



# 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 14 • April 12, 2012

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

## Let the hunt begin!



The Easter Bunny (far left) takes refuge near a tree while hundreds of children and their adults charge towards the candy and eggs placed around Livesey Park for the North Fairhaven Improvement Association's annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, 4/7. Children picked up candy for quick eating, and wooden eggs that had numbers corresponding to prizes for different age groups. Participants also won raffle prizes. Sponsored by the NFIA, the event was completely free and funded by donations. See page 16 for more photos. *Photo by Beth David. See it in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com). Visit [www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews](http://www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews) for more photos of this and other events.*

## Also Inside:

- **Fairhaven Selectboard:** page 4
- **Acushnet Selectboard:** page 12
- **Finance Committee:** page 17
- **Conservation Commission:** page 23

# From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —  
A day late and many dollars short.



Beth David, Publisher

Oh, so much to rant about, so little time, so little space.

Surely, this is some kind of time warp...I mean this business with Augusta National not allowing women in. Really? Am I asleep? IBM has a woman CEO. IBM!!!! (Did hell freeze over...did I miss the press coverage?)

Why is this just coming up now? These bozos should've been taken off the circuit (or whatever expression golfers use) decades ago. They shouldn't be holding anything there except demonstrations

So, here we are in our little corner of the world showing way more sophistication than those guys: Acushnet has extended a welcoming hand, or club as the case may be, to Virginia Rometty, IBM's snubbed CEO (see page 12). Let's all take up a collection and buy her a nice green jacket that says: Neanderthals need not apply.

A little closer to home: The Academy Building and the Tourism Department. Need I say more? Yes, I think I shall.

Although I don't have room to say all I want to say, I will say this: The selectboys need to grow up and make a decision, one way or the other. Either say the Fairhaven Historical Society can continue to control (not "use," CONTROL) the building for free and give some good reasons for it; or say they need to be big girls and boys and share with the tourism office. For years, and it's been the same argument going round and round and round. But, really, folks, what IS the rationale for letting a private, independent non-profit control a whole town building for free? I'm tired of the argument that they are good for the town, so are churches, bars, and soda shops, that doesn't mean we let them set up shop in town hall.

New selectboard member Bob Espindola had his very first brush with rock-and-a-hard-place...his pal Barbara Acksen (the new Board of Health member), whom he campaigned with, went before the selectboard to argue that the Fairhaven Historical Society (she's the president) should keep control of the Academy. Not so easy to be Mr. Integrity, is it Bob?

So, what did they do? They created a sub-committee (is this Congress?). Selectboard member Charlie Murphy is sure someone out here has a brilliant idea — obviously no one in there did.

In the way of disclosure, the tourism director, Chris Richard, is the same person who writes "The Report from Potter's Point," which we publish each month, but Chris knows, and I hope my readers know, that if I believed he was wrong, I'd say so. Personally, I don't care where the tourism office is. I like it in the center, but Chris is the professional tourism guy and he thinks the Academy is a better place for him. In any case, he'll do what the board tells him to do without arguing about. It's the finance committee that finally said enough is enough (they took away his rent money...hee hee, guess they told him). Seems the numbers guys don't understand why an official town department pays rent, while a private organization gets a town building for free. Pray tell, all-knowing ones: What is it about the Historical Society that strikes fear into the hearts of politicians? Why can't you boys (and you are all boys) just make a decision?

I'm no genius, but I usually know when I'm missing a piece of the puzzle, and I seem to be missing a big one here.

One last thought: In this day and age we didn't plan on putting solar panels on the roof of the new school? Really? Yeah, yeah, it's the Mass. School Building Authority's fault, I'm sure. I don't care whose fault it is. It's stupid.

There, I said it. Stupid. A forbidden word (in kindergarten, anyway).

Until next week then...see ya,

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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## Contents

Acushnet Selectboard.....	12
Classifieds.....	21
COVER: NFIA Egg Hunt.....	16
Fairhaven Board of Public Works.....	20
Fairhaven Conservation Commission.....	23
Fairhaven Finance Committee.....	17
Fairhaven Selectboard.....	4
Fairhaven Vets office seeing big increase in need.....	26
Happenings.....	6,7,8
Legal Notices/Public Hearings.....	25
Letter from the editor.....	2
Letters from our readers.....	22
A Little Bit of Sports.....	10
M.O. L.I.F.E. honors Katie Brienzo posthumously.....	3
Recipe of the week.....	10
Recreation Center this week.....	14
The Report from Potter's Point.....	18
Senior Center this week.....	14
Tides.....	21
Upcoming meetings/Fairhaven & Acushnet.....	21

## CORRECTIONS

In our story on Fairhaven's history last week, we made an error on the date of the "British revenge" during the revolutionary war. It should have been 1778. We apologize for any confusion our error may have caused.

## MO LIFE honors memory of Katie Brienzo

The annual M.O. L.I.F.E. Ball (Murphy and Others Living Inter-dependently for Future Endeavors), held on March 30, paid special tribute to Katie Brienzo, a client and advocate for those with disabilities who was killed when she was hit by a car in November. She posthumously received the Personal Achievement award.

Katie was both a client and a volunteer at MO LIFE, an organization run by Fairhaven Selectboard member Charles K. Murphy, Sr. MO LIFE helps people with disabilities

find employment, live independently, and make social connections.

The annual ball recognizes individuals for their contributions to the community. This year, Donna Gaylor, a volunteer with the M.O. L.I.F.E. food pantry, received the Person of the Year Award; Katie's mother, Karen Fostin, received the Lifetime Achievement Award; the Young Heroes of 2012 went to Arissa Underhill and Deianeira "Nara" Underhill; and William Perry received the Leonard P. Monopoli, Jr. Memorial

Fitness award. The organization also announced several scholarships

The evening included dancing and a video presentation, and speakers paying tribute to the life of Katie Brienzo.

A memorial walk/run will be held in Katie's memory on September 29 of this year. Proceeds will benefit M.O. L.I.F.E. and its affiliated food pantry, Katie's favorite charities. For more information visit <http://molifeinc.com> or [www.facebook.com/katiebrienzo](http://www.facebook.com/katiebrienzo) memorial5k ●●●



TOP LEFT: The award recipients at the M.O. L.I.F.E. Ball on March 30, L-R: Karen Fostin, Arissa & Deianeira "Nara" Underhill, Donna Gaylor. BOTTOM LEFT: Katie Brienzo's siblings, L-R, Gina Fitzgerald, Julie Fostin, Ashlee Brienzo-Lentini, Joel Brienzo, sit under a large photo of Katie. Gina accepted the Personal Achievement award that was given to Katie posthumously. Katie was killed when she was hit by a car as she crossed the street in November. TOP RIGHT: Two of Katie's friends cut up the dance floor. BOTTOM RIGHT, L-R: Carrie and Charles Murphy share a laugh with award recipient Karen Fostin, Katie's mom, as she receives her award. *Photos by Jeff Lucas. See them in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com). Visit [www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews](http://www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews) for more photos of this and other events.*

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# Selectboard still won't decide on moving tourism to academy

By Mali Lim

## Neighb News Correspondent

The Fairhaven tourism department's impending move dominated Monday's selectboard meeting, 4/9, as dozens of members from the historical society, the historical commission, and various town officials debated the pros and cons of moving the Visitors Center to the Fairhaven Academy Building.

The idea has been broached unsuccessfully three times in the past, primarily due to opposition from the Historical Society, which currently operates a museum in the building. The Visitors Center has remained on Center Street for over 16 years, but this year, the Tourism Department has no choice but to move.

"This has been discussed before, but this time the reason is purely financial," explained Selectboard Chair Brian Bowcock. The finance committee initially slashed the tourism department's rent budget from \$6,300 to zero for the upcoming fiscal year before accepting the selectboard's recommendation to restore \$3,150 for half a year. Should town meeting accept the revised budget this spring, it would keep the Visitors Center from having to move in the middle of what is shaping up to be one of the busiest tourism seasons ever, due to the Bicentennial.

Nevertheless, come December 31st, the Visitors Center will need a new home and heading the list of proposed locations is the Academy Building, which is owned by the town.

Although Tourism Director Christopher Richard\* admitted that he liked having the Visitors Center in the center area, there were a number of benefits to moving his office to the Academy Building.

"The intersection of Route 6 and Main is the busiest intersection in town," with five times as many cars traveling along that road than along Center Street, he pointed out. It is closer to historic sites north of the highway, including stops on the Manjiro Trail, and fits tourist travel patterns, as the majority of visitors enter Fairhaven from New Bedford, coming across the bridge and directly onto Route 6. The tourism department's maintenance and utilities

budget, as well as Mr. Richard's caretaker duties would go towards the upkeep of the building, and visitors would be able to utilize the parking lot adjacent to the Academy.

Some residents expressed cautious support for the move, noting that other groups have shared the space before.

"I've seen any number of organizations work in an atmosphere of cooperation," said Mark Badwey, a member of the historical society. "As far as being a commission member, our budget has been cut, and any financial support we can get to pay the electric and the gas is a help to us. Any money we don't have to spend allows us to make some repairs to the building. I see no reason why this can't be a shared sacrifice."

"I disagree with some of my board members, and I think it's an okay location," he continued. "[Mr.

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We have revisited this on several occasions, and we need to put this issue to rest [Fairhaven Historical Society president Barbara Acksen]

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Richard] knows his industry and I'd be happy to have him there. We're one town and I hope we can come together. I don't think it will be as bad as we think it will be."

The majority of the historical society members present, however, strongly opposed the proposed merger, noting that they have spent over ten years of hard work, fund raising, and volunteer effort into developing the building into what is now a period museum.

"Aesthetically, the feeling when you walk into that museum is that you're transported way back instantly," said Maggi Peirce, who felt that installing a modern office in the space would take away the atmosphere that makes the museum special.

Other historical society members suggested alternatives to the Academy Building, including moving the Visitors Center into Town Hall or possibly using the old Rogers School.

Dr. Bowcock noted that the town was still exploring other options, but cautioned residents that every option had drawbacks.

"People keep saying there's space in [Town Hall], but you're talking about remodeling this building," he said. "It's not as simple as people are indicating. There was talk about subdividing the Treasurer's Office, and that opens a whole different set of problems. This is a historical building, and we would have to get permission to put a wall up. And while there might be room upstairs, that brings up issues of accessibility."

The debate was civil for the most part, although Mr. Richard's temper flashed at times.

"I don't understand the opposition of a group in town that promotes history, to an office that seeks to promote the town's history," he said. "I thought it would be welcomed with open arms. We'd increase the traffic to your museum. The marriage of the museum with the visitors center always seemed to me a win-win situation."

"We want to save some money by sharing a town building that we own, but the historical society doesn't want to share," he continued. "Since we're talking about this move for economic reasons, I think it needs to be clear that for 20 years the historical society has had this two-story

building at no cost whatsoever. The town heats it, the town pays the electric bill, the town insurance covers the historical society collection. There's no contract with the society for the use of the building and it's the only town building where the inhabitants aren't paying for the use."

He also said other outside groups that use town buildings either pay rent or maintain the buildings; and other historical societies own their own buildings and are responsible for them.

"We have this organization in town using the building rent-free. What's the value of that building that we've been giving free of charge for twenty years?" asked Mr. Richard. "I want all of the financial implications of that out on the table."

Selectboard members Charles Murphy and Bob Espindola expressed reluctance to make a

**SELECT: cont'd on page 5**

## SELECT: cont'd from page 4

decision on a new site for the tourism department, and asked that the town form a sub-committee to explore all the options and the costs attached to them. Both Mr. Richard and several members of the historical society agreed to participate in the process.

"We have revisited this on several occasions, and we need to put this issue to rest," said historical society president Barbara Acksen. "We're not opposed to having a tourism department, but we feel it should be in the center of town where tourists come. Having a tourism office and having a museum is not the same thing. [Mr. Richard] is not talking about being a curator, he's talking about being a director.

"We see no problem with him promoting the museum, but we want to know as a society that we have a museum we could build on," she continued. "We're not at cross purposes here, but I do think that we're two very different organizations."

Besides discussing the tourism department move, the board also voted on recommendations for the regular and special town meeting including:

- Transferring \$1,524 dollars to the town treasurer's salary account to cover an error in calculations;
- Transferring \$10,000 in temporary funds from this year to the tax title account to cover fees from increased tax title actions, legal notices and paperwork;
- Adopting an easement at Cushman Park to allow resident Brad Souza access to his front door;
- Transferring money from surplus revenue and cherry sheet funds to cover a \$35,000 legal budget shortfall due to a series of lawsuits in progress.

Town treasurer John Nunes brought up an article to move \$40,000 from the ambulance fund to a stabilization fund each year to start

saving for future ambulance purchases, an article the fire chief opposes. The board voted to side with the fire chief and not recommend the article, reasoning that there may be ways of procuring ambulances in the future, possibly with the help of Southcoast Hospital, and that if money were to be set aside in special funds, it would not be readily available for other emergencies.

The board voted to recommend allocating \$300,000 for the anaerobic digester project, although obviously reluctant to continue funding a project that is already a year past deadline with costs spiraling out of control.

"The town is now looking to spend seven million dollars for something that was supposed to be free, but we have to finish the project or we won't get the seven million in stimulus money for the project and it becomes a 2% loan from the state," said Mr. Murphy. "Obviously, we don't want to pay the seven million."

They also briefly discussed the article for a wind turbine moratorium filed by Windwise. A letter from town counsel Thomas Crotty advised that the article calling for a moratorium while the planning board review current by-laws could not be legally enacted. The article did not go through the proper process through the planning and zoning boards, Mr. Crotty wrote, and town meeting does not have the ability to tell town officials the details of their duties as proscribed by state law. Any attempt by town meeting to keep officials from doing their duty would be a violation of the law.

In other matters before the board, members voted to allow the Tree Warden to remove five trees blocking wheelchair accessibility on Lafayette Street, as part of the street's restoration project. They also concluded a dog hearing carried over from last

month, restoring the animals to Susan Staffon on Ocean Avenue after the animal control officer testified that the owner had installed a secured fence.

The veteran members of the board welcomed Mr. Espindola for his first selectboard meeting, going over various items of protocol that he wished to discuss. At his request, the selectboard will direct town planner Bill Roth to draw up proposed by-laws regulating the development of solar PV cells, for town officials to consider as a pro-active measure.

Mr. Espindola also expressed an interest in promoting ways that boards and commissions could openly communicate among each other, particularly in matters that involve legal contracts and negotiations, but was cautioned by Mr. Osuch and the other selectboard members that certain contract powers were under specific board jurisdictions and that contract negotiations were often required to happen in executive session. Mr. Espindola chose to withdraw the topic for further research and future discussion.

The board voted to move into executive session specifically to discuss issues regarding compensation to St. Luke's Hospital as well as the use of Town Counsel by the zoning board regarding wind turbine issues.

Dr. Bowcock announced a meeting of the Oxford/Rogers Study Committee, for Wednesday April 18 at 7 p.m. in the town hall. Residents interested in discussing the school department's decision to move Rogers students to Oxford while the new school construction is underway are welcome to attend the meeting.

*\*Editor's Note: Mr. Richard writes a freelance column that the Neighb News runs occasionally, usually once month.*

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## Brienzo case: Andrews due back in court in June

By Beth David  
Editor

Renee Andrews, 35, of Fairhaven, briefly faced a judge on Monday, 4/9, when the case was continued to June 8. Ms. Andrews has been charged with motor vehicle homicide by negligent operation, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, leaving the

scene of an accident personal injury and death resulting, leaving the scene personal injury resulting.

On November 8, 2011, Katie Brienzo and her boyfriend Ellery Reynolds were crossing Scoticut Neck Road in the crosswalk near the former Council on Aging Building (#150) when they were hit by a

northbound car. Ms. Brienzo, 29, was killed. Mr. Reynolds, 38, recovered from a serious head injury.

Ms. Andrews later admitted driving the car that hit the pair. She was arraigned in Third District Court on 1/25/12 after a clerk's magistrate hearing on 12/5/11, which found probable cause to proceed with the charges.

# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## Rogers House Talk

The Fairhaven Historical Society presents "A view of the summer residence of Fairhaven's benefactor Henry Huttleston Rogers" at the Fairhaven Academy Building, on the grounds of Fairhaven High School. Opening reception: **Fri., 4/13, at 7 p.m.** Presented by Carolyn Longworth, Millicent Library Director. Curator: Enrique Goytizolo. **Free, donations accepted.** Refreshments. The historic Academy Building is not wheelchair accessible.

The Rogers exhibition resumes June to September on Saturdays, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. and Sundays, 1–4 p.m.

For more information contact Barbara Acksen, 508-993-0317.

## April Vacation

The following are April Vacation Programs at the Millicent Library, 45 Center Street, Fairhaven. Contact Jane Murphy at 508-992-5342 or [jmurphy@sailsinc.org](mailto:jmurphy@sailsinc.org). Accessible.

**Tuesday, April 17th, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Lego Club.** Bring your own construction toys, Bakugan, Pokemon, or other games. Age 4 and up. No registration required, just drop in.

**Tuesd., April 17th, 2:30-4:30 p.m.** Tween and Teen Hunger Games Party! Grade 5+! RSVP to Ms. Jane, please.

**Wed., April 18th, 10:30-11:30 a.m.** Kid Yoga with Stephanie. Stretch, meditate, relax and enjoy. Age 4 and up. Please sign up with Ms. Jane.

**Wed., April 18th, 2:00-4:30 p.m.** Gamernoon/Crafternoon. Age 3+

**Thursday, April 19th Princess Party!! 2:30-4:30 p.m.** In honor of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and upcoming London Olympics. Tiaras and crowns welcome. Princesses from all nations, galaxies and cultures are encouraged to attend. Ages 4+ Sign up with Ms. Jane. Limited to 25 participants. Princes are welcome but may opt for the Lego program this week!

**Friday, April 20th. 10 or 11 a.m. Musik 'n Fun with Aoife Clancy.** Aoife will be playing guitar and bodhran (Irish drum) and teaching families about music. You may sign up for one session only. Each session lasts 35 minutes. The first session is for babies and toddlers up to 2½, and parents/caregivers, and the second is for children age 2½–5.

Limited to 15 children in each session. Please sign up for one session with Ms. Jane.

**Friday, April 20th 3-5 p.m. Vacation Movie: The Muppets.** Please bring your own snacks/drinks.

## Card Party

The Fairhaven Mothers' Club is holding its annual card party to benefit the Scholarship Fund. Game of Choice, Chinese Auction, raffles and more, on **Tuesday, 4/17, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the Oxford Terrace Community Room, 275 Main Street, Fairhaven.** Refreshments served at noon. Donation: \$5.

All proceeds go to Fairhaven residents who are high school seniors who attending college next fall. For information, tickets, or to reserve a table, call Dot at 508-991-5936. Tickets also available at door.

## Friends of the Millicent annual mtg

Members and future members of the Friends of the Millicent Library are welcome to attend the **Saturday, April 14th annual meeting, to be held at the Millicent Library, at 10:30 a.m.** The purpose and community support of the Friends will be explained. Please use the Walnut Street Entrance. Accessible.

A low membership fee of \$5.00 for individual and \$10.00 for family, along with \$2.00 for seniors and students is available. For info contact Carolyn Longworth, [clongworth@sailsinc.org](mailto:clongworth@sailsinc.org)

## Scout Yard Sale

Troop 52 is having a Yard Sale on **Saturday, April 14, from 9:00-2:00, at St. Mary's Parish,** rear parking lot, 440 Main St., Fairhaven. Rain or shine. All proceeds will go to the Scouts for summer camp. Call 508-992-7300 for more information.

## Bird & Plant Walk

Friends of the Millicent Library welcome children and adults to a plant and bird identification walk on **Thursday, April 19, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.** Please park at the foot of Drown Boulevard and Alden Road to access the Bike Path where the walk will take place.

Early migrating birds, and spring

plants will be seen and identified by our two leaders. Carolyn Longworth, a member of the local Nasketucket Bird Club, is experienced in leading and participating in Fairhaven bird walks. Pat Cooney, a former plant nursery owner, is an experienced gardener.

So bring your binoculars, your bird and plant books, notebooks and enjoy a fresh morning of nature. For more information, please call Martha Berg, 508-997-8517.

## Colonial Kids Day

The Fairhaven Village Militia once again will host its annual Kids Day at the Academy this year during school vacation in April at the historic Fairhaven Academy building. Planned activities for children of all ages include arts and crafts, authentic 18th century lessons, drilling on the front lawn (weather permitting), Q&A with costumed interpreters, and much more.

Stop by with your children or just on your own to spread out a blanket and enjoy a picnic lunch in front of the 1798 school building. Try your hand at clay marble making or crafting a fish net, or sit in on an old fashioned class held inside Fairhaven's former schoolhouse of higher education. The interior of the Academy Building will be open to the public throughout this free event sponsored by the Fairhaven Village Militia.

**Kids Day will be held, free of charge, on Friday, April 20, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Fairhaven Academy,** corner of Huttleston Avenue (Route 6) and Main Street, Fairhaven. For more information, visit the militia's website at [FairhavenVillageMilitia@webs.com](mailto:FairhavenVillageMilitia@webs.com).

## Foxwoods day trip

Join us for a trip to Foxwoods on **Tuesday, 4/24. Tickets are \$20 per person.** Bus departs from Fairhaven Recreation Center/Senior Center parking lot at 8 a.m., returns at 6 p.m. Trip includes 10 a.m.–4 p.m. at the casino, Player's Choice (1 free full buffet coupon or \$15 for food), Keno Coupon, motorcoach transportation **by Conway Tours.**

**Call Cecelia Arruda, 508-999-4755.**

# HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

## Spring Vacation at Whaling Museum

A week of fun activities is planned for spring vacation at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, April 16-20, in partnership with New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park.

The Museum is offering special programming during school vacation week, including **FREE Right Whale Day on Monday, 4/16**. Moby Dick Highlights tour, maritime arts & crafts, scavenger hunt and other events. Some events are free for vacation week only. Regular rates apply to galleries.

In commemoration of Fairhaven's Bicentennial Celebration, Fairhaven residents aged 15-21 are admitted free.

Visit [www.whalingmuseum.org](http://www.whalingmuseum.org) or call 508-997-0046 for more info; or the Whaling Park visitor center at 508-996-4095, [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov), or <http://www.facebook.com/NBWNHP>

## Indoor Yard Sale FR

Multi-Family Indoor Yard Sale Fundraiser to benefit the Voices in Time children's performance group will be held at The Moose Lodge, 119 Rockdale Ave., New Bedford, on **Saturday, April 14th, from 9am-2pm**

Furniture, books, games, kitchen items, clothing, and much more! And a delicious bake sale with **FREE COFFEE!!**

Please come and show your support to help send the kids of Voices in Time to perform on the Carnival Glory cruise-ship this July!

## Amistad voyage

Captain Sean S. Bercaw will present an illustrated talk, titled "Full Sail into Cuba on the Amistad" on **Thursday, April 12** at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, part of the museum's 22nd annual Sailors' Series lecture programs.

Captain of the Amistad, former Naval Officer and Master Mariner, Sean S. Bercaw has sailed over 160,000 nautical miles under sail. He shares the fascinating narrative of sailing the Amistad reproduction, in 2010, into the Cuban waters where the 1839 story — which was the subject of the 1997 Steven Spielberg movie, "Amistad" — began. The

revolt of the Amistad's African captives, their takeover of the ship and the ensuing court battle is an inspiring human story that, in a case successfully argued by former President John Quincy Adams, culminated in their freedom being granted by the U.S. Supreme Court.

**Admission: \$15 members; \$20 non-members. For tickets, call (508) 997-0046 Ext. 100.**

The cornerstone of New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, the Museum is located at 18 Johnny Cake Hill in the heart of the city's historic downtown.

Visit [www.whalingmuseum.org](http://www.whalingmuseum.org).

## Free Health Screens

Southcoast VNA announces free health assessments, screenings and wellness education for seniors. The next clinics are:

**Wednesday, April 18:** 11 a.m. to noon at Hazelwood Senior Center, 553 Brock Avenue in New Bedford.

**Thursday, April 19:** 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. at Rochester Council on Aging, 67 Dexter Lane in Rochester.

**Wednesday, April 25:** 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Downtown Senior Center, 572 Pleasant Street in New Bedford.

For more information on community clinics, individual assessments or immunization education and clinics, call 800-698-6877.

## Health Van

The Southcoast Health Van and Southcoast Blood Bank hold regular **FREE** screenings and blood drives. For more information and to schedule free screenings or a blood drive please call Susan Oliveira, RN, at 508-679-7131 Ext. 2740 or email [info@southcoast.org](mailto:info@southcoast.org).

**Wednesday, April 25,** Oral Cancer Screenings Clinic, CVS Pharmacy 1145 Kempton Street, **Oral Cancer Screenings**, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Thursday, April 26,** Kennedy Donovan Center, 19 Hawthorn St., **Blood Drive**, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Sunday, April 29:** Club Madeirense S.S. Sacramento, 50 Madeira Avenue, **Blood Drive**, 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

## Win Bay Sox Tickets

The Southcoast Blood Bank will give blood donors two free tickets to the New Bedford Bay Sox's Opening Day game on June 7 against the

Laconia Muscrats. The tickets are available at all Southcoast blood donor locations, including the Southcoast Blood Bank at St. Luke's Hospital in New Bedford and the Southcoast Health Van. Tickets are not redeemable for cash.

Southcoast Hospitals Group is the official hospital of the New Bedford Bay Sox, a member of the New England Collegiate Baseball League since 1997. The Bay Sox play their home games at Paul Walsh Field in New Bedford. A complete schedule is available at [www.nbbaysox.com](http://www.nbbaysox.com).

When you donate at a Southcoast sponsored blood drive you are helping to keep your local community blood supply strong. All blood donated is used at the three Southcoast hospitals and Southcoast Centers for Cancer Care. Check the schedule online at [www.southcoast.org/van/](http://www.southcoast.org/van/) or subscribe to daily notices on Twitter, Facebook and RSS feeds.

## Bethel Tours

Have you ever wondered what the Seamen's Bethel REALLY is? Have you wondered why it was built to begin with? The Port Society, in conjunction with New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, is proud to announce special Seamen's Bethel tours each Monday afternoon. The tours start at New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park visitor center, 33 William Street, downtown New Bedford, where, beginning promptly at 1:00 PM, a Port Society volunteer will offer a guided tour of this historic and much-photographed New Bedford building. No tickets are required, and admission is free.

New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park was established by Congress in 1996 to help preserve and interpret America's nineteenth century whaling industry. The park, which encompasses a 13-block National Historic Landmark District, is the only National Park Service area addressing the history of the whaling industry and its influence on the economic, social, and environmental history of the United States. The National Park visitor center is open seven days a week, from 9 AM-5 PM, and offers information, exhibits, and a free orientation movie every hour on the hour from 10 AM-3 PM. Call 508-996-4095 or visit [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).

# HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

## Health Fair

Third Annual Health and Wellness Fair this **Saturday, April 14, at the Acushnet Council on Aging, 59 1/2 South Main Street, from 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.** Multiple vendors, hearing and other health screenings, blood drive, raffles and more!

Free and open to everyone. For more information call 508-998-0280.

## Free Cabo Dance performance

The Culture\*Park Cabo Project Dancers, under the direction of Zezinho Semedo, will present Kaminhu Longe or The Long Journey, a dance/theater performance of contemporary **Cape Verdean Dance, on April 19, at 7:30 pm, UMass Dartmouth Baisley Theatre/Main Auditorium.**

It's an amazing, dynamic piece. Admission is free, and open to the general public.

By the UMassD Center for Portuguese Studies & Culture and the College of Visual & Performing Arts. Visit [www.culturepark.org](http://www.culturepark.org)

## Sustainability Talk

Author and Sustainability Activist John Perkins to Speak Locally “Geo-Politics, the Future, and You: A Call to Action” on

- **April 17, 12:30-2p.m. – UMass Dartmouth Woodland Commons**
- **Reception 7p.m., Talk 7:30 p.m. – Ocean Explorium, New Bedford**

John Perkins will discuss his experiences as an economic hit man, the empire that resulted, and the plan presented in his book *Hoodwinked* for creating a sustainable, just, and peaceful world. He will discuss the epiphany that initiated his personal change and the reasons he is optimistic that we can create human societies our children will be proud to inherit.

John Perkins is an advocate for sustainable lifestyles, and expert about global economic strategies, and New York Times bestselling author of *Confessions of an Economic Hit Man* and *Hoodwinked* in which he describes the career of his youth spent travelling to undeveloped countries and exploiting them for oil and natural resource reserves on behalf of what he has termed the

“corporatocracy” that controls world finance. Co-sponsored by Bristol Community College’s Center for Sustainability and Post-Carbon Education.

For more information, contact: Susan Jennings, Director UMass Dartmouth Office of Campus and Community Sustainability, 508-910-6484, [sjennings@umassd.edu](mailto:sjennings@umassd.edu)

## Yard Sale Items

**Habitat for Cats will hold their Annual Memorial Day Weekend Yard Sale on Saturday May 26 (9:00 to 3:00), and Sunday May 27 (noon to 3:00).** Rain or Shine. At Smith Mills Church Hall, 11 Anderson Way, N. Dartmouth. (Directly across from Burger King on Rt. 6 near intersection of Hathaway Rd and Rt. 6)

To arrange to donate your household goods, jewelry, giftware, and other yard sale items, please call HFC at 508-961-2287, or email [HH4CATS@comcast.net](mailto:HH4CATS@comcast.net) for more information.

## Nature Walks & Talks

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

**April 13th: Bird Walks with Paul Champlin, 9–11 a.m., Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary Adults \$4.00 Mass Audubon members / \$6.00 non-members.** Bring binoculars, wear waterproof footwear.

**April 13th: Half an Hour a Day Across Massachusetts 6:30-8pm Wareham Free Library with John Galluzzo.** Last year, John proved that a nature walk is never out of reach for any Mass. resident by taking a half-hour walk in each of the 351 towns.

### Free Friday Walks!

**Next is April 20.** Meet at the Great Neck parking lot at 9:45am for a brief description of the hike and leave

promptly at 10AM. Approx. 2 hours.

Full program at [www.massaudubon.org/](http://www.massaudubon.org/) To register, call 508-636-2437 or email [allenspond@massaudubon.org](mailto:allenspond@massaudubon.org).

## Greenlight for Girls

### Looking for sponsors

On June 2, 2012 greenlight for girls, in collaboration with the UMass Dartmouth Kaput Center for Research and Innovation in STEM Education, will be holding the second annual greenlight for girls Day-SouthCoast for 10-15 year-old-girls. **We are looking for volunteers, sponsors, and workshop presenters.** From checking in girls at the registration table to leading workshops to providing monetary donations, we are looking for individuals who are interested in being part of the “daisy chain.”

If you have a passion for STEM and would like to be a part of something that will empower girls to stick with their dreams, please consider becoming a workshop leader. Past workshops have included “Lego Robotics,” “Biotechnology for Health and Beauty” and “Electric Earrings.”

Contact Sarah Thomas, Director, Americas and Education Chair, [sarah@greenlightforgirls.org](mailto:sarah@greenlightforgirls.org), [greenlightforgirls.org](http://greenlightforgirls.org)

## Laubi Spring Fling

The Devin Laubi Foundation was founded in July 2004 after Devin succumbed to medulloblastoma (brain tumor) at the tender age of six. The Foundation provides direct family aid to families of children with cancer and have assisted 75 families in need thus far. We are a “grass roots” organization.

We are hosting our **Eighth annual Spring Fling on April 19. Doors open at 6:30 PM, with an open bar until 8:30, gourmet food stations and passing hors d’oeuvres.** This year’s event will be held at McGovern’s on the Water in Fall River, MA. We will enjoy the comedic entertainment of Steve Lopes, “**The Portuguese Fireman.**” **Tickets are a \$50 donation with a deadline of April 8.** Call 508-636-7369 or visit [www.mydevin.org](http://www.mydevin.org) to purchase tickets. Many raffle items. All proceeds benefit families of children with cancer.

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# Recipes of the Week

## Chicken Brine

Rinse a 5-7 pound oven roaster chicken. Clip off wing tips. Set aside. In a 2-gallon zip lock bag or a large bowl with cover, combine the following ingredients:

- 1 quart of buttermilk
- 1/2 sweet onion, sliced thin
- 4 large cloves of chopped garlic
- 2 Tablespoons of red pepper sauce (Red Devil, Franks etc)
- 2 Tablespoons of salt
- 2 Tablespoons of brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon of cumin.

Place the chicken in marinade and refrigerate for 24 hours. If the chicken is not completely submerged in the marinade, turn every 6 hours.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees, Shake off extra marinade.

Place marinated chicken in a pan, lined with aluminum foil. Add 1/2 C water. Lightly oil the chicken with olive oil (optional).

Chicken is done when the plastic indicator pops up!

*Barb Nesto*

### To share a recipe with your neighbors

Mail to 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719; fax to 508-991-5580; email to [neighbnews@comcast.net](mailto:neighbnews@comcast.net)

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# A Little Bit of Sports

By Bob Hobbs  
Special to the Neighb News

## Fairhaven High softball

The Lady Blues rolled over Oliver Ames 3-0. Courtney Girouard threw a foieur-hit shut-out. Kay Mullen led the hit parade along with Kacie Carvalho, Kelsey Perron-Sovik and Kayli Bariteau. Home against Case Friday.

## FHS Lacrosse wins 2

The FHS Lacrosse team rolled to two victories over Cape Cod Academy and NB Voke. Kobie Edwards garnered 7 and 9 goals and Alex Silva was super in goal.

## FHS Girls Track

The Lady Blues track team defeated Bourne 8-56. Emma Rodidoux won four events: Triple Jump, High jump, 400-Meter Hurdles and 100-Meter Hurdles. Bay Gammons won 1-mile and 2-mile.

## Kara Charette named to Globe All Scholastics team

Kara should've been named to Super Team also. Boston Globe all stars were Kelsey Perron-Sovik, Ashley Brown, and Kara; Katie Wilbur of OR and Gabby Reuter, too. Sports staff of Globe don't know where Fairhaven and Rochester are located. Kara also made Herald all stars.

## FHS Baseball defeat Stang 10-4

Coach Tom Bulgar's Bluemen got their first win behind pitching of Bill Lessa and Ryan Baldwin, and hitting of Sophomore Andy Castille, 3-3.

Coyle Cassidy defeated the Blues Monday 12-1, but FHS came back strong behind pitching of Ryan Baldwin to defeat Westport 8-1. Drew Worthington and Cam Charette had two hits apiece.

Home against Case Friday at HMS.

## Gloria & Co. raises \$1400 for MO LIFE

*Press Release*

Gloria and Company took a unique approach in an attempt to replenish the shelves of M.O. L.I.F.E. Food Pantry. On Sunday, January 29, from 1-4 p.m. we held our sixth annual "January Rejuvenate" event, an afternoon of "Unleashing Your Inner Goddess," offering mini spa services, meditation, Goddess card readings, makeup, Zumba wellness, and food and drink expressly prepared for the goddesses in attendance.

Admission for this event was minimum \$25 supermarket gift card for M.O. L.I.F.E. Food Pantry.

"The pantry is

in dire need of all donations, especially during this challenging economic situation," said Charlie Murphy, director of M.O. L.I.F.E.

Through the generosity of our loyal and supportive guests and volunteer team members, we thankfully raised \$1,400 for this needy organization.

For more information contact Gloria and Company at 508-999-1899.

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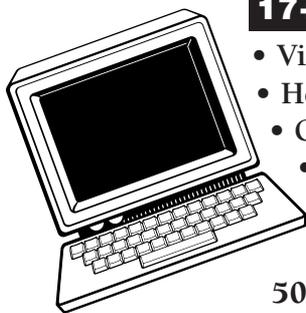
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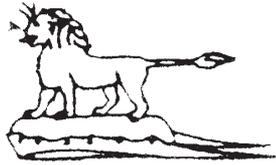
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*from Louise Dupre*

# Town to take Perry Hill by ED; Rometty welcome at Acushnet golf

By Diane Kozak

## Neighb News Correspondent

Acushnet Selectboard chairperson David Wojnar announced that the town will receive \$314,287 in Chapter 90 Program funds from the state for FY 2013. The money is for road projects, and is just \$600 less than the town's FY2012 allocation.

The selectboard revisited the issue of taking the abandoned church at 39 Perry Hill Road through eminent domain at its meeting on 4/9.

"The Historical Commission is all about saving old properties and trying to get these properties on the National Historic Register," Historic Commission chairperson Pauline Teixeira told the board. "The Perry Hill Church is one of the buildings worth saving."

Selectboard member Leslie Dakin, an advocate for restoring town historic properties, presented a PowerPoint presentation about the church. He stated that the building was 161 years old and is in the top one percent of the oldest buildings in the town. He said it had great potential to be put on the National Historic Register, noting that a prior attempt to do so failed because the property was not owned by the town.

Mr. Dakin told the board that vandalism, including a failed arson attempt, has threatened the building. Historic Commission members Robert Hall and Joyce Reynolds also spoke on behalf of saving the church.

"We have been very good at re-purposing our old historic buildings. All of our schools are doing well with their new purpose. There is no reason why we can't save this building and re-purpose it," Ms. Reynolds said.

John Howcroft, school committee member and abutter to the church

property, reminded the board that saving the Perry Hill Church property was referenced in the town's 2007 master plan. He stressed that the town's tourist trade is enhanced by the agricultural nature and historic buildings of the town, of which, the church will be a welcome addition.

Resident David Dennis of Mendall Road, speaking on behalf of the Tripp family who once owned Tripp's Farm on the corner of Main Street and Perry Hill Road, attended the meeting to state that his family was in favor of saving the church.

Selectboard member Kevin Gaspar commended the Historical Commis-

---

I think the message here in Acushnet is that we welcome all golfers, women and men  
[David Wojnar]

---

sion for its work in researching the property, however, as he did at the last meeting, he expressed his concerns about the financial impact of repairing the property and maintaining it. He noted the town has been using Community Preservation funds for historical property projects in the past but questioned what would happen if those funds were no longer available in the future.

Mr. Gaspar said residents needed to know the truth about the financial obligations the project could put on taxpayers.

Although he agreed the residents have been supportive of such projects in the past he asked, "When do we say enough is enough as far as

acquiring or purchasing these buildings to keep the historical character of the town?"

Mr. Wojnar agreed that Mr. Gaspar's concerns needed consideration. He asked how much was estimated to fix the property and prevent further deterioration. A quote of \$20,000-\$25,000 for roof repairs was given. After further discussion the board unanimously voted in favor of taking the property by eminent domain.

Kevin Dakin addressed the board in regard to the town's geocaching program. He explained that geocaching entailed participants using GPS devices to locate hidden objects in conservation and recreational areas. The town currently has seven active geocaching locations with four more waiting to be activated. Mr. Dakin said that the town's program has been very well received by the community. Town Counsel has stated that the program will not create liability issues as long as the town does not charge people to participate.

Mr. Gaspar reported on behalf of the Acushnet Public Building Safety Committee that architect Kaestle Boos Associates of Foxborough, MA has been selected as the architect to do the feasibility study for the new police station. Mr. Gaspar said that because he was voting on the architectural firm as a selectboard member that he did not vote as a committee member. When asked about the firm's experience, Mr. Gaspar stated that they have experience with more than 80 police building projects in Massachusetts, one of which the committee visited in the town of Brewster. The board voted to have the committee members and representatives from



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Fri., 10-6; Sat., 9-4.

## ACUSH SELECT: cont'd from page 12

Kaestle Boos make a presentation at the next meeting.

After a brief update on the golf course's strong season start, Mr. Wojnar referred to the Master's golf tournament controversy regarding the new IBM chief Virginia Rometty's lack of an invitation to the Augusta National, a club which does not allow women to be members

"I think the message here in Acushnet is that we welcome all golfers, women and men," Mr. Wojnar said

The board voted unanimously to

invite Ms. Rometty to play golf at the River Valley Golf Course and send her a season pass.

In other business:

- The board appointed Ron Cormier as Veteran's Agent for the town.
- The town will advertise for two unfilled elected positions; Commissioner of Trust Funds and Library Trustee
- In need of someone to serve on the town's Mosquito Panel, the Board of Health members will be asked if they would like to serve and the

position will be advertised.

- At the request of residents at the Brookside Mobile Home Park the board voted to support a rent control bylaw which will be put on the spring town meeting agenda.

Not only is women's work never done, the definition keeps changing.

Bill Copeland



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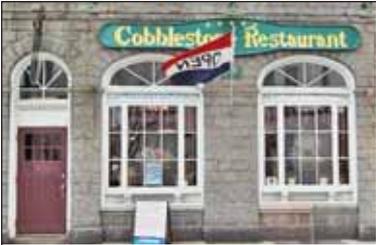
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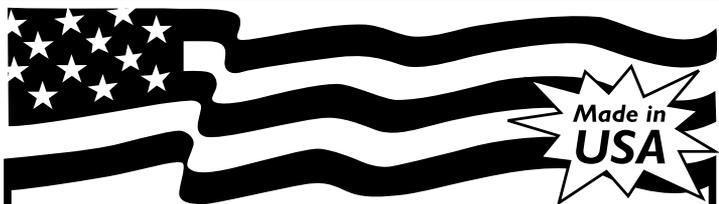
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## Mini Kickers

Minikickers is a new and exciting program that teaches basic soccer skills while developing strength, balance, coordination, listening skills and team work. The professional, licensed British Coaches of Challenger Sports will ensure your child has a positive soccer experience.

**Start Date: April 19 End Date: May 31st** Staff: Challenger Soccer. Thursdays. Times: 2 & 3 year olds 2-3PM; 4 & 5 year olds 3-4PM; 6&7 year olds 4-5 PM. Cost \$70 Members/\$80 Non-Members

## Kool Kids April Vac

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 the first 3 days, pizza lunch will be served on Friday. Sneakers and active clothing must be worn. For more information, call Fairhaven Recreation at 508-993-9269.

Tues., 4/17-Fri., 4/20. Grades K-5  
Cost \$100.00 member/ \$125.00 non-member. Time 8:00am-3:00pm

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Date April 14., Place Livesey Park. Time 10 am PLEASE PRE-REGISTER at Fairhaven Rec. No Membership nec.

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## April Mall Trips

4/18: Independence Mall & Pembroke Christmas Tree Shop  
4/25: Warwick Mall

## Entertainment

### Fabulous Overtones

The Fabulous Overtones **every Thursday at the Senior Center** with Carl Bissonnette, Chuck Brillon, Ron LaBreque, Jerry Theodore & Paul Belliveau.

## 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 Canel, 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.

### Fit Quest Fairhaven

Every Thursday. Confidential weigh-in 9:30-10:00 a.m. Supportive tips on losing weight and keeping it off 10:00-10:30 a.m.

### Computer Classes

Learn your way around a keyboard and mouse for just \$3.00 a week. Classes are Mon., 1-2:30, Thurs. & Fri., 10-11:30, for six weeks. Call the Senior Center to sign up.

### Yoga for YOU

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### Jolly Bowlers

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# Annual egg hunt draws hundreds on sunny day

The annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the North Fairhaven Improvement Association on 4/7 drew a large crowd of children from toddlers to pre-teens, along with their respective adults. Hundreds of children swarmed over Livesey Park hunting for candy and numbered wooden eggs. The numbers

corresponded to prizes, including Easter baskets, toys, stuffed animals and books. Participants also had a chance to win raffle prizes, and hot chocolate included choice of whipped cream or marshmallows.

The Easter Bunny was on hand for picture taking and little hugs.

The 100% free event is open to all

and is funded with private donations.

But this is an event best told with pictures.

*Photos this page by Beth David.*

*See them in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com). Visit [www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews](http://www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews) for more photos of this and other events.*



LEFT: Cole Vasconcellos gives the Easter Bunny a hug at the North Fairhaven Improvement Association's annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, 4/7. MIDDLE: Under the watchful eye of dad, Kamryn Berg jumps off the balancing bar in between hunting for eggs. RIGHT: Julian Morales catches the photographer in the act. BELOW LEFT: A little girl is delighted to find the candy all by herself. BELOW MIDDLE: Elias Perry's bunny ears face off with the big guy! BELOW RIGHT: James Moitoso shows off his take.



# FinCom wraps up general budget recommendations

By Joyce Rowley

## Neighb News Correspondent

At its April 5 meeting, the Fairhaven Finance Committee made its final recommendations for the Schools, Police and Fire budgets even as it raised concerns with personnel losses those departments may have to make. FinCom Chairperson John Roderiques said that the Selectboard cuts to those departments were not the leadership decisions he had hoped to see.

"There are communities throughout this state that shut down their town halls for a day and give out furloughs," said Mr. Roderiques. He said the Selectboard's recommended cuts were not uniform, and some cuts were not really cuts at all. Several times during the meeting Mr. Roderiques referred to the Selectboard leaving the Natural Resource Department budget intact.

The Selectboard recommended the School District's 2% reduction of its requested budget, and cuts to the Police and Fire departments' salary line items by approximately \$56,000 and \$27,000 respectively as part of a 2% reduction overall. The FinCom voted unanimously (10-0) to recommend the Selectboard budget for the School District of \$17,655,049. Member Jennifer Bishop was absent.

But the FinCom debated how much the police department salaries should be cut. Member Theresa Szala proposed funding the full amount requested by the police department, minus the amount of the state's share of the Quinn Bill, which the Town does not have to pay. However, Mr. Roderiques said that if the budget were set at \$2,571,564 instead, the police department would not have to lay off any personnel.

The FinCom voted unanimously 9-1, member Kim Hyland opposed, to recommend the \$2,571,564, although it was higher than the Selectboard's recommendation by \$27,000. Mr. Hyland said that he supported the Selectboard's recommendation because they had shown leadership and made a tough decision.

Likewise, the FinCom voted to recommend \$1,718,000 for the fire department salary line item, a slightly higher figure than the Selectboard's recommendation. Mr. Roderiques also said that the fire department

would not lose staff if funded at that amount. This time, the vote was unanimous.

The other line items of the police and fire department budgets were recommended by the FinCom at the selectboard levels and passed unanimously.

The FinCom had difficulty deciding on an amount for the Natural Resource Department purchase of services with a split vote on two tries. Five members wanted to recommend the Selectboard's proposed \$8,100, and five members wanted to reduce it to \$7,300.

Ms. Szala, who proposed the lower amount, said the reduction could come from the request for a captain's license (\$400) and from the storage of boats (\$2,400). She reminded the

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There are communities throughout this state that shut down their town halls for a day and give out furloughs  
[John Roderiques]

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Committee that she had told the Shellfish Warden and Harbormaster last year that if they accepted an additional boat, the FinCom was not going to automatically pay extra expenses incurred for having it.

Eventually, Ms. Szala split the difference between the two numbers and the vote to reduce the amount of Purchases and Services to \$7,700 from \$8,100 passed 6 to 4, with members Padraic Elliott, Sidney Martin, Mr. Hyland and Mr. Roderiques voting in opposition to the reduction.

The streetlighting program, which replaces old bulbs with new LED lighting, came under the knife as Mr. Roderiques said that when the program started, it was with the understanding that it could be used to make up shortfalls in the budget when money was tight. The FinCom voted 10-0 to recommend that the

streetlighting program be reduced to \$160,000 from \$200,000.

In a series of unanimous votes, the FinCom voted to recommend the Selectboard's budgets for the Selectboard, Data Processing, the Treasurer, Town Hall, the Building Department, Water Division, and the "Care of Dogs and Others," and rescinded and revoted the Office of Tourism in keeping with the Selectboard's recent vote. The Selectboard voted to fund rent for the Office of Tourism for a six-month period to allow time to find new quarters on town-owned property.

The FinCom also rescinded an earlier vote on the request by the Emergency Management Agency for two radios per vehicle plus four handheld radios instead of postponing the discussion to Town Meeting. Mr. Roderiques said he discussed with the police and fire departments the need for EMA's direct radio communication with the police. The consensus was that it provided a benefit to the town although it might not be strictly needed. The difference of \$1,400, said Mr. Roderiques, was negligible relative to the overall budget. The committee voted unanimously to recommend the amount requested.

The River Road discontinuance public hearing had been held, so the FinCom rescinded its earlier decision and voted to recommend adoption of that article, as well. Ms. Szala asked what the difference was between the street discontinuance and the issue with the abutter to Cushman Park.

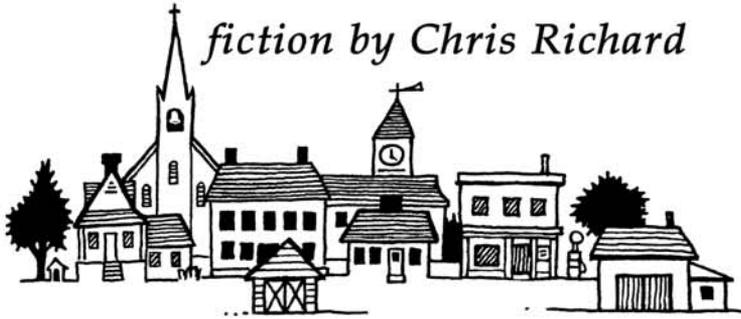
Mr. Roderiques said that the land under the street was returned to the abutting owners because, at the time the street was created, it was taken from their property.

The Cushman Park issue is not the same as a street discontinuance.

In discussion on another article that the FinCom recommended, Mr. Roderiques was particularly concerned that the Selectboard recommended indefinite postponement. According to Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch, the selectboard did not provide rationale for recommending IP for the article, which would require union and other employee contracts be provided to the FinCom well in advance of Town Meeting. ●●●

# The report from Potter's Point

*fiction by Chris Richard*



Well, not an awful lot went on in Potter's Point last month, but there are a few things of lesser consequence that are worth noting.

Whippi Dip out on Cranberry Drive near the highway opened for the season and offered two cones for the price of one during the first week. The opening of "the Dip" touched off the never-ending dispute as to which ice cream is better — soft serve, as dispensed at Whippi Dip, or hard ice cream, such as you get at Pru's Pastime, the sit-down ice cream parlor in the Wasp Building on Main Street.

Some folks hint that the Widdit family who first opened Whippi Dip in the 1950s were gypsies and that's a reason to keep away from the place. Others swear by Whippi Dip and love nothing more than a cone of vanilla dipped in chocolate coating. The Whippi Dip also serves clam cakes and curly fries which are not sold anywhere else in town. Young people like the Dip because they don't have to go inside and sit down and behave themselves like they're in church.

More of the old-timers go to Pru's. Virgil Boggs proudly boasts having never been to Whippi Dip once and says, "You'll never see me at that place until they figure out how to squirt frozen pudding out of a nozzle."

\* \* \* \* \*

Fr. Chablis was back at St. Christopher's Church in time for Holy Week after his annual visit to Florida to catch a few spring training games in Fort Meyers. That was a relief to a lot of the parishioners because while Fr. Chablis was away his replacement

other things that are surely frowned upon by the Pope. That's especially a burden on those who go to the 8:00 A.M. Masses on weekdays. And since Fr. Chablis always goes away during Lent, folks are already stressed out from the lack of whatever they have given up as a Lenten sacrifice.

It makes Easter and their pastor's

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Some folks feel uncomfortable when Fr. Billy is in town to serve Mass, because he brings a guitar and makes everybody sing aloud and clap their hands and do other things that are surely frowned upon by the Pope.

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return all the more joyous.

Since his boyhood in Boston Fr. Chablis always liked baseball. He might have become a ballplayer himself if he hadn't heard the calling to his vocation with the Church, which occurred one afternoon while he was playing second base at Our Mother High School. That intense moment of religious enlightenment caused him to bobble a routine grounder, resulting in an embarrassing loss to the Fighting Nuns of Mount Mary.

Fr. Chablis got to see a few games at the new JetBlue Park, which he liked all right despite it being named after an airline. At one game he got to

had been Fr. Billy, fresh out of the seminary. Some folks feel uncomfortable when Fr. Billy is in town to serve Mass, because he brings a guitar and makes everybody sing aloud and clap their hands and do

sit behind glass inside the Green Monster left field wall. He supposed it was nicer than the City of Palms stadium, but he still, after all these years, missed the old days of spring training at Winterhaven.

It was announced in the church bulletin on Palm Sunday that Fr. Chablis was in town again and on Easter there would be no guitar playing or clapping of hands.

\* \* \* \* \*

Prudence Worthy got Bill to put away the bird feeders and put up the bird houses. She also made him pick up kerosene for the space heater in the little greenhouse attached to the garage so her tomato seedlings don't catch a chill. Prudence had already planted her tomato seeds in a couple of flats she had put in the front parlor windows. The cats located the flats, however, and started pawing around and putting the boxes of loose soil to a different use. Until Bill got kerosene for the heater, Prudence kept the cats out in the empty greenhouse.

Maggie Boggs, who grows her tomatoes in buckets on the back porch, also has trouble with cats. In preparation for her own gardening season, Maggie has been cleaning and oiling her Official Red Ryder Carbine-Action Two-Hundred Shot Range Model Air Rifle.

\* \* \* \* \*

Around the third week of March, the Committee for the Prevention of Tourist Activities met at Town Hall to discuss the possibility of setting up concrete traffic barriers on all incoming roads from Memorial Day through Labor Day. When it was pointed out that road blocks would also prevent Potter's Point's own residents from coming and going, the idea was dropped. It was then decided that the committee print up brightly colored bumper stickers and put up signs that say "Visit Cape Cod Instead!"

That's the Report from Potter's Point for this month. Hope to see you soon!

*EDITORS'S NOTE: The imaginary town of Potter's Point is located in the southeastern part of Massachusetts, on the shore of Butler's Bay. Its primary industries are cranberry growing, boat building and quahogging.*

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**Friday, 4/13:**  
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**Saturday, 4/14:**  
DJ Howie, 8-1

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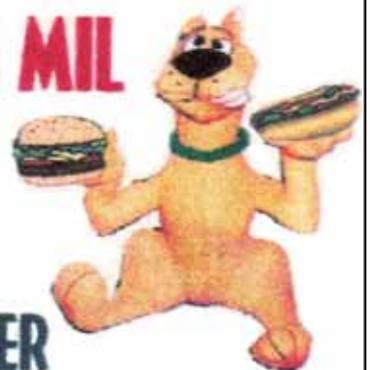
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# Riley is new BPW chair

By Joyce Rowley

## Neighb News Correspondent

The Fairhaven Board of Public Works got a new chairperson at its April 9 meeting. G. Steven Riley was voted in to serve as chairperson for the next year. Member Robert "Hoppy" Hobson was voted in as vice-chairperson and member Katherine Sturtevant kept her seat as clerk. The BPW holds elections for its officers after every election.

Leon Couture, representing property owner Sally Davis, presented a waiver request for a 34' wide driveway at 8 Eaton Road. he said the property is subject to severe flooding in the area of the driveway, and they had always had problems with it. The dirt road is "unimproved," and there is only one house across the street that also has a large cement driveway.

Mr. Hobson noted there were two houses on the property, and said that there was not a lot of room to park. He said he considered it a big improvement. Ms. Sturtevant agreed, saying the street was horrible and this will allow the owners to park in the driveway without sinking into the mud.

Member Geoffrey Haworth said that he was usually opposed to such a wide opening, but the combination of the unimproved street and the condition of the current driveway warranted it. The Board voted 5-0 to approve the 34-foot-wide opening.

Stephen Courtney of Manafort Brothers was before the BPW to secure a new drainlayers license. He said that he had been in highway work since 1985, and had 25 drainlayers licenses throughout the state. He said he was also certified in OSHA 30 and OSHA 10 for traffic control, and trained in both Hazmat and trenching.

On questioning by the Board, he said that Manafort Bros. had won the contract for the new Southcoast Hospitals medical building. His firm had insurance, but they would get a rider to their Cumberland, RI insurance for Massachusetts. Manafort Bros. has 300 employees in Connecticut and 50 in Rhode Island, Mr. Courtney said.

The drainlayers license was

approved 5-0 with the stipulation that a copy of the Massachusetts insurance is provided to the BPW office.

David Donnelly of 10 Diamond Street was not present for his appointment. Although Mr. Riley suggested it be tabled, Mr. Haworth asked that some action be taken instead. The water leak had been ongoing for nearly a year at a cost to the town, said Mr. Haworth. Member Daniel Freitas also said that it was time to get the water leak repaired or shut down the service.

Mr. Hobson said that some of the residents were ill, and that he recommended having the town fix it and file a water lien for the town's costs on the home.

Water Superintendent Edward

not afford to pay for the electricity for the three day period, he would pay for it himself.

In other business, the Board voted unanimously to pay WES Construction \$168,150 for work on the anaerobic digester. The work is about 90% complete, Mr. Furtado said. He also said that the digester would be tested in May and he expected that it would be completed by June 2012. The project was slated to be completed in May 2011.

During board and superintendent comments, Mr. Furtado said that the state had apparently approved the town's request to amortize the \$600,000 in overruns on the Howland Street project. A check to LAL Construction, the project contractor, had been returned because the state had paid for the work.

Mr. Haworth said he had received a complaint about the new traffic lights on Howland Road at the Benoit memorial. He said he sat at the light for 4 minutes and 12 seconds in the red cycle.

"It takes a lot of patience to sit there for four minutes," said Mr. Haworth. He was concerned that someone with less patience might jump the light and cause an accident. Howland Road work was intended to improve the safety of the intersections.

Mr. Furtado said he would ask Mass Highway to look into it.

Mr. Haworth also was concerned about activity on the park across from the Seaport Inn. He said the Fairhaven-New Bedford Bridge contractor had boxed in the trees at the park and put a silt fence up near the river. Mr. Riley said the BPW did not give permission to use the area as a laydown area for the bridge work. The board asked Mr. Furtado to check with the contractor to see what the plans were for that area.

Mr. Fortin mentioned that the City of New Bedford asked that the Town provide water to the businesses along the work area again as part of the existing intermunicipal water agreement. The town will bill the city for the water.

The board reconvened in Executive Session, not to reconvene in open meeting, to discuss the anaerobic digester and union negotiations. ●●●

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**Mr. Hobson said that if the town could not afford to pay for the electricity for the three day period [to light the Vietnam Moving Wall], he would pay for it.**

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Fortin said he did not believe he could send town workers onto private property without getting a waiver on liability first. Public Works superintendent Vincent Furtado said that there was also an issue with potential contamination of the water supply from the leak, and also asked the Board to take action.

The Board voted 5-0 to have a town crew make the repairs provided the owner signed a liability waiver, after which a water lien would be placed on the property. However, if the owner failed to sign the waiver, the board would take the next step, which would be to terminate service.

The board also voted unanimously to allow the Bicentennial Committee to leave the lights on at Cushman Park from dusk to dawn to light the Vietnam Veterans moving wall exhibit to prevent vandalism. Although there was some concern about costs, Mr. Hobson said that if the town could

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## Fairhaven Meetings

### Board of Appeals

Tues., 5/1, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

### Board of Public Works

Mon., 4/23, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

### Conservation Commission

Mon., 4/23, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Council on Aging

Mon., 4/9, Sr. Ctr., 9:30 a.m.

### Finance Committee

Thurs., 4/12, Arsene St., 7 p.m.

Thurs., 4/19, Arsene St., 7 p.m.

### Planning Board

Tues., 4/24, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### School Committee

Wed., 4/25, FHS Library, 6:30

### Selectboard

Mon., 4/23, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

## Acushnet Meetings

### Board of Health

Tues., 4/24, Parting Ways Sch., 6:30 p

### Board of Public Works

Mon., 4/23, BPW Bldg, 6:30 p.m.

### School Committee

Tues., 4/17, Ford MS, 5 p.m.

### Selectboard

Mon., 4/23, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

### Board of Appeals

Mon. 5/7, Acush Comm Ctr, 6:30 p.m.

## TIDE TABLE

US Army Corps of Engineers

Cape Cod Canal/Wing's Neck

	April 2012	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Friday	13	0203	1433	0848	2040
Saturday	14	0306	1536	1002	2230
Sunday	15	0410	1639	1052	2328
Monday	16	0512	1737	1127	----
Tuesday	17	0607	1827	0010	----
		----	----	1152	----
Wednesday	18	0655	1911	0044	1218
Thursday	19	0737	1951	0112	1248
Friday	20	0815	2028	0143	1323
Saturday	21	0852	2102	0217	1400

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

If you're in a bad situation,  
don't worry it'll change. If  
you're in a good situation,  
don't worry it'll change.

John A. Simone, Sr.

## Southcoast breaks ground on new ACC

### Press Release

Southcoast Health System broke ground last week on a two-story, 61,000-square-foot Southcoast Ambulatory Care Center in Fairhaven, located adjacent to the existing Southcoast Centers for Cancer Care site.

Scheduled to open Summer 2013, the Southcoast Ambulatory Care Center at 206 Mill Road in Fairhaven will include an urgent care center that will operate seven days per week and will accept walk-in and same day appointments.

The facility will bring together some 40 physicians, including primary care, family practice, surgical and medical specialists. Comprehensive outpatient services will include radiology, laboratory and cardiac testing as well as a retail pharmacy.

"The push for health care reform is

changing the landscape of health care delivery across the nation," said Ellen Banach, Senior Vice President of Strategic Services. "The goal is to keep patients out of the hospital and closer to home by focusing on prevention and early recognition of illnesses with continual monitoring and follow up care. The new facility will offer an opportunity for much needed expansion of health care services in the community with a greater emphasis on prevention and treating patients before they become acutely ill."

Similar to the Southcoast Centers for Cancer Care project, the new Southcoast ACC building project will create up to 250 temporary construction jobs over the life of the project, while the new center will employ approximately 50 staff members in addition to physicians.

# Letters from our readers

## **Antil's will not re-open**

After 23 years of business, we have decided to close our doors. The devastating fire that occurred on August 29th put our lives in turmoil and forced us to re-evaluate our future.

Our decision is a painful one because of the number of patrons that depended on us as well as those that traveled from afar for our specialty foods. We will miss all of you.

To our faithful employees, I'm sure that each one of you knows how difficult this was for us. Your service and commitment to us was second to none. To the Town of Fairhaven, we thank you for your support.

The friendships, professional relationships, and community camaraderie we have gained over the years are irreplaceable and unforgettable.

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you immeasurably for 23 fantastic years. We look forward to continuing our neighborly and community relations and encourage you to continue to support local businesses.

*Thank you,  
The Antil Family*

## **Fun day will celebrate Fairhaven Bicentennial**

This all started with a pointed challenge from my wife, Cynthia. We were watching our Town's July 4th parade on the corner of Cottage and Green Street in Fairhaven in 2009. In effect, she suggested that beside a parade, I add another dimension to celebrating our nation's independence.

Well, one thing led to another and before you knew it, plans were being made to conduct a Liberty Concert at Cushman Park, in lieu of or in addition to a parade for 2010. The core group was comprised of a men's group (affectionately called "The Cave") that met weekly at my house. Along with our awesome wives, we began to recruit others into our planned event.

Citizen champions from the Town like Wayne Oliveira, John Medeiros, Paula Macgregor, Ellie Sylvaria, Jack Iddon, and Stella Marnik came aboard and we grew from there. A meeting with Town Tourist Director, Chris Richard, and faithful citizen, Natalie Hemmingway, brought encourage-

ment. Singing groups were recruited and sponsors were generated. When July 3, 2010, rolled around, the town was treated to a "Liberty Concert" at Cushman Park. Several hundred people enjoyed the sunshine and wonderful day that created a patriotic theme, celebrated our spiritual roots, and honored our service men and women; all done in a "love your neighbor" atmosphere.

Beyond good food, good attractions, and good company, a couple of highlights of the day included recognizing living citizen champions Antone "Hawk" Medeiros, Evelyn Martin, Pastor Larry Swartz, and Sister Rose Ellen Gilogly. Their selfless service was soundly applauded. A free CD with a 100 Patriotic songs, compliments of a Veteran's group, was also well received.

Our core group (the Cave) continued to meet, but, the Liberty Concert effort, we thought, was a once and for all event. Until...I was asked to coordinate a similar event by Wayne Oliverira, chairman of the Fairhaven Bicentennial Committee.

After a conversation with my live-in challenger and patriotic wife Cynthia, a time of prayer, and talking with the guys in the Cave, we were in, AGAIN! So, we are in the process of spending what will be over a year to do what Wayne asked us to do. This time, we have four team keys to help develop what we are calling a "Fairhaven Bicentennial Good Ol' Family Fun Day" at Cushman Park on Sat., July 14, 2012 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Our purpose is to celebrate 200 years of the Town of Fairhaven. We see a Good Ol' Family Fun Day at Cushman Park as the appropriate event to do it. Our desire is to have a safe, fun-filled day with plenty of variety for all to enjoy. This time, our friends Chris Tapper and his wife Diane will play a co-chairing role with us.

To celebrate 200 years of a great town like Fairhaven is simple, but certainly far from easy. My wife Cynthia and I consider it to be a great honor to participate at any level and know full well that this effort is way beyond anything we can do on our own. We can never forget that, fundamentally, the greatness of our town is in the people and the citizen champions who belong here. As

others come alongside to help us, we promise to do our best to provide a wholesome family-friendly day on July 14, 2012 at Cushman Park; one that will hopefully leave a lasting legacy.

*Most Sincerely, Steven J. Bouley*

## **Thank you from Shriners**

Thank-you to the Parishioners & Sunday School Students of St. Julie's Church

On behalf of the Shrine Club of Southeastern Mass., we would like to offer our sincere and heartfelt thanks to the Sunday school students, and teachers, and parishioners of St. Julie's Church Sunday School for collecting well over 100 pounds of pull-tabs for the Shriners Hospitals for Children Transportation Fund!

We also would like to thank the student who took it upon herself to make and sell gimp bracelets to raise money for the Transportation Fund!

I hope that this act of kindness will inspire others, and I invite you all to find out how you can help the kids receive world class medical care at the Shriners Hospitals (regardless of families' ability to pay) by collecting aluminum can pull-tabs. To find out more please visit: [www.shriners22.org](http://www.shriners22.org)

*Matthew R. Brodeur, Shrine Club of  
Southeastern Mass. President*

## **Democracy violated in Fairhaven, restored**

The concept of a true Democracy was demonstrated in the Fairhaven elections where several opponents of the wind turbine project were elected. The wind turbine project was somewhat of a covert operation and the true concept of a Democracy was violated by elected officials. Fairhaven voters came to the polls with a mission to elect officials that would represent the majority. That's a Democracy.

In a growing trend, wind turbine construction has been under scrutiny because of the health hazards they present to surrounding residents and schools. The Falmouth Wind Turbines have affected the health and well being of over 50 residents who live within close range of the turbines.

The Fairhaven turbines are closer to residents than the Falmouth turbines. Without presenting studies

**LETTERS: cont'd next page**

## LETTERS: cont'd from page 22

and scientific evidence, it strongly points to a health lawsuit disaster in Fairhaven. With this in mind, the Fairhaven Wind Turbine project still went forward and was constructed

despite a strong wave of opposition. Democracy was violated

Democracy has been restored with the election of individuals who realize the health hazards of wind turbines

and the placement of these turbines close to residents and a new proposed school. Hats off to the voters in Fairhaven!!

*Steve Bender, Mattapoissett*

### ConCom not impressed with Bella Vista plan

*By Jean Perry*

#### Neighb News Correspondent

Several wetlands violations committed by Bella Vista Island property owners Haiem Alsawalhi and Anwar Faisal remain unresolved after the Fairhaven Conservation Commission voted on 4/9 to continue the hearing.

A team of wetland specialists and an attorney representing Mr. Faisal presented the commission with what Attorney Shephard Johnson considered a "state of the art" restoration plan, which was received with opposition from Lenore White of Wetland Strategies, and skepticism by members of the ConCom.

Chairperson Andrew Jones told the team he had "no warm and fuzzy feeling that anything has been resolved."

"What we see is further site improvement," suggested Ms. White, "not a restoration plan."

"We proposed a response we thought you would all be thrilled with," commented Mr. Johnson.

Wetlands Specialist Brandon Faneuf defended the plan, saying the "diverse native planting plan" was "better than a monoculture of phragmites," and that all past issues were already resolved with an Order of Conditions issued by the commission on 2/19.

"This plan is a very expensive plan the normal proletariat wouldn't be able to afford," Mr. Faneuf said.

Mr. Johnson acknowledged the history of unpermitted work done on the property, and said he thought the commission's position was that those issues were resolved. Mr. Johnson added that Mr. Faisal had a new "team" and asked the commission to give the team the opportunity to work with them.

"We want to try to get the commission's confidence back," said Mr. Johnson.

Ms. White argued that the new plan did not solve the issues of clear-cutting and removal of a sand dune, which Mr. Faisal's team would not admit ever existed.

"Adding shrubs and grading

doesn't address the issue of destruction of a dune," Ms. White stated, adding there was only "somewhat of an effort" to restore it.

Engineer Rich Rheaume said the plan included planting beach grass as an effort to restore the dune, while maintaining that photos he saw clearly show that there never was a dune.

"There's a whole process to restoring a dune," said ConCom member Cora Peirce. "You can't just dump a bucket of sand and call it restoration."

Mr. Jones told the team that he perceived the plan to be a completely new plan that still did not address the history of "systematic violations" and non-compliance with the Wetlands

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This plan is a very expensive plan the normal proletariat wouldn't be able to afford  
[Brandon Faneuf,  
Wetlands Specialist]

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Protection Act.

"It's not like we're eradicating the wetlands...We're actually enhancing the wetlands," Mr. Faneuf stated, adding that the work involved "pruning" and the plan contained "minor revisions."

Mr. Johnson defended the plan as having been "tweaked," insisting that it was the same plan presented from the beginning.

Mr. Jones said that Mr. Faneuf's reference to the unpermitted work as merely "pruning" was offensive to the commission.

"I strongly urge you to deny this application," said Ms. White, adding that she did not see any progress toward meeting the requirements of past two Orders of Conditions, and five Enforcement Orders.

Mr. Faisal uttered softly, "I'm being set-up," followed by an expletive.

"I take severe objection to Ms. White's comment," rebutted Mr. Faneuf, adding that it was unfair for her to bring up past issues "in order to influence the commission."

Mr. Johnson accused Ms. White of "showing a vindictive streak."

At one point, the attorney, Mr. Johnson, told the commission that on 2/17 he had filed an appeal of a 12/19/11 Order of Conditions with Superior Court, saying he had refrained from serving the commission the papers until he was certain an agreement could not be reached with ConCom.

Mr. Jones, surprised by the casual manner in which Mr. Johnson informed the commission of a court appeal, said he interpreted the action as essentially saying, "Nah, we're not going to listen to you."

Mr. Johnson urged the commission to take two weeks to review the proposal which includes removing invasive plants such as phragmites and bittersweet, and replacing them with native trees, shrubs, and ground flora. It also includes maintaining the mowing of invasive species that had already been done, to control the regrowth. In addition, the proposal

excluded plans for an access driveway to the beach, beach "nourishment," a tennis court, and a floating dock.

Harbormaster David Darmofal and Shellfish Warden Timothy Cox attended the public hearing and addressed the issue of the floating dock. Mr. Darmofal said he has since revoked the permit for the float because Mr. Faisal ignored his orders that it not be used for docking personal watercraft or be attached to a walkway of any kind.

Mr. Johnson introduced a proposal to replicate wetlands on Arsene Street in addition to the work on the island, but Mr. Jones told Mr. Johnson that there may not be any wetlands left to replicate, since the developer of the wind turbine project is now responsible for that property.

**CONCOM: cont'd on page 24**

## ConCom: cont'd from page 23

Ms. Peirce suggested that the commission should take time to “get a grasp” on the files, go over the proposal, and sort through the many Enforcement Orders. Mr. Jones agreed, and told Mr. Faisal’s team to resubmit a Notice of Intent that included the proposed changes, and a rewritten narrative better explaining the proposed mowing of invasive species and wetlands restoration.

The hearing was continued to 4/23.

In other matters, a public hearing erupted into a shouting match between Roger and Carolyn Marcoux of 114 Balsam Street and the ConCom over an after-the-fact filing of a Notice of Intent to clear their lot of invasive kudzu vines.

Mr. Marcoux began by explaining that his house was up for sale and he wanted to enhance the property’s appearance by removing the kudzu that has “taken over the property,” in an attempt to make it “more than just a kudzu farm.” He said he was conscious to stay out of the 100-foot wetlands buffer zone.

Ms. Peirce immediately reminded Mr. Marcoux that she had to personally ask him to stop working without a permit, which was followed by subsequent visits by commission members Mr. Jones and Mr. Taylor, who also had to tell Mr. Marcoux to cease working again without a permit.

“This is not the way you do business in town,” said Ms. Peirce. She recalled that at one point Mr. Marcoux’s heavy machinery got stuck in a sand dune. She called Mr. Marcoux’s behavior “disturbing.”

At that point, Mrs. Marcoux spoke out, accusing the commission members of “coming onto her property screaming and swearing” and said one member threw a lit cigarette onto the property.

“Is this what you consider conservation?” Mrs. Marcoux asked.

Mr. Jones responded, saying “I don’t recall seeing you there,” adding that the person shouting and swearing the most was Mr. Marcoux.

Mrs. Marcoux said she was inside the house, but could hear the exchange of words.

Mr. Marcoux stood silently, and then added that he was sorry for the infractions.

Just before voting to accept the plan as proposed, Mr. Jones looked to

Mrs. Marcoux and told her, “When you point your finger at someone else, you’d better be sure your hands are clean.”

Before leaving, Mr. Marcoux added that his neighbor across the street was spraying TruGreen© on his lawn, causing mold to grow on the Marcoux’s beach. Mr. Jones told him to call Conservation Agent Wayne Fostin about it.

During the public hearing for John Koska, owner of a Clark Street lot, hostility between neighbors followed a presentation by Michael Koska, the applicant’s son, regarding a Request for Determination of wetlands lines. Neighbors had accused the elder Mr. Koska at a prior hearing of having bull-dozed areas of his property without a permit.

Mr. Jones said the wetlands line could not be approved without the signature of Mr. Koska’s neighbor, Frances Pimental. Ms. Pimental had

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When you point your finger  
at someone else, you’d better  
be sure your hands are clean  
[Andrew Jones]

---

expressed no desire to assist Mr. Koska in his endeavor to eventually build a single-family house on the lot.

Neighbor Charles George expressed discontent with Mr. Koska, but was advised by Mr. Jones to consult with a lawyer to address questions outside ConCom jurisdiction.

The commission continued the hearing for 4/23 to allow the applicant time to consult with the public works department over how he could go about his project without flagging Ms. Pimental’s abutting wetlands.

Upon closing the hearing, John Koska, 88, told Mr. George he had a present for him, handing him an unidentified picture of what seemed to be an artistic photograph of sorts.

“You’re lucky I didn’t sue you big time,” Mr. Koska said to Mr. George, as he turned to leave.

In the matter of Jose DeMedeiros of 25 Bayview Avenue, the ConCom will be issuing an Enforcement Order to Mr. DeMedeiros’s abutting neighbor,

Mark Shapira, to restore altered wetlands on Mr. Shapira’s property.

Mr. DeMedeiros had previously excavated a sand dune on a beach belonging to Mr. Shapira which the ConCom ordered Mr. DeMedeiros to restore at his own expense.

Attempts to contact Mr. Shapira, however, have been unsuccessful. Because Mr. Shapira did not respond to the applicant’s request and grant him permission to restore the wetlands, ConCom said Mr. Shapira is now responsible for the restoration.

Michael Ristuccia of Bass Creek Road will need to contact the Board of Health to resolve a conflict that prevents him from performing a percolation test on his property. Mr. Ristuccia must first fill a small section of wetlands owned by the Town of Fairhaven before he is allowed to do the perc test. However, if the area fails the perc test, Mr. Ristuccia would not have been required to fill the wetlands after all.

The catch-22 is the result of a BOH regulation that prohibits performing a perc test within 100 feet of wetlands.

“I don’t want to fill it in just to perc it,” said Mr. Ristuccia.

The commission issued Mr. Ristuccia a Positive 2a, which identifies the delineated wetlands boundary as accurate.

Rysard and Kasia Stasiak of 21 Gull Island Road, filing for an after-the-fact Notice of Intent, appeared before the commission after they were issued an Enforcement Order to replicate altered wetlands.

The Stasiaks removed native shrubs and replaced them with cedars, adding fill and a berm to sustain the non-wetland species of shrub. The replication plan is to remove the cedars and replant with native species. The hearing was continued until 4/23 to allow for an on-site visit.

The public hearing for Enrico and Linda Picozza of 182 Ebony Street will be continued until 4/23 after an on-site visit can be conducted.

Finally, the hearing for Jesse Perry of 36 Balsam Street was continued until 4/23 because the commission was unsure of the original conditioning of an amended Notice of Intent to build an addition to an existing house. Due to a recent FEMA designation of a flood zone, the house must now be built on stilts. ●●●

# Legal notices/Public Hearings

## Board of Appeals

The Fairhaven Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 1, 2012 at 6:00 PM in the Town Hall to consider the following petitions:

1. Michael F. Cardoso 54 Gilbert Street Plat 29D, Lots 14A, 15, 28A, 29 Book 9720, Page 170  
198-18 Short 10' of the required 20' east side setback and 1% over the maximum allowed lot coverage of 15% all within a RR District.
2. Carlos Tavares 22 Ash Street Plat 24, Page 211 Certificate #19918  
198-23-A1 380 square feet greater than the allowed 700 square feet for an accessory structure  
198-23-A2 No accessory structure may exceed 20' in height.

3. Joshua F. Benoit 95 Pleasant Street Plat 8, Lot 17 Book 10209, Page 218 198-23-4 Short 2' of the required 5' property line setback for an accessory structure.

*Very Truly, Peter DeTerra, Chairman*

## Conservation Commission Public Hearing

The Fairhaven Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on April 23, 2012 at 6:30 P.M. in the Fairhaven Town Hall. Purpose is for the Request for Determination of the following matters as required by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 131 Section 40 as amended.

- Request for Determination Applicant Estate of Edith Silva c/o Maureen Grace Executrix Location 301 Mill Road Plot 39

Lot 19 & 20 Purpose upgrade septic system within the 100' buffer zone to BVW and within the NRB.

- Request for Determination Applicant Victor Palermo Location Sconticut Neck Road Plot 29 Lots 13 & 13A Purpose remove brush weeds and dead trees and clear brush along side lines within the 100' buffer zone to BVW and within a VE flood zone.
- Request for Determination Applicant Luis M. Martins and Mary Martins, Trustees of the Martins Family Living Trust Location New Boston Road Plot 40 Lot 28D Purpose perform percolation test within 100' of BVW and within the NRB.

*Respectfully submitted  
Andrew Jones Chairman*

*Fairhaven Conservation Commission*

## Atria residents knit chemo caps



The knitting/crocheting class at Atria Fairhaven has been working on making Chemo Caps for Cancer patients in surrounding areas. A couple of weeks ago the ladies brought the beautiful caps & hand made Blankets to Hawthorn Medical in Dartmouth. ABOVE: Marjorie Weinstein & Irma Risch with some chemo caps that residents at Atria Fairhaven made for patients at Hawthorn Medical. RIGHT: Atria Engage Life Program Instructor Jeannette Schell with some of the colorful caps. *Submitted photo. See it in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com)*



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# Veterans' offices see increase in veterans needing services

By Jean Perry

## Neighb News Correspondent

The number of veterans and their families receiving assistance through the Fairhaven Veterans' Services Office has soared, climbing from an average of 15 to 20 cases in 2005, to 107 cases in March of 2012.

Applications for assistance have steadily increased since the economic crisis in 2008, when the amount of cases jumped from about 35 to over 60, according to Fairhaven's Director of Veterans' Services, and Veterans' Services Officer (VSO) Jim Cochran.

"I'm almost sure we're going to get another spike this year," Mr. Cochran said in an interview, moments after he had just signed up another applicant for financial and medical assistance.

Mr. Cochran said his job is to "make sure every vet in Fairhaven is taken care of."

"Many vets live in less-than-standard or less-than-the-norm conditions," he said. "And they shouldn't be."

The Veterans' Services Office provides veterans, their eligible dependents, and widowed spouses with financial assistance, medical insurance, help applying for federal VA benefits, and information on finding employment, fuel assistance, and area food banks.

According to Mr. Cochran, approximately 90 percent of all vet services are widows or widowers of vets who live in one of the four public housing facilities in Fairhaven. The rest are mostly vets with spouses or younger vets who are without employment.

Fairhaven has more public housing per capita than surrounding towns of similar size, a reason for the disproportionately higher number of vet services cases.

Neighboring Acushnet, with only one public elderly housing unit in town, increased to 32 cases in 2012, up from 12 cases in 2008, according to VSO Ron Cormier who began working in the Veterans' Services Office in 2008.

Mr. Cochran said that with the stifled economy, rising medical insurance rates, and the increase in the cost of living, vets and their families turn to him for help with money for prescription drugs, general

financial assistance for food and housing, and brokering VA services like pensions and disability compensations.

"The economy has outgrown their income, said Mr. Cochran. "We help bring their income up to an acceptable limit."

Many widows of vets who retire through social security live in public housing with rent formulated at 30 percent of their monthly income.

"A lot of [clients] have to choose between food, rent, and medicine," stated Mr. Cochran

He said that often, elderly clients in particular are forced to sacrifice medicine due to the high cost of prescription drugs.

"You'd be surprised by the amount of seniors who aren't taking their prescriptions."

Through the Veterans' Services

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Many vets live in less-than-standard or less-than-the-norm conditions. And they shouldn't be. [Jim Cochran, Fairhaven Veterans' Services Officer]

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Office, income-qualifying applicants living at 200 percent above the poverty level or lower can have all medical insurance premiums, co-payments, and prescription drugs paid for in full. The Town of Fairhaven pays 100 percent of all funding up front, and then receives a 75-percent reimbursement from the state.

Mr. Cochran mentioned that pharmacies within Stop & Shop and K-Mart have graciously allowed Vets' Services recipients to walk away with their prescriptions without having to pay cash up front, sending the bill directly to the Vets' Services Office, which he says, is not required by law. Vets' Services recipients are normally reimbursed later for prescriptions they pay for out-of-pocket.

Applicants may also be eligible for financial assistance while earning a college degree, with all education expenses paid for, including a

housing allowance.

"Going back to school...it's a great thing," commented Ivey Winkler, a veteran and the Fairhaven Vets' Services Office administrative assistant, who currently attends Bristol Community College with assistance from the VSO program.

"It furthers your opportunities in life. Go back to school," she urged veterans.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is the only state in the country that requires each city and town to have a Veterans' Services Office, under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 115.

"In the care of their vets," Mr. Cochran said. "Massachusetts is a leader. We're by far number one in the country."

Mr. Cochran proudly maintains that the Fairhaven Vets' Services Office is proactive in seeking out eligible vets and their families who need assistance, but admits there may still be some who do not know that help is available to them.

"Some might still have no idea about it. We're trying to spread the word," added Mr. Cochran.

A veteran or his or her widowed spouse could enter Mr. Cochran's and be on benefits the same day. Applicants must be Massachusetts residents for at least one year in order to be eligible.

Mr. Cochran said that he has watched new applicants leave his office in tears, overwhelmed by the aid his office provides, and relieved by the help they did not know was available before.

"Vets need help and they deserve help," said Mr. Cochran.

For more information or to schedule an appointment with Mr. Cochran, contact the Veterans' Services Office at 508-979-4024, or visit the link on the Town of Fairhaven's website: [http://fairhaven-ma.gov/Pages/FairhavenMA\\_Veteran/index](http://fairhaven-ma.gov/Pages/FairhavenMA_Veteran/index) ●●●

He who rejects change is  
the architect of decay.  
The only human  
institution which rejects  
progress is the cemetery.

Harold Wilson

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