



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 15 • April 21, 2011

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

Flashlight egg hunt breaks 100



People scour the field behind the Fairhaven Recreation Center on Friday, 4/15, looking for hidden plastic eggs with candy in them. This year's annual Flashlight Egg Hunt drew 102 registered participants. See page 16. *Photo by Beth David. See it in color at www.NeighbNews.com. Find us on Facebook for more photos of this event.*

Also Inside:

- **Selectboard**, page 12
- **Finance Committee**, page 26
- **From the Superintendent**, page 17
- **Letters 20**, page 17

From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

Oh my, where to start? We have tons of meeting coverage for you this week (Conservation Commission on page 4, Selectboard on page 12, School Committee on page 13, Finance Committee on page 26), and lots of fun stuff, too.

Our cover photo is from the annual Flashlight Egg Hunt at the Fairhaven Recreation Center. See page 16 for a couple of more pictures from that event. Only real men can wear bunny ears!

We've also got a story about a meeting the Department of Conservation and Recreation held about programs and changes for Ft. Phoenix, Nasketucket and West Island State Reservations.

Personally, I like West Island just being neglected. The only thing they've done in the past 10 years is remove the beautiful wooden sign and replace it with some ugly thing.

Really, folks, it's a wildlife refuge. Let's just leave it alone. "Benign neglect" is what my neighbor calls it. I like that, a lot.

I haven't been to Nasketucket because I didn't know about it. But you can bet money I'll be getting there very soon. It looks like it's another great hiking place, so I'll probably lean towards benign neglect there, too. Just pick up the trash every now and then and leave it to the nature lovers and the animals they love.

Ft. Phoenix is a different sort. It's got lots of "infrastructure," meaning buildings, and other constructed things. It's a place that needs lots of attention because lots of people go there every day.

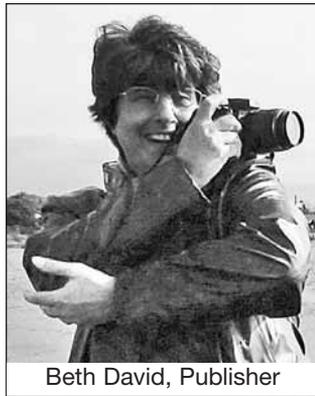
Oh, I should be more profound, prolific, and clever (I can't even think of a "p" word for that), but I'm soooooo on deadline....counting the minutes before my printer calls looking for this baby.

There's so much more in here, you'll just have to find it yourself, though.

Meanwhile, find us on Facebook for more pictures of the events we have covered. We can only put a few in the paper, but we can upload the whole lot to Facebook.

Well, gotta run.

Until next week then.
See ya,



Beth David, Publisher

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

Volume 6, Issue 15

Thursday, April 21, 2011

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Published weekly on Thursdays by
Fairhaven Neighborhood News, LLC, at
166 Dogwood Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719

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www.NeighbNews.com

508-979-5593 • Fax: 508-991-5580

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CORRECTIONS

Phew! Finally, we got through an issue without any mistakes.

Help feed the hungry

This bin is in the Walnut Street lobby of the Millicent Library in Fairhaven. Another bin is at Stop & Shop. All food goes to the Shepherd's Pantry, 1215 Main Street, Acushnet (508-763-9289). The pantry has seen a sharp increase in families seeking food due to the worsening economy.



The Pantry spends more than \$5,000 each month to keep the shelves stocked. It serves more than 100 families each week.

Tax deductible donations may be sent to Shepherd's Pantry, PO Box 760, Fairhaven, MA 02719. Visit www.shepherdspantry.org

Students decorate paper bags for Earth Day

Fairhaven Students at Stop & Shop



Students from the LL Wood School in Fairhaven decorated paper bags to be used on Earth Day, 4/22. Students walked from the school to Stop & Shop in Fairhaven where the bags will be used to bag groceries on 4/22 in commemoration of Earth Day. ABOVE: Students hold their decorated Earth Day bags at Stop & Shop in Fairhaven. With students are Officer Bachir Kouta (left) and Sgt. Michael Bouvier (right); S&S employees Dorreen Wotten, CSS (left) and Norine Alberts, Cash Department Head (right). Photo courtesy of Sgt. Bouvier. See it in color at www.NeighbNews.com

Acushnet Students at Shaw's

The students at Albert F. Ford Middle School and the Acushnet Elementary School have decorated paper grocery bags with environmental messages to help create awareness about Earth Day. On Earth Day, April 22, these bags will be used to pack groceries for customers at Shaw's Supermarket in Fairhaven. There are a limited number of the decorated bags available and they will be distributed on a first-come first-serve basis.

Students created their grocery bag designs under the direction of art teachers Kristine Daniels and Susan Hinchcliffe. Students were encouraged to communicate messages about environmental issues and ways we can all help to care for our communities and our planet. Students decorated approximately 500 bags which were provided by Shaw's Supermarket.

This is the 17th year this international educational effort has been coordinated on the Internet through the Earth Day Groceries Project, and marks the first year that Acushnet schools have participated. Visit the project web site at <http://www.earthdaybags.org> for more information.

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ConCom approves work on three seawalls

By Anne Fenton

Neigh News Correspondent

At its meeting on April 11, The Fairhaven Conservation Commission voted to allow work on three seawalls.

David Davignon, a Civil Engineer with N. Douglas Schneider & Associates, Inc. presented the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the Babanikas Irrevocable Trust to obtain a Determination from the ConCom in order to request a Chapter 91 Waterway License to repair a seawall at 69 Winnegansett Avenue.

Mr. Davignon said that there are minor cracks in the seawall that can be repaired by hand. No machinery is required, so there should be no impact on the wetlands.

Mr. Davignon told the commission that he has done his homework and received positive correspondence from the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, MA Division of Fisheries, and The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program; and has received a DEP File Number.

While work is being done on the seawall, Couture Construction will use a crane to move concrete blocks, which are apparent debris from an older seawall, up against the current seawall as additional protection. The crane will be located at the end of Winnegansett Avenue, outside the wetland area.

All ConCom members present voted to accept the plan as presented with the standard conditions for emergency contact information, posting requirements (EMC-1 & REC 1&3) and also that vehicles carry absorbent materials.

Co-chairperson Carol Tyson was absent.

Mr. Davignon also presented the NOI on behalf of Ann Thomas to

repair a seawall at 1 Sippican Street. He described a vertical seawall, with some minor cracks, that is connected to a sloped bolder wall. He indicated that the bolder wall is in excellent shape but in order to license the vertical seawall minor repairs need to be made.

The repairs can be done manually without excavation equipment. The concrete cap connecting the two walls needs to be broken up manually with sledgehammers and concrete re-poured. Mr. Davignon indicated that he is prepared after receiving the correspondence from the appropriate agencies including DEP.

A truck will be needed to carry concrete off-site for disposal via Murray Street, a paper street held in part by the Fairhaven/Acushnet Land Preservation Trust (FALPT). The ConCom approved the NOI with the standard conditions EMC-I, REC-1, REC-3, and ADD-I. Cora Peirce abstained from the vote due to her association with the FALPT.

Mr. Davignon also represented George Fairbanks's NOI to repair a seawall, and improve the driveway surface for wheelchair accessibility at 5 Sippican Street.

Mr. Fairbanks told the board that his daughter had a knee operation and was unable to maneuver her wheelchair on the stone to the ramp from the driveway. The ramp leads to his home, which is wheelchair accessible. The plan for the driveway includes a stamped concrete walkway leading to the ramp with a stone trench at the end of the driveway to capture the storm run off.

About the seawall, he said the upper levels are in excellent shape with substantial cracks on the face at the bottom. The cracks will be

repaired with sealant, and some concrete to repair larger areas.

Some of the concrete footing has broken off. The remaining portion needs to be broken up with jackhammers and re-poured using concrete and rebar to attach pre-cast panels to the existing structure. Concrete will be poured from a truck parked in the driveway.

The board voted unanimously to approve the NOI with the standard conditions EMC-I, REC-1, REC-3, and ADD-I with the addition of conditions ADD-4C, DEB-1, MAC-3, and MAC-4.

The board voted to continue Sara and Bradley Schipper's Abbreviated NOI hearing until May 9th to verify the wetland line at a property on Doane Street, Plot 3, Lot 200. The hearing was originally scheduled for February 7, 2011.

Because Mr. Couture was already at the hearing Chairperson Andrew Jones asked if he would like to speak with the board regarding an open enforcement order on another property. Mr. Couture made arrangements to meet with Conservation Agent Wayne Fostin.

In a follow up conversation Mr. Fostin said that a site visit would be scheduled in June.

In other business:

- Mr. Fostin will investigate the ownership of a property at the end of Church Street regarding the clearing of trees.
- Mr. Jones asked the board to investigate an anonymous complaint regarding a "building being built" at 110 New Boston Road.
- Kathy Groh addressed the board about erecting an osprey-nesting platform. She will complete an application for a Request for Determination.♦♦♦



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C2 Curry Chicken	5.25
C3 Shrimp & Scrambled Egg	5.25
C4 Beef or Chicken with Broccoli	*NEW* 5.25
C5 Chicken Lo Mein (no rice)	*NEW* 5.25
C6 Beef or Chicken with Vegetables	*NEW* 5.25
C7 Chicken Pad Thai (no rice)	*NEW* 5.85
C8 General Gao's Chicken	5.65

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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Easter Egg Hunt

On **Saturday, April 23**, at **Livesey Park, Glenhaven Ave., Fairhaven. 9:00 a.m. SHARP.** Children search for candy eggs and specially numbered wooden eggs that are redeemed for prizes. There will also be prize drawings and a visit from the Easter Bunny.

Sponsored by the North Fairhaven Improvement Association. Free.

Coves open

Senior Cove and Round Cove in Fairhaven on West Island will be open for quahogging on May 1. North Cove will close on May 1. If you have any questions on quahogging regulations, call the Shellfish Warden/Harbor-master's office at 508-984-4529

Earth Day Fri 4/22

Friday, 4/22/11, is Earth Day. For ideas on how to commemorate Earth Day, visit <http://www.earthday.org/>. According to the website, the first Earth Day, on April 22, 1970, activated 20 million Americans from all walks of life and is widely credited with launching the modern environmental movement.

Militia for Kids

Kids Day at the Academy with the Fairhaven Village Militia on **Friday, April 22, at Fairhaven Academy, on the west lawn of Fairhaven High School, 12 Huttleston Ave., Fairhaven, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Kids will have a chance to make some colonial period crafts, play old-time games and learn about life during the 1770s from members of the Fairhaven Village Militia dressed in historical garb. Weather permitting the "troops" can take part in a mock drill outdoors. Sponsored by the Fairhaven Village Militia. Free. The building is not wheelchair accessible. For more information, call Lori Richard at 508-996-0823.

Book Signing

Fairhaven poet Barbara Despres will read from her books, "My Time" and "Echoes of the Mind" on **Saturday, April 30, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.** at the Blue Dory Gallery, 50 Main Street, Fairhaven. Ground floor, but not wheelchair accessible.

Book signing and conversation with the author will follow. For ore information call 508-994-0157 or visit www.LaurelMeadsGallery.com

Rum Runners

The Fairhaven Historical Society is planning an exhibit on the Rum Runners of Sconticut Neck. If you have information or artifacts about these local legends, please contact Mark Badwey at 508-993-1464.

Victory Coffee Hse

Monthly Christian Coffee House, April 23 from 7-9/9:30 p.m. This month's performer is Patrick Destoop, 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 information.

Also as an extra date this month Keep our home church based ministry Parousia in mind for Friday April 29. They are a Gospel Blues group. Please go out to the Rest Stop Coffee House at the Christian Fellowship Center located on Church Street in New Bedford right across from the Jeep dealer at 7:00PM to see them. This is a free event as well with dinner being served at 6:00..

Business Assn. Mtg.

A meeting will be held at the **Town Hall on Tuesday, April 26, at 10:00 a.m.** for Fairhaven business people who may be interested in the establishment of a Fairhaven Business Association. The meeting is hosted by the Office of Tourism and grew out of a business workshop that was held in March.

The April meeting will be held upstairs at Town Hall. It is expected to last about an hour. The building is wheelchair accessible. For more information, call the Fairhaven Office of Tourism at 508-979-4085.

Local GOP

Fairhaven Republican Town Committe will meet on **Tuesday, April 26 at 630 PM, 1 Bryant Lane in Fairhaven.** Enter back door of Fairhaven Police Station. Accessible.

New members welcomed. Meeting is FREE and the discussion is lively. Join us! Email for more info FairhavenGOP@Comcast.net, or call

(508) 654-0716.

Japanese Classes

The Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society will be sponsoring an intermediate level Japanese language class starting on April 26th. The 8-week course will be held each Tuesday at 6:30 PM at the Society's museum at 11 Cherry Street, Fairhaven. Classes will last 1.5 hours. Cost of the course is \$80. Those interested should contact Ayako or Gerry Rooney at 508-995-1219 or through Gerry@WMFriendshipHouse.org. Classrooms are accessible.

Volunteers needed

The Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society is seeking volunteers to be trained as tour guides for this summer's session. Once trained there are no specific commitments. The musuem will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1-5 PM from June 4 to Sept. 4. Guides will learn a unique chapter in local history and its influence on the long-term friendship between the USA and Japan. Those interested should contact Gerry Rooney at 508-995-1219 or through Gerry@WMFriendshipHouse.org

Battle of the Bands

Fairhaven High School's 2011 Battle of the Bands will be held on **Friday, April 29, from 6:30-9p.m.** at the FHS Performing Arts Center. Tickets available in advance at the FHS Main Office or at the FHS Ticket Office that night. Don't take any chances, though, get your tickets early. Tickets are \$5 in advance, \$6 at the door. Accessible.

Antiques Fair

Aaturday, April 30th from 10 am-2 pm at the Hastings Middle School in Fairhaven. Take those items that have been hiding in your attic or basement and find out what they are worth. You might be surprised!

All proceeds will benefit the Town of Fairhaven's Bicentennial Celebration in 2012. Two appraisers, one of whom has worked with the PBS hit series, "Antiques Road Show."

General Admission is \$5. One (1) item appraised is \$10 or two for \$15. Light refreshments will be sold.

Tickets may be pre-purchased at

CONT'D next page

STILL AROUND TOWN

the following Fairhaven businesses: Euro at Phoenix on Main Street, Northeast Maritime Institute on Washington Street and Mac's Soda Bar on Scoticut Neck. Tickets also at the door. For more information, please call: 508-993-2175.

Cancer Center Open House

Southcoast Health System will host a public open house for its new

Southcoast Centers for Cancer Care at 206 Mill Road, Fairhaven, on Saturday, April 30, from 1 to 4 p.m.

The nearly completed state-of-the-art 56,000-square-foot Southcoast Center for Cancer Care is two stories high and was designed in a retreat-like setting to support the medical, emotional and social needs of its patients.

The spring open house offers the public a chance to tour the new facility, meet the physicians and

caregivers and learn more about the extensive services that will be offered when the Center opens this summer.

Visitors who complete the tour can also enter for the chance to win a free Apple iPad 2, receive free health information and enjoy refreshments.

The Southcoast Center for Cancer Care in Fairhaven will be the only comprehensive provider of oncology services from Fairhaven to the Cape and is conveniently located off I-195 with plenty of free parking.

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Rte. 18 work started

The work on Rte. 18 in New Bedford will be causing delays to motorists for the next two years. Only one lane in each direction will be open. The project will make Rte. 18 more pedestrian friendly. Meanwhile, traffic will be disrupted during construction.

In the first phase of the project (approximately the next 12 months) there will be no disruption to cars traveling south on Route 18 onto the bridge towards Fairhaven, other than traffic delays. The ramp will eventually be replaced and traffic will have to be re-routed at that time.

At no time will the project block access from the bridge to Route 18 North. Motorists are encouraged to seek alternate routes.

Exercise Tiger Event

The City of New Bedford Veteran's Advisory Board and the Fort Rodman-Fort Taber Historical Association will honor the 749 United States sailors and soldiers who lost their lives during the devastating April 28, 1944 attack on the United States military training operation, Exercise Tiger. Exercise Tiger was a D-Day dry run which was ambushed by a German E-boat flotilla and resulted in America's costliest incident of World War II, second only to Pearl Harbor. The surprise attack sank two American vessels and severely damaged a third.

A memorial ceremony is planned to honor the service members who perished in the incident this Saturday April 23rd, at 10:00 AM, at the Ft., 1000 Rodney French Blvd., New Bedford. Keynote Speaker, Mass. Secretary of Veterans Services, Coleman Nee; Northeast Navy Band;

Rhode Island Guards of Thunder Artillery Group

All veterans are asked to proudly display their service insignia.

Contact Peter Clark, Veterans' peterwclark@hotmail.com

Culture*Park

Culture*Park Redux party!! Celebrating 10 years of original works in theatre and dance. **Sat., April 23, from 7-10:30 p.m. at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, 18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford. Accessible.**

Culture*Park hopes you can join them for an evening of celebration punctuated with moments from 10 years of Culture*Park programming.

Complimentary appetizers and cash bar. Ticket includes admission to Cabo Dance Project, Kaminho Longi at 4 p.m. in the Museum Theater. **Tickets: \$25 general admission/\$20 artistic associates.** For more information or to make a reservation, call 774-202-0588. www.culturepark.org

Public Transit Mtg.

Five public conversations on the future of public transit in New Bedford will be held next week.

How do you travel to school or work each day? Do you use public transit? Have you used public transit when visiting another city? Join us for an informal and interactive conversation, and share with us how we can enhance our public transit/bus system to better serve you. Light refreshments will be served.

Community conversations will take place on:

- **Youth: Monday, April 25th, 3 pm**
NPS Corson Maritime Learning Center, 33 William Street

- **North End: Tues., April 26, 1 pm**
Brooklawn Senior Center, 1997 Acushnet Avenue

- **South End: Tuesday, 4/26, 6 pm**
Howland-Green Library, 3 Rodney French Blvd.

- **Economic Sector/Non-Riders: Wed., April 27th, 6:00pm**
Coalition for Buzzards Bay, 114 Front Street

- **Near North End: Thurs., April 28, 6:00pm**
Taber Mill Apartments, 217 Deane Street

For more information, please contact Colleen Dawicki of the Urban Initiative, 508-910-6407 or cdawicki@umassd.edu. For translation services, please contact the City of New Bedford Office of Community Services at 508-961-3136.

Cat Adoption Day

Habitat for Cats is holding a Cat/Kitten Adoption Day on **Saturday April 23rd, from 12:00 to 3:00 at 1322 Ashley Blvd., New Bedford.** This space is generously donated to us for our use by Michael Panagakos and is wheelchair accessible.

All cats & kittens are spayed/neutered, are up-to-date on shots, and have tested negative for feline leukemia. Adoption fee is \$100 for adult cats, and \$120 for kittens five months & younger.

Adoption application and contract are required. Pets must travel in a pet carrier. Call 508-961-2287 for information, or visit; www.HabitatforCats.org

Whaling Museum Sailors' Series

At the New Bedford Whaling Museum, 18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford. Accessible. Call 508-997-0046

Cont'd next page

STILL OVERTOWN

or visit www.whalingmuseum.org

Now in its 21st year, the Sailors' Series illustrated lectures are on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in the Cook Memorial Theater, with a pre-lecture reception at 6:30 p.m. in the Jacobs Family Gallery. **The Sailors' Series continues on Tues., 4/26, with "Ready About: The Business and Pleasure of Yachting on Buzzards Bay." Sailors' Series admission for individual lectures is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. To reserve tickets, please call 508-997-0046 ext. 100. Accessible.**

A native of South Dartmouth, where his uncle Waldo Howland operated the Concordia Company boatyard, Llewellyn Howland III is an editor, yachting historian, and

antiquarian bookseller. He served as historical consultant to the New Bedford Whaling Museum for its current exhibit Charmed by the Sea: 150 Years and More of Yachting on Buzzards Bay.

Mr. Howland will talk about some of the major figures in the sport of yachting on Buzzards Bay — designers, builders, sail makers, and sailing professionals, as well as owners and amateur skippers and crew. He will also discuss the ways in which economics, technology, and social and political change have influenced the sport and the shape and function of yachts themselves.

The 2011 Sailors' Series is sponsored by C.E. Beckman Co. and Citizens-Union Savings Bank.

Texas Hold 'em

Texas Hold 'em Tournament to benefit the Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech After prom.

On May 6, at Cafe Funchal, 123 Church St., New Bedford. Wheelchair accessible. Fifty percent of tix sales to cash prizes. Buffet included, cash bar

Registration at 7 p.m.; game starts at 7:30. Also paying 12 levels of prizes This is an over-21 event.

Tickets, registration received before May 1 will receive 1,000 in bonus chips.

Costs: \$60 per ticket. Make checks payable to GNBVT, with "After Prom" in the memo line. Sponsor a table for \$60. For information, contact Michelle, 508-415-5310.

HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

Ocean Advisory Meeting

The Ocean Advisory Committee and Ocean Science Advisory Council will be meeting jointly this **Friday, April 22, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at 100 Cambridge Street, 2nd Floor Conference Rooms C and D, Boston.** These two groups were established pursuant to the Mass. Oceans Act of 2008 to provide input into the Massa. Ocean Management Plan.

The purpose of this meeting is to provide an update regarding progress over the last year, and related efforts nationally and regionally.

For info: Oceanplan@state.ma.us

Rifle Team F-R

The Junior Rifle Team will hold a fundraiser at HOMEPLATE Bay Street Grill 17 1094 Bay Street in Taunton MA on April 26. The team will be receiving 20% of the bill or gift card value for any purchases made at the restaurant when a ticket is provided at time of payment. We will be having raffles also. Free tickets can be obtained from Sid Martin, 508-287-6766 or sidm3@aol.com.

The Junior Rifle Team members will be traveling to Camp Perry and Fort Benning, GA to shoot in National Competitions. Many of the team members are world class level competitors and will be traveling to compete against other top shooters in the country.

Fish Meeting

The public is invited to attend the New England Fishery Management Council's meeting to be held April 26-28 at the Mystic Hilton Hotel, 20 Coogan Boulevard, Mystic, CT 06355; telephone 860.572.0731.

For information about meeting materials and a detailed agenda, consult the Council's website www.nefmc.org. If you have any questions, feel free to call the Council office at (978-465-0492, ext.10).

Bird Club

Sights and Sounds of the Tourist: A Spring Warbler workshop, sponsored by the Nasketucket Bird Club, will be held on April 28, Thursday, at 7:00 p.m. Sights and Sounds of the Tourist will be presented both visually and audibly by the club's president, Mike LaBossiere.

The meetings, open to the public and wheelchair accessible, are held at the Mattapoissett Free Public Library, located at the south door entrance on Barstow Street. For more information please call Mike at 508-863-5658 or by e-mail at sparrowhawk51@verizon.net

Spring Concert

The Sippican Choral Society will present its annual Spring Concert, Songs of Beauty, Love and Nature, on Friday April 29th and Saturday April 30th. Under the direction of Brian

Roderick and accompanied by pianist Michelle Gordon and three guest soloists, 70+ voices will perform pieces celebrating love, nature, and the beauty of spring.

Selections by Hayden, Mozart, Rutter and Dickau will be featured. The Sippican Choral Society Chamber Choir will also perform. Be sure to visit our website at www.sippicanchoral.org.

Friday, 4/29 & Saturday, 4/30: 8:00 PM, at St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church, 124 Front Street, Marion, MA

Tickets: Adults \$12; Students \$6

Available at: The Bookstall in Marion, Seaport Village Shoppe in Mattapoissett, and Baker Books in Dartmouth. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Pajama Party F-R

Pajama Party Brunch Weekend, Sat, 4/30 & Sun, 5/1, at The South Coast Local, 81 Fairhaven Rd., Mattapoissett, 508-758-3600

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Recipe of the Week

Sausage and Egg Casserole

- 1 pound bulk pork sausage
- 6 eggs
- 2 cups milk
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon ground mustard
- 6 slices white bread, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese

In a skillet, brown and crumble sausage; drain and set aside. In a large bowl, beat eggs; add milk, salt and mustard. Stir in bread cubes, cheese and sausage. Pour into a greased 11-in. x 7-in. x 2-in. baking dish. Cover and refrigerate for 8 hours or overnight. Remove from the refrigerator 30 minutes before baking. Bake, uncovered, at 350 degrees F for 40 minutes or until a knife inserted near the center comes out clean.

From Leilah Moses Silveira

A Little Bit of Sports

By Bob Hobbs

Special to the Neighb News

FHS Softball 4-0

The Lady Blues got their second win of the cold season, with a big win at Bourne 14-4. The young Blues were led by Kiyana Alfaiate, Brittany Teixeira Courtney Girouard, Morgan Haaland, all super youngsters.

Veterans Kelsey Perrone-Sovik, Kay Mullen, and Kayli Moniz all had big hit days. Kim Montella pitched a super game for FHS.

Fairhaven girls top Apponequet

The Ladies of Blue rolled to their fourth win 13-4 over the Lakers. Courtney Girouard went four strong innings and Kim Montella was outstanding in relief. Defense was great from the FHS girls, and the hitting outstanding led by Kayla Moniz and Ashley Brown.

FHS Girls get 2 big wins

The Lady Blues rolled over rival New Bedford Voc-tech, 6-0, with a brilliant pitching shutout from freshman Courtney Girouard. Kelsey Perrone-Sovik, Brittany Romero and freshman Kaiyana Alfaiate were big sticks for the Lady Blues.

Prose on Pros

Well, it's playoff time all over the place. Celtics and Bruins are in big trouble. Our wonderful Red Sox are off to an awful start, but they should come back. The Yanks and Socks are the only decent teams in the division.

How about Manny Ramirez retiring

Too bad in his time he was a super right-handed hitter. But I think Manny was on the juice. I have nominated him for the Bud Selig steroid era Hall of Fame. You know, Bud (I don't see too good) Baseball Commissioner.

To share a recipe with your neighbors

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ax to 508-991-5580; email to neighbnews@comcast.net



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Jim Beam Bourbon 1.75.....	\$24 ⁹⁹
Christian Bros. Brandy 1.75.....	\$19 ⁹⁹
Gordon's Gin 1.75.....	\$16 ⁹⁹
Kahlua 750	\$19 ⁹⁹
Kendall Jackson Chard 750.....	\$11 ⁹⁹
George Duboeuf Cotes du Rhone 750.....	\$6 ⁹⁹
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BOS: “no” to Planet Aid; discusses town meeting articles

By Mali Lim

Neighb News Correspondent

In the post-election reorganization, the Fairhaven Selectboard voted Michael Silvia as chair for the next year; Brian Bowcock is vice chair; and recently re-elected member Charles K. Murphy is board clerk.

In addition to serving as chair, Mr. Silvia will serve on the Millicent Library board of trustees, the Sister City Committee, and the Historical Commission. Dr. Bowcock will serve as the Affirmative Action Officer, and will serve on the Bristol County Advisory Board and the High School Building Subcommittee. Mr. Murphy will serve as the Contract Compliance Officer and Fair Housing Coordinator and will be the selectboard representative to the Personnel Board, the Fire Apparatus Study Committee and the Boat Ramps and Waterfront Recreational Property Committee.

The board rejected a request from Planet Aid to place two soda machine-sized donation bins at the Animal Shelter and Recreation Center, despite of Planet Aid's offer to give a portion of profits to the Animal Shelter. The non-profit organization, well known for its bright yellow donation bins, collects and sells donated clothing and shoes to support sustainable development in third-world countries.

Town executive secretary Jeffrey Osuch pointed out that most bins are located on commercial lots, but this was the first request to put a bin on town property.

“How do you draw the line,” asked Mr. Osuch. “If you approve this, what will you tell the next vendor who wants to put a container on town property?”

“One issue I have with Planet Aid is that they sell the clothes,” added Dr. Bowcock. “They use the money to support their cause...If you want to support Planet Aid, that's fine, but there are already a number of bins around town.”

Mr. Murphy also noted that the bins frequently become dumping grounds for unwanted items.

The board also discussed town options for moving material that will be dredged from both sides of the West Island causeway, including one proposal to put approximately 9,000 cubic yards of material at the Hoppy's Landing and town beach parking lots.

“We had thought of looking into trucking materials to an off-site area, but trucking out of town would be a sizable cost,” explained Mr. Osuch. “We'd be looking at a three- to four-foot elevation change on the Hoppy's Landing parking area, and raising elevations of the parking lots to approximately 12 to 13 feet above sea level.”

He said the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is also looking to take 20,000 yards of the material for a dune nourishment program. The work would mostly be done in the winter, but 75% of the cost would be covered by the state.

The board approved a motion to further pursue that option.

The board also discussed special legislation on the hurricane barrier that will be voted at special town meeting. A Corps report assessing work needed on the dike has been postponed to at least the end of April,

If you want to support Planet Aid, that's fine, but there are already a number of bins around town [Brian Bowcock]

but contacts at the Corps informed Mr. Osuch that the town will have three major components of responsibility spelled out in a detailed management plan.

First, the town will be responsible for maintaining the dike including sluice gates and drainpipes; second, all trees and brush growth within 15 feet of the base would have to be removed; and lastly, the town may have to install roads on both sides of the dike.

“The article to appropriate \$250,000 for the project was approved two years ago, but we couldn't actually do that until the army corps appropriated their money, which hasn't been done till now,” said Mr. Osuch. “There are no concrete numbers yet, and I can't predict where this report will take us and what the costs will be, but it's important to remember that the deadline for this is August of this year. If the dike is de-certified as a

hurricane barrier, this will affect the insurance policies of homeowners in the area.”

The board voted to transfer the \$250,000 from the previous town meeting's article to Article 27 in this year's special TM warrant.

The selectboard also reconsidered their stance on various departmental budgets in light of recent discussions with the finance committee, voting to accept some of the finance committee recommendations, and standing firm in their support of other requests.

The two boards had significant differences on at least two articles, including a Cultural Council request for \$2,500 and the Bicentennial Committee's request for \$2,500. The selectboard disregarded the FinCom's recommendation of cutting the cultural council's request to \$1,000 and postponing the Bicentennial Committee's request indefinitely.

They did, however, vote to revise their initial approval of the BPW's request of \$14,171 dollars for repairs the dugout and fencing at Macomber Park, accepting the FinCom's recommendation to divide the work into two stages, and funding only half the amount this year.

Other FinCom recommendations the selectboard accepted included: Cutting supply budgets for the treasurer's office, tourism department; cutting charges and expense funds for the assessors, finance committee; an \$11,000 reduction for salaries for Council on Aging van drivers; cutting a \$700 request for a new COA computer; slashing the Personnel Board's supply budget from \$500 to \$100; reducing utilities budgets for town hall, police and fire; reducing salaries for the tree warden, board of appeals secretary, and fire and building departments; reducing police department salaries and wages that would have been covered by the Quinn Bill.

The selectboard refused to accept the FinCom's recommendation not to give the town clerk a 1% raise.

“In my opinion, the town clerk is worth every penny we pay her and she deserves that raise,” said Dr. Bowcock. “We will obviously argue this out at town meeting.”

The board also decided to see how the FinCom's recommendation to cut

SELECT: cont'd next page

SELECT: cont'd from previous page

salaries of the planning board would "shake out" at town meeting.

In another matter, the board voted to support the original budget figures for the Natural Resources Department, after Harbormaster David Darmofal presented arguments against the FinCom's recommendations for reductions.

"We were asked to submit a level funded budget, and that's what we did," said Mr. Darmofal. "I asked the finance committee to take the \$350 for unclassified expenses and move it to the boat gas side of our budget, since I never expected having to pay \$5 per gallon for gas. The \$350, I could live without that, but I need to maintain motors on the new boats."

He also argued against cuts to his supply budget, explaining that the department needed to replace items such as flares and fire extinguishers on a fairly frequent, cyclical basis.

"You expect boaters to have safety equipment, well, I have to have safety equipment too," he said.

One item that still remained unresolved was the article on the police and fire Opticom system, as the FinCom has postponed discussion on

it for at least another week.

The selectboard also questioned the FinCom's decision to reduce the line item which covers costs of dues and seminars, by 20% for certain departments, but not all.

According to Mr. Osuch, if departments had over \$1,000 in this category of "Other Charges" and did not itemize or document what the money would be used for, the FinCom reduced the line by 20%.

Dr. Bowcock wanted to know how the FinCom decided to use 20% as a figure, and whether all departments had been notified that they would be cut if they didn't provide documentation. Mr. Murphy concurred, adding that if departments could explain why they needed a certain amount, then he did not see the problem of keeping those amounts in their budgets.

A number of departments, including Assessors, Building, Economic Planning and Development, police and fire, were affected by the 20% cut.

The selectboard will seek clarification on an issue that has arisen with the article for \$120,000 to replace windows at Hastings Middle School.

The school department received a grant to reimburse up to \$230,000

specifically for window replacements at Hastings Middle School.

The school business manager is seeking to place an article in special TM to allow the appropriation of \$420,000, the total of the grant plus \$120,000 and additional funds appropriated at previous town meetings. The selectboard is taking the position that the grant should free up \$120,000.

Discussion will continue with the school department and the finance committee regarding the issue.

The board reconvened in executive session to discuss a number of issues, including two contracts involving the Board of Public Works and Council on Aging, a hearing for Joyce Cookinham, coordinator of the Supportive Social Day Care Center for the COA, and negotiations with clerical, fire, and police unions.

In other business, the board:

- Approved a request from the Shellfish Warden to acquire a 1991 GMC Jimmy from surplus.
- Approved a request from the Director of Finance/Treasurer to use Town Counsel regarding the School Superintendent's monthly mileage reimbursements.♦♦♦

Kuechler is new chair; school committee talks public comment

By Joyce Rowley

Neigh News Correspondent

The Fairhaven School Committee's first order of business was to vote in a new slate of officers at its Organizational Meeting on April 13, the first meeting after the election. Re-elected member Pamela Kuechler won the seat by a unanimous vote.

Louis Kruger was the sole nominee and won the seat for vice-chairperson. School Superintendent Robert N. Baldwin was voted to continue as Committee Secretary. Jodi Tavares will continue as Recording Secretary.

In other appointments, newly elected member Mr. Brian Monroe was appointed to the Southeastern Mass. Collaborative. Ms. Kuechler and David Gonsalves will sit on the Policy Subcommittee for the District. Stasia Powers and Mr. Gonsalves will sit on the Food Services Committee.

The committee then opened a School Budget Hearing. Dr. Baldwin presented the \$17,514,735 school budget for FY2012 to about 20 residents and school employees. The figures are available at www.fairhavenps.org. Salaries make up \$13.824 million of the budget with the

remaining \$3.96 million to be spent on the operating budget.

Dr. Baldwin described the budget as "level-service" instead of "level-funded," meaning that budget increases stemmed from maintaining the same level of service. However, the operating budget was zero-based. Any increases were based on need. While there were decreases in the operating budget, the overall budget increased \$544,000.

The floor was opened to the public and resident Michele Furtado told the committee, "Things are at a breaking point for families. If you ask for \$101, there are only one hundred dollars to spend."

She said that nothing is more important than schools, but that she knew a lot of parents who "put on a poker face for their children" when it comes to paying bills.

Mr. Gonsalves said that Ms. Furtado could listen to the Finance Committee to find out how much money the Town has to work with. Ms. Powers added that the budget as presented is a beginning point, and they will work with the Town on the final amount.

Resident Diane Hahn asked the

School Committee to explain how the circuit breaker money will be used for Special Ed and out of district transportation.

David Kenney, Administrator, said that the State pays a portion of residential placements for Special Education students, about \$38,000 for a student's placement. This year, Fairhaven expects a 40% reimbursement from the state, not counting transportation costs.

Questions by the Committee were sparse, prompting resident and Finance Committee member Jennifer Bishop to ask how the SC made its deliberations. She asked what their role was in determining the budget.

"This is the third time we've talked about budget line items," responded Mr. Kruger, adding that the budget is 80% of the Committee's work.

Ms. Kuechler explained that the Superintendent is expected to build a budget. By the first meeting in February, he presented a draft budget with staff and reviewed it line by line with the Committee.

Ms. Bishop said her question came from being restricted from asking

SCHOOLS: cont'd on page 20

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Kool Kids Summer

Summer Vacation Registration:
April 30 & May 1st 8am-2pm. Kool Kids is for children entering first grade to age 12. Children will have fun each day by participating in a variety of sports, games and art activities. Each session will also include special themed events. Children are grouped by the grade they will enter in the Fall. Don't miss out on this great summer program. Last year's program was full every week. Sign up early so we can take more participants than in years past.

Counselor in Training Program

In this new program teens 13-16 learn to become summer counselors. Included in this program is CPR, early education tips and job interview skills and much more. CITs will plan and run a theme day for the summer Kool Kids program, run games, assist senior counselors with projects, etc. Field trips and a pizza lunch every Friday are included. Program runs for two-week sessions. Cost per session \$200. You must be at least 13 to attend this program; no exceptions

Self Defense

Self Defense & Awareness Class: 6 week session on self defense that teaches situational awareness and self defense tactics and techniques for the everyday person. Ages 11-Adult. Instructor Derk Alves. \$125.00 member/\$150. Non-member Fridays 5-6:30 pm from 5/6/11-6/10/11

Pet First Aid

This course provides information and skill practice on how to prevent and respond to pet first aid emergencies. CPR and First Aid skills for dogs and cats are emphasized. Red Cross will be teaching this course. **Must register by April 28th** \$50 for members/\$55 non-members. May 3. Fairhaven Rec Ctr., 5:30-8:30

Fairhaven Senior Center

Visit our new website at:
http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA_COA/index

MALL TRIP:

April 27: South Shore Plaza

ENTERTAINMENT:

**April 26, Music with Rod at
12:30**

**April 27: DJ Joe at 12:30
Every Thurs. dancing w/the
COA Band at 1 p.m.**

MALL TRIPS: MAY 2011

5/4: Hyannis Mall, XMass Tree Shop,
Trader Joes

5/11: Swansea Mall & Seekonk Plaza

5/18: Providence Place Mall and
Whole Foods

5/25: Silver City Galleria, Kohls, & Target

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A/G Consumer Mediator; Bingo; Blood sugar and blood pressure testing; Board Meeting/monthly; Bridge; Caregiver Support & Education Group; Computer Training; Friends of Elderly/ monthly meeting; A Grant is available for heating your home; Grocery Shopping; Line Dancing; Live Band; A Matter of Balance; Medical Transportation; Nutrition Program/meal served; Osteoporosis class; Outreach Coordinator; PACE Fuel Assistance; Pitch; Reassurance Program; Shopping; Supportive Senior Social Day Program; Tai Chi; Walking Clubs.

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Upcoming Trips

With Nancy

May 26: Newport Dinner Train and Tour of Rosecliff Mansion

June 13, 2011 – The Hamptons & Montauk Point, Long Island. Seating is limited. Lunch at Gurney's Inn & a tour of wine tasting at Duck Walk Vineyards. Seating limited. Book now.

Sept. 11: Duck Boat Tours. Boston 4-DAY TRIP: **Mon.-Thurs., Sept.**

19-22. Lancaster Show Trip & the Dutch Country. Includes 3 breakfasts and 3 dinners. "JOSEPH" Show at the Sight & Sound Millennium

Theatre. A guided tour of Lancaster including Amish country. A visit to Charming Kitchen Kettle Village and Landis Valley Museum & Village.

*Reserve your seat for these events.
Call Nancy at the Fairhaven Senior Center, 508-979-4029.*

With George

Foxwoods, April 25 & June 20

July 20: Lobster Bake at Captain Jack's & Mohegan Sun Casino

Aug 17: Newport Playhouse

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DCR making plans for local wilderness areas, Ft. Phoenix

By Beth David
Editor

The Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) held a public forum on Wed., 4/13, to get public input on preparation of a Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Ft. Phoenix, Nasketucket Bay, and West Island State Reservations.

The three properties are grouped together in one of the state's 80 planning units, which together encompass 385 DCR properties statewide.

Approximately 20 people attended the public meeting, including environmental activists and residents who frequent the properties.

Paul Cavanagh, Regional Planner for DCR, said the agency is looking for public input to help determine changes and programs for the three properties.

Ft. Phoenix was acquired by the state in 1960 and has 28 acres that include a beach, a bathhouse/operations building, playground, athletic courts, and parking for hundreds of cars. It also has full time staff in the summer and "mobile maintenance" the rest of the year.

Nasketucket Bay is 210 acres in Fairhaven and Mattapoisett, with the bulk in Mattapoisett. It was acquired by the state in 1999. Activities include hiking, fishing, hunting and horseback riding. It has trails, forest roads, and a gravel parking lot. Seasonal staffing is from Ft. Phoenix.

West Island is 360 acres and was acquired in 1988. Seasonal staffing is from Ft. Phoenix. Activities include hiking, fishing and hunting. It has trails and forest roads.

Several of the people at the meeting expressed a desire for DCR to put trash barrels out and empty them regularly at both Nasketucket (NSR) and West Island (WISR). They said that the people who

use the properties try to maintain them.

Louise Barteau of Fairhaven told DCR officials she was surprised to discover that the bait stations she found on WISR were legal. She said residents are asked to take down bird feeders to discourage coyotes, and people are constantly told not to feed wildlife.

"The practice of baiting for racoons is contradictory," she said.

Don Cuddy echoed a common senti-



At a DCR meeting on 4/15, ML Baron of Fairhaven holds up the winner of a coloring contest held in the spring of 1988 to raise awareness about a development planned for the east side of West Island. Save West Island, Inc., succeeded in getting the state to buy the property, creating the 360-acre West Island State Reservation. *Photo by Beth David. See it in color at www.NeighbNews.com. Find us on Facebook for more photos.*

ment when he said he pulls trash out of the trails at NSR. He said since it was acquired, the state "hasn't spent a penny on that property."

He said he would only like to see "a little bit of trail maintenance."

"It doesn't need much, it's a wonderful place," said Mr. Cuddy. "If you go down there, you don't hear anything. It's quiet."

Frank Haggerty of Mattapoisett and Concerned Citizens for Responsible Wind Power handed out a leaflet detailing a 2007 plan to put a wind turbine at the NSR

site. He cautioned everyone to stay vigilant because state agencies can change their purpose. He said when NSR was first created the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) held a meeting and said there "would never be even an outhouse on the property."

"A few years later and the state had a plan to put wind turbines there," he said, adding that the state under Gov. Deval Patrick is pushing commercial wind power and has targeted state parks, including, specifically, NSR.

"Everybody should be aware of that," said Mr. Haggerty.

Ruth Bates of Mattapoisett said she frequents all three properties. She used to take students on the NSR property, but it coincides with hunting season. She said it "became difficult" to tell parents it was safe for students.

Another woman added that hunters had threatened her and her dogs. She said she did not understand why hunting was allowed so close to the hiking trails and the bridle path.

Fairhaven Tourism Director Christopher Richard told DCR officials that Ft. Phoenix is the only beach he is able to promote to tourists. He said he wanted to make sure it stayed "neat and clean" and otherwise well maintained.

"It's important to me and the community to have that state beach available," he said.

ML Baron of WestIslandWeather.com gave a quick rundown of the Save West Island organization that stopped development on what is now the WISR. He said he goes there every day with his dogs, all year long, rain or shine, wind or snow.

"I know those trails, I know who's been there and when. I know who's quit

FT. PHOENIX: cont'd on page 22

Flashlight Egg hunt breaks 100



The Fairhaven Recreation Center's ninth annual flashlight egg hunt drew 102 registered participants on Friday, April 15. Children and their adults

scoured the field behind the Rec Center looking for colored plastic eggs that had candy inside. Each child was given a sheet of paper with two numbered eggs to find outside in the cool night.

Afterwards, they could sit on the Easter Bunny's lap for pictures. There was also an egg decorating contest judged by staff.

LEFT: Griffin Lanzoni found his egg and did not hesitate to pose for the local free rag. RIGHT: Only tough guys can wear bunny ears. L-R: DJ, Nadea and Wendy Amaral. *Photos by Beth David. See them in color at www.NeighbNews.com. Find us on Facebook for moe photos.*

Judgment on Wilbur's Point controversy favors neighbors

By Beth David
Editor

The lawsuit filed in Mass. Land Court about a right-of-way issue on Wilbur's Point has been decided in favor of neighbors seeking to use the so-called "paper street." A paper street is a road that was never constructed, but is shown on a subdivision plan.

Sharon and Robert Bates bought the property at 4 Ruth Street, where it meets Nelson Avenue, in 2001. Sharon Bates, as trustee of the Ruth Street Realty Trust brought the suit after neighbors complained to the town about a fence, horseshoe pit and basketball court that, they say, blocked their right of way.

The complaint asked the court to remove the "Cloud on Title" that the dispute has caused. The Bateses own three lots on one side of the paper street (the ROW in court documents) and two lots on the other side.

Neighbors claimed an "easement by estoppel," to the ROW.

The judge agreed.

In a clearly worded judgment on April 8, 2011, Judge Alexander Sands stated that Ms. Bates "shall remove all structures and improvements... that interfere with the Defendants'

easement rights in the ROW. Specifically, Plaintiff [Bates] shall remove the horseshoe pit and the portion of the fence north of the ROW that blocks access from the ROW to Ruth Street. Plaintiff shall not erect any structures, make any improvements, or otherwise treat the ROW as if it were her own yard, unencumbered by an easement. Plaintiff shall take all steps necessary to ensure that she does not block the pedestrian path located along the portion of the ROW abutting Lots 20, 21, and 51."

George and Joan Graves, who were specifically named as defendants, said they were thrilled with the decision. Their attorney, however, told them to hold their jubilation for 30 days in case there is an appeal.

"We're happy. We won," said Mrs. Graves, adding that people on the point had used the path for years and that it just wasn't fair that they suddenly could not use it. "You can't



A Mass. Land Court judge has ordered Sharon Bates to remove this fence and horseshoe pit at the bottom of Ruth Street on Wilbur's Point. The neighbors claimed their historical right of way had been blocked by the additions. In the summary judgment, the judge said members of the association have a right to access the association beach. Neighbors also won the right to clear the vegetation behind the large rock in the back of the picture to clear the path to the beach. Photo by Beth David. See it in color at www.NeighbNews.com

just take things. That's how I feel anyway."

"It would set a precedent," said Mr. Graves. "Anyone could take anything."

John Whiteside, the attorney for Ms. Bates, did not return a phone call by press time.

The *Neighb News* first wrote about the dispute in the July 3, 2008, issue, available in the archives area of our website at www.NeighbNews.com.•••

A message from the Superintendent of Schools

By Dr. Robert N. Baldwin
Fairhaven Superintendent
of Schools

It is with great trust and respect that I sit down to write this letter to the community of Fairhaven. For those of you who do not know where I come from, let me be brief.

I am a graduate of Fairhaven High School (1980), and have been a resident since 1978. My wife Jane, a lifelong resident, and I have been married for over 26 years. All five of our children have been educated in our schools, and attended the Rogers Elementary School over a twenty-year period from 1990 to 2010.

I tell you all of this so you will understand that I am extremely vested in our town and care deeply about the decisions that affect its well-being.

As most of you know, the School Building Committee recently voted a new "model" school on the Wood School site as the preferred option to the Massachusetts School Building Authority. I believe the majority of

people in our community support the decision that was made and believe that the School Building Committee, School Committee, and the Board of Selectmen have the town's best interest at heart. I trust our community as it has always done what is right for its people, especially for the children and their future.

Currently the loudest voice that is being heard throughout the community is painting the school building process as an extremely negative picture. This voice is turning a false perception into a reality that may put the entire process in jeopardy.

As the leader of our school district, I can no longer sit back in silence and see our town and its children's future put at risk. More importantly, if the majority remains silent on this issue, a one-time opportunity that will affect future generations may be lost.

It is time to communicate loud and clear both far and wide that the one choice that is in the best interest of our town, especially for the children and their future is one school.

Before the feasibility process began in the summer of 2010, the one school option was not my original choice. The facts and knowledge that I attained throughout the process formed my decision.

This information is documented and is available on our school district's website <http://www.fairhavenps.org/> under the School Building Committee link.

In conclusion, former Speaker of the House Tip O'Neil stated that, "everyone is entitled to their opinion but not their own facts." I trust that once town meeting members are able to analyze this information they will realize that there is only one choice and that is one school.

Editor's Note: You may also download the file from the HMFH Architects website (www.hmfh.com): <https://hmfh.filetransfers.net/emailFilePass.php?filePassId=8d77f1bfe352941d1e355ae77722cf07&downloadReceiptId=51863a9f7748d582de0ae964fe104164145275>

The link will expire on 4/28/11.

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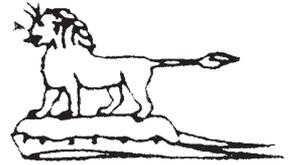
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From our readers

Walk for Hunger Gearing Up

Today in Massachusetts, more than 660,000 people are struggling to put food on the table. They include the Commonwealth's most vulnerable citizens — children, senior adults, people with chronic illness and the working poor.

They're suffering from unemployment and the high cost of living. Last year, Project Bread-funded emergency food programs provided more than 57

million meals to hungry people.

As you can see, this upcoming event, which is in its 42nd year, is extremely important and helps countless numbers of people.

The 20-mile Walk for Hunger starts and finishes on the Boston Common and will happen on May 1st this year, rain or shine.

People can help the Interact Club from Fairhaven High School, under the guidance of Lisa Sylvia, who will

be walking that day, by sending in their tax deductible checks made out to "Project Bread," and mailed to the Shepherd's Pantry, P.O. Box 760, Fairhaven MA, 02719.

I will then gather all of the donated checks and turn them in the morning of our walk.

Together we can make a difference in a needy person's life.

If you have further questions about

LETTERS: cont'd on page 24

SCHOOLS: cont'd from page 13 questions on FinCom as she had been told that only the School Committee made those determinations. She said that FinCom could vote one number and could not get into the details.

"I find it disheartening that a member of FinCom can't ask us questions," said Mr. Gonsalves. "There's a difference between being told what you're spending the money on and telling us how to spend our money. State law says one number is voted on and School Committee decides how the money is spent."

At the beginning of its regular meeting, a discussion of the SC's public comment policy began. Ms. Kuechler began by clarifying that public comment was not limited to Fairhaven residents.

According to Open Meeting Law, she said, what was relevant to the agenda could be discussed. She said that the Committee would follow the policy as it has been administered in the past.

Mr. Roderick distributed copies of a public comment policy from MBSA to SC members. He moved that it be placed in student handbooks, sent home to parents, and attached to every agenda at meetings.

Ms. Powers said that this issue had been contentious in the past, but that public participation could be handled more positively. She suggested the policy be placed on the website.

Mr. Gonsalves said that it was important to give the Superintendent an opportunity to let the public know how to get on the agenda. He pointed to Item 3 of the handout that stated public comment must be limited to agenda items unless the chairperson allows comment on a relevant topic.

Mr. Monroe said that this was an important issue during the election. He said he respectfully disagreed that the policy was mandated but was instead a suggestion of MASC. Mr.

Monroe pointed to Westport School Committee that allows public comment prior to and after items.

"As a School Committee, we can do whatever we like. We don't have to follow Robert's Rules—not that I'm suggesting that. We represent the public," Mr. Monroe said. .

Mr. Kruger said that such a hot topic should be discussed as a full Committee in open session. He asked that it be placed on the agenda.

Mr. Roderick, noting that Fairhaven was not Westport, agreed to withdraw the motion so that the item could be placed on a future agenda.

In another matter, Ms. Hahn addressed the committee and asked that the 2012-2013 school calendar be checked to make sure that Good Friday is not a holiday. She was concerned that other religious holidays are not recognized by the district.

The agenda was modified to allow field trip approvals. Among them were three seventh graders seeking approval for an out of state trip to Virginia. Boris Katan, the father of one of the three boys, presented the request to attend a three-day rocketry competition. Connor Powers, Paul Katan, and Jared Fredette of Hastings Middle School had made it to the national semi-finals. The top ten contestants will win \$60,000 in scholarships. The trip was approved 5-0 with one Ms. Powers abstaining. She is Connor's mother.

In other business, the School Committee approved new Senior English requirements. No longer will seniors have to sweat over a single term paper. The new requirements as presented by FHS Principal Kohler will involve multiple equally challenging writing assignments consistent with the goals and standards of a final project paper.

The School Committee also heard from History and Languages teacher Nick Pilla who is teaching multiple

languages using the computer program Rosetta Stone. Three of his students spoke to the Committee in their respective newly learned languages: German, Mandarin Chinese, and Swedish. Applications for the language include criminal justice college majors or traditional fields who want to augment their major. The program came about for students who needed to complete a college language requirement in a short time.

Ms. Nicole Verronneau, Database Coordinator, presented an update on how the software program Aspen is being used. It now serves as a parent alert via email in addition to the phone alert system. It also has a parent/student portal, and a student locker feature.

Students can upload work from home to use at school. Staff can use the system to report errors so that printers and other hardware can be repaired more quickly and inventory updated. Parents can request grade alerts to find out if their children are falling below a specific grade level.

Also, FHS now has scheduling online for teachers to track the attendance of students. And conduct referrals at HMS and FHS are now done electronically rather than having a student carry a piece of paper to the vice-principal.

In other business, the Committee unanimously approved Dr. Baldwin's 2011 evaluation. However, Mr. Gonsalves suggested that goals be set for Dr. Baldwin to work on for next year. Mr. Kruger offered to put those together and Mr. Roderick volunteered to assist. Mr. Kruger said that he would shoot for quantifiable goals, as much as possible.

The committee also said that the new school project would be discussed at the next meeting.

The SC reconvened in Executive Session to discuss contract strategies.

ML's Eye on the Weather



A weekly weather report from ML Baron of the West Island Weather Station: westislandweather.com

Hurricane Barrier, 45 years

On May 21, 1966 the dedication of the largest Hurricane Barrier in the world took place in New Bedford, MA. Forty-five years later, this massive stone structure has yet to be given the "ultimate test" for which it was designed: a 1938-style Category 3 Hurricane.

Although the dike closes up to a dozen times a year for storm events that bring southerly gales and tidal surges, a closure for a hurricane is a rare occurrence. Hurricane Bob in 1991 met the criteria for closure as the Category 2 storm impacted Southern New England causing over \$1.5 billion in damages.

New Bedford's inner harbor was protected by the dike from a storm surge of about six feet. A major hurricane has not impacted the region since. Experts warn, that after 20 years, we're long overdue.

Many agree that this barrier would have been met with resounding opposition by environmentalists today if an intrusive stone structure of this magnitude enclosing an entire bay was introduced. Environmental laws and stricter regulations that were virtually non-existent 45 years

ago would have made this idea just a pipe dream today.

A recently discovered Standard-Times publication of the Hurricane Barrier in 1966 documents its planning stages in 1957 to the eventual construction in 1962. The overall project saw three presidents in office during its nine years of planning and construction. For more archive photos and details visit westislandweather.com.

Forecast

Friday: Mostly Clear. Hi: 55 Lo: 39 Lows in the upper 30s. Highs in the mid 50s. **Fri. Night:** Mostly Cloudy. Lo: 40 Mostly cloudy. Lows around 40.

Saturday: Chance Of Showers. Hi: 55 Cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers. Highs in the mid 50s. **Saturday Night:** Chance Of Showers Lo: 45 Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers. Lows in the mid 40s. Highs in the upper 50s.

Sunday: Chance Of Showers Hi: 59 Lo: 45 **Sunday Night:** Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers. Lows in the mid 40s. Highs in the upper 50s

Mon. Night: Partly Cloudy. Low: 45 Mostly Cloudy. High: 54

Tuesday Night: Mostly Cloudy. Low: 53

Wednesday: Partly Cloudy. High: 59 **Wednesday Night:** Mostly Cloudy. Low: 55

Thursday: Partly Cloudy. High: 59 **Thursday Night:** Light Rain. Low: 53

The island's ocean temperature is 50.6 degrees. Countdown to the first day of Summer: 60 days.

Appreciate ML's Weather Eye?

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Public Hearings/ Legal Notices

Conservation Commission

The Fairhaven Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on May 09, 2011 at 6:30 P.M. in the Fairhaven Town Hall. Purpose is for Request for Determination of the following matters as required By Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 131 Section 40 as amended.

- Request for Determination Applicant Christopher & Kimberly Amaral Location 8 Lincoln Drive Plot 30B Lots 85L & 85R Purpose install a 6' wooden stockade fence and 33' x 15' above ground pool within the 100' buffer zone to BVW.
- Request for Determination Applicant Fairhaven Acushnet Land Preservation Trust Location off Sconticut Neck Road Plot 41 Lot 11 Purpose create wooden walk ways within the 100' buffer zone to BVW and within flood zones.
- Notice of Intent Applicant Wayne & Nancy Frye Location Seaview Ave Plot 29C Lot 172 Purpose landscaping within an AE flood zone.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Jones, Chairman

Fairhaven Conservation Commission

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	April 2011	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	21	1117	2344	0444*	1630*
Friday	22	----	1212	0532	1718
Saturday	23	0040	1308	0625	1811
Sunday	24	0136	1405	0736	1920
Monday	25	0234	1503	0904	2137
Tuesday	26	0334	1602	0957	2243
Wednesda	27	0434	1659	1032	2324
Thursday	28	0530	1750	1103	2358
Friday	29	0617	1834	1136	----
Saturday	30	0658	1912	0032	1211

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

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FINCOM: cont'd from page 26

may be inflated, and that MSBA guidelines were for new schools.

The FinCom also voted on the following Special TM Articles:

- 13, Millicent Library elevator, recommend to approve at \$68,250
- 17, Rehab of Taber Street and South Street pump station, recommend to approve design cost of \$72,750.
- 27, Hurricane Barrier, recommend to approve at \$250,000
- 27, Special legislation for hurricane barrier, recommend to adopt.

Outstanding Special Town Meeting articles are: Article 8, Schematic Design for One-school option, and Article 28, Hastings Middle School window repair.

Fairhaven Meetings

Board of Assessors

Thurs., 4/21, Town Hall, 6:00 p.m.

Board of Public Works

Mon, 4/11, Arsene St., 6:30 p.m.

Boat Ramps Committee

Thurs., 4/28, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 5/9 Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Finance Committee

Thurs., 4/21, Arsene St., 7:00 p.m.

Thurs., 4/28, Arsene St., 7:00 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 4/27, FHS Library, 6:30

Selectboard

Mon., 4/25, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

FT. PHOENIX: cont'd from page 16

smoking and who started again," all by the footprints he sees, he said.

Mr. Baron chided officials for removing the ornate wooden sign for the reservation and replacing it with a modern, plastic one. He also expressed dismay because they removed the history of the WISR at the trail entrance.

"I don't know how you slipped it by me. Within 24 hours it was taken away," he said. "I'm wondering if we can meet halfway."

"All three properties are wonderful jewels that most people don't know about," said Fairhaven resident and Conservation Commission member Cora Peirce.

She said when people sacrifice to get them preserved, "like we did, we become the owners."

Ted Lorentzen agreed that people who use the properties have a sense of ownership and work to keep them maintained.

"It's a community effort," he said.

Other residents expressed concerns about keeping the areas clean and open to the public. A representative from the Coalition for Buzzards Bay and the Fairhaven-Acushnet Land Preservation Trust also attended the meeting.

The 4/13 presentation may be viewed at <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/news/publicmeetings/rmppast.htm>

To submit comments, email dcr.updates@state.ma.us and put "Fort Phoenix RMP" in the subject line; or mail to the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Office of Public Outreach, 251 Causeway Street, Suite 600, Boston, MA 02114. All comments are considered public documents and will be posted in their entirety on the DCR website. Deadline for submissions is May 13.

Around the world with Rogers School

The Rogers School in Fairhaven became a veritable United Nations during April. Each classroom picked a country and learned about its language, culture, geography, food, and special characteristics. Guest speakers read to the students and gave presentations on countries they were from or had a special connection to.

Neighb News editor Beth David gave a presentation on Lebanon with her sister-in-law Marcelle Chedid-David and brother-in-law Matthew Thomas to Mrs. Pavlic's third graders.

On Friday, 4/15, parents and friends were invited to visit each "country" and learn from the students.

"Maroy" means "hello" in Shona, the language of Zimbabwe; "neehow" means "hello" in Chinese; "ciao" is an informal way to say both "hello" and "goodbye" in Italian, although one

can also say "ciao-ciao" for "good-bye" or "arrivederci," which is more formal; "Bemvindo ah Portugal" means "welcome to Portugal"; "Ahoj" (pron. ahoy) is "hello" in Czechoslovakian, and "dobry den" is "good day," or the formal way to say "hello"; "Nashledanou" is "goodbye" in Czech.

The Czech room had a big list of tongue twisters using words that had no vowels at all.

A great attraction in Zimbabwe is Victoria Falls, where an average of



Kindergartners James (left) and Chloe (right) demonstrate the proper use of chopsticks at the Rogers School on Friday, 4/15. Classrooms were transformed into separate countries and students explained culture, language and special characteristics to invited guests. Photos by Beth David. See them in color at www.NeighbNews.com. Visit us on Facebook for more photos.

550,000 cubic meters of water "plummet" over the edge each minute, according to the students.

The whole school was decorated for the guests, including a display with artifacts and books from the countries students studied. ●●●

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Gerry Payette

Boy Scouts learn & have fun

My name is Sam Viera. I go to Wood School, and I am in the fourth grade. I am 10 years old. I am a Webelo in Boys Scouts Pack 52, and have been in the pack for two years. I love Boy Scouts!

I have learned many things in Scouts. I have learned how to whittle with my pocket knife. I have learned to put up a tent and make knots. I've learned how to safely make a camp fire. Biking and hiking are fun, too.

I have done many fun things with my pack. I have gone to the fire station and learned all about what firefighters do. I have studied trees at Buttonwood Park. We had a two-day

sleep-over at Camp Cachelot during the winter. It was very different using an outhouse! My favorite thing we did was sledding at Potato Hill in Westport.

If you are interested in joining Scouts, you can come by in the fall for sign-ups. We go to the meetings in the fall, winter, and spring. Our meetings are on Wednesdays from 6:30-8 p.m.

Do you want to go and meet new boys and have some fun? If so, go to St. Mary's Church and let's have some fun! I will see you at Pack 52 soon!

Sam Viera

Go to Cool Places with Scouts

My name is Seth, and I am a Boy Scout. I am in Pack 52, and I am 10 years old. I go to Abraham Lincoln School. I have one sister and three brothers.

A few things that I have learned

about in Scouts are whittling, camping, communication skills and computer research. We learned to whittle on my first camping trip. I went camping at Camp Cachelot. We learned communication by learning Spanish.

We have done lots of things in Boy Scouts. Some of the things that we have done are camping trips to Camp Cachelot, camping at the Boston Science Museum, and going to the Millicent Library.

We've also gone to the PawSox game, Providence Bruins, sledding, and had several bake sales to raise money for these events.

We do lots of fun things in Boy Scouts, as you can see by this article.

We meet at St. Mary's Church from 6:30-8 p.m. If you like having fun and going to cool places, then Pack 52 is the place for you.

Seth Sweeney



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FinCom Wraps up Operating Budget and Annual TM Warrant

By Joyce Rowley

Neighb News Correspondent

After weeks of poring over spreadsheets, the Fairhaven Finance Committee completed the last of Article 4, Town Operating Budget recommendations, at their regular meeting on April 14. They also wrapped up 22 & 35, the last two outstanding articles on the Town Meeting (TM) warrant, and tackled several Special TM (STM) articles for good measure.

Chairperson John Roderiques cleared the air with several announcements. He first noted that Dogwood Street had not been voted approved as had been reported in the Neighb News. Dogwood Street will be recommended at TM.

He also announced that the Mass. House of Representatives voted down funding for the Quinn Bill, which gives a premium to police officers based on higher education. If the Mass. Senate does likewise, about \$81,000 will be removed from the police budget as both revenue and expenditure.

Mr. Roderiques stated that the architects for the one-school option had submitted a 250-page document recently to the Mass. School Building Authority (MSBA). He suggested that FinCom vote Article 8, Schematic Design, at Special TM since it was unlikely that MSBA would have a response prepared by next week's FinCom meeting.

Member Jennifer Bishop stated a preference for a published vote by FinCom rather than waiting.

Mr. Roderiques said that if the MSBA did not accept the preferred option, then Article 8 would not be recommended for approval. He said that waiting for MSBA input would be useful, but either way, a vote must be taken by April 21 to vote for, against, or to recommend at the meeting.

Mr. Roderiques clarified his position on union contracts and negotiations.

"Every union contract which has been negotiated...will be judged on its merits," he said "If you give me something worthwhile, I'll consider it."

Mr. Roderiques then requested a motion to reconsider the building commission line item regarding the \$200 reduction in purchase of services. The Building Inspector had agreed to reduce the maintenance cost since his town vehicle was new, and it was

in keeping with reductions to other departments. FinCom voted unanimously to reduce the line item to \$2,650.

FinCom took the following actions on the balance of Article 4, Town Operating Budget:

- Item 26B, Fire Department, voted to recommend a \$700 reduction to reflect unclassified purchase of services to be consistent with votes on other departments;
- Item 19C, Personnel Board, voted to recommend other charges and expenses at \$250 as requested but noted they'll be watching them closely next year;
- Item 30, Shellfish Inspection, voted to rescind the prior vote for purchase of services and to recommend a reduction by \$500; and rescinded their prior vote for

Every union contract which has been negotiated...will be judged on its merits. If you give me something worthwhile, I'll consider it

[John Roderiques]

supplies and voted to recommend a reduction by \$250. The reductions reflected one fewer boat and a recommendation that they use existing supplies.

- Item 10D, Town Collector, voted to rescind and reduce the other charges and expenses by \$168 to be consistent with other departments.

FinCom also reviewed Article 35, Police and Fire Opticom System, in the amount of \$20,800 to fund hardware for eight police and eight fire vehicles. The hardware would control several intersection signals on Rte. 6 and two on Howland Road.

Ms. Roderiques said that the state would back out of its commitment to place the intersection signal hardware if the town did not buy the vehicle hardware for the system.

FinCom member Sidney Martin said his research showed that the light change is not instantaneous. The system forces the signals to cycle to

red on the side streets. Member Scott Fernandes said that he felt it was an amenity, not a necessity.

In the end, FinCom voted 6-4 to approve the system. Mr. Fernandes, Mr. Hyland, Mr. Ronald Quinton, and Ms. Kathleen Carter voted against.

On Article 22, acceptance of Chapter 32B Section 20, the state requiring self-insured towns to set aside more money to fully fund their health insurance liability, the FinCom looked at the total budget to see whether and how much the article could be funded. As discussed at FinCom's March 10 meeting, adopting the statute would commit the Town to funding health insurance long-term liability. While everyone agreed that the statute should be accepted, the concern was how much should be put into the dedicated fund annually

FinCom voted 6-4 to recommend adoption of the statute and appropriate \$50,000 for FY2012 with Mr. Fernandes, Mr. Quinton, Mr. Martin and Ms. Carter opposed to the recommendation.

Turning their attention to STM articles, No. 1A, Fire Department salary and wages in the amount of \$16,685 was voted to recommend at STM. Article 6, a request for \$6500 appropriation for a development consultant for the Housing Authority was voted to recommend a zero appropriation.

Article 7, Mattapoisett River Valley WSPC request to increase the cost per 100 gallons of water consumption by 1 cent was voted to recommend indefinite postponement. The vote was eight in favor, one opposed and one abstention. Ms. Bishop was opposed and Mr. Silva abstained.

No vote was taken on Article 8, Schematic Design for the One-School Option. Mr. Elliot presented his position since he would not be at next week's meeting to vote on it.

Mr. Elliot said he said he was going to vote against it because he felt that the School Building Committee had not done their due diligence. He said enrollment numbers did not add up and would result in larger class sizes, and the two-school costs did not reflect less expensive renovations at both schools that might be available if they were looked at creatively.

He said he believed that the estimates for renovating Rogers School

FINCOM: cont'd on page 22

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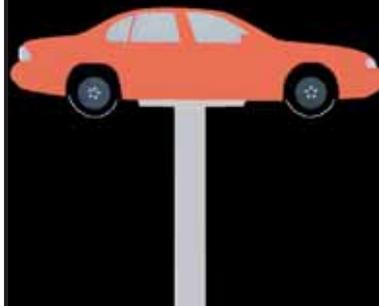
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