



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 2 • January 15, 2015

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

Time to think about...mosquitoes



A Bristol County Mosquito Control excavator digs on the north side of the Causeway Road Beach on Wednesday, 1/14, to open up the ditches that get clogged up every year. The water gets trapped and the saltmarsh mosquito larvae thrive making it miserable for beachgoers. So BCMC cleans out the ditches to keep the water flowing freely. Not only does it help to wash away the larvae and hold down the water level to minimize the breeding area, it also allows small fish that eat the larvae to get into the marsh, according to BCMC Heavy Machine Foreperson Drew Bushee. The excavator is a special low ground pressure machine designed for salt marshes and swamps. It has a smaller footprint and is designed not to sink. The "spoils," or dirt that is excavated, is spread out in the uplands, not on the marsh or on the beach. During mosquito season, residents may ask for free spraying to control the little pests by contacting BCMC. Visit <http://www.bristolcountymosquitocontrol.com/> or call 508-823-5253. *Photo by Beth David.*



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From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

Mosquitoes!!! How's that for thinking of warm weather? Brrr...it's COLD out there this week.

Still, Bristol County Mosquito Control is thinking about summer and those pesky biters. Hold that thought!

See corrections....'nuff said.

We had a terrible tragedy in the world last week. Satirical cartoonists at the French satirical magazine, *Charlie Hebdo*, were targeted and murdered on Wednesday, January 7. Twelve people at the magazine were murdered. It was an attack on free speech by Islamic terrorists. They were angry because the magazine made fun of Mohammed or Islam, or simply used an image of Mohammed.

Whatever.

Cartoonists and satirists are brave. They are expected to be brave; but that would be emotionally brave, not physically brave. No one should have to worry about getting shot because of a spoof.

Satire is a necessity in a free democracy. To be able to make fun of people, especially public figures, is what separates the adults from the children.

About a million people marched in Paris to show that free speech is important. The terrorists have been identified, some have been killed or captured. It looks like one got away.

These guys are out of control.

Clearly we are doing something wrong in our attempt to stop, contain, change, or otherwise obliterate this enemy of our so-called values.

I shudder, though, to realize how much they have accomplished. We can't take a backpack anywhere anymore. I used to live with my backpack. I would be turned away from half the places I used to go with it.

We can't take our personal protection devices (pepperspray) in government buildings, on planes, in Third District Court, where, arguably, we'd need it most.

They even banned tablets at a graduation I attended last summer. iPads, really?

That's all the tip of the proverbial iceberg, though. I fear we are losing this battle. Our freedom to associate is gone to...well, you know. And the list goes on.

But Charlie Hebdo published this week. They put Mohammed on the cover again.

They are tough, those cartoonists. The second string, too. The starters are all gone.

We worry that our actions in Muslim countries will make more terrorists.

Let's hope their actions in the west will make more free speech advocates.

Until next week then...



Beth David, Publisher

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our story about the Moby Dick Marathon in last week's issue, we made an error in the headline. It should have read, "19th annual Moby Dick Marathon draws hundreds." Our inadvertent omission of a certain word left certain people who have a certain mindset to suffer a certain kind of humorous connotation. As happy as we are to entertain, we do apologize for the error.

Fairhaven resident named shooting star at Sylvia Group

Press Release

SouthCoast insurance, employee benefits and financial planning agency Sylvia Group has named JoAnn Tavares the winner of its 2014 Shooting Star Award. A commercial lines account manager and lifelong Fairhaven resident, Tavares received the award at the Country Club of New Bedford during the agency's annual holiday party.

Created in 2004, the Shooting Star Award recognizes outstanding contributions in support of clients, colleagues and the Sylvia Group agency as a whole. Winners are nominated by their co-workers and selected by the agency's leadership team, based on a demonstrated commitment to personal and professional growth, as well as to the mission and values of the agency.

In presenting the award, Sylvia Group President and CEO Maureen Sylvia Armstrong said Tavares was a worthy selection "because year after year she consistently does her job, volunteers for projects at the office and within the community, and always does so with a smile, no

matter what obstacles she faces."

In addition to her work as an account manager, Tavares in 2014 volunteered at the Dartmouth YMCA's Sharing the Harvest Community Farm during the United Way Day of Caring, donated time and items to Gifts to Give, and organized a company blood drive, which is scheduled to take place on February 13, 2015, in a mobile unit outside the Sylvia Group offices at 500 Faunce Corner Road in Dartmouth.

A lifelong Fairhaven resident, mother of four and grandmother of three, Tavares joined Sylvia Group in 2001.

Founded in 1950 and headquartered in Dartmouth, Sylvia Group is a third-generation, locally owned agency, certified as a Woman Owned Business Enterprise with the State Office of Minority and Women Business Assistance (SOMWBA).

Along with property and casualty insurance and risk-management services for businesses and individuals, the agency's product offering includes employee benefit design and implementation as well as financial planning services, investment



JoAnn Tavares of Fairhaven has won the "Shooting Star Award" at Sylvia Group of Dartmouth. Submitted photo.

products, life insurance and long-term care insurance.

Earlier this year, Sylvia Group became the first six-time winner of the Five Star Designation awarded by the Massachusetts Association of Insurance Agents (MAIA) for overall agency excellence.



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Selectboard holds off on TA consultant; approves capital idea

By Beth David
Editor

The Fairhaven Selectboard showed support for the creation of a Capital Stabilization Fund that would be used to pay for capital expenditures. Also, at its meeting on 1/12, the board decided to wait until May to start the recruitment process for a Town Administrator.

Working from a draft plan created by the Capital Planning Committee, the board discussed the breakdown of anticipated capital expenditures for FY16 totalling about \$1.1 million.

The town also faces a \$900,000 cost for a new ladder truck for the fire department.

The Committee recommended that the board start the stabilization fund with \$400,000 this year, in hopes of eventually having enough to pay for all capital expenditures over \$20,000.

The budget currently includes capital expenditures, such as new vehicles, in each department's budget. The new format would separate capital expenditures into one section, which would include police cruisers and building repairs, for example.

Many of the items in the \$1.1 figure are already budgeted for, such as two police cruisers, which the town buys every year.

As for the fire truck, which has needed replacing for several years, the town needs to plan on what to do if the fire chief is unable to get a grant to cover it.

Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch told the board that if the town cannot save enough in the special fund to cover the whole cost of the fire truck, then the town needs to at least have enough in the account to cover loan payments.

Some of the items that the committee listed would be paid for from the water and sewer enterprise funds, with state funds, or Community Preservation funds, and not necessarily from the general fund.

The FY16 draft capital plan includes \$70,400 to replace two police cruisers, \$144,000 for three vehicles in the highway department, \$151,440 for flooring at Hastings Middle School, \$20,000 for town hall floors and \$36,928 for a police department pickup truck.

Some of those items are already budgeted for, some are not.

Items to be paid for with enterprise

funds include water main work, Tinkham Lane Well improvements and wastewater treatment plant studies and upgrades.

The Capital Planning Committee was created by Town Meeting last May to create a plan for capital spending so the town has a better idea exactly how much it is spending on capital improvements. The committee is also tasked with projecting capital expenditures for five years.

Capital Planning Committee Chairperson Drew Tillett said the committee started with just one year for now, but will have a five-year plan by town meeting in May.

He also said that not all department heads responded to the com-

This is going to be one of the most important things we do in the town of Fairhaven. One of the most important things.

[Charles Murphy]

mittee's requests.

"We did ask everyone," said Mr. Tillett. He said department heads need to understand that town meeting created the committee and they are "charged with doing this."

"We are happy to consider anything," he said. "I'm just trying to be helpful. I want it to work well."

Selectboard member Charles Murphy assured Mr. Tillett that when department heads fail to get what they want this year, they will be more inclined to respond next year.

The board voted to support a TM article creating the stabilization fund.

In another matter, the board decided to hold off on hiring a consultant to start recruiting for the new Town Administrator (TA) position.

Richard Kobayashi, Sr. Associate at the Collins Center for Public Policy at UMass Boston, told the board that the fee is \$14,000 plus reimbursable expenses, such as advertising, travel expenses and background checks. The process should take about four

months to find and hire someone, then a month or two more so the person can give proper notice.

Mr. Kobayashi told the board that the first part of the process is to get to know the town and what officials envision for the future. The second phase is finding and screening candidates.

The goal is to present three to five "excellent candidates."

"This is going to be one of the most important things we do in the town of Fairhaven," said Mr. Murphy. "One of the most important things. I think we need professional assistance."

After some discussion about how the town is in transition as it switches from an Executive Secretary form of government to the TA, and the uncertain future of the Board of Public Works, the Selectboard decided to wait until May to ask TM for the money to start the hiring process.

The problem is that the BPW is halfway through the process of being eliminated, but it requires a town-wide vote, which will happen in April. If it is eliminated, the TA will assume its duties.

"The scope of the job is quite different [if the BPW is eliminated]," said Mr. Kobayashi. "So it might be good to wait. They are different jobs."

In another matter, the board met with representatives of SRPEDD (Southeastern Regional Planning & Economic Development District) about creating a Regional Transportation Plan. The agency will continue to look for input from town officials and residents on what transportation issues and future needs the town anticipates. Residents are encouraged to fill out the transportation survey at <http://www.srpedd.org/>

Board member Geoffrey Haworth said that Scoticut Neck Road should be a priority for safety improvements. It has few sidewalks, has bicycle crossings, and there have been two fatalities of pedestrians in just the last three years.

Selectboard member Charles Murphy said he also had concerns about the New Bedford-Fairhaven bridge, which causes disruptions when it is closed to vehicle traffic.

Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch added the Bridge Street/Route 240 intersection. He said the state was planning to add a second left-turn

SELECT: cont'd on page 21

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Book Sale

The Oxford Book Haven and Cafe, located at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 357 Main St., Fairhaven, will hold a **Dollar-A-Bag book sale on Saturdays, Jan. 17, 24 and 31, from 9-1.** Breads, cupcakes and beverages available.

All proceeds go to the church. Visit www.goodshepherdfairhaven.com

Bereavement Group

Southcoast® Visiting Nurse Association offers free bereavement programs for grieving adults during the month of January. General Bereavement Groups are designed for adults grieving the loss of a loved one.

The following group will be held in Fairhaven on **Tues., 1/20, from 4-5:15 p.m. at the Fairhaven Senior Center, 229 Huttleston Avenue.**

Individual, short-term bereavement counseling is also available to adults grieving the loss of a loved one. For more information about individual and group counseling, contact 800-698-6877.

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.

Program will be held in the downstairs auditorium. Accessible.

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.

F.A.M.E. Coffeehouse

F.A.M.E. (Fairhaven Association for Music Education) will be hosting its 8th annual **Coffee House on Fri., 1/30 at 7 p.m. at the First Congregational Church in Fairhaven, Babbit Hall, 34 Center Street.**

We will have performances by Fairhaven public school students, alumni, and their families. **Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students.**

Please contact Brian Simmons at 508-801-7103 or dharm99king2@yahoo.com for tickets or to donate raffle prizes/baked goods.

Blood Drive

The Southcoast® Blood Bank at St. Luke's Hospital, a part of Southcoast Health, has announced its January hours and schedule for the community blood drives.

The Southcoast Blood Bank is the only blood donation venue that directly supports the local community's blood supply. A donation to the Southcoast Blood Bank Donor Room or a Southcoast Health-sponsored blood drive helps to keep the local blood supply strong.

For more information or to make an appointment, call 508-973-5320 or visit www.southcoast.org/bloodbank.

The following blood drive will be held in Fairhaven on **Wed., 1/21, at the South Coast Business Center, 200 Mill Rd., from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

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 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.

Free Trees

Ring in the New Year with 10 free flowering trees by joining the Arbor Day Foundation any time during January 2015.

By becoming a part of the nonprofit Arbor Day Foundation, new members will receive two Sargent crabapples, three American redbuds, two Washington hawthorns, and three white flowering dogwoods.

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

The free trees are part of the Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

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

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

To become a member of the Foundation and to receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to Ten Free Flowering Trees, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, **by Jan. 31, 2015.** Join online at arborday.org/january.

Northeast Maritime cuts ribbon on new college

Press Release

On January 8th, 2015, history was made not only with record breaking temperatures, but with the commencement of the first private maritime college in the United States at Northeast Maritime Institute (NMI) in Fairhaven.

This is the first new college to receive approval from the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education in sixteen years. NMI is honored to offer a two-year Associate of Applied Nautical Science degree program, which provides its first cohort of six students the opportunity to learn through hands-on education from dedicated faculty and staff.

The college will focus on educating mariners as well as developing well rounded citizens of the community. Students will be transformed into mariners through classroom support and summer internships.

At the ribbon cutting ceremony, which kicked off the student, parent, and faculty orientation, Fairhaven Select board chairperson Bob Espindola stated the town was "very proud and honored to host the first private maritime college" in the United States.

NMI's six new college students held one end of the ribbon, while New Bedford police and fire, who are currently attending NMI's Continuing Education Captains Course, held the other.

This was an especially poignant moment for Angela and Eric R. Dawicki, the founders of NMI, who have worked tirelessly to bridge the gap between continuing and higher education in the maritime industry.

An Associate Degree program, in a field such as Nautical Science, offers

students an education that allows them to enter the growing maritime job market immediately upon graduation.

In most cases, students will earn more in their first year of employment than they spent on their college degree. NMI President Eric R. Dawicki has focused on creating a solution to the weight of student debt upon college graduates who are unable to secure employment in their field of study.

The hope for this new program is to help the local maritime industry

in Fairhaven and New Bedford, and also to breathe new life into the global maritime economy.



L-R: Freshman Student Elijah Simmons, Fairhaven Selectboard Chairperson Bob Espindola, NMI College president Eric Dawicki, Fairhaven Executive Secretary Jeffery Osuch and Fairhaven Selectboard member Charles Murphy share a laugh as they welcome the gathering of 70 students, friends, family, educators, faculty, parents and neighbors to the ribbon cutting celebrating the creation the country's first private maritime college at Northeast Maritime Institute in Fairhaven. *Submitted photo.*



The first cohort group of students for the NMI college program, College President Eric Dawicki, and members of the New Bedford Fire Department (attending continuing education classes at NMI) prepare for the ribbon cutting. *Submitted photo.*



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Winter work



Guy Rossi, manager of Earl's Marina, uses a pole and a skiff to break up the ice around the finger piers and pilings at the marina on Goulart Memorial Drive, right near the West Island causeway in Fairhaven. LEFT: Mr. Rossie loosens up some ice from around a piling and pushes it away. RIGHT: Mr. Rossie the skiff to break up the ice. *Photos by Beth David.*

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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

MLK Remembrance

Mayor Jon Mitchell is pleased to join with the Greater New Bedford Area Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee in welcoming the public to attend the "Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Remembrance Celebration" on Sun., 1/18, from 3:00—5:00 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church, 71 8th Street in New Bedford.

Each year the program is hosted at a different venue to send the message that it is truly a program of the community. The theme for the 2015 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Remembrance Celebration is "Justice For All" which was at the core of the nonviolent movement Dr. King led in the late 1950's and '60s to achieve legal equality for African-Americans in the United States.

The keynote speaker this year will be Massachusetts Attorney General-Elect Maura Healey.

Other program highlights will include musical selections from the popular gospel choir Deliverance of the United House of Prayer, Miss New Bedford Outstanding Teen, and the John Avery Parker Elementary School chorus. Special musical guest Sid Sriram, a young Indian-American singer-songwriter, will again delight the audience with several musical selections.

For more information, please contact Marci Pina-Christian or New Bedford Department of Community Services at 508-979-1464.

Miss Teen NB

The Miss Teen New Bedford pageant will be held on 1/17. See page 19 for details.

CyberCrime Talk

The Truth About Cyber Crime: Are You Doing Enough to Protect Your Small Business? Find out on Wed., 1/21. Registration and Continental Breakfast at 7:30 a.m.; presentation from 8–10 a.m. At the Waypoint Event Center at the Fairfield Inn & Suites, 185 MacArthur Drive, New Bedford.

By the New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce: \$25 Chamber Members, \$45 Non-members. Register online at <http://newbedfordchamber.com/> or call 508-999-5231

While current reports of IT

security breaches at large big box stores like Target and Home Depot tend to overshadow the threat of cyber crime for small business; the complete opposite is true. The threat of cyber crime is just as significant for small businesses. Small businesses are frequent victims of cyber crime and the effects of these attacks are often devastating.

During this informative presentation, Principal-in-Charge of the Information Security Group at CliftonLarsonAllen, Mark Eich, will describe the threat landscape cyber crime poses and discuss regulatory efforts to address the threat. Mark is a nationally recognized leader in the field of information security.

This session is designed for all executives, IT leadership and business owners.

YTI Play

Your Theatre, Inc. performs *Italian American Reconciliation*, by John Patrick Shanley, author of *Moonstruck*.

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.

Performance dates are Jan. 15, 16, 17 & 22, 23, 24 at 8 p.m. and Jan. 18 & 25 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets: \$15; \$13 for students, seniors & military.

At Your Theatre, Inc., 136 Rivet St. (corner of County St.), New Bedford, in the wheelchair accessible auditorium of St. Martin's Episcopal Church. Free off-street parking off County St.

For tickets and further information call 508-993-0772, or send an email to info@yourtheatre.org. The theatre's web site is www.yourtheatre.org

Scrimshaw Class

Have you ever wanted to learn more about scrimshaw, the indigenous shipboard art of 19th century whalers? Now you can, guided by one of the world's foremost authorities on scrimshaw at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, 18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford, 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.

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

Register by phone, 508-997-0046 or online at www.whalingmuseum.org

Dock-U-Mentary

The Dock-U-Mentaries Film Series continues on **Fri., 1/16 at 7:00 PM with Tug Boat Annie in the theater of the Corson Maritime Learning Center, 33 William St., New Bedford. All programs are open to the public and presented free of charge.**

Dock-U-Mentaries takes break from its usual documentary fare to invite you to enjoy this classic from 1933. Anyone wondering why Marie Dressler was such an extraordinary box-office draw need only to step aboard the tug Narcissus and sail away with Tugboat Annie for a knockabout comedy-drama.

Fitness Challenge

Join the New Bedford Fitness Challenge this January with a friend or co-worker and lose weight while having fun and trying out some new and different fitness classes all around the city for a onetime fee of \$5! The First Annual New Bedford Fitness Challenge will kick off Sat., 1/17 from noon to 3:00 PM with a Health Fair at the Andrea McCoy Recreation Center, located at 181 Hillman St. in New Bedford. You can join as an individual or as part of a team (2-10 people max) for a onetime fee of \$5 per person. The challenge ends March 28 with a Final Celebration and Award Ceremony at the YMCA New Bedford. (You must register by January 31 to be eligible for awards.)

To learn more visit <https://www.facebook.com/fitnesschallengeNB> or contact organizers at infoPRB@newbedford-ma.gov

HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

Scholarships

In order to assist Acushnet residents in continuing to build their academic futures, the Acushnet Teachers Association annually awards scholarships. Residents of Acushnet enrolling in a full-time college program in 2015-16 are eligible.

In addition to A.T.A. scholarships, the Committee is also responsible for judging applicants for the following scholarships: Acushnet P.T.O., Acushnet Lion's Club, the Carole Day Memorial Nursing Scholarship, and the Acushnet Historical Society Scholarship. By filling out the single application form, students are considered for any and all of the above-named Acushnet scholarships for which they are eligible.

Visit www.acushnetteachers.com for printable application forms and more information about the ATA Scholarship Program. Hard copies are available in the Ford Middle School main office at 708 Middle Road, Acushnet. Applications and required paperwork are due on May 1.

For questions, please contact Kristine Daniels, A.T.A. Scholarship Committee Co-Chair, at kdaniels@acushnet.k12.ma.us or 508-998-0265 ext. 1205.

1st Time Homebuyer

The Fall River Housing Corp., together with BankFive, will present two seminars to provide first-time homebuyers with information about what they need to know when purchasing a home. Topics include budgeting and credit, the housing search process, lead paint issues, home inspections, obtaining a mortgage, legal issues and successful ownership. Guest speakers will be on hand to discuss city and state first-time homebuyer programs and multi-family ownership.

Certificates will be awarded to attendees, allowing them to participate in specialized first-time homebuyer programs.

The seminars will be held at the **Fall River Affordable Housing Corporation, at 111 Durfee St., Fall River on Jan. 21 & 22 from 5 to 9 pm.**

The cost of the seminar is \$35 per person or \$50 per couple. Contact Bob Landry or Alice at the Fall River Affordable Housing Corporation at

508-677-2220 to register.

Bird Club mtg

At January's Nasketucket Bird Club meeting, Fairhaven resident and professional photographer Dan Logan will show some of his images from the last year of birds that live in or pass through southeastern Mass.

The event will be held at 7 p.m. on Thurs., 1/22, at the Mattapoissett Public Library, 7 Barstow St. The meeting is free and open to the public. Accessible. For more information contact Carolyn Longworth at bvm1290@comcast.net.

Logan's images range from common summer birds such as the Piping Plover and Barn Swallow to less frequently seen species including the Long-Eared Owl, Yellow-breasted Chat, Wood Duck, Northern Gannet and Black-throated Gray Warbler.

He will share the stories behind the photographs and talk about the challenges of photographing fast-moving birds.

Time Exchange & Seed Swap

The SE Mass. Time Exchange will hold their monthly **Meet, Greet, and Share on Tues., 1/20, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., at the Allen's Neck Friends Meetinghouse, 739 Horseneck Road, in South Dartmouth.** We also have had a request from a member for a seed and garden catalog swap. Anyone interested in trading extra seeds and/or catalogs can bring them and share.

All members, friends, and others interested in the Time Exchange are invited to share food, tell exchange stories, get to know each other, discover more about timebanking, and even join on the spot. A short video or two will be shown, but socializing will be the priority.

Please RSVP to 774-955-0551, or email Bob Bailey at exchange.timesmass@gmail.com. Visit exchangetime.org

Amnesty Letters

Mattapoissett Friends Meeting (Quakers) will host an **Amnesty International letter-writing session Sun., 1/18**, to support various political prisoners around the globe. Anybody

interested is invited to drop in between 12:00 and 2:00 at the community hall behind the meeting house, **103 Marion Rd. (Rt.6)**. Sample letters will be provided.

This is part of Amnesty International's Write for Rights campaign. There are ten cases, including Lui Ping, sentenced to 6 years in jail in China for fighting corruption, and Raif Badaw, sentenced to ten years in Saudi Arabia for creating a website. Three of the prisoners of conscience featured in last year's campaign — Yorm Bopha, Vladimir Akimenkov, and Mikhail Kosenko — were released after thousands of letters worldwide were written in their support.

Mattap. Friends

All members of the Friends of the Mattapoissett Council on Aging, Inc. **and all citizens of Mattapoissett are invited to the Annual Meeting of its membership on Sat., 1/17, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the meeting room at the Mattapoissett Public Library, 7 Barstow St.**

An informal mixer with cider and donuts will precede the formal meeting and be followed by a brief **presentation by Mattapoissett Police Chief Mary Lyons.**

Formal business will include election of the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee will take nominations from the floor. Nominees must be present. **Membership applications form will be available. The annual dues are only \$10.**

Dine for Zoo

Come meet Cisco, our great horned owl, when you come to Not Your Average Joe's this Tuesday! The Buttonwood Park Zoological Society has been selected as the Not Your Average Cause at Not Your Average Joe's (NYAJ's) in Dartmouth. Every Tuesday throughout January, 15% of all purchases made by our supporters at the NYAJ's in Dartmouth will go to support our veterinary program here at the Zoo.

Please show your server a copy of the certificate (available at www.bpzoo.org) when ordering (dine in or take out)! Only two Tuesdays left: **Jan. 20 & 27!** Make reservations at 508-992-5637.

Recipe of the Week

Duck with Chestnuts (Pato com Castanhas)D

A traditional Portuguese meal

- 1 whole duck (sliced duck breast may be used)
- 2 pounds potatoes, peeled
- 2 cups pre-roasted chestnuts, shell removed
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 2 onions, chopped
- 4 garlic cloves
- 2 cups mushrooms, sliced
- 1 cup white wine
- Juice of one orange
- 1 dozen dry prunes
- 2 tbs Worcestershire sauce
- rosemary to garnish
- salt to taste

Sear the duck on both sides in a large frying pan on medium high heat with 1/2 cup olive oil. Remove the duck and in the same frying pan sauté the garlic, onions and mushrooms until golden. Add the wine, Worcestershire sauce and the juice from the orange. Let it boil for one minute while stirring then turn off the heat.

Boil the potatoes for about 20 minutes. In a baking dish place the duck, potatoes, chestnuts and sauce from the pan.

Bake for 1 hour at 350° until the duck is well cooked and tender.

Add prunes and bake for another 15 minutes.

Remove from the oven and let cool for 5 to 10 mins. Before serving decorate with the rosemary.

Serves 4-6. From <http://www.easyporugueserecipes.com>

Mark Sylvia joins Blue Wave

Mass. Dept. of Energy & Environmental Affairs Press Release

Massachusetts Undersecretary for Energy Mark Sylvia will join BlueWave Capital, the solar energy development and finance company, as Managing Director in January.

"Mark's service to the Patrick Administration has made a difference in communities across Massachusetts and in our Commonwealth's energy future," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Maeve Vallely Bartlett. "I wish him the best in his new endeavor and congratulate BlueWave for bringing on such a talented, dedicated new team member."

"Mark will add substantial value to BlueWave's efforts to accelerate our expansion into new markets in the United States and internationally as well as to build on the significant results we have achieved to date in the Commonwealth and to meaningfully contribute to the development of new initiatives the company will unveil in 2015," said John DeVillars, BlueWave's Managing Principal. "He has played a critical role in making

Massachusetts a national leader in solar energy policy and has a well-earned reputation as a smart, effective, creative, and principled leader. We are thrilled to have Mark join the BlueWave team!"

Sylvia has been with the Patrick Administration since 2009 and has served as Green Communities Division Director as well as Department of Energy Resources Commissioner. He and his team have implemented nation-leading policies, leading to the number one ranking in energy efficiency four years in a row and surpassing the Governor's ambitious solar goal of 250 megawatts by 2017 four years early.

Under Sylvia's leadership, DOER launched innovative programs to support energy resiliency, electric vehicle adoption, building labeling and renewable thermal technologies. There are now 136 cities and towns that have been designated as Green Communities, representing more than half of the Commonwealth's population.

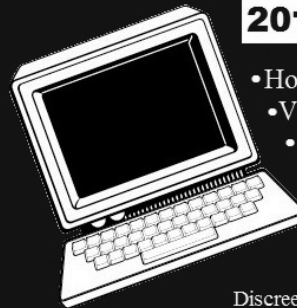
Mr. Sylvia is Fairhaven's town moderator.

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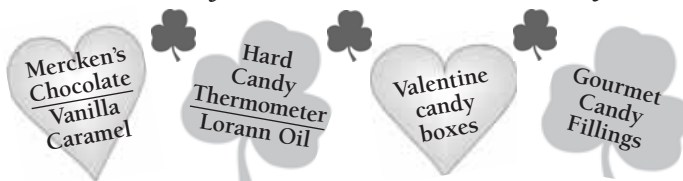
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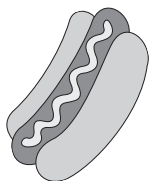


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Off-duty NB police officer nabs one in Acushnet break-in

From Acushnet Police Department Facebook Page

At approximately 12:23PM on Saturday, 1/3/2015, Acushnet Police received a call from off-duty New Bedford Police Sergeant Jason Gomes reporting he had detained a female that had just broken into a home on Mattapoissett Road in Acushnet.

Sgt. Gomes received a telephone call from a close family friend that lives nearby reporting she was on the second floor of her home and that she could hear someone walking around on the first floor.

Sgt. Gomes went to the home and found the side door slightly open. He entered and found an unfamiliar female at the top of the stairs to the second floor.

Sgt. Gomes engaged her in conversation and quickly determined she did not belong in the house. He was escorting her from the home just as

Acushnet Police Sgt. Keith Ashley and Officer Jeremy Fontes arrived on scene.

A subsequent investigation revealed Jessica Soucy, DOB 9/25/91, with addresses in New Hampshire as well as Lawrence and Freetown, Mass., had allegedly broken into the house. She was also in possession of jewelry taken from the home.

The 16-year-old female resident that was home at the time of the incident was not harmed and never came in contact with the suspect.

Ms. Soucy is being charged with breaking and entering in the daytime, placing a person in fear and larceny over \$250. She was scheduled to be arraigned in New Bedford District Court on Monday, 1/5.

The Acushnet Police would like to thank Sgt. Gomes for his assistance. He is also the commander of the NBPD Port Security Unit.



Jessica Soucy, 23, has been charged with breaking and entering in the daytime, placing a person in fear, and larceny over \$250. Acushnet Police photo.

Rookie of the Week

Roger Williams University freshman forward Mariah Nicholas of Acushnet was honored as Rookie of the Week on January 5 by the Commonwealth Coast Conference and the New England Women's Basketball Association.

Nicholas led the Hawks to a 68-61 triumph over Wheaton (Mass.) to close out 2014. The rookie scored a career-high 23 points, grabbed five rebounds and posted two blocks. Nicholas shot a blistering 73% (11-of-15) from the field.

From <http://cccathletics.com>.



Mariah Nicholas (#23) was honored as Rookie of the Week on January 5 by the Commonwealth Coast Conference and the New England Women's Basketball Association. The Acushnet resident plays for Rogers Williams University in Rhode Island. Photo courtesy of Rob Tierney, Rob Tierney Photography

Taking shape



The new police station building at 64 Middle Road in Acushnet is taking shape in this photo from December 22. From the Acushnet Police Department Facebook page.

Nomination papers available

Acushnet's annual elections will be held on Monday, April 6. Nomination papers are now available at the town clerk's office, Acushnet Town Hall, 122 Main Street. The last day for requesting papers is Thursday, February 12. Nomination papers must be returned with the required signatures by Monday, 2/16. Papers for town-wide office require 31

certified signatures.

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.

Polls will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on April 6, election day.

Call the town clerk's office at 508-998-0215 for more information.

Beating cold weather requires preparation

From the Center for Disease Control

When winter temperatures drop significantly below normal, staying warm and safe can become a challenge. Extremely cold temperatures often accompany a winter storm, so you may have to cope with power failures, loss of communication services, and icy roads.

Although staying indoors as much as possible can help reduce the risk of car crashes and falls on the ice, you may also face indoor hazards.

Many homes will be too cold either due to a power failure or because the heating system isn't adequate for the weather. Using space heaters and fireplaces to stay warm can increase the risk of household fires and carbon monoxide poisoning.

Exposure to cold temperatures, whether indoors or outside, can cause other serious or life-threatening health problems. Infants and older adults are particularly at risk but anyone can be affected. To keep yourself and your family safe, you should know how to prevent cold-related health problems and what to do if a cold-weather health emergency arises.

What constitutes extreme cold and its effects can vary across different areas of the country. In regions relatively unaccustomed to winter weather, near freezing temperatures are considered extreme cold.

Whenever temperatures drop decidedly below normal and as wind speed increases, heat can leave your body more rapidly. These weather-related conditions may lead to serious health problems such as



ABOVE: This infographic from the Center for Disease Control highlights steps people can take to stay warm in extreme cold. *From www.CDC.gov.* BELOW: The estuary that winds its way through the marsh on the north side of Goulart Memorial Drive was recently frozen over, melted and started to refreeze again in this picture on 1/14/15. The temperature fluctuations make for some interesting landscapes along the shore. *Beth David photo.*

hypothermia. Extreme cold is a dangerous situation that can bring on health emergencies in those who are susceptible, such as people without shelter, people who are stranded, or people who live in a home that is poorly insulated or without heat.

Although periods of extreme cold cannot always be predicted far in advance, weather forecasts can sometimes provide you with several days' notice. Listen to weather forecasts regularly and check your emergency supplies whenever a period of extreme cold is predicted.

If you plan to use a fireplace or wood stove for emergency heating, have your chimney or flue inspected each year. Ask your local fire department to recommend an inspector or find one listed under "chimney cleaning."

Also, if you'll be using a fireplace, wood stove, or kerosene heater, install a smoke detector and a

battery-operated carbon monoxide detector near the area to be heated. Test them monthly and replace batteries twice a year. All fuel-burning equipment should be vented to the outside.

Your ability to feel a change in temperature decreases with age. Older people are more susceptible to health problems caused by cold. If you are over 65 years old, place an easy-to-read thermometer in an indoor location where you will see it frequently. Check the temperature of your home often during the winter months.

Insulate any water lines that run along exterior walls so your water supply will be less likely to freeze. To the extent possible, weatherproof your home by adding weatherstripping, insulation, insulated doors, and storm windows or thermal-pane windows.

If you have pets, bring them indoors. If you cannot bring them inside, provide adequate shelter to keep them warm and make sure they have access to unfrozen water.

To get the full "Extreme Cold Weather Guide" from the CDC, visit our website at www.NeighbNews.com or visit <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/guide.asp>



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hall.net](http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net)**

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.
Cost: Free with your play card/ or \$5 Drop in

Starts: January 7th Ages: 14+

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Mall Trips

Jan. 21: Providence Place Mall and
Whole Foods
Jan. 28: Hyannis Mall, Xmas Tree

Shop and Trader Joe's
Feb. 4: Twin Rivers
Feb. 11: Warwick Mall

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. For Fairhaven seniors over 60 only. 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 20 and February 3.

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 1-3:30 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 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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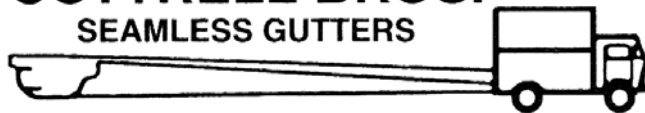
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BPW offers rebate for dirty water lasting 10 days

By Kylie Schuster

Neighb News Correspondent

The Fairhaven Board of Public Works held a meeting on Monday January 12 to discuss water bills, sewer department licenses, and work to be done on streets.

Fernando and Diane Lemos of 9 Goulart Memorial Drive appeared before the board asking for an abatement on their water bill. Mr. Lemos explained that he received his bill and was surprised to see he used 20 thousand cubic feet of water.

He stated he was not aware of any leaks, but "there may be a problem with the meter."

Ms. Lemos added that they always have a problem with dirty water.

The Lemoses told the board there was dirty water in the house. Ms. Lemos said that the dirty water lasted for about 10 days. During that time, she was running water in her house per the requests of the sewer department in order to flush the dirty water out.

"The probability that the meter is reading wrong is slim to none, you must have a leak," BPW Chairperson

Michael Ristuccia told them.

DPW Superintendent Vincent Furtado explained that while flushing the system, a leak in the water main was found in a marsh area.

"That is why the dirty water lasted for so long," Mr. Furtado said.

"If we abate one person's water, then we have to give everyone a rebate," said board member Robert "Hoppy" Hobson.

Board member Brian Wotton questioned the couple about their irrigation system, stating, "that is where your problem is coming from."

In the end, Mr. Ristuccia told the Lemoses that their meter will be changed and sent out for testing, and they will receive a \$100 restitution for the 10 days of flushing the dirty water out when the results of the meter tests come back. They will be invited back when the results of the meter are received.

In another matter, Mr. Furtado brought a list of streets before the board to decide what streets they will spend their \$300,000 budget on.

"The streets we pick are based on condition, how long they've been on

the waiting list and how travelled they are," explained Mr. Furtado.

"We shouldn't vote on any streets until we get all of the petitions in," added Mr. Hobson. "People on Blue Point Road have been petitioning and we told them we would redo their street if we had the money."

The Board agreed and decided to postpone the voting until all of the petitions are in.

The board decided to invite the Sewer Department Union in to discuss what to do with employees who do not have a Class 5 license.

The board also discussed getting estimates on the reconfiguration of bike path crossing at Sconticut Neck Road and David Drown Boulevard. The board is looking ways to make the crossing safer, including possibly narrowing the road, installing an island, and other options that consulting and engineering firms may recommend.

The board also congratulated Linda Schick on receiving the Operator Award in Massachusetts from the New England Water Environment Association.

Planning board still discussing Master Plan, bylaw change

By Beth David
Editor

At its meeting on 1/13, the Fairhaven Planning Board continued to discuss updating the town's Master Plan and changes to the bylaw regulating where auto dealers and service stations may be located, including how to add boating facilities to the bylaw.

The Master Plan needs to be updated and includes many pieces. The board received quotes from consultants ranging from \$90,000 to \$125,000 for creation of the new plan.

Town Planner and Economic Development Director Bill Roth told the board that he anticipated needing to ask town meeting for the money more than once, so they should try right away.

PB chairperson Wayne Hayward said he was more inclined to wait until they had a better handle on exactly how much they would need.

He and other board members said they wanted to explore the possibility of performing some tasks in-house.

Mr. Roth told the board that his office was not capable of creating the whole master plan.

He said he had already started "data gathering," to help the process along.

"We do not have the resources to do this in house," Mr. Roth stated plainly.

He said he could compile a list of the various plans that departments and boards

have created and get copies to see what can be used for the master plan.

Mr. Haward* lamented the changes over the years, saying that the Master Plan was once the purview of the Planning Board only, but now each department seems to have its own studies, projections and plans.

"That's the difference," said Mr. Hayward*. "It was mostly Planning Board, whereas today each department is kind of doing its own thing."

The board decided not to ask for the money at the next town meeting.

"I just think money is going to be really tight in this town," said Mr. Hayward*.

The board also discussed changes in the bylaw that regulates auto service stations (198-16). The board wants to include boats and wants to change some language that seems to have been used for a very specific purpose, such as prohibiting service stations near schools and churches.

"It's arbitrary," said Mr. Roth. "This is a gas station. The neighborhood gas station."

After some wrangling over how to include boats in the bylaw, the board decided to separate boats from cars.

*Fixes name error from previous versions. Hayward, not Haworth

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Computer Aided Design

By Samantha Wunschel

Interest is growing at Fairhaven High School in one of its newer courses. The Computer Aided Design (CAD) course has been around for a short span of time compared to many of the other courses offered.

Led by Mr. Moll, it has grown tremendously in the past two years. Before, there had been a class for drafting, CAD, and engineering. CAD was given to Mr. Moll when the size of the previous class grew and required more time to manage.

The first year CAD broke off, there was only one class of eleven students. As more students joined the CAD family, additional courses were added. The following year a second level CADII was added, then CAD III and CAD Advanced Seminar, which counts as an independent study available to students doing more involved work. There are now 118 students enrolled in CAD.

The program has quickly grown and risen from its humble beginning. When Mr. Moll began teaching the course, the only computers available were old and very temperamental. They sometimes took fifteen minutes just to boot up and load the software.

The next year new systems were requested and the improved computers made all the difference. At that time the class also switched its software from Pro Engineer to Autodesk Inventor. Autodesk gave the school an excellent deal on the software suite and currently Autodesk makes all of their software available to academic institutions and

students at no cost.

This past year the computers were upgraded again and put on a four-year leasing program. The work done by more advanced students had been shown to really push the systems to the limit, so each CAD student currently works at a professional grade work station.

The independent study is the final level of CAD because it allows students to further familiarize themselves with a specific area of study within the field of Computer Aided Design.

Students taking CAD Advanced Seminar have the opportunity to study a specific program of interest such as Autodesk Revit for architecture or 3DS Max for modeling used in the TV, Movie, and Videogame industries.

CAD Advanced Seminar gives students a learning opportunity that is flexible in pacing, and also inspires

The future is bright
with possibilities and
the expectations are
high for the Computer
Aided Design course
at FHS.

creativity, since students choose the area of study that they wish to pursue.

Right now students have an abundance of exciting projects in the works. The biggest is a model of a six cylinder radial engine, like the engine of an airplane, that about eight students are working on. They plan on using the school's 3D printer to build the individual parts and will then sand and paint them before piecing it all together.

A student last year designed, printed, and built a working rubik's cube that worked well, but not to his satisfaction. This year he scrapped the original and reworked the design

to build a new cube that works great.

Another student is designing a case for his iPod, and several students have made replacements for the keyboard feet that have broken off one of the computers.

There is even a group of students from the upper level CAD classes that are collaborating with CAD I students to design a "Poke Ball," a gadget from the cartoon Pokemon.

Students can use Computer Aided Design in a wide range of fields including all areas of engineering, construction, and interior design, as well as fields in the digital arts such as modeling for TV, movies, video games, and app design.

Fairhaven High School is also a Certiport Certified testing center. This means that students have the opportunity to earn certification in Autodesk Inventor, AutoCad, Revit, Maya and 3DS Max well as Adobe Photoshop, Indesign, and Illustrator.

Students reporting back have said that the course prepared them very well for college and that they were actually ahead of many other students because of the level of skill mastery they retained from all the extra practice.

In the next few years, Mr. Moll plans to begin developing a curriculum specifically for 3DS Max that integrates with the Graphic Design, Coding, and TV Production/Media classes. In this curriculum, students would be able to design animated objects that can be coded into games and apps, or spliced into videos in a way similar to how special effects are added to film. Using feedback from students Mr. Moll plans to continue altering and expanding the course.

The future is bright with possibilities and the expectations are high for the Computer Aided Design course at FHS.

This is the second in an occasional series by students and/or staff at Fairhaven High School to keep the community apprised of the goings on at FHS. To learn more about happenings at FHS, visit <http://fairhavenhighhappenings.blogspot.com/>



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11 teens compete to become the next NB Outstanding Teen

Press Release

On Saturday January 17th, eleven young women will compete to become the next Miss New Bedford's Outstanding Teen. The pageant will begin at 6 p.m. at Keith Middle School in New Bedford.

A local preliminary competition to the Miss Massachusetts' Outstanding Teen and Miss America's Outstanding Teen scholarship programs, the pageant emphasizes scholarship and service to the community. This year's winner will receive a \$500 educational scholarship, in addition to hundreds of dollars in additional prizes. Runners-up and special awards winners will also receive scholarship money and awards. The pageant is also a "little sister" program to the annual Miss New Bedford Pageant.

Contestants compete in five stages of scored competition: a private six-minute Interview, Talent, Physical Fitness, Evening Wear, and On-Stage Question. Contestants are expected to exude confidence, demonstrate academic excellence, and show a commitment to service. Each contestant has chosen her own



This year's pageant for Miss New Bedford's Outstanding Teen will be held this Saturday, 1/17, at Keith Middle School in New Bedford. Top: The current Miss New Bedford's Outstanding Teen Olivia Marques. This year's contestants: Lindsey Ashworth, Meighread Dandeneau, Kenzi Farland, Bethany Fernandes, Danielle Guimont; (bottom) Mae Harrington, Stacie Hartman, Victoria Kalisz, Violet Maher, Michaelah Nunes, Cierra Vicente. Submitted photo.

personal "platform" which she will emphasize during her year of service, in addition to serving as a role model for young girls in the Greater New Bedford area.

The current reigning Miss New Bedford's Outstanding Teen is Olivia Marques, a 17-year-old junior at New Bedford High School. Throughout her

year, Olivia made more than 95 appearances throughout the community. Her year of service was devoted to her platform, "We Rise By Lifting Others" which promotes the values of volunteerism.

Tickets purchased in advance are \$20 for adults and \$15 for children/

TEENS: cont'd on page 20



ENTERTAINMENT:

Sat., 1/17, The Relics, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.
Sat. 1/24, Johnny Barnes & The Nightcrawlers,
9 p.m.-1 a.m.

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TEENS: cont'd from page 19

seniors at tickets@missnewbedford.org or by calling 978-914-1146. Tickets will be available at the door for a flat rate of \$20 for all ages. Additional information may be found at www.missnewbedford.org.

This year's contestants are:

Lindsey Ashworth, a 14-year-old freshman at Fairhaven High School. She will sing for her talent and her platform aims to raise awareness and funds for the Make a Wish Foundation.

Meighread Dandeneau, a 16-year-old junior at Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School. Her talent is a vocal performance and her platform is titled, ROAD: Reading Opens All Doors.

Kenzi Farland, a 16-year-old junior at New Bedford High School. She will sing for her talent and her platform focuses on promoting the benefits of participating in the Boys and Girls Club.

Bethany Fernandes, a 16-year-old junior at Fairhaven High School. She will dance for her talent and her platform is titled Hungry for Change,

engaging youth in efforts to reduce hunger.

Danielle Guimont, a 16-year-old junior at New Bedford High School. Her talent is a color guard performance and her platform is titled Imperfect but Perfectly You, Boosting Self Esteem and Positive Self Image.

Mae Harrington, a 14-year-old student at The Wheeler School. She will sing for her talent and her platform is titled Curiosity for Kids, promoting an interest in STEM.

Stacie Hartman, a 15-year-old sophomore at Dartmouth High School. Her talent is a vocal performance and her platform promotes the support and services of The Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America.

Victoria Kalisz, a 13-year-old student in the 7th grade at St. Francis Xavier School. Her talent is a vocal performance and her platform is titled Tori's Teens for Jeans which aims to provide clothing for youth who are less fortunate.

Violet Maher, a 13-year-old who is home-schooled in Dartmouth. Her talent is a vocal performance and her

platform is titled Fit Teen: Fifteen Qualities of a Fit Teen promoting health and overall wellness.

Michaelah Nunes, a 16-year-old junior at Old Rochester Regional High School. She will dance ballet for her talent and her platform is titled, Reviving the Lost Art of Good Old-Fashioned Communication.

Cierra Vicente, a 16-year-old junior at New Bedford High School. Her talent is a vocal performance and her platform is titled Here for a Purpose: Giving Youth Drive to Stay Alive, which aims to reduce teen suicide.

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Martin Luther King, Jr.



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SELECT: cont'd from page 4
lane, which is needed.

Board members also discussed adding bike lanes on some streets, and said that there is no way to cross Route 6 east of Narragansett Blvd.

Mr. Espindola stressed the need for a train to Boston and more bike-friendly routes, especially on Route 6.

The board also approved a transfer of the liquor license for Gene's Famous Seafood to Jeffrey Giovannini, who bought the business and has been working at the site since the summer.

Mr. Giovannini told the board that he and his wife live in Dartmouth after moving from western Mass., but

have family in Fairhaven.

He said they started in Fairhaven and, "We are happy to be back."

Mr. Osuch also announced that the animal shelter is open and does have several animals. He said he wanted to dispel rumors that it has been closed and also wanted to let people know that volunteers are needed. The board convened in executive session to consider the release of executive session minutes, to discuss an open meeting law complaint, a personnel issue, and to meet with the town treasurer/collector about possible personnel changes in that department.

Public Hearings/Legal Notices

Board of Appeals

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

CONTINUED HEARINGS

1. **Petitioner: Michael J. Ristuccia, RE:** 52 Cedar Street, Plat 4, Lot 8, 77A; Book 10341 and Page 205; 198-18: Short 45' of the required 100' frontage, short 8,978 sq ft of the required 15,000 sq ft, all in a RA District.

NEW HEARINGS:

- Petitioner: Joseph & Michelle Letts, RE:** 7 Andrew Avenue, Plat 36, Lot 18 & 5E; Book 3497 and Page 247, 198-22 A-1: An accessory building or use shall have no more than 700 sq. ft. of floor area.
- Petitioner: Thomas Johnson, RE:** 36 Hathaway Street, Plat 10, Lots 126A; Book 11171 and Page 261, 198-21: Non-conforming Uses. Continuation of a Special Permit issued in 1992 for an in-law apartment.
- Petitioner: Michael & Andree Goulart, RE:** 448 Bridge Street, Plat 38, Lot 16S; Book 9030 and Page 325, 198-28: Special Permit required for new construction over 500 sq. feet in the Nasketucket River Basin.
- Petitioner: Caroline Percy Marcoux, RE:** 118 Laurel Street Plat 38, Lot 16S; Book 9030 and Page 325, 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.

Peter DeTerra, Chairman

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



Fairhaven Meetings

Beautification Comm.

Thurs., 2/19, Fire Station, 7 p.m.

Bikeway Committee

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

Board of Appeals

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

Cable Advisory Comm.

Thurs., 1/26, Town Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Capital Planning Com.

Tues., 1/27, Town Hall, 4 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.

Finance Committee

Thurs., 1/22, Arsene St., Fairhaven

Marine Resources

Thurs., 1/22, Town Hall Aud., 6:30 p.m.

Planning Board

Mon., 1/27, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 1/28, FHS Library, 6:30 p.m.

Selectboard

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

Acushnet Meetings

Energy Committee

Fri., 1/16, Town Hall, 2:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Wed., 1/28, Town Hall 7 p.m.

Historical Commission

Tues., 1/20, 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.	LOW p.m.
Thursday	15	0309	1536	0833	2039
Friday	16	0410	1637	0934	2137*
Saturday	17	0504	1729	1036	2236*
Sunday	18	0552	1815	1128*	2331*
Monday	19	0636	1901	----	1217*
Tuesday	20	0723	1950	0023*	1308*
Wednesday	21	0813	2041	0119*	1401*
Thursday	22	0903	2133	0216*	1450*
Friday	23	0954	2224	0309*	1535**
Saturday	24	1046	2319	0357*	1619*
Sunday	25	1143	----	0447*	1707*

* = 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

PARCC not mandatory

Please allow me to make something perfectly clear. Participation in the PARCC (Partnership Assessment for Readiness for College and Careers) that will be administered through the schools this year is by NO means “mandatory” OR “required.” This year PARCC is only in its second year of a two year “trial.” The information gained will only provide data for government purposes. The scores will not be registered on a student’s record.

In a letter dated October 15, 2014, to MA Superintendents and School Leaders, MA DESE Commissioner Mitchell D. Chester basically expressed three points.

First of all, he quoted a state law in an attempt to make the reader believe participation IS “mandatory and required.” He is playing a game in semantics. Parents who do not want their child to participate must use the words, “I refuse participation for my child” instead of, “I opt my child out.” The fact is that what the law doesn’t forbid, parents can do. The law doesn’t forbid parents from opting out, therefore they can. Parents just have to use the word “refuse” in their letter to their principal.

In the second part of his letter, the commissioner instructed superintendents to put the “heavy hit” to parents by offering a list of reasons that might convince parents to have their children participate. Do not be fooled. If you read the commissioner’s letter you will see it is not for the benefit “of the student” to participate.

In the final portion of the letter, the commissioner states, “If...the student still refuses to participate in the assessments, the principal should see to it that the student is engaged in an alternate educational activity...”

The commissioner himself offers an alternative to participating in the test. And this year’s alternative is much better than last year’s which was a “sit and stare” in which students were required to sit idle in front of a blank computer monitor for the duration of the testing periods.

If a parent freely chooses to allow their child to contribute to a government database, then so be it. But for a parent to be deliberately misled or intimidated into making a choice that they would otherwise not have made is wrong. Students may, without penalty, refuse PARCC testing

this school year. Parents — send in your letters now.

Michelle Furtado, Fairhaven

Editor’s note: Visit our website at www.NeighbNews.com to read the commissioner’s letter

Islamic terrorists should be named as such

I am writing this letter to express my concern about the ever growing threat and menace of radical Islam.

It’s been almost 14 years since September 11, 2001, when we were attacked by radical Islam extremists and 3000 Americans were killed. These extremists haven’t wavered at all in their stated goals to kill Americans and fly the Islamist flag over the White House.

If you’re looking to our President for leadership, strength and courage you are sadly mistaken.

In this latest attack by these Islamist terrorists 12 defenseless victims were slaughtered [in the Paris, France attack on satirical magazine “Charlie Hebdo”]. Where was he?

Maybe he was playing golf like he was 10 minutes after he gave a senseless speech about terror after an American was beheaded or maybe he was attending a fund-raiser.

This past Sunday 4 and 1/2 million* citizens of France marched in unity to honor the memory and courage of the brave writers who refused to be intimidated at Charlie Hebo. It cost them their lives but their memory lives on. Also in attendance were the leaders of the free world together with some leaders of the Arab world. The Prime Ministers of France, England, and Germany were there. Benjamin Netanyahu, the [prime minister] of Israel, and the Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas were there. Where was our President? Not even a high ranking official like the Vice President or secretary of state. The best our President did was to send an ambassador.

I am not surprised. I have yet to hear him say the words Muslim Terrorist, or Jihadist. He deflects or avoids the fact that these radicals are committed to the destruction of our country and will use any means to achieve it.

I notice the French President Francois Hollande dropped any pretense of the nature of the enemy

and called it for what it is: radical Islamist terrorism.

I say we owe a real debt of gratitude to our brave veterans who have fought and died to defend our country. No thanks to our president who has done little to protect our nation and address the grave threat of radical Islam. But no surprise. I believe he believes America is not a great nation and has exploited people in the past.

Yes, I will admit we have committed wrongs in the past but for the most part we have been a beacon of light of freedom for the world and have fought and died to defend it.

I also believe we have enjoyed the blessing we have enjoyed because of our Christian heritage where we honor and revere God and we are increasingly turning away from it. To do so, we do it at our own peril.

John Pond, Fairhaven

Editor’s note: the rally on 1/1/15 is estimated to be 1 million.

Thank you for kindness in tragedy

My son John “JJ” Letendre, Jr., and his good friend Steven Vieira, were fatally injured in a motorcycle accident in Fairhaven on Nov. 25.

They were both kind, compassionate and caring young men.

I would like to thank everyone who stopped and rendered aid to JJ and Steve. To: Linda and Walley Therrien who performed CPR and treated both men with respect, and the woman who blocked oncoming traffic with her car to protect them, Dr. Nahigyan who offered assistance, the gentleman with the cross who said a prayer over them, the first responders and to anyone else who tried to help or said a prayer for them.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I consider all of you my angels.

There are no words to express how much it means to myself and my family to know that such wonderful people were there with them during such a sad and tragic time.

JJ and Steve’s passing has reaffirmed that there are truly kind and caring people in the world.

Debbie Letendre, Fairhaven

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