought appointment to the BPW but was rejected because the Selectboard found his method of expressing interest unacceptable, spoke in favor of keeping the BPW intact saying, "I can't see why we're eliminating a board just because of one issue."

He advocated helping the BPW instead of dumping them, eliciting applause from some in attendance.

Selectboard Member David Wojnar later stated, "This is not Board of Selectmen versus the Board of Public Works. It's about who's going to manage things on a day-to-day basis."

Joseph Francis doubted that the water rates would be any lower if the Selectboard had authority at this time saying, "Just look at the tax rates!"

As the moderator called for the

hand count on the vote, Mr. Ciopper made a motion for a secret ballot, due to the nature of the vote and the DPW workers who may feel intimidated openly casting their votes. The motion was seconded but only a handful of people voted in favor.

During the hand count, the future of the BPW was clear, just by looking around at the sea of raised hands flooding the gymnasium of the Ford Middle School.

The next step is for the Selectboard to vote at their next meeting on 12/16 to petition the General Court to approve the charter change and move it through the legislature. Until then, it is status quo, with the BPW still intact and continuing to perform its elected duties.

After the meeting, Mr. Fredette said he did not take the vote personally.

Reacting to the outcome of the vote, Mr. Dakin stated confidently, "We (the Selectboard) have the expertise, the experience, and the resources to manage this...the Board of Public works is composed of volunteers who are inexperienced."

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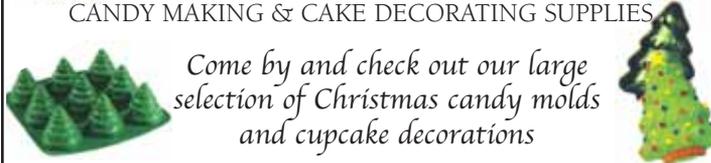




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28 SATURDAY AFTERNOON KID SKATE 2-4:30PM FAMILY SKATE 7-10PM	29 SUNDAY AFTERNOON KID SKATE 2-4:30PM	30 MONDAY AFTERNOON SKATE 2-4:30PM	NEW YEARS EVE SKATE 2-4:30PM
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[www.carouselskate.com](http://www.carouselskate.com)

# Fairhaven Recreation Center

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

## ATTENTION!!!

The Draft on Dec 14th for the Jr and Senior basketball program has been changed to Dec 28th, due to low coach sign ups. The times will remain the same 8 a.m. for Juniors and 10 a.m. for Seniors. AGES FOR SENIORS HAS CHANGED IT IS NOW 12-15 before Dec 1st

*Calling all basketball parents! 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*

## 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

# Fairhaven Senior Center

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

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

## Mall Trips

**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.

### Weather Cancellations

If we have snow accumulation there will be no daily shopping that day and activities may be cancelled. Call the Senior Center to confirm if your activity is cancelled. So, please stock up on non-perishable food items. If the Town Hall Offices are closed then the Senior Center is closed. Listen to the local radio or television stations for official closings.

### Coping with grief during the holidays

The holiday season can be, and often is a very stressful time for many people under the best circumstances. Holidays have become more and more commercial and expectations so great that it is easy to get lost and overwhelmed with all of the preparations. When a grieving person is facing the holidays it can be a daunting challenge. So be kind to yourself, plan ahead, set priorities, include your loved one in your conversations, express your feelings, do something new, remember the rest of your family.

### 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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Our **FREE special report** includes insider strategies used to ease the stress of handling loved ones with dementia and how to better care for them. The report also provides information about protecting life savings and how to get help for the cost of a loved one's care. Visit our website or call for a **free recorded message** in order to order this special report at no cost.

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(The old Morgans)

## Welcoming the fall with some great specials

**Manic Monday:** \$.50 pancake

**Two for Tuesday:** Buy 1 breakfast get 1 free  
(equal value)

**Thursday:** 10% off for senior citizens.

**Free coffee Friday:** Free coffee with breakfast  
purchase.

**Daily Specials**  
**Early bird specials under \$3.00**

**Serving Breakfast & Lunch 6:00 - 1:00**  
**(774-202-6168) closed Wednesday**

# Benoit Square welcomes Santa Claus at annual lighting

By Beth David  
Editor

Santa Claus visited the annual lighting of Benoit Square courtesy of the antique fire truck on Friday, 12/6.

Greeting him was a hardy crowd of neighborhood children, with their adults in tow, singing Christmas Carols and "Here Comes Santa Claus" at just the right moment, led by Natalie Hemingway in her festive "Mrs. Claus" outfit.

Members of the North Fairhaven Improvement Association, including 10-year-old Alexander Dasneves,

decorated the square in some pretty cold weather getting ready for the big night.

This year, the new gazebo, installed on October 31, took center stage, with the Christmas tree inside and lights all around the gazebo.

Inside the NFIA headquarters, Santa handed out coloring books and crayons. A few brave young'uns made sure to take advantage of the situation and ask for things on their Christmas lists. Jackson Ponte, 4, said he wanted a dinosaur that turns into a car (a transformer), while other

children just stared at the big man.

The square is located near the old Oxford School at the junction of Main and Adams Street. The public is invited to use the square and enjoy the lights at any time.

Santa will make several appearances in Fairhaven this weekend for Old-Time Holiday events, including the Town Hall Sing on Saturday (see page 6 for listing).

Contact the Office of Tourism for a full list of events, 508-979-4085, or visit <http://fairhaventours.blogspot.com/>



ABOVE LEFT: Mrs. Claus greets a youngster at the annual lighting of Benoit Square in North Fairhaven on Friday, 12/6. MIDDLE: Jackson Ponte poses for a shot after asking Santa for a Transformer. RIGHT, L-R: Emmalyn Botelho and Irelynn Potvin pose with Santa. BELOW LEFT: Carter Bourgeois shakes the big man's hand after receiving his coloring book and crayons. BELOW RIGHT: Santa Claus makes his grand entrance on the antique fire engine. Photos by Beth David. See them in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com). Visit us at [www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews](http://www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews) to see more photos of this and other events. Individual photos are available for purchase.



# Acushnet lights up the fire station for the holidays

By Beth David  
Editor

With lots of laughs, singing and hot chocolate the town of Acushnet greeted Santa Claus and held its annual lighting of the fire station on Sunday, 12/8. Sponsored by the Firefighters Association and the Police Association, the event included Christmas Carols, time with Santa, free cookies and hot chocolate

with marshmallows AND whipped cream.

Santa arrived on the fire truck as children sang "Here Comes Santa Claus," led by the Ford Middle School choir and Fire Chief Kevin Gallagher as Emcee.

Miss Apple Peach Bethany Fernandes, Jr. Miss Apple Peach Amy Pringle, and Miss Massachusetts Junior High Camryn Kruger also

joined in the singing and the festivities inside the fire station.



TOP RIGHT: A little girl can barely contain herself during the singing portion of the program while waiting for Santa to arrive at the annual lighting of the fire station in Acushnet on Sunday, 12/8. ABOVE TOP LEFT: Waylon Aguiar doesn't look too happy on Santa's knee, while it's all smiles for Levi Aguiar and Skye Dwelly. Meanwhile Savannah Dwelly and Santa share a knowing look. ABOVE LEFT: The fire station in Acushnet is all lit up for the season. ABOVE RIGHT: Morgan Roderiques has Santa's full attention as she tells him what she wants for Christmas. Photos by Beth David. See them in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com). Visit us at [www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews](http://www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews) to see more photos of this and other events. Individual photos are available for purchase.

## New Bedford lights up the common



The City of New Bedford held its annual lighting of the Clasky Common Park located on the corners of County, Pearl and Pope Streets on Sunday, 12/8. Mayor Jon Mitchell and several city councilors were on hand to greet Santa. The Showstoppers and the Parker School Chorus entertained hundreds of hardy souls who turned out on a frigid night. Free hot chocolate and visits with Santa added to the festive atmosphere as people waited for the lights to go on. The display will remain until after New Year's. LEFT: Santa's sleigh at take-off is one of the more impressive displays at the Clasky Common Park. This year it's along Pearl Street. The display includes a reindeer barn, "Santas Around the World," and thousands of lights. Photo by Beth David. it in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com)

# Planning passes proposed marijuana dispensary bylaw

By Jean Perry

## Neighb News Correspondent

The Fairhaven Planning Board, except for one member, is satisfied with its bylaw for zoning registered marijuana dispensaries (RMDs) and voted 12/10 to forward it to Town Meeting after a 7-1 vote before eight supporters and one opposed in attendance.

There was minimal discussion over the details of the bylaw which “piggy-back” the State’s regulations with additional town restrictions on zoning. The bylaw would limit RMDs to an overlay district the board created within the existing industrial zone on Alden Road by special permit granted by the Planning Board.

If an RMD is coming to Fairhaven, “This is how I’d like to see it done,” said Chairperson Wayne Hayward.

An existing proposal for an RMD has identified the former Lottery office on Pequod Street as a possible location. That building falls within the overlay district, and when Mr. Hayward asked Compassionate Care Clinic President Shelley Stormo if she found the bylaw acceptable, she said absolutely.

“I think it’s reasonable,” said Ms. Stormo. “I don’t see any problem with it.”

Much of the discussion stalled on Board Member Rene Fleurent Jr.’s opposition to medicinal marijuana and the state’s regulations allowing RMDs to cultivate in one location and retail in another.

“So they could set up a farm stand in our town,” said Mr. Fleurent.

Board Member Kaisa Cripps also expressed concern over splitting up the use, stating that she thought the board’s intent was to have “all aspects have to happen at one facility.”

“These are treatment centers,” said Mr. Hayward. “Again, this is a special permit...it gives us a lot of latitude.”

“I’m not in favor of this bylaw to begin with,” Mr. Fleurent reminded everyone.

“We don’t need to go down that road,” said Mr. Hayward.

But Mr. Fleurent said he felt strongly that, “They shouldn’t be allowed to just sell in this town.”

Finance Committee Chair John Roderiques, attending the meeting as a resident, lectured Mr. Fleurent on jurisdiction and the law.

“You can’t keep them out,” Mr. Roderiques stated, and you can’t keep the options you don’t like out either, he added. “You can’t segregate the law for your own preference.”

Mr. Fleurent carried on, prompting Mr. Roderiques to challenge Mr. Fleurent to “an hour-long debate” over medicinal marijuana and constitutional law, if only the chair would allow.

“But you’re here on a zoning matter,” Mr. Roderiques said to a now red-faced Mr. Fleurent.

“And until you have...a constitutional designation next to your name,” said Mr. Roderiques, “then you can worry about that.”

Ms. Cripps concurred with Mr. Fleurent and remarked on the incongruence of federal law and state law.

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You can’t keep them out...  
You can’t segregate  
the law for your  
own preference  
[John Roderiques]

---

“Oh, another constitutional lawyer,” uttered Mr. Roderiques.

Worst-case scenario, commented Mr. Hayward, it would all take place in the industrial zone, thanks now to the bylaw.

Resident Diane Hahn told the board that, as a potential client of the RMD, she thought board members might still hold a misconception on the type of person the business would attract and an “older way of thinking about medicinal marijuana.”

“I’m not the kind of person who is going to go over there, buy my dime bag, and smoke my doobie in my back yard,” said Ms. Hahn.

**R e s i d e n t**  
Richard Clark of Timothy Street told the board, “I would urge the s t r o n g e s t restriction.”

Mr. Hayward

acknowledged the moratorium, which is separate from the RMD bylaw, is “still a little iffy” with no Special Town Meeting in sight. “We won’t let that fall through the cracks.”

Board Member Peter Nopper this time disclosed at the beginning of the public hearing that he owns a business within the proposed overlay district.

Also at the meeting, the board continued until 1/14 the hearing for BlueWave Capital’s plan to construct a solar facility at 211 Mill Road. The plan, for the most part, conforms to the Town’s solar bylaw, but details such as screening and “selective cutting” of trees requires further discussion.

The board continued the public hearing for Mary Vander Pol’s Earle Street definitive subdivision after an informal, but lengthy, discussion with Engineer Ken Ferreira who was ordered to appear for an update before the board would agree to another continuance at the applicant’s request.

Board members expressed their ongoing concerns over drainage and, most notably, the encroachment of a house on the proposed street.

Mr. Hayward strongly urged Mr. Ferreira to relocate the street farther away from the house or else the plan could not be approved. The matter was continued until 1/28.

The board also discussed recommending to the Selectboard that a chicane (street island) on Oliver Street remain, despite a petition from 50 residents and a letter from BPW Superintendent Vincent Furtado requesting the removal of the chicane for traffic flow and safety.

The board recommended a 12-foot cut in the chicane to allow for full turn-around access for two properties and that the costs are not borne by the Town.

At the board’s next meeting on 12/17, members will discuss the possibility of changing the covenant on the G. Bourne Knowles property

**PLANNING: cont’d on page 21**

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## SC Vacuum relocates to Fairhaven

### Press Release

South Coast Vacuum, formerly the Oreck Store of North Dartmouth, has relocated to Fairhaven. We're a family owned and operated local business. We opened our store in November of 2004 and in the last nine years we have satisfied thousands of local folks with our great products and services.

Are you looking for a new Vacuum, Air Purifier, a cleaning solution for your home or service/repair for your vacuum or perhaps some supplies or accessories? You'll find all of that and more at our new convenient location on Route 6 in Fairhaven, right next to Gene's Famous Seafood.

We are here to help, not just sell. We take our time to explore the customer needs and help you evaluate the best route to take...not necessarily a new vacuum. If you love your vacuum then we'll tell you if we think it's worth fixing...which we can do right here, and if not then we'll take it in trade for something new.

If you are looking for a new vacuum we have an excellent selection of premium brand vacuum products for very reasonable price points. We specialize in both Oreck and Miele vacuums. We offer a selection of both classic canister styles or uprights. We also have air purifiers, carpet

shampoo and hard floor scrubber machines as well as some great cleaning and deodorizing products. We also rent equipment so you can get a professional job done all by yourself.

So the next time your vacuum smells funny, or doesn't seem to pick up like it should or the dog drags in a mess on your floor, come see us. We have solutions. We offer free estimates for all repair work...and if we don't fix them we don't charge. Just that simple. I'm Marc, myself and my wife Lynne would love to meet you. Visit us online at: [www.socovac.com](http://www.socovac.com)

## Simmy's celebrates two years in Fairhaven

### Press Release

Extra extra read all about it! Simmy's celebrates their two year anniversary!!

Simmy's Restaurant, 58 Washington Street, Fairhaven, formally known as Morgan's, is happy to say "thank you" to all who have supported us over the last couple of years.

We have brought back the simple yet diverse menu with many specials.

Using only the finest products available, everything is home made from scratch. Good ole home cooking.

"This has honestly been the hardest thing I've ever attempted," said owner David "Simmy" Simmons. "I want to say 'thank you' to my faithful staff and customers, and also to apologize to anyone I've offended in my panic mode — I'm getting better. I am here to serve, and love doing so.

Come on down.'

We have the "best pancakes in town," says Mariln Morgenstern.

"The best waitresses in the universe," says Tom Lopez.

"Best place around by two thumbs up," says Wayne St Pierre

Come see for yourselves. See you soon.

*Simmy*



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# Three local authors offer books in time for Christmas

*From Press Release Materials*

Three local authors, including two from Fairhaven, have recently released books, just in time for the gift-giving season.

Fairhaven resident and folk music legend **Maggi Peirce** has published *A Belfast Girl*, weaving stories of a girlhood on “the singing streets” of Ireland, marriage in Scotland, and arrival in America. Those of you who remember Tryworks will remember her from the coffee houses held there.

“I am a Belfast girl: reared in the singing streets of Northern Ireland’s capital city, married in Scotland and finally arriving in America in 1964, where kindly circumstances hailed me in the late 1960s as a singer and storyteller of her native land.” So Maggi Kerr Peirce sums up her remarkable life as a bearer of her native song culture from Belfast to the American folk music revival of the late Twentieth Century. Also a revered storyteller, Maggi (no “e,” she was named for an Irish breakfast cereal) has been featured at the National Storytelling Festival and received the National Storytelling

Network (USA) Oracle award for lifetime achievement.

The book is available at Baker Books in Dartmouth, at the Bookstall in Marion and on Amazon. com. List price is \$14.00

Another Fairhaven resident, **Clement Beaulieu** has just published his second mystery novel, both set in New Bedford in the 1930s and 1940s.

You know Clem because you’ve seen his accountant sign on the neck.

“When I’m not doing income taxes, I’m having fun conjuring up fantasy,” he writes.

The characters of both novels are based on stories or recollections from my earlier days, as part of a large French Canadian family, living in the triple deckers of New Bedford. Being a fan of mystery novels and TV programs, I’ve woven these larger-than-life persons into tales of suspense and ambiguity.

As an enthusiast of the serial movies of the past, both novels call for more. *Bad Lucky Number* concludes — the end for now. And *Round Corners* ends with more to be revealed.

*Bad Lucky Number*: \$10.95; *Round Corners*: \$17.43

Available at Baker Books in Dartmouth and Partners Village Store in Westport. Or order from the author for personalized inscriptions: 508-992-4123 or clemctp@comcast.net. *Round Corners* is also available on Amazon.com and iUniverse.com

New Bedford native **Jennifer De Sousa**, now a surgical RN, in Fall River, has written about her struggle with Lupus in *Metal Butterfly: Lupus, the enemy that lurked within in me*.

The book was written to uplift those struggling with personal or medical issues. It’s a story that reiterates that anything is possible with the proper guidance and attitude.

“I had a great upbringing and could have been anything I wanted,” De Sousa said. “It was my life goal to become a nurse so that I could give back what others have given me.

Jennifer was born at St Luke’s Hospital in New Bedford and was diagnosed with a Hemangioma. As she grew, the Hemangioma spread down the left side of her face leaving

BOOKS: cont’d on page 21

**Dr. Brian K. Bowcock**

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## Public Hearings/ Legal Notices

### Board of Appeals

The Fairhaven Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 7, 2014, at 6:00 PM in the Town Hall to consider the following petitions:

- Petitioner: Nicholas Costa**, RE: 16 Holcomb Street, Plat 25, Lot 134, Certificate #21320; 198-23-4B: A Special Permit is required for Building Trades as a Home Occupation.
- Petitioner: Route 6 Properties, LLC**, RE: 4 Shirley Street, Plat 26, Lot 13M, Book 6196 and Page 344; 198-18: Short 15' of the required 20' front and rear setbacks within a Business District.

*Peter DeTerra, Chairman*

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

that limits the number of units and bedrooms on residential units. The covenant was placed on the property in 2006 when Town Meeting voted to rezone it from single family to multi-family. The covenant restricts the size of the buildings, the number of units to 50 and the bedrooms to two per unit.

In March of 2010, the Planning Board voted to remove the covenant, but the Selectboard did not. It requires both boards to remove the covenant. ●●●

**BOOKS: cont'd from page 201**

her with a massive birth defect. After six constructive plastic surgeries her image improved drastically, and she became more comfortable with her self appearance. At the age of 17 she almost died in Lisbon Portugal, and was diagnosed with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE). In 2005, she had a major flare triggering her heart and kidneys leading her to congestive Heart failure and Renal Failure. She had been on dialysis for a year, and was on a transplant list. However, by a miracle of God her kidneys started functioning again.

"Happiness and faith are the keys to a better life," De Sousa said. "The miracles in the book give people the hope and courage needed to fight their own battles."

The book is available on Amazon.com and at iUniverse.com. Cover price: \$16.95.

## Fairhaven Meetings

### Board of Appeals

Tues., 1/7, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

### Board of Public Works

Mon., 12/16, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

### Community Preservation

Thurs., 1/16, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Conservation Commission

Mon., 1/13, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Government Study Comm

Thurs., 12/12, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

With BPW

### Historical Commission

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

### Personnel Board

Tues., 1/7, Town Hall, 4:30 p.m.

### Planning Board

Tues., 12/17 Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### School Committee

Wed., 1/8, Media Ctr., 6:30 p.m.

### Selectboard

Mon., 12/12, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

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

## Acushnet Meetings

### Board of Health

Tues., 12/17, Parking Ways, 6 p.m.

### Selectboard

Mon., 12/16, Town Hall, 4 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	12	0341	1607	1034	2151
Friday	13	0439	1703	1117	2226
Saturday	14	0531	1752	1153	2303
Sunday	15	0617	1837	----	1224
		----	----	----	2342*
Monday	16	0700	1919	----	1254
Tuesday	17	0739	1959	0023*	1327
Wednesday	18	0816	2038	0106*	1403
Thursday	19	0853	2118	0148*	1439
Friday	20	0928	2158	0231*	1514
Saturday	21	1005	2239	0312	1550

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

Like snowflakes, my  
Christmas memories  
gather and dance — each  
beautiful, unique and  
too soon gone.

*Deborah Whipp*

# Developer says north turbine foundation issue not “significant”

By Beth David

Editor

The north turbine on Arsene Street in Fairhaven is spinning again, after being off for 11 days after a scheduled inspection found that the base had dropped down .19 inches in one spot. The cure called for pouring in a cement-like substance and waiting for it to dry. Meanwhile, crews also did some minor repairs to the outside of the base.

According to Sumul Shah of Fairhaven Wind LLC, the issue of the tilting windmill was not significant, because it was such a small measure.

He said it took very sophisticated instruments to find the problem, and that settling into the soil is not unexpected in the first couple of years.

“It’s not unusual for it to settle,” said Mr. Shah, adding that the repairs are covered in the warranty.

He emphasized that the .19” is a very small amount and that the tower sways in the wind up to eight inches anyway.

“It’s about achieving perfection,” said Mr. Shah.

He said the situation is not the same as in Charlestown, where the turbine sank three inches, which, is “really significant.” The turbine in Charlestown has a different anchoring system and is in different soil.

In Fairhaven, both turbines are anchored in bedrock. There is a small area, a few feet, of soil between the bedrock and the concrete base of the turbine, and that is where the settling took place.

“The turbine is safe. The bedrock is not moving. The anchors aren’t moving,” said Mr. Shah. “It’s the soil in the gap between the bedrock and the foundation,” that is settling.

Mr. Shah said he bolts have been tightened and the foundation

stabilized. The turbine started spinning again on December 5th. Mr. Shah said the next scheduled maintenance is in the spring and it would not be surprising if additional work is needed at that time.

Louise Barteau, who has been actively opposed to the WT’s on Arsene Street, said the problem with the north turbine is just one in a long line of problems with WTs in a variety of other cities and towns in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

“It doesn’t give you confidence,”

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The turbine is safe. The bedrock is not moving. The anchors aren’t moving. It’s the soil in the gap between the bedrock and the foundation (that is settling) [Sumul Shah]

---

she said. “I think we’ve worried all along about public safety.”

She said neither she nor people she has consulting are worried that the turbine would “fall down.”

“The worry is that those things are built to be very balanced,” she said, so if it is “out of kilter at the top,” then there will be increased pressure on gears and it will create more noise.

Noise has been the biggest issue with the turbines, with neighbors complaining that their quiet neighborhood has been ruined. They are unable to sleep and have suffered health problems as a result.

“We always hope that nothing will happen. We never want anyone to get hurt,” said Ms. Barteau. “If it fell over, that would be obvious. For the people

who value quiet and good health, that’s something that was taken from them.”

Meanwhile, on the legal front, the group of neighbors has been buoyed by developments in Falmouth, where the Selectboard and the Zoning Board of Appeals are battling each other. The ZBA has ruled the turbines there a nuisance and a judge agreed and ordered them to be shut down from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. and all day on Sundays and holidays. The Selectboard did not comply, causing the judge to issue a public verbal slap.

Ms. Barteau said that the fact that the judge issued an injunction, means the issue is serious and that the neighbors’ case has a “reasonable chance” to succeed.

“What’s important in this case is the court recognized the harm being done to the Andersons,” said Ms. Barteau, naming a couple in the Falmouth case. “The judge looked at the medical evidence and financial records and saw a reasonable chance for them to succeed, and by not granting the injunction it would cause them harm.”

Ms. Barteau also attended a hearing at the state house where Falmouth residents were allowed to testify about the harm they have suffered since those turbines started spinning.

She said the Andersons showed “great courage” for continuing to fight for their rights when people have “scoffed at them.”

“It’s so good to hear a judge say ‘we hear you and are listening to you.’”

Ann Ponichtera DeNardis, the attorney representing the neighbors opposed to the wind turbines, did not return several calls for comment. That case, which seeks to revoke the building permit for the construction of the turbines, is due back in Superior Court on 12/17. ●●●

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## 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

# Myra Lopes laid to rest

By Beth David  
Editor

Myra Lopes, author, teacher, community volunteer and Fairhaven history lover, was laid to rest at Riverside Cemetery on Thursday, 12/5, after a mass at St. Joseph's Church in Fairhaven. She was 82 years old.

Fr. Chris Santangelo told a nearly full church that Catholics are supposed to live a life that makes them ready to be called to heaven at any time. He said Myra "gave very generously of herself," and was a teacher and mentor.

Selectboard chair and fellow Rotarian Charles Murphy gave the eulogy, telling those present that Myra was a hero. He quoted Mother Theresa, who spoke at a Rotary International convention and said, "we must love until it hurts. If we love, we begin to serve."

"Myra Lopes was the example of serving and loving till it hurt and till she took her last breath on earth," said Mr. Murphy.

He explained that Myra had a heart condition as a young girl, keeping her out of school until she was nine.

"Amazing that one of the smartest women I personally know started school at a later age," said Mr. Murphy. "She was passionate about education and setting goals."

Myra's house growing up always had room for one more.

"Many of you here can agree that Myra lived this example each day of her life and her married life," said Mr. Murphy.

He also took time to praise Myra's marriage and make a little fun of her cooking.

"Myra was so devoted to Curt, what an example of a loving married couple that we all have to treasure," he said. Then he told a story of how Myra learned to cook Japanese food when Curt was traveling to Japan for work.

"Curt reflected that she turned meat to leather," said Mr. Murphy, but then insisted that Myra probably did a great job cooking Japanese foods.

She took classes for everything, sewing, cake decorating and typing when she wanted to write her first book

"She was a woman of vision and determined to share stories and make this world a much better place...isn't

that what we should all strive or," said Mr. Murphy.

He told a story of how her son told an elderly woman that she could count on Myra for help if she needed it. The woman misunderstood and treated Myra as though she were "for hire," but she did it anyway. When asked why she did it, she replied "Why wouldn't I, she needed a helping hand."

"Can we not all learn from this type of generosity of giving of ourself," said Mr. Murphy.

He also stressed how she instilled a sense of community service in her children and grandchildren, creating a lasting legacy.

"Myra looked for the good in people," said Mr. Murphy, and she worked tirelessly to make Fairhaven a



A big "F" in Fairhaven High School's blue and white leans against the coffin of Myra Lopes at her graveside ceremony at Riverside Cemetery on 12/5. An author who wrote many books about Fairhaven history, Myra died at the age of 82 on 11/30

better place each day. "Myra was totally present when you would share something with her and then hold what you said in the utmost confidential way.

Mr. Murphy said that Myra was a prolific letter writer, "from Queen Elizabeth to Jackie Kennedy to the Pope and she always received a personal letter back...she was our Fairhaven Queen and truly a Dignitary in our Town, yet she would be seen sweeping Center Street to make sure our town looked its best prior to any special guest arrival," said Mr. Murphy.

Married for 58 years, Myra also imparted some advice on marriage.

"She would always tell you the secret of keeping a good marriage live is keeping the romance alive, the respect, have common interests in each other, growing with each other no matter what your age, listening (even with your hearing aids out) and compromising to make each other feel important," said Mr. Murphy. "It

seems that Myra did that with all of us."

He also said the number of people in the room with her when she died was "incredible," people from all aspects of life.

"Myra taught me that each person in her room needed to be treated respectfully and love, and I will carry on that mission as we all should," he said. "Seeing the goodness in each other, despite our differences. I get it Myra and WE get it Myra and you are still teaching us till your last breath."

At a graveside service at Riverside Cemetery, just a stone's throw from the mausoleum of her precious Henry Huttleston Rogers, a large "F" in the Fairhaven High School's blue leaned against the casket. Mourners then went to the Century House for a brunch and to reminisce about their old friend.

Monika and Trey Whalley said they lived near Myra for years in a house that was owned by Trey's Uncle Louie, so the two families had a long history.

When their daughter was born, they needed someone to watch their older daughter. They asked Myra to be on call and she readily agreed.

"She was the first responder," said Trey.

What they didn't know was that Myra was "a mess" about it, according to one of her daughters, said Monika. But she never let it show to the Whalleys.

"She was always so nice to the girls," said Monika. "She was also so thoughtful. Always so thoughtful."

"She put people before personalities," continued Monika, noting that Myra would talk to people even if she disagreed with them.

"The whole town just seems so deflated," she said.

Sheila Tunstall McKenna said she served on two time capsule committees with Myra. The only reason she served on both committees was because she knew Myra was on them, too.

"She was such a joy to work with," said Ms. Tunstall McKenna, adding that she is very high-energy. "I'm Type A. She had a very calming affect on me."

"The last thing she said to me was Sheila, I love you. You are a very special friend," said Ms. Tunstall McKenna emotionally.

"She was one of a kind," said one man who did not want his name used.

# Maggie's Wallet: A True Christmas Tale

By Beth David

Editor

Maggie Galley was having a rough Christmas season. First, she was spending a lot of time taking care of people close to her who were sick or hurt, or otherwise just needed her to help them with things, including her son who broke his foot and needed mom to do some running around.

"It's just been a bad year," said Ms. Galley, admitting that her Christmas spirit was sorely lacking.

In short: she was dreading Christmas, not looking forward to it.

Retired and on a fixed income, Maggie will tell you that she has to watch every single dollar. That's why she shops at places like the Dollar Tree, where, undoubtedly, many people are in the same financial boat as she is.

She went there earlier this week to buy her Christmas Cards. They are less than a dollar there.

Then she went to Howland Greenhouses to buy a wreath.

That's when she realized she didn't have her wallet with her; a wallet with \$50 dollars in it.

She absolutely panicked, and

raced back to the Dollar Tree.

"You have your whole life in your wallet," she said: credit cards, IDs, money, photos.

She went inside and asked if anyone had turned in a wallet.

Someone had.

She opened it, sure that the money, and quite possibly the credit cards, would be gone.

"I didn't expect, if I did get it back, that the money would be there."

But it was. All of it. Every dollar.

"It just helped me so much," said

Ms. Galley. "It restored Christmas for me, and it restored my faith in people for me. I never expected to get my money back."

The store clerk told her that someone found it in a carriage in the parking lot and turned it in. The people who turned in the

wallet didn't leave their names, but Maggie wants them to know how much she appreciates their honesty.

"I just couldn't believe it," said Maggie. "It's Christmastime. People need money."

And it was in the parking lot, where it would be so easy for someone to walk off with it.

"I just feel that someone was there watching out for me, to teach me a lesson," she said.

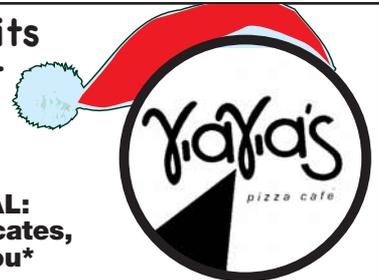
A lesson about Christmas magic, perhaps?

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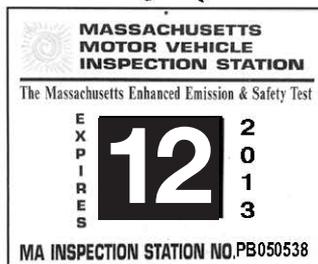
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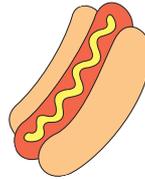
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## From our readers

### **Everyone is in cahoots!**

In meetings that are closed to the public, Fairhaven Town officials, Fairhaven Wind LLC, the MA DEP, and the MA CEC are discussing a mitigation plan for the turbines.

The reason for this mitigation plan is that the MA DEP found multiple measured exceedances of the state noise regulation caused by the turbines over the course of a year from August, 2012 to June, 2013.

On the 10 nights over a year, (just 10!) that the DEP tested, they found the turbines violated state noise regulations on 5 out of those 10 nights. They did not test at all in the months of December, January, and February. They only tested between the hours of 12 and 4 a.m. and they did not test in the rain.

Despite the promise by Laurel Carlson of the MA DEP to the residents of the town to shut down the turbines if they were found to be too loud, the MA DEP has refused to act on behalf of the impacted neighbors.

The Fairhaven Board of Health initially did the right thing and called for the turbines to be shut down from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. in order to give some relief to the neighbors. They later revoked that decision under considerable pressure from Fairhaven Wind, LLC and their various and sundry supporters.

Fairhaven Wind has subsequently come up with a mitigation plan that is based on faulty logic and math. They claim that the turbines are only too loud under the specific conditions and at the specific times that they were tested.

For example, the DEP never tested in the rain, (because the instruments can't be used outdoors in the rain). To Fairhaven Wind that means that the wind turbines are never too loud in the rain. Any intelligent and logical person knows that that is a false conclusion. The only thing it tells us is that they didn't test in the rain.

In fact, many of the neighbors have told me that the turbines are the loudest in the rain.

Fairhaven Wind also wants us to believe that the turbines only need to be turned off between 12 a.m. and 4 a.m. because that is the only time the MA DEP found violations.

Between 12 a.m. and 4 a.m. is the only time period that the MA DEP

tested. It doesn't mean that those hours are the only hours that it is too loud — it only means that those were the hours they looked.

Based on the actual test results, logic, and statistics, if the turbines were monitored 24 hours a day, it is likely that we would find the turbines in violation at all times of day, all times of year, and in all types of weather and wind direction.

If the town of Fairhaven accepts Fairhaven Wind's faulty logic and math as the basis for mitigation, they are signing on to continue to harm some of the town's residents. Moreover, they are agreeing to do so in a process that does not include the impacted turbine neighbors, and that process is clearly being driven by those who stand to gain the most — Fairhaven Wind, LLC.

Before making any more decisions regarding the turbines, the town could, and should, make a genuine effort to listen to those who are harmed, and to do due diligence by seeking truly independent expert acoustical advice on behalf of the neighbors.

That would be the fair and right thing to do.

*Louise Barteau, Fairhaven*

### **Salvation Army's work rooted in Christian faith**

It is my privilege to be a volunteer with the Salvation Army Ministry in New Bedford. The work that is done there speaks for itself, especially with those who struggle in our community during this pressure-packed holiday season. The faithful effectiveness of Majors Gilbert, BethEllen Parkhurst, and their year round staff is most admirable and truly remarkable.

All of this wonderful work has its roots in a man who lived in another country a century and a half ago. William Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army, has grown to become one of the great heroes in the Christian faith and one of mine in particular. It was in the midst of the fog of human despair that he relentlessly set out to share the greatest, most encouraging, and most profound message known to man. He didn't do it from a cushy pulpit, slick television studio, or pastor's study. He started by walking through the streets of London, England in the sweaty, bloody, and foul smelling

neighborhoods of those most hurting. William Booth is a marvelous example of a man with the right heart, acting like Jesus with his sleeves rolled up.

A seriousness of purpose takes shape when a legitimate opportunity arises to share a hopeful message with despairing folks. When the audience is least, last, lost, and lowest among us as far as social, monetary, and educational standards are concerned, the opportunity becomes more of a direct challenge. What could or would you say to someone in the midst of being battered in their personal, social, spiritual, and/or financial life? Could you honestly look them in the eye and walk away believing you offered something that could make a difference?

If uneasiness has arisen in you, please listen and be guided by what William Booth didn't just say but did in action. He went to the script of God that said go into all the world and make disciples. He relied on what God said about seeking Him and His Kingdom first and all the other things would be taken care of. He believed that if he served the least of God's children, he would be serving God directly.

Friends, the question remains: what could you possibly say to someone in the midst of human despair? Real love is God alone because that is His nature. Any other human variation of love doesn't qualify as divine. "It's not by might or power, but by my Spirit," saith the Lord. Real hope is the anchor of our soul and the vision God is willing to give us to see beyond this life into His Heaven with the eyes of our understanding heart.

When we focus on the essence of William Booth's message, we see Jesus Himself telling people He loved them and He alone was their eternal Hope. The only way a true message of hope gets through to anyone is when it is transmitted from God's heart — the source and place of real love and lively hope.

*Steven J. Bouley, Fairhaven*

**It is Christmas in  
the heart that puts  
Christmas in the air.**

*W.T. Ellis*

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# FAIRHAVEN



## OLD-TIME HOLIDAY December 14 & 15, 2013

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

#### **Wood School Pancake Breakfast**

*Breakfast for \$5, Scholastic book sale, crafts, Santa photos, prize raffle, more*  
Wood School, 60 Sconticut Neck Rd., 9:00 a.m. to noon

#### **Town Hall Shops**

*Booths by Non-Profit Groups, Display of Old Toys,  
Drop-off for Toys and Food donations for the needy*  
Town Hall, 40 Center St., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### **Brick Church Fair**

*Craft booths, baked goods, thrift shop & more*  
Congregational Church, 34 Center St., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### **Holiday Marketplace**

*Craft booths & more*  
Unitarian Church, 102 Green St., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### **Unitarian Church Tours**

Unitarian Church, 102 Green St. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### **Holiday Craft Making & Art Sale**

*Design and make unique ornaments*  
Art on Center, 15 Center St., 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### **Holiday Soup & Sandwich Luncheon**

Harrop Center, Center St., 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

#### **Lobster Roll Luncheon**

Congregational Church, 34 Center St., 11 a.m. - ?

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

#### **Old-Time Christmas Carol Sing**

Trinity Lutheran Church, 16 Temple Pl., 1:00 p.m.

#### **Service of Lessons and Carols**

Unitarian Memorial Church, 102 Green St., 4:00 p.m.

The Old-Time Holiday Weekend is sponsored by Fairhaven non-profit and church groups and is coordinated by the Fairhaven Office of Tourism. Complete program listings are available from <http://FairhavenEvents.blogspot.com>. For more information, contact the Fairhaven Office of Tourism, 141 Main Street, Fairhaven, telephone 508-979-4085, email [FairhavenTours@aol.com](mailto:FairhavenTours@aol.com). Visitors Center hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Visitors Center will not be open on Saturday, December 14, during the Old-Time Holiday.