



# 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 12 • March 26, 2015

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

## Candidates hitting the campaign trail



Candidates for office in Fairhaven attend a candidates night sponsored by the Fairhaven Business Association at Carousel Family Fun Center. At podium, Brian Bowcock, an unopposed candidate for tree warden moderates the event. Seated, L-R: Selectboard incumbent Bob Espindola; School Committee incumbents Colin Veitch and Donna McKenna; School Committee candidate Diane Hahn; Board of Health incumbent Barbara Acksen; Board of Health candidate Lindsay Gordon; Board of Public Works candidates Dan Freitas and Armen Migirdicyan. *Photo by Beth David.*



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<http://gettag.mobi>

### Also Inside:

- **BOH Candidates:** Page 22
- **Acushnet:** Page 12
- **Police Recruits Ready:** Page 17
- **Letters:** Page 25

# From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —  
A day late and many dollars short.

Like my new pic? Yeah, I do, too. It's a good winter picture. If summer ever gets here, maybe I'll change it back to something boaty or beachy or sandy, or...or...anything that doesn't remind us of below freezing weather.



Beth David, Publisher

So, I was going to do a story next week on the empty spots on the ballot and how to do write-in votes. Then it occurred to me quite suddenly that next week would be too late because people would not have time to round up their friends. So, we have that for you this week (see page 20).

There are many empty spots on the ballot in all precincts this year for town meeting members. It's disheartening that so few people are interested in voting on how the town's money is spent, among other things. The town meeting commitment is not huge, folks. It's a couple of times a year. It requires a few hours of reading the material and asking questions. Then town meeting itself, which I realize is always on the first real summer-like day we ever have (first Saturday in May), is only one day a year. Some years we have a special town meeting that will be held on an evening. The whole commitment in time is just a couple of days all told per year.

Town meeting is the closest thing to pure democracy we have left in this country. I admit, ours is a representative town meeting, meaning that only elected town meeting members can vote. In other towns, any resident who is a registered voter can vote. Considering, however, that we can't even get enough representatives for town meeting, I doubt very much that the problem is the type of town meeting we have. It works out the same, really; anyone who wants to vote can easily become a town meeting member because of the openings.

We also have a couple of blanks on the ballot and a few uncontested races.

It is disheartening to see the apathy. These are your tax dollars being spent. These are your town officials getting direction from the votes.

So, write your name in. If you have an ounce of common sense and care just a little, you will do a better job than many. If you don't do it, then a smaller and smaller number of people get to make decisions that affect a larger and larger number of those who are left.

Not exactly what our country's great founders had in mind, I'm sure.

We've got other stuff in here, of course. It's election season, so it's candidates on page 22, candidates on page 16 & 19, letters about candidates on page 25, and candidate ads and ballot question ads spread throughout the paper.

So, you'll just have to thumb through to find it all. While you do please note who our advertisers are and be sure to tell them you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*. Until next week...

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

# Fairhaven Wind touts turbine successes

Press Release from Fairhaven Wind LLC

## Wind Turbines Provide Over \$500,000 in Benefits to Fairhaven

Fairhaven Wind LLC recently reported to the Town of Fairhaven that the wind turbines at the Town's wastewater treatment facility had reached a milestone in terms of the total benefits provided to the Town from this public-private partnership. From power sales through the end of 2014, the Town had accrued over \$500,000 in income from the project.

Sumul Shah, spokesperson for Fairhaven Wind, issued a statement saying "All of us associated with Fairhaven Wind are very proud of what the Town has accomplished and the benefits which we've been able to provide to Fairhaven. In addition to the dollar savings, the Town has contributed to cleaner air for its residents and the citizens of the Commonwealth by hosting this project which generates energy from the wind."

All of the electricity produced by the turbines is net metered to the

Town's municipal accounts. Eversource (formerly NSTAR) sends the Town a check each month for the electricity produced, which payments may then be used to help cover other Town expenses. To date, these monthly payments have totaled over \$2 million. In turn, the Town contracted directly with Fairhaven Wind for the power it consumes and shares some of the excess net metering credits with Fairhaven Wind to help to cover the costs for installing and operating the turbines. Fairhaven Wind also makes lease payments to the Town.

As of the first of the year, electricity prices from Eversource increased substantially and the basic service charge is now more than twice the rate being charged in the summer of 2012 when the turbines were first operating. In contrast, the base power rate charged to the Town by Fairhaven Wind for power from the turbines has gone up less than 5%, from 7.43 cts to 7.78 cts/kilowatt hour. As a result, the monthly net benefits to the Town have skyrocketed, with a record high of over \$52,000 for the

month of February.

"This has been more than a win-win for the Town of Fairhaven" Mr. Shah added. "Fairhaven Wind leases small parcels of land near the waste water treatment plant and, at virtually no cost to the Town, the Town has been reaping financial benefits ever since the turbines commenced operation. We are optimistic that these benefits will only increase in the future as Fairhaven Wind is currently implementing upgrades to the turbine's hardware and software systems to improve annual energy production."

We measure time according to the movement of countless suns; and they measure time by little machines in their little pockets. Now tell me, how could we ever meet at the same place and the same time?

*Khalil Gibran, "Sand and Foam"*



## Fairhaven Town Government Study Committee Public Forum

The committee welcomes you to our final public forum to review and discuss four articles that will be presented to the 2015 town meeting. These articles deal with:

- Term limits for elected officials
- Finance Committee size and method of appointment
- Funding a professional assessment of Fairhaven's Information Technology status
- Modifying several town meeting policies
  - increasing the quorum to 50% of members
  - validating the quorum during the meeting
  - dealing with chronic absenteeism by declaring seats vacant

The public forum will be held **6:30 pm, March 26** at the Town Hall Banquet Hall.

*Refreshments will be served.*



*As your candidate, I want to make a positive difference for our town. I will work hard to do my part in keeping our community safe for you, your family and mine.*

*This is a wonderful community and together we can continue to make Fairhaven a great place to live and work.*

*I respectfully ask you for your vote.*

*Elect*

LINDSAY



**GORDON**

BOARD OF HEALTH

Paid for by the committee to elect Lindsay Gordon

**BE POSITIVE**

***BE FINANCIALLY PRUDENT***

**Vote for a management structure that  
has been proven to be the best!**

**Vote *YES* on the BPW ballot question on**

**April 6<sup>th</sup>**

***Paid for by Mark Badwey as a taxpayer and resident only***

# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## “Grease” at FHS

The Fairhaven High School Drama Club Presents “Grease”

This two-act musical features a cast of talented FHS actors. The show is sure to be a crowd pleaser. The show is being performed at The **Fairhaven High School Performing Arts Center at 12 Huttleston Ave., March 26–29. Thurs., Fri., Sat. at 7 p.m. and Sun. at 2 p.m.**

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

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

## FALPT meeting

The Fairhaven-Acushnet Land Preservation Trust is holding its Annual Meeting on **Mon., 3/30, at 6:30 p.m. at the Millicent Library, 45 Center St., Fairhaven,** in the Auditorium Use Walnut Street Entrance. Accessible.

## Easter Egg Hunt

The North Fairhaven Improvement Association is holding its annual Easter Egg Hunt on **Sat., 4/4, at 9:00 a.m. at Livesey Park, Glenhaven Ave. & Livesey Parkway, Fairhaven (behind Oxford School).**

Find candy eggs, and specially numbered wooden eggs which can be redeemed for prizes. Children are grouped into different ages levels. Visit and take a photo with the Easter Bunny. Sponsored by the North Fairhaven Improvement Association. FREE. For more information, visit <http://northfairhavenimprovementassoc.weebly.com/>

## Energy Contract Available

The Good Energy electricity aggregation plan is available for review. Residents have until March 31 to submit written comments on the plan, which is available at the Select-board office. **The board will hold a public hearing on March 30, Town Hall, Banquet Room, 7 p.m., for the public to offer oral comments.**

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

## After-Prom Comm.

The Fairhaven After-Prom event has been very successful in providing a healthy, safe, alcohol and substance free celebration for more than 15 years. It is an excellent alternative activity, which will take place after the Junior/Senior Prom on May 15. We are all painfully aware of the many tragedies that occur around prom season when a safe, chaperoned event is not available to students.

The cost of providing a safe and successful After-Prom Event is in excess of \$10,000. The Fairhaven High School After Prom funds are strictly from the community and parent donations, and the event is chaperoned by parent volunteers. Without community support, this event would not be possible and would force the students to find alternative activities on their most memorable night. Last year almost 300 students attended the After-Prom Event, and we are hoping for an even larger turnout this year. Entertainment and activities are provided from midnight to 5 a.m.

The committee is looking for sponsors from local businesses and individuals. Mail donations to FHS After Prom Committee, c/o Fairhaven High School, 12 Huttleston Ave., Fairhaven, MA 02719. Call Kim McLaughlin for more information, 508-951-8151.

## Call for Artists

Art On Center presents its 3rd annual “Art of Fairhaven” Exhibition celebrating the people and places that make Fairhaven so special.

Artists may enter up to 3 pieces of art, delivered to Art On Center, 15 Center Street, Fairhaven; deadline for submissions is April 22. You need not be a resident of Fairhaven nor a member of Art On Center to enter, all are welcome. Cash prizes will be awarded at the opening reception April 25th.

Art On Center is holding special instructional classes in painting with acrylics, watercolors, and pastels throughout the submission period.

The public is invited to the

opening reception on Saturday April 25 from 2-5pm which will include an interesting talk on the history of Fairhaven as well as the presentation of awards.

For an entry form, the center’s hours and more information call 774-206-1709 or email [info@artoncenter.org](mailto:info@artoncenter.org) or check out the website, [www.artoncenter.org](http://www.artoncenter.org)

Art on Center is a 501(c)3 federally approved nonprofit organization.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Fairhaven Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

## Seed Exchange

Year two of the Fairhaven Seed Exchange at The Millicent Library. has begun. Sponsored by the Fairhaven Sustainability Committee the free seed exchange has begun. Start your own garden and sow your own seeds.

The public may bring in seeds to trade or take any that are in the seed library. Any questions please contact [ann.richard@gmail.com](mailto:ann.richard@gmail.com).

## Join Team Jacy

Jacy is a seven-year-old fighting Cancer. Come meet this incredible, brave little girl at her **Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser, Sat., 4/11, from 4-7 p.m., at the Nemasket Group building, 56 Bridge St, Fairhaven.**

Enjoy Salad, Spaghetti, Desserts and a large raffle! Call 508-742-8219 for tickets or just drop by that night. Tickets are \$10.00 for Adults; and Children under 5 years old eat free.

## Thrift Sale

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

## Gov’t Study Comm. Forum

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

# HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

## YTI Play

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

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

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

Your Theatre, Inc. is grateful to our 68th Season Sponsor, BankFive.

## YTI Auditions

Your Theatre, Inc. is holding **open auditions March 31 at 7 p.m., for all roles in the upcoming 2015-2016 Season productions.**

Auditions are held in the playhouse, **St. Martin's Church/Hall complex, 136 Rivet St. at County St. in New Bedford.** The auditions are open to all actors over the age of 16, who have no recent experience with YTI.

Auditions will consist of a series of cold readings, alone and with an acting partner, conducted by members of YTI's Directorial Staff.

Your Theatre celebrates diversity and seeks people of all backgrounds regardless of age, race, creed, national origin, or sexual orientation. All are welcome!

The upcoming Season includes "The Horrors of Dr. Moreau," "Dracula," "True West," "Almost, Maine" and "And Then There Were None"; plus several yet to be announced special attractions planned for presentation at the theatre and various venues around greater New Bedford. Visit

[yourtheatre.org](http://yourtheatre.org) for more information.

Experience is not necessary; just the desire to participate and share the experience of live theatre and the enjoyment of collaborating with other talented individuals.

## Lecture Series

The New Bedford Whaling Museum and Buzzards Bay Coalition have partnered to present "Where the Land Meets the Sea: Working to Restore and Maintain the Health of the Buzzards Bay Watershed." Each evening begins with a 6 p.m. reception, followed by a 6:30 p.m. lecture and discussion.

The next lecture will take place on **April 1** and is titled Restoring the Water Quality of Buzzards Bay. The evening's presenters include: Guy Campinha, Director of Water Pollution Control, Wareham Wastewater Treatment Facility; Eric Turkington, Chairman, Falmouth Water Quality Management Committee; Joe Costa, Executive Director, Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program; Rachel Jakuba, Science Director, Buzzards Bay Coalition

Registration is free for Whaling Museum and Buzzards Bay Coalition members and **\$10 per lecture for Nonmembers. All lectures take place at the Whaling Museum, 18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford.** To register, call 508-997-0046 ext. 100 or visit [www.whalingmuseum.org](http://www.whalingmuseum.org).

## Frog Watch

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

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

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

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

To practice your frog call

identification skills visit: <https://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/Frogquiz/>

## Matt Rod F-R

The LCpl. Matthew R. Rodriguez Memorial Foundation is holding its 2nd Annual Fundraiser on **Sat., 4/4, at 6 p.m., at Cotali Mar Restaurant, 1178 Acushnet Ave, New Bedford.** Featuring nationally renowned comedians. Appetizers & Light Fare. Raffle & Silent Auction. Music by DJ Eddie Freitas

**Tickets: \$50 per person.** Purchase on-line: [www.thesmilingwarrior.org/events](http://www.thesmilingwarrior.org/events). 6-7 p.m. Complimentary Beer and Wine Tasting 7:30pm Comedy Show (18+). Music until 12 Midnight

Or by mail: LCpl Matthew Rodriguez Memorial Foundation, Attn: Comedy Night, PO Box 358, Raynham, MA 02768. Corporate Sponsorships Available: Mike Bouvier, [info@thesmilingwarrior.org](mailto:info@thesmilingwarrior.org)

## Blood Drive

You don't have to wear a cape or have super human abilities to be a superhero, it's as easy as donating blood and helping to save as many as three lives. Join us at the **Greater New Bedford Community Blood Drive, which will occur on Tues., 3/31, at the Waypoint Events Center (at the Fairfield Inn), 185 MacArthur Drive New Bedford. Accessible.**

To schedule an appointment, or learn more about donating blood, please visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) (where you can down load their free appointment app). You can also call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

## Street Census

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

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

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

# HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

## Alice in Wonderland

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

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

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

Visit <http://spindlecityballet.org/>

## Free Movie

### DATE CORRECTION

*The Theory of Everything* (PG-13 123 min) is being shown at the **Mattapoissett CoA Senior Center, Center School, 17 Barstow St., on Tues., 3/31 at 12 noon.** The free movie is sponsored by the Friends of the Mattapoissett CoA.

*The Theory of Everything* is a 2014 British biographical romantic drama film about Jane and Stephen Hawking. It deals with Jane's relationship with her ex-husband, theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking, his diagnosis of motor neuron disease, and his success in physics.

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

## Caregiver Course

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

Coastline offers this evidence-based workshop **free of charge to all participants**, each class size is

limited to a maximum of 12 participants, and care is available for your care receiver while you participate in the program.

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

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

## Kids & Social Media

Children and Social Media: A Conversation – **Thurs. 4/2, 6-8:30 p.m. at The GiftsToGive Philanthropy Factory, 1 Titleist Drive, Acushnet.** Tickets are FREE and available online. For link to buy tickets visit <http://www.giftstogive.org/children-and-social-media/> Seating is limited, so reservations are recommended. Call 508-717-8715; tickets at the door if we have not sold-out.

Is Social Media safe for your kids? Are your kids safe on the internet? Is social media damaging the human touch and our social fabric?

We will also be providing delicious sandwiches and other treats directly from the culinary arts department at Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical High School.

We'd be grateful to anyone attending this event for bringing new or gently-used toys, books, clothing, or anything else for a local child in need. Details at [www.giftstogive.org](http://www.giftstogive.org)

## Sugaring time in VT

Vermont's biggest harbinger of spring — maple sugar season — kicks off in March and continues through April with fairs, festivals, and family fun. As the largest producer of maple syrup in the U.S., Vermont knows how to celebrate the sweet stuff.

Depending on the festival, you may find a scavenger hunt, carnival, sleigh ride, or sugaring demonstration.

**Maple Fest Celebration, 3/28, Poultney.** Horse-drawn carriage rides, raffle, and open sugar houses.

**Open House Weekend, 3/28-29,**

**statewide.** Watch as maple syrup is being made. Activities vary by sugar house; each has its unique character.

**Maple Madness, 3/28-29, Woodstock** Scavenger hunt, pancake breakfast, tree tapping, tastings, and a Maple Adventure bike ride.

**Whitingham Maple Festival, 3/28-29, Whitingham.** Sugarmakers open their doors to visitors to give them a better understanding of the sap-to-syrup process.

For details on these and other events, visit [www.VermontVacation.com/maple](http://www.VermontVacation.com/maple).

## Portuguese Ambassador

The Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture at the University of Mass. Dartmouth will host his **Excellency, the US Ambassador in Lisbon, the Honorable Robert A. Sherman, on Tues., 3/31, at 11:30am** in the Robert F. Stoico/FirstFed Charitable Foundation Grand Reading Room at the Claire T. Carney Library at UMassD. Honorable Robert A. Sherman's address will reflect on his experience as US Ambassador in Lisbon over the past year. Please join us in this milestone event and engage in a debate that will cover pertinent issues related with US and Portugal and common interests within the current globalized matrix.

This event is **free and open to the public.** Light refreshments will be served at 11:00 a.m. Please RSVP, as seats are limited, to [ltavares4@umassd.edu](mailto:ltavares4@umassd.edu) or 508-999-8255.

## Dessert Sale

Annual Easter Pie and Dessert Sale Sponsored by the Friends of the Mattapoissett Council on Aging, will be held on **Sat., 4/4, at BowlMor Lanes, 22 County St. (Route 6), Mattapoissett Village.** Use the door on the side, marked with balloons, to access the sale area. Sale hours: 8:30am-1:00pm

Please donate your favorite, home-baked Easter Pie and/or Dessert to the sale. Bring it to the BowlMor by 8:30am on April 4. Questions? Call Mary Scott at 508-758-6311. Let her know what you are bringing and she'll reserve a space to display it for the sale. Mary would like to make this fundraiser the best ever Saturday before Easter Sale!

Don't Lose Your Voice

# KEEP THE BPW

Vote **NO** on April 6!

Paid for by Michael Ristuccia

**f** FIND US ON FACEBOOK



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per person  
minimum 10

- 2 HOUR PARTY (RESERVED TABLES FOR 1.5 HOURS) •
- PARTY INVITATIONS & PLACE SETTINGS •
- ROLLER SKATING & SKATE RENTALS •
- PARTY HOSTESS •
- 2 SLICES OF PIZZA & 1 SODA FOR EACH GUEST •
- 10 GAME TOKENS FOR EACH GUEST •

PLUS:

- GUEST APPEARANCE BY ONE OF OUR MASCOTS •
- **BABBS OR BUTTONS** •

*EXTRA ADD-ONS AVAILABLE*

**SUPER PARTY**  
PRIVATE PARTIES ARE HELD DURING SPECIAL  
AVAILABILITY TIMES FOR YOUR GUESTS ONLY

**\$349.99**  
For up to 50  
per person

- 2 HOUR PARTY (RESERVED TABLES FOR 1.5 HOURS) •
- PARTY INVITATIONS & PLACE SETTINGS •
- ROLLER SKATING & SKATE RENTALS •
- PARTY HOSTESS •
- 100 GAME TOKENS •
- USE OF ROLLER RACERS & SKATE-MATES •
- GUEST APPEARANCE BY ONE OF OUR MASCOTS •
- **BABBS OR BUTTONS** •

*EXTRA ADD-ONS AVAILABLE*

# MCKENNA VEITCH



## KEEP MOVING FORWARD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Paid for by: The Committee to Elect Donna McKenna, School Committee  
The Committee to Elect Colin Veitch, School Committee



By Samantha Wunschel

## High School Students Take a S.T.A.N.D Against Bullying

The S.T.A.N.D, or Students and Teachers Against Needless Discrimination club, is a group devoted to others. They meet after school once a week, on Wednesdays, to discuss bullying, discrimination, and what they can do to prevent it.

Bullying is wrong, and something needs to be actively done to prevent it. This is the mission that unites the group. They talk not only about what bullying is and what to do when it happens, but also about the difference between bullying and conflict, and what the appropriate steps to take are in response to each.

S.T.A.N.D is a high school club, but a lot of their work is done with middle and elementary schools, where they reach out to the younger students and serve as role models to guide them through their early school years. The group shares their personal experiences freely, and lends an ear, or some guidance, to anyone from the crowd that wants to share their own story.

At their last meeting, S.T.A.N.D prepared for a trip to East Fairhaven Elementary School. They would be speaking with fourth and fifth graders, mostly about bullying and conflict, but also about the changes that each group would soon undergo.

The fourth grade will soon be the oldest students at the elementary school and, therefore, the role model to younger students. The other grades will be following their example, but the S.T.A.N.D kids remind them that being the leaders of the school also means that it is their responsibility to look out for younger students as if they are their own little siblings.

The fifth grade, meanwhile, will be continuing their educational journey into a new school. At the Middle

School they will need to regain their footing after jumping from the top of the school back to the new kids. The S.T.A.N.D group planned to discuss this change and offer their advice about opening lockers, following a new schedule, working out social situations, and getting involved with clubs and other activities around the school.

S.T.A.N.D has many projects currently in the works, and are always open to suggestions or new members. Students should feel free to join this group at any time, for an event, meeting, or just to talk. The club is made up of a beautiful group of students who are both strong and compassionate, their arms always open to others.

S.T.A.N.D. meets every Wednesday at 2:25 p.m. in Room 115. See Mrs. Amaral-Pina or Ms. Muello if you have any questions.

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

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

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



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 508.994.9238 • [www.atriafairhaven.net](http://www.atriafairhaven.net)

# Recipe of the Week

## Ranch Chicken

- 4 boneless skinless chicken breast halves (1 lb)
- 1/4 cup ranch dressing
- 1/3 cup dry bread crumbs (any flavor)
- 2 tbs olive or vegetable oil

Dip chicken into dressing, then coat with bread crumbs.

In 10-inch skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Cook chicken in oil 12 to 15 minutes, turning once, until outside is golden brown and juice is no longer pink when centers of thickest pieces are cut.

Tips: Try to test for doneness only once or twice to keep juices inside and chicken juicy.

Sliced or shredded leftover chicken breasts are perfect on sandwiches. Spread bread with a dab of cranberry relish for a sweet-tart flavor accent.

From BettyCrocker.com

**To share a recipe with your neighbors**  
 Mail to 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719; fax to 508-991-5580; email to [neighnews@comcast.net](mailto:neighnews@comcast.net) (Email preferred)

# Buzzards Swim offering free registration

Press Release

## Kick off summer with a splash at the 22nd annual Buzzards Bay Swim on Saturday, June 20!

### Swimmers can register for free through April 1

Spring is finally here – but we’re ready to think summer! There’s just three months left until the Buzzards Bay Coalition’s 22nd annual Buzzards Bay Swim on Saturday, June 20, and registration is free through April 1 at [savebuzzardsbay.org/swim](http://savebuzzardsbay.org/swim).

The Buzzards Bay Swim is a fun community event that supports a great cause: clean water in Buzzards Bay. Swimmers complete a 1.2-mile open water course across outer New Bedford Harbor, beginning in the South End of New Bedford and ending at Fort Phoenix Beach State Reservation in Fairhaven.

Now in its 22nd year, the Buzzards Bay Swim is a signature outdoor event for the SouthCoast. The Swim draws participants of every age, ability and fitness level. Some swimmers form teams with their friends, families and fellow swim team members. First-time swimmers are also welcome and encouraged to participate.

Over 300 swimmers are expected to participate in this year’s Swim,

hailing from communities across southeastern New England and around the United States. Already, more than 100 swimmers from 13 states have signed up to swim on June 20.

All funds raised from the Buzzards Bay Swim support the Coalition’s work to protect clean water in communities across the Buzzards Bay region, from Westport to Woods Hole.

To register and learn more about the Swim, visit [savebuzzardsbay.org/swim](http://savebuzzardsbay.org/swim).

The Buzzards Bay Swim is a Waterkeeper Alliance SPLASH Series Event, presented nationally by Toyota. The SPLASH Series engages local citizens in recreational use of our waterways to celebrate access to clean water with activities that the whole community can enjoy as they raise critical funds to support their local Waterkeeper organization. For more information, please visit [splashseries.org](http://splashseries.org).

The Buzzards Bay Coalition is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection, restoration, and sustainable use and enjoyment of Buzzards Bay and its watershed. Supported by more than 8,500 members, the Coalition works to improve the health of the Bay ecosystem for all through education, conservation, research, and advocacy.

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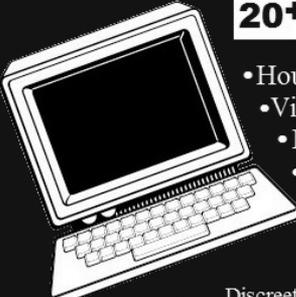
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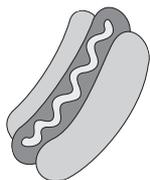
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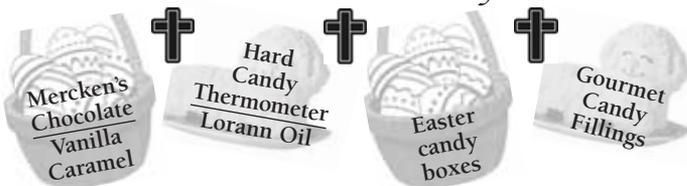
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# Acushnet library project raises more than \$50,000

Michael Smith

## Neighb News Correspondent

The Acushnet Selectboard received good news at its meeting on 3/23, hearing the progress on funds raised for the ongoing construction of the Acushnet Library.

Connie Preston, secretary of the Friends of the Acushnet Library, told the board that as of January 1, the organization has raised more than \$50,000.

"It's still continuing to come in," said Ms. Preston, noting that some donations came in from as far away as North Carolina and Kentucky.

"About 86 percent of the donations have been for \$100," added Ms. Preston. "We've also had donations as much as \$5,000."

Chairperson Kevin Gaspar surprised Ms. Preston with a money order donation from the Selectboard of \$200 for the fund.

"This has been an extremely successful project," said Mr. Gaspar. "It should be a very beautiful facility once it is done."

No timetable was mentioned on when the library will be open, but Mr.

Coutinho said he was hopeful it would be finished by the end of this summer.

Ms. Preston concluded that donations are still being accepted by the organization.

"Our usage is going to explode once the doors open," she said.

This has been an extremely successful project. It should be a very beautiful facility once it is done.

[Kevin Gaspar]

The board also discussed the town's Municipal electric aggregation document, with Mr. Gaspar stating the public will be able to comment on the energy plan in a meeting April 13 at 5 p.m.

Residents will have up to two

weeks to submit oral comments from March 24 to April 7.

The aggregation plan is designed to lower the cost of electricity, gain longer-term price stability, and offer more renewable energy options for residents, according to Mr. Gaspar.

Residents can review the documents at Town Hall or online.

The contract cannot go out to bid without approval residents.

Following up on the town's Benefit Recovery Program, the letters from the counsels for Acushnet and the State Ethics Commission stating differing opinions on the ethics of the program were reviewed, according to Mr. Gaspar.

Mr. Gaspar said the board sent a letter addressing the issue back to the Ethics Commission. The board received a response, but members have not had time to review it. The board voted to table the issue until all letters have been read.

Tackling new business, the board announced there would be a bulky item pick-up taking place on Saturday,

ACUSHNET: cont'd to page 24



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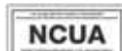


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## Entertainment & Events

**Fri., Mar. 27:**  
DJ Zach dancing and  
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**Fri., 4/3:**  
DJ Bobblehead, 8:30  
p.m.–1 a.m.

**Sat., 3/28:**  
Open wi-fi juke box and  
pool table

**Sat., 4/4:**  
One Last Shot band with  
Pajama Party, 9 p.m.–1

**Every Wed:**  
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## Kool Kids April Vac

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

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

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

## Cardio Mix

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

## Foxwoods trip

Foxwoods April 28th. Leave rec at 8 a.m. return 7 p.m. Receive a \$25 bonus package that includes \$15. Bonus slot play and \$10 food voucher or buffet coupon \$20.pp You may call and register by phone, 508-993-9269. Must be 21 Must be Pre-registered

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## Mall Trips

**April 1:** Twin Rivers  
**April 8:** Warwick Mall

**April 15:** South Shore Plaza

## Entertainment

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

## Special Activities

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

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

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

### Volunteer Drivers

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

### Single Seniors

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

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

### Southcoast LGBT

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

### Sewing Circle

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

### Cops 'n Donuts

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

## Ongoing Programs

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

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

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# Candidates hitting the campaign trail

By Beth David

Editor

Fairhaven candidates for public office are on the campaign trail, with most of them attending a second candidates night on Thursday, 3/19, at Carousel Family Fun Center and sponsored by the Fairhaven Business Association. Wayne Oliveira comoderated the event with Brian Bowcock, who is an unopposed candidate for Tree Warden.

In addition to the candidates, Board of Public Works Chairperson Michael Ristuccia also took to the podium to speak against the ballot question that would strip authority from the BPW, making it an advisory board.

Mr. Ristuccia told voters that the Mass. Department of Revenue came up with the idea of abolishing the BPW, saying it would "streamline" decisions.

"Remember, these are our neighbors," said Mr. Ristuccia about BPW members. "We are elected to serve the town."

He said board members put the town first.

"We are your voice," he said, adding that residents will lose that voice if voters approve the ballot question.

If it is approved, the duties of the BPW will fall to the new Town Administrator. If residents disagree with the TA's decision, then they will have to appeal to the Selectboard, which, said Mr. Ristuccia, is "burdened already."

He urged voters to vote "no" on the ballot question on April 6.

Three races have more candidates than seats: School Committee, which has three people running for two seats; BPW, which has three people running for two seats; Fairhaven Housing Authority, which has two people running for one seat.

No FHA candidates attended either candidate night.

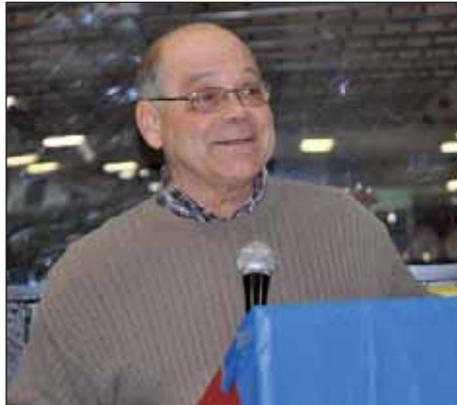
Incumbent Donna McKenna is running for re-election to School Committee. She said she will continue to encourage parents to be active in the schools. She also said she will promote a high quality of professional development to foster a "positive climate in the schools."

Ms. McKenna said she has forged positive relationships with other

board members and the superintendent. She said she is committed to good communications with residents and she is committed to a quality education for each student to achieve his or her full potential.

She also listed the many committees and organizations she has served on and listed the accomplishments, awards and accolades received by the school department.

"I could keep going," said Ms. McKenna. "I want every teacher,



ABOVE: Board of Public Works chairperson Michael Ristuccia addresses voters about the ballot question at the candidates night sponsored by the Fairhaven Business Association on Thursday, 3/19. BELOW: Selectboard incumbent Bob Espindola addresses voters. Photos by Beth David.



parent and student to believe our school system offers the best education we can provide," said Ms. McKenna.

School Committee incumbent Colin Veitch told voters that the SC is a "stable committee" with strong leadership. He also touted the successes of Fairhaven High School, noting it is on the AP honor roll.

"We don't teach to the test," said Mr. Veitch. "Our goal is to make well

rounded adults."

He said one FHS student got an internship that was usually reserved for a college student.

He also listed some special accomplishments and compliments that the district has received over the last few years.

"These are our people. This is our culture," said Mr. Veitch and asked voters to help him continue it.

In response to a question, Mr. Veitch also said that the curriculum throughout the district has been realigned. He said there was a problem in the past when students reached middle school, it was discovered that they had not learned the same things. He said now it is a K-8 effort and all classes across the district learn the same material.

Challenger Diane Hahn told voters that if elected, she will be a "much needed independent and unique voice that has long been missing" on the School Committee.

Referring to the joint ads being run by Ms. McKenna and Mr. Veitch, Ms. Hahn said she could not see how a joint campaign and fund-raiser "are the hallmarks of independence."

She said her voice was needed for the special needs students who are being left behind. Because special education takes up a significant portion of the budget, including 52% of transportation costs, special education affects all students.

She also took aim at the numbers her opponents used to tout the successes of students in the district.

As an example, she said MCAS results showed that 33% of SPED students failed and only 8% were advanced.

"When compared to 63% advanced and only 5% failures of typical students, what we have is a disgrace," said Ms. Hahn.

She said the answer is more paraprofessionals in classrooms.

"I have been asked cruelly, 'why should my tax dollars go to your kid's aide when he's not going to amount to anything anyway,'" said Ms. Hahn. "First of all, it's the law, but more importantly, most students on IEP's (Individual Education Plans) are at least as intelligent as their typical peers. They just need a parapro-

CAND: cont'd on page 19

# Police recruits get ready for the big day

By Beth David  
Editor

The town of Fairhaven sent four recruits to the police academy that started this Monday, 3/23. Jonathan Alves, Scott Coelho, Jerome Penha, Jr., and Matthew Sobral have all gone through the required preliminary testing, including psychological testing and a physical abilities test.

The last thing they needed was to collect the necessary equipment, label it all, and pack it all for easy access on day one.

Sounds simple, right?

Not necessarily.

On the Friday before the big day, Sgt. Kevin Kobza, the public information officer for the Fairhaven Police Department and the training officer for the recruits, ran down the list and collected the things that still needed to be labeled. He even showed them how to hold out the items with the name labels facing out, just the way their former Marine drill instructor will want them to.

Woe to the recruit who spends too much time pawing through the big duffel bag in search of an item.

"It's a paramilitary environment," said Sgt. Kobza. "Everything has to be done according to academy standards."

He said they will do a "close order drill" every morning. They will be inspected every morning. And everything has to be in its proper place.

"And the first and last word out of your mouth is 'sir' or 'ma'am,'" he told them.

Sgt. Kobza said, more than once, that he wished someone had given him a session like that before he went into the academy.

He even taught them how to shine their boots and iron their shirts.

"I'd rather have you make your

mistakes here than at the academy," he said.

One of the changes in recent years, he said, is that all recruits must carry a water bottle with them at all times. He said a cadet died in training from renal failure due to lack of water.

"If you're water bottle is empty, it's like going into a gun battle with an empty gun," Sgt. Kobza told the recruits. "If you don't have this, you might as well not have your pants."

He taught them the proper way to lace their boots and how to shine them.



ABOVE, L-R: Fairhaven police department recruits, Jonathan Alves, Matthew Sobral, Jerome Penha, Jr., and Scott Coelho, learn to polish their new leather boots during a quick help session on Friday, 3/20 at the Fairhaven police department. The four men started at the police academy in Plymouth on Monday. MIDDLE: Jerome Penha, Jr., shows that he even labeled his soap for the academy. BOTTOM, L-R: Recruits Scott Coelho, Matthew Sobral, Jonathan Alves and Jerome Penha, Jr., get a lesson from training officer Sgt. Kevin Kobza, of the Fairhaven Police Department, on how to iron with starch to get a good crease. Photos by Beth David.



He also gave them a lesson in ironing with starch.

He told them they they needed to polish the boots and iron their uniforms, "every, single day" while in the academy.

The 800-hour, 20+ week training is rigorous. They need to be in Plymouth early in the morning and don't get cut loose until late in the afternoon. When they get

home, they will be required to type up their notes from the day and put them in designated binders for inspection.

The typing helps them get ready for writing police reports.

Recruits are responsible for buying much of the equipment on the day-one list, but Sgt. Kobza told them that most of it is a one-time buy.

"I'm still using the same tie I bought for the academy," he said.

Mr. Alves said he was "excited, a little bit nervous, and ready."

"I'm as ready as I'll ever be," he said as he polished his boots for the first time.

He said all the prep work has not dampened his spirits at all.

"Nothing has changed my outlook," said Mr. Alves. "This is exactly where I want to be right now."

Mr. Sobral, whose father is a sergeant in Fairhaven, has more than a few assumptions surrounding his bid for the job.

"I'm trying to take this with no expectations," said Mr. Sobral. "I'm trying to let it come to me."

He said going in with certain expectations may "hinder" his ability to do his best.

"I'll figure it out as I go along," said Mr. Sobral. "But I am confident I'm ready to go."



RECRUITS: cont'd on page 26

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## CAND: cont'd from page 16

fessional in the class to help facilitate the style of learning that allows them to access material."

For instance, she said, some students need to take tests verbally, just as a deaf student might need sign language.

Board of Health incumbent Barbara Acksen told voters that the BOH is the town's guardian of public health and the environment.

She said that in the last three years the board has dealt with some contentious issues, including the wind turbines and the shipyard complaints. The BOH has rewritten tobacco regulations and has also changed recycling.

"I believe my educational skills have been an excellent fit in dealing with these issues," said Dr. Acksen, who has a PhD in Psychology and is a working therapist.

She told voters that she grew up in Fairhaven and attended Fairhaven public schools.

"I know how to listen to people's concerns," said Dr. Acksen.

She said regulation and enforcement are "central functions of the Board of Health," and that her professional experience makes her qualified to handle the "increasingly technical" nature of issues going before the board.

She also said that the impending retirement of the health agent means it will be important for the board to have continuity.

"Institutional memory of members will be important," she said. "I care deeply about your health and safety and I will continue to work diligently on your behalf."

Challenger Lindsay Gordon touted her experience as executive director of assisted living facilities, saying many of her duties require knowledge that she would use as a BOH member.

She started by saying she read the job description of the health agent.

"What a vast and important position in our town," she said.

She said the regulations that concern the BOH are regulations that are in her "everyday life."

As senior executive director of the Residence at Cedar Dell in Dartmouth, Ms. Gordon's responsibilities include food service and safe living arrangements for more than 70 seniors.

"Families trust me with their loved ones' overall well being," said Ms.

Gordon.

She noted that she has a variety of certifications like Servsafe. She is responsible for many different kinds of reporting that will help her in her BOH duties.

She cited many of the 34 duties listed in the health agent's job description and compared her experience to them, saying it will help her to choose the right person to replace the health agent and be a resource to him or her.

"I look forward to applying my skills as well as new ones acquired," said Ms. Gordon.

She said she would emphasize education to make people aware of health issues. She would also make sure any regulatory changes the board makes would be reasonable.

BPW candidate Daniel Freitas



Brian Bowcock, unopposed in his bid to become Tree Warden, addresses voters at the candidates night sponsored by the Fairhaven Business Association on Thursday, 3/19.. Photo by Beth David.

emphasized his 25 years of experience as a wastewater treatment plant operator, including that he worked at that the town's WWTP for almost 20 years, and that he was on the BPW from 2010 to 2013.

He told voters that the ballot question changing the BPW to an advisory board was not in the best interests of the town.

"The public will lose a voice," said Mr. Freitas.

He said if it is changed decisions will be made by a "yet unnamed town administrator," who will not be bound by the advice of the board.

He also emphasized the cost to the town. If the TA has to take on the responsibilities of the BPW, the TA salary will be higher, he said.

Mr. Freitas said that the BPW is facing huge costs to update the

WWTP. The town's other infrastructure is also in dire need of work, as evidenced by broken water mains this winter.

"These are huge issues for the town," said Mr. Freitas. "None of these problems are going to go away."

"Because we can't see where the water comes from or where the sewer goes," he said, those services "tend to be ignored."

BPW challenger Armen Migirdicyan told voters he chose to move to Fairhaven with his family in 2000.

"We are very grounded and involved in this town that has welcomed us," said Mr. Migirdicyan.

He said he has been watching and paying attention to town issues as he sat at home.

"I could not sit at home anymore," he said. "I want to make a difference and I believe I can."

He said he has owned a flooring store in Bridgewater for 25 years that he "built from nothing to a multi-million dollar business."

He said he chose the BPW because of that experience.

"With my business skills, I can make the changes required," said Mr. Migirdicyan.

I give you my word I will treat the taxpayers' money with the same respect as my own business," he said.

Mr. Migirdicyan said he did not favor changing the BPW to an advisory board.

BPW incumbent Robert "Hoppy" Hobson did not attend the event.

Former Selectboard member Brian Bowcock, who lost his bid for reelection in 2012, told voters that his candidacy for tree warden came out of a desire to serve the town. He said that when he found out long time tree warden Antone "Tony" Medeiros was not running again, Dr Bowcock felt he should do something.

He said he has volunteered in many capacities for many years and through all his volunteer work he is "just trying to make Fairhaven a better community," and that he saw the opening as an "opportunity for me to serve the community."

He gave a quick explanation of a tree warden's duties, which is to take care of the town's trees the same way homeowners are expected to take care of the trees on their private property.

"The town is responsible for its own trees," said Dr. Bowcock.

# Candidates needed: How to conduct a write-in campaign

By Beth David  
Editor

Fairhaven's ballot will have a lot of empty slots on Monday, 4/6. Besides the two vacancies in town-wide offices, not a single precinct has a full complement of candidates for town meeting.

A seat for Commissioner of Trust Funds is open, with no name on the ballot for the three-year term. Incumbent Gail Isaksen did not take out papers for her seat. It is unclear if she plans on running a write-in campaign.

A seat for an unexpired term on the Planning Board also has no name on the ballot. Ann Richard, who was appointed to fill the seat, did not get the signatures collected in time. She told the *Neighb News* in a previous interview that she plans on running a write-in campaign.

For town meeting seats, one third of the seats are up for election for three-year terms. All precincts also have at least one vacancy for unexpired terms.

- Precinct 1 has: 24 seats for three years, one seat for two years, one seat for one year, with 17 names on the ballot. So nine write-ins are

needed to fill the slate.

- Precinct 2 has: 24 seats for three years, three seats for two years and five for one year, with 19 names on the ballot. So 13 write-ins are needed to fill the slate.
- Precinct 3 has: 23 seats for three years, nine for two years, six for one year, with 14 names on the ballot. So 24 write-ins are needed to fill the slate.
- Precinct 4 has: 25 seats for three years, six for one year, with 20 names on the ballot. So 11 write-ins are needed to fill the slate.
- Precinct 5 has: 23 seats for three years, two for two years, with 20 names on the ballot. So five write-ins are needed to fill the slate.
- Precinct 6 has: 24 seats for three years, one for two years, with 19 names on the ballot. So eight write-ins are needed to fill the slate.

Fairhaven town clerk Eileen Lowney said that writing in a candidate is simple, but it must be done correctly. The name AND the address of the person must be included, just the way the printed names are done.

She said the other thing that

people forget is to fill in the oval next to the name they have just written in. It's the only way the machine knows that there is a write-in candidate and will push the ballot to the write-in compartment.

Some candidates will have stickers printed up, but Ms. Lowney said they have proven to be more problematic than helpful. She said they jam the machine and they are hard to line up properly on the line.

"Don't forget to turn over the ballot for town meeting members and the ballot question," said Ms. Lowney.

In case of a tie, town meeting members who attend the precinct meeting decide.

This year there is a town-wide ballot question that asks voters to decide if they want to change the duties of the Board of Public Works. As it is now the BPW is an elected board with authority to make decisions over the Department of Public Works. They are also responsible for hiring the DPW superintendent, who reports to them. The individual department superintendents (sewer,

BALLOT: cont'd on page 21

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## Public Hearings/Legal Notices

### Board of Appeals

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

#### CONTINUED HEARING:

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

#### NEW HEARINGS:

- Petitioner: Americo Valentim**, RE: 7 Deerfield Lane, Plat 37, Lot 19D; Book 10639 and Page 197; 198-16: Accessory Apartment requires a Special Permit within an RA District.
- Petitioner: John & Linda Grenier**, RE: 33 Williams Street, Plat 9, Lot 94; Book 11135 and Page 197; 198-18: Short 4' of the required 10' side yard, north side and 17' short of required 30' rear yard all within an RA District.
- Petitioner: Andrew Olsen**, RE: 37 Capeview Street, Plat 29D, Lot 194-195; Book 7036 and Page 16; 198-23-4B: Building trades as Home Occupation requires a Special Permit.
- Petitioner: Howe Allen/Tim Evans**, RE: 92 Cottonwood Street, Plat 43C, Lot 74; Certificate #23271; 198-18 Short 5' of required 30' front setback, short 6' of required 20' side yard and 7% over max lot

#### BALLOT: cont'd from page 20

water, highway), also report to the BPW. The current BPW also has decision making power on water and sewer rates. The BPW is responsible for parks and beaches, including the hiring of summer help, such as lifeguards.

The ballot question came out of recommendations from the state Department of Revenue and the town Government Study Committee. The DOR recommended abolishing the BPW and moving its responsibilities to the new Town Administrator, a

- coverage 15% all within an RR District.
- Petitioner: Seth Deroches**, RE: 47 Alder Street, Plat 43A, Lot 52, Certificate #16338; 198-19 Short 5' of required 30' front yard, Short 5' of required 20' side yard and 2% over max lot coverage of 15% all within an RR District.
  - Petitioner: Jeffrey Thomas & Sandra Dompierre**, RE: Mill Road, Plat 39, Lot 7, Book 11238, Page 44. 198-28 G-1 Special Permit required for construction within the Nasketucket River Basin.  
*Peter DeTerra, Chairman*

### Conservation Commission

The Fairhaven Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on April 06, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. in the Fairhaven Town Hall. Purpose is for the Request for Determination of the following matters as required by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 131 Section 40 as amended.

- Request for Determination Applicant Mass Department of Transportation – Highway Division District 5 Location Route 240 South at Bridge Street extending left lane of Route 240 south.
- Notice of Intent Applicant Tim Cox Fairhaven Shellfish Warden Location Lat 41-37.647 Long 70-51.754 Little Bay. Purpose oyster reef restoration involving placement of 100 cubic yards of aged shell on sea floor followed by seeding.

*Jay Simmons Chairman,  
Fairhaven Conservation Commission*

structural change that has not taken place yet. The TA will report to the Selectboard.

If voters vote “yes” on the ballot question, the BPW will become an elected advisory board that can make non-binding recommendations to the TA.

Anyone with questions may call the Town Clerk's office at 508-979-4024, Ext. 3.

Sample ballots for each precinct, are available on the town's website at <http://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/> and click on “News and Events.”

## Fairhaven Meetings

### Board of Appeals

Tues., 4/7, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

### Cable Advisory Comm.

Mon., 3/30, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

### Commission on Disability

Wed. 4/1, Senior Center, 6:30 p.m.

### Conservation Commission

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

### Finance Committee

Thurs, 3/26, 5 Arsene St., 7 p.m.

### GSC Forum

The Fairhaven Town Government Study Committee will be hosting our final public forum in the Town Hall Banquet room on

Thurs., 3/26, at 6:30pm.

Refreshments will be served.

### Planning Board

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

### Rogers/Oxford RFP Comm.

Tues. 3/31, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

### School Committee

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

### Selectboard

Wed., 4/8, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Sustainability Committee

Mon., 3/30, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

## Acushnet Meetings

### Board of Appeals

Mon., 4/6, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

### Finance Committee

Wed., 4/1, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Selectboard

Mon., 4/6, Town Hall, 9 a.m.

### TIDE TABLE

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

	Mar. 2015	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.
Thursday	26	0120	1350	0659	1905
Friday	27	0217	1445	0948	2202
Saturday	28	0312	1542	1101	2322
Sunday	29	0412	1646	1159	----
Monday	30	0515	1746	0019	1246
Tuesday	31	0608	1832	0105	1327

	Apr. 2015	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.
Wednesday	1	0651	1910	0146	1401
Thursday	2	0728	1946	0221	1321
Friday	3	0805	2023	0135	1329
Saturday	4	0843	2101	0155	1358
Sunday	5	0922	2140	0229	1435

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

# Candidate statements: Board of Health



## Barbara Acksen

I am Dr. Barbara Acksen, candidate for re-election to the Board of Health. The Board of Health stands as the guardian of the town's health and environment. It works to keep your family and pets safe and healthy. I have been a licensed healthcare professional for more than 37 years and have long been committed to this work. These past 3 years have been eventful ones for the Board of Health, involving complex, high profile issues such as turbines, marijuana dispensaries, changes to tobacco regulations and a new trash and recycling program. I believe my combination of education, experience and skills have been an excellent fit and served the Board well in dealing with these and other issues.

I grew up in Fairhaven's center and attended the public schools. I have a PhD in Psychology and maintain a practice of psychology/neuro-psychology in town. I serve as Chair for Greater New Bedford Allies, the Health and Wellness Coalition which works in partnership with the Department of Public Health to improve the quality of health in the 9 surrounding communities. I have functioned as a practitioner, clinical administrator, professor and research scientist.

As a practitioner I work with people ages 2 to 90+. I also consult to hospitals, schools, and small organizations. I know how to actively listen to people's concerns. As a clinical administrator for clinics here and in Boston, I developed programs and policies and procedures to serve the public. I also ensured that all regulations were followed. Many of these facilities were under the auspices of the Department of Public Health. Regulation development and enforcement are important functions of the Board.

As a research scientist, I conducted research in academic settings and clinics. I also taught in a variety of graduate and undergraduate settings. Evaluating research and communicating information to the public are central to the Board of Health's mission of education and prevention. This background has prepared me for the increasingly technical demands of the Board. Evaluation of turbine mitigation plans and marijuana dispensaries requires an understanding of complex topics and illustrates this point.

The Board also addresses environmental issues such as air and water quality, waste treatment, marine fisheries (as well as food handling). I have a longstanding commitment to environmental issues and have worked with citizens' groups on a number of these topics (Harbor Superfund, Atlas Tack, and the Bouchard oil spill).

As a member of the Board of Health I will continue to work to inform you about health and safety issues, enforce regulations designed to protect the public's health and advocate for the vital concerns of all neighborhoods. I will continue to work to keep the Board open and accessible and provide a respectful forum to all citizens and businesses who come before the Board.

I am an independent candidate with longstanding commitments to the town (Trust Commissioner, Past President of Fairhaven Improvement Association, Rotary and Historical Society). I care deeply about your health and safety and will continue to work diligently on your behalf. I ask for your vote on April 6.



## Lindsay Gordon

I am humbled to have the opportunity to run for the Board of Health for the Town of Fairhaven. Currently, I serve as the Chair for the Council on Aging Board in Fairhaven as well as serving as the Vice Chair for the Personnel Board. As an Executive Board Member of

the cross continuum team for the South Coast Hospital Group and a member of the Massachusetts Assisted Living Facilities Association, my daily focus is health and wellness. I hold a certificate of Allergen Awareness Recognized by the MA Department of Public Health, I am ServSafe certified and am a certified Assisted Living Administrator.

My family and I live in Fairhaven and I have a strong desire to serve our town. I feel that joining the Board of Health is the most fitting for my experience. When I was 16, I knew I wanted a career where I could serve others. At that time, I chose to work in a field where I could help improve the health and wellness of the senior population.

My interest in working with seniors continued while I was in college which caused me to pursue and graduate with a B.S. degree in Gerontology and Psychology.

Currently, I am the Senior Executive Director of The Residence at Cedar Dell, an Assisted Living in Dartmouth where I am responsible for the overall well-being for over 74 residents.

I also serve on many other boards and committees within the greater New Bedford South Coast area. I am on the Board of Directors at Coastline Elderly, a Board Member at M.O. LIFE, a member of the Fairhaven Rotary and the President of the PTO at Saint Joseph's School in Fairhaven.

I am looking forward to working hard to help maintain and improve the overall health and wellness for our community and all of my fellow citizens. As your candidate, I want to make a positive difference on your quality of life. I will work hard to do my part to keep our community safe for you, your family and mine. This is a great town and a wonderful community. I respectfully ask you for your vote on Monday April 6th 2015.

Warmest Regards, Lindsay Gordon

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## ACUSHNET: cont'd from page 12

April 18. A flyer will be sent out to all residences noting what residents can and cannot put out for pick-up, according to board member Gerry Rawcliffe.

"Just make sure you have everything out by the curb by 7 a.m. on Saturday," said Mr. Rawcliffe. "Because once he comes by, he's not coming back."

The board also discussed a memo from the Finance Director on the Governor's Preliminary Budget for fiscal year 2016. Town Administrator Alan Coutinho said according to the early numbers, the town will receive more for school spending, but will receive less in local aid, resulting in a net loss of \$21,000 for the town.

"Not the start I was hoping for," said Mr. Coutinho. "Hopefully at Town Meeting we will have a better handle of the situation and go from there."

In another matter, the board discussed the town's water shutoff policy. In the past, the policy has always been that once someone's water has been shut off due to lack of payment or a vacant home, the homeowner would not receive a bill

until payment had been received, according to Mr. Coutinho.

"That causes some issues," said Mr. Coutinho as the town has received complaints that New Bedford continues to bill, while Acushnet does not.

Mr. Coutinho suggested Acushnet should continue to send a bill on fixed water fees even after water has been shut off.

"The water is never forgiven," said Mr. Coutinho.

The board decided to vote on the issue next meeting for a July 1 implementation.

The board unanimously approved snowplow removal invoices totaling \$43,721.07 for various expenses including payroll, plow sub-contractors, and repair and maintenance. The town is now facing a snow removal deficit of \$228,090.49 for the winter season.

"It just tells you what kind of winter we had," said Mr. Gaspar.

Mr. Coutinho announced in his report that Governor Baker signed a \$30 million bond bill for pot hole repairs, of which \$47,042 has been

allocated to Acushnet. All of the funds need to be spent by June 30, according to Mr. Coutinho.

In other business, the board:

- Voted unanimously to retain Rebekah Tomlinson as town Animal Control Officer, and voted for Kelly Massey to become Tomlinson's assistant.
- Announced that anyone interested in being appointed as a representative on the Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School district school committee should send letters of interest by Thursday, April 9 at 12PM.

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## From our readers

### Fairhaven Wind LLC press release not the whole story

Here's to Fairhaven's Selectboard!

Fairhaven Wind actually had the audacity to expect that our Selectboard would sign a press release drafted by this wind developer touting this failed project as a "Win/Win" for our town. Our board said NO!

For that, those neighbors who still feel the daily impact are thankful. The signing of this letter would be a rubbing of salt in the wound of the families that have been sentenced to life in the shadows.

Is the timing of this request coincidental? The attempt to pen a press release and asking a town board to endorse it made just a couple of weeks before a town election with a Board of Health seat on the ballot?

I'm all for a press release, but let's tell the real story. Let's just add a few lines. Add a line about the nearly 600 unanswered Board of Health complaints from over fifty homes that have gone ignored by two of the three seated Board of Health Members.

I say talk to those who live in the shadows and you'll hear what we hear: "I sleep in my basement when it's windy," "My children ask when it is going to stop," "I feel a pressure in my head that won't go away," "I close the blinds because of the flicker," "A Realtor told me don't even bother listing it."

And most importantly let's pen a few sentences on the fact that this project proved to be one of the most divisive issues that our good town has ever faced. Then let's do the real math. What is the cost of a town divided? What is the cost of the pitting of neighbor against neighbor? What is the cost of a good night's sleep?

Add up the real costs, deduct it from the profits, then we'll see that it is actually a Win/Lose. Some of your neighbors are losing, while Fairhaven Wind is Winning!

*John Methia, Fairhaven*

### Vote "yes" for change

On the upcoming April Town election, Fairhaven voters will be presented with a ballot question regarding transferring authority from the currently elected Board of Public Works to the newly created position of Town Administrator. I call on my

fellow citizens to vote "yes" for this change.

As Selectman, I was often frustrated by the lack of common purpose among separately elected boards when facing important issues of labor contracts, capital improvements, and general government operations. Everyone seemed to be going in different directions.

On occasion, the Town would have to work with the City of New Bedford on some public works issue; and I was always impressed with how the Mayor and his Administration could speak with one voice and act decisively, while on the Town side much time, effort and probably money were wasted just trying to get everyone on the same page. I firmly believe that voting "yes" will mean a more efficient use of your tax dollar.

Also, investing the Town Administrator with the management of the Public Works Department will lead to a more professional and non-political style of administration similar to what we expect of our police and fire services.

The political micromanagement of vital services such as snow removal, waste water treatment, water supply, and street repair should be as unthinkable as having a politician take charge of a criminal investigation or direct firefighters during a working fire.

Finally, a successful "yes" vote will not eliminate the elected Board of Public Works, but, instead, will change it into a forum or sounding board for citizen concerns and complaints. What is wrong with that? After all, elected Town service should be about representing and helping your neighbors not about amassing and holding onto power and influence.

Again, I kindly ask you to vote "yes" on the Board of Public Works ballot question on April 6th.

*Michael Silvia, Fairhaven*

### Vote "yes" on BPW issue

In the coming election we will be presented with a ballot item that proposes to change the Board of Public Works (BPW) to an advisory board. Last May, our Town Government Study Committee (TGSC) proposed this to Town Meeting as one of several important steps in improving Fairhaven's government and preparing for the future.

Other steps include establishing a Town Administrator and a capital improvements planning committee, performing an information technology assessment of government systems, revising laws/bylaws pertaining to the Finance Committee and Town Meeting, etc.

The proposed changes to the BPW are an important part of the planned improvements to town government. They will lead to better Town management and planning overall. They deserve your support.

I was an alternate, nonvoting member of the TGSC when the proposal to change the status of the BPW was developed. Being an alternate gave me a good opportunity to observe how thoroughly the committee researched each proposal. I also saw that the committee broadly consulted Fairhaven citizens, Fairhaven town officials, officials in other towns, and sources within our state government. I became convinced that the BPW proposal will be good for Fairhaven.

I am now a regular member of the TGSC. However, I am writing not as a member of the committee but as an individual, private citizen of Fairhaven. I strongly urge you to go to the polls on April 6 and vote YES on this ballot item.

The current members of the Board of Public Works (and the candidates for election) are against this proposal, of course. It will deprive them of power — power over the Department of Public Works. However, it may actually enhance the Board's role in improving long-term planning of public works. And it will not reduce the quality of the DPW, which is a well-managed, well-run department in itself.

Please vote YES on the BPW proposal.

*Rich Griffiths, Fairhaven*

### McKenna has done superior job

I strongly recommend my colleague, Donna McKenna, for School Committee Member. I have had the pleasure of working alongside her for one year. I frequently refer my clients to Donna for their lending needs, where she has been entrusted with a great deal of responsibility.

I have had the opportunity to

**LETTERS: cont'd on next page**

# Local Groups Tackling Problem of Women's Low Wages

*Press Release*

Thousands of women in New Bedford struggle every day to put food on the table for their children and families and find child care they can afford, let alone achieve the American Dream of upward mobility.

According to the most recent Census numbers, almost a third of New Bedford residents live below the federal poverty level, and the vast majority — over two-thirds — of those in poverty are female-led households. Nearly half of New Bedford's children live in poverty. A newly created Task Force is bringing together local community members and leaders to think about obstacles to women's economic self-sufficiency, and to recommend solutions.

"Women are a critical piece of the puzzle to New Bedford's educational

and economic success," said Valerie Bassett, Executive Director of the Women's Fund of Southeastern MA, which is convening the 30-plus member Task Force. "Women's economic health leads to educational success for their children, and creates economic mobility for their families, communities and the region."

The Crittenton Women's Union Massachusetts Economic Index calculates that a single mother of two in New Bedford needs to earn \$25 per hour to be self-sufficient. The median income for all women in New Bedford is below this amount. What will it take to move the needle?

"We can do it if we come together on this, but it's not a quick fix," said Task Force co-chair Jean Fox, of the Bristol County Commission on the Status of Women. "There are many

factors in addition to the most obvious ones of the minimum wage and wage equity. We need to make a more strategic and wider pathway for girls and women, beginning with early learning and child care up through middle school STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) education, high school college and career counseling, post-secondary education, and workforce and economic development initiatives."

The Task Force is meeting monthly to examine facts, discuss options, and develop recommendations to be released in the fall of 2015. To learn more contact

Valerie Bassett 617-435-7282, Executive Director, the Women's Fund of Southeastern MA; or Jean Fox 857-600-8791, Bristol County Commission on the Status of Women.

## LETTERS: cont'd from previous page

observe Donna's professional skills as well as interpersonal style. She is consistently pleasant and takes on all referrals with enthusiasm and dedication. Regardless of deadlines or other pressure, Donna always delivers. Her superior organizational skills make her the consummate multi-tasker.

As a parent of a freshman at Fairhaven High School, I feel very confident that Donna McKenna has done a superior job as a School

Committee Member. Since her three year tenure, she has served on the Southeastern Massachusetts Educational Collaborative Board, which enables Special Education Students to attain multiple opportunities for higher education. Donna serves on the Bullying Task Force to promote Anti-Bullying among students of Fairhaven Public Schools.

Donna has multiple goals, but one of her biggest goals is to recruit more parents to volunteer their time at the

schools. She, herself, donated her time as a volunteer in the Fairhaven School System for over 18 years. It's very important that parents be involved in their children's lives and Donna is trying to make that happen.

I highly recommend that Fairhaven residents vote for Donna McKenna on April 6, 2015. She has Fairhaven and Acushnet Students' best interests at hand.

*Nelson M. Viveiros &  
Nancy A. Viveiros, Acushnet*

## RECRUITS: cont'd from page 17

He said he did not ask his father any questions about the process or the academy.

"I'm trying to be independent," he said, acknowledging that some people think he got the job because of his father. "I want to prove I'm my own person and can do the job."

Jerome Penha Jr. said it was a "learning experience."

"I'm ready to learn everything I need to learn to get us ready," said Mr. Penha, adding he was a "little excited, in a different way" as he got closer to "day one."

"It gets a little more intense," he said, adding that his personal life is over. "You have to make sure you do everything before you start, because you won't have time to deal with anything when you're in the academy."

Mr. Coelho echoed that sentiment.

"If you have anything you have to

do in the next six months, you have to do it before March 23," said Mr. Coelho. "Because life is the academy."

He said Sgt. Kobza had advised them to clear up anything that might distract them.

"But you come to the realization on your own that you're not going to have time to do anything except the academy," said Mr. Coelho. "And that's the choice you make going into this."

He said he, too, was "excited and a little nervous."

"Embarking on a new career is always a little scary," he said.

Sgt. Kobza and Fairhaven Police Chief Michael Myers both expressed confidence in the new recruits.

"We're excited to get them started," said Chief Myers. "We have four very good individuals."

He said it is "always exciting" to have a group in the academy and

anticipating the department will be fully staffed when they get out,

Sgt. Kobza told them they will be given many orders and tasks in the academy.

He said they should treat each task, "regardless of how mundane it may seem, as if it's the most important task of your life at the time."

He said it was advice given to him and he took it to heart, and it has served him well.

Sgt. Kobza also mentioned a bit of department history, noting that he was fourth in his class at the academy, the chief was first in his class, that a recent recruit was first in his class and another received the 100% award from the academy, given to the person who gives 100%, 100% of the time.

"In short, we expect great things from all of you," said the Sgt. Kobza.

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