



# Fairhaven

# Neighborhood News

A **FREE!** publication of all things Fairhaven  
*Including event listings from Cape Cod to RI*

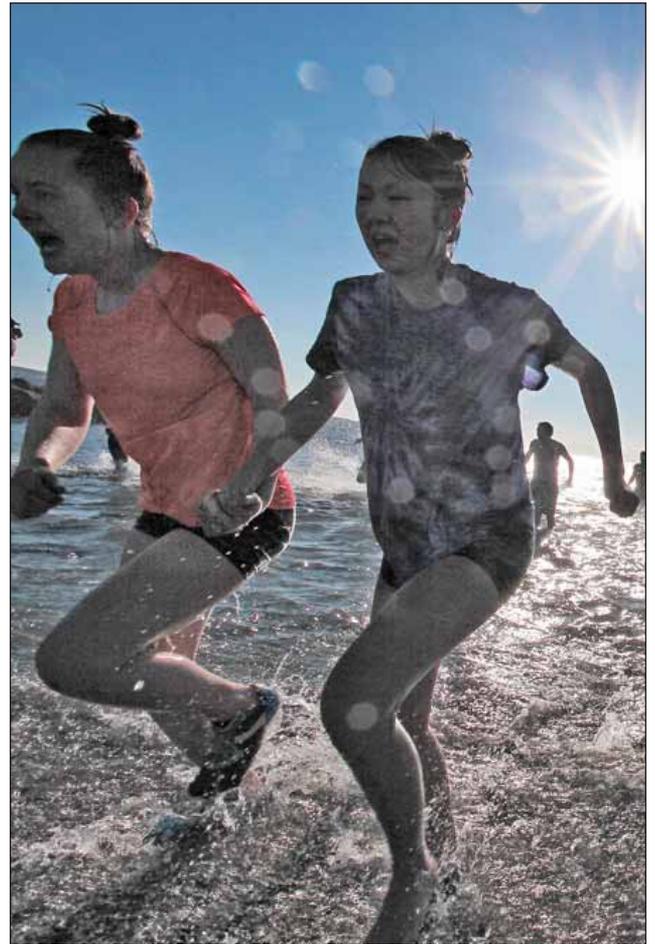


*The little paper  
with a big voice!*

Volume 10, Issue 1 • January 8, 2015

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

## BRRR!!!! BRRR!!!!



Two women look happy running into the water at Fort Phoenix in Fairhaven on New Year's Day (LEFT). They don't look so happy running out after getting into the 44-degree water. The annual event raises money for scholarships. See page 12. *Photos by Michael Smith.*



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# From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —  
A day late and many dollars short.

I caved, I bowed to the pressure, I came screaming and kicking into the 21st century and....and...we are now printing in color.

Mostly, it was a money thing. I just didn't want to pay the extra. But, I have to admit, I kind of liked saying "it's that little black & white one."

It made it kind of funky, a bit old-fashioned, but kind of cool, in a retro sort of way. Now it'll look like all the others, I guess.

A lot of people asked for it, but let's hope the advertisers are willing to support it. Cuz I'll tell you right now: I kind of liked my funky little old-fashioned black & white pub.

I suppose I'll have to get rid of the old typewriter, too, and come up with something more modern.

What a way to start year 10.

Yup...year 10.

Somehow, we've managed to stay alive for nine whole years.

Here's to number 10!

We start out this year with our traditional Polar Plunge cover. Look at those faces....brrrr!

They are tougher than I am to be sure. I don't even want to go out and get my mail.

The temperature dropped like the ball in Times Square this week. I'm guessing that next week we'll have some frozen tundra pictures for you. But, I'm getting ahead of myself.

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. I hope your new year has started out great and continues to get better each day.

Meanwhile, we have some meeting coverage for you.

Looks like we lost another Animal Control Officer. The former ACO announced his resignation during our break. I managed to get to the meeting last week, though. See page 4 for that.

I'll have to go back and check to be sure, but I think this will be ACO #4 in the nine years my little free sheet has been publishing. I think it might be time to revamp that position. It just seems like it's too much for one person. We should either kick in more money to hire an assistant to help with the shelter, or we should consider turning the shelter over to a non-profit and making a deal for our animals.

I'd hate to see the shelter shuttered, but it just seems like there's something wrong with the structure here. It just doesn't seem to be working.

Well, it looks like I'm at the end of my space.

Here's to a great 2015!

Don't forget to tell our advertisers you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*.

Until next week then...

Stay warm!



Beth David, Publisher

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Nothing? Ah...who remembers? That was last year!

# Tom Quinn is Acting District Attorney

## Press Release

Tom Quinn was sworn in as Acting Bristol County District Attorney in the late afternoon on January 5 at the Fall River Justice Center during a private ceremony attended by staff members, a large contingent of Bristol County Police Chiefs and members of District Attorney Quinn's family.

District Attorney Quinn was sworn in by Fall River District Court Judge Gilbert Nadeau.

During his brief remarks to police and staff, District Attorney Quinn said, "I am overwhelmed by the support of the office for me continuing as Bristol County District Attorney. I hope I can gain the confidence of Governor Baker and his administration in the coming days. I am focused on doing the very important work of our office and look forward to continuing to fight for the people in Bristol County."

District Attorney Quinn was appointed acting District Attorney on January 2nd by Gov. Deval Patrick. He was appointed after former District Attorney Sam Sutter, who

served two terms as district attorney, resigned his post. Mr. Sutter resigned after being elected Fall River Mayor last month.

Governor-elect Baker can rescind appointments made during the last 15 days of the previous administration's term.



Fall River District Court Judge Gilbert Nadeau, Jr., swears in Tom Quinn as acting Bristol County District Attorney on January 5 as his wife Sharon and a family friend look on. Former DA Sam Sutter resigned after being elected mayor of Fall River in a special election. *Submitted photo.*

## Real Talk about Real Estate

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**BOLD Moves Real Estate** hosting casual round table  
 Flour Girls Baking Co. on January 13th at 6pm



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# Selectboard hires interim ACO

By Beth David

Editor

The Fairhaven Selectboard appointed Kelley Massey as interim Animal Control Officer at its meeting on 12/29. Former ACO Terry Cripps resigned after sparring with the board about hours, lunch-hours, time sheets and other undisclosed issues.

Twelve people attended the meeting to discuss the resignation of Mr. Cripps, but the issue was not on the agenda as a public hearing.

The group managed to get its point across, however, during a discussion on the animal shelter gift account and again before they met with Ms. Massey in executive session to discuss her possibly taking the job on an interim basis.

Members of the group wanted to know how the money from the gift account was spent, after hearing it might be used to fund a part time position.

Selectboard Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch explained that the account is used for all expenses related to the shelter and the department.

Selectboard chair Bob Espindola announced that Mr. Cripps had resigned. Mr. Espindola also said he wanted to "clarify" some things that he had heard about what went on in the meeting with Mr. Cripps.

He said it was not true that Mr. Cripps was pressured to resign, but that he resigned of "his own free will."

Mr. Espindola said that the board was working out some issues with Mr. Cripps, including working hours, comp time and lunch time. He said it was not true that Mr. Cripps was denied compensation time.

He also denied that the board suggested animals be euthanized after two weeks.

Board member Charles Murphy also tried to dispel rumors of his agreement with euthanasia. He said when some subjects came up in executive session, he was silent because he believed it was not legal to discuss certain issues in executive session if they had not been duly noted on the agenda.

"Silence is not agreement," said Mr. Murphy, adding that no policies were made.

Mr. Espindola said that the executive session meeting was to explore ways to help Mr. Cripps do his job, and "lighten his burden."

Mr. Espindola said it was clear that Mr. Cripps was "overwhelmed by the position."

Board members acknowledged that the job requires 24 hour/7 day coverage and is a unique position in town. There is also the shelter to contend with. The board is exploring the idea of hiring a part time ACO in addition to the full time position. The way it is now, the ACO has to rely on volunteers to keep the shelter staffed.

After board members tried to clear up the "misinformation," circulating around town, the animal shelter volunteers had their say.

Patti Estrella said she knew the biggest sticking point was that Mr. Cripps wanted to take his lunch hour at 2:30 to pick up his child from school, and that the board would not allow it. Mr. Cripps verified the lunch-hour sticking point in a Facebook post, saying it was the only issue that could not be worked out.

SELECT: cont'd on page 20

# BPW dismisses driveway fine

By Kylie Schuster

Neighb News Correspondent

The Fairhaven Board of Public Works held a meeting on Monday, 1/5, to discuss a street opening, driveway fee waiver and various funding and budget topics.

John Folino from Cape Building Systems appeared before the board to request permission to tie into the water, sewer and gas lines at the construction site for the Steamship Authority at 14 Main Street. The board does not usually allow the streets to be dug up in the winter except for emergencies because hot-mix asphalt is not available.

"I have no problem with giving them the gas," stated board member Steve Riley, "but not the water or sewer."

Board member Brian Wotton agreed with Mr. Riley, adding, "it wouldn't be fair to the residents if something were to happen with the water."

After Mr. Folino stated he was okay with just the gas opening, the board voted to approve the road opening for gas only.

In another matter, Theodore and

Lisa Lariviere appeared before the board to discuss a driveway fee waiver at their property on 24 Main Street.

Department of Public Works Superintendent Vincent Furtado explained that Mr. Lariviere had neighbors who were resurfacing their driveway and had left-over material after it was done. The neighbors then sent the construction crew to the Lariviere residents to redo their driveway apron without telling them.

The town issued fines to every party involved due to lack of proper permits required for driveway apron work. Mr. Lariviere told the board that he did not think that he should be fined because he was not home and he did not give permission for the work to be done.

The board dismissed the fine.

Fairhaven town planner/economic development director Bill Roth appeared before the board to discuss work to be done with the money from the Community Development Block Grant. Mr. Roth explained that he plans on using the money to reconstruct sidewalks on North Street and have several trees removed on

the same street.

"Bill always does great work for us," stated Mr. Furtado. "And I think residents will benefit from this project."

The board approved the plans

Highway Superintendent John Charbonneau, Water Superintendent Edward Fortin, and Sewer Superintendent Linda Schick appeared before the board to discuss department budgets. They each gave a list of budget changes and hopeful new purchases. Some of the items included buying several new vehicles to replace the older or broken-down vehicles, several new snow plows, and new up-to-code wood chips for the Rogers School playground.

The board also discussed hiring a new full time park employee.

"We could always use another set of hands in the department," Mr. Charbonneau told the board.

The board voted to put in for a full time park employee with a CDL license.

Also on Monday, Kathy Tripp and Edward Fortin both put in their Early Retirement Incentive, and will be leaving in three years. ●●●

# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## FHS Open House

Fairhaven High School will be holding our 8th Grade Family Open House on **Thursday, January 8th, from 6-8 p.m.** All 8th grade students interested in attending Fairhaven High School and their parents are welcome to attend. We will be sharing information about the high school and the curriculum offered. Students and their families will be able to meet the Principal and the staff, take a tour of the historic building, learn about clubs and activities and attend a question and answer session with current students and staff. Please feel free to contact the Guidance Office with any questions at 508-979-4120.

## Softball Registration

The South Coast Girls Softball League is holding their **FINAL registration event for the 2015 softball season on Sun., 1/11 from 12:00-2:00pm at the Livesey Club on Hopkins Street in Fairhaven.**

The South Coast Girls Softball League is open to all girls ages 5-15 residing in the South Coast area. Please bring a photocopy of the player's birth certificate (this is required only for players new to the league). This is the last chance to register in person.

## Blood Drive

Southcoast Health is holding a blood drive in Fairhaven on **Sun., 1/11, at St. Joseph's Church, 74 Spring St., Fairhaven, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

Donors may also donate at the Southcoast Blood Bank Donor Room at St. Luke's Hospital, 101 Page Street, New Bedford, off the main lobby. Walk-ins and appointments are welcome. For hours/information or to make an appointment, call 508-973-5320, or visit [www.southcoast.org/bloodbank](http://www.southcoast.org/bloodbank)

## Free play group

A free Play & Learn group for infants and toddlers will be held on Fridays from 9:30 ~ 10:30, beginning 1/16 through 2/20, at the Millicent Library, 45 Center Street, Fairhaven

Come explore with us in a fun and friendly environment where you and your child will play with puzzles, books, blocks and 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).

Program will be held in the downstairs auditorium. Accessible.

## Girl Scout Cookies

It's Girl Scout Cookie time. From now to March 10, your local Girl Scouts will be out and about selling cookies. This year, we are introducing online ordering with direct shipping from the baker to your doorstep.

Pick up a box (or three) of the classic Thin Mint or try our new gluten free option, the Trio. Packed with gluten free oats and a mixture of peanut butter and chocolaty goodness, the Trio makes sure everybody can indulge in a sweet treat.

Contact Kristen O'Reilly at [koreilly@girlscoutseasternmass.org](mailto:koreilly@girlscoutseasternmass.org) or 857-453-5314.

## Special Edition Library Card Set

The Friends of the Millicent Library is holding a Mini-Fundraiser offering special a edition Library Card Set for \$5. Includes one regular card and one key-chain card. Gift certificates available

You must meet the eligibility requirement for a Millicent Library card. This is in place of the generic, free cards.

Call for details, 508-992-5342.

## Story Times

The following events are at the Millicent Library, 45 Center St., Fairhaven. Accessible. To register, call the library at 508-992-5342, or email Jane Murphy ([jmurphy@sailsinc.org](mailto:jmurphy@sailsinc.org)). Visit <http://www.millicentlibrary.org/>

You do not need to register for Storytimes. Programs are held downstairs. Stories and songs last for 30 minutes and are followed by 15 minutes of Play time. Please try to arrive on time. If no one arrives by 15 minutes after start time, the program will not be held.

Toddlers (ages 1-3) meet from 9:30-10:15 OR 10:30-11:15 on Tuesdays,

Babies (0-18 months) meet Fridays from 9:30-10:15!! Big Kids (ages 3-5) meet Fridays from 10:30-11:15. Siblings are always welcome! Toddlers and Babies enjoy play time after stories, while Big Kids make a

coloring project OR enjoy play time.

## Free Movie

Are you Feeling too Plastic? Green Fairhaven, a subcommittee of the Fairhaven Sustainability Committee, will be hosting a free showing of the Award Winning documentary movie *BAG IT* on Sat., 1/17 at 1:00 pm at The Millicent Library, 45 Center Street, Fairhaven.

Winner at the Monterey, Telluride and Sedona Film Festivals. The 80-minute film follows the narrator as he embarks upon a global tour of the world of plastic. This thought provoking and often humorous journey chronicles the wide-ranging impact of the role of plastic in our lives. Refreshments will be provided. The first twenty attendees will receive a FREE string grocery bag from ECOBAGS.

Any questions, please contact Susan Spooner at 508-990-2145.

## Sponsor a Chair

The Friends of the Millicent Library in collaboration with the Millicent Library is asking for the Fairhaven community's support in sponsoring 100 new chairs for our town's library auditorium.

Community members or local businesses can purchase and sponsor one of the 100 chairs for \$50.

A permanent plaque will be mounted on the back of each chair, with an inscription of the individual's choice.

All chair sponsorships are a tax-deductible donation to the Friends of the Millicent Library.

Forms can be picked up at the Millicent Library or by contacting Martha Berg, 508-997-8517, [cybergmib@comcast.net](mailto:cybergmib@comcast.net) or Kaisa Holloway Cripps at [kaisa.hollowaycripps@gmail.com](mailto:kaisa.hollowaycripps@gmail.com). Or, please send your chair donation with your name, address, telephone, email and text to include on the plaque by **January 31 2015** to: Friends of the Millicent Library, P.O. Box 30, Fairhaven, MA 02719.

## New Group to meet

A new group, "Friends of the Fairhaven Animal Shelter," will have its first meeting on Wed., 1/14 at the Millicent Library at 6 p.m. Contact the group through its Facebook page.

# Fairhaven police say “thank you” for toy donations

*Press Release*

The Fairhaven Police Union would like to express its sincerest gratitude to all the generous people who made contributions to this year’s toy drive. Because of people’s kindness, we were able to provide twenty-seven local families with an abundance of toys to give to their children on Christmas morning.

The outpouring of contributions was overwhelming. People came in droves to the Fairhaven Police Station throughout the weeks before Christmas and dropped off loads of new, unwrapped toys. Some even provided brand new batteries certain toys required.

The toy drive, which was spearheaded by Fairhaven School Resource Officers Scott Joseph and Kevin Swain, lasted for three weeks and brought in literally hundreds of toys. Officers Joseph and Swain gathered up the toys and took them to Fairhaven High School where they were wrapped by volunteer students in Brenda Roveda’s art class.

Officers reported some students volunteered to spend their entire day

wrapping gifts. The gifts were grouped together for designated less fortunate families with children of assorted ages. They were then presented to the parents of the families without the knowledge of their children in order to surprise them on Christmas morning.

The support of our community was very heartwarming during this holiday season. Our gratitude and heartfelt “thank you” goes out to every person that made this mission an enormous success.

Thank you all once again.

The Fairhaven Police Union wishes everyone a very Healthy and Happy New Year.



Just a small portion of the toys collected by the Fairhaven police department hampers Sgt. Kevin Kobza’s route to his jacket this Christmas season. The toys were distributed to local families. *Submitted photo.*

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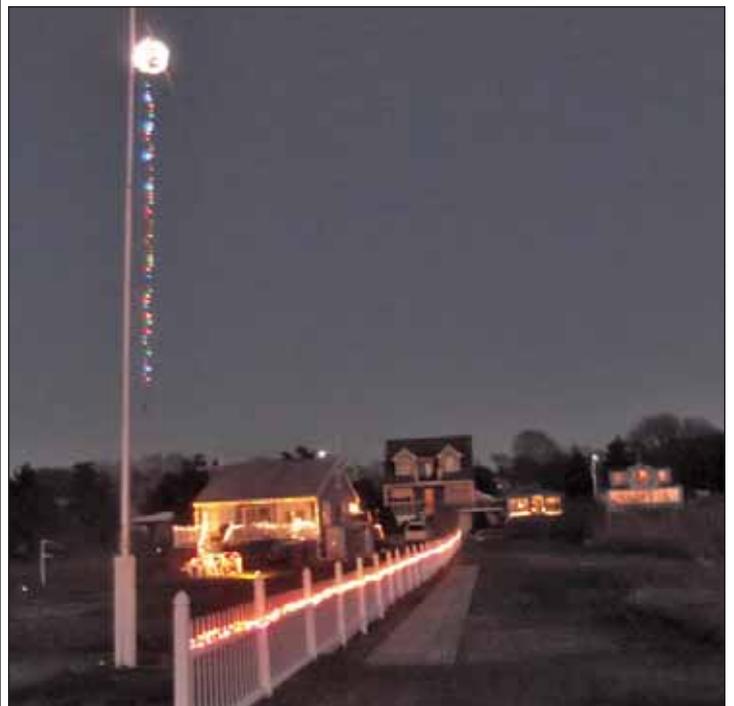
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## Who needs New York?



Herb and Shirley Hunter of West Island had their own version of the Times Square ball drop on New Year’s Eve. The ball is appropriately made from a mooring ball with a hole for the chain and 300 lights hoisted up the flag pole by a rope. The ball was dropped and timed to come down at midnight on 1/1/15. *Photo submitted.*

# Chimney fire damages house on Sconticut Neck Road

*Fairhaven Fire Department  
Press Release*

A late night fire damaged a Fairhaven home on January 1. The fire was reported at 11:47 p.m. on New Year's Night at 510 Sconticut Neck Road.

Two engines and a ladder truck responded from fire headquarters. When firefighters arrived they found smoke coming from the attic of the one-story ranch style home.

Crews were able to put the fire out within one hour after gaining access through the roof, according to Wayne Oliveira, Public Information Officer for the Fairhaven Fire Department.

The home sustained substantial water and fire damage. The family was home at the time of the fire and everyone escaped without injury. The home is owned and occupied by Gail Morock.

The cause of the fire is believed to have started in the chimney for the wood stove. Damage is estimated at approximately \$10,000.



Fairhaven firefighters break through the roof to fight a chimney fire that damaged the home at 510 Sconticut Neck Road in Fairhaven on New Year's night. The family was home at the time of the fire, but everyone escaped without injury. Photo courtesy of the Fairhaven Fire Department, by Ed Pepin.



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Join us for:

**Entertainment with Tom & Betty Tuesday, January 27 at 2:15 p.m.** Join us for a fun energetic afternoon of music and entertainment. RSVP

**Entertainment by Jim Porcella Friday January 30th,** Atria Welcome well known entertainer Jim Porcella, Singing he will have you tapping your feet and shaking in your Seat. RSVP



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# HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

## Singers Wanted

The Greater New Bedford Choral Society, conducted by Gerald Dyck, announces that it is seeking new singers for its spring semester. Newcomers may come on January 13; there are no auditions, but singers need to match pitch and sing with a section. Rehearsals are at 7:30 at the First Unitarian Church (corner of Union and County Streets); the major piece will be Handel's "Ode for St. Cecilia's Day." For further information call Mr. Dyck at 508-644-2419.

## YTI Play

January 15, 2015, is opening night of the Your Theatre, Inc. eight performance run of *Italian American Reconciliation*, by John Patrick Shanley, author of *Moonstruck*. With a cast of five South Coast actors, the play is directed by Suzanne Bergeron of New Bedford.

This lighthearted play follows Huey Maximilian Bonfigliano who has a problem. While he is safely divorced from his shrewish first wife, Janice, who shot his dog and even took a bead on him, he feels he cannot regain his "manhood" until he woos and wins her one more time. He enlists the aid of his lifelong buddy, Aldo Scalicki, a confirmed bachelor.

Aldo tries, without apparent success, to convince Huey that he would be better off sticking with his new lady friend, Teresa, a placid young waitress. However, Teresa's indignation flares when she learns what Huey is up to. In a moonlit balcony scene (hilariously reminiscent of *Cyrano de Bergerac*), Aldo pleads his lovesick friend's case to Janice, and to his astonishment, she capitulates. Finally, Huey learns "the greatest — and only — success is to be able to love."

Start your 2015 off by enjoying this fanciful romantic story. Answer a romantic quiz question correctly at intermission, and you will be entered in a drawing to win two free passes to another Your Theatre, Inc. production!

Your Theatre, Inc. is grateful to our 68th season sponsor, BankFive. Your Theatre is also thankful to Bristol County Savings Bank for its support of this production.

Performance dates are January 15, 16, 17 & 22, 23, 24 at 8:00 p.m. and

January 18 & 25 at 2:30 p.m. General admission is \$15; students, seniors, and military personnel \$13.

Performances are held at Your Theatre, Inc. located at 136 Rivet St. (corner of County St.), New Bedford, in the wheelchair accessible auditorium of St. Martin's Episcopal Church. Free off-street parking is available off of County St.

For tickets and further information call Your Theatre, Inc. at 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)

## Public Input Sought

The City of New Bedford with assistance from its consultant, CDM Smith, has developed an updated "Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan." This plan is intended to serve as an all encompassing guide to identifying and understanding the types of natural hazards New Bedford is vulnerable to as well as to outline community plans to mitigate those potential hazards in advance of their occurrence.

The plan/document already incorporates the input and expertise of the relevant city department heads and local leaders. However, it is vitally important that City property owners and residents review the plan and offer feedback which can be incorporated in the final version. To encourage this public review and feedback, the City has posted the plan online: <http://www.newbedford-ma.gov/emergency-management/new-bedford-multi-hazard-mitigation-plan/>. New Bedford residents and property owners are invited to review the plan and provide feedback and comment before it is presented to the City Council for adoption and submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) for acceptance.

The plan will remain on the City web site for several weeks and will be updated as needed to reflect the most current version. **It is anticipated that on or about January 30, 2015 the document will be submitted to FEMA for its review** while the City of New Bedford continues to refine the plan and ensure that it is accurate and finalized before being presented to the City Council.

Comments and feedback on the

Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan may be emailed to David Fredette, City Engineer, at [david.fredette@newbedford-ma.gov](mailto:david.fredette@newbedford-ma.gov) or sent by hard copy to the City Department of Public Infrastructure, 1105 Shawmut Avenue, New Bedford, MA 02746 Attn: David Fredette or call (508) 979-1550 x128.

## Scrimshaw Class

Have you ever wanted to learn more about scrimshaw, the indigenous shipboard art of 19th century whalemens? Now you can, guided by one of the world's foremost authorities on scrimshaw at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, on **Sat., 1/17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.** (Snow date is Saturday, January 24.)

Scrimshaw 101 is a one-day illustrated seminar presented by Stuart M. Frank, PhD, Senior Curator Emeritus of the New Bedford Whaling Museum and the faculty of the Scrimshaw Forensics® team.

Handouts, bibliographies and reference materials will be provided. Topics will include definitions, distinguishing characteristics of authentic whalemens' work, technical background, attention to pictorial works, authenticating scrimshaw, restoring scrimshaw and more.

"This course will present the scrimshaw basics, but with all the bells and whistles. We'll very quickly get into the significance of scrimshaw as a highly collectable antique art form and provide critical perspective into its historical and artistic importance," Dr. Frank said. He will also relate the process of authenticating scrimshaw, caring for scrimshaw, restoring scrimshaw, and the current landscape of the scrimshaw market.

Registration: **Whaling Museum Members: \$35; Non-Members: \$50;** includes two coffee breaks, buffet lunch, all study material and admission to all Whaling Museum galleries.

To register by mail, send check made payable to "New Bedford Whaling Museum," Memo: "Scrimshaw 101." Address: Scrimshaw 101, New Bedford Whaling Museum, 18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford, MA 02740. Register by phone, 508-997-0046) or online at [www.whalingmuseum.org](http://www.whalingmuseum.org)

## Spirit of Grace Serv

The "Spirit of Grace," a special church program for autistic and other special needs children and young adults in the Greater New Bedford area, will hold its next monthly service on **Sun., 1/11 at 2:00 pm at the Judith Clarke Center, located at St. Peter's Church, 351 Elm St., So. Dartmouth.** This informal gathering offers children, who find it difficult to participate in a regular church service, a chance to hear a Bible story, work on simple crafts, hear music and join in a short Holy Eucharist with Rev. Rebecca Blair. Please call Andrea at 508-991-8596 for more information.

## Bird Club Meeting

The Paskamansett Bird Club will meet **Wed., 1/14, at 7:30 p.m., at the Allens Neck Friends Meetinghouse, 739 Horseneck Road, Dartmouth.** Julianne Mehegan will speak about the Art of Field Guides, illustrating her talk with slides as well as actual copies of current and historical field guides to birds.

Birders have come to rely on field guides that offer detailed illustrations of plumage variations to help them identify the more than 900 species of birds found in North America. But birders rarely think much about the artists who paint the bird portraits for these guides. The practice of watching and studying birds by ordinary people began in the late 1800s, facilitated by the publication of the earliest illustrated field guides. To create these guides, it was necessary to paint birds so as to make identification possible and even easy. This was a new type of painting.

Learn more about the artists and how they have helped birders become more proficient in the field. Peruse a selection of early field guides and compare them with the illustrations in the most current aids to bird watching. Chat after the meeting with the speaker and enjoy refreshments.

Julianne Mehegan is a researcher for the Museum of American Bird Art (MABA), in Canton, Mass. In 2010 she established the Art Acquisition and Restoration Fund in honor of her mother. The meeting is free, open to the public, and accessible.

## Women's Club Mtg

Fate? Luck? Coincidence? The Mattapoisett Women's Club will hold its January meeting **Thurs., 1/15, at noon in Reynard Hall at the Mattapoisett Congregational Church, 17 Church Street.** The program will feature a talk about a 14-year old boy named Manjiro, a shipwreck on Torishima Island and The John Howland Whaling Ship. Please join us to learn more about the Whitfield-Manjiro story and the Friendship House in Fairhaven.

Gerry Rooney, President & CEO, Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society, Inc., will discuss the relationship with Manjiro's home town (our Sister City of Tosashimizu) and the current programs at the museum (Captain Whitfield's house) at 11 Cherry Street, Fairhaven.

Mr. Rooney first encountered the hospitality of Japan when he visited there during a 3.5 year journey around the world by motor scooter. He moved to New Bedford from my home town of Wilmington, MA and met his Japanese wife, Ayako, here. In 1987 she accompanied a group from this area to Tosashimizu to sign the "Sister City" agreement. Since that time he has been involved with the organization and has been the President of the organization for the past 24 years.

After his retirement from a 35-year human services career, Mr. Rooney decided to organize his extensive notes from his 3.5 year journey and write a book. He will have a few copies of *Hello Brother*, for interested buyers. (This may also be a topic for a future talk...)

Please join us for a light lunch and a fascinating talk about some local history. For information or directions, please call Barb at 508 864-5213.

## Latin Concert

Recently hailed Boston.com's "Best Museum/Gallery Event," the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum's popular "Third Thursday" concert series welcomes the Berklee Latin All-Stars, to perform on **Thurs., 1/15.** Directed by Berklee faculty member and recording artist Rebecca Cline, the group will transport guests to warmer climes with Latin rhythms and breezy conversations around the

famous palace courtyard, adorned with flowers and plants in a winter tropical setting.

Third Thursdays at the Gardner are a monthly gathering involving artful activities, drinks, and music with a different theme each month, featuring jazz, world, and roots rhythms, performed by musicians from Berklee College of Music and beyond.

**The concert runs from at 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum's Calderwood Hall, located at 25 Evans Way in Boston.** Tickets are required, which may be purchased in advance or at the door, and include Museum admission. **Admission is \$15 for adults; \$12 for seniors, \$5 for students with valid IDs; and free for children ages 7 to 17; youth ages 7 and under will not be admitted.** There will be a cash wine bar around the Courtyard. Café G will be open for snacks, dinner, and drinks.

For information or to purchase tickets in advance, visit [www.gardnermuseum.org](http://www.gardnermuseum.org) or call 617-278-5156.

## Cape Bridges Mtg.

As the first in a series of open sessions, a Public Informational Meeting for the Cape Cod Canal Area Transportation Study has been scheduled by MassDOT for **Thurs., 1/15, at 7:00 PM in Admirals Hall on the Mass. Maritime Academy Campus, 101 Academy Drive in Bourne.** Directional signs will be posted on site. The purpose of the meeting will be to introduce the recently initiated conceptual planning study, and to solicit input from the general public on the study's goals and framework.

The Sagamore and Bourne Bridges, as well as the moveable rail bridge across the Cape Cod Canal, are the primary means of access to and from the mainland for the 15 towns and 215,000 people who live on Cape Cod. The two functionally obsolete highway bridges are 80 years old and have required increased maintenance activities by the U.S Army Corps of Engineers. This required maintenance has and will continue to necessitate lane closures and resulting delays with increasing frequency over the coming years.

Visit <http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/Highway/> for more info

# Recipe of the Week

## Oven Baked Pork Loin

- 1 small pork loin
- 18 small pearl onions
- 1/2 cup white wine
- 1/2 cup pineapple juice
- 1/4 cup oil
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp pepper
- 1/2 tsp garlic powder

In a large skillet heat oil. Rub pork with salt, pepper and garlic powder on all sides. Place pork in skillet and cook 3 to 4 minutes on each side.

Place onions in a 13x9-inch pan; put pork on top. Pour wine and pineapple juice over pork.

Cook in 350° oven until pork is completely cooked

By MJ Vassal

# ZBA approves two, continues one

By Beth David  
Editor

The Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals approved two variances and granted a continuance at its meeting on Tuesday, 1/5.

Michael Ristuccia of 52 Cedar Street asked for a continuance, saying in a letter his engineer was making modifications in response to concerns by neighbors. The hearing has been continued at least twice, prompting board member Rene Fleurent to comment that he would be willing to vote for the continuance one more time, but then he would press for a resolution, one way or the other.

"He's working with the neighbors," said ZBA chair Peter DeTerra.

The neighbors in attendance, however, did not seem to know that. Three people spoke against the continuance, but it was too late, the vote had been taken. They were not given a chance to weigh in before the vote was taken.

"This is the third time," said Mary Jane Richard. "I don't think it we should have to keep coming back."

"It's not fair," said another neighbor.

Mr. Fleurent assured the neighbors that the board would act on 2/3, either to approve the project, vote it down, or allow Mr. Ristuccia to withdraw. In that case he would have to start the whole process again, including sending notices to abutters.

In another matter, the board approved a variance for Amy and Greg Caswell of 54 Williams Street. The proposal will add living space to the existing home and a new garage. Part of the construction will be only four feet from the property line. The project is short 16' of the required 20' front setback, 7' short of the required 10' side setback and 15' short of the required 30' rear setback and % over the maximum building coverage of 30%. Mr. Caswell told the board that the triangular-shaped lot made it difficult to put "blocks" in.

No abutters spoke on the project.

The board also approved a variance for a deck at 163 Cottonwood Street. Matthew Brodo,

APPEALS: cont'd on page 21

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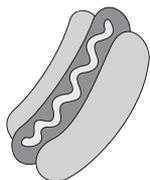
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## Hundreds plunge for good cause



Approximately 300 hardy souls charged into the chilly waters of Fort Phoenix State Beach in Fairhaven on New Year's Day. Hundreds more hung out on shore to watch and show their support. Registering for the event is free. Money is raised from t-shirt sales and goes to scholarships for area students through the Dollars for Scholars program in honor of domestic violence victims. For 10 years, the New Year's Day plunge was held in honor of Nancy Schonheinz, who was murdered by her boyfriend in 2000. The new group took over in 2011. LEFT: A frigid, 11-year-old Diego Perry gets help getting warmed up by his mother Jean after making his first polar plunge at Fort Phoenix on New Year's Day. RIGHT: Kermit the Frog emerges from the icy waters of Buzzard's Bay during the annual New Year's Day Polar Plunge at Fort Phoenix. Costumes are always encouraged at the annual event. Water was 44 degrees and the air temperature was about 29 degrees at 10 a.m. when the crowd plunged. *Photos by Michael Smith.*

## 19th annual Moby Dick Marathon draws hundreds\*

By Beth David  
Editor

Hundreds of spectators and readers converged upon the New Bedford Whaling Museum this weekend to participate in the 19th annual Moby Dick Marathon. In addition to the 150+ readers, who each read for 10 minutes, the museum hosted spectators reading along in chairs and camping out in sleeping bags.

Leslie Macmillan of Boston was all tucked into her sleeping bag on the floor of the second-floor hallway just before midnight on 1/3, waiting for her 2:10 a.m. reading time.

She said she read last year, too, because Moby Dick is her favorite book. The story got her through a rough time in her life.

"It inspired me," she said. "It's about people coming to terms with their mortality. And living life to the fullest."

On the other side of the hallway, Catherine Gees was camped out to learn how it's done. A library assistant at the public library in Washington DC, Ms. Gees said a grant

from the Institute of Museum and Library Services is funding a reread of the George Orwell book "1984" as part of its "Orwellian America: 1984 Readathon" program. For more information on the project, visit [www.DCLibrary.org](http://www.DCLibrary.org)

The reading started at about noon on Saturday, 1/3, and continued to Sunday at about noon. Some chapters were read at the Seamen's Bethel, some chapters were acted out, and this year also included a Children's Mini-Marathon, with children reading from the abridged version.

Ishmael, the fictional narrator of the book, sets sail from New Bedford in one of the nation's most beloved tales. Author Herman Melville actually

set sail from Fairhaven on the whaleship "Acushnet" on January 3, 1841. He was 21 years old.

For more information on the Whaling Museum, visit [www.whalingmuseum.org](http://www.whalingmuseum.org)

For more information about Fairhaven's history, visit the Office of Tourism website at <http://fairhaventours.com/>

\*Fixes error from previous versions



Catherine Gees, who traveled from Washington DC to attend the Moby Dick Marathon this weekend at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, watches and follows along from the second floor at about midnight on Saturday, 1/3. *Photo by Beth David.*

# Boston welcomes 2015 in grand style

By Beth David

Editor

Boston rang in a very cold new year on 12/31 with big crowds, including protesters, a procession along Boylston Street, ice sculptures, ice skating and lots of fireworks.

The 21-degree weather did not seem to deter anyone, including about 150 protesters who marched up and down Boylston Street before and after the procession to increase awareness of police treatment of black suspects in Ferguson, MO, and New York.

Near the library, activists set up tables for several causes, including a change to the law that allows corporations to donate to political campaigns, and anti-war protests.

Copley Square and the Common Park had several large ice sculptures that were lit up with changing lights at night. Ice skaters participated in contests on the frog pond in the common, and vendor booths hawked hot chocolate, hot pretzels and fried Oreos.

At 5:30 crowds lined Boylston Street to see the procession, which

included the Budweiser Clydesdales, lots of dragon costumes, an elementary school choir and the mayor, all braving frigid temperatures.

After the procession, the "family" fireworks lit up the Common Park at 7 p.m. At midnight, the new year also came in with a bang and a flash with fireworks over the harbor.

For more information about First Night Boston, visit [www.firstnightboston.org/](http://www.firstnightboston.org/) Next year will mark the event's 40th anniversary.



ABOVE LEFT & RIGHT: The procession at First Night Boston on 12/31/14 included the Budweiser Clydesdales and many oversized puppets. Ice sculptures of a soaring eagle (LEFT) at the Common Park and a roaring dragon (RIGHT) at Copley Square are lit up in different colors at First Night Boston on 12/31. BELOW: The family fireworks were held nice and early allowing families with small children to enjoy the spectacular sight of the Boston Gardens and the Boston Common being lit up by many-color lights.

Photos by Beth David. Visit us at [www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews](http://www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews) to see more photos of this and other events. Individual photos are available for purchase.



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### Yoga for kids

This class is a great opportunity for stretching and fun for yogis between the ages of 8-14 years old after school. Whether you have never done yoga, or have tried it before, this is the perfect class for you to use up some energy, increase strength, flexibility and coordination skills. Learn new exercises to help calm your mind after it all. This class will be 45 minutes long and wearing gym clothes would be best. Wednesdays from 4-5 PM Ages: 8-14. Cost: \$40 members, \$50 non-members. Starts 1/21, ends 2/25

### Kool Kids Feb. Vaca

This 4 day program is a great opportunity to make new friends while participating in fun group activities, like basketball, dodge ball, tag and hockey. Kids need to bring lunch and a snack for the first 3 days of the program, Friday a pizza lunch will be served. Sneakers and active clothing must be worn each day of the program. Session runs Tues.-Fri., 2/17-20, from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. \$100.00 members/\$125 non-members

### Home Alone Class

This course is designed to encourage children to be more independent. Topics covered will be basic first aid, door and telephone protocol, accident prevention, first aid for choking and safety measures. Pizza will also be provided. Space is limited... sign up soon.

Ages: 9-11 Date: Jan. 28. Instructor: Beth Oleson Time: 5:30-8 p.m. Cost \$45 members / \$50 non-members

### Open Gym Volleyball

Come join in on the fun and notice a "net" gain in your fitness level.

Day & Time: Wednesday 6-8 p.m.  
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Starts: January 7th Ages: 14+

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### Mall Trips

**Jan. 14:** Emerald Square Mall.

**Jan. 28:** Hyannis Mall, Xmas Tree

**Jan. 21:** Providence Place Mall and  
Whole Foods

Shop and Trader Joe's

### Entertainment

Call Fairhaven COA for entertainment schedule: 508-979-4029

### Special Activities

#### Save the Date!

Coming in March: Emergency Preparedness Meeting on March 16th at 1:00 P.M. Sign up early because of limited amounts of seating and backpacks. Call 508-979-4029

#### Single Seniors

Single Seniors Supper Club first and third Tuesday of the month. If you are a single senior 60 or older and would like to attend, please call the Senior Center by Monday at 508-979-4029. Next dates will be Tuesday, January 6 and 20.

#### Southcoast LGBT

South Coast Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Supper Club. Next date will be January 28. Please call the Senior Center, 508-979-4029.

#### Senior Discount Day Trip

Day trips to the Salvation Army have been cancelled until further notice.

#### Sewing Circle

The sewing Circle group will meet on Jan. 12 & 26 from 1-3 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. Call the Senior Center for the next date.

#### Learn to Play Bridge

Fun Challenging Social at The Fairhaven Senior Center Monday from Jan. 5-Feb 23, 8-week course from 1-3 p.m. \$88.00 including bound text. Call Jocelyn at 508-997-3029 or e-mail her at [goranj@comcast.net](mailto:goranj@comcast.net) to sign up or if you have any questions.

#### Tax Assistance

If you are a low income seniors filing a short form, please call the Fairhaven Senior Center at 508-979-4029 to book an appointment.

### 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; Knitting classes; 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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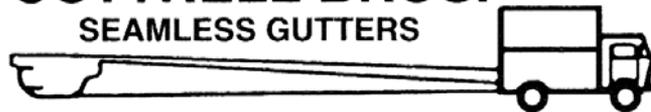
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# Acushnet looks to future fire/EMS chief recruitment

Michael Smith

## Neighb News Correspondent

Without a definitive plan in place, dialogue was initiated between the Acushnet Selectboard and town Fire and Emergency Medical Services Chief Kevin A. Gallagher about establishing a succession plan to appoint future fire chiefs.

Chief Gallagher told the board at its meeting on 1/5 that he had no plans to retire, but emphasized the need to have a succession plan in place when the time comes. He is eligible for retirement in seven years.

"The position of the fire chief right now in the way the department is organized, there are no clear lines of succession," said Chief Gallagher.

"I'm appealing to the board to help us out and respectfully request a special safety consultant to review the operations and construction of the merging departments," he said. "This is just to start the conversation, but we're looking for options."

Six years ago, the town appointed Chief Gallagher to the additional role of EMS chief to go along with his position of fire chief. The goal, according to Chief Gallagher, was to "blend two separate departments into one entity" and to improve and enhance patient care.

"The department today is very different than it was in 2008," said Chief Gallagher.

As the fire and EMS departments have merged, calls have increased.

Chief Gallagher cited that 2014 was a record setting year for the EMS department. The department responded to more than 871 medical emergency calls; 740 of those going to

local hospitals.

"That is 103 more calls than we did in 2013," said Chief Gallagher, adding that the total includes, the city of New Bedford asking Acushnet's assistance for emergencies 25 times in the past year.

In contrast, 657 calls were made to the EMS department in 2008, according to the chief.

He emphasized the importance of having a succession plan in place for the town.

"If I get hit by a bus tomorrow, there is no plan to have someone take my place as fire and EMS chief," said Chief Gallagher.

---

The position of the fire chief right now in the way the department is organized, there are no clear lines of succession  
[Chief Kevin Gallagher]

---

He added that today there has been a need for EMS that was not there a few years ago, citing an aging population as one example.

Selectboard Chairperson Kevin Gaspar asked what the study of operations would cost, but agreed a succession plan needs to be put in place.

"That is something we should start looking at now," said Mr. Gaspar.

Town Administrator Alan Coutinho, however, said a short-term plan is currently in place if the position of fire and EMS chief were to be suddenly vacant.

"We do have plans in place," said Mr. Coutinho, but did not offer any details.

Selectboard member David Wojnar cited the importance of having a person in place to ensure and provide a level of services for the residents of Acushnet. He asked for more

information from Chief Gallagher and the board not to allow "technicalities" from popping up in pursuing a plan for succession for a new chief.

"I'm a firm believer in blueprints," said Mr. Wojnar.

"I look forward to working with you on that blueprint," responded Chief Gallagher.

In another matter, the board voted to re-fund bonds toward the Acushnet River Valley Golf Course to save the town money and avoid any additional burden on town taxpayers.

According to Chairperson Gaspar, the golf course was financed for 24 years, but the town is eligible to extend it to 30 years.

The town has an opportunity to re-fund such bonds, according to Massachusetts State Law. The impetus to re-fund the bonds for an additional six years is due to revenue shortfalls as rounds of gold are down at River Valley, along with recent purchases of much needed golf course equipment, according to Mr. Gaspar.

The cost for an additional six years would only be \$8,000, but lengthening the financing from 24 to 30 years would save the town a substantial amount of money.

Town savings from bond re-funding in the first year would be around \$52,000 dollars, and afterward be around an average of \$180,000 a year, according to Mr. Gaspar.

"I think this is a smart move," he said.

The re-funding will free up some cash for the town for repairs "down the road," according to Mr. Gaspar. "We have to do something sooner rather than later."

The re-funding will not put any financial burden on the taxpayers of Acushnet.

Selectboard member Garry Rawcliffe added that if the golf course has a "stellar year," he would like to see the additional revenue go to purchasing an additional police cruiser or fire truck if possible.

Addressing old business, the Selectboard said they had not heard back from Attorney Matthew Thomas and their legal team about the Benefit Recovery Program. The topic was tabled for a future meeting.

With the exhaustion of the

**ACUSH: cont'd on page 21**

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# Nasketucket land project completed, protects 410 acres

*Press Release*

The Buzzards Bay Coalition and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) have completed the Nasketucket Bay Land Conservation Project, permanently protecting 410 acres of land surrounding Nasketucket Bay in the towns of Fairhaven and Mattapoissett.

This marks the largest land conservation project along the shores of Buzzards Bay in 25 years dating back to the creation of West Island State Reservation in 1988. Completing the project helps achieve several goals for both the region's residents and the local environment.

First, permanently protecting this land helps protect clean water in Nasketucket Bay, one of the healthiest parts of Buzzards Bay. With extensive eelgrass meadows, abundant fish and shellfish and a diversity of birds, Nasketucket Bay is a popular destination for recreational and commercial fishing along with canoeing, kayaking and swimming. This project adds to more than 1,000 acres of land already protected as part of the Nasketucket Bay State Reservation and other conservation areas.

Second, the project significantly increases outdoor recreation opportunities in the area. It nearly doubles the size of the DCR's Nasketucket Bay State Reservation, adds a trail link from the popular Phoenix/Mattapoissett Bike Path to the reservation, and links the Mariner Soccer Complex with trails to Nasketucket Woods, Austin Pond and the East Fairhaven School.

Finally, the project permanently protects 200 acres of active farmland, which helps preserve the community's rural character, vistas and scenic beauty.

"Nasketucket Bay is one of the region's most special places, with clear water full of abundant life surrounded by coastal forests and

wetlands," said Coalition President Mark Rasmussen. "The completion of this project further ensures that this place will remain special for generations to come and that many more of the region's residents will now be able to enjoy it."

"The completion of the Nasketucket Bay Land Conservation Project underscores the Patrick Administration's commitment to investing in open spaces and parklands throughout Massachusetts," said DCR Commissioner Jack Murray. "Under Governor Patrick's leadership, DCR has invested \$46.9 million and leveraged an additional \$24.4 million on the protection of 22,000 acres of conservation land in the Commonwealth."

The project protects land in the towns of Fairhaven and Mattapoissett. It includes the acquisition of 210 acres of forest and coastal wetlands and places a conservation restriction, limiting development on 200 acres of farmland. The project, which took over four years to complete, cost more than \$6 million.

Funding to complete the project came from several sources including the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Division of Conservation Services. Federal government support came from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS).

The project also received funding from the Bouchard B-120 Oil Spill Trustee Council comprised of the Mass. Department of Environmental Protection, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and U.S. Fish and



ABOVE: The Nasketucket Bay Land Conservation project protects clean water and expands recreation opportunities at the state reservation in the background. BELOW: This project forever protects acres of coastal farmland overlooking Nasketucket Bay. The project protects a total of 410 acres in Fairhaven and Mattapoissett. Photos courtesy of Buzzards Bay Coalition.

Wildlife Service.

Finally, the project was supported by The Nature Conservancy, the towns of Mattapoissett and Fairhaven, the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program and several private foundations and donors.

"This was a very worthwhile project. It is very important for us to preserve our environment and the character of our coastal community," said Chairman of the Fairhaven Board of Selectmen, Robert Espindola. "By partnering with the Buzzards Bay Coalition and other state agencies, the towns of Fairhaven and Mattapoissett were each able to leverage about \$175,000 in funds to preserve space worth over \$6,000,000. We look forward to seeing people enjoy the new space for recreation and water access that did not exist before today"

"Mattapoissett residents, town meeting members and town officials love the natural beauty of this area and, working closely with the Coalition and Mattapoissett Land Trust, were able to bring funds necessary to see this become a reality," said Mattapoissett Town Administrator Michael Gagne. "The people of Mattapoissett owe a special thanks to the Mattapoissett Land Trust, who raised and donated over \$30,000 to contribute to this great acquisition. Many generations to come will enjoy this area."

Additional information on the project can be found at [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/nasketucketbay](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/nasketucketbay)



## DNRT protects 62 acres

### Press Release

The Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust (DNRT) is delighted to announce the purchase and protection of 62 acres of woodlands, wetlands and open fields off No. Hixville Road in No. Dartmouth. The property will be named "Wernick Farm" in recognition of the family that owned the land since the 1950s. DNRT plans to open it to the public within the next year.

According to DNRT Executive Director, Dexter Mead, the Wernick Farm is a "hidden gem" with massive white pines, winding trails, and three lovely spring-fed ponds. It includes lands designated by the Massachusetts Natural Heritage Program as "Critical Natural Landscape" and is adjacent to the 14,000-acre South-eastern Massachusetts Bioreserve, which extends from the northern edge of Dartmouth through Fall River to Freetown.

DNRT was able to protect the property thanks to grants from the Dartmouth Community Preservation Fund and the Bafflin Foundation, as well as the generous support of 72 individuals and families. With the

help of the Buzzards Bay Coalition, the project also received a key grant from the North American Wetlands Conservation Act.

Moreover, the project could not have been done without the commitment of Reva Newfield (nee Wernick) and her children to preserve the farm. Reva's parents, Norman and Charlotte Wernick, (called Zaidie and Bubbie by the family) each immigrated to the U.S. in the 1920s, were married in 1930, and bought the first piece of the farm in 1956. Reva's children, Gary, Sandy, Heidi and Marsha, all fondly recall days spent at their grandparents' farm with friends and family, picking blueberries,

apples, pears and corn, digging potatoes, chopping wood, and swimming in the spring-fed ponds.

Said Heidi, "We are thrilled that DNRT will own and maintain the property as a reserve. It is truly a dream come true. Bubbie and Zaidie would be thrilled as well."



This pond is on the Wernick Farm in Dartmouth. The 62-acre parcel has been purchased by the Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust to be protected as open space. It will be open to the public and has hiking trails, three ponds and white pines. It is located off North Hixville Road. Submitted photo.



### ENTERTAINMENT:

Fri., 1/9, James Gagne, 8 p.m.–Mid.

**GAME NIGHT, SATURDAY, 1/10**

New England vs. Baltimore, 4:35–7:35 p.m.

Carolina vs. Seattle, 8:15–11:15 p.m.

**GAME DAY, SUNDAY, 1/11**

Dallas vs. Green Bay, 1–4 p.m.

Indianapolis vs. Denver, 4:40–7:40 p.m.

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## Obituary

Bryan M. Becker, 42, of Cambridge, unexpectedly passed away on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at his home. He was the son of Peggy H. Becker of Westport and Stephan M. Becker of Fairhaven.

Born in Richmond, VA, he had worked as a self-employed writer and artist. Bryan enjoyed spending time with his family and friends.

Survivors along with his parents include his 2 daughters: Margaret L. and Claire M. Becker of NH; his 2 brothers: Chaney M. Becker of NM and Stephan M. Becker of TN; his sister: Stephanie M. Becker of NY; and his former wife: Morae Becker of NH.

He was the brother of the late Mathew T. Becker.

Private services were held.

Memorial donations in honor of Bryan may be made to the Bryan Marshall Becker Memorial Fund, c/o First Citizens Federal Credit Union, P.O. Box 1766, Mattapoisett, MA 02739.

Arrangements under the direction of the POTTER FUNERAL HOME, Westport.

To sign the online guestbook, please visit [www.potterfuneralservice.com](http://www.potterfuneralservice.com).

## SELECT: cont'd from page 4

Ms. Estrella told the board that "in this day and age," it was a "big thing," that people get to have a little flex time. She said she found it unreasonable that the board would not allow some flexibility for a lunch break, especially since the job required 24/7 coverage for animal emergencies.

Mr. Espindola said that the job was posted with specific hours, not flex time. He did say, however, that it was "absolutely false that we will not allow comp time."

Board member Geoffrey Haworth chimed in saying it was a legal requirement that a meal break be taken within six hours.

The board requires employees to take lunches sometime between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., or as late as 2.

"We can't have everyone making the own decisions at their own whim," said Mr. Osuch.

"So who decides?" asked Ms. Estrella.

Mr. Osuch said the position reports to the Selectboard and a phone call to the office would inform the board of any special appointment.

"You call the...office and inform the

office," said Mr. Osuch, adding that employees should not be taking time off and only informing the office after, the fact, "especially when the individual is caught."

"But not to leave a message and find out later is wrong," he said.

Resident Ted Lorentzen chimed in and he and Ms. Estrella had a bit of a back-and-forth spat for a bit.

"I would not work for this town," said Ms. Estrella in a parting shot.

Mr. Espindola did say that the minutes to the executive session with Mr. Cripps were public record, since they had been approved at that meeting and the matter was resolved, as the Mass. open record law states. He invited the public to read them for themselves. However, when the Neighb News tried to get a copy of the minutes, the office manager said that the board would have to specifically take a vote on releasing them to the public.

Ms. Estrella has started the "Friends of the Fairhaven Animal Shelter." Their first meeting will be on Wed., 1/14, at 6 p.m. at the Millicent Library. They can be found on Facebook.



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## Public Hearings/ Legal Notices

### FAIRHAVEN PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Fairhaven Planning Board will conduct a Public Hearing at **6:30 P.M. on January 27, 2015**, in the **Banquet Room**, Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA.

The purpose of the hearing will be to receive information and public comment on the following *Special Permit Applications*: 1) The applicant, Paul Downey, Mill Bridge Holdings, LLC, is requesting a Special Permit to construct a new parking lot with approximately 90 spaces and landscaped berm on the northeast corner of the property along Mill Road. The location is 200 Mill Road, Map 36, Lot 11A. 2) The applicant, *Bralden, LLC, d/b/a Brahmin Leather Works*, is requesting to add a new parking lot, landscaping and drainage to their existing parking lot on the north side of their building, adjacent to Alden Road. The location is 77 Alden Road, Map 30A, Lots 86A & 86C.

Copies of the applications are on file for public review at the Planning Board Office, Town Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment to review the application call the Planning Department at (508) 979-4082, Ext. 9.

Wayne Hayward, Chairman of the Planning Board

**ACUSH:** cont'd from page 16  
appropriated \$25,000 budget for snow removal this winter, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve deficit spending. Currently, a \$2,687 deficit exists in the budget.

According to Chairperson Gaspar, \$10,464 from the budget was used for repairs and maintenance, and \$17,222 was marked for sand and salt.

The Selectboard unanimously approved the appointment of Kelly Massey as a temporary assistant animal inspector and acting assistant animal control officer.

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## Christmas Tree Collection

**January 13-16**

Christmas Tree collection in Fairhaven will be one day after your regular rubbish day the week of January 13. Place trees curbside by 7 a.m. on the day of pick up. Remove all ornaments and tinsel. Do not put in plastic bag.



## Nomination papers available

Fairhaven's annual elections will be held on Monday, April 6. Nomination papers are now available at the town clerk's office, Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Street. The last day for requesting papers is Thursday, February 12. Nomination papers must be returned with the required signatures by Tuesday, 2/17.

The last day for registering to vote is Tuesday, March 17. The clerk's office will be open until 8 p.m. that day to register voters.

Papers for town-wide office require 50 certified signatures; town meeting members require 10 certified signatures from the precinct.

Call 508-979-4025, Ext. 3 for info.

**APPEALS:** cont'd from page 10  
representing owner Andrea Yukna, told the board that the project would remove an existing deck and replace it with one that is longer, but will not extend beyond the front of the existing house. The new deck will be no wider on the side and no longer on the back. It will only be extended on one end.

## Fairhaven Meetings

**Beautification Comm.**

Thurs., 1/8, Fire Station, 7 p.m.

**Board of Appeals**

Tues., 2/3, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

**Board of Public Works**

Mon., 1/12, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

**Cable Advisory Comm.**

Thurs., 1/8, Town Hall, 7:15 p.m.

**Capital Planning Com.**

Mon., 1/12, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Tues., 1/13, Town Hall, 1:30 p.m.

**Community Preserv. Comm.**

Thurs., 1/15, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**Conservation Commission**

Mon., 1/26, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**Government Study Comm.**

Thurs., 1/8, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

**Planning Board**

Mon., 1/13, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**Rogers/Oxford Comm.**

Thurs., 1/8, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**School Committee**

Wed., 1/14, FHS Library, 6:30 p.m.

**Selectboard**

Mon., 1/12, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

## Acushnet Meetings

**Board of Health**

Tues., 1/13, Parting Ways, 6:30 p.m.

**Conservation Commission**

Wed., 1/14, Town Hall 7 p.m.

**Park Board**

Tues., 1/13, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**Selectboard**

Mon., 1/26 Town Hall, 4 p.m.

## TIDE TABLE

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

	Jan. 2015	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.	LOW a.m.	HIGH p.m.
Thursday	8	0944	2211	0245	1513*
Friday	9	1026	2255	0320	1544*
Saturday	10	1112	2344	0357	1619*
Sunday	11	----	1202	0438	1659
Monday	12	0035	1253	0527	1749
Tuesday	13	0124	1343	0630	1848
Wednesday	14	0214	1435	0734	1945
Thursday	15	0309	1536	0833	2039
Friday	16	0410	1637	0934	2137*
Saturday	17	0504	1729	1036	2236*
Sunday	18	0552	1815	1128*	2331*

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

## From our readers

### Thank you for toy donations

We would like to thank you for your support of our West Island Toys for Tots drive and express our sincere appreciation to all who donated to this year's drive. With their help, we collected 252 toys and this year's collection covered a wide range of toys for children of all ages. It is heartwarming to know that so many people not only from West Island but throughout the Town of Fairhaven showed their generosity and respect for the memory of L.Cpl. Matthew Rodriguez.

We will be continuing this worthwhile effort in 2015 and are looking forward to experiencing even a bigger response so that more needy children in our community will be able to experience the joy of receiving a toy for Christmas.

*Sincerely yours, Bob & Cathi Konicki*

### Food drive exceeds expectations

This letter of thanks goes out to all the generous people who contributed money and/or non-perishable food to the 11th annual Shepherd's Pantry holiday fundraiser. The total amount

collected during this year's fund raiser exceeded expectations once again. With a monthly expenditure of around \$6,000.00 used to purchase food that is either running low or out completely, monetary donations are necessary to keep the pantry running smoothly. And in order to never turn away a needy individual looking for help, the pantry volunteers need to receive both monetary and non-perishable food donations all year long.

According to Blanche Pepin, the pantry's administrator, dedicated volunteers handed out thousands of food items to over 5,839 families during this past year. Broken down, that's 18,000 individuals and 33% of this total were children with an average of over 120 families that come looking for help each Saturday between the hours of 9 and 11 a.m.

A BIG thank you for this year's success goes to the much needed and appreciated newspaper articles from The Standard-Times, The Fairhaven/Acushnet Advocate and the Fairhaven Neighborhood News. Also, a BIG thank you to Stop & Shop, Market Basket and Price Rite Supermarkets,

Paul's Sports Corner and the Fairhaven Road Race who all came through once again with their generous donations to our yearly venture.

Also, the food drives from the Ford Middle School, the East Fairhaven, Hastings Middle and Wood Schools,

the Acushnet Elementary School, Cornell Dubelier, the Acushnet Lions Club, Rivers End Café, the Motorcycle Run (for food and toys), Bishop Stang High School and Nyes Lubricants, are some of the area's businesses, churches, schools and non-profit groups and organizations that will not be forgotten for their generosity towards the area's needy. Also, the "Turkey Trot" annual Thanksgiving morning 5K run again made this year's fund-raiser special with their contributions.

Also, this year's success was initiated with the help of Fairhaven Stop & Shop manager Rick Raielli and his assistant managers, by asking their compassionate customers to purchase \$10.00 boxes of non-perishable food items for the pantry during the holiday season. And the response was phenomenal whereby 299 boxes of food were eventually delivered to the pantry to help fill their shelves.

Another big thank you to the Stop & Shop Bakery Department workers, located in Fairhaven, who hand me outdated bread and pastries on Friday afternoons to be given out the next morning to the needy who frequent the pantry.

And finally, the food bin located at the Millicent Library, and Stop & Shop Supermarket, both located in Fairhaven, where generous people have dropped off thousands of pounds of non-perishable food this past year, will continue. If you have any questions about the pantry located at the Long Plain United Methodist Church at 1215 Main St. in Acushnet, please call 508-763-9289 or visit <http://www.shepherdspantry.org/>

*Gerry Payette, Holiday fund raiser coordinator*

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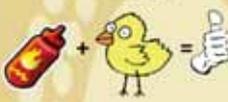
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