



# 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 10, Issue 11 • March 19, 2015

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

## Let the games begin!



Candidates for Fairhaven office wait for the chance to make their cases to the public at the candidates night held by Government Access Channel at the Fairhaven Senior Center on Wednesday, 3/11. The Fairhaven Business Association will also hold a candidates night on 3/19, and the West Island Improvement Association will hold one on 3/26. L-R, Back Row: Diane Hahn for School Committee, Armen Migirdicyan for Board of Public Works, Dan Freitas for Board of Public Works, Mark Sylvia for Moderator. Front Row, L-R: Robert "Hoppy" Hobson for Board of Public Works, Barbara Acksen for Board of Health, Lindsay Gordon for Board of Health, Colin Veitch for School Committee, Donna McKenna for School Committee, Bob Espindola for Selectboard. *Photo by Beth David.*



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# From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —  
A day late and many dollars short.



Beth David, Publisher

We've got a jam-packed issue this week.

First up, the first of the three candidates nights. We have a couple of newcomers, so ... let the games begin. See page 16 for that.

It's nice to see that we have challengers in a some races, but we also have a lot of uncontested races.

It's just no fun that way, folks.

Anyway, things don't seem to be all that heated up yet. I think the crazy long and snowy winter has everyone all mixed up. We only have a couple of weeks left now before the election on April 6, so, get your voting hats on, folks.

Time to pay attention to the issues, contact the candidates and find out if they agree with you on things important to you. If not, at least find out if they'll listen to you.

There will be two more candidates nights. One tonight and one next Wednesday. We'll be able to report on both of them. They'll both be broadcast on cable channel 18, too. So break out the popcorn and watch the show. You can also get them on demand through the town's website.

We have lots of meeting coverage for you this week (sometimes I amaze myself). Selectboard is on a page 4. They spent forever talking about the budget and the articles. We'll be doing a separate article on town meeting articles in the coming weeks. They also talked about the two proposals the town received for the Oxford and Rogers Schools. The RFP committee also met to talk about the proposals. See page 26 for that. Between the two meetings you should get an idea if you think the proposals have merit. You can also download each one in its entirety from the town's website.

The Planning Board approved the new application for a Registered Marijuana Dispensary in Fairhaven. See page 3 for that. This one has a couple of differences from the other one, but in the same location, and basically the same operation.

We had two Fairhaven boys run in the New Bedford Half Marathon last week. Will Benoit and Gabe Monroe were the youngest runners at 12 years old. See page 22 for that. It was a pleasure interviewing the two young'uns. If they are any indication of the youth of today, I feel confident that we'll be in good hands in the future.

Jay Simmons made it into the paper yet again (that's how many weeks in a row?). See page 17 for a story on a fund-raiser held for him on Saturday. He was there, celebrating a birthday he almost did not get to see.

It was great to see so many people show up to support him. Police have not released anything else on his case. We won't know for sure if the attack had anything to do with Jay's duties as a town official until police find him. There's still a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the right person. Call the Fairhaven police department at 508-997-7421 if you know anything.

Well, that's all there is, Folks. Be sure to tell our advertisers you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*.

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

# New medical marijuana plan approved

By Beth David  
Editor

The Fairhaven Planning Board voted to issue a special permit to Coastal Compassion, Inc., to operate a Registered Marijuana Dispensary (RMD) at 2 Pequod Road. It is the same location that was approved for a previous applicant, but there are some changes to the new proposal. The previous applicant, Brighton Health/Compassionate Care (BHCC), did not receive the necessary approval from the state to continue with their facility.

Coastal Compassion (CC) representatives told the board that the main difference will be the elimination of outdoor container. BHCC's plan relied on large containers that would be additions to the building and would be used to start the plants.

Tim Keogh, Executive Director and President of CC said they were confident that the building was large enough to house the growing, processing and distribution aspects of the operation.

Citing CC's experience, he said they were confident they could

"maximize" the space to get, and possibly exceed, the yield they are seeking.

BHCC had already secured a lease for the property, which is in the RMD overlay district. CC is subleasing from them, which caused some concern among board members.

The board spent a considerable amount of time discussing the possible repercussions if BHCC got a license on appeal. Either way, there would be two special permits issued for the same property.

CC officials and town planner/economic development director Bill Roth assured the board that the new agreement would trump the old agreement. The lease gave the new company control of the site.

"I feel comfortable that the sub lease takes Compassionate Care out of the loop," said board member Jeffrey Lucas.

The board, however, continued to parse the lease and its language for quite some time before putting the matter to rest.

Other confusion arose because the first special permit had been

transferred, as per Mr. Roth's recommendation. Board Chairperson Wayne Hayward seemed to think it was a problem and not legal to transfer. Mr. Roth, however, disagreed, saying that it was what the bylaw required.

"They are following exactly the code," said Mr. Roth.

Mr. Fleurent wanted to get town counsel to weigh in, which would have required authorization from the Selectboard and a significant delay in the vote. The motion did not carry and the board continued to debate the pros and cons of the new proposal.

Ironically, the board spent more time talking about the lease agreement and the operation of the facility and its treatment of patients than it did on the changes from the previous applicant's proposal and the possible affects they would have on the special permit.

They discussed how patients received a prescription for medical marijuana, how the drug is administered, and where the waiting

RMD: cont'd on page 21

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South Coast area since 2005.

# EMA to hold off on new truck; pets need shelter, too, now

By Beth David  
Editor

Although the Fairhaven Selectboard only had one of its four appointments on Monday, 3/16, the meeting still dragged on into the late hours as board members discussed the budget and town meeting articles.

Emergency Management Agency Director Mark Jodoin appeared before the board to discuss his budget, specifically a request for \$19,999 for a truck.

Board member Geoffrey Haworth noted that a request of \$20,000 triggers the need for it to go to the Capital Planning Committee and it seemed obvious to him that the figure was arrived at to avoid the CP.

"Not at all," said Mr. Jodoin, adding that it was simply too late to submit to the Capital Planning Committee.

He said the truck they want to replace is a mid-1990s model.

He said in the past the department has received vehicles from other departments and has put different cabins on chassis, etc. Mr. Jodoin said but that the other departments are "keeping them too long now."

Selectboard chair Bob Espindola asked Mr. Jodoin if the department could wait another year.

Mr. Jodoin said he did not anticipate that anything would "fall apart."

"I'd like to see any vehicle purchases go through the Capital Planning Committee, so if you can old off," said Mr. Haworth.

The board also discussed new regulations that require towns to allow pets to be with their owners if the town opens a shelter in emergencies. The new law requires that the pets be in the same location as the owners so that owners can take care of their own animals.

Mr. Jodoin told the board that he would need 40 crates to implement the plan, based on a state formula. He had no figures for the board on how much crates cost.

Mr. Haworth said he had taken a course about the new regulations. He said the town had to be prepared in case people arrive without crates for their pets. If the town chooses to open a shelter, it has to be able to accommodate pets.

"If we shelter human beings, we have to shelter pets," said Mr. Haworth.

The other option is simply not to open a shelter. Since the town's

shelters are at the schools, the School Department needs to be apprised of the fact that animals will be in the building.

Historically, very few people has used the town's shelters. However, no one knows how much of that is due to the fact that pets were not allowed.

Acushnet's shelter is at the senior center and pets are allowed.

Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch asked if there would be a penalty for not allowing pets at a shelter.

"No one knows," said Mr. Jodoin.

The EMA will submit an article in the Special Town Meeting for \$1,500 to buy crates.

The board also reviewed the two responses to the Request for Proposals for the Oxford and Rogers School buildings. The Stratford Group has offered \$325,000 for the Oxford School building to create 50 affordable housing units. Eric and Angela Dawicki, owners of the Northeast Maritime Institute, offered \$1 for the

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## If we shelter human beings, we have to shelter pets [Geoffrey Haworth]

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Rogers School building, indicating they would use it to expand NMI.

After some discussion on the merits and shortcomings of each proposal, the board decided to send them to the RFP committee for review.

Mr. Osuch said that neither proposal adhered to the requirements of the RFP, although the one for the Oxford School had much more detail.

Mr. Espindola said he felt the applicants should have a chance to address the issues that the board had. He advocated for the Selectboard to send a letter to each applicant with questions and points of clarification they needed. The Board had already decided to send the proposals to the RFP review committee.

"I [cannot] support either proposal as it sits," said Mr. Haworth.

"I'm concerned about both proposals, to be honest with you," said Selectboard member Charles Murphy, adding that a letter was an opportunity to get clarification.

Mr. Haworth said he wanted the developer to maintain the Oxford School for the two to three years before construction.

Town Planner/Economic Development Director Bill Roth told the board that the Stratford proposal had a "realistic time frame." (See related story on page 26)

The board also announced that the Good Energy electricity aggregation plan is available for review. Residents have until March 31 to submit written comments on the plan, which is available at the Selectboard office. The board will hold a public hearing on March 30 for the public to offer oral comments.

The objective of the plan is to lower electricity costs for residents. Town Meeting voted to pursue the plan on 12/9/14.

The board also met with Board of Health members Peter DeTerra and Barbara Acksen to get permission to use town counsel. The BOH has been having difficulty getting a vendor to comply with the new tobacco sales regulations.

Mr. DeTerra said the owner told the board that on the advice of his attorney, he felt he did not have to comply with the new regulations.

"They have their own counsel, we feel we should have our own counsel, too," said Mr. DeTerra.

The board agreed to allow the BOH to use town counsel to draft a letter to the store owner, and would authorize more spending if necessary.

"We need to enforce the regulations," said Mr. Haworth.

The name of the business was not divulged at the meeting, and the health agent did not respond to attempts to get the name later in the week.

Mr. Osuch took the opportunity to ask why some houses on Sconticut Neck Road have not been forced to tie into the sewer system.

Mr. DeTerra said that some of the houses were abandoned and the BOH had trouble identifying the owners.

Mr. Osuch said that the Building Inspector and health agent were in housing court regularly on other matters and should be able to handle the tie-ins, too.

Mr. Haworth said it seemed to be a split jurisdiction, with the Board of Public Works doing the tie-in work

**SELECT: cont'd on page 20**

# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## HARC Meeting

Local environmental advocacy group Hands Across the River Coalition, Inc. meets monthly with the next meeting taking place **Wed., 3/25, from 6:00-7:45 p.m. at the Millicent Library, 45 Center St., Fairhaven.** Please use the Walnut Street entrance on the lower level.

Hands Across the River Coalition advocates for the safe cleanup of New Bedford Harbor and other contaminated sites in the Greater New Bedford area.

HARC appeals to everyone to join them in working to protect our air, soil and water, and especially the public's health by removing PCBs safely to an offsite TSCA, (Toxic Substances Control Act) approved landfill.

For more information, please contact Karen Vilandry 508-951-1184; Email: [harcgnb@gmail.com](mailto:harcgnb@gmail.com)

## WIIA Cand. Night

The West Island Improvement Association will hold its annual Candidates Night on **Wednesday, March 25, at 7 p.m. at the Community House, 41 Causeway Road (Top o' the Hill), West Island, Fairhaven.**

Candidates have been invited to participate and share their views regarding the upcoming town election to be held on April 7. All are welcome to come and meet the candidates and get your questions answered.

Refreshments will be provided.

## Thrift Sale

Heavenly Treasures at the First Congregational Church, 34 Center Street in Fairhaven, announces a half price sale on clothes and shoes: **Sat., 3/21, Wed., 3/25, and Sat., 3/28.** Hours are from 10 am until 1 pm.

## Book Signing

At Our Lady's Haven, 71 Center Street, Fairhaven, 508-999-4561, is hosting a book signing of "**I Left My Memory on a Bus Somewhere**" by **Rose Grant, on Thurs., 3/26 from 3:30-5:30.** Jack Grant was a witty, smart, talented art teacher and soccer coach when he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease at age 59.

This book chronicles the journey of Jack, his care-giver wife Rose, and their two teenagers through the next

twelve years as they deal with the daily life of someone with dementia. Not only do we read of the trials and tribulations of a care-giver through Rose's writing, we get to witness Jack's decline through his journals and artwork. This memoir includes an appendix of coping techniques Rose developed during their journey.

## Gov't Study Forum

**The Fairhaven Town Government Study Committee** will be hosting our **final public forum in the Town Hall Banquet room on Thurs., 3/26, at 6:30pm.** Refreshments will be served.

Our committee has finalized four recommendations to be considered at this year's annual Town Meeting. The articles are focused on the important issues of term limits for elected officials, reducing the size of the Finance Committee and changing its method of appointment, changing Town Meeting procedures and practices and funding a town department-wide assessment of its information technology systems.

This public forum is an important opportunity to engage the committee, ask questions and give us your input and feedback. This engagement is an important component of our research and deliberation process and contributes to a better result.

## Financial Literacy

PACE Child Care Works, Inc. of New Bedford is offering a Free Family Financial Literacy Event on **Tues., 3/24, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at Fairhaven Recreation Center, 227 Huttleston Ave., Fairhaven.**

Please join us and learn more about teaching your family about finances, savings, good money management and much more. Registration is preferred but not required.

For Further information, contact Julie at PACE Child Care Works, 508-999-9930 Ext. 102 or email [jvareika@paceccw.org](mailto:jvareika@paceccw.org).

## "Grease" at FHS

The Fairhaven High School Drama Club Presents "Grease"

This two-act musical features a cast of talented FHS actors. The show is sure to be a crowd pleaser. The show is being performed at **The Fairhaven High School Performing**

**Arts Center at 12 Huttleston Ave., March 26-29. Thurs., Fri., Sat. at 7 p.m. and Sun. at 2 p.m.**

**Reserved seating tickets cost \$15 for adults, \$12 for students & senior citizens, and \$10 for children under 12.** The box office will open starting March 10 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00-8:00 PM or call 508-979-4051 ext. 5411 to reserve tickets.

This show will sell out fast, so tickets may not be available at the door.

## Cataldo Scholarship

The North Fairhaven Improvement Association's Joseph Cataldo Jr. Scholarship applications are now available at the Guidance Office of Fairhaven High School, Greater NB Reg Voc-Tech HS, Bishop Stang HS, and Bristol Agricultural HS.

The Joseph Cataldo Jr. Scholarships are open to qualified high school seniors who are Fairhaven residents enrolled in a full time degree program. **The deadline for filing the application is April 27, 2015.**

Applications may also be requested by mail: NFIA Scholarship Committee P.O. Box 877 Fairhaven, MA 02719.

## Boating Safely

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 65 is proud to offer **About Boating Safely on Sat., 3/21, from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., U.S.C.G. Auxiliary Flotilla 65, 80 Middle St., Fairhaven. Course Materials: \$45.00**

REGISTER: Online <http://a0130605.uscgaux.info/publiced.html>

This boat safety course is designed to be an introductory course to meet the boating education needs of recreational boaters. This course will satisfy state requirements for mandatory boater education needed to obtain a boat license or safety certification. Many boat insurance companies will offer discounts on boating insurance to boaters who successfully complete About Boating Safely.

In general, this information applies to all recreational watercraft (powerboats, PWCs, sailboats and boats which are paddled). PWC and Jet Ski operators often have additional laws and restrictions which apply to them.

# HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

## Musical Comedy

Get out your dictionaries! The Tony Award winning musical comedy, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, one of Broadway's most buzzed about hits, will be performed by The Laurel Tree Players at Holly Family Holy Name School, 91 Summer Street, New Bedford; 508-993-3547

Set in a school gymnasium, *Spelling Bee* takes a hilarious and heart-warming look at the pressures of growing up through the eyes of quirky yet lovable characters competing for the title of spelling bee champ.

The show was chosen to celebrate The Laurel Tree Players' 25 years of delighting and entertaining audiences. *Spelling Bee* will be presented on **Fri. and Sat., 3/20 & 3/21, at 8 p.m.; and Sun., 3/22, at 2 p.m. at HFHN School. Tickets: \$15 Adults; \$12 Children/Seniors.**

Reserve tickets online at <http://www.hfhn.org/wp-content/uploads/Cabaret-Spelling-Bee-Ticket-Order-Form.pdf>

## YTI Play

*Other Desert Cities*, by Jon Robin Baitz Opening at YOUR THEATRE, INC. Directed by Robin Richard this family drama follows Brooke Wyeth who returns home to Palm Springs after a six-year absence to celebrate Christmas with her parents, brother, and aunt. Brooke announces that she is about to publish a memoir dredging up a pivotal and tragic event in the family's history: a wound they don't want reopened. In effect, she draws a line in the sand and dares them all to cross it.

You won't want to miss this play by the creator of television's "Brothers and Sisters."

**The performance dates are March 19, 20, 21 & 26, 27, 28, at 8:00 p.m. and March 22 & 29, at 2:30 p.m. Performances are held at Your Theatre, Inc., 136 Rivet St. (corner of County St.), New Bedford, in the wheelchair accessible auditorium of St. Martin's Episcopal Church. Tickets are \$15 general admission, \$13 for senior citizens, students, and military personnel.**

For reservations and information call 508-993-0772, or send an email to [info@yourtheatre.org](mailto:info@yourtheatre.org). The theatre's web site is [www.yourtheatre.org](http://www.yourtheatre.org)

Your Theatre, Inc. is grateful to our

68th Season Sponsor, BankFive.

## Dock-U-Mentary

The Dock-U-Mentaries Film Series continues on **Fri., 3/20 at 7 PM, at 33 William St., New Bedford**, with an illustrated talk about Palmer's Island Lighthouse. Dock-U-Mentaries is a co-production of New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, the New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center, and the Working Waterfront Festival. Free and open to the public. Accessible.

The Palmer's Island Lighthouse, was built and first lighted in 1849, fueled at that time by New Bedford whale oil. Once considered one of the most picturesque lighthouses in all of New England, the lighthouse which survived the 1938 hurricane, was nearly destroyed by arsonists in 1966.

During the 1990s, the City of New Bedford was named a Millennium Community and the restoration and relighting of the lighthouse was one of the city's Millennium projects, coordinated in part by former Director of Marketing and Tourism, Arthur Motta. On August 30, 1999, approximately 150 years after its original lighting, a grand ceremony marked the relighting of Palmers Island Light. Today, the lighthouse is once again undergoing much needed restoration. Deputy Port Director, Edward Anthes-Washburn, local historian Arthur Motta, and photo-journalist Peter Pereira will share historical and contemporary perspectives on the lighthouse and current and past restoration efforts.

## Where the Land Meets the Sea

The New Bedford Whaling Museum and Buzzards Bay Coalition have partnered to present "Where the Land Meets the Sea: Working to Restore and Maintain the Health of the Buzzards Bay Watershed." The three-part, public lecture series is intended to inform and create discussion among those who live within or near the Buzzards Bay Watershed.

The lecture series kicks-off at the **New Bedford Whaling Museum, 18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford, on Wed., 3/25. Each evening begins with a 6 p.m. reception, followed by a 6:30 p.m. lecture and discussion.**

The March 25 lecture is titled *Restoring Rivers and Estuaries, Native Fish and Shellfish* and will be moderated by Tom Gidwitz.

The second lecture will take place on April 1 and is titled *Restoring the Water Quality of Buzzards Bay*.

The last lecture will take place on Wednesday, April 8, and is titled *Restoring an Urban Harbor: New Bedford Harbor*.

Registration is free for Whaling Museum and Buzzards Bay Coalition members and **\$10 per lecture for Nonmembers.** To register, call 508-997-0046 ext. 100 or visit [www.whalingmuseum.org](http://www.whalingmuseum.org).

## Frog Watch

*FrogWatch USA: Saving the World One Frog at a Time!*

Does your family like frogs? Do you like spending time outside? Then you can help with the amphibian crisis! Join the Buttonwood Park Zoo as a FrogWatcher and become a citizen scientist! You will have the opportunity to explore your local wetlands, learn to identify local frogs and toads by their calls, and contribute data to a long-term scientific study. Visit our FrogWatch page at <http://www.bpzoo.org>

Upcoming **Volunteer Training Sessions at BPZOO: Sat., 4/4 1-3:30 pm.** Please pre-register by calling 508-991-6178 ext 31.

For more information on the national FrogWatch USA Program visit: <https://www.aza.org/frogwatch/>

To practice your frog call identification skills visit: <https://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/Frogquiz/>

## Street Census

The 2015 Street List Census is underway in New Bedford and city officials urge residents to be on the lookout for the white envelope with the official Elections logo which contains the census forms. Census forms must be completed and returned to the New Bedford Election Commission Office.

State law indicates that residents who fail to respond to the census may be dropped from the City's voting list. Responding to the census will avoid complications at the polls.

New Bedford residents may contact the Board of Election Commissioners at (508) 979-1421.

# HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

## Alice in Wonderland

Spindle City Ballet's Jr. Company will be presenting "Alice in Wonderland," **Sat. 3/28 at 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm, and Sun. 3/29 at 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm at the SCB Studio Theatre 288 Plymouth Ave, 2nd Floor Fall River. Tickets are \$20 for adults and seniors and \$15 for children 12 years and under.** Seating is limited. To purchase tickets call 508-536-6073 or go to [spindlecyclyballet.org](http://spindlecyclyballet.org).

This 40-minute version is suitable for children of all ages who will be enchanted following the wonderful and fantastical adventures of a little girl named Alice who travels to a magical and strange land inhabited by the White Rabbit, the Mad Hatter and the notorious Queen of Hearts!

Spindle City Ballet is the South Coast's only non-profit professional ballet company celebrating its 20th season presenting performances that excite, educate and inspire.

Visit <http://spindlecyclyballet.org/>

## MO LIFE Ball

On **Saturday, 3/21**, M.O.L.I.F.E., Inc. (Murphy and Others, Living Interdependently for Future Endeavors) will celebrate its 20 years of M.O.L.I.F.E., Inc. at our Annual Semi-Formal Ball to be held at **White's of Westport from 6pm to Midnight.**

M.O., L.I.F.E., Inc. services the vocational and community needs of individuals with disabilities in the Greater New Bedford area. ALL proceeds of this event will go toward supporting individuals with disabilities and Scholarships for local High School Seniors.

**Tickets are \$50 per person.** All proceeds will benefit people with disabilities affiliated with M.O., L.I.F.E., Inc., a 501 (3) c recognized non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible.

## Free Movie

*The Theory of Everything* (PG-13 123 min) is being shown at the **Mattapoissett CoA Senior Center, Center School, 17 Barstow St., on Tues., 3/24 at 12 noon.** The free movie is sponsored by the Friends of the Mattapoissett CoA.

*The Theory of Everything* is a 2014 British biographical romantic drama film about Jane and Stephen Hawking.

It deals with Jane's relationship with her ex-husband, theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking, his diagnosis of motor neuron disease, and his success in physics.

**You get two pizza slices for only \$2.00 prepaid.** Pay for your pizza at the CoA Senior Center **by Monday, March 23.** Also call 508-758-4110 to reserve your seat, so we'll know how many chairs to set up.

## Bird Club

At the Nasketucket Bird Club's March meeting Lauren Miller-Donnelly will present "Cloud Forest Bird Research in Ecuador."

The event will be held at 7 p.m. on Thurs., 3/26, at the Mattapoissett Public Library, 7 Barstow St. Free and open to the public. Accessible. For more information contact Carolyn Longworth at [bvm1290@comcast.net](mailto:bvm1290@comcast.net).

Lauren will provide highlights from tropical bird research at Las Tangaras Reserve just outside of Mindo, Ecuador, where she spent much of the month of December 2013. The trip was a unique mix of Eco-tourism and volunteer fieldwork run by a non-profit organization. Lauren Miller-Donnelly is the property manager for Mass Audubon's Allens Pond and Great Neck Wildlife Sanctuaries, where she also runs the Junior Bird Club. She is the President of the Paskamansett Bird Club and a Mass. Butterfly Club fieldtrip leader.

## Bike Summit

Boston Bicycle Czar, Nicole Freedman, former Olympian and two time national women's cycling champion, will be the Keynote speaker at the **South Coast Bikeway Alliance 5th Annual Bicycle Summit on Thurs., 3/26 at White's of Westport.** Since 2007 Nicole has been instrumental in increasing the popularity of bicycling in the City of Boston and transforming the city into one of the best cities for cycling. Representative Bill Straus, Chair of the House Transportation Committee will report to us about the new Administration's commitment to healthy transportation and give an update on recent legislation in support of MASSDOT's "Complete Streets" (streets that accommodate vehicles, pedestrians and bicycles). Richard Fries, MassBike's new

Executive Director, and Event Director for Providence Cyclo-cross Festival joins us as our special guest. The Summit's sponsors are Cape Cod Five Cent Bank and the Narragansett Bay Wheelmen.

All who have an interest in bicycling for recreation, alternative transportation, promotion of tourism and economic development on the South Coast are welcome and encouraged to attend this free event. A welcoming reception begins at 6PM. Please come network with bike advocates from your community and with leaders in bike racing, group riding, bike tourism. Learn about upcoming South Coast summer bike events. The speakers program begins at 6:30 and concludes at 7:30, followed by a social hour in White's Galley Grill. Pre registration is appreciated. Go to <http://www.southcoastbikeway.com/> click on "events calendar" or Call SRPEDD (508) 824-1367 and ask to speak to the Bicycle Coordinator, Jackie Schmidt.

## Caregiver Course

Coastline will be offering a free six-week caregiver class, "Powerful Tools for Caregivers," **beginning April 1st and running through May 6th from 4:30-6pm at Brandon Woods of Dartmouth, South Dartmouth, MA.**

Coastline offers this evidence-based workshop **free of charge to all participants**, each class size is limited to a maximum of 12 participants, and care is available for your care receiver while you participate in the program. Class participants report that following the program, they experience fewer feelings of anger, guilt and depression and feel increased confidence in coping with the demand of caregiving.

The Powerful Tools for Caregivers program is a program designed to help family caregivers develop new skills that will improve their lives and enable them to be happy, healthy caregivers for as long as possible. Topics presented include: identifying and reducing stress, communicating your feeling, needs and concerns; communicating in challenging situations; learning from your emotions; and mastering caregiving decisions.

For more information or to register, contact Stephanie Gibson at 508-742-9186 [orsgibson@coastlinenb.org](mailto:orsgibson@coastlinenb.org).

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**Friday, 3/27:**  
Back in the Day Night

**Saturday, 3/28:**  
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*Our residents are looking forward to an exciting, eventful March here at Atria Fairhaven. We'd love for you to join us.*  
(RSVP: 508-994-9238)

Join us for:

**Nutrition Myths and Facts** Monday, March 30, 10 a.m. Join our dietician Renee to discuss the nutrition myths and facts for National Nutrition Month. Enjoy a delicious, nutritious snack while you're there. RSVP by March 27

**Birthday Bash** Tuesday, March 31, 2:30 p.m. Join us for a fun, energetic afternoon of music and entertainment by Tom and Betty, The Dynamic Duo, to celebrate March resident birthdays. Refreshments will be served. RSVP by March 27

**Help fight hunger** Join us in the fight against hunger. March is National Nutrition Month. We'll be collecting canned soup and other non-perishable items throughout the month of March. All food items will be donated to help support our local community. Donations may be dropped off from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.



391 Alden Road • Fairhaven, Massachusetts  
508.994.9238 • [www.atriafairhaven.net](http://www.atriafairhaven.net)

# Obituary



**Craig Stuart Nelsen**  
**July 10, 1972–**  
**March 14, 2015**

Craig Stuart Nelsen, formerly of Gaithersburg, Maryland, passed away peacefully in the presence of his parents at their family home in Fairhaven on March 14, 2015. He was 42 years old.

Craig was a graduate of American University in Washington, DC, with Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Analytical Chemistry. He was employed as Senior Scientist and Research Scientist in biotechnology firms in the Washington, DC area. Recent work involved developing a test for the early detection of Alzheimer's disease.

While at American University, Craig founded its Anime Society and

has enjoyed this hobby throughout his adult life. He collected the earliest films up to the present and made a trip to Japan to expand his collection. For several years, he was a key staff member of Katsucon, an annual convention of Japanese culture enthusiasts in Washington, DC. He always looked forward to his time at the convention and attended his last in February.

Craig's designation as a "Cancer Warrior" at Massachusetts General Hospital was well earned. He contributed to MGH and Dana-Farber research by keeping copious notes filling several whole binders and taking many, many scans and MRIs to inform those doing research on his sarcoma, an outcome of neurofibromatosis (NF), in the hope of helping others who suffer from this incurable disease.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate any donations made in his name to The Children's Tumor

Foundation ([www.ctf.org](http://www.ctf.org)).

Craig leaves his parents, Captain Dean F. and Doreen F. Nelsen of Fairhaven; his brother, Derek Andrew Nelsen, his wife Jennifer Huang, and their two sons, Owen Shuyoh Nelsen and Benjamin Dinhjun Nelsen. Craig was the beloved grandson of Frank F. and Mary B. Sylvia of Mattapoisett and Adeline I. Nelsen of Nebraska, who are deceased. Aunt Nancy K. Paquin, lives in New Hampshire and Beverly J. Sylvia Grove, Colorado. Other surviving aunts and uncles are Dwight Nelsen and his wife Kay from Nebraska, Inez and Harold Richard in Arizona, and Linda Barker from Michigan.

A brief ceremony for the family will take place Saturday at the Nelsen home, 23 Fort Street, Fairhaven. Craig's wish was to be cremated, and a memorial observance for friends and relatives from near and far will be held on his birthday on July 10, 2015, at the Nelsen residence.

## Recipe of the Week

### Apple Tartlets w/salted caramel

Toss 2 diced peeled apples with 2T. each melted butter and lemon juice in a baking dish.

Bake at 425 until tender, about 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, bake 16 puff pastry

cups as the label directs.

Pull out the tops and fill with the cooked apples.

Top with sea salt, warm caramel sauce and a dollop of cool whip. (I use package dream whip)

Enjoy!! Soo Appelleicious

*Bevy Lussier*

### To share a recipe with your neighbors

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

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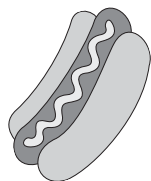
Look for our Friday specials on the menu board  
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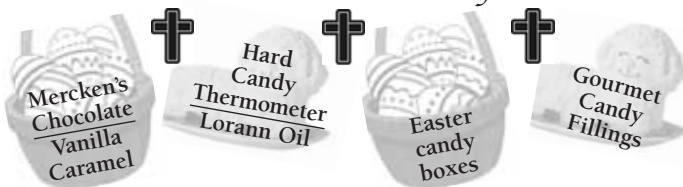
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# Abandoned pet killed by car. Acushnet ACO: Call animal control

I spent most of the day Tuesday trying to restrain a dog (a Portuguese Fila), which was running down Main Street in the area of Clems Way and Leonard Street.

I am pretty certain this dog was dumped by her owner. I exhausted all my possible means of gathering information about who owned the dog, and every one of them turned out to be a dead end.

As an Animal Control Officer, and I know I speak for all of us it is very disheartening, frustrating, and aggravating that people can just take a living, breathing creature and open their car door and discard it.

Because of this heartless action, all of my efforts yesterday, along with those of the Mattapoissett ACO, were in vain. The dog was hit by a car and was killed. Again, I often wonder, "What are people thinking?"

This beautiful female canine was scared and was hoping her master was going to come back and pick her up. Unfortunately for her, that did not happen.

It seems as though this year there have been more animals struck and killed by motor vehicles, and the

people that are driving these vehicles do not feel as though they need to report to the authorities that they have struck an animal. Many times the animal is left there suffering.

I would like to put a plea out to the public, to all of us who are driving: Stay off your phones. Pay attention. Most of all, if you own any type of animal and for whatever reason you

do the best we can for your animal. There are shelters available.

In the extreme case that an animal must be euthanized (good death), they would have at least left this earth and gone to a place of peace with dignity.

I have a 4 1/2 month-old Fila who was picked up on Brookside Drive on March 6. I certainly hope she was not dumped by the same person.

This little pup I have chosen to name "Holly" has not been claimed as of yet. It is ironic that in 10 days' time I have not only one dog of this breed, but now two. Fortunately, she has made it to a safe haven. She needs a lot of work and has a long road ahead of her, but she is being cared for.

If anyone knows of a person that has this breed of dog and no longer sees them, please contact me at [rtomlinson@acushnet.ma.us](mailto:rtomlinson@acushnet.ma.us)

I was asked for a picture of the dog that was hit by the car, but I declined. I just hope that the person that dumped the dog yesterday morning can live with their actions.

*Rebekah Tomlinson, Acushnet ACO*  
*"The only mistake in life is the lesson not learned" — Albert Einstein*

**This beautiful female canine was scared and was hoping her master was going to come back.**

cannot keep this animal, CALL YOUR LOCAL ANIMAL CONTROL.

Our job is to keep all of our animals safe and sound. Though our lives may take us in a different direction sometimes, that we can no longer take care of our animals, or pay for medical needs that may arise, it is so simple to contact Animal Control. We will try to



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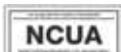


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## Entertainment & Events

Fri., Mar. 20:  
Wrestling  
8 p.m.-1 a.m.

Fri., Mar. 27:  
DJ Zach dancing and  
karaoke, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

## COMEDY SHOW

Sat., March 21

Featuring 3 comedians starting at 7 p.m.,  
followed by DJ Howie • Tickets \$20, at the bar



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# Fairhaven Recreation Center

**Open Mon-Thurs, 6 a.m.-8 p.m.;  
Fri., 6 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.-  
2 p.m.; Closed Sunday • 227  
Huttleston Ave, 508-993-9269  
[http://fairhavenma.virtualltown  
hall.net](http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net)**

## Flashlight Egg Hunt

Join us for the 13th annual Flashlight Egg Hunt! Children will search for their eggs on the Recreation Center grounds, take pictures with the Easter Bunny and receive a special treat. Don't forget to bring your flashlight! NO LATE REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED. NO WALK-INS NIGHT OF THE EVENT.

Friday, March 27th, 7:30pm, \$5 per child Ages 10 and under. **Deadline to register is Tuesday, March 24th**

## Kool Kids April Vac

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

For more information, call Fairhaven Recreation at 508-993-9269. **Monday, April 21-24**

Grades K-5 **Cost \$100.00 member/  
\$125.00 non-member** Time 8:00am-3:00pm

## Cardio Mix

New 20/20/20 and Cardio Mix classes starting soon!!! Time to get out of the house, Sping is coming!!!

## Foxwoods trip coming up call for date!

Call Fairhaven Recreation at  
508-993-9269.

To succeed in life,  
you need two things:  
ignorance and confidence.

Mark TwainS

# Fairhaven Senior Center

508-979-4029 • 229 Huttleston Ave  
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Respite Care: one day, half-a-day. Regular rates apply.

Visit our new website at:

[http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA\\_COA/index](http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA_COA/index)

## Mall Trips

**Mar. 25:** Seekonk Plaza and Swansea Mall  
**April 1:** Twin Rivers

**April 8:** Warwick Mall  
**April 15:** South Shore Plaza

## Entertainment

**3/19: Ray Jay • 3/26: Karaoke with Rick Ferreira  
4/2: Ray J • 4/9: J Rodd Trio • 4/16: Two For The Road**

## Special Activities

### South Coastal Counties Legal Services., Inc.

**Thursday, 4/9, at 11 a.m.,** Rosa Farizo will be at the Fairhaven Senior Center to answer your questions concerning: \*Social Security Benefits (SSI and/or Social Security applications, denials, terminations or overpayments); \*Subsidized housing matters (evictions, hearings, transfers, etc.); \*Public Benefits Cases (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs, SNAP) Community and long Term Care Medicaid and Medicare.

This is by appointment only. Please call 508-979-4029. Funded in part by Coastline Elderly Services to provide free legal assistance to seniors age 60 and over.

### Volunteer Drivers

Needed to transport Senior Citizen to and from medical appointments. If you are interested in helping out please come into the Fairhaven Senior Center and fill out a application or call for more information at 508-979-4029.

### Single Seniors

The Single Senior Supper Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of

the month for a nice meal and conversation. If you are a single senior 60 and over and would like to attend please call the Senior Center to sign up by the Friday before the event. A \$3.00 donation is suggested.

### Southcoast LGBT

The South Coast LGBT Seniors (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month for a nice meal and friendship for seniors 60 and older. Please call the senior center to sign up by the Friday before the event. A \$3.00 donation is suggested.

### Sewing Circle

The sewing Circle group will meet will meet the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Do you want to learn to sew or maybe do a little quilting? Join us at the Fairhaven Senior Center and meet Debbie as she shares her sewing expertise.

### Cops 'n Donuts

At the Fairhaven Senior Center with Det. Janice Bubluski, Elder Safety Office in Fairhaven. She has some important messages to share. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and have a donut of course. Next date is April 1 at 10 a.m..

## Ongoing Programs

**Call 508-979-4029 for days and times**

A/G Consumer Mediator; Bingo; Board Meeting/monthly; Bridge; Caregiver Support & Education Group; Chair Yoga, Computer Training; Fit Quest; Friends of Elderly/monthly meeting; Grocery Shopping; LGBT Supper Club; Line Dancing; Live Band; Medical Transportation; Nutrition Program/ meal served; Osteoporosis class; Outreach Coordinator; PACE Fuel Assistance; Pitch; Reassurance Program; Shopping; Singles Senior Supper Club; Supportive Senior Social Day Program; Tai Chi; Tap 'N' Time, Walking Clubs, Zumba.

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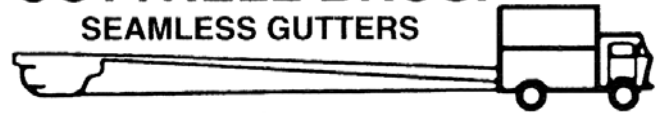
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# Candidates face the voters in first candidates night

By Beth David

Editor

Candidates for office in Fairhaven had their first chance to get their messages out to the voters at a candidates night on Wednesday, 3/11, held at the Senior Center and sponsored by the Government Access Channel.

Each candidate made an opening statement and then faced three questions by members of the Government Study Committee.

Three School Committee candidates, challenger Diane Hahn and incumbents Donna McKenna and Colin Veitch, are vying for two seats.

Ms. McKenna said she wanted to be re-elected to continue assisting with the education and welfare of the town's students.

She said is open minded and listens to the opinions of others.

When asked if she thought the school should itemize its budget the way other town departments do, she said it should.

She said she supported Common Core and PARCC because it would move students into the 21st century.

In response to another question, she said she would support more civics lessons in schools, such as teaching students how local government works.

Mr. Veitch reminded voters that at one time the school committee was publicly at odds with the superintendent, even getting scolded by the state.

He said it was no longer that way and he would like to keep it that way.

He outlined programs he has supported and others he would like to see implemented.

When asked if he would support preschool at both elementary schools, he said yes, but the enrollment was not there.

"The sooner we can get a-hold of them the better," he said.

He also said he would support civic



Pictured are candidates for School Committee. TOP: Diane Hahn. MIDDLE: Donna McKenna. ABOVE: Colin Veitch. Photos by Beth David.

affairs classes.

He said he did not support changing the way the budget is submitted to town meeting.

"It think what's publicly available is pretty complete," said Mr. Veitch.

Challenger Diane Hahn is making her second bid to win a seat on the committee by election. She also applied to fill the vacant seat of David Gonsalves when he died suddenly last year. Mr. Veitch was appointed to that.

Ms Hahn is an outspoken advocate for special needs students and said that the committee needs someone who will keep special education in mind when making decisions.

"Am I a single issue candidate? Absolutely not," said Ms. Hahn.

She said the issues of special needs students affect all students.

She also said she is very involved in many aspects of education so she is "not out of the loop."



She said she will be available to parents who need to advocate for their children.

"There is an achievement gap," she said, adding that she would support having more paraprofessionals to help special ed students to close that gap.

She also said she would try to make parents feel welcome at School Committee meetings and not deride them for asking questions.

The Board of Health race could also heat up a bit, with Lindsay Gordon challenging incumbent Barbara Acksen. The two faced off in 2012.

Dr. Acksen touted her 37 years as a psychologist.

"I care about health deeply," said Dr. Acksen.

She said she is familiar with the state Department of Public Health issues in town and in the region.

Her profession has taught her listen to people respectfully, she said.

She told voters that the BOH is the "guardian of public health," and the town has many areas where the BOH



needs to be involved, including medical marijuana.

"Being able to look at [regulations] from a variety of perspectives is increasingly important," said Dr. Acksen.

In response to questions, Ms. Acksen said the BOH worked together with the Board of Public Works to change the trash and recycling programs in town.

She said she would not support having an appointed BOH because members need to be independent. The mission of the BOH to protect public health may be in conflict with other departments or boards.

"I think it would be a big risk for the town," she said.

Ms. Gordon touted her experience as executive director of assisted living facilities. She said she is familiar with regulatory issues involving all aspects of housing and food.

She said it would be an honor to serve on the board and that she had a lot of experience in protecting people's safety.

She said the BOH has a responsibility to "educate, educate, educate."

She is Serve Safe certified and knowledgeable about food allergies.

"I intend to bring all my experience with regulatory compliance to the board," said Ms. Gordon.

In response to questions, Ms. Gordon said her main focus would be on regulatory issues, especially with food products.

She said the medical marijuana facility that will be located in Fairhaven will be creating food products.

"I will focus on regulations," said Ms. Gordon. "And make sure the regulations are meeting the needs of the population, for all the residents in town."

The Board of Public Works also has three candidates running for two seats. Newcomer Armen Migirdicyan has jumped into the fray, facing off against incumbent Robert "Hoppy" Hobson, and former BPW member Daniel Freitas.

CAND: cont'd on page 23



# Community shows support for Jay Simmons

By Beth David  
Editor

A little nauseated, a little unsteady on his feet, but still able to joke around and walk around, a battered Jay Simmons worked the room like a true politician on Saturday, 3/14, at a fund-raiser held for him at the Pasta House. Organizers sold 120 tickets and the group filled the Pasta House.

Mr. Simmons was attacked on Tuesday, 3/3, near his Oxford Street home by an unknown assailant wielding a metal, spade-type shovel.

It is unknown if the attack has anything to do with his position as Chair of the Conservation Commission or the Fairhaven Housing authority.

Saturday's fund-raiser and a GoFundMe campaign were set up by town hall employees Anne Kakley and Vicki Paquette.

Mr. Simmons, 48 at the time of the attack, spent several days at Rhode Island Hospital, but made a remarkably fast recovery and was home in a few days.

"We knew he was getting back to normal when he started talking nonstop," said Jay's sister Janine Simmons.

"And that was before he could even open his eyes," added his sister Kathleen.

"I guess I have good genetics," said Jay, pointing to his 91-year-old father Tony.

Jay took the microphone to thank everyone, saying that he screamed as loud as he could after he got knocked down by that first blow. His neighbor

came out and that saved him.

"I'm so, so, so, lucky," Jay told the crowd. "I'm lucky that the shovel broke."

When the cake came out to celebrate his birthday from the day before, Jay simply said: "I made it."

Jay said he is hoping he has no permanent problems from the attack. He's getting better each day, but still has problems with nausea and dizziness.

"I feel like I have a hangover now," he said, adding that he hopes he does not start getting migraines.

"I'm getting better day by day," he said. "I'm just hoping it all goes away completely."

He said his sister Janine really "stepped up" and took over with the doctors, and he remembers simply pointing at her when they asked questions.

Ms. Kakley said that after it happened, she and Ms. Paquette felt wanted to do something to help. They decided that

emotional support and financial support where the things he probably needed most.

"Jay's just a loveable person," said Ms. Kakley, adding that it was easy to get donations from businesses, because "they all love him."



"You reap what you sow," she said. "It's a great little town."

The benefit raised about \$9,000 for Jay. You may also donate at <http://www.gofundme.com/nv5m30> or at Southern Mass Credit Union where an account has been set up.

(See letter on page 20)



The community turned out in big numbers at a fund-raiser to show support for Jay Simmons, who was beaten with a metal shovel on March 3. The even raised about \$9,000. A fundraising page at GoFundMe.com and an account at Southern Mass Credit Union have also been set up. TOP: Jay Simmons blows out the candles on the birthday cake at a fund-raiser in his honor at the Pasta House on 3/14. ABOVE, Mr. Simmons with the Selectboard members, L-R: Geoffrey Haworth, Charles Murphy, Jay Simmons, Bob Espindola LEFT, Jay with his father, siblings and family friends, L-R: Patriarch Tony Simmons, Eric Simmons, Kathleen Simmons Schofield, Tom Lipiec, John Haran, Janine Simmons, Jay Simmons. Photos by Beth David

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# Candidate statements: Board of Public Works



**Dan Freitas**

My name is Dan Freitas and I am running for a position on the Board of Public Works.

I feel that I am the best candidate for this position because I have spent my entire adult life in public works. I worked for the town of Fairhaven DPW for close to 20 years at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. I now work at Mass Maritime Academy as the Chief Operator of the Wastewater Plant

Given that I worked at the DPW for so many years I have an understanding of the day-to-day operations of the Water, Sewer, Highway and Parks departments.

On Election Day, April 6th, you will be asked whether the BPW should discontinue as it currently stands and become an advisory board only.

I do not feel that this is good for our community!

If the board becomes advisory only, you the voters will lose a voice in our town government. The Board would be able to advise the new Town Administrator but he/she would not be bound by that advice.

Do you want your grievance/issue heard in front of a board of five of your elected peers or on town official?

I urge you to vote NO on changing the structure of the BPW and vote YES for Dan Freitas as your representative on the Board of Public Works.

Thank you!

Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure...than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much, because they live in a gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat.

*Theodore Roosevelt*



**Robert "Hoppy" Hobson**

I'm running for re-election because I love my town and I think it's important for

people to be involved in politics.

It's like being a veteran, which I am. Do you want to take care of your country? Do you want to take care of your town?

One of the most important things we did while I was on the board was to hire our superintendent, Vinnie Furtado.

I also always tried to make sure we hired Fairhaven residents first and veterans. If they are qualified, I feel we should always give town residents and veterans preference.

We also got the digester online. We worked with the Board of Health to restructure the trash pickup and the recycling contract. I was very instrumental in keeping the recycling center open on Wednesdays throughout the winter and on Saturdays throughout the year.

Basically, for just paying attention to protect the taxpayers from getting a raw deal.

We have a lot of new people in town making changes. We need to make sure they are good for the town. I've seen a lot of changes in Fairhaven in the last 70-something years. I don't like all of them. Someone has to be paying attention to make sure they are the right changes, and to protect the taxpayers.

For the future, I'd like to see a state-of-the-art recycling center in Fairhaven. If you want to tear sheet-rock off the wall, you have to go to ABC. Why can't we have our own place and you can pay the town? The leaves and grass disposal would still be free.

I also do not think that the BPW should become an advisory board (a ballot question in the election). How many people do you want to go in front of just to get a driveway waiver?

If the BPW is made an advisory board, the town administrator will make the decision, and the town administrator will not have to take the BPW's advice.

So please vote for Robert D. Hobson on April 6, and vote NO on the ballot question.



**Armen Migirdicyan**

My name is Armen Migirdicyan.

In the year 2000, I fell in love with this town and have called it

home ever since. I reside here with my wife, daughter and nine-year-old son.

Planting our roots here in Fairhaven, around all the beautiful parks, beaches, and architectural history was a great decision for us. We are very grounded and involved in this town.

My wife has a small business here and is a realtor in town. Our daughter works as a teacher at a local daycare and our son attends third grade at the Leroy Wood School.

I have owned my own business in Bridgewater, Mass., for over 20 years.

Although the Public Works field is new to me, I am confident that I will do a great job for the people of Fairhaven.

My strong areas are managing a business, crunching numbers, developing budgets and being fiscally conservative. I have no agenda to be a part of the board, other than the fact that I want to be a part of helping this town "be all it can be."

I have never thought of this town in terms of East Fairhaven or The Village, or Sciticut Neck, etc. I have and will continue to think of this town as a whole.

So, if you allow me to be a member of the Board of Public Works, I can give you my word that I will treat the taxpayers' money with the same respect and responsibility that has made my business the success story that it is.

Don't forget to vote on April 6th!

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## To Our Community

On March 3, 2015, our friend and public official, Jay Simmons, was senselessly attacked outside of his home. He was left with serious injuries to his head and body, and the far reaching implications of those injuries are not yet known. Thanks to an outpouring of support from the community, we were able to raise over \$9,000 to help our friend Jay with a benefit that was held at the Pasta House on March 14.

With only ten days to prepare the event, we often felt overwhelmed, but we were able to pull it off because of our awesome and supportive community.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the event, both in large capacity and small capacity. Specifically, we owe our gratitude to Mario at the Pasta House for letting us use the facility on such short notice and his accommodating wait staff, and for donating to the raffle.

We also thank: everyone who helped at the Town Hall, particularly

Wendy Graves, Melody Perry and Pattie Pacella for manning the tickets and contributing gift baskets.

Thanks to Mike and Wayne's Inc. and Dorothy Cox Chocolates for selling tickets to the event.

Thank you to Sue Roderiques and Anne Silvia at the Council on Aging for giving candy to sell and baskets to raffle off.

Thank you to the Board of Selectmen for allowing us to use the Town Hall to sell tickets to the benefit.

Thanks to the following businesses and individuals for contributing items or gift certificates to the raffle: Marc Scanlon, Emma Jean's Cupcake Factory, Terry Cripps of Running Brook Vineyards, Dorothy Cox Chocolates, Tracie Smith, RRR Auto, Courtyard Restaurant, Gloria and Company, Riccardi's Restaurant, Divine Massage, Euphoria, Art on Center, author Kristine Daniels, Eva's Yarn Shop, Jim Mahaney, Euro Ship Store, Jami Franco of Seaport Inn, Turk's Restaurant, Charlie Murphy,

Bob Espindola and Titleist, Kelly Ferranti, Leo's Breakfast of Buzzard's Bay, Wah May's, Arthur Moniz Galleries, Robert Brunelle of Main Street Formals, No Problemo, Destination Soups, artist Shelley Cardoos, artist Natalie Stopka, the Haircutters, Antonio's Restaurant, Douglass Wine and Spirits, Lisa Rose, Mairy Chessa of Reflexology, Fay's Restaurant in Dartmouth, and Carabiners, and Beth David.

Thank you to Jonathan Paquette and Sue Roderiques for helping set up and take down the event.

We are grateful to everyone who attended and contributed.

Contributions can continue to be made to the Southern Mass Credit Union, to the checking account # 26015 or via GoFundMe at: [www.gofundme.com/nv5m30](http://www.gofundme.com/nv5m30)

Thanks again everyone. Together, we showed what really defines our community. We couldn't have done this without you.

*Vicki Paquette and Anne Kakley*

### SELECT: cont'd on page 20

and the BOH doing compliance.

Mr. Osuch and Mr. Haworth agreed that the first step was to get the list, and Mr. DeTerra said he would.

The board also discussed the budget and town meeting articles, trying to squeeze budget requests into the maximum spending goal of \$46,750,000.

The inordinate amount of snow and snow-removal costs also translates into extra road damage that will cost more than anticipated.

"We're going to be spending a small fortune putting things back together," said Mr. Osuch.

He suggested moving some road work money around in the town

meeting article.

The board also voted to support an article for a wellness program, 2-1, with Mr. Haworth voting against it. He said he could not justify the \$18,000 expense this year.

Mr. Espindola insisted it would pay huge dividends down the road by saving money on health care costs for town employees. Mr. Murphy said they should put it on the warrant and let Town Meeting decide.

The board also decided not to sign onto a press release proposed by Fairhaven Wind, which apparently touts the benefits of the two wind turbines off Arsene Street. Board members felt the language was biased and suggested that Fairhaven Wind

issue a press release on its own without the board.

In other business, the board:

- Awarded the \$1,697,250 Union Wharf bulkhead project to Sea and Shore Contracting of Randolph.
- Agreed to send a request to Coastal Zone Management to correct a map error identifying Oxford Village as Marsh Island.
- Accepted the resignation of Antone Medeiros as Measurer of Wood and Bark. No one seems to know if the position is a state law or is a holdover from earlier times for another reason. "I don't know how often you need it," said Mr. Osuch. Anyone interested in the position should contact the Selectboard.

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## Public Hearings/ Legal Notices

### Board of Appeals

The Fairhaven Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 7, 2015, at 6:00 PM in the Town Hall to consider the following petitions:

#### CONTINUED HEARING:

1. **Petitioner: Caroline & Percy Marcoux**, RE: 118 Laurel Street, Plat 10, Lot 126A; Book 11171 and Page 261, 198-23 A-B: A. The Home Occupation shall be accommodated within an existing structure without extension thereof. B. No more than 25% of floor area of residence shall be used for the purpose of the home occupation.

#### NEW HEARINGS:

- Petitioner: Americo Valentin**, RE: 7 Deerfield Lane, Plat 37, Lot 19D; Book 10639 and Page 197; 198-16: Accessory Apartment requires a Special Permit within an RA District.
- Petitioner: John & Linda Grenier**, RE: 33 Williams Street, Plat 9, Lot 94; Book 11135 and Page 197; 198-18: Short 4' of the required 10' side yard, north side and 17' short of required 30' rear yard all within an RA District.
- Petitioner: Andrew Olsen**, RE: 37 Capeview Street, Plat 29D, Lot 194-195; Book 7036 and Page 16; 198-23-4B: Building trades as Home Occupation requires a Special Permit.
- Petitioner: Howe Allen/Tim Evans**, RE: 92 Cottonwood Street, Plat 43C, Lot 74; Certificate #23271; 198-18 Short 5' of required 30' front setback, short 6' of required 20' side yard and 7% over max lot coverage 15% all within an RR District.
- Petitioner: Seth Deroches**, RE: 47 Alder Street, Plat 43A, Lot 52, Certificate #16338; 198-19 Short 5' of required 30' front yard, Short 5' of required 20' side yard and 2% over max lot coverage of 15% all within an RR District.
- Petitioner: Jeffrey Thomas & Sandra Dompierre**, RE: Mill Road, Plat 39, Lot 7, Book 11238, Page 44. 198-28 G-1 Special Permit required for construction within the Nasketucket River Basin.

*Peter DeTerra, Chairman*



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RMD: cont'd from page 3

area would be inside building.

The board also expressed concern that some product might be sold to other RMDs.

CC representatives told the board that state law allowed them to buy and sell with other RMDs up to 30% of their total product.

Other changes from the previous proposal are parking and access to the building. The new proposal has three doors, including a separate entrance for employees.

The board suggested a change in landscaping near the handicapped parking spaces to make it easier for people in wheelchairs to access the building.

In answer to questions from board members, CC representatives told the board that no product could be thrown away by state law. The dumpster would be locked with a six-foot high fence.

The board also discussed the hours of operation. Board member Rene Fleuerent wanted to prohibit the facility from opening on Sundays, but the board did not support his proposal.

In the end, Coastal Compassion got the six necessary votes, with Kaisa Cripps voting "no."

Board member Peter Nopper, whose business abuts the property, recused himself from the discussion and vote, but remained in the room during the discussion.

In other business, the board continued the hearings for Brahmin Leather and Mill Bridge Holdings.

## Fairhaven Meetings

**Bikeway Committee**  
Thurs., 3/19, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**Board of Appeals**  
Tues., 4/7, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

**Board of Public Works**  
Mon., 3/23, 5 Arsene St., 6 p.m.

**Cable Advisory Comm.**  
Mon., 3/30, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**Conservation Commission**  
Mon., 3/23, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**Finance Committee**  
Thurs., 3/19, 5 Arsene St., 7 p.m.  
Thurs, 3/26, 5 Arsene St., 7 p.m.

**Government Study Com**  
Thurs., 3/19, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

### GSC Forum

The Fairhaven Town Government Study Committee will be hosting our final public forum in the Town Hall Banquet room on **Thurs., 3/26, at 6:30pm.**

Refreshments will be served.

### Planning Board

Tues., 3/24, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### School Committee

Tues., 3/25, FHS Library, 5:30 p.m.

### Selectboard

Mon., 3/30, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

## Acushnet Meetings

**Finance Committee**  
Wed., 3/25, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**Lake Street Improvement**  
Mon., 3/23, Town Hall, 8:30 a.m.

### Planning Board

Thurs., 3/12, Parting Ways Bldg., 6:30

### Selectboard

Mon., 3/23, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

## TIDE TABLE

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

	Mar. 2015	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Friday	20	0833	2058	0158*	1418*
Saturday	21	0923	2149	0256*	1510*
Sunday	22	1013	2239	0347*	1556*
Monday	23	1103	2329	0431*	1637*
Tuesday	24	1155	----	0511*	1717*
Wednesday	25	0023	1251	0555	1802
Thursday	26	0120	1350	0659	1905
Friday	27	0217	1445	0948	2202
Saturday	28	0312	1542	1101	2322
Sunday	29	0412	1646	1159	----

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

# Fairhaven friends run half marathon for a cause

By Beth David  
Editor

Will Benoit and Gabe Monroe don't do everything together, but when they decide to team up on something, they stick with it to the end. The two started running with the LL Wood School's Band of Brothers running club a few years ago. They've run in a couple of 5K and 10K races. Now 12 years old and at Hastings Middle School, the two friends decided to challenge themselves by running in the New Bedford Half Marathon.

With Will's father Russ beside them, the two made it over the finish line in under two hours, all three holding hands as they finished. It was Will's second time running the big race, and Gabe's first.

This year, they sweetened the idea raising money for the Jimmy Fund. Being big Red Sox fans, it was a natural choice. They also have a teacher and a relative with cancer, so they decided to "pay it forward."

"A lot of people helped out," said Russ. "It was nice to see people come together."

The boys raised \$1,500, but dona-

tions are still coming in. For each \$500 they raised, they got a "Dana Farber Cancer Institute" vest, so all three runners got to wear one during the race.

Gabe's father Brian said he was very impressed with the determination of the two boys to stick with such a difficult training program, and to finish the race.

They both got cramps as they ran, but they talked each other through it and kept going.

Russ said the boys were being a "little humble."

He said Gabe's cramp was a bad one. They stopped

do and Gabe said he wanted to finish. "He's as tough as nails," said Russ.

The snowy winter didn't make



L-R: Will Benoit, Gabe Monroe and Russ Benoit cross the finish line together at the New Bedford Half Marathon on Sunday, 3/15. The two 12-year-olds are Hastings Middle School students and raised more than \$1500 for the Jimmy Fund. They ran the race in 1:57:30. Photo courtesy of Brian Monroe.

RUN: cont'd on page 26

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Mr. Hobson told voters he has been on the board for nine years. He said he has advocated for hiring Fairhaven residents and veterans. The digester got online during his time on the board and they hired a new DPW superintendent.

He said he tries to help people who have public works issues.

In response to a question, he said he would not run for the position if the BPW became an advisory board with the Selectboard or a Town Administrator taking over the BPW's duties.

He said there would be no point in having meetings and making recommendations that would not have to be followed.

"It just doesn't make sense to me," he said, adding that the Selectboard is not able to handle an additional 50 employees. "They can't even take care of one ACO [Animal Control Officer]. We get a new one every three years."

Mr. Freitas emphasized his professional experience in the wastewater treatment field, as well as his experience being on the board in the past.

He said did not support the change to the BPW to an advisory board, saying it would not be in the best interest of the town.

"You will lose a voice in town government," said Mr. Freitas, and added that he disputed that the change would "streamline" anything.

He said he felt he was the best candidate for the job because of his experience in wastewater treatment..

He said he had the knowledge to help the town with its aging infrastructure and the upcoming upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant, which, he said are six years overdue.

He said the recent water leaks and water main breaks are an indication of the infrastructure work that needs to be done.

Mr. Migirdicyan told voters he moved to Fairhaven 15 years ago with his wife and two children. He said he owns a business in Bridgewater and does budgets every day, and wants to bring his business expertise to board.

Calling himself "very fiscally conservative," he said the town needs to stop asking for more tax money from businesses.

"If you ask for more from business, you will have no business here," said Mr. Migirdicyan, and he pointed out the empty storefronts in town. "If no business, no jobs. If no jobs, how are you going to pay your bills?"

"I'm going to protect the taxpayers just like I protect my business," said Mr. Migirdicyan. "That is a promise."

He, too, said he would not want to be on the board if it is advisory.

"It would be worse than Washington," said Mr. Migirdicyan. "I don't want this place to be like

Washington."

He said he would learn what he needed to know by asking people and meeting with the "right people."

Unopposed in his re-election bid, Selectboard member Bob Espindola told the voters that he felt he needed to run for re-election to finish up some things in the works. He said choosing a Town Administrator was a very important decision that the town would make in his next term.

He thanked those who got him elected the first time, three years ago, when he claimed a decisive victory in a field of four.

"To those who voted for me in 2012, I hope I have met your expectations," said Mr. Espindola. "And to those who did not vote for me, I hope I have earned your trust and your respect."

Moderator Mark Sylvia is also unopposed in his race. He said he was happy that the town now has an assistant town moderator. He said he has made changes to some of the debate rules at town meeting and has held orientations for new town meeting members.

In the future, he would like to get more information, such as background materials on articles to TM members before the meeting.

He said he has tried to be fair and impartial. He also said he has learned a lot.

"And there's a lot more that I can learn," said Mr. Sylvia.

The two candidates for one seat on the Fairhaven Housing Authority, Edward Dorschied and Paul Days did not attend the candidates night. Brian Bowcock, who is running for tree warden unopposed, also did not attend; and the two incumbents on the Planning Board running for re-election, Rene Fleurent and Wayne Hayward did not attend.

There are no candidates on the ballot for the Trust Commission seat currently held by Gail Isaksen.

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# BPW urges “no” vote on ballot question

*From the Fairhaven Board of Public Works*

The Fairhaven Board of Public Works is more than just Highway, Water and Sewer Commissioners. We have been part of the community that we serve since the Board was formed nearly fifty years ago.

As Board members are your neighbors, you can rest assured that decisions are made locally with both the Town’s and residents’ best interest in mind.

Our mission is to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Fairhaven through responsive, efficient, and effective delivery of operations and by reflecting a can-do attitude with excellent customer relations.

The Board provides front line services to our citizens through our road maintenance program, water and sewer systems, parks and grounds, recycling center, and Town beach.

This April 6, voters will be asked whether or not to retain the Board of Public Works as currently constituted.

This ballot question stems from a

review conducted by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, which was invited into Town by the Selectmen to conduct a financial review.

As one of the Revenue Department’s parting recommendations, a suggestion that [they] offer in nearly

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**As unpaid elected officials, our Board prides itself in being citizens for citizens**

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every Town they visit, they favor eliminating all Boards and Committees and suggest that this will streamline government.

The authors of this article [BPW] not only sincerely believe that eliminating Boards will certainly take away the “voice of the people,” we would also like to put this faulty streamline premise to a test. Let’s

take something very simple such as a driveway waiver where a resident doesn’t have the necessary frontage in order to obtain a certain size driveway.

Under our current system, the driveway would be denied by the Highway Superintendent and the resident could appeal to the Board of Public Works for a waiver.

Under the new system, the driveway would be denied by the Highway Superintendent, then an appeal would go to the Public Works Superintendent. Should the waiver be denied further, this would have to be appealed to an advisory Board, then to a Town Manager and then (finally, exhaustingly) to the Select Board.

In what world has this simple request for a driveway waiver been streamlined? Nowhere, because it hasn’t. In fact, it is a much more complicated process that the Selectmen have confirmed will cost the taxpayers more money.

As unpaid elected officials, our Board prides itself in being citizens for citizens and we offer a far better

**BPW: cont’d on next page**



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*For more information, please contact Fairhaven Animal Control, 508-979-4028, or Board of Health, 508-979-4022, Ext. 125.*



## From our readers (see additional letter on page 20)

### Hahn always there with a helping hand

Dear Town of Fairhaven, I am writing to show my support for Diane Hahn, candidate for School Committee.

I met Diane 7 years ago while she was acting as PTO President at the Wood School. I found Diane charming, eloquent, easily approachable and hardworking.

Diane is always there with a helping hand and excellent advice. She is a tireless worker who is not afraid to stand up for children and to insure that their welfare is protected.

Diane cares deeply for the Town of Fairhaven and its residents. I firmly believe that Diane Hahn will be an asset to our town's school committee and that the town's youth will benefit greatly from having her in their corner.

I urge all town residents who strive for excellence to vote for DIANE HAHN on April 6.

*Christine Paiva-Stewart, Fairhaven*

### Trust McKenna

I am writing to express my support of Donna McKenna to re-election of the Fairhaven School Committee. As a parent with two children in the Fairhaven School system (one in the Middle School and one at the High School) it is important for me to know that there are individuals like Donna who tirelessly strive to make our

schools safe, technologically advanced, and academically challenging all while bearing the additional burden of being fiscally responsible.

As a busy working mother, I often do not have the time to research pressing issues that the school committee faces. I must therefore trust in the elected committee to do their job and advocate for the best interests of our children. You will not find a more hardworking, honest and dedicated individual to fill this position than Donna as she has successfully demonstrated in the last 3 years. Her commitment to our Town and our children is unwavering. I urge you to vote for her again on April 6th

*Jennifer DeMello, Fairhaven*

### Seriously consider Hahn

Well, there doesn't seem to be anything to crank up this local election in Fairhaven, but the school committee race could be interesting!

This three way race for two seats has excellent candidates, two with past experience, and the third, Diane Hahn, with lots of potential. I have known Diane for several years but until I read her "bio" in the *Fairhaven Neighborhood News* I was unaware of how involved she has been within the school system. (If you missed this it was on page 19 of the March 12th issue of FNN.)

I hope voters watch Diane Hahn

closely during the candidate night programs and consider her seriously.

*Ted Silva, Fairhaven*

### McKenna hardworking, honest

I am writing to express my support of Donna McKenna to re-election to the Fairhaven School Committee. As a parent with two children, one who graduated last year from Fairhaven High School, and one a junior at the High School, it is important for me to know that there are individuals like Donna who dedicates her time for our children of this Town.

I personally have known Donna for over 30 years. Donna has always put our children as first priority, making our schools safe, technologically advanced, and academically challenging all while bearing the additional burden of being fiscally responsible.

As a busy working parent, I am truly confident that Donna is looking out for the best interest of our kids and our town. Donna has advocated for the best interests of our children over the last 3 years, and you will not find a more hardworking, honest and dedicated individual to fill this position than Donna as she has successfully demonstrated.

I urge you to vote for her again on April 6th

*Stacy Crowley-Maniatis Fairhaven*

## BPW: cont'd from previous page

government streamlining option than what was proposed. The Board of Public Works acts as a unit and must function as a body. An individual Board member may not unilaterally act on behalf of the Board.

Our members are very approachable and all are welcome to come to one of our Monday night meetings where we can discuss a myriad of things including:

- Water rate structure — where the recently implemented system resulted in 50% of the residents receiving a less expensive invoice
- A superior water supply system — where we pride ourselves in the quality of water provided
- An aggressive program to reduce inflow, infiltration and grease into the sanitary sewer system — which will remove some hydraulic burdens from the treatment facility

- Our Combined Heat and Power Digester (the only functioning one in the Commonwealth) which allows us to decrease our sludge disposal while generating electricity
- Our wastewater treatment facility which continues to win environmental compliance awards

In closing, the Board of Public Works is asking that you vote NO on the BPW ballot question on April 6.

A NO vote will allow the structure to remain as it currently exists, which, as noted above, is truly a more streamlined form of government versus what was proposed. A NO vote will also allow residents to retain a voice, which will certainly be compromised if the Board of Public Works is eliminated; and a NO vote will cost the taxpayers less.

## Police chief not on leave

Fairhaven's police chief Michael Myers is recovering from a mild heart attack and should be back at work sometime next week, according to Fairhaven police spokesperson Sgt. Kevin Kobza.

The chief is in contact with the department every day, as much as necessary and is making decisions as he always has.

"He's just taking some time off," to recover, said Sgt. Kobza. "It's not like he's out of commission and we need an acting chief."

The story wound its way around town without a public announcement because the chief "doesn't want an article about his health," said Sgt. Kobza.

The Selectboard issued a statement after being contacted by the *Neighb News* saying that the chief is still in charge of the police department and no action was taken by the board.

# RFP review committee makes little progress

By Beth David  
Editor

The Fairhaven RFP review committee, charged with reviewing the responses to the Request for Proposals for the Oxford and Rogers School buildings, met for the first time on Tuesday, 3/17.

The RFP yielded one proposal for each building. The Stratford group offered \$325,000 for the Oxford School building to create 50 affordable housing units. The plan includes knocking down the old addition, building a new addition, and constructing a parking garage.

Eric and Angela Dawicki, who own Northeast Maritime Institute, offered \$1 for the Rogers School building to expand NMI.

Both buildings were appraised at \$285,000.

Neither proposal adheres to all the requirements of the RFP. The Stratford proposal, although very extensive at 130 pages, proposed two years to get the funding before starting construction. The NMI proposal, at 21 pages, had no timeline at all and very few other details.

Committee member and Selectboard Chairperson Bob Espindola explained that the Selectboard had sent a letter to both applicants asking for more information.

Committee member John Roderiques showed his impatience with the whole process, saying that neither proposal was "responsive," and that responsiveness was all that the committee should be looking

at. He said both proposals should be rejected.

Mr. Espindola disagreed, saying that they should work with the applicants to see if the town could get the results it wanted.

Mr. Roderiques said that if the committee accepted either bid, but especially the Rogers bid, then it would be allowing a proposal that was expressly not allowed in the RFP.

Committee member Doug Brady said that money was not a big consideration, that use of the property was more important.

Mr. Roderiques strongly disagreed.

"There is language in the RFP that money was a strong consideration," said Mr. Roderiques.

He said it would not be fair to give the building up for \$1 without letting other potential bidders know that was a possibility. The Dawicki bid also asks for the discontinued strip of Union Street for parking.

"Any average person looking at this, would not think in any way, shape or form that they would be getting a building for a buck," said Mr. Roderiques. "And also getting a [40x250-foot] parcel thrown in for the same buck."

Members of the public also weighed in, with one man saying he, too, doubted the legality of accepting the \$1 bid.

He said he did not understand why the

town was rushing into accepting the proposals. There is only one for each building, he said, and the bidders know that, too. He said officials have been saying all along that they would be very selective in what they would accept for the buildings.

"But that's not what the tone of comments has been," he said.

Resident Karen Vilandry suggested that the RFP be sent out again, now that the snow is gone and people can concentrate on other things.

"That way, you're not begging and pleading with two individuals because that's all we have," she said.

Ted Lorentzen said he had finally come to the sad conclusion that the buildings were beyond saving and the town should just demolish them and expand the abutting parks.

"Do you really think town meeting is going to vote this stuff?" asked Mr. Lorentzen. "It might be cheapest to tear them down than anything else. No one is really facing up to that."

Both proposals are available on the town's website at [www.fairhaven-ma.gov](http://www.fairhaven-ma.gov). The meeting was recorded by Government Access and will run on Comcast channel 18 and is also available on demand through the town's website.

The Committee will meet again on 3/31 and hopes to tour a Stratford facility before then.

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## RUN: cont'd from page 22

things any easier, either. It meant that a lot of training had to be done on a treadmill.

"It was agonizingly boring," said Will. "But I did it because I wanted that feeling of finishing."

Both boys said that finishing the race, the crowds cheering them on, the excitement of the big race, make it all worth it.

Both boys can give a blow-by-blow, or rather, a mile-by-mile account of the trials and tribulations of the run. The Hathaway Road hill ("That's no hill, that's a mountain," says Gabe), the stretches where there weren't any spectators to cheer them on, every cramp and sore muscle that started to ache and when it did, and then realizing they were within reach of their goal.

After all, after a few miles in, it was simply a matter of running a 10K.

They heard their teacher, Mr. Munse, cheering them on from a quarter of a mile away. They saw their

other teacher, Mr. Hamilton, ahead of them and made it a goal to catch him (they did).

And then, as they approached the finish line, they realized that they could still finish in under two hours if they just sprinted.

And sprint they did, for at least the last tenth of a mile.

But it didn't seem that way.

Both boys acknowledged that once they saw the finish line it felt like they weren't moving at all.

"It felt like it took forever to just run down that street," said Gabe.

But get down that street they did, finishing the race in 1:57:30, all three crossing the finish line at exactly the same time, holding hands. They finished 1260 in a field of 2390.

In then end, though, was it worth it?

"Joy, satisfaction, relief," said Will. "It felt good."

"You've got to have the drive to do it and the will to fight," said Gabe. "You've got to fight through the pain

and stuff."

"I never heard them complain," said Brian, adding that his son had "drive and grit."

"Man, if your kids get that, then, that's awesome," said Brian.

Russ's commitment gets a little lost in the telling. But that's okay, it's a dad thing.

He said his wife told him: "You can't let him run the streets alone."

So a coach was born.

Will confided to his dad, though, that he liked running with Gabe better so they could "talk kid talk."

In any case, Russ got to bask in the glow as he ran alongside the boys.

He said people cheered them on in a big way because they were the youngest runners.

"It was touching," said Russ.

To donate, visit the boys' fund-raising page at <http://www.run.danafarber.org/2015/willandgabe>

For race results visit <http://www.iresultslive.com>

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