



# 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 6, Issue 1 • January 13, 2011

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

## They did it!

**Moving on in....**



**Moving on out...**



Participants in the first annual Fort Phoenix Polar Plunge charge into and out of the water on January 1. This year, a new group formed to continue the tradition after the group of the last 10 years decided to stop. Proceeds from the event will be used for a scholarship through the Dollars for Scholars program, in honor of domestic violence victims. See page 16 for story and more photos. *Photos by Beth David. See them in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com) and visit us on Facebook to see more photos of this and other events.*

## Also Inside:

- **Selectboard**, page 4
- **Board of Appeals**, page 12
- **BPW**, page 27
- **While we were away**, pages 28, 23, 26

# From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —  
A day late and many dollars short.



Beth David, Publisher

Happy anniversary to the *Neighb News*! This issue marks our fifth anniversary, and I'm proud to say I hope we'll be around for a long time. I know that five years isn't all that long by Fairhaven standards, but each 100-year mark had to start with one, didn't it?

I was going to do a cover with all the first issue covers of the last five years, but then I realized that every year, we started out with the same story: the Polar Plunge! Brrr...

This year was just as much fun as always. It's got a new name, and the money raised goes to a different place, but the sentiment is the same. See page 16 for story.

This plunge was moved to Fort Phoenix in Fairhaven from Mattapoissett a few years ago because it outgrew the beach there. The original plunge was started in honor of Nancy Schonheinz who was killed by her boyfriend in 2000. Now the plunge is in honor of all Fairhaven domestic violence victims. Costumes are still encouraged.

It was a great event, lots of fun, lots of positive energy. It always is. That's why it was so disheartening to see a man wearing the top of a bikini with two hands on the breasts as though grabbing them from behind.

He thought it was funny.

In one fell swoop he made a mockery of what the whole event was about: bringing awareness to violence against women.

His costume depicted an act of sexual assault and made fun of it, made a joke of it. Well, I did not laugh. And I saw the faces of many people on the beach who also did not laugh.

Sexual assault and abuse are never funny.

That costume says it's okay, that it's a big joke for someone to grab a woman's breasts from behind. How is that okay, ever, anywhere?

There were young girls there, young boys, and adults of all stripes and backgrounds. I'm sure many have suffered at the hands of sexual abusers. And they had to see this trivialization of what they suffered. I was, in a word, disgusted.

When you consider that this event started to honor a woman who was killed by her boyfriend, the insensitivity of it is beyond measure.

Of course, no one wanted to say anything to Mr. Disrespect. No one wanted to ruin the good time, the good vibes. Maybe they were just so stunned they didn't know what to say. One of the volunteers motioned for me not to say anything. I actually walked away, got halfway to my car and turned back. I was ashamed of myself for letting her stop me from speaking my mind.

That's the problem, especially for women (still): we are trained to keep the peace, trained not to make waves, to let it go, have a sense of humor about things that insult us.

That's why people like Mr. Disrespect get away with stuff like that. That's why abused women don't say anything, and the abusers just keep on abusing.

The woman who was with this man shouted over and over that he should have won

cont'd next page

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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## CORRECTIONS

Are we starting the year out right? I hope!

## Letter cont'd from previous page

a prize for his costume. And, after I spoke my mind, he told me I "ruined" his day. HIS day?

It was not about you, Mr. Disrespect. The organizers were not thrilled to learn that I was planning to write an editorial on this. They don't want anything negative associated with their event, no one ever does. But, it's not about them, either. And it's not about me. .

It's about every teenaged girl who saw him and now thinks she's not supposed to be freaked out when she is violated. It's about every young boy who saw him and now thinks it's funny to grab the girl he likes, or maybe the one he does not like. It's about everybody who saw it and thought it was funny to think of someone grabbing a women's breasts. It's about the parents who had to have conversations with their children all the way home, hoping that the words of their parents, and not the image at the beach, prevailed.

As a feminist who has been actively fighting sexist attitudes since I identified them as a child, I am tired of fighting the same battles over and over. And it's the same old arguments back at us. We're supposed to make a joke of it. Feminists have no sense of humor. What's the harm? They're not real breasts. They're not real hands. Lighten up. Don't make connections.

It means nothing beyond what you see. How dare you make it sound like it matters at all?

Well it matters to me. A prize? Sure, I'll give you one: the most insensitive, unaware, disrespectful man on the beach.

After I wrote all that about the man on the beach, Rep. Gabrielle Giffords was shot in the head, a judge and five others were killed, and 14 others were wounded by a young man with a gun. I wish I had the self-control to write about this next week, but I just can't wait.

The first person to call for less vitriol in our public discourse was local sheriff Clarence Dupnik. What he said was great, was profound, and lots of people instantly agreed that we all need to tone it down because there are unstable people out there.

Well, I agree with part of that. Of course I do (read above), but only part of it.

We *should* stop the war analogies and hunting metaphors (whatever happened to sports analogies?), but we should stop because it's the right thing to do, not because of the effect it might have on a deranged individual.

I agree: no more crosshairs and "reload" jokes; stop the visuals of guns and elections, of bombs and opponents.

This is America. We don't do that here. We use the ballot box, not firearms. It is the single most important thing in our political elections that sets us apart from the rest of the world.

This does not mean we should stop clever exchanges. How dull our political discourse would be without Barney

Frank's precious moments. The dullards want the rest of us to shut up because the dullards know they can't compete.

Words do matter. When anti-abortion activists call women "murderers" for having abortions, it doesn't make normal people think it's okay to kill everyone walking into a clinic, but we know it incited some people to kill. The question is: Is that why they should stop that rhetoric, for fear of murder? I don't think so. They should stop using those words because it's wrong to use those words, and then the other possibility takes care of itself.

Do the right thing and the rest will follow.

The hateful talk against immigrants fuels bad behavior against immigrants. Only an idiot would think otherwise. So why is it so hard to believe that hateful rhetoric against politicians would spark bad behavior against them? We've been seeing it a lot lately: shouting out at the president in the chambers of Congress; congressmembers being yelled at and pelted because of their positions; and, the latest, a woman who shouted out during a session of Congress to insult the president. Why is it so hard to believe that a costume like the one at the beach could spark disrespect for women?

These things all have similarities. We're foolish if we ignore them.

But we should not dumb down our speech because we're afraid of how a lunatic will react.

If we do that, we become the battered woman walking on eggshells in the morning waiting for the first blow-up of the day.

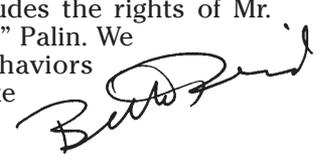
We become the alcoholic's children, never knowing what they will find when they come home from school. We'll be trying to adjust OUR behavior in order to influence another's behavior. That is futile.

We should not be trying to control the behavior of the deranged nut by our words. He acts according to his own demons. We should be concerned about how our behavior affects normal people, how it changes the atmosphere for all of us. We should stop the hateful talk because it is the right thing to do; just as Mr. Disrespect should stop wearing that insulting costume because of its poisonous effect on all of us.

I will not tiptoe around lunatics who may or may not be listening to me. No one should have to. But we do have a responsibility for our own words and actions. If we create an atmosphere of hate and violence, we should not be surprised when hateful people act violently.

Now there's a congressman who wants to make inflammatory language a crime. That's no answer. The First Amendment right to free speech is the most precious right we have; and that includes the rights of Mr. Disrespect and Sarah "Reload" Palin. We should not make these behaviors illegal, we should just make them unacceptable.

Until next week then,



### Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

*[First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America]*

# BCBS policy could cost town \$\$; board won't appoint Franco

By Mali Lim

## Neighb News Correspondent

Recent legislative set-backs in a protracted battle against health insurance giant Blue Cross Blue Shield have Fairhaven officials anxious over potentially devastating hits to municipal revenues.

Fairhaven Fire Chief Timothy Francis appeared before the select board on Monday, 1/3, seeking support in what is turning into a state-wide effort to prevent BCBS of Mass. from implementing plans to begin distributing ambulance service payments directly to patients instead of to service providers.

"We're concerned that if checks go directly to patients, towns will not get reimbursed for ambulance services they provide," explained Chief Francis. "When people use ambulance services, they have every good intention of paying for the services, but in this economy, if the insurance company gives them a check to cover the cost of an ambulance, it's going to be hard not to put that money towards the mortgage payment or the oil bill.."

Intense lobbying with the state commissioner of insurance and legislative support from both the senate and house have managed to delay BCBS's plan to begin direct patient payments last October, but Governor Deval Patrick recently rejected a joint House and Senate proposal that would have required insurers to send unnegotiated payments for ambulance services directly to the companies, the chief explained.

"We wanted to make the board aware of what's going on," he continued. "All three hundred and fifty one fire chiefs have signed a letter to the governor asking him to put pressure on Blue Cross Blue Shield to negotiate, and we want all town managers and selectboards to pressure the governor's office to protect municipalities."

"Blue Cross Blue Shield has refused to negotiate, they're trying to bring private ambulance services in line, but they're doing it at the expense of the municipalities," said Chief Francis, who added that the company has admitted publicly that they are

holding fire and emergency service providers "hostage" in order to get them to sign contracts.

Selectboard member Brian Bowcock cautioned the chief on the extent of the battle ahead.

"One of the hardest groups to deal with is Blue Cross and Blue Shield," he warned, noting that even Senator Sam Nunn, former chair of the Senate's Subcommittee on Investigations, had tangled with the company for years in the 1990's. "As you're obviously aware, they have a certain amount of political clout."

More positive news for local emergency response departments has been the recent easing of mandatory staffing rules, Chief Francis also told the board.

In other business, the board rejected a request to appoint Jami Franco, general manager of the Seaport Inn and Marina, to a position on the Tourism Committee.

"While we would normally jump at the chance to add someone from the hospitality industry to the committee, the board is aware of the difficulties we have had recently in negotiations with the Seaport Inn," said Mr. Silvia. "We have some issues that we need to correct with the Seaport Inn and Marina, and under the circumstances we feel it would send the wrong message by appointing the manager of the inn to the Tourism Committee at this time."

Dr. Bowcock and board chair Charles Murphy concurred, unanimously agreeing to table Ms. Franco's request.

A suggestion made by Executive Secretary Jeff Osuch to look into increasing rates for the Union Wharf Lobster Basin, tabled from the selectboard meeting last month, was revived with dissenting opinions voiced by various members of the board, and concerns raised by local fishermen.

Mr. Silvia disagreed with Mr. Osuch's opinion that the current rates of \$1,000 per year are too low.

"We have a letter from the Harbormaster comparing our rates to surrounding towns. We're higher on the outer part of the basin, at the outer part of

the wharf which is occupied mostly by out-of town visitors, and we're lower in the basin which is all town residents," said Mr. Silvia. "I don't have a problem with the basic rate structure we have now."

Dr. Bowcock, on the other hand, agreed with Mr. Osuch's opinion that the \$1,000 rate was lower than the fair market value and the town should be looking at ways to raise money over time.

"The money would be going into the waterways account, and would allow us to make improvements. I think \$1000 per year is undervalued for what you would pay on the open market," he said. "I think it's important to look at all revenue resources, but also keep in mind the

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We have some issues that we need to correct with the Seaport Inn and Marina, and under the circumstances we feel it would send the wrong message by appointing the manager of the inn to the Tourism Committee at this time.  
[Michael Silvia]

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"The state of Massachusetts has always had a two-paramedic minimum, which a lot of towns never make due to the size of their operations," he said. "Fairhaven has always applied for a waiver every year."

The state has passed a law, however, allowing staff flexibility in responding to emergency calls, based on the severity of the situation.

"For every priority one call, you're still required to have two medics," the chief explained. "For priority two calls, you can have a paramedic and a basic EMT."

Priority three calls, which would be categorized as relatively minor, non-life threatening medical issues, could be answered by a basic EMT. The result is that the town will no longer be required to apply for the waiver.

**SELECT: cont'd on page 30**

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# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## Free film

The South Coast Sustainable Cinema will be presenting a FREE screening of the film RENEWAL on **Thursday evening, January 20th, from 7:00-9:00pm**, at the Fairhaven Unitarian Memorial Church on 102 Green Street in Fairhaven, and will be followed by a question and answer session with representatives from the South Coast interfaith community.

Doors open at 6:45pm and seating will be first come first served. Space is limited. Accessible. Free popcorn will be served.

RENEWAL is the first feature-length documentary film to capture the vitality and diversity of today's American religious environmental movement. From within their Christian, Jewish, Buddhist and Muslim traditions, Americans are becoming caretakers of the Earth. With great courage, these women, men and children are re-examining what it means to be human and how we live on this planet. Their stories of combating global warming and the devastation of mountaintop removal, of promoting food security, environmental justice, recycling, land preservation, and of teaching love and respect for life on Earth are the heart of RENEWAL.

RENEWAL is the first film in the South Coast Sustainable Cinema series. This film series is brought to you by the Marion Institute and the Unitarian Universalist Society of Fairhaven. South Coast Sustainable Cinema will occur every third Thursday of the month through June, with the goal of turning individual's passion and ideas into community-wide conversation and action. In addition to RENEWAL the following films will be shown this winter and spring: the Yes Men Fix the World, Dive, ReGeneration, Gasland and Play Again. For more information on the South Coast Sustainable Cinema please visit, [www.marioninstitute.org](http://www.marioninstitute.org).

## Middle School Play

The Hastings Middle School Drama Club presents "Into the Woods," A part of The Broadway Junior Collection™, on **January 20 and 21, at 7:00 PM**, at the Hastings Middle School Auditorium, 30 School

St., Fairhaven.

Book by James Lapine, music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. Originally Directed on Broadway by James Lapine.

General admission tickets are on sale for \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students and seniors. To purchase tickets, please call the school's main office at 508-979-4063. Tickets will also be available at the door for \$10.00.

## Brass Quintet

The Synergy Brass Quintet will be appearing in concert at **First Congregational Church, 24 Center St., Fairhaven, on January 22nd at 7:00 pm**. The program will include a wide variety of musical genres from classical to jazz while showcasing Synergy's unique and exciting approach to brass playing. Featuring songs from around the world, this performance offers the Fairhaven community a truly memorable and entertaining evening of live music.

Tickets can be purchased for \$12 at the door (children under 12 FREE) or in advance by calling the Parish office at 508-993-3368. Please contact John with any and all questions at the previous number or send an email at [mrogers261@verizon.net](mailto:mrogers261@verizon.net). Visit [www.synergybrass.com](http://www.synergybrass.com) for more information.

## Free Trees

Residents of Massachusetts can ring in the New Year by receiving 10 free flowering trees by joining the Arbor Day Foundation any time during January 2011.

By becoming a member of the nonprofit Arbor Day Foundation, you will receive two white flowering dogwoods, two flowering crab-apples, two Washington hawthorns, two American redbuds and two goldenraintrees.

"These beautiful trees will give your home in Massachusetts lovely flowers with pink, yellow and white colors," said John Rosenow, chief executive and founder of the Arbor Day Foundation. "These trees are perfect for large and small spaces, and they will provide food and habitat for songbirds."

The free trees are part of the

nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting, between Feb. 1 and May 31, with enclosed planting instructions. The 6- to 12-inch tall trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

Arbor Day Foundation members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's bimonthly publication, Arbor Day, and The Tree Book, which includes information about tree planting and care.

To become a member of the Foundation and to receive your free trees, send a \$10 contribution to TEN FREE FLOWERING TREES, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by January 31, 2011. Massachusetts residents can also join online at [www.arborday.org/january](http://www.arborday.org/january).

## Victory Coffee Hse

Monthly Christian Coffee House, January 22 at 7-9/9:30 p.m. This month's performer is John Raposo, at Victory Baptist Church, 7 Park Ave., Fairhaven. Accessible. Refreshments. Free. All are welcomed to bring many friends and or family. Call 774-206-6233 for more information.

## Storm reminders

The Fairhaven Fire Department reminds all residents: For the safety of your neighborhood we ask that anyone with a fire hydrant in their immediate area please clear away the snow to assure that it is visible and ready to use in case of a fire.

Also be alert for any downed power lines while traveling the roadways and sidewalks. The heavy snow has caused many power lines to dip low or pull away from their anchor points. Assume that any power line on the ground is live, never touch it. Report it to public safety authorities.

Be very careful when using candles. There should be at least a 12" circle of clear area around candles. Refrain from using them at all, if possible, for your own safety.

The Fairhaven Fire & EMS Service is ready to assist you. Report all emergencies to 9-1-1

# HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

## Free Flu Shots

The Greater New Bedford Community Health Center has announced that it will provide free flu vaccine, every day, free of charge, to any walk-in. Individuals receiving the vaccine just need to fill out a consent form. The vaccine provides protection against seasonal flu and will be available to adults 18 years and older. The vaccine will be available through the Urgent Care Department at 874 Purchase St., New Bedford, Accessible. For further information, please call 508-992-6553.

## Foster Parent Training

The Department of Children and Families is offering a free training for individuals and families interested in learning about fostering a child. We have a significant need for care of infants, toddlers and adolescents along with sibling groups.

This is your chance to make a real difference in a child's life! Trainings begin every Thursday evening throughout 2011 at the DCF office, 100 N. Front Street, New Bedford.

Daily reimbursement, health insurance for the child, ongoing training and support is offered.

Please call Lynn Mourao at 508-910-1083 to learn more about foster care opportunities and to pre-register for the training.

## Singers Invited!

The Greater New Bedford Choral Society invites singers to open rehearsals starting Tues., Jan. 11, at 7:30 P.M. for the Society's spring season. Rehearsals are Tues. evenings 7:30 to 9:30 PM at the First Unitarian Church, corner of County and Union Streets, New Bedford. Private auditions are not required. New singers are welcome until Feb. 1, 2011. For more information, call 508-644-2419 or see [www.gnbcs.org](http://www.gnbcs.org).

## MLK Day Event

Mayor Scott W. Lang is pleased to join with the Greater New Bedford Area Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee in welcoming the public to attend the "Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Remembrance

Celebration." The celebration will be held on Sunday, January 16, at 4:00pm at Grace Episcopal Church located at 133 School Street.

Dr. King was an integral part of the Civil Rights Movement which laid the foundation for the theory and practice of inclusion and diversity in American society and around the world. Though he was assassinated in 1968, Dr. King's dream lives on, touching the hearts and minds of people throughout the world.

The theme for the 2011 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Remembrance Celebration is "Striving For The Beloved Community." The program will feature performances by youth groups from New Bedford including Brick by Brick, The New Bedford Public Schools Choral Group under the direction of Ashley Owen, and Full Blessings Children's Worship and Praise Team. The program will also include performances by local recording artist Chops Turner as well as Gabrielle Da La Rosa, the current New Bedford Teen Idol.

This year's keynote speaker will feature Jim Stevens, CEO and founder of Gifts to Give. Gifts to Give is a non-profit organization founded under the simple vision that ideas combined with action can change the face of child poverty. Jim has provided a unique opportunity for a community to come together for the good of all. The MLK Planning Committee will also announce and award winners of this year's MLK Essay contest sponsored by the Committee.

For more information on the event please visit the City's website at [www.newbedford-ma.gov](http://www.newbedford-ma.gov) or contact Marci Pina-Christian in the Department of Community Services at 508-979-1464.

## AHA! Night

Join us on AHA! night when Downtown New Bedford comes alive with Art, History and Architecture! On **January 13th** we will be celebrating what is NEW in New Bedford for the NEW year. Find out what's in the NEWS, remember those we kNEW, check out NEW artwork & enjoy NEW menus at partner eateries. Plus we welcome our NEWest partner, Love Life Lens Photography!

Highlights include:

- Grand Opening for our Newest AHA! Partner Love Life Lens Photography
- Opening for "Caught ON Film" @ Judith Klein Art Gallery
- "Having Our Say: Stories from the Cape Verdean Community", a lecture by Ann Marie Lopes @ the NB Whaling National Historical Park
- Kids crafts & storytelling @ Artworks!
- Meet the celebrated environmentalist Richard Wheeler @ Coalition for Buzzards Bay
- New menu & news @ Ginger Grill
- Music with Stephen Rose @ the Cummings Building Artist Studios
- Norman Rockwell "Home for the Holidays" gallery talk by Janice Hodson @ the NB Public Library
- Inventions, Store Fronts & Scandal: New in NB in the 1850s with Ruth & Abby @ the NB Whaling National Historical Park
- HQK Jazz Ensemble @ NBAM
- NEW NEWS: Shorts from community newsmakers about upcoming projects

## Public Meeting

The City of New Bedford's public meeting to discuss the best use of federal funding to improve the quality of life for New Bedford residents that was scheduled for 1/12/11 has been rescheduled for Wednesday, January 19, 2011 at 6:00pm. This meeting will take place at the City's Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD), 608 Pleasant Street in the second floor conference room.

The meetings are part of an overall citizen participation strategy designed to solicit input as the City develops its one-year Action Plan for submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The City of New Bedford anticipates receiving about \$5 million in federal entitlement grants to serve low-and-moderate-income residents and neighborhoods in Fiscal Year 2011 which runs from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

Anyone with questions about the meeting or about the Consolidated Plan or Action Plan may contact Christina Connelly the OHCD Community Development Coordinator at 508-979-1500 or by email at [christina.connelly@newbedford-ma.gov](mailto:christina.connelly@newbedford-ma.gov).

HAPP OT: cont'd on page 22

## “Purr” is Back

After a sell out debut weekend at The Marion Music Hall last November, the musical “Purr” by Barbara Phaneuf is back this January. What better way to spend a chilly winter night than with these four disgruntled felines, Champ, Lucy, Ella, and Jimmy, as they pursue their elusive quest for a perfect life in suburbia? The original cast of Aoife Clancy, Eddie Dillon, Jess Phaneuf, Josh Cannon, and Brook Batteau, who delighted audiences with stellar performances in 2010 will return for this run.

“Purr” will return to the Marion Music Hall, 164 Front Street, Marion, MA on Friday and Saturday, January 14th and 15th at 8pm, and Sunday, January 16th at 5pm. For further information and tickets, visit [www.purrthemusical.com](http://www.purrthemusical.com), or call 508-993-2697.

## Relay for Life

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life® of Tri-Town will officially get underway as event volunteers and participants gather at Old Rochester Regional High School, 135 Marion, on **January 18, 2011 for a kickoff rally** to launch their fundraising efforts for the year.

The rally will honor cancer survivors and feature food, prizes, and raffles. Kick-off celebration begins at 6 p.m. — join the fun!

The world’s largest grassroots fundraising movement, Relay For Life mobilizes communities throughout the country to celebrate people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and provide participants with an opportunity to fight back against the disease. Relay brings together friends, families, businesses, hospitals, schools, faith-based groups . . . people from all walks of life – all aimed at furthering the American Cancer Society’s vision of creating a world with less cancer and more birthdays.

The Relay For Life of Tri-Town is currently seeking local residents from the tri-town and the surrounding communities to serve as committee members, team captains, and volunteers for the event on June 10-11, 2011event. Anyone interested in joining the planning committee,

becoming a team captain, volunteering or just finding out more about Relay For Life is encouraged to attend the kickoff.

For more information please contact Melissa Padeni at your American Cancer Society at 508-897-4324 or [tritownrelay@comcast.net](mailto:tritownrelay@comcast.net) or visit [http://relay.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLFY11NE?fr\\_id=31349&pg=entry](http://relay.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLFY11NE?fr_id=31349&pg=entry).

## Hunting & Fishing Licenses Online

Department of Fish and Game (DFG) Commissioner Mary Griffin announced the launch of a new online licensing system for fishing and hunting licenses and permits, including the new recreational saltwater fishing permit. The system, known as MassFishHunt, allows hunters and anglers to order and print licenses online for use on the same day they place an order. In addition, the new system will enable the nine DFG field offices across the state to issue licenses electronically beginning in January 2011.

MassFishHunt will process licenses for inland fishing, hunting, and trapping and permits for recreational saltwater fishing and lobstering. Prior to this new system, hunters and anglers could order licenses online but most hunters would have to wait to receive their license in the mail before hunting.

Electronic licensing will become available in phases during 2011 at participating locations across the state, including town halls, bait and tackle shops, and retail stores. Traditional paper licenses are available at department offices and vendors until the electronic system is established.

**As of January 1, recreational saltwater anglers are required to purchase a Massachusetts saltwater fishing permit. The permit, which costs \$10 for residents and non-residents, was established earlier this year in response to a federal mandate. Anglers who are under 16 years old, who are disabled, or who fish on charter fishing vessels are not required to purchase a permit. Anglers over the age of 60 are required to get a permit but are exempt from the fee.**

To improve the quality of data used to estimate the effects of recreational fishing on ocean resources and the nation’s economy, Congress included a provision in the 2006 reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act requiring all recreational saltwater anglers become registered permit holders. The license fees are designated for fishing access projects and fisheries research.

For information about vendors that sell hunting or inland fishing licenses, visit [www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/recreation/licensing/vendors/license\\_vendors.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/recreation/licensing/vendors/license_vendors.htm).

For assistance using MassFish Hunt or questions about payments, please call 1-888-773-8450 or email [mahfwebmaster@als-xtn.com](mailto:mahfwebmaster@als-xtn.com).

**To purchase a saltwater fishing license online, visit [www.mass.gov/MassFishHunt](http://www.mass.gov/MassFishHunt).**

Anglers may purchase the saltwater fishing permit at Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) offices in Gloucester, Boston, and New Bedford; [www.mass.gov/dfwele/dmf/facilitiesandproperties/fac\\_index.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dmf/facilitiesandproperties/fac_index.htm). For more information about the new recreational salt water fishing permit, visit [www.mass.gov/dfwele/dmf/recreationalfishing/rec\\_permits.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dmf/recreationalfishing/rec_permits.htm)

## Educators’ Week

Barnes & Noble, Inc. announced that all stores will host January Educator Appreciation Week from January 15-23, 2011. During Educator Appreciation Week, Barnes & Noble will offer a 25% discount on books and a 10% discount on DVDs and CDs. Educators also may take advantage of huge discounts.

Booksellers will also be promoting Barnes & Noble’s “My Favorite Teacher Contest” during Educator Appreciation Week. The contest invites school children to nominate their favorite teacher by writing an essay, poem or letter and submitting it to their local store.

One winner will be selected at each Barnes & Noble location and celebrated at a special event in April. Applications are available online at [www.bn.com/myfavoriteteacher](http://www.bn.com/myfavoriteteacher). Dartmouth Public School students can find applications in their schools.



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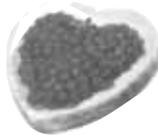


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## Recipe of the Week

### Crockpot Chocolate Brownie Pudding Cake

1/2 C. brown sugar  
3/4 C. water  
2 Tbs. cocoa  
2 1/2 C. brownie mix  
1 egg  
1/4 C. peanut butter  
1 Tbs. soft margarine  
1/4 C. water  
1/4-1/2 C. chocolate chips

Combine 3/4 C. water, brown sugar, cocoa in a saucepan. Bring to a boil. In the meantime, combine the remaining ingredients in a small bowl. Mix together well. Spread the batter evenly in the bottom of a lightly buttered slow cooker. Pour boiling mixture over the batter. Cover and cook on high for 2 hours. Turn heat off and let stand another 30 minutes. Spoon into dessert dishes while warm. Serve with whipped cream or ice cream.

*Submitted by Heidi Winnett*

### Candied Walnuts

2 cups walnuts  
2 egg whites (not whipped)  
3/4 cup sugar  
1 tsp cinnamon  
3/4 tsp nutmeg • 3/4 tsp ground  
cloves • 1/2 tsp salt

Preheat oven to 350° Line cookie sheet with foil. Mix nuts with egg whites. In separate bowl combine sugar with spices and salt. Mix nuts with spice mixture. Spread on cookie sheet in one layer.

Cook for 15 minutes. Remove from oven. With a metal spatula, break apart/loosen up. Put back in oven for 5 minutes. Take out and spread on foil to cool. Put in serving dish.

*Submitted by Cathy Thomas*

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## A Little Bit of Sports

*By Bob Hobbs*

Special to the Neighb News

### FHS Girls Basketball

The Lady Blues got 3 wins out of 4 games. A big 57-53 win over Bourne, led by Kara Charette. They rolled over N.B Voc-tech behind the K Sisters: Kelsey Perron-Sovik, Kara Charette, Kali Moniz, and Kay Mullen. For the second time this season the girls lost to New Bedford High. Charette was held to 10 points,

### F.H.S. Boys

The Blues lost a squeaker to Bourne, but came back with wins against NBVT and Diman VT. Led by Adam Mullen who is top scorer in Southeastern Mass. Big contributors have been Billy Lessa, Roger Evans, Matt Wordell, Dyland Pietrascek, and Pete DeTerra.

### F.H.S Girls J.V.s

The second team Lady Blues got super win against NBVT. Outstanding for J.V.s were Courtney Girard, Polly Sylvia, Kim Joseph, Magan Mederios, Delaney Corcoran, and Morgan Haaland.

### Pros on Pros

*Jordan Todman to enter NFL Draft*

Jordan has decided to forgo his Senior Year and enter the NFL Draft. He had a super year at UConn., was named Big East player of the year. His coach, Randy Edsall, will also leave for Maryland.

Bobby Watkins

is the last player to play in the NFL from New Bedford. Bob went from New Bedford High to Ohio State to Rose Bowl, and on to the Chicago Bears in the 1950s. Bob is the best football player to come out of New Bedford.

*Quotes from Greater New Bedford Sports Authority on whether or not*

*Todman should enter the draft*

Bob Watkins: "Yes it's his time, he will do well."

Gerry Lamontagne: "Yes," with a little hesitation. "I wish him well."

Buddy Thomas: "No, I think he should play his senior year to add to his value."

Nick Curcio: "No way, he should wait...on second thought why not now? He will make it."

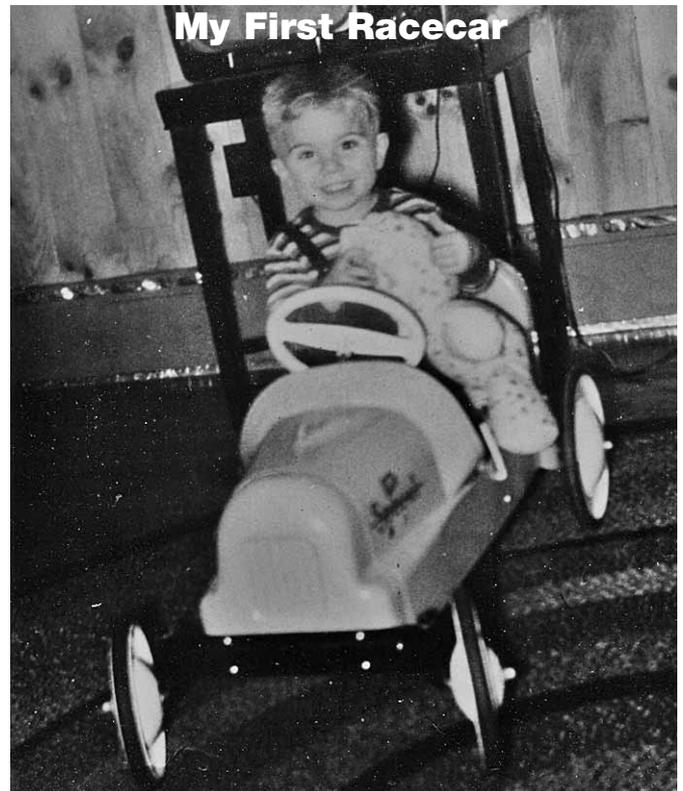
Bob Hobbs: "Yes, I think he will go high in the second round, he is a very durable kid."

We all wish him well, and congratulations on a super college career.

*NFL Playoffs*

The Jets sneak by Colts. Patriots should be able to beat Jets this weekend. •••

## Guess Who Turned 60!



*Happy Birthday Mike!*



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# Appeals board approves all

By John Garcia

## Neighb News Correspondent

The Fairhaven Board of Appeals granted variances to three projects and approved a Special Permit at their meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 4th

In a continuation from the previous meeting, the Board heard Enrico and Linda Picozza's request to replace an existing garage on their property at 182 Ebony Street with a new structure. Engineer David Davignon told the Board that the plans had been altered so that the structure would only require one variance, down from the three requested at the previous hearing. The proposed structure would now only require a variance for being over maximum allowed lot coverage.

R.A. Kowalsky Jr., a neighbor, expressed concerns about the size of the structure. He noted that the garage would have two floors, and asked whether this could lead to the building being used as an apartment. Mr. Davignon responded that the garage would not have water or sewage, preventing it from being used for that purpose.

"There's no intention of trying to create an accessory apartment," he said.

Antonio Adrega, who abuts the property, spoke in support of the applicants, saying the addition would improve the value of the property.

"They improve the neighborhood," he said.

The Board voted in favor of granting the variance. Kenneth Kendall cast the only dissenting vote. Alberto Silva excused himself from the vote. Vice Chairperson Joseph Borelli, as well as members Francis Cox and Joseph Morra were absent.

Stephen and Donna Hickox applied

for two variances for their property at 172 Balsam Street. They intend to tear down an existing dwelling and replace it with a new building. The proposed structure is short 8' on the north side, and 5' on the south side. The project was represented by Mr. Hickox's brother David and architect Eric Jacobson.

Anton Denkel, an abutter to the property, stated that he was concerned about how high the structure would be.

"I don't have the full information

business on West Island," he said.

Chairperson Peter DeTerra replied that the permit would merely allow a home office, and would not change the zone from residential to business.

"No rezoning, we don't do that here," he said.

Mr. Denkel told the Board that he had seen a truck parked on the property advertising the business, and asked if this would violate the rules for home offices, which say that no advertisements can be placed on the building. Mr. DeTerra replied that the vehicle did not violate the rules.

Other objections to the request were represented by a letter several abutters sent to the Board. Mr. DeTerra read the one sentence letter during the hearing. It did not state any reasons for the objection, it just stated that the group of neighbors were "strongly opposed" to the home office.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of granting the Permit.

Bluepoint Road Nominee Trust requested a variance for an attached garage that would be built at their property on 2 Bluepoint Road. The proposed structure was short 12' of the required setback. Engineer Richard Rheume told the Board that the garage would be placed in a location that wouldn't block the views of abutters. The Board voted unanimously in favor of granting the variance.

The Board had been scheduled to continue a hearing on an after-the-fact variance request for a shed built at 54 Bayview Avenue. However, Mr. Hyman did not show up to the meeting. The Board voted unanimously against granting the variance. The shed will have to be torn down. ●●●

**Chairperson Peter DeTerra replied that the permit would merely allow a home office, and would not change the zone from residential to business.**

here," he said.

Mr. Jacobson showed Mr. Denkel the plans for the house to demonstrate how high it would be. Mr. Denkel responded that the proposed structure was acceptable.

"I don't have a problem with that," he said. "That's fine."

The Board voted unanimously in favor of granting the variances.

John Podreca sought a Special Permit allowing him to have a home office for his chimney sweeping business at 190 Cottonwood Street. Mr. Denkel, who abuts that property as well, stated that he was concerned with the office being located within a residential zone.

"We never had a commercial

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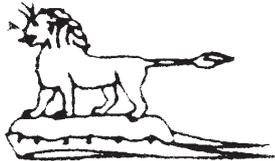


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**Session 1:** Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4 & 11. **Session 2:** March 4, 11, 18, 25 & April 1. On Fridays from 4:30-5:30 at Recreation Center. Ages: 3-8

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# Fairhaven Senior Center

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**Apr. 30, Daffodil Days on Nantucket.** Visit the island & view the antique cars & doggie parade all celebrating the arrival of spring. This trip has limited seating on the fast-ferry. Reserve early to avoid disappointment.

**May 26, Newport Dinner Train And tour** of Rosecliff Mansion (1st floor only). Enjoy an afternoon of elegance aboard the dinner train with your choice of meals. A bus tour of the mansions in Newport will complete our day.

*Reserve your seat for these events.*

*Call Nancy at the Fairhaven Senior Center, 508-979-4029.*

**With George**

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COA Band**

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## M.L. Baron – The Weather Man

M.L. Baron is a lifelong Fairhaven Resident, and he's lived in every precinct. His weather station on West Island was installed 1992 and is now fully automated. He is a federally licensed amateur operator with a call-sign of KAIWBH. He also designs & sells scrimshaw. Come join us at Fairhaven Council on Aging on **Wed., Jan. 26, from 11-11:30 a.m.** and listen to his stories.

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# Plungers dive in, continuing tradition



By Beth David  
Editor

Polar Plungers jumped into the chilly waters at Fort Phoenix on Saturday, January 1, continuing the tradition that almost ended last year. The annual rite had been named

Ted Silva, who was police chief when Ms. Schonheinz was killed and has been involved with the event since the start, said people just did not want to see the event end.

"This year was as good as can possibly be expected," he said. "Even the weather cooperated."

The new event is still free, and is held in honor of all domestic violence victims in Fairhaven. Money is raised from t-shirt sales and is used for a scholarship to a high school senior through the Dollars for Scholars Program.

Costumes are still encouraged, and prizes went to: Tyler Morton and Ian Dimock of Fairhaven, and Jessica Carvalho of Acushnet.

Around 200 people jumped in the

water, and even more showed up to watch. The warm weather made it an easy call for the landlubbers, who took pictures (can you say "paparazzi"), bought t-shirts, and otherwise hobnobbed with the brave ones.

Those who dove said they were surprised at how cold it was, because the temperature was so warm. But

45° with no real wind to speak of.

In any case, the feet always seem to suffer.

"I couldn't feel my feet," said Ryley Sylvia, 10. She said she would "probably" do it again.

Lynne Lapalme, who plunged with her children Sienna, 12, and Zachary, 10, said it was "icy cold."

"I think the water was more cold this year," she said. "You wanted to chop your feet off it was so cold."

Cole McIntyre, 10, seemed to defy the conventional wisdom on his first time plunging.

"I was cold, but when I got out, I felt kind of good," he said.

He and his twin brother Noah, plunged together.

Kristie Pollard, of Rutland, VT, was in Fairhaven with college friends Orion Slavin of Windsor, VT and Brittany Macomber of Fairhaven.

Ms. Pollard's foray into the Atlantic on January 1 was only her third time in the ocean ever. They were watching the sunrise and decided on the spur of the moment to plunge.

Mr. Slavin said it was his first time plunging in the ocean, but he has plunged in mountain lakes in New Hampshire.

"It's my first time because it's the first year I've had friends crazy enough to do it with me," said Ms. Macomber.

To buy a t-shirt, contact Kathy Lopes at [lopeska@aol.com](mailto:lopeska@aol.com) or call 508-991-2194.

•••



TOP: the sign that greeted plungers and spectators on January 1, for the first annual Fort Phoenix Polar Plunge. ABOVE: This little guy seems to have gotten a little more than he bargained for. BELOW: Identical twins, Noah and Cole McIntyre, 10, plunged for the first time. Photos this page by Beth David. See them in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com). Visit us on Facebook to see more photos of this and other events.

the Nancy L. Schonheinz Polar Plunge for the last 10 years, but organizers say they reached their goal last year and ended their sponsorship of it. Ms. Schonheinz, a physical therapist, was killed by her boyfriend in 2000, and proceeds from the event went to a scholarship for a PT student.

The news was devastating last year, so a new group of hardy souls stepped up to continue tradition. Kathy Lopes and Carol Days took the reins, re-named it the Fort Phoenix Polar Plunge, and got the t-shirts printed up.

sources tell the Neighb News that when the air is warmer than the water, it can seem even colder. In years past, the water was warmer than the air, so people felt warmer going in. But it still wasn't 70 degrees. The water was 36.5° and the air was





## While we were gone (cont'd on page 23)

We know the world didn't stop moving while we were on our two-week publication break. Meeting coverage is spread throughout the paper, but on this page and the

next, you'll find some brief items on events that happened while we were being good for Santa Claus.

### Snowstorm blankets area after Christmas



A huge storm slammed the area on Dec. 26 & 27, 2010, accompanied by high winds, some as high as 60 m.p.h. Fairhaven and surrounding towns experienced scattered power outages, some lasting for hours. According to Weather Spotter ML Baron at West Island, the wind peaked at 59 miles per hour around 2 a.m. The barometer's lowest reading registered 28.66" at 5:30 a.m. on the 27th. Snow totals ranged from 3.5" on West Island to around 6" in Fairhaven and Acushnet. Snow totals were much higher in other parts of the state and along the eastern seaboard. The storm paralyzed many communities, including New York City. LEFT: the snow spray creates an eerie look against the bow of a boat straining against the mooring line at Hoppy's Landing on Sunday, 12/26/10. Photo by Heidi Winnett. See it in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com)

### First snow



Before the big after-Christmas storm (above), a small storm dropped a couple of inches on the area just a few days before Christmas.

The preschool children at Little People's College on Sconticut Neck Road in Fairhaven enjoyed playing in the snow. The children built a snowman bigger than themselves. L-R: Carlie Francis; Aidan Smith; Craig Ptaszenski; Mr. Snowman; Sydney Musgrove; Ayla Emin; Jalen Adams; Robin Overstreet; Nadea Amaral.

Submitted photo. See it in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com).

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## Public Hearings/ Legal Notices

### Board of Appeals

The Fairhaven Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 1, 2011 at 6:00 PM in the Town Hall to consider the following petitions:

1. Eric S. Britto 50 Manhattan Avenue Plat 28A, Lot 433 Certificate #22097  
198-18 Short 6' on the west side of the required 10' side setback, short 23' on the north side of the required 30' rear setback and 10% over the maximum allowed building coverage of 30% all within a RA District.
2. Richard F. Nunes, Jr. & Lori Perry Nunes 260 Mill Road Plat 38, Lot 13L Book 6742, Page 13  
198-18 Short 8' of the required 30' rear setback.  
198-28 Special Permit required for construction of more than 500 sq ft in the Nasketucket River Basin.  
198-23 Special Permit required for home occupation in the Building Trades.  
*Very Truly, Peter DeTerra, Chairman*

### Conservation Commission

The Fairhaven Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on January 24, 2010 at 6:30 P.M. in the Fairhaven Town Hall East Room (2nd floor). Purpose is for Request for Determination of the following matters as required By Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 131 Section 40 as amended.

- Notice of Intent Applicant Olde North Wharf Fisheries LLC 4 Washington Street Plot 9 Lot 2 Purpose after fact filing for emergency repairs to bulkhead.
- Request for Determination Applicant Richard Nunes Jr. Location 260 Mill Road Plot 38 Lot 13L Purpose construct garage, breezeway and pave driveway within the Nasketucket River Basin ONLY.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Andrew Jones, Chairman*

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## Fairhaven Election papers available

This year's Fairhaven town election already has three contested races, but there's still plenty of time to take out papers and stir the pot a little more. Nomination papers for all Fairhaven elected positions will be available until Thursday, February 10 at 5 p.m. from the town clerk's office in Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Street. If you change your mind, the last day to withdraw nomination papers is Wed., Mar. 2.

Papers must be returned to the Clerk's office with the proper number of signatures by Monday, February 14 at 5 p.m.

The last day for town meeting members to file written requests for re-election is Monday, February 7.

Nominations for townwide office require 50 certified signatures of registered voters. Nominations for Town Meeting member require 10 certified signatures of voters registered in your precinct.

By press time, 12 people had pulled papers, including three for two seats on School Committee, three for two seats on the Planning Board, and three for two seats on the Board of Public Works.

Incumbents Pamela Kuechler and Colin Veitch have pulled papers for re-election to their School Committee seats. Steve Riley, currently a member of the Board of Public Works, also took out papers for School Committee.

Planning Board also has two seats up for re-election, with one incumbent, Wayne Hayward, pulling papers. (Mr.) Rene Fleurent, an associate member of the Board of Appeals, has also taken out papers for a seat on that board, along with newcomer Jaime DeSouza. Longtime member Raymond Fleurent has not taken out papers.

The Planning

Board also has an unexpired term, with one year left to serve. No one has taken out papers for that seat.

The two seats up for re-election on the BPW are currently held by chairperson Geoffrey Haworth and Kathleen Sturtevant. They have both taken out papers for their seats. Former BPW member Richard Brodeur, who lost his seat in last year's election, has also taken out papers for his old board.

In other races, one seat on the selectboard is up for re-election. Incumbent Charles Murphy, Sr., has taken out papers for that. The Board of Health also has one seat up for re-election, and incumbent Jeannine Lopes has taken out papers. The Fairhaven Housing Authority has one unexpired term up for election. No one has taken out papers for that.

The Trust Commission has one seat up for election. As of press time, incumbent Shannon Joyal had not taken out papers.

Precincts also have one third of their town meeting member seats up for election.

Election day is Monday, April 4. Polls will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Last day to register to vote for the Town Election is Tuesday, March 15. The Town Clerk's office will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. on that day.

Mail-in voter registration forms are available at the Town Clerk's Office, the Millicent Library, and state and federal offices.

Town Hall is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Stop by or call the Town Clerk's office, 508-979-4025, for more information.

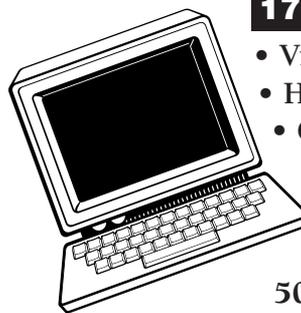
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		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
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Friday	14	0230	1502	0914	204
Saturday	15	0330	1605	1012	214
Sunday	16	0431	1703	1103	223
Monday	17	0527	1756	1150*	232
Tuesday	18	0618	1845	----	123
Wednesday	19	0706	1932	0013*	131
Thursday	20	0753	2020	0104*	140
Friday	21	0842	2110	0155*	144
Saturday	22	0931	2201	0245*	152
Sunday	23	1023	2253	0335*	160
Monday	24	1116	2348	0427*	164
Tuesday	25	----	1211	0524*	173
Wednesday	26	0045	1308	0637	183

\*= Predicted minus tides from -0.1 ft. to -1.0 ft

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Charles Evans Hughes

## Fairhaven Meetings

### Bicentennial Committee

Sat., 1/15, Town Hall, 9 a.m.

### Board of Appeals

Tues., 2/1, Town Hall, 6:00 p.m.

### Board of Health

Mon., 12/27, Town Hall, 6:00 p.m.

### Board of Public Works

Tues., 1/18, Arsene St., 6:30 p.m.

### Comumunity Preservation

Wed., 1/19, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Conservation Commission

Mon., 1/24, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Finance Committee

Thurs., 1/20, Arsene St., 7 p.m.

### School Committee

Wed., 1/26, FHS Library, 6:30

### Selectboard

Tues., 1/18, Town Hall, 4:30 p.m.

### TOWN HALL CLOSED

Fairhaven town hall will close on Monday, 1/17 in commemoration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

HAPP OT: cont'd on page 23

## Public Meeting

The public is invited to attend a civic meeting regarding the status of ongoing assessment and remedial planning at City-owned properties including Paul Walsh Field, New Bedford High School, the wetland areas west of Keith Middle School, residential properties the City has acquired, the Nemasket Street lots, and the new Andre McCoy Field. The meeting will also address the ongoing monitoring at the Keith Middle School.

This Public Involvement Plan (PIP) meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 19, 2011 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm in the Keith Middle School Community Room, 225 Hathaway Boulevard in New Bedford.**

Officials from the City of New Bedford will present information regarding the sampling activities that have been completed since Sept., 2010, sampling activities which are planned for the next few months, and the overall status of remediation at city-owned properties. There will also be a briefing on the status of monitoring efforts at the Keith Middle School and opportunities to hear and discuss community members' questions.

For more information, call the City of New Bedford Office of Environmental Stewardship at 508-991-6188.

## While we were gone (cont'd from page 18)



LEFT: An accident on Route 6 near Hamlet Street caused this Jeep to end up on its side on Tuesday, 12/28/10, at approximately 4 p.m. No injuries were reported. The driver of the rolled over vehicle climbed out, seemingly without a scratch. RIGHT: On 12/15/10, the students of East Fairhaven School held a Christmas concert for parents, friends and family. Pictured are the fifth graders with their hand-made snowman. *Photos by Heidi Winnett. See them in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com).*



Alden Court senior artists pose with Daniel Waltz, SMCU President/CEO and art teacher Christine Cummings with hand-painted quilt. For the second consecutive year, Southern Mass Credit Union (SMCU) has displayed art work in the lobby at the main office on Alden Road in Fairhaven. The paintings were created by the senior residents of Alden Court Nursing Care and Rehab Center, Fairhaven. The paintings are showcased prior to the center's annual art sale held during the month of December. The sale raises funds to purchase supplies for the art class. Painting is great therapy, both mentally and physically for the seniors. To support the art class and thank them for the New England scenic quilt, hand painted by the seniors on permanent display in the main office lobby, SMCU donated \$500 to Administrator Brad Truini, for the Alden Court Activities Fund. "SMCU would like to thank the residents of Alden Court who displayed their artwork at the credit union and made the beautiful quilt in our lobby," said Mr. Waltz. *Photo submitted. See it in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com).*

## ML's Eye on the Weather



*A weekly weather report from ML Baron of the West Island Weather Station: [westislandweather.com](http://westislandweather.com)*

### Once for sale in mid-90s, Angelica Rock had no takers

Some say it's just a rock ledge a few yards off Wilbur's Point in Fairhaven. But one man had a different perspective and a dream.

Dr. Aris T. Papas a clinical psychologist and professor at SMU in the early 1970's, purchased the island to build a summer home "to escape life's pressures, and get a feeling of identity from my island," he said in a 1974 Standard-Times interview. The eccentric even maintained a flower and vegetable garden, that the island's only full time inhabitants, rabbits, may have enjoyed.

Evidence of an attempt to build

his planned summer getaway is an overgrown concrete slab put in place by some college students around 1973. Perhaps the reality set in that the location was neither practical nor permissible. At about 8 to 10 feet above sea level at its highest point, this vulnerable small one-acre patch of mostly sea grass and rock becomes awash by wave action and partially submerged by strong storms coming in from virtually any direction.

The only structure, a windmill constructed on small stilts, was not functional but ornamental.

Jimmy Papas, one of Dr Papas's three children, recalls fondly his "father and son project" in the early 1970's. Together they constructed the windmill when he was 14. They would haul over wood and building material via rowboat from Wilbur's Point.

"It was a lot of work, and I wondered why I was so deeply involved in this project while my friends were having a good time back on the mainland," Jimmy Papas said.

But their hard work paid off when the huge blades began to turn in the breeze and the windmill at Angelica Island became a curious new maritime landmark. But the windmill's spinning blades would be short-lived. The blades spun violently during a potent coastal storm a few months later and most of the blades were torn apart as witnessed by a neighbor.

The windmill still served as a

platform for teenage parties with Jimmy, his brother Nick, sister FoFi and many high school friends. Complete with a generator and barbecue grills brought over by rowboat, the island's tranquility was awakened to the sounds of musical instruments, amplifiers, and party goers "for two or three days" at a time much to the annoyance of a few neighbors.

Fellow "island owner" Dominic Nicolaci became friends with Dr. Papas and gave him and his son an inside tour of the palatial seaside home still under construction on Bella Vista Island in 1972.

Dr. Papas, who had an impressive collection of horse drawn carriages, ran for Mayor of New Bedford in 1971, riding the streets of the city campaigning in one of his carriages. A native of Greece, he lived in New Bedford for 15 years. A family member tried to sell the parcel in the mid 90's for about \$100,000, but had no takers. Dr Papas passed away in 1998.

Joe Petner, a retired elementary school principal and long time summer resident of West Island, recalls seeing the island listed in a real-estate publication.

"The asking price for the property, which is privately owned, if my memory serves me, was around \$100,000. The ad, which pictured the property, suggested it offered endless possibilities. The island is a local landmark and enjoys its place as such for those who live in the area. Unlike the radar dome in Padanaram, it is likely to be around for awhile," said Mr. Petner.

Today at Angelica Island, the weather-beaten and deteriorating windmill still stands with all but one blade hanging precariously from the feeble structure.

Now just a perch for seagulls, it is a favorite subject for photographers along shore.

*Note: The Town of Fairhaven references this parcel as "Angelica Island." The Official Nautical Charts refer to it as "Angelica Rock."*



The elements are taking their toll on this windmill replica built 40 years ago on Angelica Island. The ship on the horizon is the MMA Training Ship "KENNEDY" headed to Charleston, SC. Photo taken on 1/9/10 by ML Baron. See it in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com)

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## From our readers

### Annual Food Drive a Success

This letter of thanks goes out to all the generous people who contributed money and/or non-perishable food to the 7th annual Shepherd's Pantry holiday fundraiser.

The total amount collected during this year's fund raiser exceeded expectations. With a monthly expenditure of around \$6,300.00 used to purchase food that is either running low or out of completely, monetary donations are necessary to keep the pantry running smoothly.

And in order to never turn away a needy individual looking for help, the pantry volunteers need to receive both monetary and non-perishable donations all year long. According to Blanche Pepin, the pantry's Administrator, volunteers handed over 268,000 items of food to over 1,200 families during this past year with an average of 120 families who come each week between the hours of 10 AM and noon on Saturdays.

A BIG thank you for this year's success goes to the much needed and appreciated newspaper articles from The Standard-Times, The Fairhaven/Acushnet Advocate, The Fairhaven Neighborhood News and The Navigator. Another BIG thank you goes to Public Affairs director Elsa Franco from Stop & Shop Supermarket, store manager Jeff Perry from Shaw's Supermarket in Fairhaven and both head of human resources Kathy Freedman and Manager Jackie Braley from Price Rite Supermarket located in New Bedford for their continued contributions towards this yearly

venture.

Also, the long list of donations from the area's businesses, schools and non-profit groups and organizations will not be forgotten for their generosity towards the area's needy.

Another "very special" thank you goes to the Stop & Shop Bakery Department workers located in Fairhaven who hand over outdated bread and pastries on Friday afternoons to be given out the next morning to the needy who frequent the pantry. Terrie, Wendy and Nate from the bakery department have truly impressed me with their generosity and willingness to help the less fortunate.

And finally, the food bins located at the Millicent Library and at the Stop & Shop Supermarket, both located in Fairhaven, where generous people have dropped off thousands of pounds of non-perishable food this past year, will continue.

If you have any questions about the pantry located at the Long Plain United Methodist Church, 1215 Main St., Acushnet, please call 509-763-9289.

*Gerry Payette*

*Holiday fundraiser coordinator*

### Truly one of the Greatest Generation

He didn't see a full century, but he came pretty close. He had no children, and no living relatives after his wife died. However, he always embraced Fairhaven as his family and treated his friends as brothers and sisters. He was a simple man with a kind heart who touched a lot of people.

His military service in WWII was often a topic of conversation, but he never mentioned hardships. He was most comfortable describing his duties as a general's chauffeur or lesser responsibilities he had while in the army. But, while he never talked about it, I believe he saw combat in Europe, on one occasion was directly involved in the capture of a group of German soldiers, and there is a good chance that he was at Normandy.

He was a member of the Fairhaven Finance Committee for over two decades because of a concern and commitment to the town. This involvement was apparent when he was honored at his 90th birthday in 2001 with the presence of the entire sitting board of selectmen and most other town officials.

For years he worked as a driver at Medeiros Bus Co. and was not only a devoted employee, but became a close friend to John (Medeiros) and others.

He was always one to offer help, and that continued even after his death. In his will he requested his estate be equally shared with seven organizations. St. Joseph's Church, St. Joseph's School, Fairhaven Public Schools, Fairhaven Council on Aging and Day Care, Friends of the Elderly, North Fairhaven Improvement Association and Fort Phoenix Post of VFW were all recipients of Manny's generosity.

Manny Sylvia, who died just two years ago, would have turned 100 on January 14, 2011.

Happy Birthday Manny!

*Ted Silva, Fairhaven*



## While we were gone

Every year, the staff at Our Lady's Haven in Fairhaven plays Santa for a family in need. This year the family was in need of diapers, sheets, pajamas, clothing and other basic necessities. As always, the staff at OLH donated generously to the cause. The family of five (mom, dad and three children) was chosen by the principal and guidance counselor at a Fairhaven elementary school, which also delivered the gifts. Wendy Lima, CNA at OLH has been organizing the event for several years.

PICTURED: L-R: Wendy Lima, CNA; Mike Medeiros, Administrator; Lynda Laverdure, RN, Infection Control. Photo submitted. See it in color at [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com).

# BPW promotes for additional equipment operator

By Joyce Rowley

## NeighborNews Correspondent

The Fairhaven Board of Public Works began its January 3 meeting by interviewing three current BPW workers for a Special Motor Equipment Operator position for the Highway Department. In December, the Board determined that it could fill a second SMEO position with existing funding. This was the third set of interviews for this type of position since June 2010.

"I'm thankful to be before the Board again, and for the opportunity to better myself," Charles Hurley, the first candidate, said, adding he was experienced on the backhoe, front-end loader, and basin truck, but not yet with the sweeper, grader or the brush cutter with the arm.

His supervisor, Highway Superintendent John Charbonneau, told the board he didn't have any issues with Mr. Hurley.

"There are others with more experience but I have no problem with his work ethic," he said.

William Fitzgerald, Superintendent of Public Works, said, "We'll build up his training. We won't put him on anything he's not ready for."

When Justin Stack was interviewed next, he pointed out he had experience, knowledge, a clean record, the class of license needed, and that getting the job would "benefit me and my family."

He said he had experience with the sweeper, catch basin truck, backhoe, bobcat, and with loading trucks; but not with the grader.

Mr. Stack also worked ten years with Bay State Construction, a company that did work Mass. Highway. He did street sweeping, and road and drainage pipe repair.

Mr. Charbonneau said that he had no issues as far as Mr. Stack operating equipment. He said he was already trained and "did an awesome job."

Vincenzo "Vin" Angelini, who appeared for the first time before the Board, noted he had a hydraulics license, and that he had run the backhoe, the front end loader but not the grading machine and sweeper. He said he owned a forklift with rear wheel drive and felt he could easily learn to use that equipment.

"And I've had an excellent driving record since I was a teen," he said.

Mr. Riley noted that Mr. Angelini started as a temporary worker, and was already promoted to full-time. He asked Mr. Charbonneau about his work ethic.

"I couldn't ask for better," Mr. Charbonneau said.

Board member Robert "Hoppy" Hobson said that Mr. Angelini had a good work ethic and a "ton of experience...I'm going to make a decision not based on seniority, but on experience."

Board member Kathleen Sturtevant said she was impressed that he was a fast learner and a good worker. BPW Chairperson Geoffrey Haworth commended Mr. Angelini for his work ethic.

After the last candidate left, Board

and that he would go with Mr. Stack.

Board members were split on the issue. Mr. Hobson stated that it should be decided based 100% on qualifications and that in this case, the top two candidates started on the same date. Ms. Sturtevant agreed, in part because of Mr. Charbonneau's recommendation.

Board member Steven Riley also agreed that Mr. Stack had more experience but said that previous boards went by seniority.

Mr. Frietas said he was concerned that the equipment could lead to a dangerous situation, and recommended that if Mr. Hurley were promoted, that he be carefully watched.

Mr. Haworth reviewed the union contract and said that it was clear they had to follow seniority.

"Mr. Hurley has his licenses. Although he's not more experienced, he has his license and can perform the job," said Mr. Haworth. "The contract is black and white. I don't see where we can go away from the contract. He'll be on 90-day probation. We have Mr. Stack as an alternate, so we don't have to go through this again."

Voting 3-2, the Board promoted Mr. Hurley to SMEO, for a 90-day probation period with Mr. Stack as alternate. Mr. Hobson and Ms. Sturtevant voted no..

In other business, the board accepted the budgets of the superintendents with minor changes: to add an additional \$18,000 for a plow to the truck requested by the Water Department and an additional \$4,000 for seeding to the Parks budget.

The Highway Department requested a replacement for the Heavy Motor Equipment Operator position that was lost last year and the Water Department requested a new position to run the new anaerobic digester.

Sewer superintendent Linda Lima presented the sewer budget with a six percent increase overall. An additional position for the anaerobic digester, and increases for services and tools were the major changes. Overall, the Board supported the budget although there were questions on whether some of the increases

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Mr. Hurley has his licenses.  
Although he's not more  
experienced, he has his license  
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contract is black and white.  
I don't see where we can go  
away from the contract.  
[Geoffrey Haworth]

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member Daniel Frietas noted that several members of the Highway Department were present and asked them their opinions. Joseph Desroches, who was promoted to SMEO last month, said he had no preference but said he hadn't seen them on all of the equipment.

"Usually Matt and I are on the equipment," said Mr. Desroches.

Matthew Paulson, SMEO, said he had seen Mr. Stack on a 963, but couldn't say that one candidate was better than the other.

Albert Martin, union shop steward, said, "[Mr. Paulson and Mr. Desroches] wouldn't be here except for seniority. In my opinion, seniority has to be protected."

Mr. Charbonneau said that Mr. Stack had a clean driving record, operated all of the equipment well

BPW: cont'd on page 28

## BPW: cont'd on page 28

would be sufficient to cover the new plant. Ms. Lima said that last year there were several big ticket items in the budget that would not need to be replaced again, and so the increase was adequate.

Mr. Charbonneau proposed a budget for the Park department with a less than one percent decrease. Mr. Riley sought increases for grass replacement on the fields.

"At some point in time, if you have to rebuild all these parks, it will cost more than \$2,000."

The Board voted 5-0 to put \$4,000 in the road materials item strictly for seed and fertilizer.

Mr. Riley suggested that the department as a whole begin to maintain an inventory of tools and equipment. Mr. Frietas said that he was asking the superintendents to consolidate purchases of any chemicals so that they could reduce costs overall by going to a sole-source supplier.

In other business, Robert Roderiques of Fairhaven Excavating was present to answer questions about the McKenzie Lane subdivision. Tibbetts Engineering billed the BPW \$1,650 for as-built plans for the road.

Contractors are required to establish an inspection account prior to starting a new subdivision. The account pays a consultant to perform testing to make sure roads are built to state and local specifications. McKenzie Lane was approved in 2003 for construction and accepted at Town Meeting in May 2009.

Mr. Roderiques argued that since the road had already been accepted at Town Meeting, he thought that the account had been closed. Even before the Town Meeting vote, he said, he had disputed a portion of the bill, and paid \$550 when requested.

He claimed he had never been told that as-builts were part of the inspection fees, and could have

gotten the survey done for much less. But in any case, he believed the issue to have been resolved when the Town voted to accept it, he said.

On reviewing the total bill, which ran over the original estimate, Mr. Riley agreed with Mr. Roderiques that some of Tibbetts's costs were inconsistent, but other costs were typical of development inspection fees. In particular, he tallied \$730.15 inspection fees for a three-hour sewer pressure test, subdrainage inspection, and paving inspection that were warranted.

But other fees did not add up. A site visit and project status were billed at \$105, but a project status letter alone cost \$175. Mr. Frietas questioned Tibbetts's charging overtime for less than 40 hours work.

Mr. Fitzgerald said that the contract allowed overtime over the total time estimated for the project. He also said that Fairhaven Excavating had received three notices to pay between 2007 and 2010. At the time of Town Meeting, the Planning Director had told Mr. Fitzgerald that the cost of as-built plans would be covered by a town covenant restriction on several lots.

Mr. Haworth noted that Tibbetts Engineering had been invited to the meeting to answer questions but had declined on advice of their attorney. Instead, Mr. Mello and his attorney offered to meet with the chair and superintendent separately.

Mr. Haworth had told them that everything would have to be done at a public meeting. Mr. Haworth said this is one of several such bills that have been sent to the town by Tibbetts for resolution.

Mr. Roderiques maintained that he did not owe the money, but agreed to pay the \$730.15 if the Board provided him with a letter that he had paid the account in full. The Board voted 4-1 in

favor of accepting the \$730.15 as payment in full.

The board also discussed the possibility of turning over programs at the West Island Town Beach to the recreation department. In a follow-up interview, Mr. Fitzgerald said it makes sense for the BPW to maintain the grounds, while the recreation department runs programs, such as swimming lessons.

"I just think the public would be much, much better served with someone who is experienced with running programs," said Mr. Fitzgerald. "Public works isn't really set up to be running programs. We build things, we maintain things."

Money from beach passes goes into the general fund. The proposal needs to be approved by the Select-board, Finance Committee, and ultimately, Town Meeting.

In other business:

- Ms. Sturtevant noted that the catch basin at the corner of Main and Washington Streets continues to get clogged by ice and backs up as it had during the last storm.
- Mr. Hobson requested again that a subcontractor plow the bike path. He noted that there are very few skiers but still many people out walking. He also noted that the parking lot at Ft. Phoenix needed to be plowed by the State.
- Mr. Riley requested that the trucks salt Howland Road during storms, instead of using salt mixed with sand. Mr. Haworth suggested that several streets receive salt only: Middle Street, Alden Road, Scoticut Neck Road, and Bridge Street to New Boston Road. But overall, Mr. Haworth commended the crews on the snow and ice removal in the last storm.
- The board reconvened in executive session to discuss union negotiations. •••

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## House breaks prompt police call for extra vigilance

*Fairhaven police press release*

The Town of Fairhaven has experienced a rash of residential burglaries for the past month. Since the beginning of December, there have been seven reported breaks throughout town. Items taken from the residences include flat screen television sets, jewelry and DVD players.

Each of the breaks has involved

some form of forced entry. All of the houses were unoccupied at the time they were burglarized. Fairhaven Detectives believe that a motor vehicle has been used in most if not all of the breaks due to the size of the items taken and how quickly the perpetrators managed to flee from the area. In each case, the perpetrator or perpetrators were in and out of the

house in a very short period of time.

Fairhaven Police are asking the public to be extra vigilant and to immediately report any and all suspicious activity. If anyone has any information pertaining to the breaks, they are encouraged to contact Fairhaven Police Detectives at 508-997-7421

# Amadeu Medeiros remembered

The following is the eulogy that selectboard member Charles Murphy gave at the funeral services of Amadeu Medeiros

Words can never truly express the greatness of Amadeu Medeiros.

I am honored to share some thoughts on such a great man, a man whom we all here were so blessed with in our lives.

When we think of Amadeu (and some knew him as Mario, Dad, Brother, Son, Boo, and Mr. Medeiros)...we can think of four categories...

- Faithful
- Family
- Friend
- Fun

Amadeu was a very faithful man. In fact look, at the beauty of this church. Whatever the need was he would say "OK, let's do it, let's help out."

He would climb to get the curtains up at Easter time and was always willing to do the right thing for his church and God. There is no doubt where he is right now!

Family...

He always put such a strong emphasis on LOVE. He loved his family! He was blessed with such a loving and giving wife. She and he were a team. Love grew through good times and bad and in sickness and health and richer or poorer. They took it seriously.

As the years went by, their love grew more. They would joke about each other but never lost the example of love that we all could use in our lives. He loved his four children. Liz was always there if he needed some clarification on something. He would always say, "I will wait for my daughter Liz to figure this out."

Naz was always there to give him strong love and to guide him...they have similar qualities, but Naz could be a focus for him when something needed to get done and he would listen to Naz, because he knew that bond of trust.

John was there by his bedside in Boston, devoted to making sure he

was safe in his medical needs and not alone.

And Jason, his little boy, whom he loved so much also. He always wanted the best for all his children and would work hard to accomplish this. He was so proud of each of his children's accomplishments. He would travel far to visit Jason and show his love that was endless.

He loved his grandchildren and was so very proud of each of them. They also have showed a great love to him and he knew it. He would always share stories with me of each of his grandchildren and how they have blessed his life. He loved the daily goals and accomplishments of Shawna, Savannah, Valerie, Joey and his other little guy CJ along with Erin and Alyssa. In fact each child he

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I have a Master's Degree,  
but I have learned more  
from his teachings about  
life than any college

---

encountered would love him, because of the good feeling he generated!!

Friend...

He knew the meaning of friendship and was a best friend. In our lives we are all busy and rushed. He knew how to be a friend. When you went by to visit, he took the time to listen, care and be true to what you would tell him and what your needs were. His true friendship was not only a blessing in my life, it has helped shape me personally to whom I am. I know what a good friend he was to so very many people...and how often do we meet a person that really cares what we say and do. Even when he was so sick, he was worried about other people and their health. Even when he was in pain, he still wanted to make sure his friends were not in

pain! He is the definition of a friend. I asked for thoughts on Amadeu on the computer....LOOK AT THIS STACK OF PEOPLE WHO SO LOVED HIM.

And of course FUN...

Amadeu knew the meaning of fun. He always had a smile. He would light up a room. He would make you laugh. He could shed light to a very serious concern and make you feel so good inside. That was a gift! He would make vacations, visits, restaurants, any event a fun time. We will all miss that FUN, but we have gained that memory!

I just want you all to think for a moment if you had never met Amadeu Medeiros....some of us would not be here physically, some of us would never have experienced so many wonderful memories.

Look at how many people this one man has touched. Look at the way he has so positively changed our LIFE. Isn't that what we are supposed to do as God tells us?

He not only did more and helped more, he was the example that Jesus gives us in a person. Not perfect, but sincere, loving and a faithful friend. Our life has been enhanced because of Amadeu Medeiros and I personally can never thank him for ALL he has done in my life and all he has taught me. I have a Master's Degree, but I have learned more from his teachings about life than any college...I will be eternally grateful for our friend.

When sharing thoughts, I asked Mrs. Medeiros to put together some thoughts and I knew it would difficult for her to express but she has it written down.

Tinha apenas quinze anos de idade quando cheguei a este Pais.

Na companhia da minha mae

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## SELECT: cont'd from [page 4

fishermen that are in those spots are small fishermen, local fishermen, and if we do change the rates we do it in annual increments. We could make people aware the rates will go up so they can adjust their rates accordingly or make arrangements to go somewhere else.”

Mr. Murphy, on the other hand, was not comfortable in raising rates, particularly after hearing local residents testify that they had already renewed their Union Wharf contracts at last year's rates and that their payment checks had already been cashed by the town. He agreed to call the Harbormaster in for a meeting to discuss raising rates for next year, but made the motion to approve contracts as written, using current rates.

“I think commitments have already been made this year, and we need to uphold rental agreements that were already made,” he said, concluding the discussion.

The board also heard from insurance consultant John Beauregard who gave a general overview of the town's current insurance coverage.

Mr. Beauregard outlined the town's current \$75 million blanket building and insurance policy, which covers all buildings in town except for the high school, which carries a separate \$17 million dollar policy.

Although insurance premiums for the town may seem relatively high at \$80,000 a year, so much of what is covered is unique, including irreplaceable fine arts collections belonging to the town, the cannons at Fort Phoenix and nearly 60 buildings, most of which are historically significant. The current policy also includes coverage for situations ranging from electronic data losses or equipment breakdowns at the wastewater plant, to fires, floods and earthquakes.

Mr. Beauregard explained to the selectboard that only normal storms are covered by the town's blanket policy; as other towns and homeowners in this region are fully aware, there are separate policies for named storms, which are limited to \$10 million.

“Frankly, if costs are more than \$10 million, towns generally seek federal disaster relief in those cases,” he explained.

Mr. Osuch also interjected that department heads would need to be aware that under this particular

policy there is a 2% deductible that would not be covered by insurance.

The town's coverage extends to public officials. Aside from charges of excessive violence brought against police officers “there are three types of lawsuits that tend to be brought against public officials: harassment, discrimination, and wrongful terminations, said Mr. Beauregard.

Another area where people often misunderstand the extent of town liabilities is in cases involving pothole claims, sewer backups, damages from falling trees, etc.

“Under Chapter 184, the town is not legally responsible for those types of claims unless it's proven that the town had prior knowledge of a situation,” he explained.

Mr. Osuch added that every few years there are sewer backups caused by tree roots and other blockages and

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I think commitments  
have already been made  
this year, and we need to  
uphold rental agreements  
that were already made  
[Charles Murphy]

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the average person expects, mistakenly, that the town will pay for damage to their properties.

“People think that they can just call town hall and the town will cover it. The key thing people have to realize is that all we can do is send the claim on to the insurance company. Unless there was prior knowledge and the town is seen as negligent, the likelihood is that a rejection letter will be sent to the property owner,” said Mr. Osuch.

Mr. Beauregard warned board members that they may see workers compensation premiums rising, as the town's record in this area has not been good.

“The annual premiums for the town are very high and we're at the point where workers' comp claims are affecting the town's bottom line,” he said.

The board reconvened in executive

session to discuss: on-going workers' compensation issues; police contract negotiations and the Quinn Bill; situations regarding solar panels at the landfill; wind turbines; and a \$10,000 bill the town recently received from UMassDartmouth that has no explanation of the services rendered, but seems to point to an old agreement for testing of local estuaries.

The board closed with a reminder that town hall will be closed on Monday, January 17, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

In other business, Town Curator Albert Benac had an unscheduled appearance before the board to present a 1927 photograph of former selectboard member and county commissioner John I. Bryant, which Mr. Benac recently restored.

Mr. Bryant, who was a close friend of Henry Huttleston Rogers, joined the Union Army at age 15 and later went on to serve the town from 1887 to 1929, as a selectboard member, Postmaster, and eventually Assistant Superintendent of the Streets. The historic photograph, originally gifted to fellow board member Issac Babbitt, is one of six restoration projects that Mr. Benac has undertaken. The restored photo will be on display in the Selectboard Office.

In other business, the board:

- Signed a new memorandum of understanding regarding cooperative transportation planning processes in Southeastern Mass., updating the town's 1997 agreements with Mass Highway
- Voted to allow the Highway Department to deficit-spend for the Snow and Ice account. Due to two weekend storms that fell on holidays last month, the highway department has had to re-stock sand and salt supplies, and, as a result, anticipates a \$7,568.81 deficit once supplies are delivered.
- Re-appointed library trustee Lisa Wright for a new term ending in 2014.

If a free society cannot  
help the many who are  
poor, it cannot save the  
few who are rich.

John Fitzgerald Kennedy

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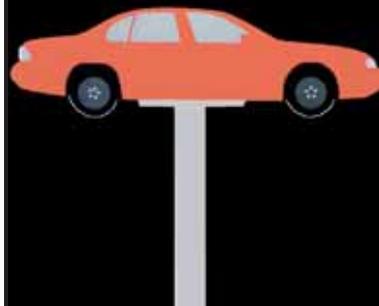
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