



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 7, Issue 12 • March 29, 2012

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

Turbines are up, should start spinning soon



ABOVE: The blades assembly for the south turbine being installed on town owned land on Arsene Street in Fairhaven is lifted to be attached to the nacelle on Friday, 3/23. The north turbine tower and blades were erected the week before and electricians are busy connecting the wiring. Installation of both turbines are slated to be finished by 4/22, Earth Day. INSET: Workers from Baldwin Crane wait inside the nacelle, some 262 feet up (80 meters), for the blades to be moved in place for attachment. Story on page 20. Photos by Jeff Lucas. See them in color at www.NeighbNews.com. Find us on Facebook for more photos of this and other events.

From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

How about if I just crawl under my bed and never come out?

AAARRCGGHH!!!!!!

Oh, that felt better.

I made a mistake when I was moderating the candidates night — on live television, too. I argued with Dr. Barbara Acksen over a check that was written by a supporter to pay for some ads. Except....it was for another candidate.

UGH.....sorry....(See apology ad on page 3.)

Anyway, her supporters went ballistic, but Dr. Acksen was extremely gracious and understanding. She knows it was a simple mistake.

Whether you were going to vote for her or not, please don't let the "thing with the check," influence you. It was just a mistake.

Now, about voting...

You are all going to get out there and vote, right?

Right.

I thought so. See page 3 for info on where to vote. See page 24 for information on the candidates and the candidates night sponsored by the North Fairhaven Improvement Association.

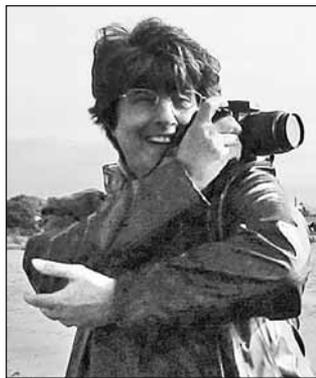
See page 20 for our cover story on the completion of the construction of the wind turbines. Those babies should be spinning soon. If you can get to a computer with Internet access, be sure to find us on Facebook. We already have scads of pictures of the first turbine going up. We will add hundreds more on the second one. We got some great shots.

Yeah, I know, some of you hate them, and you feel all insulted that I sound so excited. Truly, people, I couldn't care less if they went up or not, but they are a big deal, they are fascinating, and we had access. I loved the idea of being on the site and being able to take pictures. I took full advantage of the developer's trust in me and my photographers. We were all over that site.

We have tons of coverage for you this week: a 40-pager. It think that's a record (I have no idea what it will cost to print this thing). We have meeting coverage, candidate statements, and lots of letters. The letters were mostly about the election, so I felt I had to add pages to include them all. I did — include them all, except for the anonymous ones. We don't publish those. I'll read and listen to anonymous messages, but I won't print them, so...adjust.

Well, gotta go...one more thing:

**VOTE, MONDAY,
APRIL 2**



Beth David, Publisher

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CORRECTIONS

Phew...okay last week, then?

VOTE on Monday

Both Acushnet and Fairhaven will hold townwide elections on Monday, 4/2. While Acushnet has no contested races, Fairhaven has several hotly contested races this year, including Selectboard, School Committee, Board of Health, Board of Public Works and Tree Warden. (see page 21).

Polls in both towns are open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Fairhaven Polling Places

Precinct 1: Town Hall; **Precinct 2:** High School; **Precincts 3 & 4:** Hastings Middle School; **Precinct 5:** Leroy Wood School; **Precinct 6:** East Fairhaven School

Acushnet Polling Places

Precinct 1: Council on Aging, 59 1/2 So. Main Street; **Precincts 2 & 3:** Acushnet Community Center, 232 Middle Road.

Town Meeting warrant online

The Fairhaven 2012 Annual Town Meeting Warrant is now available on our website, www.Fairhaven-MA.gov under the "News and Events" section, and in the Town Clerk and Board of Selectmen pages.

Bon Appetit for the Blue Devils

Tired of making the same things for dinner? Don't know what to make for the bake sale? Looking for an easy appetizer to bring to the family holiday gathering? Then you need to purchase Bon Appetit Blue Devils. Proceeds from the \$10 cookbook will benefit the After Prom Party at Fairhaven High School on May 18th.

The spiral bound book contains the favorite recipes of Fairhaven parents, teachers, students and friends. In addition to recipes for everything from dips to candy, the book contains helpful hints, lists for pantry basics, including herbs and spices with descriptions on flavorings, and equivalency chart and measurement substitutions.

Bon Appetit Blue Devils has an assortment of ethnic dishes, seasonal favorites along with some low calorie/low fat dishes. Cookbooks can be purchased at The Sea Witch, 36 Main Street; Beautiful Things, 415 Huttleston Ave.; or from the Fairhaven High School office. All proceeds benefit Fairhaven High School After Prom Event.

After-prom looking for sponsors

The After-Prom Party provides an alcohol and substance free celebration for students who attend the school's prom. It takes place after the Junior/Senior Prom and is chaperoned by FHS staff and parent volunteers. It runs from midnight to 5 a.m. and is held at the high school free of charge to help keep students in a safe, fun environment. A majority of prom-goers usually do attend.

The budget to host the event runs about \$10,000 plus many in-kind donations of food and prizes for ongoing raffles. Party funds are strictly from the community ad parent donations. The committee is actively looking for donations and sponsors to reach their \$10,000 goal.

Supporters of the After-Prom Party will be listed: \$1-\$99, Bronze; \$100-\$249, Silver; \$250-\$499, Gold; \$500+, Diamond Patron. Please send donations to FHS After-Prom Committee, c/o Fairhaven High School, 12 Huttleston Ave., Fairhaven, MA 02719.

Call chairperson Liddy Pepin for info, 508-993-4792.



Neighborhood News

The little paper with a big voice!

From the Desk of
Beth David

Apology to Dr. Barbara Acksen

During the candidates night that was televised live on Government Access Channel 18 in Fairhaven on Wed., 3/14, I made a mistake about a check that was used to pay for an ad. I mixed up the candidates. The check from Dawn and Curt Devlin was NOT used to pay for Barbara Acksen's ad. The check in question paid for ads for two other candidates.

All ads have properly noted who paid for them.

I am extremely sorry and have spoken to Dr. Acksen who has been very gracious about the whole situation.

I hope voters will keep in mind that it was my mistake and my mistake only and all ads for Dr. Acksen that ran in the *Neighb News* have been paid for by Dr. Acksen or the "Committee to Elect Barbara Acksen."

Sincerely,
Beth David

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Tourism director faces downgrading, office will probably move

By Mali Lim

Neighb News Correspondent

The Fairhaven tourism department will be searching for a new home as budget cuts are forcing town officials to explore ways to continue department services in spite of significant cuts. Selectboard members met with Tourism Director Christopher Richard* on 3/27 to discuss the Finance Committee's recent recommendation to reduce the tourism department's budget by \$6,300.

Various options have been suggested, including making the tourism director's position a seasonal instead of year-round job or finding a less expensive leasing option for the department, said Selectboard Chair Michael Silvia.

Mr. Richard pointed out that advertising and printing costs have been sacrificed each year, to the point where the advertising budget is at the same level it was 11 years ago, while advertising costs have increased steadily over the years.

As rental costs for the Visitors' Center come out to \$6,300 exactly, the most obvious solution would be to find a new location for the center, officials said, with the two most likely options being Town Hall and the Fairhaven Academy Building, which is adjacent to the high school.

"I'm not necessarily opposed to moving into town hall, but the finance committee hasn't said where we'd be going and who we'd have to move to make room," said Mr. Richard. Ease of access for visitors would also be a primary concern, especially during Saturday hours, he added. "There would be a lot of issues of having one office open all by itself at town hall on a Saturday."

Mr. Silvia suggested that the Tax Collector's office, which has its own outside access, could be a potential location for a Visitors' Center if the town goes with the Town Hall option.

Mr. Richard felt that the Fairhaven Academy building would be a better fit, but noted that there would be some controversy.

"I've proposed moving there before, but there was strong resistance from the Historical Society," he told the board. "We ended up withdrawing that proposal three times, and it's been for that

same reason each time. Basically, the resistance was so bad, the town didn't take a firm stance. But if it comes down to that, if we have to move for financial reasons, it would make sense to move into the Academy. I'm a town department, that's a town building, and they're an outside group that uses that building for free."

Mr. Richard's biggest objection was not to the idea of moving, but the timing of the move. He pointed out that if town meeting voted to cut his rent budget in May, he'd have to be out of his current location by the end of June.

"That would mean moving in the middle of the summer, in the middle of the Bicentennial events," Mr.

I think as a board, it's incumbent on us to let the Fairhaven Historical Society know they'll have to accept the move...it's inevitable that if we are going to have a tourism department at all, it will have to be in that building [Brian Bowcock]

Richard told the board, adding that brochures, office supplies and other promotional materials all list the current address for the Center, and having to re-print it all would come at a considerable cost. "I'd rather run out of stuff instead of having to dump it all. It doesn't make sense to move us just at the beginning of the busy season."

Mr. Richard proposed a revised budget of \$3,150 for rental fees, which would cover the Visitors' Center lease from July 1st through December 31st, giving the current landlord six months' notice.

"It would cut the budget, yet give us a chance to move in a more logical, more comfortable way," said Mr. Richard.

The selectboard voted to support Mr. Richard's request for a \$3,150 cut, as opposed to the \$6,300 proposed by the Finance Committee. Mr. Richard also pointed out that \$6,300 was approximately 7% of the department's annual budget.

"I've taken budget cuts in the past without complaining, but this is a little department, and our little \$82,000 budget is going to take a 7% hit while other, bigger departments in town are probably going to go up by a percent or two."

The board also voted to notify the Historical Society that the department may be moving to the Academy, although Selectboard member Charles Murphy held out the hope that other locations could be examined as potential sites for the tourism department.

Fellow board member Brian Bowcock dissented, saying, "I think the town has to start making some serious decisions, and this is one of the decisions we're going to have to make. I think as a board, it's incumbent on us to let the Fairhaven Historical Society know they'll have to accept the move. I think that knowing the financials of this year and how next year will be, it's inevitable that if we are going to have a tourism department at all, it will have to be in that building."

The board voted to level fund the police and fire departments, with budgets of \$2,911,000 and \$1,870,700, respectively. They also trimmed the school department's budget to \$17,655,049 — a 2% cut that still has the department \$200,000 dollars over this year's budget.

Discussions on the shellfish warden's budget, sewer department capital improvements, the Boston Hill Water tank, and group insurance costs were postponed until the next selectboard meeting. The board also voted to postpone discussion on a finance committee article requiring negotiated contracts to be submitted at least 10 days prior to town meeting.

"I understand the purpose behind this and we share their frustration, but when you finally settle a contract, there's an obligation to present it to town meeting," explained Dr. Bowcock. "The law says that if bargaining units come to an agreement, we need to call a town meeting within 30 days." Some agreements are struck too close to town meeting dates to allow for full and measured reviews but having to

SELECT: cont'd on page 38



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Every Wed., Fish & Chips or
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\$1/ounce (while they last)
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specials EVERY DAY!**

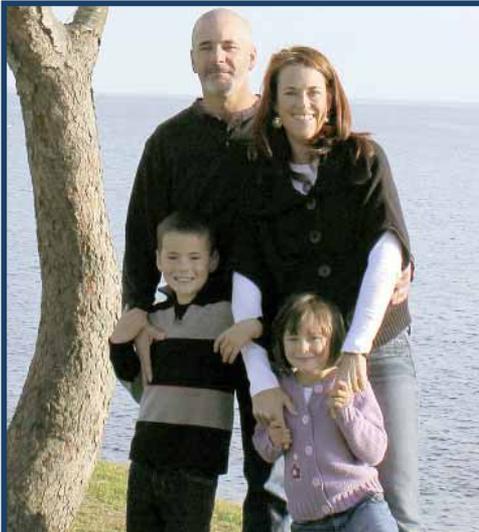
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT:

3/31: Headcase, 9 p.m.
Every Friday: Billy Mulligan
w/Three For All, 5-8 p.m.

Every Sun.: Bar Bingo, 7:00
Every Wed.: Ball Tourney, 7:30
Taraoke: Tues. & Fri., 9 p.m.

BAYSIDE LOUNGE & TAVERN

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MY MISSION

**Unite our community through a spirit of collaboration and thoughtful leadership
to create a partnership between our government and those they serve.**

"Phil Washko has the qualities that Fairhaven wants in a Selectman: strong leadership combined with an equally strong sense of fairness and openness. As I leave office after twelve years, I am firmly convinced that Phil Washko is the right person to guide us through both the difficulties and opportunities Fairhaven will face in the future."
— **Michael Silvia**

"Phil is a tireless worker who has repeatedly demonstrated that he is committed to moving Fairhaven forward. He will provide strong, steady and fair leadership for the future of our town." — **David Wood**

"Phil is an open-minded man of unquestionable intelligence and integrity who will work tirelessly to promote the greatest good for our town"
— **Nancy Greene**

"From school leadership to town leadership, let the progress continue."
— **Greg Bettencourt**



PHIL WASHKO

SELECTMAN

508-289-1112

PhilWashkoForSelectman@gmail.com
www.ElectPhilWASHKO.com

Paid for by the Committee to
Elect Phil Washko

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Coasting Schooners

Friday, March 30, at 7:00 p.m. and Sun., April 1, at 2:00 p.m. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, 80 Middle St., Fairhaven. Donald Tucker and Robert Demanche, coauthors of the book "A Coasting Schooner Life On Southern New England Waters: Captain Claude S. Tucker, the Coral, and the End of an Era" will give an informative multi-media presentation about Capt. Tucker and the Coral. Sponsored by the Fairhaven Historical Society. Refreshment will be served. Free.

For more information, call Barbara Acksen at 508-993-0317 or Donald Tucker at 508-993-9667.

FHS Play

Disney's Beauty & the Beast

Thursday, March 29 to Sunday April 1, Thurs., Fri., Sat. at 7:30 p.m., Sun. at 2:00 p.m., Fairhaven High School Performing Arts Center, 12 Huttleston Ave., Fairhaven, (Larch Avenue Entrance). Accessible.

Fairhaven High School Drama Club presents the Disney's musical Beauty and the Beast. **Reserved Seating: Adults \$15, Students/ Seniors \$12, Children 12 and under \$10.** Box office open Tuesday and Thursday 6-9 PM or call 508-979-4051 ext. 5411.

Fish & Chips

Fish and Chip Take-Out, Fridays, March 30, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Our Lady's Haven, 71 Center St., Fairhaven

Get a delicious take-out meal of fish and chips. Cost is \$6.50 with proceeds benefiting the residents. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Call 508-999-4561.

iPad Raffle

Drawing on 4/4. Buy tickets at Our Lady's Haven

Dorothy Cox Basket Raffle

Tickets available for purchase at Our Lady's Haven. Drawing: 5/11/12

Scallop Supper

The 9th annual scallop supper will be held on Friday, March 30 in the hall at St. Mary's Church, 440 Main St., Fairhaven (not accessible), from 4:30-7 p.m. All proceeds to benefit the Shepherd's Pantry and St. Mary's Church. Tickets are \$12, available at

the rectory or by calling Robin, 508-997-9019. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door.

Light It Up Blue

This year Autism Speaks' Light It Up Blue world wide event takes place the night of **Monday April 2nd as a kick off to Autism Awareness Month.** Look for Fairhaven Town Hall and the high school to be lit up blue on election night.

Organizers are looking for more people to join in on "Light It Up Blue Fairhaven" as part of Autism Speaks' worldwide effort to raise awareness about Autism Spectrum Disorders. Visit <http://www.lightitupblue.org/Markslist/home.do>

For more information email Diane Hahn at dihahn@msn.com or call 508-993-6876 to leave a message.

Easter Egg Hunt

At Livesey Park, Glenhaven Avenue, Fairhaven, on Saturday, April 7, 9:00 a.m.,

Children search for candy eggs and specially numbered wooden eggs that are redeemed for prizes. There will also be prize drawings and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Sponsored by the North Fairhaven Improvement Association. Free.

Photo Contest

For Fairhaven's Bicentennial

The Friends of the Millicent Library are sponsoring an amateur photo contest in honor of the 200th birthday of Fairhaven in 2012.

Participants will submit a current photo and select an old photograph or postcard showing how the town and its people and places have changed over the years. The new photo alongside the old photo should help answer the following questions. How has the character of the town changed? Have people places and things evolved over the years? Has something disappeared? Has something been restored? How have fashions and celebrations changed? Do we deal with nature differently now? How has transportation changed? Do we relax differently now than we did in the past?

Download forms and rules at www.millicentlibrary.org or visit the library, 45 Center St., Fairhaven.

Gardening Presentation

"Edible Perennial Gardening and Landscaping," a power point presentation about growing trees, shrubs, vines, and herbaceous plants for produce in New England with naturalist and landscaper John Root, will be presented on **Sat., Mar. 31 at 2:00 PM at the Millicent Library at 45 Center Street in Fairhaven.**

Informational flyers will be available, and plants will be offered for sale. The program, which is free and open to the public, is supported in part by a grant from the Fairhaven Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass. Cultural Council, a state agency, and by the Friends of the Millicent Library. Please use the Walnut Street entrance.

Hospice Support

Southcoast Visiting Nurse Association, known in the community as Southcoast VNA, to host an informational meeting to discuss plans for Hope Takes Flight: A Butterfly Release to benefit the agency's Hospice program.

The informational meeting will take place on **Wednesday, April 4, at 6 p.m. at the Fairhaven Senior Center located at 559 Huttleston Avenue.** Anyone interested in helping plan for this inaugural event is encouraged to attend the informational session.

For more information contact Amy Eldridge at 508-973-3472 or eldridgea@southcoast.org.

Tennis Starting

The Fairhaven Tennis Association is starting its sixth year with a wide variety of programs for all ages. You may go to our web site at www.fairhaventennis.org and register. This year promises to be an exciting year as we will be adding several tournaments to our program, six person player groups, drop in programs, adult clinics, We welcome all levels of players. Tennis is a fun sport which is social and you get a great workout and at the same time you have allot of fun.

cont'd next page

STILL AROUND TOWN

Bicentennial Events

Incorporation Ceremony now online: Fairhaven was incorporated on Feb. 22, 1812. On Feb. 25, 2012, residents performed a light-hearted re-enactment of the somber event of 200 years before. A video of that ceremony is now available, thanks to

the students at Fairhaven High School. Visit: www.useducationtv.com/default.aspx?sid=2386#ff5e00b20f8c41269c252de2b19ddfc0_0

March 30 & April 1: Historical Coastal Schooner "Coral" Presentation at Coast Guard Auxiliary, 80 Middle St., 7 p.m.

April 28: Aerial picture at Fairhaven high school. Students to spell out "Fairhaven 200" in the football stadium.

For a full list of events visit www.Fairhaven200.blogspot.com or the office of tourism website, <http://fairhavenevents.blogspot.com/>

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Bridge open

The New Bedford-Fairhaven bridge is open to vehicles. The bridge had been closed for approximately 3 weeks for repairs.

Biological Seminars

The Biological Medicine Network (BMN), a program of the Marion Institute, is pleased to offer a seminar Contact Regulation Thermography on May 10th and Paradigms of Biological Medicine on May 11th-12th. These seminars will take place at The Waypoint Conference Center, Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott, 185 MacArthur Drive, New Bedford.

The seminars are designed for healthcare practitioners, medical students and the public who are interested in learning more about biological medicine.

For info visit www.biological-medicinenetwork.org, email info@biologicalmedicinenetwork.org or call the Marion Institute at 508.748.0816.

Easter Egg Hunt

The City of New Bedford has announced that the Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held at **Brooklawn Park at 2 p.m. on Sat., March 31st.** The event is open to children ages 1-12 years and will include a variety of eggs filled with goodies for all participants. The day will be comprised of an egg hunt, plenty of games including an egg toss, egg rolling competition, an egg relay, and more. Children are invited to take a picture with the Easter Bunny as well. The Annual Easter Egg Hunt is sponsored by the City of New Bedford Mayor's Office, Parks, Recreation & Beaches, Community Development Block Grant Program, Child Development and Education Inc., and St. Joseph's Early Childhood Academy.

For more information and to

register your child as a participant please call the Administrative Offices of Parks, Recreation and Beaches prior to the event at (508) 961-3015.

YTI Auditions

Auditions for the World Premiere of Henry Meyerson's new play *The Activist* will be held **Tuesday, April 3 and Friday April 6 at Your Theatre, Inc.** Director Robin Richard says potential actors representing all ethnic, cultural or social backgrounds are invited to attend the tryouts at 7:30 p.m. in Your Theatre's Playhouse Complex of St. Martin's Church at 136 Rivet St., New Bedford.

The play focuses on a man once at the forefront of Alabama's civil rights and voter registration activism in the 1960s prior to becoming a slower paced writer and lecturer in the early 1980s before being urged to become a leader in the Gay Rights Movement.

While dealing with the changing political landscapes of the '60s and '80s, *The Activist* also follows the man's struggle to understand the relationship between his identity and his place in modern society.

Cast of characters includes Gene, a 52-year-old white New York College instructor who was a Civil Rights activist in the 60's; a younger (early 30s) energetic and seductive Gene; Ed, a 60-year-old heterosexual African American former Civil Rights worker turned Gay Rights Activist; and Denise, a 60-year-old pragmatic African American former Civil Rights worker.

Other characters include Stan, a 52-year-old New York newspaper reporter who shares a trusting relationship with Gene; Andy, 19 or 20 and young Gene's lover and protégé during the Civil Rights Movement in the 60s; and Jimmy, in his 30s and much like young Gene in the 60s.

For information, call 508-993-0772, or e-mail ytinc@verizon.net.

Dating Violence Play

The Southcoast Hospitals' Responsible Attitudes toward Pregnancy, Parenting & Prevention (RAPPP) Program and the Katie Brown Educational Program (KBEP) will sponsor a **free program for parents and teens on April 5** featuring a presentation of "The Yellow Dress," a play and discussion to help deal with the problems surrounding dating violence and sexual assault.

The program will take place on Thursday, April 5, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the McBratney Amphitheatre at St. Luke's Hospital, 101 Page Street in New Bedford. The event is free and is open to the public.

"The Yellow Dress" is a powerful and dramatic one-woman play that tells the story of a young woman who is involved in a relationship that begins as young love, full of passion and promise, and ends in tragedy. Produced and directed by Deana's Educational Theater, a non-profit organization established in 1994 after the death of Deana Brisbois who was a victim of dating violence. Discussion with actors and brief workshops for parents and teens will follow.

For more information, please contact Southcoast RAPPP at 508-995-0306 or Katie Brown at 508-678-4466.

Tax Help

New Bedford residents are encouraged to learn whether they qualify for valuable tax credits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit and the MA Senior Circuit Breaker.

Interested residents must contact the Community Economic Development Center (CEDC) to make an appointment. The CEDC will provide assistance to qualifying individuals at New Bedford City Hall on **Thursday, April 5, from 11 a.m.-4p.m.** To make an appointment call 508-979-4684.

HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

Volunteers needed

The American Cancer Society's Road to Recovery program is in great need of volunteers from Wareham to drive local cancer patients to and from their chemotherapy and/or radiation treatments; volunteer drivers donate their time and use of their cars so patients can receive their lifesaving treatment. A special informational session for community members interested in becoming Road to Recovery volunteer drivers will be held **Thurs., Mar. 29, 10 a.m. – noon, Wareham Public Library, 59 Marion Road in Wareham. Light refreshments will be served.**

For more information, please contact Linda Aguiar at 508-897-4325 or Linda.Aguiar@cancer.org, or visit cancer.org.

Nature Walks

Looking for a way to get out and enjoy nature this Spring? Interested in learning more about the natural world that surrounds you? Join in on the fun and learning with programs offered by Mass Audubon South Coast Sanctuaries based from our Allens Pond location in South Dartmouth and our Great Neck location in Wareham. We've teamed up with the Wareham Land Trust and other community partners to offer Thursday night lectures in the Wareham area and Free Friday Forest Walks at the Great Neck Sanctuary, as well as other events.

March 29th: "The Nature Principle and the New Nature Movement" 7:00pm, Tifereth Israel Congregation, New Bedford. Richard Louv is the author of eight books including Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder and The Nature Principle: Reconnecting with Life in a Virtual Age.

March 30th: Bird Walks with Paul Champlin, 9:00am-11:00am Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary. We will prowl the thickets and shoreline of the Sanctuary and learn to recognize migratory birds as well as those who will have remained onsite through the winter months. **Adults \$4 Mass Audubon mem./ \$6 non-members.**

March 31st: In Anticipation of Osprey, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary. The amazing migration back to New England is a

long and arduous one for the osprey. Join us for a brief lecture on the species and their migration and then walk with us to gain insight and understanding into the nesting platforms you see in the area

Adults \$4 MA Audubon members/ \$6.00 non-members, Children \$4.00 Mass Audubon members / \$6.00 non-members.

March 31st: Osprey Brown Bag Field Monitor Training 12:15–2 pm Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary. Pack a lunch, bring your binoculars and join us for this **FREE** field training session on osprey monitoring and platform stewardship.

Free Friday Walks!

Led by WLT/MAS staff and/or volunteer naturalists; meet at the Great Neck parking lot at 9:45am for a brief description of the hike and leave promptly at 10AM. Each walk lasts approximately 2 hours.

Our full program catalog is available at www.massaudubon.org/Nature_Connection/Sanctuaries/Allens_Pond/catalog.php. Many programs are offered at no charge. To register, call 508-636-2437 or email allenspond@massaudubon.org.

Foxwoods F-R

AN ADULT NIGHT OUT.YIPPEE!!!! Foxwoods Casino Night Out, Sponsored by the Holy Family-Holy Name PTO, **\$35 Per Ticket.** Includes roundtrip bus provided by Tremblay's, \$10 Meal Credit & \$15 Keno Credit. **Saturday March 31th, promptly at 6PM.** (Bus leaves from the Stop & Shop parking lot, King's Highway, New Bedford)

Questions? Email Erika Fernandes at SRAErikaFernandes@comcast

Spaghetti Supper

Boy Scout Troop 51 Annual Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser, **Sunday, April 1, from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Acushnet Council on Aging, 59 1/2 South Main Street, Acushnet.** Tickets: \$5.00/per person, all you can eat spaghetti, dessert, beverages. Tickets available at the door or before hand at the Senior Center.

Geocaching class

Now that spring is here and the weather has been so gorgeous, it's time to get out in the fresh air and

sunshine and find something to do outside. One idea for residents of Acushnet is to explore the many open space opportunities we have in town. A number of places in Acushnet offer trails and hiking opportunities, and the chance to observe Mother Nature up close and personal. One way to spice up a hiking trip is to make it a geocaching trip.

Geocaching is a modern day treasure hunt, using electronic GPS units, or cell phones equipped with GPS, to find the "treasure," or cache.

A cache is usually some sort of watertight container filled with "treasures": a logbook to sign that you found it, some little trinket or small toy, sometimes a trash bag to help you to leave the place cleaner than you found it. The idea is to take something, and leave something.

Caches are named and listed on the website www.geocaching.com, where you can open a free account and search for caches close to your home or destination. The Acushnet Conservation Commission has recently hidden a number of caches on conservation land. There are GPS units you can borrow from the Commission for a small fee if you don't have one. If you are interested in geocaching and would like to learn more, attend the **free class given by the Acushnet Conservation Commission on April 4 from 6-8 P.M. at the Council on Aging at 59 1/2 South Main Street.**

Contact the Acushnet Conservation Commission at 508-998-0202

Rape survivor talk

Please join us on April 2, in welcoming guest speaker Donna Palomba, founder of Jane Doe No More, whose story first aired on Dateline NBC. She is a riveting speaker and her story is one of courage and integrity, revealing her transformation from victim to victim advocate after she survived being raped in her own bed. She will be discussing the work of her organization and the success of her video "Duty Trumps Doubt" that is currently being utilized by law enforcement across the country.

UMass Dartmouth, Main Auditorium 285 Old Westport Rd., North Dartmouth, 7 PM. Social to follow \$10 Adults, Faculty/Students free with ID

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Recipes of the Week

Oven Baked Chicken

1 tb butter
2/3 cup original Bisquick mix
1 1/2 tsp paprika
1 1/4 tsp salt • 1/4 tsp pepper
1/4 tsp garlic powder
1 cut up whole chicken
(3-3 1/2 lbs)

Heat oven to 375°. Melt butter in a 13x9 inch glass bakin dish in oven.

Stir together Bisquick, paprika, salt, pepper and garlic powder; coat chicken. Place chicken skin side down in dish (dish and butter should be hot).

Bake 35-45 minutes, turn chicken over and bake for another 15 minutes longer or until juice of chicken is clear when thickest piece is cut to bone.

Roasted Parmesan Potatoes

2 lbs red potatoes • 1 tb oil
1/4 tsp black pepper
1/2 tsp garlic powder
1/4 cup grate Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 425°. Coat baking sheet with oil. Cut potatoes in half lengthwise, then slice each half into 4 wedges.

In a large bowl combine potatoes, oil, garlic powder, pepper and Parmesan cheese. Toss until lightly coated. Arrange potatoes in a single layer on a baking sheet. Bake for 20 mins, or until golden brown.

Both by Maria Moniz

To share a recipe with your neighbors

Mail to 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719; fax to 508-991-5580; email to neighbornews@comcast.net

A Little Bit of Sports

By Bob Hobbs

Special to the Neighb News

FHS Indoor Track All Stars

Katie Wordell

Katie, a senior at Fairhaven High School, was an SCC all star and ST track all star. She set a school record in 1000 with 3:10.39 time. Katie competed in 2 mile and was a member of the relay team.

Ashley Pereira

Ashley, a junior at FHS, was also an SCC all star, and won SCC 600 championship, setting a new school record of 1:43.97. Ashley also ran mile and 800 and was a member of 4x400 and 4800 relay teams.

Bay Gammons

The FHS sophomore was an honorable mention in the ST 2012 indoor track team.

FHS Baseball-Softball

Well, the boys and girls go some great weather to begin practice for upcoming season starting in April. Look for both teams to do well this season.

UMD baseball home from FL

UMassDartouth is home after a successful Florida trip. New head coach Bob Prince's charges swept a twin bill from Coly-Sawyer, 6-0 and 6-2 at UMD complex. Karney Boff, D-R, got his third win in first game.

Catcher Matt Worden of New Bedford and Ryan Medeiros of Acushnet were big sticks for Corsairs.

Nick Carafe pitched the second game win with help from freshman Tyler White, Westport, closing in 9th. Medeiros and Worden had big RBIs in the game.

Blast from the Past

Celebrating teams from Fairhaven's past: 1981 Baseball



The 1981 Fairhaven High School baseball team had a 500 record led by pitching of Jeff Perry and hitting of Art Leonard, Matt Richard and Bob Espindola. The football team featured Rouri Andrews, outstanding running back, and end Bob Gauvin. Gauvin was captain of the hockey team which won SCC conference championship. ABOVE: The Fairhaven High School 1981 baseball team. Row 1: Bob Espindola, Matt Richard, Chris Sullivan, George Lepage. Row 2: Kevin Cadieux, John Allaire, John Barton, Bill Oliver, Doug Duarte. Row 3: Stuart Veira, Arthur Leonard, Ken Rocha, Jhorz. Yearbook photo courtesy of the Millicent Library archives.

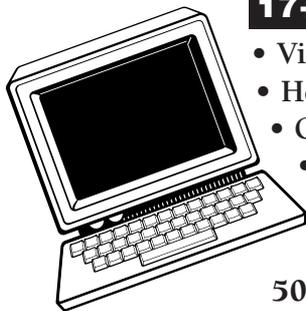
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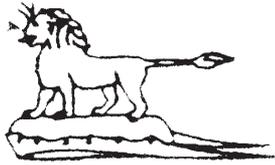
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Acushnet considers taking abandoned church on Perry Hill

By Diane Kozak

Neighb News Correspondent

Research in the Secretary of State's records about the abandoned church at 39 Perry Hill Road did not result in the names of any persons who are legally connected to the property. The development allows the town to take the property by eminent domain should the selectboard vote to do so.

Concerned about the monies needed to rehabilitate the building and future property costs, selectboard chairperson Kevin Gaspar said, "I believe that we have enough historical buildings within the town of Acushnet that we need to take care of."

Selectboard member David Wojnar agreed with Mr. Gaspar's concerns. He said that before the board consider taking ownership of any additional historic property, he would like to be furnished with a short and long term financial plan regarding the rehabilitation and maintenance costs associated with it.

In another matter, the selectboard discussed the possibility of implementing a new process for negotiating some health insurance benefits as authorized by G.L.c.32B Sections 21-23. The general law is health care reform legislation that allows the town to adopt a method to change health plan deductibles and co-payments without having to go through the collective bargaining process with unions.

When changes to the health plan are to be made the union representatives will be put on notice and a 90-day negotiating period will begin. The process also calls for the town to set aside 25% of the savings realized by the changes in the health plan. The funds must be used to mitigate the impact that the decrease in coverage

has on some employees. Some union representatives attended the meeting, including Mark Messier, AFSCME (American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees) Local 851 President.

"I hope you guys find out why other cities and towns didn't adopt it because it's not all peaches and cream by adopting it," Mr. Messier said.

The standing water problem on Rene Street, a long time issue the selectboard has recently taken actions to try to correct, became more complicated when a letter was received from the attorney of Norman and Maria Fredette who are the owners of 16 Rene Street.

I believe that we have enough historical buildings within the town of Acushnet that we need to take care of
[Kevin Gaspar]

The letter states that they "understand there has been discussion or requests to the town to install a second manhole in the public way which would then be connected to the existing manhole in front of the their property."

Since the existing catch basin drains into the Fredette's cranberry bog, their attorney states that the Fredettes will not allow any additional runoff water to be tied into the drain. Furthermore, the letter explains that the water gathering in the public way is coming from people pumping out their basements which is an activity that has not been

authorized by the town.

In another matter, the Community Preservation Committee requested the selectboard to clarify the town's position on spending approximately \$3,000 on improvements to a parking area at the White's Factory property on Hamlin Street. CPC Chairperson Kevin Dakin explained that a fenced area would protect the historic structure from damage that could be caused by vehicles.

According to Mr. Gaspar the property owner, the Fairhaven Acushnet Land Preservation Trust, has refused to sign the deed restrictions requested by the town for the appropriation to be possible.

"Counsel has said repeatedly that you can't spend CPC funds on someone else's property, which this is the Fairhaven Acushnet Land Preservation Trust, unless they allow you to put a historic deed restriction on the property. The president of the Fairhaven Acushnet Land Trust has decided not to sign the deed restriction after we had jumped through hoops to get it approved at the Mass. level," Mr. Gaspar said.

Heather Sylvia, Council on Aging Director, confirmed that the COA has obtained two new vans thanks to the generosity of others. The van that is being replaced will be donated to the Old Colony High School.

In a follow-up conversation Ms. Sylvia stated that the new vans are both 2012 Ford E350 12-passenger vehicles. One van was obtained through a grant program of Coastline Elderly Services. The program required the COA to raise 20% of the van's cost, \$10,500, to contribute to the purchase of the vehicle.

Selectboard member Leslie Dakin

ACUSH: cont'd on page 31



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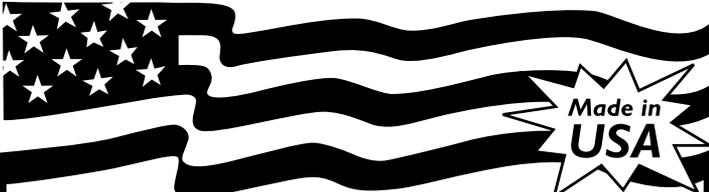
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This 4 day program is a great opportunity to make new friends while participating in group activities such as soccer, floor hockey, cooperative games, and more. Kids need to bring lunch the first 3 days, pizza lunch on will be served on Friday. Sneakers and active clothing must be worn. For more information, call Fairhaven Rec, 508-993-9269.

Monday, April 18th- 21st, 8:00am-3:00pm. Grades K-5 Cost \$100.00 member/ \$125.00 non-member

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Special Activities

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Wed., 4/25, at 6:30 p.m. Tracey Francis guest speaker from Little People's College

Spring Happening

Sat. 4/21, 11:30-12:30 lunch, pulled pork on a roll, baked beans, dessert bar, bev., \$7.00, PLUS dancing with Victor Fonseca, 12:30-1:30. Sponsored by the Friends of the Council on Aging.

Senior Singles Supper Club

The first and third Tues. of the month from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Cost is \$3.00 for a light supper. Please call the senior center BY NOON the Friday before to reserve a seat. This is a nice way for widowed or single seniors to enjoy supper in the company of others.

Dietitian

Make an appointment with Barbara Canuel, Dietitian. First Tuesday of each month. 9:30-11:30 a.m. You can make a half hour appointment to discuss one-on-one your specific dietary concerns. Call

Senior Center for appt.

Tap n Time

A seated dance program, designed for all levels of function, and is open to all seniors. A good and fun way to exercise! On Fridays. Please call the Senior Center for schedule.

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School Department to cut 2%, jobs on the line

By Joyce Rowley

Neighb News Correspondent

The Fairhaven Finance Committee ramped up its meeting schedule to stay on target for the Annual Town Meeting in April by holding meetings on March 20 and March 22. During those meetings, the FinCom heard from the School District, the EMA, and representatives from the Mattapoisett River Valley Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee.

School Superintendent Robert Baldwin announced to the FinCom during the School District presentation on March 22 that he recommended a 2% cut in the School District's \$18.105 million budget because there was "zero help from the State" to the Town this year. The \$360,000 reduction will mean a reduction in services and a loss of up to eight school district jobs, he said.

"This will mean [cutting] salary. This will mean people," Dr. Baldwin said when asked where the cuts would come from.

Dr. Baldwin said he did not want to start a panic. He was meeting with the School District's administration council comprised of leadership and business management to determine how the cuts would be made while meeting the laws governing employment to produce a detailed budget for the District's April 11 budget meeting.

"We want to respect staff and we want to inform the community," Dr. Baldwin said of the process.

"It's going to be at least 2% that this committee will be recommending," said FinCom Chairperson John Roderiques. He reminded everyone that the option at Town Meeting was to vote a number and only the School District can determine where the cuts would occur within that figure.

The FinCom did not vote on a the School Department budget.

On March 20, Director Marc Jodoin presented the Emergency Management Agency budget for the 24-member volunteer organization that assists the police, fire and public works departments with traffic control in severe weather events, water main breaks, and civic events. Scott Fernandes recused himself and left the room, stating there was a relationship between the Boy Scouts and the EMA.

Mr. Jodoin was quizzed on his

stipend of \$1,646 and why the department needs five town vehicles. But member Ted Silva defended the EMA's activities.

"Any kind of emergency, you can come up with ten to twelve people with a snap of the fingers...If you only have three cops on the road, and you get three trucks with three people each at intersections, it doesn't cost anything," said Mr. Silva. "I've heard this committee complain every time you get a union contract with overtime and everything. And these guys do it for nothing."

Mr. Jodoin said that the EMA volunteers logged 137 hours during Tropical Storm Irene and that the vehicles were all "hand-me-downs" with the exception of one purchased in 1995. Mr. Roderiques also defended

If the Rec. Center can't do it, then the Rec. Center is right at the top of the list to be eliminated. Are we going to cut a cop? A firefighter? A teacher? No. [John Roderiques]

the use of Town vehicles for the volunteers during emergencies rather than starting a mileage account due to liability concerns.

When the FinCom voted on the \$8,466 budget, members Kim Hyland and Sidney Martin voted in opposition. Mr. Hyland opposed heating the EMA's building — the old community center on Sconticut Neck Road.

"This department has grown. He didn't make any effort to cut the budget," said Mr. Hyland. "We're heating an empty building."

The vote on the budget passed 7-2, 1 abstention. However, Article 8A, \$3,000 for the EMA building roof repair passed 9-0, with 1 abstention. Member Scott Fernandes abstained in all votes.

The FinCom recommended a figure for the Office of Tourism \$6,300 less in purchase of services by a 9-0 vote. Mr. Roderiques and member Theresa Szala contended that there were town buildings with available space rather

than pay \$6,300 annually for rent at its current location. The balance of the Tourism budget was approved as requested by a 9-0 vote.

The Recreation Center budget was voted 9-0 to recommend adoption, but the use of \$75,000 in the Rec Center's retained earnings account to offset salaries drew criticism by Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch. The FY2012 retained earnings account balance of \$125,813 would be drawn down to \$50,000, with a possible \$15,000 put in from this year's memberships, leaving FY2014 with only \$65,000. Taking less this year would extend the center out a couple years more, Mr. Osuch argued.

"I disagree with your approach. We have an obligation to provide services," Mr. Osuch said, adding there was always an understanding that program fees and retained earnings were not enough to pay for salaries.

"If the Rec. Center can't do it, then the Rec. Center is right at the top of the list to be eliminated," said Mr. Roderiques. "Are we going to cut a cop? A firefighter? A teacher? No."

Mr. Osuch presented information on Article 35, Mattapoisett River Valley Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee proposed 1 cent increase with Fairhaven resident and Buzzards Bay Coalition president Mark Rasmussen on March 20. The article is identical to one that was voted down in spring 2011 due to a lack of information on previous expenditures. The Advisory Committee requested a second attempt, Mr. Osuch said, because they felt strongly about the need to continue to preserve the aquifer recharge zone around the public wells.

"Keep in mind it's your public water supply. It's where you get all of your water," said Mr. Osuch.

The cost per acre of land acquired so far has been about \$4,500, according to Mr. Rasmussen. About 1,166 of the 15,000 acres in the recharge area were purchased in the last 10 years. For every \$1 of town contribution, the Advisory Committee gets \$1 of federal and state grants, and gets \$2 in private donations. The 1 cent increase will double the amount of money the Advisory Committee collects annually from \$80,000 to \$160,000 from all three towns.

FINCOM: cont'd on page 27



VOTE DONNA MCKENNA FOR SCHOOL COMMITTEE

My name is Donna McKenna and I would like your vote for School Committee.

If you elect me, you can be assured that my first priority will be the education and welfare of all students. During these difficult economic times, our budget is never enough but our costs continue to rise. This

is the time for a no-nonsense person like me, with over 25 years of experience in the financial industry, to help keep the Fairhaven Schools on a strong financial footing and make sure we spend every dime wisely. As a member of the School Committee I will:

- Encourage parents to be actively involved in their children's education
- Support high quality professional development for teachers.
- Advocate for strategies that promote a positive climate in our middle and high school
- Maintain a positive working relationship with Board members and the Superintendent
- Maintain open communication between the Board and the residents of Fairhaven

I have lived in Fairhaven all my life and feel strongly about dedicating my time to the School Committee and the residents of Fairhaven. I have two children, a daughter who is senior at Fairhaven High School and a son in 8th grade at Hastings Middle School.

I have worked in banking since 1986 and my experience and expertise in finance will be a valuable addition able to the school budget review process. I am open-minded and will listen to the voices and opinions of others, especially when it comes to the children in

our school system.

For over 15 years, I was a Junior Achievement instructor for all grades in the Fairhaven Schools. I enjoyed my work with all grade levels and became acquainted with the different educational programs that were offered by Junior Achievement.

Beginning in 1988, I have volunteered hundreds of hours in our Middle School, High School and elementary schools. My experience in working as a volunteer in the schools and my financial background has prepared me to serve on the school committee.

I served 3 years on School Council for Wood School and 2 years at Hastings Middle School. I have strategic planning skills which come into play for future improvements of our schools, and I am committed to doing everything I can to make our schools the best they can be and to make sure every child has the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

Currently I am volunteering weekly at the Hastings Middle School. When on the School Council at Hastings Middle School I helped develop a plan to organize parent volunteers.

I have volunteered and/or served on different committees, including: the United Way (allocations committee) which designated money to different charities as needed, the Boy Scout golf tournament committee, the New Bedford Child and Family Service, the Prince Henry Society Golf tournament, the New Bedford Board of Realtors and the North Bristol County Board of Realtors.

I want every teacher, parent, student and resident in Fairhaven to believe that our public school system offers the best possible education we can provide. With your help and support, I will be a strong voice for Fairhaven Public Schools and I hope I can count on your vote!

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT DONNA MCKENNA



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Conservation will visit site of resident bulldozing property

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

Neighbors attending the 3/26 Fairhaven Conservation Commission meeting accused John Koska, the owner of a Clark Street plot, of undertaking unpermitted work and behaving "rude" and "obnoxious" when they asked him to stop.

Michael Koska said his father, John Koska, wishes to have the wetland line on his property flagged, in preparation of clearing some brush from the roadway to gain access to his property.

"He's got his bulldozer and he's itching to do something with it," said Michael.

Abutters to the property say John Koska has already been running his bulldozer on the property on numerous occasions.

Frances Pimental of 20 Harding Road said she asked Mr. Koska to stop the work twice, requesting that he either present her with papers permitting him to do the work or shut the bulldozer down.

John Koska now requires permission from Ms. Pimental to enter her property in order to access his land to flag the wetland line, for which she expressed discontent.

"I prefer not," Ms. Pimental remarked. "I obviously don't trust Mr. Koska."

Ms. Pimental said she would allow members of the ConCom to use her property for access if they needed to, but not John Koska.

Abutter Charles George, owner of 29 Davis Street and the Mello Estate at 16 Harding Road, alleged he also witnessed John Koska bulldozing his property, and expressed concern about the chain link fence accidentally being mowed down during future work. Mr. George said he had wanted to "get this town to act on it in a proper fashion" for quite some time.

The neighbors asked Chairperson Andrew Jones what to do if they witness Mr. Koska using his bulldozer again, and he told them they could call the police.

Ms. Pimental said that "with Mr. Koska's age," she wasn't even sure if he had a license or was able to drive a bulldozer safely. Ms. Pimental also asked why Mr. Koska would want to go through this process, since his lots were of an "unbuildable" size.

"Even if he can't build on it, it

doesn't mean he can't utilize it," replied Michael, stating that if his father wanted to put a picnic table there and use it to have an "Easter lunch," he could.

"What's the bottom line here?" asked Mr. George, regarding John's intentions for his property. "What does he want to do? We want to have peace."

"To build a single family dwelling," Michael disclosed to Mr. George.

Mr. Jones reminded both parties that all they were there to do was to establish wetland lines and gather facts at the site visit, which was scheduled for 4/1. The matter was continued until 4/9.

Michael Ristuccia, owner of land on Bass Creek Road, asked the commission to contact Wetland Specialist John Rockwell to review the wetland line on the east side his

He's got his bulldozer
and he's itching to do
something with it
[Michael Koska]

property.

"The sooner, the better," added Mr. Ristuccia.

Mr. Ristuccia also asked the commission if he could save time by simply amending his application to include a percolation test for a septic system, instead of re-filing a new Request for Determination.

Mr. Jones stated that a new RDA would have to be filed and abutters notified.

Mr. Ristuccia showed the commission a new unstamped plan that included new lots that he added to the plan. The matter was continued until 4/9.

The commission approved the Notice of Intent application for the demolition of the Wood School and construction of the new school, with the initial clearing of trees to begin the end of May, after MCAS testing is over.

Christopher Garcia presented the final plans, describing the new drainage system that includes a fenced-in detention pond designed to

withstand a 100-year storm.

Commission member Joseph Taylor asked Mr. Garcia if the pond could be expanded in the future, should climate change subsequently cause larger, more frequent storms. Mr. Garcia replied that there was room available for expansion beyond the five-foot deep basin, in case there was ever a need for building expansion.

Commission member Cora Peirce addressed the historic tree behind the Wood School being cut down, mentioning that she had received several phone calls from people concerned about saving the tree.

Mr. Garcia said that, although there is no plan to construct a soccer or baseball field per se, the tree is being cut down to establish a "relatively flat green play area."

Ms. Peirce looked to the television camera. "It has nothing to do with Conservation [Commission]," she told viewers.

The commission approved a plan for the construction of a seawall at 22 Balsam Street that will connect two existing seawalls to stop erosion from progressing in the area between.

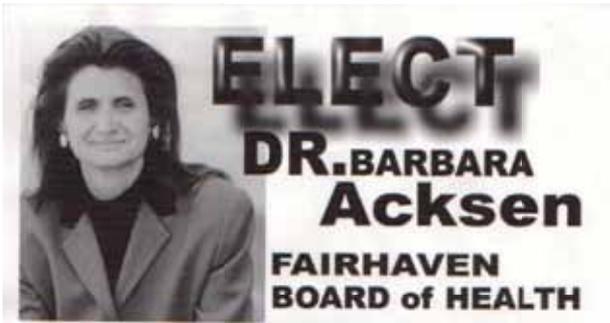
David Davignon, representing applicant Katherine Marie Tumiski, debated with Mr. Jones over a recommendation to "sand-nourish" the beach before building the wall. It was determined that the rocky coastal beach was not an area where sediment naturally collects so the idea was abandoned.

Michael Cardoso of 54 Gilbert Street received a Negative 3 to construct a concrete rear deck within a buffer zone. It was determined that the work will not alter the wetland area and there is no need to file a Notice of Intent with the commission.

Rysard and Kasia Stasiak of 21 Gull Island Road, applicants for a Notice of Intent to alter wetlands after-the-fact, did not appear for their public hearing for a second time, prompting Mr. Jones to acknowledge that if Mr. and Mrs. Stasiak do not appear at the next hearing rescheduled for 4/9, they will automatically be denied. The commission issued an Enforcement Order back on 11/21/11 for what Ms. Peirce described as wetlands having been "totally decimated by the owners."

Public hearings for applicants Heiam Alsawalhi of Bella Vista Island,

CONCOM: cont'd on page 31



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- * Provide a respectful forum for citizens & businesses who come before the Board

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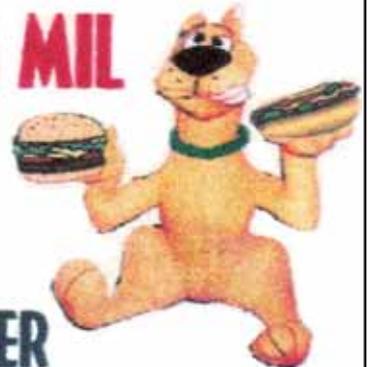
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Wind turbines are up, will be spinning any day now

By Beth David
Editor

Both Industrial Wind Turbines off Arsene Street have been erected. Electricians are now connecting the wires and other equipment necessary to finish the project. Developers expect both turbines to be spinning and producing electricity by 4/22, Earth Day.

The two 1.5 megawatt IWTs will produce enough electricity to power more than 700 homes (about 7.2 million kwh per year), according to Sumul Shah, president of Lumus Construction, which installed the turbines, and Solaya Energy, which will operate them.

The generator that creates the electricity spins 100 times faster than the blades, which turn from 5 to 18 rotations per minute. The modern blades do not get “pushed” by the wind, said Mr. Shah, instead the air flow around the blades causes lift, much like an airplane wings.

More than 1,000 sensors measure wind direction and speed, blade speed, etc., with redundant safety systems to slow down or halt the spinning of the blades in certain conditions, such as high winds, gusty winds, or icing on the blades.

The 136,00-pound nacelle, which houses the generator, also contains battery backup systems in case the grid goes down. The blades will not spin with power, said Mr. Shah, in order for all safety systems to keep working. All systems can be monitored and controlled remotely, including from Mr. Shah’s phone.

“It needs power to stay pitched, to capture the wind,” said Mr. Shah.

The technology of the two Sinovel SL1500/82 turbines was created at a Mass. company, American Semiconductor. It is manufactured in Wisconsin, sent to China for assembly, then shipped back to Devens, MA, for completion.

“In truth, all turbines are global products now,” said Mr. Shah.

He said these particular turbines are designed to shut down in winds of 50 MPH.

“This turbine is built for a moderate site,” said Mr. Shah, adding that the model would not be placed out in the ocean, for

example. “We would use other turbines for more robust winds.”

Mr. Shah also explained that the two turbines were chosen for the sound level at the site. They are guaranteed by the manufacturer not to exceed decibel levels set by the state. He said they create 105dba at the base of the turbines, and no more than 60dba at the property line of abutters. He said that is the maximum, but he is confident the sound level will be significantly less, explaining that the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), just a few hundred feet away has “24-hour sound.” State regulations prohibit the sound from the turbines from exceeding 10dba above “ambient” sound, which is the usual background noise at the quietest hour of the day.

The project is being financed by the developer, with the town of Fairhaven agreeing to buy 100% of the power produced at a set rate for 20 years, 7.043 cents for the first year. The town will sell the power to NStar, which is required by law to buy it. The town will be credited with what it needs for town buildings, and NStar will pay the town for any excess. The two IWTs will produce enough electricity to power all town buildings, including the schools and the WWTP.

NStar is not allowed to charge a transmission/distribution fee for the electricity the WWTP uses because it sits on the same property as the IWTs. The WWTP is the towns biggest user of electricity.

In addition to the revenue from the town, the developer will receive renewable energy certificates which can be sold. The town will receive savings from electricity and \$100,000 in rent from the developer.

Mr. Shah said it should take about two weeks to connect the wiring in the IWTs. A short period of testing will involve starting and stopping the blades from spinning. Then NStar will perform testing.

Mark Baldwin, an owner of Baldwin Crane, which installed the tower sections, nacelle and blades, said the project went very smoothly from the start.

“It’s been spectacular weather all the way through,” said Mr. Baldwin. “Everything’s been going according to schedule.”

He said workers on the site love the IWT projects, because they can see the fruits of their labors on the landscape.

“They enjoy it. It’s an exciting project,” said Mr. Baldwin. “It’s a positive project for the community.”

Baldwin Crane is still family owned, he



ABOVE: The nacelle of the second turbine, or south turbine, on Arsene Street in Fairhaven is lifted into place on Wednesday, 3/21. The \$135,000 pound nacelle houses the generator. A construction worker pokes his head out from the top of the tower, waiting for the nacelle to make it to the top. BELOW: An American worker from Baldwin Crane and a Chinese worker from Sinovel are under the hub that holds the blades as it hovers just a few feet above the ground, just before being lifted 262 feet for attachment to the nacelle, which houses the generator on top of the tower of the south turbine on Arsene Street in Fairhaven. Photos by Beth David. Visit us on Facebook for a series of photos on the installation of both turbines.

said, with the fourth generation working with the company. His grandfather sold the Wilmington, Mass., farm and started Baldwin Steel Erection in the 1950s, then moved to the crane business, and now to turbine installations, something Mr. Baldwin said goes back to their “roots.”

“It’s a great heritage,” he said.

Lumus Construction has installed IWTs in around the world and is currently involved in projects totalling 11 MW of wind power. They have done classified work for Department of Homeland Security, but, according to Mr. Shah, historical restoration is also a large part of their business. They have performed historical restoration work for the National Park Service, General Services Administration, U.S. Coast Guard and National Historical Societies. According to Mr. Shah, Lumus was the company that moved the home of former US president Alexander Hamilton over a church and through the streets of Harlem, a project that garnered a certain amount of notoriety and required the involvement of 67 government agencies. ●●●



Candidates face questions from voters

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

Fairhavenites submitted some tough questions for moderators Beth Perdue from the Standard Times, and Beth David of the Neighb News, to ask candidates at the debate held at the Hastings Middle School on 3/21.

Emceed by Edward “Ted” Silva, and sponsored by the North Fairhaven Improvement Association, candidates gave opening statements followed by questions submitted by the public.

For Selectboard, Jaime DeSousa (D), current Planning Board member, opened by imploring voters to consider the “driving force” behind each candidate’s campaign.

“The campaign will reflect how they will serve,” said Mr. DeSousa.

Later, Mr. DeSousa was asked to explain his own campaign circumstances, with much of his campaign funding coming from sources outside Fairhaven, and only one contributor from Fairhaven. Mr. DeSousa was asked if he would be representing the Town of Fairhaven if elected, or the interests of other towns.

“That’s a perfect example of how I’m not a political insider in this town,” replied Mr. DeSousa. “I’m not ashamed of it.”

Selectboard Candidate Bob Espindola (D) said he wanted to give back to the Town of Fairhaven, and said there are three main issues that he wants to confront if elected. First, with his experience in budgeting and forecasting, Mr. Espindola said financial stability is important for Fairhaven.

Secondly, “Education is critical...” said Mr. Espindola, and thirdly, policies and procedures must be developed to avoid division and within the Town.

“Consider my education, experience, and leadership,” Mr. Espindola

implored voters.

Mr. Espindola was questioned about the lawsuit against the Town to shut down the voter-approved wind turbine (WT) project, where his name was listed as a plaintiff. The panel asked Mr. Espindola, if elected, would he recuse himself from any votes relevant to the WT from a conflict of interest.

Mr. Espindola said he was no longer a plaintiff in the case and it was only a brief period of time that he was.

“I am a man of principle,” stated Mr. Espindola, explaining that several “critical processes” were skipped by the BOS, which Mr. Espindola said he brought forward, asking them to “take a pause in the process.”

Later in the debate, Mr. Espindola stated he had no plan to stop the WT project.

“My interest is...carefully monitoring the situation,” Mr. Espindola said. “I am not against wind...”

Jeffrey Messier (R) showed concern for neighbors “burdened” by large-scale projects that “infringe on the quality of citizens’ lives.”

“I will be more open and more public,” Mr. Messier told voters in his opening remarks.

The moderators asked Mr. Messier to give an example of how he would be an independent voice if elected, and how he would handle having to say no to a supporter.



ABOVE: Fairhaven Selectboard candidates share a laugh before the questions at the North Fairhaven Improvement Association’s candidates night on Wed. 3/21/12. L-R: Jaime DeSousa, Bob Espindola, Jeff Messier, Phil Washko. BELOW: School Committee candidates get ready to answer questions at the North Fairhaven Improvement Association’s candidates night on Wed. 3/21/12. L-R: Incumbent David Gonsalves, Donna McKenna, Colin Veitch. Photos by Jean Perry.

unique ability to “rally those around him,” and said “You deserve someone who ‘gets it’. I get it.”

Mr. Washko said he has met with all the boards and commissions and hopes to improve inter-board communication, including transforming the town website, if elected.

“My sole motivation is listening to you,” Mr. Washko stated. “All I want is your trust.”

During questioning, Mr. Washko responded to a question about how he would address the division of the town that resulted from the referendum to consolidate the Wood and Rogers School. Mr. Washko was an active participant in the “Yes for Fairhaven” campaign.

Mr. Washko said with certainty that once the school is built, “a lot of the fears that people had...they’re not going to be realized.”

All four Selectboard candidates said they supported the current effort by the Planning Board to amend the current WT set-back bylaw. There is one seat open for Selectboard. Incumbent Michael Silvia decided not to seek re-election.

For School Committee, incumbent David Gonsalves told voters, “I stand on my own two feet...that’s the way I vote.”

He acknowledged the new Wood School, the economy, and the school budget, all of which he deemed serious issues.

“I’m here to tell you today...it’s a

CANDIDATES: cont’d on page 32



“The first word out of my mouth is usually ‘no,’” responded Mr. Messier. “I do my research...make the correct decision...to benefit the taxpayers of Fairhaven.”

Phil Washko (R) cited his

Letters from our readers

Cesar Sousa shows support

Support Bob Espindola for Selectman, Donna McKenna for School Committee, & Dr. Barbara Acksen for Board of Health.

Sincerely, Cesar D. Sousa

Planning Board Chair says Selectboard at fault

At the Fairhaven Board of Selectmen's meeting of March 19, the board held a public hearing for a tree removal along Spring Street. It was pointed out by one of the tree warden election candidates that the hearing had not been properly advertised for two consecutive weeks. The Selectmen's office, evidently not knowing how to properly notice a public hearing, had to immediately stop their hearing and continue to another date.

What was truly amazing was shortly thereafter, when the Planning Board members in attendance were looking for support for a town meeting article to reduce the height and setback of future commercial wind turbines, Selectmen Brian Bowcock used the embarrassment of the Selectmen's improper posting of the tree hearing as a reason the Planning Board article should not go to town meeting. He said he was trying to prevent the Planning Board from possibly making a mistake on posting like they did. Then he blurted out that the Planning Board's special permit for the wind turbines caused the town to be sued. I think Brian Bowcock's thinking gets windy when this issue of wind turbines comes up.

Mr. Bowcock only needs to look in the mirror for all the above mistakes. The Selectmen's office failed to properly post the public Hearing for the tree and the Selectmen's office failed to properly notify the community of the renewal of the wind turbine application. The Planning Board in the twenty-one years I have been a member has never failed to properly notice a public hearing and we do it almost every single month!

The Planning board has a professional file procedure in place to make sure we don't errantly miss a public hearing notice, and we never do! Every permit decision we render has a state mandated twenty day appeal period. Every article we submit to town meeting requires a super majority vote and then is reviewed by

the Office of Attorney General Martha Coakley. It's a good thing Mr. Bowcock's decisions as a Selectmen don't require a twenty day appeal period, or review by state agencies, otherwise the town would be bankrupt with endless legal appeals.

Wayne Hayward

Chairman Fairhaven Planning Board

Winnett defends self, family

A friend told me recently that Windwise has been emailing each other regarding my family and their alleged connection to the "Fairhaven-ites for Wind Power" Facebook page I started. I find it preposterous that Windwise is questioning the credibility of my wife and my daughter because of my Facebook postings surrounding the installation of wind turbines in Fairhaven. Neither my wife nor my daughter has made any posts on Facebook regarding wind turbines, and any posts I make on Facebook represent my and only my personal opinions, based on my personal research and experience. My wife and my daughter have both been publicly neutral regarding this issue.

For a group of people to insinuate that my wife and my daughter are opinionated just because I am, is primitive, absurd and ignoble, and demonstrates how Windwise members are relentless and heartless in their fear mongering campaign.

Windwise has received nothing but fair and unbiased attention from my daughter at meetings and by my wife while she photographs various events. Windwise has been treated by my family with dignity and respect, yet they show in return hatred and disrespect to my family because I dare to challenge the outrageous claims made against wind turbines.

Everyone that knows my wife and my daughter knows that they are nice, kind hearted and honest individuals. They report things as they are, nothing more and nothing less. Obviously my wife and my daughter have higher moral values than Windwise members.

My wife was deeply disturbed by these accusations. Our daughter, heading back to college, was also upset because of these baseless insinuations. Is that your goal Windwise, to hurt people? To bully people? To further divide this community? If it is, then congratula-

tions, you have hurt two of the nicest people that I know. You should be so proud of yourselves. Your members act in the name of the group, so I judge every person associated with Windwise as being responsible for this personal, unjustified, abhorrent attack against my family.

In my opinion any candidate for public office that is associated with Windwise should be embarrassed by that group's reprehensible actions. Noticing that the Windwise lawn signs around town were replaced with signs for Mr. Espindola, Ms. McKenna, and Dr. Acksen, it's obvious these are the candidates that Windwise supports. Those candidates should be ashamed of the actions of the group that stands behind them, and Fairhaven should show these candidates, at the polls, that we are all disgusted with the actions and terroristic tactics of Windwise.

Scott Winnett, Fairhaven.

Washko "obviously doesn't care" about residents

I am a resident of the John Street neighborhood and have been following the turbine activity closely, as well as the upcoming election.

I just watched the video from the blade signing and was appalled by what Phil Washko said.

He said and I quote, "I definitely sympathize with folks that are going to be nearer in proximity to these...I have sympathy for those folks...um...but overall I think it is good."

Just exactly what is he running for? He obviously doesn't care about the people. Good for the town, maybe, but this town wouldn't be a town without its people.

I am endorsing Bob Espindola who truly cares about this town, and the people.

I am sure I would never hear a contradictory statement, as stated by Phil Washko, come from the mouth of Mr. Espindola.

Kathy Starr, Fairhaven

Ferreira supports Espindola, Acksen, McKenna

New Bedford's former mayor Scott Lang once said when asked about siting a wind turbine near the city's sewer plant, that he wouldn't impose on people who lived there something out of a Mad Max movie. Fairhaven town officials and some now running

LETTERS: cont'd on next page

LETTERS: cont'd from page 22

for office have no such qualms. But regardless of whether one believes it's OK to sacrifice one citizen's property, peace of mind and health for the illusion of lower taxes or siting two massive turbines besides a pristine marsh in your neighbor's back yard will save the environment no one can argue about the underhanded if not illegal way Fairhaven's Wind Turbine project was executed. Emails revealed by the Freedom of Information Law indicate information was kept under wraps. No abutters were notified. The lot where the turbines were to be sited was changed from the lot named in the Town Meeting article. No correction was made even after the developer notified the town that it could be a problem. Why wouldn't Jeff Osuch tell the selectmen to call a special town meeting, the present Town Meeting surely would have given the developer and Jeff what they wanted? The reason was the project would have become public before the contract was signed before enough momentum had been built to steam roll over any opposition and before the vote ridding the town of the Rogers School was won.

Another e-mail from the developer to town officials is revealing. He congratulates the town officials on their winning the vote just days before he signs the contract. He knew of the school vote while citizens voted in the dark unaware of the turbines. One has to wonder whom in the School Department and School Committee was aware of the turbines?

The last hope was the Board of Health, but we were left with a Board controlled and packed, an independent elected Health Board that should have acted as a check on a Select Board doing the bidding for the developer and stroking its executive secretary's ego. For too many years Fairhaven's Board of Health has been nothing but a rubber stamp for Jeff Osuch and his Board.

It's long past time to restore democracy in this small town. Incompetent local officials betrayed us, our pleas to the state were ignored, the opponents' lawyers including the one we pay for delayed our day in court. The turbines are up. The damage is done and will continue. It's a Pyrrhic victory for

them.

We need men in women in office with intellect and integrity who will be guided by empathy and understanding. It's not enough to offer sympathy to those who are negatively impacted by these turbines as I heard one candidate for selectman do. If you can't stand up for the autistic child whose life will be turned upside down because he lives too close, and others who will be hurt, those not able to move because their houses are unsalable, keep your sympathy. It's not OK to sacrifice a minority to the greater good, a sacrificial minority as always on the shorter end of the economic stick.

I was going to write only in a positive manner for my friends, people who I support. But when I think of all that has happened to my hometown over the years, how we've been misled again and see the monument erected to the foolishness of small minded, small town politicians who worked in concert to make a developer rich, and after all the years of fighting off one horrendous project after another, my upbeat nature has been wrung out of me. If anything positive will come from this it will be the restoration of this community

Electing Bob Espindola, Barbara Acksen and Donna McKenna will begin the process. Bob and Barbara have worked long and hard to make this a better healthier place. Donna has and continues to work for protecting every child in all of Fairhaven's schools including Wood School. They have all worked against siting these massive turbines next to homes and the school. They have more than sympathy to offer. They are capable of empathy and understand the importance of community. They have the the intellect and integrity needed to restore Fairhaven's democracy. Unlike some running for office they believe everything isn't OK in Town Hall. Like Scott Lang they wouldn't impose something out of a dystopian movie on those they represent.

Henry Ferreira

Haworth bowed out to support DeSousa

This is the first letter of support I've ever written for any candidate in Fairhaven. Everyone who knows me knows that I'm an independent

person, who takes pride on being an independent voice for the citizens of Fairhaven. I'm proud to be supporting Jaime DeSousa for Selectman.

A few months ago I considered running for Selectman, because I feel it is time for change. After speaking with Jaime DeSousa, I feel that he is the best candidate for the office of Selectman, and will bring the change that the board of selectmen's office needs.

Jaime is independent and non-biased. He has the community's best interests in mind, not what is best for his friends or himself. He is young, energetic and a family man who has a plan for our town. Jaime is not a one issue candidate nor is he being supported by any political group in town. He will listen to the residents and he will hold office hours for residents to speak with him one on one. If you want a Selectman that will listen to your concerns and ideas then Jaime DeSousa is your candidate.

It's time all the residents of this town had a voice in the Selectmen's office, not just a select few. I urge you to attend the debates or watch them on the cable access channel, and listen to Jaime's plan for the future of Fairhaven. I'm sure you will make the same conclusions which I have about who to support. A vote for Jaime DeSousa is a vote for you, the citizens of Fairhaven. I'm voting for Jaime DeSousa for Selectman because he will be a voice for all. Please consider joining me and vote for Jaime Desousa for Selectman on April 2nd.

Geoffrey Haworth II

COA director supports Gordon

I am so excited to write to you about Lindsay Gordon who is running for election to the Board of Health. I am the Director of the Council on Aging in Fairhaven and I first met Lindsay during my interview process for my position. Lindsay was asked by members of the town to be part of a panel who interviewed all the candidates due to her experience within Assisted Living and with seniors. I knew right away in meeting Lindsay that she had a true love for seniors.

In working with Lindsay I have come to know her level of commitment to our Senior Center and to our Board. She serves as the secretary

LETTERS: cont'd on next page

LETTERS: cont'd from page 23

and vice chair for us and is always available if we need her. She often asks a lot of questions to get a full understanding of an area that she is not sure of and/or offers to help find the answer/solution. Lindsay is easy to work with and she is always in support of new, fresh ideas for our seniors.

It takes a special person to work with the senior population, someone that is thoughtful, unselfish, compassionate and kindhearted. I know that Lindsay has all of these qualities which makes her a great fit to champion the quality of life for everyone in this town. I know that she will take every project, and consider all the health effects it may have on us.

Please join me in voting for Lindsay Gordon on April 2nd for the Board of Health.

Anne Silvia, Director, Fairhaven Council on Aging

Borelli supports Gordon

Lindsay Gordon is running to become a Fairhaven Board of Health member. I met Lindsay after she moved to Fairhaven more than 5 years ago. She had been hired by Atria Assisted Living facility as their Executive Director. I had been associated with Alden Place, the previous developer and owner of Atria as a member of their Advisory Board.

Lindsay was a young, very enthusiastic person with fresh ideas as well as a caring, dedicated person. Having attended many functions at Atria over the years, I realized she would be an excellent member of the Fairhaven Council on Aging Board of Directors. I asked her if she would consider joining the COA Board and she again was very enthusiastic about it. She applied for the opening and the Board of Selectmen appointed her to the COA Board last year. She agreed to become the COA Board Secretary at her first meeting. She is now Secretary and Vice Chair of that Board. She is wonderful to work with, has new ideas and good communication skills. Lindsay also serves on the Fairhaven Town Personnel Board.

She holds a bachelor's degree in gerontology and psychology and is certified as an assisted living administrator.

I am sure she is the best candidate for the Fairhaven Board of Health. I ask you to join me and vote for Lindsay Gordon for the Board of Health at the April 2, 2012 election.

Joseph Borelli

Washko is open-minded, intelligent

I am writing today to the voters of Fairhaven. We are losing a dedicated four-term selectman in Michael Silvia and need to find the right individual to fill his seat on the board. These are big shoes to fill, and I strongly feel that Phil Washko is the right person for the job. The support for Phil has grown exponentially since he made the decision to run.

He is an open-minded man of unquestionable intelligence and integrity who will work tirelessly to promote the greatest good for our town.

He and his wife, Denise, have adopted Fairhaven as the place in which they want to raise their family, having lived here for over ten years now. They were cited as Fairhaven's Man and Woman of the year for 2011 by the Standard — Times.

I urge those of you who may still be unsure about whom to vote for to either attend the upcoming Candidates' Nights or watch the proceedings on local cable television. I fervently believe that you will be as impressed with this man as much as I am.

I implore you to help protect Fairhaven's future by joining me in casting your vote for Phil Washko on Monday, April 2nd. Let's show the Southcoast how much we care about our town by voting in large numbers this year. After all, it only takes a few minutes, time well spent to help keep Fairhaven moving forward and on the right track.

Nancy Greene,

Riley is "outstanding public servant"

I have had the opportunity to sit on the Board of Public Works in Fairhaven for the past two years alongside Steven Riley. Steve has been on the board for the past several years. During my tenure, we have had important projects to oversee and a new superintendent to hire and orient to our town. In addition, at our regular meetings we handle a myriad of important issues that come before us.

Steve is an excellent commissioner and has the qualities that make him an outstanding public servant. These include intelligence, integrity, good listening skills, and fiscal responsibility. He is a good communicator and is an individual who can make sound decisions after weighing the pros and cons of an issue. He is acutely aware that as an elected board member, it is his job, along with the rest of the commissioners, to always make decisions that are in the best interest of the citizens and taxpayers of the town. In fact, we call him the "numbers man" on the board. In this difficult financial climate, he knows that it is imperative that as board members we work together to ensure we always put the taxpayer first while trying to do the greatest good for the majority.

Steve is an open-minded, independent thinker. He uses logic as the basis for every decision he makes. Fairhaven residents are extremely fortunate to have such a hard-working, conscientious commissioner. Please join me in casting your vote for Steve Riley, Board of Public Works on Monday, April 2nd.

Kathleen Sturtevant

Sturtevant endorses Washko

I decided to work on Phil Washko's campaign for many reasons, some of which were his hard work ethic, his intelligence, and his willingness to listen to all sides of an issue. But most of all, his independence, youthful ideas and energy made him a refreshing choice for me.

Phil has demonstrated these fine qualities and values by his leadership on the "Yes" group, which helped pass the vote for our new school. Phil proved to me that one person's leadership could make a positive change for our town.

In addition, I greatly appreciated the fact that Phil Washko defended the collective wisdom of Town Meeting members. When the Windwise group tried to stop the will (votes) of Town Meeting, Phil publicly stated early on to the press that, and I quote, "I was taught at an early age that votes are supposed to count" and that the will of Town Meeting must be respected.

It is because of his actions and his

LETTERS: cont'd on page 36



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Candidate statements: School Comm. (Board of Health: pg. 27)



David Gonsalves

My name is David A. Gonsalves and I am asking for your vote on April 2nd for re-election to the Fairhaven

School Committee. Why vote to re-elect David A. Gonsalves you may ask? I should be your representative to our school district because over the past six years I have made all my votes and decisions based on three basic principals:

- 1: What is in the best interest of the school children and school district.
- 2: What is fiscally responsible to the Town of Fairhaven.
- 3: What do I think the majority of Fairhaven tax payers want.

Intelligent decisions are made by attending meetings. In six years, I have only missed two school committee meetings that I recall. I add to presented information by meeting with others when needed. I have a good working relationship with all these people. I have also attended Finance Committee meetings to get a better feel for how things work. And finally, I ask questions, and more questions, and even more questions. I leave no rock unturned when gathering information to make good decisions.

Fiscal responsibility is a challenging task. The town once again will be tasked with doing more with less. We have kept our operational budget numbers down as we continued to do things smarter. The salary side of the budget goes hand in hand with our contractual obligations. I believe we have negotiated in good faith as we strive for what we can afford and what it takes to keep good people.

Fiscal year 2013 budget planning is now taking place. I look at all aspects of our budget preparation. I strongly believe in working with the Finance Committee and other town departments. While the "Pie" may be getting smaller, all I ask for is a slice of the pie that lets us provide the services needed for our children. I don't want anybody else's piece of the pie, and have never advocated taking it.

I also keep your needs and wants

GONSALVES: cont'd on page 30



Donna McKenna

My name is Donna McKenna and I am running for School Committee.

I have lived in Fairhaven all my life and feel strongly about dedicating my time to the School committee and Town Residents. I have two children, a daughter who is a senior at Fairhaven High School and a son in 8th grade at Hastings Middle School.

I have volunteered hundreds of hours in the elementary, Middle School and High School. My experience in working as a volunteer in the schools and my financial background have prepared me to serve on the school committee. I served 3 years on School Council for Leroy Wood School and 2 years at Hastings Middle School. I learned about strategic planning, implementing concerns, future improvements, and I am committed to do what I can to make our schools the best they can be.

For over 15 years, I was a Junior Achievement instructor for all grades in the Fairhaven Schools. I enjoyed my work with all grade levels and became acquainted with the different educational programs that were offered by Junior Achievement.

I have volunteered in the Fairhaven School System since 1998. I am currently volunteering weekly at the Hastings Middle School. When I was on the School Council at Hasting Middle School, I helped develop a plan for parents to volunteer.

I have volunteered and/or served on different committees, including: the United Way (allocations committee) which designated money to different charities as needed, the Boy Scout golf tournament committee, New Bedford Child and Family Service, the Prince Henry Society Golf tournament, the New Bedford Board of Realtors and the North Bristol County Board of Realtors.

I have worked in the field of Banking since 1986 and feel with my background and experience in the financial field that I will be able to review the school budget with some

MCKENNA: cont'd on page 30



Colin Veitch

Hello, my name is Colin Veitch and I am running for a seat on the Fairhaven School Committee. I

consider our children a precious trust that requires an investment of time in our education system and in the entire Town of Fairhaven. What that means to me is to take what I have learned as a father, a business executive and a person and apply that to providing guidance for our school district to keep it moving in a positive direction. I feel that how a community values its educational system is a direct reflection of the health and strength of that community. The last few years have proven that Fairhaven is strong and healthy and cares for its future. Our ability to work together for the common good on annual budgets and the recent vote to invest in our new elementary school has been gratifying and given me confidence that my family is in good hands.

My work life is centered around providing quality products and excellent service. I have always applied that same work ethic to my time in service to our town. Being educated on the issues, striving to add clarity and simplifying complex situations to get results for our children has been my objective at all times. In recent years, the product of the schools and the customer service to the entire town has increased year after year and that is a direct result of teamwork, control of the budget, and an open attitude to working with others and listening to new ideas. Our school leadership has made great strides in bringing world class education to our town and we need to support and encourage that to bring it even further. That is what our children deserve and what Fairhaven needs to continue to move forward in a 21st Century America. But, the uphill climb never really ends and a truth I've learned is that when you raise the bar year after year you will be amazed at the heights you'll reach.

Our children deserve the best and

VEITCH: cont'd on page 30

Candidate statements: Board of Health: cont'd on page 27



Barbara Acksen

I am Dr. Barbara Acksen, candidate for the Fairhaven Board of Health. The Board of Health stands as the guardian of the town's health and environment. It works to keep your family and pets safe and healthy. I have been a licensed health-care professional for more than 30 years and have long been committed to this work.

Many of you know me. I live in Fairhaven's center, attended Fairhaven public schools and maintain a practice of clinical psychology and neuropsychology in town as well. I hold a PhD in psychology. I believe my combination of education and experience are an excellent fit for a position on the Board. I have functioned as a practitioner, clinical administrator, professor and research scientist.

As a practitioner I work with people from age 2 to 90 plus. I also consult to hospitals and schools. I'm a member of the professional Medical Reserve Corp which volunteers in emergencies. I serve as the chair of the Maternal Health Committee of Greater New Bedford Allies, the local Health and Human Services Coalition. The committee works to identify the health issues of women and their families and the needs of providers to better serve them and then make interventions to improve access for all to needed services.

I have also served as a clinical administrator for various clinics both here and in the Boston area. In that capacity I developed programs to serve the public as well as policies and procedures. I ensured that all regulations were followed. Many of these facilities were under the auspices of the Department of Public Health. As a research scientist I conducted research in academic settings as well as in clinics. Evaluating research and communicating information to the public are central to the Board of Health's mission of education and prevention. This background has prepared me to deal with the increasingly technical demands of the Board.

All of the above are consistent with work on the Board of Health. Currently, the Board does not have a healthcare provider as a member. This seems an important role to fill. The Board also addresses environmental issues such as air and water quality, wastewater treatment, marine fisheries as well as food handling and animal control. I have a longstanding commitment to environmental issues. I have worked on these topics as a member of the Harbor Superfund Committee and with other citizens concerning the Atlas Tack Superfund Site, the Azurix/Enron Sludge Treatment Facility and the Bouchard oil spill of 2003.

As a member of the Board of Health I would work to inform you about health and safety issues, enforce regulations designed to protect the public's health and advocate for the vital concerns of all neighborhoods. I would work to keep the Board open and accessible and provide a respectful forum to all citizens and businesses who come before the Board.

I am an independent candidate with longstanding commitments to my town (Trust Commissioner, Town Meeting Member, Past President of Fairhaven Improvement Association, Past President Rotary, President of the Historical Society). I care deeply about your health and safety and would work diligently on your behalf. I ask for your vote on April 2.



Lindsay Gordon

I am humbled to have the opportunity to run for the Board of Health for the Town of Fairhaven.

Currently, I serve as the Vice Chair and Secretary for the Council on Aging Board in Fairhaven as well as serving on the Personnel Board. As an active member of the cross continuum team for the South Coast Hospital Group and a Member of the Regional Leadership Council (Region 10) Massachusetts Assisted Living Facilities Association, my daily focus is health and wellness. I hold a certificate of Allergen Awareness Recognized by the MA Department of Public Health and am a certified Assisted Living Administrator.

My family and I live in North Fairhaven and I have a strong desire to serve our town. I feel that joining the Board of Health is the most fitting for my experience. When I was 16, I knew I wanted a career where I could serve others. At that time, I chose to work in a field where I could help improve the health and wellness of the senior population. My interest in working with seniors continued while I was in college which caused me to pursue and graduate with a B.S. degree in Gerontology and Psychology. Currently, I am the Executive Director of Atria Senior Living, an Assisted Living in Fairhaven where I am responsible for the overall well-being for over 60 Residents.

I am looking forward to working hard to help maintain and improve the overall health and wellness for our community and all of my fellow citizens. As your candidate, I want to make a positive difference on your quality of life. I will work hard to do my part to keep our community safe for you, your family and mine. This is a great town and a wonderful community. I respectfully ask you for your vote.

Warmest Regards, Lindsay Gordon

FINCOM: cont'd from page 16

Town Counsel's opinion on the addition in 2010 of Section 5 to the Special Act was distributed to the FinCom. Mr. Roderiques vehemently opposed Town Counsel's parallel between the MRVWSP Advisory Committee and regional refuse and regional school districts. The language allowing the Advisory Committee to borrow without Town Meeting's authorization was put in without consulting the town governments.

"[Section 5] makes it nearly impossible to disapprove the [Advisory Committee] bonding," said Mr. Roderiques. He said that because the Advisory Committee submits their bonding decision to the Selectboard, and the Selectboard can opt not to bring it to Town Meeting, a board not elected by the voters can put the Town in debt without a Town Meeting vote.

When it came time to vote the penny increase, the FinCom voted 7-1 against adoption with Mr. Silva opposed. He said he didn't feel the increase should be "held hostage" to the problem with the 2010 Special Act's borrowing language, and he supported protecting the public water supply.

"Ted, let them buy the land, but don't take away my rights doing it," Mr. Roderiques said. ●●●



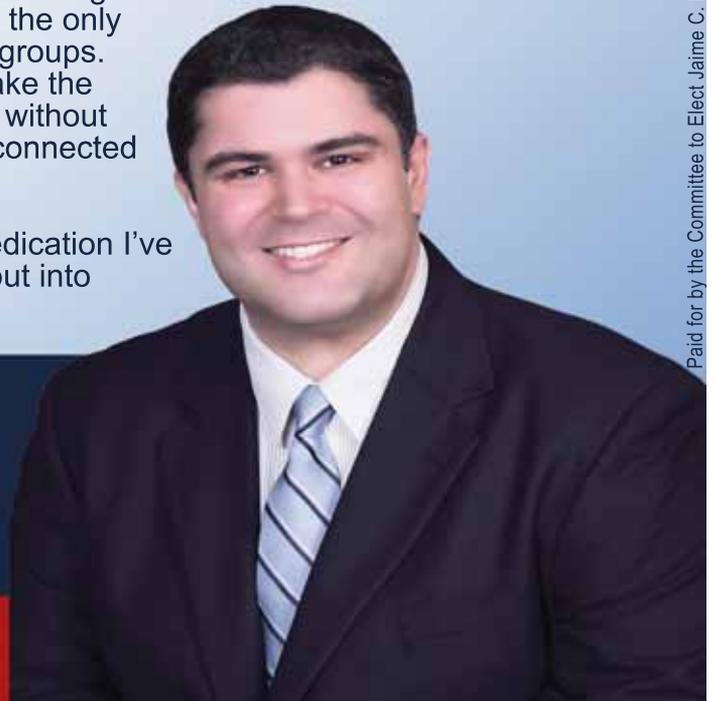
Vote this Monday, April 2nd for Jaime C. DeSousa, Jr.

Dear Voter,

As a husband and father, I know the importance of electing a Selectman, who will serve without an agenda. I'm the only candidate, who is not connected to special interest groups. This town deserves a leader, who will be able to make the tough choices, that will be in the best interest of all, without influence from special interest groups or politically connected individuals. Everyone deserves a fair shake.

I've given my heart and soul to this election. The dedication I've given this campaign, will be the same dedication I put into being a Selectman. I respectfully ask for your vote.

JAIME
DESOUZA
SELECTMAN



Paid for by the Committee to Elect Jaime C. DeSousa

Legal Notices/Public Hearings

FAIRHAVEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Selectmen will conduct a Public Hearing on April 2, 2012 at 6:45 pm for the removal of five (5) street trees on Spring Street, between Green and Main Street(s). The removal is necessary for the Spring Street Road Construction Project. Per MGL the Tree Warden posted the five trees on March 5, 2012. For more information, call the Selectmen's Office at (508) 979-4023.

Michael Silvia, Chairman Board of Selectmen

FAIRHAVEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Selectmen will conduct a Public Hearing on April 9, 2012, at 7PM for the removal of

street trees at #41 (17" Maple), #37 (15" Maple), & #35 (22" Maple) Oxford St.; #6 (38" Oak) Cherry St. and #7 (31" Oak) Lafayette St. The removal is necessary for a Road Construction Project. The Tree Warden posted the trees on March 22, 2012. For more information, call the Selectmen's Office at (508) 979-4023.

Board of Selectmen

Conservation Commission Public Hearing

The Fairhaven Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on April 09, 2012, at 6:30 P.M. In the Fairhaven Town Hall, Purpose is for Request for Determination of the following matters as required By Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 131 Section 40 as amended.

- Amended Order of Conditions SE 23 – 1103 Applicant Enrico G. & Linda M. Picozza Location 182 Ebony Street Plot 43B Lots 260, 262, 264, 266, & 268 Purpose amend Order to include more

fill and modify wall within a flood zone and within 100' buffer zone to BVW.

- Notice of Intent Applicant Roger Marcoux Location 114 Balsam Street Plot 43A Lots 26, 27,28 Purpose clear lot of invasive species with in a coastal beach and flood zone. After the fact filing

*Respectfully submitted
Andrew Jones Chairman*

Fairhaven Conservation Commission

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I live in North Fairhaven with my husband Richard and my son Ryan.

As your candidate, I want to make a positive difference on your quality of life. I will work hard to do my part to keep our community safe for you, your family and mine. This is a great town, a wonderful community and together we can continue to make Fairhaven a great place to live and work.

I have worked in healthcare for the past 15 years and I am the Executive Director of Atria Fairhaven, a senior living community, in our town. I currently serve as the Vice –Chair & Secretary on the board of directors for the Fairhaven Council on Aging. I also serve on the Fairhaven Personnel Board.

I respectfully ask you for your vote.

Paid for by the committee to elect Lindsay Gordon

On Monday April 2nd



Elect LINDSAY 

GORDON

BOARD OF HEALTH

above my own. Ego goes in the back pocket and I do my best to work on behalf of the taxpayers of Fairhaven. I practiced this principle during the "New School" feasibility study. At the beginning of this project I was convinced that renovating two small schools was the best solution. I also decided to have an open mind and reviewed all information during the process, while doing my own research. The process set by the state and followed by the committee led me to the end result that what I wanted wasn't in the best interests of the school community or fiscally responsible, so I voted for and continue to support the new elementary school project.

In conclusion, remember that to vote David A. Gonsalves for School Committee means you get a public servant who works hard for your school district while being fiscally responsible and listens to your needs, without being influenced by or associated with any outside political action groups or private agendas.

What you see is truly what you get.

I will do my best to challenge the system to move from "good" to "great"!

My role as a father has been the most rewarding experience of my life and to have the chance to extend my involvement in my children's lives in this way would be an amazing addition. Please vote for me on April 2nd. It would be an honor to serve. Thank you.

Background and Qualifications: Senior Manager with the Acushnet Company; Responsible for a multimillion dollar budget; Staff Management with a focus on goals, results and personal development; Global Project Management; Cost Savings and Continuous Improvement Initiatives; Father (my favorite one); Fairhaven resident for 16 years; School

volunteer for 9 years; Fairhaven School Committee for 6 years

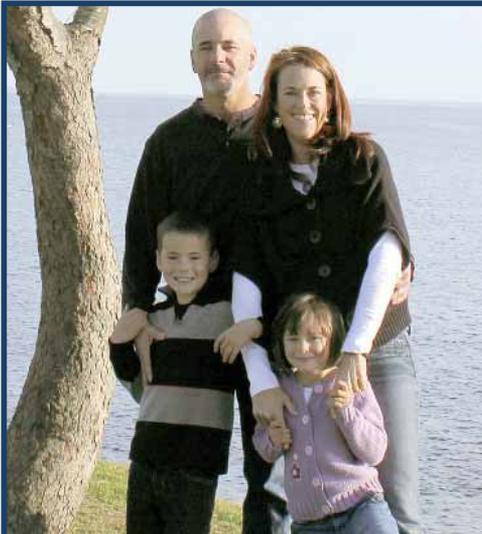
Goals:

- Continue to use aggressive sourcing of state and federal grant money for educational programs and building maintenance
- Use my extensive knowledge of budgets and creative solutions to make the most of our limited resources
- Raise the expectations of our staff and students
- Continue to add and revise policies that safeguard our children and provide guidance and definition for all stakeholders
- Strive to improve on our relationships with other departments and our constituents

expertise. During these harsh economic times, when our budget is never enough but our costs continue to rise, it is time for a no-nonsense person with over 25 years of experience in the business and financial

field to help keep the Fairhaven Schools on a strong financial footing.

I am open-minded and will listen to the voices and opinions of others, especially when it comes to the children in our school system.



MY MISSION

Unite our community through a spirit of collaboration and thoughtful leadership to create a partnership between our government and those they serve.

MY PRINCIPLE ON RESPECTING THE VOTERS

I trust our democratic form of government and I have faith in the collective wisdom of our town and its voters, including Town Meeting. When we all demonstrate our collective dedication to doing what's right for our community through a vote, we should be rewarded with the assurance that it wasn't for nothing and it counts toward an outcome. I firmly believe that when you devote the time, energy and thoughtful intentions to become informed and cast a vote, it should be counted, respected and acted upon by our public servants.

As Selectman, I would honor that principle and make sure that your vote counts.



PHIL WASHKO

SELECTMAN

508-289-1112

PhilWashkoForSelectman@gmail.com

www.ElectPhilWASHKO.com

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Phil Washko

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ACUSH: cont'd from page 12

worked with SRTA (Southeastern Regional Transit Authority) on getting the second van donated to the town.

"These vans open up a whole new world of opportunities for our seniors," Ms. Sylvia said. "I am very excited to accept delivery of them."

Ms. Sylvia said the COA raised the \$10,500.00 towards the van purchase through fundraisers that were held throughout the last year. She wishes to thank all those that volunteered at or supported these events.

In other matters:

- Eric Johnson was appointed as a part-time paramedic/EMT. He is a

CONCOM: cont'd from page 18

and Jose DeMedeiros of 25 Bayview Avenue, have been continued until 4/9 at the request of the applicants.

A public hearing for Jesse Perry of 36 Balsam St. was rescheduled for 4/9.

At the end of the meeting, Commission member Steve Pereira brought up the discussion of some possible new conservation regulations that Mr. Jones said would provide more protection of wetlands.

A public hearing will be scheduled

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career firefighter paramedic in Fairhaven.

- Building Inspector James Marot reported that the roof of the Council on Aging building needs to be replaced. He estimated the cost at \$25,000. The board authorized Town Administrator Alan Coutinho to request funds from the CPC.
- Rebekah Tomlinson of Acushnet and Catherine Mindlin of Fairhaven have been appointed as the Inspector of Animals for the town.

Don't forget to

VOTE

Mon., 4/2, in Fairhaven & Acushnet

to discuss new regulations that Mr. Jones said were initiated after a string of after-the-fact filings and Enforcement Orders resulting from violations.

Mr. Jones projected that possible new fines will impart accountability to violators and add teeth to existing regulations.

Mr. Jones also announced that in light of Logan Wood's resignation, there are now two empty seats on the commission and possibly one associate member seat as well.

Fairhaven Meetings

Board of Appeals

Tues., 4/3, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Board of Public Works

Mon., 4/9, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 4/9, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Finance Committee

Thurs., 3/29, Arsene St., 7 p.m.

Thurs., 4/5, Arsene St., 7 p.m.

Planning Board

Tues., 4/3, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 4/11, FHS Library, 6:30

Selectboard

Mon., 4/2, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Mon., 4/9, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Acushnet Meetings

Board of Health

Tues., 4/10, Parting Ways Sch., 6:30 p

Board of Public Works

Mon., 4/2, BPW Bldg, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Tues., 4/3, Ford MS, 5 p.m.

Selectboard

Mon., 4/9, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

Board of Appeals

Mon. 4/9, Acush Comm Ctr, 6:30 p

TIDE TABLE

US Army Corps of Engineers

Cape Cod Canal/Wing's Neck

	March 2012		HIGH		LOW	
			a.m. p.m.		a.m. p.m.	
Friday	30	0127	1412	0724	1929	
Saturday	31	0222	1510	0851	2046	
	April 2012		HIGH		LOW	
			a.m. p.m.		a.m. p.m.	
Sunday	1	0325	1611	1006	2202	
Monday	2	0431	1711	1056	2304	
Tuesday	3	0534	1807	1139	2358*	
Wednesday	4	0630	1857	----	1221*	
Thursday	5	0721	1946	0050*	1303*	

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

"We welcome anyone with an interest in the environment," said Mr. Jones, adding that on-the-job training and reading materials are provided.

Ms. Peirce also reminded the public to "douse yourself" in bug spray this season.

"There are deer ticks in gardens as much as in the wetlands," stated Ms. Peirce, disclosing that she has suffered from Lyme disease in the past. "Everybody please use bug spray." ●●●

CANDIDATES: cont'd from page 21

give and take...we need leadership," said Mr. Gonsalves.

"We're always trying to make things more healthy," said Mr. Gonsalves about school lunch nutrition, currently a nationwide concern, especially regarding a controversial beef-additive called "pink slime."

Mr. Gonsalves acknowledged the new, stricter federal nutritional guidelines, saying that children's needs come first.

"We have to decide if we are the food police and decide if we can only provide healthy meals," Mr. Gonsalves later stated.

School Committee candidate Donna McKenna said her experience in banking and finance would be an asset to the SC and mentioned transparency as an important issue. She pledged to act in the best interest of the students.

Ms. McKenna was asked about her ability to act on behalf of voters as a plaintiff in the WT case that would overturn citizens' votes.

"I just think it's too close...I just feel that with the new school, it's too close. I hope there are no health issues," responded Ms. McKenna, after saying the question was inappropriate.

Colin Veitch, who lost his seat on the school committee last year, praised the SC for its "positive momentum" and said that his reason for running is to "keep moving forward."

Mr. Veitch said we should "give students the broadest education possible," responding to a question that referred to the nation falling behind in technical and vocational education.

He advocated school projects that would encourage students to "use their engineer minds."

School committee has two seats up for election and three candidates. Incumbent Louis Kruger is not seeking re-election.

Board of Health candidate Barbara Acksen, a P.h.D in Clinical Psychology, said it was important for the BOH to have at least one member who is a health care provider, which the board currently lacks.

Ms. Acksen was asked if she agreed with a statement made by fellow WT opponent Curt Devlin, comparing the WT project to a human research

project as defined by the Nuremberg Code.

Ms. Acksen said she found Mr. Devlin's reference to the Nuremberg Code, which resulted from human experimentation performed by the Nazis during WWII, "an unfortunate focus."

"He was trying to find a reference where human subject research came from," responded Ms. Acksen.

Incumbent Lindsay Gordon said her focus, if elected, will be on nutrition, food allergy awareness, and sanitary health, including pest infestation and the water supply.

When asked if the WT project was "an ominous human experiment," as asked by moderator Beth David, quoting Mr. Devlin, Ms. Gordon replied, "Absolutely not."

"We need to be aware of all health effects...and help them if they become ill," said Ms. Gordon, then added, "We hope it doesn't happen."

The Board of Health has one open seat for election. Incumbent Dolores Caton is not seeking re-election.

Running for re-election, Antone Medeiros said the position of Tree Warden grows more challenging as the town continues to grow. After 20 years, he said he hoped voters would let him continue to "keep Fairhaven a green place to live."

"I always post my trees before I take them down," responded Mr. Medeiros to criticism that he has not been providing enough notice to residents before cutting down trees.

Mr. Medeiros said there is no funding for advertising public hearings in the newspaper, which is apparently required by law.

Carol Murchie said that, if elected as Tree Warden, she would create a citizen-led tree committee that would also assist neighbors with their own private tree-care. She would also institute a web-based reporting system with easy access to tree-related resources.

Ms. Murchie was asked if she was prepared to work with equipment such as chain saws, chippers, and drive a bucket truck.

"I'm prepared to do it," Ms. Murchie replied. She stated that she was in the process of learning to drive a bucket truck.

"I do come to this position with a slightly different focus," she explained, citing administration and planning as



Steven Riley was the only candidate for Fairhaven Board of Public Works to attend the North Fairhaven Improvement Association's candidates night on Wed. 3/21/12. Photo by Jeff Lucas.

significant roles as tree warden.

The Board of Public Works has two members up for re-election and three candidates. Running for re-election is Robert "Hoppy" Hobson and Steven Riley. Richard Brodeur is also running, seeking to regain the seat he lost two years ago.

Only Mr. Riley attended the candidates night.

Mr. Riley said he would continue to be "fair and consistent," asking for voter support.

He cited the aging water and sewer system, as well as road surfaces as the top infrastructure needs in Fairhaven.

"We've fallen a little behind," Mr. Riley said, blaming a level-funded budget for the past 13 years and rising petroleum costs.

When asked about the increasing water rate, Mr. Riley said his plan is to reward consumers who conserve water with a lower water rate and penalize high consumption with increased water rates.

The Planning Board has two open seats and two candidates, Jeffrey Lucas and Frank Budryk. Incumbent Alberto Silva did not seek re-election, and incumbent Jaime DeSousa decided to run for Selectboard.

Running in uncontested races are: Jay Simmons for Housing Authority and Jimmy Oliver for the remainder of an unexpired term on Housing; incumbent Mark Sylvia for town moderator; incumbent Gail Isaksen for Commissioner of Trusts. ●●●

Up Close and Personal with Candidate for Selectman Jaime C. DeSousa Jr.



Jaime dancing at the Fairhaven Senior Center during the St. Patrick's Day Fundraiser

Fairhaven Planning Board member and candidate for Selectman Jaime C. DeSousa Jr., is a humble down to earth person. His passion for life is exemplified by the commitment to his family, community, career and the many charitable causes he's involved with.

Mr. DeSousa's volunteering began at the very young age of 14, helping out at the Animal Rescue League. A grown up DeSousa is now the organizer of Fishing for a Cure, an annual fishing fundraiser that raises money for Multiple Sclerosis research. Mr. DeSousa is also the chairman of the St. Lukes Business Council. One of the council's task, is to organize Sharon's Walk, which benefits cancer research.

Over labor day weekend, DeSousa spends it with his two oldest sons; Justin and Jadin, volunteering in the malassada stand at Our Lady of Angels Feast.



Attempting to sew during a visit to a local business



Baseball With Son



Fundraiser for MS that is organized by DeSousa



During Sharon's Walk having fun wearing pink gloves



Jaime volunteering in the malassada stand at Our Lady's of Angels Feast. Jaime spends the weekend of the feast with his two oldest sons serving malassadas.



Jaime's oldest son Justin coating the malassadas with sugar.



EXPECT MORE



- ✓ INDEPENDENT
- ✓ PASSIONATE
- ✓ PROVEN LEADERSHIP
- ✓ EXPERIENCE

➤ **CREATE** A “NEIGHBORS FOR NEIGHBORS POLICY” TO ACHIEVE COMPENSATION FOR THOSE WHO BEAR THE BURDEN OF TOWN PROJECTS

➤ **IMPLEMENT** A “CHARTER COMMISSION” FOR TOP TO BOTTOM GOVERNMENT REVIEW

➤ **TAKE ON** THE STATUS QUO – GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO WORK EFFECTIVELY FOR THE RESIDENTS



Paid for by the Committee to Elect Jeff Messier

Proven Leadership & Experience with an Independent Voice

- Lived in Fairhaven for the last 24 years.
- Town meeting member for over 20 years.
- I was appointed to the Board of Directors for the Reservation Golf Club in the 90's,
- Serve on Fairhaven Finance Committee 10 years, and was elected by the committee to serve as Chairman for 5 years.
- Board of director for the Sea Crest Condo Association of Broward County as the Secretary/Treasure. I took over after it was determined the Association was in violation of State reporting, I worked closely with the State to clear all violations and restored the Association's good standing and reporting compliance record.
- I was instrumental in establishing a 7 member condo association Board of Directors to work with a contracted property management firm to handle the day to day operation of the Association.
- Served at the Country Club of New Bedford (CCNB) in the capacity of the Finance Committee member 4 years, named to the board of directors (as a director and Chairman of the Finance Committee, then Treasurer/Secretary), which culminated in being nominated with the honor to serve as the President of the club. This was a ten year process that included the undertaking of remodeling a 100 year old building, making it ADA accessible while keeping the tradition and aesthetics of the club preserved.
- I served on the Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School Building committee for their recent 22 Million dollar expansion. As a committee we collectively brought that project under budget allowing funds to be free to purchase additional school objectives that resulted in savings to the regional members' one being the Town of Fairhaven.
- I have been in the private sector as a business owner for 30 years, and weathered 3 recessions.

With these experiences and the fact that I did serve on the Finance Committee for 10 years I feel that I have the necessary experience for the position of Selectman.

Fairhaven is facing multiple complex issues the most important one is the financial impact that our current economy has on the day to day operation of the Town Services and Departments. With my past experience as the Finance Chairman and Business owner I am immediately prepared to meet those challengers.

We face a crisis of confidence in government at all levels. I will help change the confidence level in our town government. My style is to listen, collaborate, and make positive change. This approach, combined with strong leadership and experience, will help you be proud of the Fairhaven government and our decisions.

In closing, I ask for your support and vote on April 2nd for an open and experienced selectman.

Sincerely

Jeffrey A. Massie

LETTERS: cont'd from page 24

6willingness to publicly state where he stands on an issue that I enthusiastically endorse Mr. Phil Washko for selectman. Please vote for Phil on Monday, April 2nd.

Kathleen Sturtevant

Riley supports Washko

I am writing in support of Phil Washko for Selectman. Meeting him for the first time through a mutual friend in February I was impressed from the start.

Phil wanted to get to know me as a person. He speaks to you and listens to what you have to say. I did not even know he was in the race for Selectman till days after our meeting. Not looking for a vote first, he wanted to know me first, which won me over!

Since then I have seen Phil in action up close and from a distance in small or large groups. He speaks from the heart, with a purpose and listens to others. Finding out I was also running for re-election for the BPW Phil reached out to me to find out my view on the state of the BPW. He has been the only candidate for Selectman to do so, which I found interesting.

Phil Washko has proven to me in a very short time he is the right person to be our next Selectman. When casting for vote please join me in voting for Phil we will not be disappointed.

Steve Riley, BPW Commissioner

Phil Washko for Selectman!

It is very encouraging to see different people get involved with the town. Those of us who have lived here our whole lives obviously really care about Fairhaven. We love the history, but we also love the progressive ideas that our town has for innovative projects. When different people get involved in local government, that brings fresh ideas, ways of communicating, thoughts and change. Change is good, we could use someone to bring energy, and differences into our town and work well with what we have already. When you are involved in the town on various committees, as I am, you get to see a whole new side to what goes on each day. You realize what it takes to be part of a wonderful community and help make it work.

I feel that Phil Washko is fully capable and ready to be our selectman. I know that he has done

his homework and talked to all the various department heads to find out what is going on. He has also been doing research on what has happened over the past several years in town to make it such a wonderful place to live and work. I know that Phil realizes the work, time and dedication that is involved in becoming one of our selectmen. He has heard from the front lines what it entails and takes to be successful. He is willing to answer a call about a street light out that needs replacing, attend many nightly meetings and also know the current budgets for the different offices in town. He is ready to fight for projects that he feels strongly about, explain bylaws to interested developers and make everyone in town know that he is working for them. He cares about this town and wants to do his part to make a difference and add to what we already have here in Fairhaven that is headed in the right direction.

Phil chose to move here and raise his wonderful young family and we should be glad that he is willing to share his enthusiasm and energy to dedicate his time to this important position. We know he made the right choice with Fairhaven, now let's all make the right choice on Monday April 2nd by voting for Phil Washko for Selectman.

Ann Richard, Fairhaven

Vote for Principles, not Personalities!

Fairhaven's upcoming election has a great opportunity to begin a positive step towards the reconciliation of the togetherness and strong sense of society that defines Fairhaven. Fairhaven has traditionally represented the strongest sense of community and our greatest benefactor, Henry Huttleston Rogers, worked hard to create one of the most idyllic towns in the United States. This election will either lay the foundation for good people to take the helm of a community that I believe has been off course as of late or maintain a course and speed that has consistently divided friends and relatives as a result of some seemingly ill advised decisions.

I feel strongly that the political status quo must be transformed from a strong minority voice to a municipal government that will respect and include ideas and positions from the

community at large — the majority. I believe that too many good people have been ridiculed and scorned simply for being concerned citizens. That simply has no place in our fine town.

Fairhaven's elections don't just represent a change of faces, but more importantly, a change of decorum by those who we shall entrust to serve as our community leaders. We need leaders who will respect process. We need leaders who shall have a reverence for honesty, integrity and transparency. We need leaders who will be respectful to anyone who shall disagree with their position on any issue, regardless of how strongly they believe in their efforts. We need leaders who would be good role models for our children.

This upcoming election provides opportunities to ensure that our community voice is not held hostage by intimidation and aggression, but is the mechanism to excite a change for respect of each voice that asks to be listened to. I have been stunned when sitting in town meetings and recent "forums" as the Chairman of one committee aggressively yelled to shut down a question or when the head of one department heckled a concerned citizen. This behavior must end once and for all and those who participate in such need to have a good long look in the mirror.

I am even more concerned when the majority of the town meeting members are either on the town's payroll, have a relative on the payroll, or are a contractor for services being paid by the town. The makeup of town meeting membership is worrisome and clearly has developed into a bit of a feeder trough for a certain populous and acts as a mechanism for political, personal and even financial benefit, while the majority of taxpayers have their voices stifled as a result of not participating as town meeting members. It seems that the people taking from the system are the ones dictating the rules. That being said, taxpayers who feed the system need to participate in the process and put their names in as write-in candidates. You can do this by logging on to www.fairactionfhvn.org, find out what precinct you live in and submit your name to be included as a town

LETTERS: cont'd on page 37

LETTERS: cont'd from page 36

meeting member as a write-in candidate.

There are three candidates that are running for elected positions in Fairhaven that I am respectfully endorsing. They have personally pledged that they will serve our town with a sense of humility, compassion and wisdom that is long overdue. They each have promised to listen to "all three sides of the coin" before making a decision and most importantly, have promised to operate within the boundaries that are both expected and prescribed by the ethics commission and the laws that were promulgated both federally and by the Commonwealth for elected officials — no gray areas, whatsoever!

The first candidate is Bob Espindola who is running for Selectman. I have known Bob for most of my life. Bob is the consummate gentleman and truly gives back to his community versus taking. I have never known Bob to have an agenda outside of facilitating honesty, good sportsmanship and the highest degree of personal responsibility that I have ever known. Simply put, Bob is the benchmark for any father who needs a measuring stick to gauge against when his daughter brings home a potential suitor. In short — Bob Espindola "is good people!"

The second candidate is Donna McKenna, for the School Committee. Donna is a tireless volunteer at East Fairhaven School and has no agenda outside of serving the children of our town. She was against the consolidation and industrialization of our neighborhood schools. She understands educational models and appreciates candid conversations through transparent dialogue. Donna is an ideal candidate for the School Committee and has zero financial ties to the school administration or the town's budget.

The third candidate is Dr. Barbara Acksen for the Board of Health. Barbara has both the academic qualifications and is a practitioner of listening and studying feedback before offering up a response. Her ability to analyze epidemiological studies and use them to make an informed and qualified decision is exactly the qualification that the community needs for someone sitting on this particular board.

All in all, we as a community need to vote a principled vote. We honestly need people who will serve the community at large. These three candidates will vote on principles and not personalities — no nepotism, no favoritism, no hidden agendas. We need respectful and compassionate people who know where we came from as a town, know where we have been and understand where we need to go.

As a passionate Fairhavenite and all that our town represents, I am proud to endorse the election of Bob Espindola for Selectman, Donna McKenna for School Committee and Dr. Barbara Acksen for the Board of Health.

Eric R. Dawicki, Fairhaven

Board of Health needs Acksen: a health pro

When writing this letter in support of Barbara Acksen for Board of Health I tried to look up the mission statement for Fairhaven's BOH. I wasn't surprised to see that the Fairhaven Board of Health does not have a mission statement, though most of the surrounding towns do.

In reading the statements of other towns I found what ours should look like. The Board of Health is responsible for a variety of issues related to water protection, solid and hazardous waste disposal, communicable diseases, and public health hazards in the environment. Also the Board is charged with overseeing the town's Title V inspection program; enforcing the state Sanitary Code for food establishments; overseeing mosquito control programs; supporting mental health services for residents, and to develop and maintain innovative programs to safeguard and improve the general health of the citizens of the Town.

I am positive after reading those statements that there is no better person to be on our Board of Health. As guardian for the town's health and environment Barbara is committed to acting on these things and I feel her background and training are an excellent fit.

The key word in Board of Health is HEALTH. We need a health professional to serve on the board. Barbara has a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology. A lifelong resident of Fairhaven and having her practice of Clinical and Neuropsychology in town, she has

her finger on the pulse of our town's needs. Barbara has served on many committees in town, is very active on the Harbor Superfund Committee and in the past has played an active role on environmental issues such as Atlas Tack Superfund, Azurix Sludge Treatment Facility, and the Bouchard Oil Spill.

With her credentials as a practitioner, researcher, clinical administrator, her training in the professional medical reserve corp., author, and her long standing dedication to Fairhaven Barbara will always work to ensure the health and welfare of all citizens in this town.

I am voting for Barbara Acksen for the Board of Health on Monday April 2nd and I am asking you to do the same.

Dawn Devlin, Fairhaven

Washko will do "due diligence"

Why do I support Phil Washko for Selectman? He's intelligent, has great integrity and a strong professional background. He is a proven leader and has shown he can bring a diverse group of people together to get things done. But most importantly, he is running for the right reasons. Phil is running because he is prepared for the job and he wants to do what's best for the whole town of Fairhaven.

Phil is ready to be a Selectman. He's done the research, having met with the Selectmen and all department heads in town over the last few months. He has taken the time to understand the job and knows that he wants to do it, even with all the challenges he will face.

Phil truly loves Fairhaven and wants the best for this entire town. He doesn't just decide his view of an issue based on fear or popular opinion. He decides based on his own research, speaking to all sides and then makes a decision. On the new school project, he became informed before he chose to support. You can be sure he will always do his due diligence on issues brought before the Board of Selectmen.

I will be supporting Phil Washko for Selectman on April 2nd because I am sure he will ask the right questions, bring people together, and make the best decisions for the entire Town of Fairhaven.

Stasia Powers, Fairhaven

BPW sets town beach fees, raises

By Joyce Rowley

Neighb News Correspondent

The Fairhaven Board of Public Works set the West Island Town Beach fee schedule for the 2012 summer season at their March 26 regular meeting. Although last year's fees ran a surplus of \$1,900, that was down \$1,000 from the 2010 beach season, member Steven Riley pointed out. He suggested increasing the non-resident fees to make up the difference, while keeping resident rates the same as last year.

Currently, non-resident rates for day passes are \$7 for walk-ins, \$15 per car and \$100 for non-resident season passes, according to the information BPW Superintendent Vincent D. Furtado provided to the Board. Mr. Riley suggested increasing the non-resident day pass to \$10 for walk-ins, and \$20 per car. He also suggested lowering the non-resident senior walk-in rate to \$5.

Member Daniel Freitas suggested that fees* for swimming lessons be increased as well. Instead of \$10 for eight swimming lessons, Mr. Freitas suggested doubling the fee to \$20, with a discount for more than one child per family. Forty-five children participated in the swimming program last summer, according to Administrative Assistant Kathy Tripp.

The Board unanimously voted for the new non-resident day pass fees of \$7 per walk-in, \$15 per car, and \$5 per senior walk-in; and new non-resident swimming lesson fees of \$20 per child for the first child in a family and \$10 per each child after.

Mr. Freitas also said that busloads

of children had shown up at the beach last summer without warning, leaving the lifeguards understaffed. He said if that were to happen again, the organizations bringing the buses should be required to pay for extra lifeguards. After discussion, the Board voted unanimously to require that only Fairhaven organizations could bring buses to the Town beach, and then only after paying a \$150 fee and providing two weeks advance notice.

In other business, the Board voted unanimously to approve a 10-cent fee for grease disposal when the new anaerobic digester starts up next month. Mr. Furtado said he had checked grease disposal prices at other plants around the state and found the average was between 10 cents and 14 cents. The digester will need 1,000 gallons per day, he said. The grease will help the digester reduce the sludge and aid in the generation of methane, and will bring in about \$3,000 per month when the digester is in full swing.

During the BPW member updates, member Robert "Hoppy" Hobson said that he was disappointed that the Finance Committee appeared ready to cut the BPW budget, and had recommended cutting \$130,000 from the BPW Annual Town Meeting article for roadwork. He said it seemed as if other departments, such as the police, fire and school, were not taking as much of a cut as BPW.

Mr. Furtado said that he wouldn't comment on other departments, but that the BPW's work was equally important to the Town.

"How often do you need water and sewer?" asked Mr. Furtado. "Every day. That's all I'll say."

Chairperson Geoffrey Haworth said that Town Meeting would be the forum to debate it. He announced he would not be chairperson after the elections, but whoever takes over has to "get up and fight for [funding]."

"It used to be the 'Big Four,'" Mr. Haworth said referring to the fire, police, school, and public works departments. "Now it seems like we're down to the 'Big Three'."

The Board also voted unanimously to:

- Appoint Water division superintendent Edward L. Fortin as the Town's representative to the Mattapoissett River Valley Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee, with Mr. Furtado as back-up;
- Approve a waiver for a 24-foot-wide driveway entrance for Jose Correia of 5 Weeden Road to be installed by Antone Medeiros, Jr.;
- Send a letter of commendation to retiring Jon Scieszka, Water division foreman, for his 33 years of service to the Town
- Approve a request for lighting at Cushman Park by the Bicentennial Committee during the Fourth of July weekend festivities.

After setting the next meeting date for April 9 at 6:30 p.m., the BPW voted to reconvene in executive session to discuss Union negotiations and the anaerobic digester.

*Fixes errors from previous versions. Swimming lessons for residents only.

SELECT: cont'd from page 4

hold a second special town meeting immediately after another could be prohibitively costly for the town, the selectboard pointed out.

The board voted to allow a one-cent assessment over a five-year period for the Mattapoissett River Valley Protection Advisory Committee, and noted that the retiree board opted to withdraw three town meeting articles.

Town counsel released the opinion that a planning board bylaw amendment submitted by Wayne Hayward was not adequate as submitted.

"The problem is not with any disagreements with what is proposed by the planning board," Mr. Silvia

noted. "The issue here is proper procedure. Mr. Hayward pointed out that in past practices it has been done otherwise, and he would like to go on as usual and let him go forward with what he's submitting, but it puts the town between a rock and hard place, by asking us to not follow procedure, it opens us to litigation for not following procedures."

The board will notify the planning board that the memorandum they submitted was inadequate for purposes of compliance with MA general law, and that they need to resubmit. Some of the discussion was tabled until executive session.

A complaint from resident Fay Bartling about noise coming from the

Fairhaven Shipyard was referred to the board of health and building inspector for investigation, and a request from Matt Loo for a shellfish license guest policy will be discussed with the shellfish warden.

The board approved a request from Steven Bouley to use town hall for a designated National Day of Prayer on May 3rd, 2012;

The board reconvened in executive session to discuss union negotiations, tax title issues, public employee committee health insurance, and litigation concerning the wind turbine project.

**Editor's Note: Mr. Richard writes an independent column that periodically appears in the Neighb News.*

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Entertainment from 3-7 p.m. by Beatleman



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Bob Espindola for Selectman

BobEspindolaForSelectman@gmail.com

Personal:

- Raised in Fairhaven – one of 10 children.
- Attended Fairhaven Public Schools.
- Married to wife, Ann (25 years).
- Demonstrated leadership in volunteer organizations like the Fairhaven Little League (Fairhaven Man of the Year in 2006), CYO basketball, St. Joseph's Parish Council, and the Fairhaven Sustainability Committee.
- BS in Marine Engineering from Mass. Maritime Academy — 1985.
- MS in Facilities Management, Mass. Maritime Academy — 2006.
- Twenty- six years professional experience as an engineer for Exxon, Raytheon and the Acushnet Company.

Project Experience:

- \$600 million Petrochemical Projects (Part of Large Engineering Team)
- \$15 Million facility expansion projects (part of 3-member team)
- \$300-500,000 — Sole responsibility for Engineering, Design, Project MGT and Construction Supervision
- Experience in budgeting, forecasting, trending, procurement strategies (energy), energy conservation projects, energy credits, evaluating bids, and negotiating contracts.
- Developed energy conservation projects and programs that have resulted in millions of dollars worth of energy savings



Platform: Open, Honest and Fair Government

- Engage the community through an open, electronic bulletin board.
- Improve electronic filing to increase efficiency, lower costs, help the environment and allow for easier accessibility of all files and forms.
- Encourage more volunteer efforts on special committees.
- Establish written policies and procedures to ensure all boards and committees are included in key decisions that could impact the health, safety or financial status of the people. Include check lists and flow charts and signature sheets to be certain that no step is ever overlooked.
- Build a financial forecasting model that will allow the various departments and town voters to understand the long range impact of their present day decisions.
- Propose at least one cost savings measure of significance during my term.



Together, we can make Fairhaven a truly Green Community. Bylaws and zoning should establish a proper balance between Environmental, Economic, and Social Responsibility.

- Engage the community.
- Initiate Sustainability in Master planning
- Work to make all public buildings as efficient as possible.
- Develop programs to increase recycling, conservation and community gardening, etc.
- Create bicycle lanes, signage and access areas to promote more use of our bicycle path.

VOTE ON APRIL 2, 2012

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Bob Espindola