



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 37 • October 6, 2011

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

Manjiro Festival kicks it up in the street



Visitors from Japan lead locals and visitors alike in the farewell dance at the end of the 13th Manjiro Festival in Fairhaven on Saturday, 10/1. The festival is held on alternating years between Fairhaven and sister-city Tosashimizu, Japan, to commemorate the rescue of John Manjiro Nakahama by Fairhaven's Captain William Whitfield of the whaleship John Howland. Manjiro was 14 when he was shipwrecked with four companions. Manjiro returned to Fairhaven to be educated, becoming the first Japanese person to live in the United States. He was instrumental in opening Japan to the west and is a hero in Japan. Photo by Beth David. See it in color at www.NeighbNews.com. Find us on Facebook for more photos of this and other events.

Also Inside:

- **Selectboard:** page 4
- **School Committee:** page 22

- **Finance Committee:** page 12
- **Coyote attacks dog:** page 25

From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

Oh boy oh boy oh boy oh boy. How fast can I type? How fast can I think?

I wanted to share all kinds of profundities about Amanda Knox, Halloween, and Coyotes and guns in suburbia.

But, guess what? It'll all have to wait until next week.

I'm pushing up against the deadline and have to get this baby to bed, as the saying goes.

Our cover story is the every-other-year event that is unique to Fairhaven on this side of the world. The Manjiro Festival that celebrates a unique link that Fairhaven has to Japan. See page 16 for story and more photos. And be sure to visit us on Facebook to see more photos. I took a ton of pictures of those cute little karate kids. I'll put them up for all to see.

We have a ton of meeting coverage for you this week. Joyce Rowley was very busy.

See page 4 for Selectboard (okay, that wasn't Joyce, that was Mali). See page 12 for Finance Committee, page 22 for School Committee and Page 24 for both School Building Committee and a story on the MSBA's decision to fund the one-school option.

On page 30 you'll find a letter from the Superintendent of Schools about that very same thing.

On page 25 we have a story about a frightening experience a woman had on West Island when a very bold and aggressive coyote snatched up her little Yorkie just two feet away from her. The incident sparked a flood of fear on West Island and the Animal Control Officer quickly held a meeting with a state wildlife official for residents.

One of the things that came out of that meeting is that people have the right to defend themselves if they feel threatened, bodily, by a coyote. Well, duh.

This has been a big deal as the coyotes on the island get more and more aggressive. Obviously, someone is feeding them, or, at the very least, leaving enough food around for them to feel we SHOULD be feeding them. One of those guys is huge, and he acts like an entitled prince strutting around his kingdom. Really, he just looks back at us as if to say: if you're going to feed me, do it. If not, move, because I'm coming through.

Well, the big talk is that people can shoot that beast. Other people are all afraid that West Islanders are going to run around the island, sidearms at the ready, itchy to shoot anything that moves.

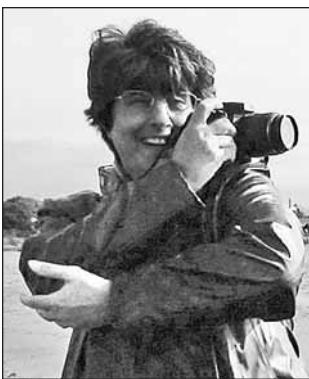
Calm down, people. No one's going to shoot you or your dog. It's that Coyote Prince we're after.

On October 15, hunting season opens on those guys.

Now THAT should be interesting. I urge you all to wear orange or read on the back side of the island starting with 10/15.

Until next week then.

See ya,



Beth David, Publisher

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Editor: Beth David

News Correspondents/Photographers:

Mali Lim, Joyce Rowley,
Heidi Winnett

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NeighNews@comcast.net

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CORRECTIONS

In our school committee story last week, we made an error in the percentage that the MSBA will reimburse the town for the new school. It is 63.5%. We apologize for any confusion our error may have caused.

Super high tide transforms landscape



This week saw super high tides, thanks to the phase of the moon we're in. The marshes were completely flooded, giving kayakers some extra places to go. ABOVE: Ken & Mackenzie Melikian are joined by Ashes and Ally as they kayak over the flooded marsh on the north side of Goulart Memorial Drive/Jack's Cove on Saturday morning, 10/1/11. Photo by Beth David. See it in color at www.NeighbNews.com

Fairhaven 2011 Flu Clinics For Fairhaven Residents

**At the Fairhaven Recreation Center, 227 Huttleston Ave., Fairhaven
Tuesday, October 11 • 11 a.m.–2 p.m.
Tuesday, October 18 • 5–8 p.m.**

**Wear short sleeve tops • \$5.00 donation appreciated
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Selectboard raises dockage fees; lowers day rate at Hoppy's

By Mali Lim

Neighb News Correspondent

Dockage fees for some users at Union Wharf will be rising effective January 1, as part of the town's reaction to irresponsible vessel owners and shrinking state revenues, the Fairhaven Selectboard decided at its meeting on Monday, 10/3.

The board voted to accept the Harbormaster's recommendation to increase dockage fees for larger commercial vessels to \$25 per day, and to increase deposit fees from \$300 to \$750. The small boat fee will remain at the current \$20 per day rate.

"There seems to be a pattern of some people not paying on time, and we've had problems with some boats skipping town without paying fees," said Harbormaster David S. Darmofal, who feels that requiring a larger initial deposit would help minimize the town's losses.

The deposit increase will not affect transit boats, which are not permitted to stay more than 15 consecutive days or more than 60 days per year.

The selectboard agreed with the Harbormaster's suggestion to raise the required deposit for other vessels, noting that the town had been burned too many times in the past.

"We've had too many cases where people don't pay their bills and left the town hanging," said selectboard member Brian Bowcock.

Dr. Bowcock went as far as to suggest that if problems continued, the town should consider releasing an RFP to contract the entire wharf out on a yearly basis to a single party, who could then take on the business of renting individual spaces out at market value, giving the town a guaranteed annual revenue without the headaches of chasing down unpaid fees.

The board voted to increase yearly dockage fees in the lobster boat basin to \$1,200, in spite of Mr. Darmofal's recommendation to keep the current rate of \$1,000 per year.

Town Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch and selectboard members felt that current fees were below the regular market rate in comparison to other towns, arguing that the current \$1,000 a year comes out to a mere \$20 per week.

Mr. Darmofal, on the other hand, pointed out that marinas in other towns such as Marion or Mattapoisett don't allow many of the commercial activities that go on in Fairhaven.

"It's a working slip," he said, comparing the wharf to commercial docks in New Bedford, where fees are still \$1,000 per year. "You have to charge less than what you'd pay for a normal marina."

The selectboard discussed a range of fees, before finally settling on the \$1,200 yearly rate. The board did, however, agree to reduce parking rates at Hoppy's Landing from \$10 to \$7 per day to help encourage usage, which has been surprisingly low.

The board also briefly discussed the idea of a combination parking sticker that could be used at all three boat ramp locations.

nance of some of the equipment we've got takes up virtually the whole maintenance budget," Mr. Darmofal explained.

"I'm just asking the board to look into the possibility of thinking outside the box a little bit in regards to our budget for next year."

The board, however, declined to make any decisions on Monday.

The board did vote to allow Mr. Darmofal to create and erect a new sign at Hoppy's Landing. The new sign will be colorful and includes a lobster in one corner. Mr. Darmofal will do the work himself, so the only cost is for materials.

The board also voted on articles for the Oct. 25 Special Town Meeting.

A town meeting article that passed in May concerning transfer of community preservation funds for projects at

the high school will have to be amended at the October special town meeting to reflect that funding will come from multiple accounts.

The board accepted an article for \$60,000 from the tree warden to purchase a new wood chipper to replace one that failed during tropical storm Irene. Although the board felt that the article would have been better suited for next spring's annual town meeting as a capital outlay expense, they voted to allow it

on the warrant for this fall's special town meeting, saying that the recent storm had focused attention on issues that the tree warden has been grappling with for a long time.

"It's a small department, with little funding, and it needs some capital investments for equipment," explained Mr. Silvia. "This will give [the tree warden] the opportunity to present his case at town meeting."

The board also reluctantly accepted an article to allow the BPW permission to borrow up to \$716,000 at a 2% interest rate from a state revolving loan to cover costs relating to the wastewater treatment plant improvements and digester; a project now 10 months behind schedule and with a completion date that has been pushed into next spring.

"I don't think the project has been well run," said Mr. Osuch. "This project originally began as something

SELECT: cont'd on page 20

**The board voted to increase
yearly dockage fees in the lobster
boat basin to \$1,200, in spite of
Mr. Darmofal's recommendation
to keep the current rate of
\$1,000 per year.**

"Right now it's \$50 for Pease Park and Seaview and \$50 for Hoppy's Landing," said Assistant Harbormaster Timothy Cox. The boat ramp committee has discussed having a third option: a \$75 dollar sticker that would allow users to use all three ramps, but stipulations attached to Hoppy's Landing require that money collected there go into an account specifically earmarked for the landing. The committee has not worked out all the logistics yet and would welcome feedback and input from town residents.

Mr. Darmofal also submitted a request to the selectboard to allow his department to transfer an additional \$8,000 from the waterways fund to offset maintenance costs and mandatory training required for harbormasters.

"We understand that this is bad timing when we're talking about revenue reduction, but the mainte-

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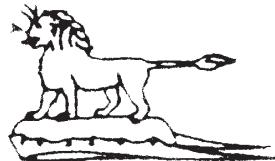
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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Riverside Cemetery

Fairhaven's lovely Riverside Cemetery is the setting of an Office of Tourism walking tour on **Sunday, Oct. 9 at 2:00 p.m.** It begins inside the cemetery's entrance at 274 Main St. Christopher Richard will act as guide.

The cemetery was created in 1850, on land donated by Warren Delano II, grandfather of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. It is considered one of the most beautiful rural-style burial grounds in the region.

The walking tour route traces the quiet winding paths past the final resting places of some of the town's most famous residents, including the Delano family tomb designed by Richard Morris Hunt, the H.H. Rogers mausoleum designed by Charles Brigham, and others.

Nature lovers will see a wide variety of trees such as beech, black tupelo, birch, holly, cherry, dogwood, weeping willow, ash, sugar maple and more. Tombstones include examples of monuments and early slate markers bearing carvings of angels, and other traditional symbols.

The tour is free and lasts about 90 minutes. Wear comfortable shoes and be prepared for hills and uneven ground. For more information, email FairhavenTours@aol.com or call 508-979-4085.

Lexy's Journey F-R Bike Run & Tent Party

A Tent Party and Bike Run will be held on the grounds of the **Ice Chest Bar & Grille** on **Sunday, October, 9 to benefit Lexy's Journey.**

Alexis Morel is currently a patient at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston. In May of 2010 she was diagnosed and treated for Osteosarcoma, which is a form of bone cancer. As a result of the disease, Alexis's left lower leg, below the knee was amputated.

An energetic, athletic 14-year-old Alexis continues to fight through her journey, and we ask for your support.

The party will be held under a 5,000 square foot tent where a full stage will host multiple bands throughout the day. Food is included in the ticket price and there will be a full Cash Bar under the tent. There will be vendors, raffles & displays.

The Bike Run will leave from the Ice Chest at noon with police escort.

Registration for the run starts at 10:30. The ride will travel through several local towns and return to the Ice Chest for the festivities.

A donation of \$25.00 per person is requested with all proceeds going to Lexy's Journey.

For more info call 508-992-2337, or email: icechest@verizon.net

Valedictorian Proj.

The Fairhaven High School Alumni Association, in a joint project with Principal Tara Kohler, is trying to generate a list of all class valedictorians throughout the years.

It seems that no valedictorian records are kept by the high school, and once graduation exercises have ended and printed programs have been discarded, there is no written record of such awards. The Alumni Association feels that since we honor athletes in a number of ways, it would be appropriate to have a plaque placed in a prominent place in Fairhaven High School that lists the valedictorians by class.

If you were a valedictorian, or are related to someone who was, or if you remember who your class valedictorian was, please e-mail the information (name and year of graduation) to: info@fairhavenalumni.org

Memorial Service

Community Nurse & Hospice Care will hold its 17th Annual Memorial Service on **Thur., Oct. 13 at 7 p.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Church** at 16 Temple Place, Fairhaven. Accessible.

During the non-denominational service, a roll of remembrance is read honoring all who have passed away on hospice with Community Nurse & Hospice Care over the past two years. You are encouraged to bring a photo of your loved one to place on a Memory Board. Please join us for a peaceful and comforting evening. Refreshments will be served immediately following the service.

CNHC is committed to not only providing medical care, comfort and dignity to hospice patients, but also to offsetting the financial burden that families may endure after health insurance has been exhausted.

For information, contact Cecile Sanders, 508-717-0754 or at csanders@communitynurse.com.

Spaghetti Supper

The Thomas Livesey Club will hold its annual Spaghetti Supper on **Wed., Oct. 19, at St. Mary's Church**, Main Street, North Fairhaven, from 4:30-7 p.m. Special recognition to the Pasta House. Adults, \$10; seniors & children, \$6.

For tickets call Antoine "Hawk" Medeiros, 508-992-7362.

Haunted High

Keep the Halloween tradition going by attending the 5th annual Haunted High School. It will be held on **Saturday, October 15 from 7-10 p.m.** It will be aimed toward an older age group starting at a 5th grade level, but all are welcome.

A guided tour through the beautiful but spooky Fairhaven High School along with a scary movie clip is a great way to get you in the Halloween spirit. If you like a good scare, this is definitely for you. All are welcome to this eerie event. Parking is available in the back of the school. Use the theater entrance on Larch Avenue to enter. Admission is \$4. This fundraiser is to benefit the Fairhaven High School Yearbook.

PD/FD Open House

The Fairhaven Fire and Police Departments welcome local families to a Free "Public Safety Open House" on **Sunday, Oct. 16, from 1 to 3 p.m. at FD & PD headquarters, 146 Washington Street, Fairhaven.**

This open house commemorates National Fire Prevention Week (Oct. 9-15), officially sponsored by the International non-profit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) of Quincy. This year's theme, "Protect your family from fire," focuses on the role that individuals play in keeping a fire safe environment.

Visitors to the fire station will receive safety tips such as "stop, drop and roll," learn how to plan escape routes, tour fire apparatus watch how fast fire burns, and learn how to use a fire extinguisher. The Police Department will have their underwater recovery equipment on display and will have the police station open to the public.

For more information call the Fairhaven Fire Station, 508-994-1428 or Police Station, 508-997-7421.

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Trash the Litter

Be the Solution to Pollution is presenting the first "Trash Litter" event 5-8pm **Thursday October 13, at the Ocean Explorium**, 174 Union Street, New Bedford. Accessible. Free. Public Service Announcements to be shown that were created and submitted by individuals to suggest easy solutions to eliminate litter.

The short documentary, Synthetic Sea, will be presented at 5:15 p.m. At 5:30 p.m., Heather Schrum, Oceanographer from the SEA Education Association in Woods Hole is scheduled to offer a "Plastics at Sea" presentation with a question and answer period. Informational and hands-on activities, raffle.

Be the Solution to Pollution is committed to making drastic positive changes by creating public awareness about the harm land and ocean debris causes. For more info: www.bethesolutiontopollution.yolasite.com or freymarylou@yahoo.com. Visit us on Facebook.

At Your Theatre

"The Lepers of Penikese," a new play by New Bedford Resident Ray Veary, will inaugurate Your Theatre, Inc.'s 65th Season New Works Staged Reading Series. This is a program supported in part by a grant from the New Bedford, Fairhaven and Dartmouth Cultural Councils, local agencies supported by the Mass. Cultural Council, a state agency.

Directed by YTI's Edward J. Maguire of Fairhaven, the play runs **Friday and Saturday October 7 & 8 with a matinee Sunday, October 9. Curtain time is 8 PM for all shows except the 2:30 p.m. Sun. matinee.**

"The Lepers Of Penikese" focuses on Penikese Island and the lepers' treatment facility there from 1905 - 1921. The story of that multi-ethnic community is seen through the eyes of Archie Thomas, a bright, 17-year-old high school student from Upton, Massachusetts, who, when diagnosed with leprosy, is quarantined and told he must be sent to Penikese. His widowed mother, having no other family, demands that she be permitted to go with him.

Archie, both character and narrator, builds and operates his own wireless telegraph, linking this small group of leprosy patients to the

outside world.

For non-subscribers, tickets are \$10.00. A single \$2.00 discount for each show is available to anyone who presents proof of membership in Mass. Teacher Association, New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce, or Southcoast Health System's Employee Advantage Program. Discounts available for senior citizens, students, and military personnel

For more information or to make reservations call the theatre at (508)993-0772 or E-Mail your request to: ytinc@verizon.net

The Staged Readings Series is one of the programs offered by YTI's Playwrights' Original Works Service (POWS) which was established to encourage and assist authors in the creation of new works for the stage.

Headed by Edward J. Maguire, the service is open to those interested in developing and testing their ability to write one-act or full length plays. Further information about the program may be found on line at www.yourtheatre.org calling YTI e mail to pows1@verizon.net

Concert

The Pilgrim Women's Club presents the **Harpoon Harmonizers in concert October 8 at 8 p.m.** Sandra Morgan is the Director. Donation \$10.00 and children under 12 are free. Pilgrim United Church of Christ, 635 Purchase St., Downtown New Bedford. Accessible. Tickets available at the door. Visit www.puccnb.org or call 508-997-9086.

Concert FR

Harpoon Harmonizers/barbershop chorus at the Pilgrim United Church of Christ, 635 Purchase St., New Bedford, on **Oct. 8, at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$10**, at door. Accessible. Proceeds benefit the Pilgrim Women's Club Book Scholarship Fund. Contact Alice Sherman , 508-996-1498

Lt. Gov. in NB

Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray announced he will lead a month-long series of the Patrick-Murray Administration's Municipal Affairs Coordinating Cabinet to discuss the state's efforts to encourage regionalization and highlight best practices in regions

across the Commonwealth. Five meetings will be held during October.

NEW BEDFORD: Friday, October 7th at 1:30 p.m. – New Bedford Main Library, 613 Pleasant St. Accessible.

These public meetings will engage municipal managers, local planners and residents interested in discussing regionalizing local services and other policy to strengthen the partnership between governments. To learn more about the Municipal Affairs Coordinating Cabinet, visit www.mass.gov/governor/municabinet.

Spooky Run

The Greater New Bedford Track Club is excited to announce the running of its premiere road race – the 33nd Annual Spooner 10K Run and Spooky 5K Run/Walk on **Sunday, October 30, at 9 a.m. at Buttonwood Park in New Bedford.**

If registered by **October 10**, the registration fee for 10K and 5K participants is \$20 each. The registration fee from October 11th to race day will be \$25 each

We are still looking for sponsors, donations, and gift certificates to award as prizes to the participants. If you'd like to help please email SpookySpooner@rungnbt.com

Bioneers

The 7th Annual Connecting for Change Conference, A Bioneers by the Bay Conference Presented by the Marion Institute, will be held on **Friday, 10/21—Sunday, 10/23.**

All Keynote presentations will take place at the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center in downtown New Bedford, MA. Workshops and other programs will take place at various locations throughout the downtown area.

For more information or to register for the 2011 Connecting for Change conferences visit: www.connectingforchange.org, or Marion Institute, 202 Spring Street, Marion, 508-748-0816.

AHA! Night

Join us on AHA! Night, Oct. 13, when art, history & architecture come alive in New Bedford. This week: Fables & Folklore. Visit www.ahanebedford.org for schedule. We join organizations across the country participating in National Arts & Humanities Month.

HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

Antil Family Benefit

Antil Family Benefit, organized by friends and neighbors of Antil's Market in order to ease the pain of the recent fire at Antil's Market on Adams Street in Fairhaven.

Join us for a night of music and dance on **Sun., Oct. 9, from 6 p.m.–midnight at the Century House**, 107 So. Main St., Acushnet. Accessible. Dj, dancing, appetizers, raffles. Donation: \$25. For tickets call Mark Kaeterle, 508-997-4225 or Butch & Sue Nielsen, 508-999-1962. For other donations, mail check payable to Antil Fire Fund, PO Box 4, Fairhaven, MA 02719.

Used Book Sale

At the Mattapoisett Library, 7 Barstow Street. Accessible. The next Friends Used Book Sale will be held **Saturday, Oct. 8 from 10 am to 1 pm** in the library's downstairs meeting room. Hundreds of books for children, young adults and adults are available for purchase at bargain prices. Donations are accepted in the library every day. The proceeds will benefit the work of the Friends, who appreciate your support.

Used Book Sale

At the Mattapoisett Free Public Library, 7 Barstow. Accessible. The next Friends of the Library Used Book Sale will be held **Sat., Oct. 8 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** in the library's downstairs meeting room. Hundreds of books for children, young adults and adults at bargain prices. Donations accepted every day. The proceeds will benefit the work of the Friends.

Women's Breakfast

Fourth annual women's leadership breakfast, **Thurs., Oct. 13, 8:30-10 a.m., Woodland Commons, UMass D.** By the Women's Fund. Educate a woman, strengthen the community; stories of women transforming their lives.

To register visit www.womensfundsema.org and click or email Jeannette Doyle, jdoyle@cfsema.org

Irish Night

Everyone is Irish on March 17th.... so they say! Well, you do not need to wait until then. We are all IRISH on October 14th. All Saints School, Holy Family-Holy Name School, St. James St. John School are proud to present

"Halfway to St. Patrick's Day," on Fri., Oct. 14, at the Century House, Acushnet. Cocktails at 6:30 p.m.; dinner at 7 p.m., Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner. Recollections of being Irish at 8 p.m. by area priests. Music by The Shenanigans at 8:30. Tickets, \$25, and can be purchased at participating schools. Raffle, prizes.

Publish or Perish

On Wednesday, October 12 at 7:00 PM, J. North Conway will visit Baker Books to host a free workshop designed to help budding authors navigate through the choppy seas of the publishing industry. It will cover manuscript preparation; how and why it is important; how to write an effective book proposal; finding a reputable literary agent.

Baker Books is an independent bookstore located at 69 State Rd. in North Dartmouth. For more information, visit www.bakerbooks.net or call 508-997-6700. Accessible.

Crafters Needed

Smith Mills Christian Congregational Church and Smith Mills Nursery and Kindergarten are having their annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 19, from 9 am-3 pm. We are looking for crafters to rent tables. The cost of the 8 foot table is \$25.00 and we ask that the crafter donate an item to be auctioned, the cost of the table and auction proceeds benefit the church and school.

For information, please call Diane at 508-971-5211.

Bruins Tickets FR

"Night at the Bruins," Raffle Package to benefit Buzzards Bay Area Habitat for Humanity. Saturday, January 7, at 1:00 p.m. Offering (2) Tickets to Bruins vs. Vancouver Canucks, TD Garden Loge 4, Row 11 (\$600 value). Deluxe Water View Room at the Fairmont Battery Wharf in Boston (\$400 value), \$150 Gift Card for Breakfast & Dinner at the, Aragosta Bar + Bistro, Round Trip Limo Transportation by Access Express (\$200 value)

**Tickets: \$25.00 / 5 for \$100.00.
(Only 500 tickets to be sold!!!)
Winner's name will be drawn 12/13.**

Reserve tickets on our website: BuzzardsBayHabitat.org, or by calling our office: 508-758-4517

Arts & Crafts Show

The Westport Lions will sponsor its seventh Annual Arts & Crafts Show on Saturday and Sunday, October 15 & 16 in the cafeteria of Westport High School, 19 Main Street, Westport, from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. This is a juried show.

Many of our crafters are returning to showcase their wares. We also have quite a few new artisans and crafters this year. Door prizes, food and raffle will also be available. Admission and parking are free.

The Lions Club is a non-profit organization whose core mission is to end preventable blindness. All of the proceeds from the show go to support this and the Lions charitable endeavors throughout the community. Contributions, include providing scholarships to local students, providing eye glasses and hearing aids to residents in need, giving yearly Thanksgiving food baskets and Christmas toys to needy Westport families. We also support an array of other local community projects as the need arises.

For information, call Diane at 508-636-5426 or Linda at 508-678-2255.

Lizzie Borden is a Bi!@#

Lizzie Borden is a Bi!@#, a comedy written and performed by Ben Jolivet, and presented by Culture*Park Theatre will be at the Seacoast Fringe Festival on **Saturday, October 8, at 9 p.m., in the Discover Portsmouth Center, 8 Islington St., downtown Portsmouth, NH, on October 8th at 9 pm; \$10 at the door.**

Selected by the Seacoast Fringe committee for a Saturday night audience, Lizzie is a one-man play told by Lizzie Borden as she inhabits the actor/storyteller, and reveals what happened that day, and possibly even why. "Lizzie's back, and she's got an axe to grind," says Ben Jolivet, Fall River-based writer and actor, former Lizzie Borden house tour-guide, and long-time Culture*Park collaborator.

See what else is planned at www.seacoastfringefestival.com. Get your Fringe on, and support Culture*Park's journey to our fellow New England seaside town.



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Recipe of the Week

Cinnamon French Toast with Fruit & Pecans

2 cups all-purpose baking mix
1 1/2 cups water
1 tsp vanilla extract
1/4 tsp ground cinnamon
2 tbsp butter
2 tbsp vegetable oil
8 cinnamon bread slices
2 bananas, sliced
Fresh strawberries
1/4 cup shopped pecans, toasted
Syrup

Whisk together baking mix, 1/2 cups water, vanilla and cinnamon. Melt 1/2 tbsp butter in 1/2 tbsp oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Dip 2 bread slices in batter, and place in skillet. Cook 2 to 3 minutes on each side or until golden.

Repeat procedure with remaining butter, oil, batter and bread slices.

Top French toast with fruit and pecans. Serve with your favorite syrup.

Makes 4 servings

To share a recipe with your neighbors

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A Little Bit of Sports

By Bob Hobbs

Special to the Neigh News

Fairhaven High Football

The Fairhaven High School Football team lost another tough one at Apponequit last Saturday, 21-12. Kobie Edwards had a touchdown on a pass from Chris Braga. Kobie also had a great defensive game for Randy Bulgar's chargers.

Home against Seekonk Saturday.

FHS Volleyball

The K sisters had big nights as FHS rolled over Stang 3-1. Kelsey Perron-Sovik, Kayli Moniz and Kara Charette led the way. On Monday night they Lady Blues beat New Bedford High 3-0 with super team effort from Rebecca Larson, Kay Mullen, Harleigh Becotte, Courtney Tarvares, Emma Robidoux, Katie Leidhold, Ashley Brown along with the K sisters, Kelsy, Kara and Kayli. Big game Wednesday vs. Case for first place.

Fairhaven Girls Soccer

The high flying Lady Blues rolled over Bristol-Plymouth 4-0. Kayli Berche and Emma Morehead had two goals apiece. Taylor Canastrra recorded her second shutout.

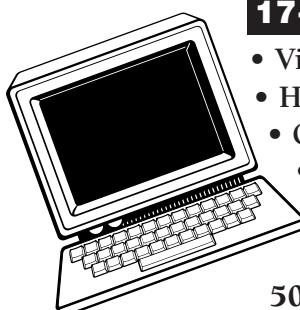
Fairhaven Girls JV Soccer

The Fairhaven High girls JV Soccer team got a big shutout win over Wareham. Ashley Silva was super in goal. Kari Berche had a big goal in the 3-0 game.

In a heart breaker the Jr. Lady Blues tied rival ORR 0-0. Outstanding for the Blues were Lexi Lima, Libby Cadieux, Abby Pires

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FinCom stalemated on School Building recommendation

By Joyce Rowley

Neighb News Correspondent

Although the Fairhaven Finance Committee was short six members for much of the meeting, they managed to tackle most of the Special Town Meeting (STM) warrant articles.

Although the STM was called to vote on borrowing money to build a new school, the committee could not agree on what to recommend.

Article 3, a request to vote to appropriate funds to build and furnish a new Leroy L. Wood elementary school, was petitioned by the School Building Committee (SBC). The amount of the article request is for \$24,656,000, however, Mr. Roderiques said the amount to be borrowed is \$9.7 million, the Town's share of the project. The remainder will be reimbursed by the state.

Selectboard Executive Secretary and SBC member Jeffrey Osuch that the amount borrowed will include any costs that the State did not deem eligible under its grant program.

"If you go to East Fairhaven [school], you'll see exactly what you're getting," said Mr. Osuch, with the proposed new school having double the parking of EFS.

Mr. Osuch said the bonds for the project will not be sold until next year, but a range of interest rates had been considered. The interest rate may be as low as 2%, at which point that would be 2.5 million in interest over twenty years.

The meeting grew heated as some FinCom members argued against the borrowing based on what they believed was a flawed process in selection of the school design and location. FinCom member Jennifer Bishop argued that town taxpayers and the Mass. School Building Authority MSBA were not given a complete picture of the two school option last spring, and that the SBC had not fully investigated all of the funding sources that might be available.

Edward "Ted" Silva asked her whether she thought there was problem with the elementary schools, and if so, how she would fix it.

"The day after this gets voted down, what will you do to fix it?" Mr. Silva asked. "We have a solution to fix it in a year."

"No, what are they going to do to fix it," replied Ms. Bishop, referring to the SBC. "They let it become a problem...We don't want another big school in Town."

"Then let it go to vote," said Mr. Roderiques.

"I totally was against this project," said Theresa Szala. "There's no leadership in this town. Someone in [the school district] should have come up with the costs."

"If you're looking at this from a financial position, it's too much to walk away from. Whether they created it or not, it's a lot of money," said Ms. Szala. "We've got a problem and we've got to fix it."

Mr. Roderiques said that the elementary school issue had been studied since 1999. At the time, the Town could not afford to rehabilitate all of the schools.

Member Lisa Schroeder asked about the traffic issue. She said she left her house ten minutes early to pick up her children at Wood School, but couldn't get to them.

"If there's an emergency, is there a solution? Is something going to be done?" she asked.

Mr. Osuch said a professional traffic engineering firm had studied the traffic.

meant spending another \$250,000 on a study for the two school option.

"That's small compared to \$10 million," Mr. Elliot said.

A vote on indefinite postponement of the article was called and failed 3-5, with Ms. Bishop, Mr. Elliot, and Mr. Schroeder voting in favor, Mr. Roderiques, Ms. Szala, Mr. Silva, and Ms. Carter voting against. Member Scott Fernandes who arrived midway through the discussion voted against it as well.

A vote to recommend approval of the article failed 4-4 with Mr. Roderiques, Mr. Fernandes, Mr. Silva, and Ms. Szala voting in favor and Ms. Carter, Ms. Bishop, Mr. Elliot, and Ms. Schroeder opposed.

The board did make a decision on #2 of Article 1, the Emergency Management Agency's request for utilities for the town-owned building at 150 Sconticut Neck Road. The committee voted 7-0 to recommend approval of \$1,700 for utilities as a new budget item.

EMA's director Marc Jodoin had requested a reserve fund transfer, which Chairperson John Roderiques said would not be appropriate because it was creating a new budget item. The EMA is currently housed in an unheated trailer at the Oxford School.

Public Works Superintendent Vincent Furtado presented two articles: a request for \$5,000 to purchase a vehicle at auction, and a request to borrow up to \$716,000 to complete the anaerobic digester project.

Mr. Roderiques said the prior superintendent been using a car meant for the sewer department and it has since been returned. Mr. Furtado's vehicle is in need of major repairs. He said he needed a utility vehicle that would allow him to perform site visits and access sites under construction.

FinCom recommended approval for up to \$5,000 by a vote of 7-0. The funding will come from the BPW salary account from the period when there was no superintendent.

Mr. Furtado then filled in FinCom on the need to borrow up to \$716,000 to complete the digester project. If approved, payments would come from the sewer enterprise account. The digester will reduce sludge volume, generate methane, and earn the Town renewable energy credits when complete. If not completed, the state will convert the \$7 million grant to a loan at 2%.

FinCom voted 7-0 to approve.

The day after this gets voted down,
what will you do to fix it?

We have a solution to fix it in a year.

[Edward "Ted" Silva]

No, what are they going to do to fix it.

They let it become a problem...We
don't want another big school in Town.

[Jennifer Bishop]

The proposed 165 parking spaces, a dedicated traffic lane and the turn lane off Sconticut Neck Road were all recommended to alleviate traffic. There is also a separate area for bus traffic.

Member Padraic Elliot joined the discussion with concerns about the enrollment numbers used in designing the school relative to class size, and that the final meeting of the SBC that discussed the two-school option indicated that it could still be funded even if it did not meet the MSBA guidelines. He said he was disappointed that the last TM did not have all of the numbers. He said he was concerned that in ten years the school will need to be expanded.

Again Mr. Silva asked what solution Mr. Elliot would propose to the elementary school problem.

"If it gets voted down, it's a message from the people," said Mr. Elliot. He said that he would seek to start over, even if it



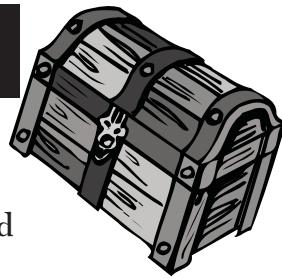
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Ages: 9-11 Date: October 17th Instructor: Beth Oleson Time: 5:30-8PM. Cost: \$40 members/\$45 non-members

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Oct. 26: South Shore Plaza

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With Nancy

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*Reserve your seat for these events.
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Special Activities

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Open enrollment for Medicare begins on October 15 and runs through 12/7.

Fuel Assistance

Fuel Assistance will be starting soon. Call or visit the Senior Center to learn how you can get help with this winter's heating bills.

Meet the Director

Come meet Anne Silvia, the new director of the Fairhaven council on Aging, **Wed. Oct. 19 1:00 p.m.** Music by Rod, refreshments served.

SHINE: Serving the Health Information Needs of Elders

Fri. Oct. 21 at 10:00 a.m. Understanding Medicare and Prescription coverage. Call to reserve a seat or sign up at front desk, refreshments served, 508-979-4029.

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13th Manjiro Festival celebrates Dr. Hinora's 100th

By Beth David
Editor

The 13th Manjiro Festival celebrated the 170th anniversary of the chance meeting between a young Japanese boy named Manjiro and a Fairhaven whaling captain named William Whitfield. The Festival also celebrated the 100th birthday of Dr. Shigeaki Hinohara, who almost single handedly saved Captain Whitfield's house.

In 1841, a 14-year-old boy from Tosashimizu, a poor Japanese fishing village, was stranded on a deserted island in the Pacific. Manjiro and his companions survived for months, until they were rescued by Capt. Whitfield of the whaleship John Howland.

Japan was a closed society in the mid 1800s; it was illegal for anyone to leave the country. The five fishermen faced death if they returned so Capt. Whitfield took them to Hawaii. Young Manjiro took up the Captain's invitation to go back to his home in Fairhaven, making him the first Japanese person to live in the US.

Manjiro learned higher level math, advanced navigation and surveying. He traveled the world as a whaler and sought his fortune in the Gold Rush. In 1851, he risked death to return to Japan and eventually became instrumental in opening Japan to the west.

The Nakahama and Whitfield families have kept their connection and friendship alive for 170 years.

In the 1980's the Sister City Committee was created, connecting



Descendants of Capt. William Whitfield and John Manjiro Nakahama pose with dignitaries, including 100-year-old Dr. Shigeaki Hinohara (front, center), at the Friendship Dinner held at the Unitarian Church in Fairhaven in conjunction with the 13th Manjiro Festival, both held on Saturday, 10/1. Photo by Beth David. See it in color on our website.

New Bedford and Fairhaven to Tosashimizu, now the name of Manjiro's home village.

In 2009, the house that Capt. Whitfield owned and that Manjiro lived in was saved by a group of investors from Japan, led by Dr. Hinohara, a wealthy and famous physician to the Empress. Dr. Hinohara and his group raised \$1 million to buy and renovate the house, and turned it over to the town for free.

At that grand opening on May 7, 2009, Dr. Hinohara, 98, said he would return when he was 100. And return he did. Supporters held birthday celebrations for him on Friday and

Saturday.

On Saturday, the festival filled the center of town and the town hall with craft booths, and Japanese activities, including origami, board games and calligraphy. Entertainment included drumming, martial arts demonstrations, music and tea ceremonies.

Outside, vendors provided food including Japanese noodles, Haitian chicken, and burgers.

At the end of the festival, Japanese visitors led the crowd in a "farewell dance" along Center Street.

At the friendship dinner held at the Unitarian Church in Fairhaven's center, officials from sister-city New

MANJIRO: cont'd next page



American Field Service exchange students on the LEFT and, on the RIGHT, members of the Tosashimizu Sister-City committee with Gerry & Ayako Rooney, pose in front of Fairhaven Town Hall during the 13th Manjiro Festival on Saturday, 10/1/11. Photos by Beth David. See them in color at www.NeighbNews.com. Find us on Facebook for more photos of this and other events.



MANJIRO: cont'd from previous page

Bedford-Fairhaven and Tosashimizu spoke, mostly of the friendship between the Whitfield and Nakahama families, and the resulting friendship between Japan and the U.S.

Fairhaven Selectboard Chairperson Michael Silvia said he "truly enjoyed the hospitality of the people of Japan, especially the people of Tosashimizu," when he attended the festival there.

He said many Japanese visit Fairhaven, but not many go to Japan.

"I thought that was very unfortunate," he said, adding that when he was in Japan, he told them he would encourage people to visit. "So, I ask my fellow Americans to visit Japan, and especially Tosashimizu."

Bob Whitfield, 5th generation descendant of Capt. William Whitfield, said he was struck by the shortness of the dash on the tombstones at the Riverside Cemetery during the tour.

"It is a reminder that life is short and should be spent wisely," said Mr. Whitfield.

"Tonight I am surrounded by friends who know who to spend their days," he said. "Friendship, compassion, love for one another, are but a few of the words that describe your life."

Mrs. Komoko Nakahama, whose late husband was the great grandson of Manjiro, also addressed the crowd.

"Everyone looks so happy in this room tonight," she said.

She reminded everyone that the friendship between the two families is now seven generations long.

Tosashimizu's Deputy Mayor Yoshimura said it was good to be able to dance in the street with people in Fairhaven.



Karate kids from Rebello's Kempo Karate entertain the crowd on the lawn of the Unitarian Church in Fairhaven center during the 13th Manjiro Festival on Saturday, 10/1/11. Photos by Beth David.

"So please come to Tosashimizu so we can dance together again," he said, adding that he got many "deep kindnesses," on his trip here.

"I shall cherish the memories I have made here in a short while," he said through Ayako Rooney translating. "I shall go home with that warm friendship. I wish the friendship will get deeper and better between Japan and the United States of America, and Tosashimizu and Fairhaven."

Dr. Hinohara also asked people to visit Japan.

"I can't say how much we appreciate the friendship between Japan and the United States," said the 100-year-old Dr. Hinohara.

He said the life expectancy in Japan is longer than in the United States

"If you want to live longer, please come and live in Japan," he said.

He also said he plans to visit

Fairhaven for the next 10 years.

"I promise I will be coming to this town, hopefully, every year."

The Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society gave many gifts to the Japanese visitors and they gave gifts in return. Dr. Hinohara gave the WMFS \$1,000 check, and the house gave him a volunteer smock. Mr. Whitfield gave the house limited edition US Postal Service stamps of Capt. Whitfield and Manjiro.

Gerry and Ayako's son, daughter, and grandchildren then entertained the group with Japanese drumming.

The festival is held on alternating years in Fairhaven and Tosashimizu, Japan.

For more information on Manjiro Nakahama visit the Millicent Library, 45 Center St., Fairhaven, www.millicentlibrary.org or the the WMFS website at <http://manjiro1.tripod.com>, 508-858-5303. •••



The grandchildren of Ayako and Gerry Rooney of the Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship House are among the drummers in the entertainment portion of the program at the at the Friendship Dinner held at the Unitarian Church in Fairhaven in conjunction with the 13th Manjiro Festival, both held on Saturday, 10/1. The Rooneys' son (standing) led the group, and their daughter. Photos by Beth David. See them in color at www.NeighbNews.com. Find us on Facebook for more photos of this and other events.

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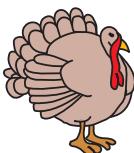
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SELECT: cont'd from page 4

that would be no cost to the taxpayer, and we may end up going to court over this project, but in general, I don't think we have much of a choice."

Mr. Silvia agreed, stating that the town has no choice but to complete the project or else be on the hook for all \$9 million of the project costs.

The primary reason for the special town meeting, an article to allow the town to borrow a maximum of \$24.6 million for a new elementary school at the Wood School site, was approved by the board, as expected.

The proposal remains a divisive issue in the town, illustrated by a tie vote of the finance committee.

Mr. Osuch and Dr. Bowcock, who are both on the new school building committee, once again defended the committee's decision to go with the Wood school option.

"The MSBA approved moving from a schematic design to a final construction design, with a 63.5% reimbursement rate instead of the 54.9% that was originally expected," said Mr. Osuch.

At the higher reimbursement rate, the state will pay approximately \$14.9 million dollars while the town's share will be just under \$9.7 million.

"The economic situation that we're in currently means we'll get a very good interest rate and the town has a very good bond rating, too, which will over the long run keep the costs of this project down," said Dr. Bowcock. "The town will get a new school for 9.7 million dollars. There probably isn't a better time to move forward for this project."

According to Mr. Osuch, the impact of a 2% borrowing cost would be approximately \$83.84 in the initial year for a homeowner with a house assessed at the town average of \$270,000 dollars, with decreasing costs over 20 years. At the extreme upper limit of 4%, it would be \$100 for the first year, decreasing to approximately \$79 over 20 years.

Mr. Osuch noted that Fairhaven's rate would most likely be at 3 or 3.5%.

The article needs a 2/3 passing vote to allow the town to borrow money, and, if successful, would need to be followed up with a debt exclusion ballot question in November. Should the special town meeting vote fail, the town will be given only one

more chance to pass an article, before it will dropped from consideration for MSBA reimbursement.

The board voted to approve several articles for special town meeting, including:

- A request for \$485 for two cell phones for the Tree Department;
- \$1,700 for the electricity and heating for the EMA's new offices at Sconticut Neck Road and \$87 for annual inspection stickers for three of the EMA's vehicles;
- A transfer of \$5,000 from the BPW salary and wage account to capital outlay for a 4-wheel drive vehicle for the Department of Public Works;
- A \$6,500 transfer from the Community Preservation Fund for consultant services for the Fairhaven Housing Authority;
- A request from the retirement

drainage capacities, and state highway improvements on Route 6.

"The priority streets left to look at are: Main, Park, Water, Ferry and Elliot," Mr. Roth told the board.

The application proposes to move forward with a project for Main Street, from Bridge to Huttleston, and to redo Park Street, which currently does not have adequate pedestrian connections, he said. The selectboard voted to accept the draft, leaving one more public hearing necessary for approval of the actual application submission.

The board turned down a request from Community Nurse & Hospice Care, on behalf of unnamed town residents seeking financial aid to install wheelchair ramp access to their home.

Dr. Bowcock explained that while the board was certainly sympathetic to [the homeowners'] plight, the town could not use taxpayers' money for a private enhancement to an individual's home.

"In fact, we're prohibited by law from doing so," he said.

Fellow selectboard member Charles Murphy, who is liaison to the town's Commission for Citizens with Disabilities, concurred with Dr. Bowcock, saying that the commission also regularly receives similar requests.

"What we can do is put it out to some organizations to see if they'd be willing to help," he said, adding that in the past, the fire department and the Knights of Columbus have built ramps using volunteers and materials donated from local businesses.

"Fairhaven is blessed with a lot of civic organizations and clubs," noted Selectboard Chair Michael Silvia. "We're hoping that one of the groups will step up to the plate."

Mr. Silvia recused himself from a vote approving the Fairhaven Improvement Association's request to use the town hall auditorium for the annual Veteran's Day Dinner and Dance on November 12th, as he is a former president of the association.

The board moved into executive session to meet with Joe Borelli to discuss his role with the Council on Aging and did not resume in open session.

•••

The town will get a new school for 9.7 million dollars. There probably isn't a better time to move forward for this project. [Brian Bowcock]

board to raise the COLA base from \$12,000 to \$13,000;

- A request from the social day care program to raise its base from \$110,000 to \$125,000 to cover increased health insurance costs for employees; and
- An article for \$7,700 for the fire department for a new specialized washing machine that cleans chemicals and bio-hazard fluids from contaminated clothing and equipment.

In other matters before the board, Town Planner Bill Roth held a public hearing on the Community Development Block Grant application, highlighting changes that have been made to initial drafts written earlier this year. Most of the revisions involved updates on projects already completed, including the replacement of clay pipes with culverts on Spring and Middle streets to increase road

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Board of Public Works

Mon. 10/17, Arsene St., 6:00 p.m.

Commission on Disability

Thurs., 11/17, Arsene St., 7 p.m.

Community Preservation

Thurs., 11/7, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 10/17, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Finance Committee

Thurs., 10/6, Arsene St., 7 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 10/12, FHS Library, 6:30

Selectboard

Mon., 10/17, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Tues., 10/25, HMS, 6:00 p.m.

(Special) Town Meeting

Tues., 10/25, HMS, 7 p.m.

Deadline to submit articles: 9/21.

Special election

For debt exclusion vote, Wed., 11/2

TIDE TABLE

US Army Corps of Engineers
Cape Cod Canal/Wing's Neck

October 2011	HIGH	LOW	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	6	0409	1645	1055	2323	
Friday	7	0509	1742	1140	2350	
Saturday	8	0602	1830	----	1214	
Sunday	9	0648	1912	0011	1243	
Monday	10	0728	1950	0035	1314	
Tuesday	11	0804	2025	0106	1348	
Wednesday	12	0838	2059	0140	1423	
Thursday	13	0911	2134	0216	1500	
Friday	14	0944	2210	0252	1536	
Saturday	15	1019	2250	0329	1612	
Sunday	16	1058	2334	0405	1649	
Monday	17	1142	----	0443	1729	
Tuesday	18	0022	1232	0525	1817	

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School Committee hears about MSBA decision; MCAS results

By Joyce Rowley

Neighb News Correspondent

The School Committee got a full report on the Mass. School Building Authority's (MSBA) decision from Superintendent Robert Baldwin at their 9/27 regular business meeting. Dr. Baldwin said that the MSBA meeting was "positive and fulfilling" as it validated the new model elementary school at the Wood School site. He said the clock was ticking for town approval in order to retain state funding.

The MSBA approval culminated a process that began in 2006, Dr. Baldwin said, when the town began looking for a long-term solution to the elementary school deficiencies. The project has gone through two Town Meetings and \$365,000 was voted on for the feasibility study through the schematic design.

Within 120 days, the Town must authorize borrowing for the project. If so, MSBA will grant a maximum of \$14,992,503 million to solve the issues identified in a fiscally responsible and educationally sound manner. The Special Town Meeting was set for October 25th. The matter then goes to a general election for a debt exclusion vote on November 2nd.

In the past, the funding stayed allocated for up to ten years. Now, a failure to approve the project means that the Town would be removed from the list. He reminded the SC that 422 districts applied for MSBA funding, but only 49 districts had been allowed to go forward with an application. MSBA has clearly stated that the nearly \$15 million allocated to Fairhaven will be given to another community if the Town does not approve the project.

"There is no do-over," said Dr. Baldwin.

SC member Bernard Roderick said that the estimated impact on a Fairhaven homeowner with a \$250,000 home was about \$100 per year based on a 4.5% interest rate. Mr. Roderick said he also heard that it might be possible to get a 2.5% interest rate.

Dr. Baldwin said that Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch was working on those figures. He noted that it was a time of unprecedented low interest rates. Also, construction bids were coming in low.

Christopher Bunnell, SBC chairper-

son, said that the latest renderings and new layout of the site will be presented at the SBC meeting.

He said the MSBA meeting had highlighted how economical the new school was at an average of \$317/square foot compared to Weston's elementary school that was going to cost \$35.9 million at an average cost of \$492/square foot.

Several SC members thanked Mr. Bunnell and for his efforts in bringing the project to this point.

Member Brian Monroe asked Dr. Baldwin if there was a decrease in the district budget after the East Fairhaven model school opened. Dr. Baldwin said that the consolidation meant that there were fewer utility bills, and that the school was energy efficient.

In the other major SC update, Dr. Baldwin presented an overview of the

It is not the end all," said Mr. Roderick, who also noted that the result is a result on a given test on a given day.

Ms. Kuechler noted that the results did show that grades 7 through 12 English Language Arts are moving forward and there have been significant changes in grades 7 through 10 science results.

"The MCAS point out areas where we can improve," said Ms. Kuechler.

During the public comment time, resident Michelle Furtado noted that at the open house at Wood School, the choir ceiling was peeling and moldy. Paul Kitchen, Business Administrator, said that it was done some time ago.

Ms. Furtado also asked where the Rogers and Oxford committee sign-up had been posted. The town is creating a committee to decide the fates of the Rogers and Oxford school buildings.

Chairperson Pamela Kuechler said that in addition to an announcement in the newspapers, the Town and SC websites carried information on signing up for the committee. Ms. Kuechler said it was also posted at Town Hall.

Mr. Kitchen presented the improvements and maintenance to all of the school district facilities over the past three months, and gave an update on ongoing projects. One of the ongoing projects, refurbishing 42 windows at Fairhaven High School, will require creation of a prototype because they were handcrafted.

The SC reconvened in executive session to discuss contractual matters not to reconvene in open session.

How can the same students do so well and then completely fall apart? [Brian Monroe]

district's MCAS results. Overall there were increases to Grade 5 and then a decrease in MCAS to the high school. At the high school level, test scores increased again and SAT scores are high. Elementary though Grade 3 are 14 points ahead of State averages, as were Grade 4 math scores.

"How can the same students do so well and then completely fall apart?" asked Mr. Monroe.

"We're looking at this and we're doing things to correct for it," responded Dr. Baldwin.

He said he heard that the test is entirely different, he said, for the 5th through 7th grades.

SC member Stasia Powers asked if parents will be notified when testing occurs so they can help out at home. Dr. Baldwin said Hastings Middle School principal Wayne Miller would present next meeting to discuss the MCAS levels, remediation and intervention.

"I question whether MCAS is a formative measure of the education.

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Halloween Map

Want to be on the Halloween map? Email Manny Souza, Manuel.Souza@comcast.net and he'll include you in his map of spooky yards, which we will publish in our annual Halloween issue. Find the map at: www.communitywalk.com/Hauntedfairhaven

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School Building Committee gets ready for town meeting

By Joyce Rowley

Neighb News Correspondent

At the 9/28 Fairhaven School Building Committee meeting, members reviewed the Mass. School Building Authority's (MSBA) approval of the scope and budget for the new model elementary school at the Wood School site. The approval started a 120-day period for obtaining Town approval.

"It's in the hands of the Town," said Superintendent Robert Baldwin.

SBC Chairperson Christopher Bunnell said there were several other consolidation projects, including a regional consolidation, and another model school, that were approved at the MSBA meeting on 9/27. He pointed to a low square-foot cost as proof that the East Fairhaven model school was highly efficient and highly economical. The new school will use the same basic plan as EFS.

Dr. Baldwin said representatives from Newburyport were visiting EFS this week at the direction of the MSBA. When he told them that the Town was receiving a 63.5% grant, one representative said that was why

they were considering a model school since they were only at 45% funding.

Mr. Bunnell said the next two milestones were the Special Town Meeting on October 25th and the November 2nd general election vote on the debt exclusion for the override required to borrow the \$9.7 million.

HMFH architect Phillip "Pip" Lewis presented modifications to the siting of the building based on additional information. Geotechnical data showed that there were better load-bearing soils to the south, and so the building was moved slightly.

SBC member and Wood School principal Amy Hartley-Matteson stated concerns about access to the community garden, especially for elderly residents. She was also concerned that its location made it vulnerable to vandalism, and it may be in too much shade. Mr. Lewis said that it could be moved.

Mr. Lewis said the parking count stood at 165 spaces, in excess of what was required. He suggested that some spaces be taken out to create large traffic islands in the visitor parking lots. Member David Gonsalves said he

was opposed to additional trees and shrubs, especially in the parking area, as they create a potential safety hazard for children crossing the parking lot.

Mr. Lewis pointed out that bus traffic is entirely separated from the visitor parking lots, and traffic is one-way other than in the visitor lots. He asked for direction from members, as land use requirements had to be met.

SBC member and Selectboard Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch said that the Dover Amendment allows the Town to change zoning requirements on town property. He suggested that Planning & Economic Development director William Roth meet with board members to discuss regulations.

Dr. Baldwin said he is frequently asked whether there will be enough parking. He pointed out that the new design has twice the parking of East Fairhaven School.

The board also reviewed the approved budget in preparation for discussing it with the Finance Committee later that evening.

MSBA approves budget for new model elementary school

By Joyce Rowley

Neighb News Correspondent

On September 27, 2011, the Mass. School Building Authority voted to approve the Fairhaven new model elementary school scope and budget at their regular meeting. Fairhaven was one of 42 schools approved to go to the next level and seek town approval for their projects.

A maximum of \$24,655,239 was approved with a maximum state grant of 63.5% of eligible expenses. The maximum grant approved by the MSBA is \$14,922,503, leaving \$9,662,736 for town taxpayers. The percentage discrepancy is due to approximately \$500,000 in costs not reimbursable by the state.

The town will have to pass an override of Proposition 2 1/2 to borrow the \$9.66 million. First town meeting must approve the override vote on October 25, then the general electorate will have to pass the ballot measure on November 2.

Superintendent Robert N. Baldwin and School Building Committee Chairperson Christopher Bunnell attended the meeting in Boston. The

MSBA did not raise any additional concerns, said Dr. Baldwin. Both Dr. Baldwin and Mr. Bunnell said it was rewarding to have the new school project validated by the MSBA after a five-year planning period.

The approval starts the 120-day clock running for town-wide approval. If the town does not get Town Meeting approval to authorize borrowing of the town's share, the grant will be reallocated to another community.

School Committee chairperson Pamela Kuechler said that the main goal is to provide facts so people can make an educated decision at the Special Town Meeting. Every effort will be made to get factual information out.

Although the SBC and SC do not have specific plans yet for public meetings, Dr. Baldwin has offered to "go anywhere, anytime" to talk to people about the new school.

"A lot of people have come up to me and congratulated me on the new school after the spring town meeting," Dr. Baldwin said. Many people thought the last TM already

gave the approval to go ahead.

The new school, Fairhaven's second model school, has met fierce opposition. A local group, Save Our Schools (SOS), continues to argue against the one-school option. Chairperson Albert F. Benac said he felt it was at a stalemate.

"We have our position and they have theirs. The final decision will be made November second," said Mr. Benac.

He said that the previous town meeting was stacked against the SOS and that they were cut off from speaking soon after the discussion began. He had called for a secret ballot then so that Town Meeting members would not feel intimidated into voting for the school. That's why he believes the general election is more likely to result in a turnover than the STM.

Mr. Benac also said that the lack of interest in a new committee forming to decide the fates of the Rogers and Oxford School buildings is really support for the Rogers School staying in use as a school.

"It's not fair. They're buying us with

MSBA: cont'd to next page

60 cents on the dollar," said Mr. Benac. "I'd much rather see families walk their children to school."

He said 95% of the town's children would be bused, which he referred to as a "permanent waste of money."

Ahould SOS be successful, they would ask the district for a new school building committee to begin a full design review process for a two-school option.

On the other side, Michele Furtado, mother of three children and frequent volunteer at Wood School was disappointed that people are still fighting it.

"I'm in those schools every day and I see what they're going through. The facility is not appropriate for those children anymore," said Ms. Furtado. "It comes down to a matter of cost. I really feel if parents would stop fighting and support it, I think it would be a smooth transition."

She said her youngest finishes at Wood School this year, and so will not be among the relocated students next year if the new school is approved.

"But if my child was still there, I'd be knocking on the door wherever they go and offering to volunteer," said Ms. Furtado.

Find out more about the plans, budget, and latest information on the new school, visit the school district's website, www.fairhavenps.org, and click on the School Building Committee link.

For information from SOS go to www.fairhavensos.org.

For informaion from the MSBA visit <http://www.massschoolbuildings.org>

Ballot Question & Election Notice

SPECIAL TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN ELECTION, Wednesday, November 2,

2011. Polls are open from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM

The following question will be presented to the voters of Fairhaven:

"Shall the Town of Fairhaven be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two-and-one-half, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued in order to construct, equip and furnish a new LeRoy L. Wood Elementary School located at 60 Sconticut Neck Road, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto?"

IMPORTANT DATE:

Thursday, October 13th is the last day to register to vote if you wish to vote on this question. The Town Clerk's Office will be open from 8:30 AM to 8:00 PM on Oct. 13.

Eileen M. Lowney
Fairhaven Town Clerk

Coyote attack on Yorkie has West Islanders nervous and angry

By Beth David
Editor

A large coyote snatched up a tiny Yorkshire Terrier on West Island just as the dog was entering the house on Saturday, 9/24, terrifying both the dog and his owner. Gibson the Yorkie will recover from his wounds, but Dorothy Zlok, who was watching the dog for her daughter and son-in-law, may never recover. The dog has been traumatized, too.

The incident prompted Fairhaven Animal Control Officer Cat Mindlin to contact state wildlife officials and quickly arrange a meeting at the West Island Association Community Center on Tuesday, 10/4.

More than 40 residents turned out in the middle of the morning, most with a coyote story to tell.

Ms. Zlok's story was by far the scariest. Gibson had been out on a line in the yard, with Ms. Zlok watching him from the storm door. When he wanted to go back into the house, he jumped up on the first step. She opened the door to untie him from the line. As she did so, she saw the coyote jump out. He grabbed Gibson around the middle, lifted him up and started shaking him. Ms. Zlok jumped completely out of the house and screamed at the coyote.

"I won't tell you what I said," she told the *Neighb News*.

The coyote dropped the dog and ran off. Gibson, who was still tied to the line, was wearing a harness, which likely stopped the bite from

going too deep. He had two puncture wounds, one inch each. He should recover completely.

His owner, Sharon Ristuccia, said he is afraid to go outside, though.

So is Ms. Zlok.

"He was bigger than me," she said of the coyote. "I thought, 'what would I have done if he had gone after me?'"

Ms. Zlok said she has been visiting West Island for 23 years and never saw such an aggressive coyote.

Jason Zimmer, District Supervisor, Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, told residents that coyotes "are here to stay," because of the excellent habitat and abundant food sources available

on the island. In addition to the natural foods, which are small animals and fish, the coyotes have an abundant food source from humans with trash, compost bins, and pet food. Mr. Zimmer suggested that residents take in bird feeders at night, but that idea was scoffed at by most at the meeeting. Mr. Zimmer categorized much of the behavior that residents complained about as normal coyote behavior and said the state would not kill or remove a coyote even though it would take a pet within close proximity to its owner.

COYOTE: cont'd on page 30



LEFT: Dorothy Zlok gestures while telling her story to wildlife officials at a meeting on Tuesday, 10/5 at the West Island Improvement Association community center. Ms. Zlok was opening the door to take in her daughter-in-law's Yorkshire Terrier when a large coyote snatched the dog in its mouth. Ms. Zlok jumped at the coyote screaming and it let the dog go. The Yorkie, Gibson, will recover, but Ms. Zlok may not. RIGHT: Ms. Zlok holding Gibson. Photos by Beth David. See them in color at www.NeighbNews.com



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Edamame	3.75
Seaweed Salad	4.95
Avocado Salad	5.95
House Salad	2.95
Shrimp Tempura	6.50
Vegetable Tempura	4.95
Shumai	4.50
Gyoza	5.50
Tako-Su (octopus) (5)	5.95
Sashimi Appetizer (8)	9.95
Naruto (crab/roe)	4.95
Tuna Tataki (6)	7.95
Jade Scallop (5)	7.95

SUSHI A LA CARTE

Nigiri Sushi: 2 pieces per order	
Sashimi: add \$2, 3 pieces per order	
Tamago (egg omelette)	3.00
Kanikama (crab stick)	3.00
Saba (mackerel)	4.00
Ebi (shrimp)	4.00
Tako (octopus)	4.00

HOUSE SPECIALS

Served with white rice

Happy Family/Beef, Shrimp and Roast Pork	10.95
Gai Po Lo Mein	13.95
➤ Mongolian Spicy Beef	9.95
Sesame Beef	9.95
➤ Orange Beef	9.95
➤ General Gau's Chicken	9.25
Sesame Chicken	9.25
➤ Orange Chicken	9.25
Pineapple Chicken	9.25
Mango Chicken	9.25
Seafood Delight	12.95
➤ Dragon & Phoenix/Shrimp	11.95
➤ Kung Pao Three Delight	10.95
Triple Delight	10.95
➤ Salt & Pepper Crispy Shrimp	10.50

SEAFOOD

	Sm	Lge
Shrimp w/Pea Pods	5.95	9.25
Shrimp w/Broccoli	5.95	9.25
➤ Kung Pao Shrimp w/Peanuts	5.95	9.25
➤ Shrimp in Garlic Sauce	5.95	9.25
Shrimp in Lobster Sauce	5.95	9.25
Shrimp w/Ginger & Scallion	10.50	
➤ Scallops in Orange Sauce	10.50	

Ika (squid)	4.00	Crab Rangoon	5.50
Maguro (tuna)	4.50	Scallion Pancake	3.95
Hamachi (yellowtail)	4.50	Fried Jumbo Shrimp	5.95
Sake (salmon)	4.50		
Unagi (fresh water eel)	4.50		
Hotategai (scallop)	5.00		
Tobiko (flying fish roe)	5.00		
Ikura (salmon roe)	5.00		
Tobiko with quail egg	6.00		
Ikura with quail egg	6.00		
Mutzu (white tuna)	4.50		

CHINESE & AMERICAN

Vegetable Roll (2)	3.75
Egg Rolls (2)	3.75
French Fries	3.25
Chicken Wings	5.95
Chicken Fingers	5.95
Beef Teriyaki	6.50
Chicken Teriyaki	5.95
Barbecued Spare Ribs	6.50
Boneless Spare Ribs	6.50
Peking Ravioli	5.25

CHINESE CUISINE

➤ Salt & Pepper Crispy Calamari	9.95
Sesame Shrimp	10.50

POULTRY

	Sm	Lge
Chicken w/Broccoli	4.95	8.25
Chicken w/Cashews	4.95	8.25
Chicken w/Mix Veggie	4.95	8.25
Sweet & Sour Chicken	4.95	8.25
Chicken w/Pea Pods & Mushrooms	4.95	8.25
Chicken w/Eggplant	4.95	8.25
➤ Kung Pao Chicken w/Peanuts	4.95	8.25
➤ Chicken in Garlic Sauce	4.95	8.25
➤ Chicken in Curry Sauce	4.95	8.25
➤ Hunan Chicken	4.95	8.25

BEEF

	Sm	Lge
Beef w/Broccoli	5.50	8.50
Beef w/Pea Pds & Mushrooms	5.50	8.50
➤ Beef in Garlic Sauce	5.50	8.50
➤ Kung Pao Beef w/Peanuts	5.50	8.50
Beef w/String Beans	5.50	8.50
Beef w/Onions & Green Peppers	5.50	8.50
➤ Hunan Beef	5.50	8.50

PORK

	Sm	Lge
➤ Hunan Pork	4.95	8.25
Pork w/Ginger & Scallions	4.95	8.25
➤ Double Cooked Pork	4.95	8.25
➤ Roast Pork in Garlic Sauce	4.95	8.25

FRIED RICE

	Sm	Lge
Choice of: Chicken, Pork Beef, or Shrimp	4.95	6.75
House/Special	4.95	7.75
Pineapple & Chicken	4.95	7.95
Plain White Rice	1.00	1.50

LO MEIN

	Sm	Lge
Choice of: Chicken, Pork, Beef Veggie or Shrimp	3.95	7.25

	Sm	Lge
Boston Chow Mein (white sauce)		

	Sm	Lge
Choice of: Chicken, Veggie, or Shrimp	3.95	6.25
➤ Hot & Spicy (We can adjust the spiciness)		

Menu continued on next page

➤ Hot & Spicy (We can adjust the spiciness)

← CHECK OUT OUR NEW MENU!



CHINESE CUISINE (continued)

New Bedford Chow Mein (brown sauce) Choice of: Chicken, Veggie, or Shrimp,2.954.95
Egg Foo Young Choice of: Chicken, Pork, Beef, Veggie or Shrimp6.95
NOODLES
➤ Singapore Rice Noodle w/Curry7.95

Beef Chow Foon (Flat Rice Noodle)7.95
Pan Fried Noodle8.95
Pad Thai7.95
MOO SHI
Sautéed with mushrooms, cabbage, wood ears, scallions and scrambled egg. Served with 4 pancakes. Choice of: Chicken, Pork, Shrimp, or Vegetables7.95

VEGETABLES & BEAN CURD	
Sautéed Pea Pods, Mushrooms & Bamboo Shoots7.95
Sautéed Green Beans7.95
Spicy Eggplant in Garlic Sauce7.95
Family Style Bean Curd7.95
➤ Vegetarian Delight7.95
➤ Kung Pao Bean Curd7.95
General Tso's Bean Curd7.95

JAPANESE CUISINE & SUSHI

Entrees* (With Soup)
Sushi/Sashimi Boat (for 1)24.95
Sushi/Sashimi Boat (for 2)42.95
Tuna Sampler12.95
Salmon Boy12.95
Sushi Deluxe21.95
Sushi Regular14.95
Maki Combo A14.95
Maki Combo B14.95
Spicy Maki Combo14.95
Unagi Don12.95
Sashima Entrees19.95
Makimono
Sweet Potato Maki3.95
Kappi Maki (cucumber)3.50
Oshinko Maki (pickled radish)3.50
Tekka Maki (tuna)5.25
Sake Maki (salmon)5.25

Negihama Maki (yellowtail)5.25
Unakyu Maki (eel)5.75
Una-Avo Maki (eel)5.75
Alaskan Maki (salmon)5.75
Salmon Skin Maki5.75
California Maki (crabstick)5.75
Spicy Tuna Maki5.75
Spicy Salmon Maki5.75
Spicy Yellowtail Maki5.75
Spicy Scallop Maki6.25
Futo Maki (egg/tobiko/crab stick)5.75
Crazy Maki (shrimp/fish egg)6.95
Philadelphia Maki (salmon)6.25
Seaweed Salad Maki3.75
Tuna-Avo Maki5.75
Salmon-Avo Maki5.75
Spicy Crabstick Maki5.75
Tuna-Avo Maki5.75
Shrimp Tempura Maki8.95

*Consuming raw and undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish or eggs may increase your risk of food borne illness

DAILY COMBO PLATES

Lunch Served Daily, 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. • Dinner: after 4 p.m. to closing

Choice of one appetizer (except C1-C3) • Egg Roll, Crab Rangoon, Chicken Fingers, or Chicken Wings
Both Lunch and Dinner Combo Plates served w/Pork Fried Rice or White Rice

Lunch	Dinner
C1: Boneless Spare Ribs, Egg Roll & Crab Rangoon6.50 ..8.00	
C2: Chicken Wings, Chicken Fingers, & Crab Rangoon....6.50 ..8.00	
C3: Boneless Spare Ribs, Egg Roll, & Chicken Wings....6.50 ..8.00	
C4: Chicken Chow Mein6.50 ..8.00	
C5: Roast Pork Egg Foo Young6.50 ..8.00	
C6: Vegetable Delight6.50 ..8.00	
C7: Chicken with Broccoli6.95 ..8.50	
C8: Chicken with Pea Pods6.95 ..8.50	
C9: Chicken with Mixed Veggies6.95 ..8.50	
C10: ➤ Kung Pao Chicken6.95 ..8.50	

Lunch	Dinner
C11: Cashew Chicken6.95 ..8.50	
C12: ➤Chicken in Garlic Sauce6.95 ..8.50	
C13: Beef with Broccoli6.95 ..8.50	
C14: ➤Beef in Garlic Sauce6.95 ..8.50	
C15: ➤Pork in Garlic Sauce6.95 ..8.50	
C16: Shrimp with Broccoli7.25 ..8.50	
C17: ➤General Gau's Chicken7.25 ..8.50	
C18: Sweet & Sour Chicken7.25 ..8.50	
C19: Beef w/Green Pepper & Onions6.95 ..8.50	
C20: Beef Teriyaki (2), Crab Rangoon, Egg Roll.....6.50 ..8.00	

SUSHI LUNCH SPECIALS

Served Mon. to Sat., 11 a.m.-4 p.m. • All served with choice of **Salad** or **Soup** (Dine-in ONLY)

SUSHI COMBO 1: \$6.95

Choice of Any Two

- White Tuna Sushi (2 pcs)
- Salmon Sushi (2 pcs)
- Tuna Sushi (2 pcs)
- Eel Sushi (2 pcs)
- Yellowtail Sushi (2 pcs)
- Crazy Maki (6 pcs)
- Spicy Tuna Maki (6 pcs)
- Spicy Salmon Maki (6 pcs)
- Spicy Yellowtail Maki (6 pcs)
- Philadelphia Maki (6 pcs)
- Alaskan Maki (6 pcs)
- California Maki (6 pcs)

SUSHI COMBO 2: \$6.25

Choice of Any Two

- Tomago Sushi (2 pcs)
- Saba Sushi (2 pcs)
- Eel Sushi (2 pcs)
- Ebi Maki (2 pcs)
- Kanikama Maki (2 pcs)
- Una-yu Maki (6 pcs)
- Una-Avocado Maki (6 pcs)
- Salmon Maki (6 pcs)
- Tuna Maki (6 pcs)
- Negihama Maki (6 pcs)

SUSHI COMBO 3: \$5.25

Choice of Any Two

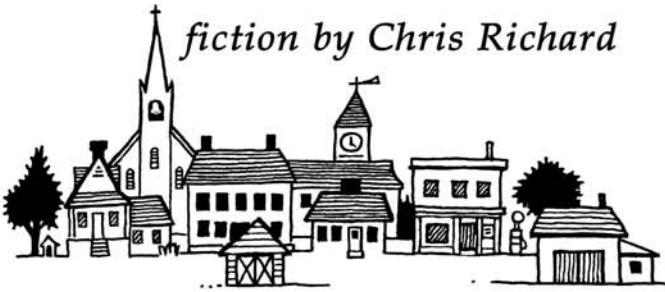
- Kappa Maki (6 pcs)
- Avocado Maki (6 pcs)
- Avocado-Cucumber Maki (6 pcs)
- Seaweed Salad Maki (6 pcs)
- Sweet Potato Maki (6 pcs)
- Futo Maki (5 pcs)

Healthy Cooking

Dine in
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Delivery

The report from Potter's Point

fiction by Chris Richard



Well, not an awful lot went on in Potter's Point last month, at least until Alf Arbutus got the phone call from Ellen Marie Spooner.

Alf and Ellen Marie have been friends since shortly after the lunchtime in fourth grade when Alf, overcome by some compelling force he could not understand, grabbed one of Ellen Marie's pigtails and dipped it into some chocolate pudding.

Luckily, times what they were before classrooms were ruled by the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* seasoned with a liberal dose of hand sanitizer, Alf got off easily with a note home.

His grandmother Toni made him walk over to the Spooner's house after school to apologize.

Ellen Marie, herself seized by some mystical impulse, not only accepted the apology, she invited him in for Oreos and a game of Chutes and Ladders. That afternoon, with Michael Jackson singing "You Are Not Alone" in the background, Ellen Marie and Alf found out girls and boys don't really give each other cooties and that when Alf imitated Bart Simpson's voice and said, "Eat my shorts!" he could make Ellen Marie squirt milk out of her nose.

They had been best friends ever since.

Somehow, though, it took about fifteen years for the best friends to realize that they were in love with each other. And suddenly, very close to the Fourth of July, there were fireworks.

For Alf and Ellen Marie, the summer was hot and steamy in a way that was not predicted in the Old Farmer's

Almanac.

Then at four o'clock in the morning a week ago Tuesday, Alf was awakened by the sound of his phone. "Um. . . Mherrrllo?"

"Alf, I'm on my way over. Be down on the street in five minutes."

"Wwhhaaa?"

"Dressed and on the sidewalk, Alf. Now!"

Alf didn't really remember dressing or locking up or getting down the flight of steps from his apartment above Millie's Market to the alley door off Main Street. It seemed like one minute he heard the phone and the next he was in Ellen Marie's car being driven out of town in the dark.

"Did I ask where we're going?" Alf said.

"We're going to the Grabbit-Fast."

"Because you suddenly got the urge for a midnight Slushy or some beef jerky?"

You know, I never told you this, but that day I dipped your hair in the pudding, my grandmother told me to be nice to that girl because I was going to marry her.

"It's four-fifteen. I've been putting this off a couple of days and then tonight I couldn't sleep at all. I just hope they have those things at Grabbit-Fast."

"Honey, what are you talking about?"

"Alf. . . I'm. . . late. . ."

"Late buying your groceries? You ran out of something?"

"This month. I'm late, Alf. I didn't get my visit from Auntie Flo."

"Who?"

"Flo. . . you know. . . the 'monthly visitor' did not arrive."

"I have no clue who this is and we've known each other forever. Is

she on your mother's side of the family or your father's? Was she at that big Christmas party that year when your grandfather fell asleep on the fruit cake?"

Ellen Marie pulled the car into the lot of the Grabbit-Fast and shut off the engine. She turned and looked at Alf in the fluorescent glow of the store's lights. She reached out and took his hand and squeezed it tightly.

"Alf," she said. "I think we might be pregnant."

Alf closed his eyes.

"Alf?"

He opened them again and looked at the woman beside him. Ellen Marie Spooner. The harsh light of the Grabbit-Fast did nothing to flatter her pale face. An odd lock of hair stuck out on one side. Her eyes were hidden in a dark shadow. But never had anyone looked so beautiful to him. He had never felt so close a connection with another person. And never in such an important and touching situation had Alf ever felt so strongly the need to use a men's room.

"Alf?"

Twenty minutes later, in Ellen Marie's apartment, the couple stood in the bathroom and waited while Alf looked at his watch.

"I was so afraid you'd leave me."

"I was so afraid my bladder would burst," said Alf. "Leaving never entered my mind. You know, I never told you this, but that day I dipped your hair in the pudding, my grandmother told me to be nice to that girl because I was going to marry her."

Alf checked his watch. "It's time."

Ellen Marie picked up the test indicator and looked.

"According to this. . . we're parents. Do you really want to follow your grandmother's advice through to the end?"

Alf put his arm around her and nodded. "I do."

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

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

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Letter from the Superintendent of Fairhaven Schools

Dear Fairhaven Community,

On Wednesday September 28, 2011, the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve Fairhaven's Project Scope and Budget for the new model school at the Wood School site.

This action by the MSBA is the culmination of a process that began in the fall of 2006. The first step in the process was when our local community identified deficiencies in our aging elementary school facilities.

In a letter to the school community in September 2006, it was stated that this solution would be short sighted if it did not take into consideration the future and determine the best, long-term solution for the town.

It has been the responsibility of the School Building Committee, School Committee, and the Board of Selectmen to bring forward the most educationally sound and economically responsible solution to the town.

Community Outreach Gatherings were conducted from July 2010 through February 2011 that incorporated feedback and answered questions in order to narrow all potential solutions down to a final recommendation.

COYOTE: cont'd from page 25

Coyotes see small dogs and cats as prey, and large dogs as rivals.

Sharon Ristuccia described being followed by a coyote and having to walk backwards to the house to keep an eye on him, while holding Gibson in her arms. Resident Linda Ferreira said she left her groceries in the driveway for just a few seconds as she went back and forth into the house with bags. During one trip in the house, a coyote stole some food.

Mr. Zimmer said that coyotes do stalk and are clever hunters, so the behavior described was not unusual.

Coyotes not being afraid of humans is a problem and indicates that people have been feeding them or leaving food out that they can get.

He said people need to make noise and scare them away whenever they see coyotes.

"I understand that coyotes are part of the landscape," said Michael Ristuccia, Gibson's owner. "But they don't have rights greater than ours... Public safety is in jeopardy and all we're hearing about is how to handle

The recommendation to proceed with a new model school at the Wood School site received the following approvals:

- The School Building Committee voted to pursue this option.
- The Fairhaven School Committee voted unanimously to support the new model school at the Wood School site.
- The Fairhaven Board of Selectmen

Districts that fail to approve funding will be removed from the MSBA's Capital Pipeline.

voted unanimously to support this choice.

- In May 2011, Town Meeting overwhelmingly supported this option.
- On June 8, 2011, and on September 28, 2011, the MSBA Board unanimously validated this decision.

It is crucial for town meeting members and taxpayers to understand that this approval by the MSBA Board begins the final stage of this school building process.

bird feeders."

He said if this coyote behavior is happening in other communities he was surprised there was not a "revolution."

Another resident said she had called many different agencies to get advice and help on the problem, but was only told to yell at the coyotes.

"I'm supposed to tell my son, who is not 50 pounds, to yell and chase after coyotes? That is not good advice," she said.

Residents pressed officials for definitive information on what they can do to protect themselves. Mr. Zimmer said if they feel their lives are in danger, they may kill a coyote. He also suggested pepperspray, which requires a license. He also said the hunting season on coyotes starts on 10/15 and there is no limit on them.

Residents also pressed ACO Cat Mindlin on why they haven't heard from her. She said she had received only one coyote complaint all year and none this summer. Residents said they were concerned that their calls to the police had not been relayed to

Pursuant to MSBA regulation, the Town has 120 days to demonstrate local support for funding a school project by passing a ballot question. Districts that fail to approve funding will be removed from the MSBA's Capital Pipeline.

Based upon the project reimbursement rate of 63.5%, the total maximum grant to the town from the MSBA is \$14,992,503.

The School Building Committee, School Committee, and the Board of Selectmen have the town's best interest at heart. The decisions of the next 120 days will have significant ramifications on our town's future.

It is imperative that all town meeting members and taxpayers have factual information from reliable sources so they can make their decision. As a result, town officials will be extremely active in providing factual information regarding the impact of a new model school at the Wood School site.

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

*Respectfully submitted,
Robert Baldwin Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools*

her. Ms. Mindlin said she handles each call on a case by case basis, and only the police can handle a dangerous coyote that is threatening a life, because "they have guns, I don't."

"I can't come out to West Island and just start shooting coyotes," she said.

In the end, Mr. Zimmer promised to notify Problem Animal Control Agents to try to identify and remove the coyote that seems to be causing most of the problems. Officials will also consult a wildlife biologist and hold an evening meeting to discuss thinning the herd further.

"The population is what it is because of the food out there," said Mr. Zimmer.

For more information on coyotes, visit http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/wildlife/living/living_with_coyotes.htm or call Mass Wildlife at 508-389-6300.

To report a problem with a specific coyote in Fairhaven call the ACO at 508-979-4028, or email Mr. Zimmer at jason.zimmer@state.ma.us

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