



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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

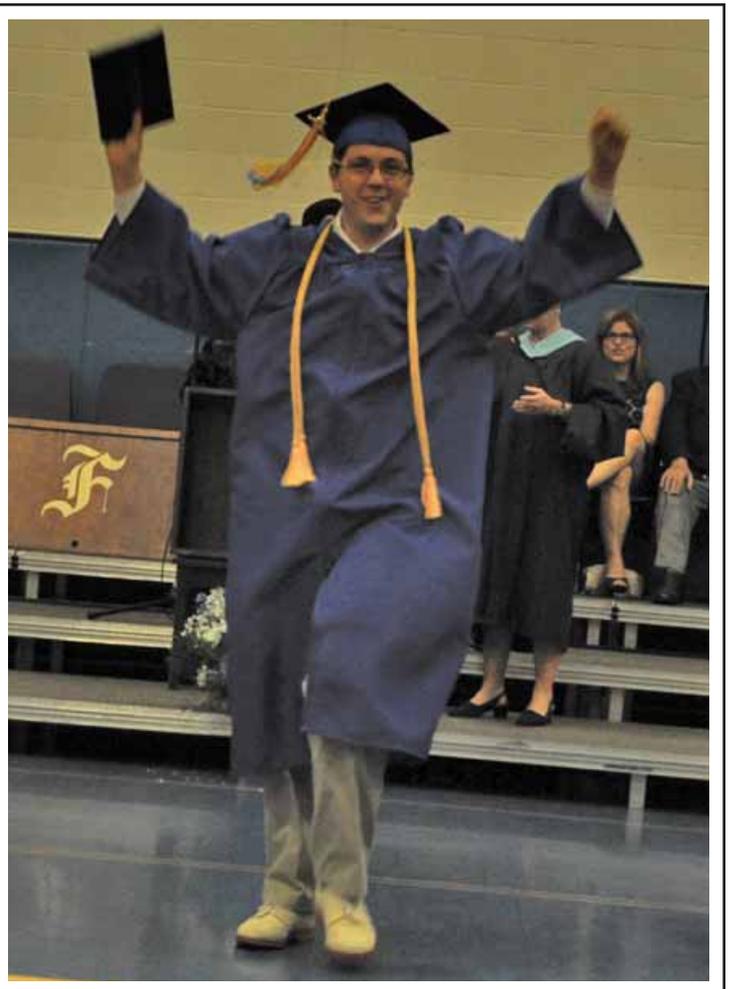


*The little paper
with a big voice!*

Volume 10, Issue 22 • June 4, 2015

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

Fairhaven High School graduates more than 160



Two students show their happiness after received their high school diplomas at Fairhaven High School graduation on Sunday, 5/31. See page 16 for story. *Photos by Beth David. Visit us at [www.Facebook.com/ NeighbNews](http://www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews) to see more photos of this and other events. Individual photos are available for purchase.*



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Also Inside:

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From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

Right and wrong should not be complicated. There are whole books about learning right from wrong as a kid: Don't shove, share your toys, don't make fun of people, be kind; stand up for yourself and others; do the right thing, even if it's hard.

Generally speaking, at this time in my life, I'm usually pretty sure about what's right and what isn't. How tough is it, really? If it happened, just write about it and tell people it happened. If it's the truth, run it and let the chips fall where they may.

But it is not always so black and white. There are grays in life. The older we get, the more grays we have seen. Some of us find the blacks and whites more easily as we age, some of us live in the gray areas more and more.

Generally speaking, my world view is pretty well set. I'm pretty good at seeing how things fit in with my own personal value system. I'm a feminist to the core, an out lesbian to boot, and I'm political and outspoken and so lefty-liberal I come out on the other side sometimes. I have no problem bucking the status quo (but you knew that). When confronted with new situations, or so-called moral dilemmas, I'm usually able to find the connection with my feminist philosophy and can figure out which side I need to be on pretty quickly. I'm a sucker for the underdog, and have been since I was a young'un.

So when Meghan Sargent and Brooklyn Cody Rodrigues were killed in a car crash, it seemed like no big deal to me that they were a couple. In these parts, the teenagers of today do not blink an eye at two women or two men going to the prom together. But Brooklyn was a bit more complicated than that. Named Bria at birth and raised as a girl, Brooklyn just knew that he was male. He legally changed his name and planned to have gender reassignment surgery (a sex-change operation).

We mentioned it in our articles and so did the other press outlets. Of course, the out-of-town guys converged on our little patch of paradise like coyotes on red meat. We'd like to think that Meghan's graduation from high school, just days away, was the reason, but we know better.

Both families are devastated at the loss of their children. Pronouns be damned, who cares?

Meghan's parents told me how none of that matters. Why can't the press just concentrate on how wonderful the two were together, and how they made each other happy and they had beautiful smiles?

I remember driving away after talking to Meghan's dad and thinking that he said all the things that a gay child wants to hear her parents say: as long as you are happy, honey; as long as the relationship is good and you treat each other well; I love you the same and always will.

So leave out all the gender stuff, it doesn't matter.

Yet, as I drove away, I thought: but it does matter. Maybe some day it won't, but right now, here, in this time, it matters.

It matters because all that gender stuff was a huge part of what made Brooklyn be Brooklyn; and that is who Meghan loved, the same Brooklyn who used to be Bria.



Beth David, Publisher

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

Volume 10, Issue 22

Thursday, June 4, 2015

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Published weekly on Thursdays by
Fairhaven Neighborhood News, LLC, at
166 Dogwood Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719
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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our article last on the car crash that killed a Fairhaven High School student, we made an error on the date of the press conference. It was held on Tuesday. We apologize for any confusion our error may have caused.

LETTER: cont'd next page

LETTER: cont'd from previous page

My thinking has evolved somewhat. In my first article, I said he was born female and identified as male. I've revised that. I wrote this week that he was raised female. On his Facebook page he said: "I don't 'identify,' I AM" and "I don't have 'preferred pronouns,' I have pronouns."

He was so open about his journey. He was bubbly and excited about his life. He told everyone he was a he and expected to be addressed as such.

His boss said that she does not ask a lot of personal questions of the young people who work for her. She said it's none of her business and she doesn't like to pry. But she knew all about Brooklyn, because he told her; he wanted her to know. He wanted the whole world to know.

It was fundamental to who Brooklyn Cody Rodrigues was, not incidental. And he was not ashamed of who he was.

It was as natural to him as his personality, a personality that made him excited about all he did and made him share it all with everyone.

What a travesty to keep it a secret, then, in my opinion.

And it is my opinion, my not-so-humble opinion. It's also my newspaper, and my call. My thinking on this may evolve, and I may change my mind some day.

But for now, in this place, I believe it would dishonor this young man and who he was, who he became, and the way he chose to live his life: so openly, so enthusiastically charging into the future, headlong towards a surgery that would drastically change his body to make him feel more whole.

I grieve to think that we lost that. He was so remarkable before his surgery. I can only imagine the mountains he

would've climbed after it.

And Meghan was right there by his side. Her acceptance of him as he was, and her willingness to accept him after the next planned stage of his journey are also more than acknowledged by mentioning his "gender identity" journey, they are honored as well.

I suspect that Brooklyn would not like my use of that phrase.

Brooklyn could have moved away where no one ever knew Bria. He could've dressed like a man and just let people play the guessing game in their minds.

That would be the old fashioned way, though. As one of my friends said, "We've been not talking about it for centuries."

He also could've been hostile and angry and demanding about pronouns and descriptions.

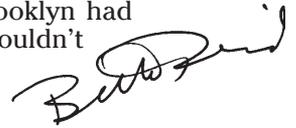
But he did none of those things. He stayed local and endeared himself to all who knew him, old friends and family and new friends alike. He let everyone know he was a "he" but, by all accounts, did not lash out in anger at those who slipped up.

In my mind, in my opinion, in my newspaper, we honor him by talking about his journey. We will not hide it as though it is a shameful thing, it is not.

Let's honor both of them, who they were, who they might have become. But to do that, let's be honest.

Let's not leave out anything. Brooklyn had nothing to be ashamed of; we shouldn't treat his journey as if he did.

Until next week then...see ya,





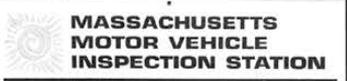
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Selectboard to hold special meeting for new RFP

By Beth David
Editor

The Fairhaven Selectboard held off on deciding exactly how to change and word a new Request for Proposals for disposition of the Rogers and Oxford school buildings at its meeting on 5/26.

Selectboard chairperson Geoffrey Haworth said the problem with the previous RFP is that it was too restrictive.

Selectboard member Bob Espindola, who was on the RFP committee, disagreed, pointing out wording that said the town would review all proposals.

Board member Charles Murphy said his nonprofit, MO LIFE, had felt that the RFP was very restrictive and did not even entertain the thought of submitting a proposal. When the board decided to re-draft a new RFP, Mr. Murphy recused himself from deliberations on the matter until MO LIFE decided it would not pursue obtaining either building.

Mr. Espindola said he felt the board should have worked with the applicants of the two proposals that were rejected. He said he felt that the town does not want certain uses for the buildings and should be clear about that, such as housing.

Both Mr. Murphy and Mr. Haworth insisted that the idea of housing, in itself, was not the problem, but that 99 bedrooms in North Fairhaven, and a \$7,500 annual payment in lieu of taxes made that proposal not right for the town.

They also said that the Dawicki proposal to buy the Rogers School building for \$1 was problematic, not only because of the \$1, but because of the lack of specifics, especially a timeline to get the building back to a productive use.

Mr. Haworth said he was willing to try the RFP route one more time, but if the proposals were not suitable, it might be time for the town to "be realistic," and either sell the buildings outright at auction, or recognize that the town will be stuck with them for years until they have to be torn down.

He said the language requiring contractors to keep the "character of the buildings," was unreasonable, and drove up the cost of making them usable.

If the buildings are demolished, the town can do "something else with the

property," said Mr. Haworth admitting it was not a popular option.

Mr. Murphy said the Oxford property was close to the highway, accessible to Boston, and he felt that higher end apartments, on a smaller scale would be more appropriate than what was proposed.

He said he wanted to see "something that pays respect to the culture of Fairhaven; something that will enhance the quality of the neighborhood."

Mr. Espindola said the RFP was flexible, that "anybody could have proposed anything to us."

Mr. Haworth insisted that the way it was written made it too restrictive.

Mr. Espindola said the beautiful buildings are part of the town's identity and are tied into the history

One building is a blight
on the neighborhood
and the second is
quickly becoming one
[Geoffrey Haworth]

with Henry Huttleston Rogers, who built the Rogers School.

"One building is a blight on the neighborhood and the second is quickly becoming one," said Mr. Haworth.

RFP committee members Doug Brady and Nils Isaksen insisted it was an "open-ended" RFP.

Mr. Murphy also raised a point that many North Fairhaven residents have been talking about: the fact that the dense housing project was proposed in their neighborhood but not for the building in the center of town. Mr. Murphy said the developer told him frankly that they learned early on it would never fly in the center.

"Everyone in Fairhaven is important," said Mr. Murphy, adding that when he talked about the "culture" of Fairhaven, "it's the whole town of Fairhaven."

The board will discuss the new RFP in detail at another meeting.

In another matter, the board approved changes in fees for the animal shelter, and agreed, in

principle, that the Animal Control Officer should have an assistant. They also agreed that there is no money in the budget for it.

The job is 24 hours a week, 7 days, so even when she is on vacation, she has to be on call. Police and public works departments can act as backup in emergencies, but they are not always able to respond to non-emergencies, such as dead animals in the road.

The board instructed ACO Kelly Massey, who is new to the job, that she would have to include the new position in her budget next year. Meanwhile, she is relying on volunteers to keep the shelter staffed and animals cared for.

The new fee structure will raise rates for boarding dogs and cats, bringing them more in line with other shelters.

Ms. Massey told the board that current fees are so low, they do not even begin to help pay for care that animals need.

Cats will now cost \$150 to adopt (with all shots), kittens will be \$180, and dogs will be \$250. Boarding will now be \$25 per day.

The board also supported Ms. Massey's request to hold an Open House at the animal shelter on July 18 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. She said she has been hearing rumors that the Fairhaven shelter is a "high kill shelter," and she wanted to dispel those rumors.

The board also voted on the annual reappointments to town boards, including the Beautification Committee, which had a public dust-up over one member. The Selectboard decided not to reappoint Karen Vilandry to the BC, with Mr. Espindola saying they would be "perpetuating the problem" if they reappointed her.

The meetings are public and the BC's projects are open for public participation, however, only board members have a right to speak at meetings. The public may speak with the permission of the chairperson.

"The majority has spoken," said Mr. Haworth, and called the problem a "personality conflict."

In a related matter, the board reminded all appointees that they need to be sworn in before they can vote on their respective committees. It is up to the individual committee

SELECT: cont'd on page 21

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Learn to Quahog

Join the Buzzards Bay Coalition at Round Cove on West Island to learn to harvest your own quahogs. We'll teach you the basics of local quahogging — what you need, how to do it, and where to go. This will be a fun and educational event for the whole family.

Meet at Round Cove on West Island (approximately 224 Dogwood St., Fairhaven), **Sat., 5/30 at 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Free. Registration is required** for all Bay Adventures. To RSVP, email bayadventures@savebuzzardsbay.org or call (508) 999-6363 ext. 219.

This program is part of the Coalition's Bay Adventures series: programs designed for explorers of all ages to get outside and discover Buzzards Bay. To learn more about all our upcoming Bay Adventures, visit www.savebuzzardsbay.org/bayadventures.

March of Dimes F-R

Restaurant Fundraiser to benefit our March of Dimes team on **Tues., 6/9, at EJ's Restaurant, 115 Huttleson Ave., Fairhaven.** Dine in or take-out, 10% of every meal will go directly to the March of Dimes (exc. alcohol and tax).

Ham & Bean Supper

By the North Fairhaven Improvement Association on **Fri., 6/5, at St. Marys Church, Fairhaven. Not accessible. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids.** Catered by Danny's Seafood. This should be a great event.

Tickets are available by calling Jeff Lucas, 508-971-1306, Fred Raphael at 508-951-0831, or Ted Silva at 508-965-6072; r e-mail tedsilva@comcast.net

Advance purchase of tickets is requested. **We are hoping to have a final ticket count by Wed., 6/3.** There may be a limited number of tickets available at the door.

Clean-up Day

The North Fairhaven Improvement Association and the Fairhaven Lions Club will hold a clean-up day on **Sat., 6/6, from 8 a.m. to noon.** Meet at the NFIA Building, 267 Adams St., Fairhaven, at Benoit Square.

Please join us to beautify the neighborhood. There are jobs for everyone.

Fish Tourney

Bad Daddy Buzzards Bay Fishing Tournament, **Sat., 6/6. Lines in 5 a.m. Last weigh-in at 3:30 p.m. Cookout 1:30 p.m., Awards 5 p.m.** Rick's Outboard Marine, 105 Scoticut Neck Road, Fairhaven

Take a kid fishing! Tournament promotes the sport to all ages. Prizes for three biggest fish of each species: tautog, sea bass, scup. **Entry fee (includes cookout and beer): Adult \$40, Child 12 and under \$20, Family (2 adults and children) \$100.** Registration form online at <http://www.CaptainMelTrue.com/tournament>.

For more info contact Capt.Mel True@gmail.com or call 508-951-9991.

Dems to Caucus

On **Sat., 6/6**, members of the Democratic Party who are registered in Fairhaven will caucus to elect delegates and alternates to attend the party's state convention in September. The caucus will commence at **1 p.m. in the auditorium of the Millicent Library at 45 Center St. in Fairhaven.** Use Walnut St. entrance. Accessible. Registration at 12:45.

Details on the rules can be found at www.massdems.org. For Fairhaven Democratic caucus information, please contact Rich Taber, Chair at 508-542-6748. For general information on the Convention or the Democratic Party please call 617-939-0800 or email contact@massdems.org.

Stone Schoolhouse

Beginning on June 6, children can learn about schooling during the 1800s and try some fun hands-on activities and games **each Saturday afternoon at the Old Stone Schoolhouse, 40 North Street, Fairhaven.**

The Old Stone Schoolhouse is a restored one-room school that was originally built in 1828 to serve the Oxford district of Fairhaven. In the 1840s, Manjiro Nakahama, the first Japanese person to live in America, attended classes there. The schoolhouse remained in operation until the larger Oxford School was built in 1896. It will be **opened by the Fairhaven Office of Tourism on Saturday afternoons from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. in June, July and August.**

At the schoolhouse, children may sit at antique wooden desks and try

writing with pen and ink or with chalk on a slate. They may also try some old-fashioned schoolyard games, learn about 19th Century discipline and see antique schoolbooks and mannequins dressed 1800s clothes.

Free, donations accepted. **Please note** the schoolhouse has no electricity or running water. There are no restroom facilities onsite.

For more information, visit <http://oldstoneschool.blogspot.com> or call 508-979-4085.

Summer Hours

The Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship House Museum, 11 Cherry St., Fairhaven, is now open for the summer schedule.

Each Saturday and Sunday we are open from noon to 4:00 PM with no appointment necessary until Labor Day. We are open any time by appointment with sufficient notice.

For more info, call 508-995-1219 or e-mail Gerry@WMFriendshipHouse.org

Discover Oysters

Discover oysters in Nasketucket Bay on **Sat., 6/13.**

Join the Buzzards Bay Coalition, The Nature Conservancy, and the town of Fairhaven for a fun, **free morning of oyster discovery.** You'll learn about a restoration project happening right in Nasketucket Bay to increase wild oyster populations in our community. Come dressed to get wet and muddy, and we'll help you explore for shellfish along the shore!

Meet at **Seaview Ave. Boat Ramp (end of Seaview Ave., Fairhaven), Sat., June 13 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Free. RSVP:** Registration is required for all Bay Adventures. To RSVP, email bayadventures@savebuzzardsbay.org or call (508) 999-6363 ext. 219.

This program is part of the Coalition's Bay Adventures series: programs designed for explorers of all ages to get outside and discover Buzzards Bay.

To learn more about all our upcoming Bay Adventures, visit www.savebuzzardsbay.org/bayadventures.

SAVE THE DATE

Blessing of the Oldies and Car Show: Angels of 76 fundraiser. June 14, 9-3, Cushman Park. More details next week.

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Pot Luck & Pound

Pilgrim Women's Club of Pilgrim United Church of Christ is sponsoring its Annual Pot Luck Supper & Pound Auction to benefit Heifer Project, on **Sat. 6/6, 6 p.m., at Pilgrim Church home, corner Purchase & School Sts., New Bedford.**

Bring a favorite dish to share for supper, then enjoy spirited bidding on wrapped items.. Fun for a good cause! Call for info: 508-996-1498.

YTI Play

Your Theatre will stage a world premier of *The Obraz*, by local playwright Ray Veary, for one weekend only. Judy Lemay is directing the play.

The Obraz is based upon actual events in 1934 Poland and tells the story of a young cloistered nun, Faustina, who has a vision of an inspired painting and must find a painter who can create it. Inept at the most basic of the convent's kitchen work, she is surrounded by skeptics. Some of the other nuns plainly suspect she's not in her right mind, and the artist she hires presents her biggest obstacle yet.

YTI is grateful to BankFive for sponsorship of this 68th season of quality community theatre. YTI would also like to thank the Dartmouth, Fairhaven, and New Bedford Cultural Councils for providing grants for *The Obraz*.

Performances are **June 4, 5, and 6 at 8:00 p.m. and June 7 at 2:30 p.m.** at the wheelchair accessible YTI playhouse, 136 Rivet St. (corner of County St.), New Bedford, at St. Martin's Episcopal Church complex.

General Admission to all performances is \$10. For tickets and information 508-993-0772 or email info@yourtheatre.org. Visit www.yourtheatre.org

Jazz Fest

Fantastic music, delicious food, refreshing libations, and the unique atmosphere of New Bedford's historic waterfront will combine to provide a singular experience during the fourth annual **New Bedford JazzFest on Satu., 6/13, from 1:30-7:00 p.m. on Pier 3, MacArthur Drive.**

Headlining will be Whaling City Sound recording artist Jason Miles whose new CD, *Kind of New*, is racing

up the national jazz charts.

Also performing will be the Nina Ott Group playing lively Latin/Afro Cuban jazz, and Candida Rose singing her "KabuJazz" with the Women in World Jazz group. Returning for their fourth appearance is the 17-piece SouthCoast Jazz Orchestra playing traditional big band music and rounding out the talent lineup is the UMass Dartmouth student group, Native Spaces.

The Artists' Colony with handmade crafts and original art for sale will return along with CDs and JazzFest T-shirts. Gourmet food and libations will also be available. JazzFest is produced by and for the benefit of Your Theatre, Inc. New Bedford's 68-year old community theatre group. Sponsors of the event include Whaling City Sound and UMass Dartmouth.

Tickets, \$20 in advance, may be ordered through the Your Theatre box office at 508-993-0772, online at NewBedfordJazzfest.com, or at the Symphony Music Shop, State Road in North Dartmouth. **Tickets at the gate are \$25.** Children 15 and under are free when accompanied by an adult. Free parking is available at the State Pier and the Elm Street Garage.

Breakfast & Boat Parade

Sun., 6/7, Race Season Kickoff Breakfast hosted by the Low Tide Yacht Club, 1000 B Rodney French Blvd. New Bedford,

Breakfast, 08:00 to 10:30; Boat Parade, 11:00 to 12:30; Skipper's meeting, 10:00 to 10:30. Series 1 Race 1 from 12:00 to 15:00

Come and join the LOW TIDE YACHT CLUB for a season kickoff breakfast and first race of the year at its clubhouse at Fort Rodman. A full Breakfast will be served for an **\$8 donation for adults and a \$5 donation for children.**

The LOW TIDE YACHT CLUB will hold a boat parade off Clark's Point following the skippers meeting at 10:00. **VESSELS OF ANY SIZE AND SHAPE ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE.**

The PHRF race is scheduled to begin at 12:00 noon Vessels that do not wish to participate in the race are invited to take a cruise around Clark's

Point.

Please RSVP to Nancy Jordan at 508-999-9722, Public Relations

Please watch the news for other Low Tide events, particularly the July 18 Steakout and Auction fundraiser

Walking Tours

New Bedford has a long and fascinating history, filled with stories of whalemens going to sea for years a time, wives left to run businesses, escaped slaves seeking freedom, and a connection to the sea that spans centuries. The public is invited to explore this history through **free guided tours, offered on Sat. and Sun. through 6/21.** The tours will be available **seven days a week starting 6/26 through 8/31, at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.** Tours leave from New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park's visitor center, 33 William Street in downtown New Bedford.

Tours will Risks and Rewards of Whaling, From Rags to Riches in the Golden Age of Whaling, and Unknown Heroes and Their Secrets: New Bedford's Underground Railroad.

For additional information and schedules, go to the park website at www.nps.gov/nebe, call 508-996-4095, and visit the park's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/NBWNHP>

SAVE THE DATE!

Polish Fest will be held on Father's Day Weekend at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in New Bedford. **Bishop Edgar Moreira da Cunha, S.D.V. will be celebrating the Polka Mass on Sun., 6/21 at 11:00 AM at OLOPH.** Look for more details in upcoming issues.

Whale Masters Desc.

Descendants of Whaling Masters, Inc.'s (DWM) 41st Annual Meeting is scheduled for **Sat., 6/13, at the Wamsutta Club, 427 County St., New Bedford.** Social hour 12 noon to 1 p.m., with luncheon and a business meeting, election of officers and program following.

R.S.V.P. by 6/6, with menu selection for each reservation. Please mail check made payable to: "Descendants of Whaling Masters, Inc." c/o William H. Potter, Jr., Treasurer, 194 Main Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719.

Visit www.whalingmasters.org.

HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

Sargent-Rodrigues

The Hollywood Scoop, 20 County Rd. (Rte. 6), Mattapoisett, is holding a fund-raiser for the families of Meghan Sargent, 18, and Brooklyn Cody Rodrigues, 21, who were killed in a car crash on Memorial Day.

From noon to 6 p.m., on Sun., 6/7, henna tattoos, games, special guests, auctions, crafts and more, will be available. All proceeds will benefit the two families to help with funeral expenses and working towards putting together a special memoir in their name. Please feel free to make a poster board of any memories you may have Meghan and Brooklyn.

Please join us. Brooklyn had just completed his shift and Meghan had joined the crew for ice cream. Within minutes of saying "see you tomorrow" and "goodbye, they both tragically lost their lives, and tomorrow never arrived for them.

Clamboil

At American Legion Post 265, 71 Hope St., Acushnet, on Sun., 6/7, 2 p.m. Tickets: \$20 pp. Call 508-998-6938 for tickets.

Duck Race

Acushnet Lions annual Duck Race will be held on Sun., 6/14. Tickets on Sale now, \$10. Call Joe Costa, 508-995-2867 or any Lions Club member, or River's End Cafe, 7 1/2 Tarkiln Hill Rd., Crabbe Chiropractice, 132 So. Main St., Joe Botelho Real Estate, 38 So. Main St. First prize, \$1000; 2nd prize \$500, 3rd prize, \$250.

Cribbage Players

Cribbage Players Wanted: Summer cribbage league now forming at the Acushnet COA, 59 1/2 South Main St.. Players and subs needed for Mondays at noon. Call 508-998-0280 for more information or just show up ready to play. Drop in cribbage games also available on Fridays at 12:00 p.m. No time commitment required, just play when you're in the mood.

Farmers Market

The Acushnet Farmers Market will open on Sat., 6/6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the season, and will be open each Saturday, rain or shine, through September.

We have an amazing lineup of vendors this season offering local, seasonal produce, fruit, honey, eggs, wine, cheese, artisan breads, delicious baked goods, pastries, pies, bbq sauce, a chicken CSA, jams, jellies, gourmet salts and blends, 100% gluten free baked goods, coffee, natural skincare line of products, jewelry, herbs, photography, pork and lamb, hand knit items, and hand painted custom signs.

As you can see, our market has grown! We have several cooking demos, spinning demos and various events planned for the season.

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For more information, or to have this service installed, join us at the Acushnet Council on Aging, 59 1/2 So. Main Street, on Friday, June 5th, at 11:30 a.m. or call Tina Davern, Outreach Expert; 857-218-8707.

Wrkshp & Farm Tour

Join the SE Mass. Agricultural Partnership as we continue our 2015 Twilight Workshop Series! This workshop will take place at Colchester Neighborhood Farm in Plympton, MA on Mon., 6/8. from 6pm- 8pm. Maryann Martinez will offer a farm tour and presentation on growing watermelons and other melon varieties in New England. We will talk about the best varieties, when to start your seeds, field selection and prep, keeping the pests and critters away, when to put them out in the field, irrigation, and more. Registration is open now.

Please visit <http://conta.cc/1HUA9yX> for details and registration.

Dems to Caucus

The Mattapoisett Democratic

Town Committee will hold its annual caucus on Sat., 6/6 at 10:15 in the lower level conference room in the Mattapoisett Library to elect four delegates and four alternates, equally divided between men and women, to The Democratic State Convention held on 9/19.

The Town Democratic Committee encourages all voters registered as Democrats in Mattapoisett to attend the caucus so that they can either vote for delegates or run for election as a delegate.

Attending a state Democratic Convention is a great way to meet people who share similar political views with you. Delegates have opportunities to see and hear from many of our elected state officials as well as those who are the organizers and officials of our state party. This year's action agenda will feature forums, organizing workshops, exciting speakers and much more.

SNEEF Forum

"Celebrate Entrepreneurial Success on the SouthCoast" on Thurs., 6/11, 5:30 p.m., John Matouk & Co., 925 Airport Road, Fall River, sponsored by the Southern New England Entrepreneurs Forum (SNEEF). SNEEF members and students free, Alliance Members \$15, and non-SNEEF members \$25. Register by June 5 at www.sneef.org. Refreshments & beverages will be served.

Sea Music Festival

Come to Mystic Seaport to celebrate the musical traditions of the Golden Age of Sail at the 36th annual Sea Music Festival, Thursday through Sunday, June 11-14.

More than 15 individuals and groups will perform at the Festival.

All workshops and daytime concerts in the Festival are included in regular Mystic Seaport admission. Special tickets are required for evening concerts and can be purchased by calling 860.572.0711, or at the Museum's main entrance. Weekend passes are also available. College students will be admitted into the Festival for the youth rate upon presentation of a current student ID.

For more information, including ticket packages, musicians' bios, and a schedule of performances, visit www.mysticseaport.org/seamusical

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Sun., 6/7: Interlude, 4–8 p.m.

Fri., 6/12: True Acoustic, 7–10 p.m.



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(RSVP: 508-994-9238)

Join us for:

Tap 'n Time with Belle Friday, June 5, 12:30 p.m.

Tap into the therapeutic power of music and movement. Belle will have you tapping your feet and moving in your seat!

Traveling Petting Zoo Farm Visits Tuesday, June 9, 10:30 a.m. Attention all animal lovers! Dawn Cordeiro and her Traveling Petting Zoo will be visiting with her adorable farm animals.

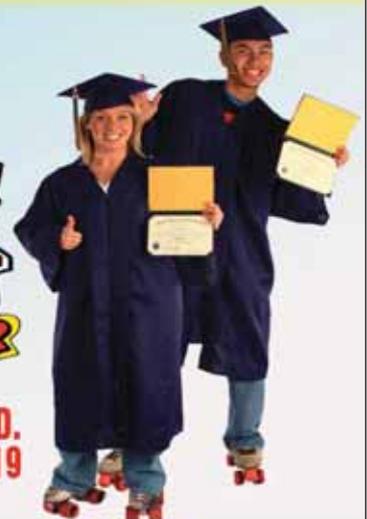


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Recipe of the Week

Brown Sugar Smokies

1 pound bacon
1 cup brown sugar, or to taste
1 16 oz. package little smokie sausages

Preheat oven to 350 degrees .

Cut bacon into thirds and wrap each strip around a little sausage. Place the wrapped sausages on wooden skewers, several to a skewer. Arrange the skewers on a baking sheet and sprinkle them liberally with brown sugar.

Bake until bacon is crisp and the brown sugar melted.

from www.allrecipes.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 (Email preferred)

Fairhaven-Acushnet Little League update

MAJOR LEAGUE DIVISION

Elf's Lands. 21, Acushnet Police 2

Elf's had 18 hits with Logan Berube and Niko Tavares going 4 for 4. Berube had 3 home runs and 8 RBI's. Boston Rodrigues and Seth Cruz had a 3 hit game, Isaiah Lopez and Nate Roderiques had a pair of hits while Devaughn Gonsalves-Barnett had a key hit to extend an inning. Meagan Dufrense, Owen Richards, and Mason Santos had the only hits for Police. There were no handcuffs available to hold back Elf's today.

Elf's Landscaping 10, Costa's Ins. 4

In a long awaited battle between 1 and 2. The game didn't hold up to the hype with Elf's scoring first and often. Boston Rodrigues 3 hits, Logan Berube with 3 hits including a 3 run

HR. Seth Cruz, Isaiah Lopez, had a pair of hits. Niko Tavares had a RBI hit. Ryan Dskiwski McLean reached base and scored during the game. Boston Rodrigues went 5 innings with 5 strike outs with Logan Berube shutting the door. Devin Champagne had a 2 run home run for Costas. The win for Elf's secured them the #1 seed during the playoffs.

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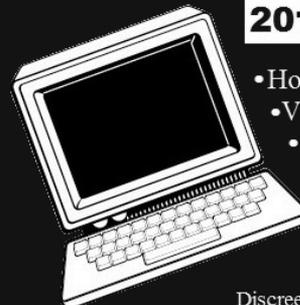


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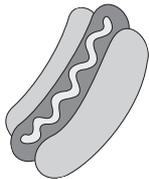
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Acushnet golf course on upward swing

Michael Smith

Neighb News Correspondent

In a report to the Acushnet Selectboard, Dana Przybyszewski, manager of golf at the Acushnet River Valley Golf Course, told the board that it is currently operating below 2015 revenue projections, but ahead of last year's pace.

Mr. Przybyszewski was on hand to give a comprehensive report to the board, but Chairperson David Wojnar requested that he present just the current revenue projections, citing the Town Meeting later that night as the reason to cut it short.

According to Mr. Przybyszewski, River Valley is behind \$78,668 in projected revenues for 2015. Included in that number is \$15,900 in credit card charging fees. After finding ways to save \$42,900, there is still a gap.

Mr. Przybyszewski noted that an "exceptionally late start" for this season due to the harsh winter was the main reason for the less-than-expected revenues. River Valley opened for the season on April 10, three weeks late.

"May was the first month that we got in a full month of play," said Mr. Przybyszewski, adding, though, that May was a "very good" month and exceeded numbers from last year.

In order to help close the gap, the golf course asked for a \$65,000 transfer from the Golf Contingency fund, which Town Meeting approved later that evening (see page 20).

Considering the impact of the long winter weather, board members felt that River Valley had a good start for the season financially, aided by adding food and beverage services this year.

"If we stay on track like this (with food and beverage revenues), we should generate another \$100,000 this year for the golf course," said board member Kevin Gaspar.

To help save the course money, Mr. Gaspar suggested switching credit card processing companies to lower charge fees toward the golf course.

In another matter, the board said the Historical Commission wishes to place an organ donated by a local resident in the Perry Hill Church. The commission was asking assistance to transport the organ from its present

If we stay on track like
this (with food and beverage
revenues), we should generate
another \$100,000 this year
for the golf course
[Kevin Gaspar]

location in Warwick, RI.

The Selectboard unanimously approved acceptance of the gift and will later determine how and when the organ will be moved.

The Selectboard unanimously approved non-union contracts, which include various department head.

The Selectboard was scheduled to meet with John Westgate regarding the rules and regulations of the water division and deduct meters.

However, Mr. Wojnar felt with the time constraints because of Town Meeting that same night, it would be

better to address the issue at another meeting, so the board will reschedule.

Board member Gerry Rawcliffe discussed with the board getting money for trash contracts to allow for more TV recycling. The town hopes to funding by July 15.

In other business the board

- Granted a license to Running Brook Farms of Dartmouth, to sell at the farmer's market.

- Approved two new hires for the Golf Course for food and beverage service and the pro shop.

- Approved a license for the Kelly Miller Circus on the grounds of the former White's Family Fun Center pending inspections from other departments.

- Announced that the Mass. Gaming Commission informed Acushnet of a video online that explains what takes place for a surrounding community, in preparation of New Bedford possibly getting a casino.

- Appointed Frank Grace and Chad Leclair to the Community Preservation Committee.

- Reviewed and approved six budget amendments for EMS, fire, police, EMA, the town library, and Acushnet River Valley.

- Approved a Reserve Fund transfer request for \$1,800 from the Finance Committee to fix two computers that crashed.

- Approved a memorandum of agreement between the town of and the Public Employee Committee.

- Accepted the resignation of Arthur Bergeron from the Acushnet Housing Authority.

- Accepted a South Coast Rail Grant of \$5,000 to be used for a bike path.

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Kool Kids Summer

Kool Kids is for children entering grades 1-age 12 Children will have fun each day by participating in a variety of sports, games and art activities. Each session will also include special themed events. Children are grouped by the Grade they will enter in the Fall. Don't miss out on this great summer program. Last year's program was full almost every week. Sign up early so we can take more participants than last year **\$130. Per week for members, sibling discounts available**, also non member rates. Hours: Monday thru Friday 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Drop off 7:45 a.m.. Pick up 3pm. Extended day: a.m. only (7 a.m.), \$25; p.m. only (4 p.m.), \$25; Both \$40

Youth Track & Field

This summer, Fairhaven Recreation will be continuing our youth track and field program for children ages 3 through grade 8. This program starts at the end of the school year and runs for 4 weeks. The program is **free with your play card** and will meet 2 days a week at Cushman Park from 6-8 p.m. Program starts June 29th (Mondays 7 Wednesdays)

Summer Tennis

Tykes (ages 5-8) And Superstars (ages 9-10)

- **Tykes:** July 7, July 30, Tues. & Thurs. 9:00-10:00AM
 - **Superstars:** July 7-July 30 Tues. & Thurs., 10:00-11:00 AM
 - **Futures:** (ages 11-16) Session 1, Aug. 3-6 Mon-Thur, 9-Noon; Session 2. Aug. 10-13 Mon-Thur 9-Noon
- Tykes & Superstars, \$50 Members/\$60 Non Members; Futures, \$65 Members/\$75 Non Members**

Casino Trip

June 10th, Mohegan Sun. Leave Rec 8am, Return to Rec 7pm Cost \$20.00 casino package included (\$15. Meal credit \$10 bet coupon MUST PRE-REGISTER

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Mall Trips

June 10: Wareham Crossing

June 17: Thames Street
Newport, RI

June 24: Plymouth Shopping

July 1: Newport Grand, Middletown
Xmas Tree

Entertainment

6/11: Survivor • 6/18: Ray Jay • 6/25: Sing-A-Long Karaoke with Rick

Special Activities

Bocce Anyone?

The Bocce Court in the back yard of the Senior Center is open for all to use. Pick up Bocce Balls at the center or bring your own. Gather up some friends and let's play Bocce.

National Elder Abuse Awareness Day

June 15th Let's be aware. Remember, it is not your role to verify that abuse is occurring, only to alert others to your suspicions. Contact your local Police Department or the Fairhaven Senior Center for confidential help and assistance whether for someone you know or even yourself. Administration for Community Living.

Single Seniors Supper Club

Cancelled until future notice.

Southcoast LGBT

Cancelled until future notice.

Sewing Circle

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. The Sewing Group will meet on June 8th and 15th from 1-3 p.m. In June the group will meet on

the 8th and 15th from 1-3 p.m.

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. please call the Fairhaven Senior Center at 508-979-4029 for the next date.

Homecoming

At Fairhaven Homecoming, June 27th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., the Friends of Fairhaven Elderly will be having a table. There will be the 4th edition on the Christmas Ornaments, (Fairhaven Town Hall) other ornaments will be available while supplies last.

Trip with Nancy

Wed., 8/19, *La Cage aux Folles*. Tony award winner musical comedy at Goodspeed Opera House on the Connecticut River. \$119.00 p.p. Includes: Lunch at Gelston House, Gillette Castle Tour, Motor Coach, taxes and gratuities. Lunch will be served, raffles will be held.

Tickets are Limited!! For additional information call the Fairhaven Senior Center at (508-979-4029).

Ongoing Programs

Call 508-979-4029 for days and times

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

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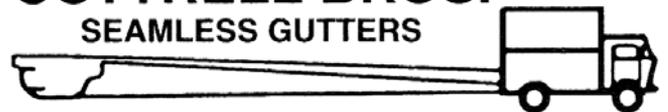
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More than 160 in FHS Class of 2015

By Beth David
Editor

They did not ignore the tragedy, but they also did not dwell upon it at the graduation of the Fairhaven High School Class of 2015 on Sunday, 5/31. Most speakers did not mention the car crash that killed Meghan Sargent, 18, who was set to graduate, but principal Tara Quirk Kohler faced it head-on.

Most of the speakers concentrated on the accomplishments of the class of 2015, an extensive list that includes awards for the band, cheerleaders and the designation of FHS as a level one school.

Student speakers told their classmates to enjoy their personal accomplishments and remember their parents. Class Salutatorian Kyle Koczera said that parents and played a "major role" in the successes of the graduates. And he thanked both parents and teachers.

Mr. Koczera said that graduation was the perfect time to reflect and that he was grateful for the opportunity to learn about himself.

"It's okay to make mistakes," he told his classmates.

He said hard work and a positive attitude go a long way.

"Life is too short," he said, so do what you like and the rest will come naturally.

"Let's do them proud," he said of all the people before them. "You did it!"

Class Valedictorian Hannah Abrantes said their achievement was a "real milestone."

She joked about the things that only the class of 2015 could appreciate, the share experiences they had in the halls, the library, the cafeteria, and with certain teachers.

Mostly, she said they were a "community of people who look out for on another."



They have formed "invaluable friendships" with those who share the same passions in various clubs.

Ms. Abrantes said they got through many things together by helping each out and sticking by each other for support.

She said they were ready now to "take the next step," but wherever they go, they should be sure to tell everyone "about the Castle on the Hill."

Tell them about the rich history, and the library that was once a gym, the marble columns and tile ceilings and the long walk from the basement to the first floor (which got a good laugh out of her classmates), and all their achievements

But mostly, she said, make a point to stay connected. She said they have made an impact.

"We know what we have is special," said Ms. Abrantes. "Remember, the

Do right, be kind and
work hard and you will
end up where you belong
[Robert Baldwin]

new start of a new chapter is right now."

Go out of your "comfort zone," she told them, and "take what life throws at you with passion and compassion.

She received standing ovation from her classmates, with all the hoots and hollers that go with it.

Superintendent of Schools Robert Baldwin followed with a message that also focused on connectedness. He noted the connections of the generations: a former school committee chair, watching his granddaughter graduate, 35 years after giving Dr. Baldwin his diploma; the current chair of the school committee giving her daughter her diploma.

"The message in a town like this is that you are all connected," he said.

He told them that success is not an accident, that it is not luck, and that there was a common denominator with the adults in the room.

"Always do right, always being kind, and always work hard," said Dr.



ABOVE: Fairhaven Selectboard member Bob Espindola gives his daughter, Allison Espindola a big hugh as she reaches the stage to receive her diploma at Fairhaven High School's graduation ceremony on Sunday, 5/31/15. BELOW: A girls gestures to someone in the audience as she returns to her seat after receiving her diploma. Photos by Beth David.

Baldwin, tell them to just remember those three things, and that the show must go on.

He said they had learned that, literally, when Ryan Roderick hurt his knee during *Grease*, and Andrew Romano and Isaac Esposito stayed up all night learning lines and dances, and the show went on.

He listed the school's accomplishments, including honor rolls, drama club successes, the band competing at a national level and winning the coveted spirit award.

He said the festival told him about the band students: "I have never seen a group of students and chaperones behave and perform like those from Fairhaven. Their willingness to help out even when not asked, was truly amazing."

He touted the numbers from Acushnet, saying that more and more students were choosing Fairhaven High School. A pet peeve, that the media says it is because of the shortcomings of other places is "bunk," he said.

It is because of the success of FHS, not the failures of another place.

He said Acushnet students have added to the successes of FHS and, "we are very proud to be Acushnet's high school. We are thrilled to have you here."

"The tradition starts with us," he told them, adding that they have created "significant footprints" for excellence, have raised the bar, and created a norm for being kind and

GRAD: cont'd on next page

GRAD: cont'd from previous page

caring.”

Dr. Baldwin also reminded students that success is not measured by the things they own, by possessions.

“Success is looking in the mirror and liking what you see,” he said. “That is what success is. Do you like the person you see when you look in the mirror,” and can say “job well done.”

“Our collective wish for you is to know every mile will be worth your while,” said Dr. Baldwin. “Do right, be kind and work hard and you will end up where you belong.”

Principal Tara Quirk Kohler faced head-on the tragedy Meghan Sargent’s fatal car crash. She said Henry Huttleston Rogers had two inscriptions engraved outside the building: “Shoot for the stars,” and “Seize the day.”

At times having difficulty speaking, she said that Meghan was going to be a psychiatrist. Meghan was a good example of someone who planned for tomorrow, but lived for today.

Ms. Kohler said Meghan was kind, smart, talented, a girl who could light up a room, and liked to try new things.

Meg would want her classmates to feel good about their day, she said, and not dwell upon the sadness of her loss. She told students that Meghan wanted to make a difference in the world.

“I ask that you take a moment to reflect, here with mixed emotions,” said Ms. Kohler.

She told them that their actions have made a difference in this world, so they should continue to shoot for the stars and seize the moment.

Immediately after students received their diplomas, Meghan’s parents, Jeana and Norman Sargent, and her brother Michael, accepted her diploma and her band hat.

As part of the ceremony, students who won scholarships were recognized. The grand total for the class of 2015 was \$2,923,848, the largest of any class before them.

Outside, students and their adults lingered for photos.

Katie Leidhold said she was going to attend Franklin Pierce University in New Hampshire to become an orthodontist, on a volleyball scholarship.

“I can’t be prouder of my daughter,” said Kathy Leidhold. “She’s smart, determined, hard working and kind.”

Katie did an internship with Dr. Harellick’s office through the school to careers program, and that “sealed the deal,” her mother said. “It was a wonderful experience.”



The Golas twins, Stefan and Alec are both going to school for chemical engineering, but at different schools.

“I think I’m going to change the world,” said Stefan, who is going to attend UMass Dartmouth.

How exactly he is going to do that is, however, a plan he will “develop” along the way.

Alec will attend UMass Lowell and is thinking about a career in energy production.

Julia Days is planning to major in Business Management at UMass Dartmouth and hopes to start her own business one day, although she



ABOVE: A boy gets a quick handshake as he returns with his diploma at Fairhaven High School’s graduation on 5/31/15. MIDDLE: Class Valedictorian Hannah Abrantes addresses her classmates. BELOW LEFT: Class President Ross Perry announces the class gifts with the other class officers, the senior class advisors (right) and Principal Tara Quirk Kohler (left). Photos by Beth David.

is not sure what field that will be in.

Evan Grodzki is going to attend UMass Dartmouth for Criminal Justice and hopes to join the FBI one day.

“I’m extremely excited for the future,” said Mr. Grodzki, and said the tragedy of Meghan’s accident was a loss that affected the whole class.

“But it’s not going to hold us back,” he said. “I think we’re all going to go really far. You’re going to see a lot of names be really, really big. Look for incredible, big, interesting things from this class. It’s exciting, but it’s a little sad.”

Ryan Roderick, who hobbled along on crutches from hurting his knee, said he was planning to major in Criminal Justice at Bristol Community College. He said he wanted to work with kids, to “straighten them out” if they were straying down the wrong path.

“It’s so emotional,” said his mother, Debbie Roderick, adding that it was a tough year, with a lot of changes, but her son “pushed through the vortex of it all.”

She noted with pride that the *Grease* performance went off without a hitch even though he “blew out his knee” and couldn’t perform. He sang, though, and his friend lip-synched.

“It’s an amazing bunch of kids we’ve got,” said Ms. Roderick. “We’re very blessed. We’re very proud of them all. They stuck together, they worked hard, they picked each other up by the boots, and they make positives out of all the negatives.”



Fairhaven High School class of 2015

Hannah N. Abrantes
Valedictorian
Highest Honors
 Hope H. Allison
 Bailie M. Almeida
Honors
 Nicole M. Arruda
High Honors
 Noah J. Aurelio
Honors
 Seth G. Bettencourt
 Justin D. Borges
 Karin E. Borges
 Kenneth R. Borges
High Honors
 Kathryn F. Braley
Honors
 Theodore H. Brunette
 Kennedy S.J. Bryant
 Madison M. Bussiere
 Hailey A. Cabral
 Lucas T. Cabral
High Honors
 Rebecca L. Cabral
Honors
 Adam E. Cambra
 Paige E. Campbell
 Taylor M. Canastra
Honors
 Madeleine P. Cardoso
 Kacie L. Carvalho
High Honors
 Matthew R. Cashman
 Brandon T. Chan
High Honors
 Cameron T. Charette
Honors
 Eric R. Chew Jr
 Hana E. Coffey
 Luis A. Colon Jr.
 Julia M. Corey
Highest Honors
 Samantha H. Correia
Highest Honors
 Angel G. Cosme Ortiz
Honors
 Jacob R. Costa
Highest Honors
 Jordan S. Costa
Honors
 Karinna B. Costa
Honors
 Dylan C. Cromwell
High Honors
 Josie S. Cuoco
Honors
 Brandon M. Custodio
 Austin J. Daigle
 Samantha L. Daigneau
 Myles A. DaSilva
 Julia K. Days
Highest Honors
 Seth A. DeMello

Andrew L.-J. Dillon
 Casey Douglass
Highest Honors
 Nicholas M. Doyle
Honors
 Matthew B. Dubois
 Aryana daSilva
High Honors
 Joshua A. Eckenreiter
 Evan W. Edwards
 Benjamin L. Elliott
Highest Honors
 Allison R. Espindola
Highest Honors
 Isaac F. Esposito
 Mason C. Evich
 Trevor T. Faria
Highest Honors
 Jacob D. Fernandes
 Travis J. Ferreira
 Kristen E. Flynn
High Honors
 Monique B. Fournier
 Hudson T. Frye
 Grant G. Gadbois
High Honors
 Makenzie M. Gagne
 Thomas M. Gagne
 Grace A. Galinha
High Honors
 Katherine R. Gilmore
High Honors
 Dereck A. Goff
 Alec W. Golas
Honors
 Stefan M. Golas
High Honors
 Kyleigh E. Gonet
 Cory J. Goulet
 Evan S. Grodzki
Honors
 Jarred M. Guillotte
 Steven D. Hall
 Isaiah R. Hamel
 Lori M. Hannan
High Honors
 Theodore R. Hannan
Highest Honors
 Carson F. Harney
 Emily M. Hatstat
High Honors
 Liam C. Healy
Honors
 Mark R. Hebert
 Kylie S. Hutchings
 Justin T. Jacobsen
 Brianna K. Jones
Honors
 Anthony C. Joseph
High Honors
 Jessica L. Joseph
Honors

Ethan C. Kellaway
Honors
 Brandon R. Kelly
 Jonathan A. Knox
 Kyle N. Koczera
Salutatorian
Highest Honors
 Alison M. Kuechler
Highest Honors
 Cody C. LaBrecque
 Thomas J. Lafreniere
 Jeremy A. Lawton
 Robert J. Layport
 Katie A. Leidhold
Highest Honors
 Neil A. Leite
 Emily K. Lewis
Honors
 Allison M. Lima
Honors
 Michael J. Lygren
 Taryn E. MacGregor
 Valerie M. Malatino
Honors
 Mackensie R. Martin
High Honors
 Dennis J. McCarthy
 Ash-lee McElrath
 Madeline J. McLaughlin
Highest Honors
 Rachel A. McNamara
Honors
 Mollie A. Medearis
Honors
 Brianna L. Medeiros
 Cody S. Miller
High Honors
 Brandon M. Moniz
Honors
 Brittney A. Moniz
High Honors
 Kristopher M. Moore
Highest Honors
 Matthew R. Myers
Honors
 Kross L. Negalha
 Alexis H. Normandeau
 Hailey L. Oliveira
High Honors
 Justin P. Paradis
 Alicia A. Pearl
High Honors
 Jonathan Peccini
 Lauren M. Pedersen
Honors
 Morgan E. Pedersen
High Honors
 Ross T. Perry
 Austin J. Petit
Honors
 Robert M. Pike
Highest Honors
 Megan T. Pimentel

Christina J. Pinheiro
 Hannah K. Pothier
 Kelsey M. Potter
High Honors
 Jared V. Przybyszewski
 Marisa G. Rebelo
Highest Honors
 Christopher P. Rego
 Brittany A. Remick
 Darian D. Resendes
 Faith A. Richard
Honors
 Shae A. Riley
Honors
 Jason W. Rivera
 Emma E. Rocha
Highest Honors
 Macy O. Roderick
Highest Honors
 Ryan E. Roderick
 Christian D. Rodrigues
Honors
 Andrew S. Romano
Honors
 Andrew R. Rose
 Hailey E. Roy
High Honors
 Ryker C. Santos
 Meghan A. Sargent
Honors
 Kylie M. Schuster
Honors
 Meaghan E. Shanks
High Honors
 Jonathan C. Smith
 Morgan J. Smith
Honors
 Ethan J. Souza
 Tiffanie L. Souza
 Morgan B. Stevenson
 Frankie A. Sylvia
Honors
 Matthew J. Sylvia
High Honors
 Dayna L. Taber
 Raquel V. Tavares
High Honors
 Alexis M. Terra
 Kendall N. Trahan
High Honors
 Nathaniel M. Turgeon
 Jacob E. Vadeboncoeur
 Brandon R. Vincent
High Honors
 Kristy L. Walton
High Honors
 Nicole A. Watson
 Jade M. Winterson
 Samantha J. Wunschel
High Honors
 Angela R. Xifaras



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Pool, 7-10

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Meat Raffle,
7:30-9:30

Every Sun.:
Bar Bingo/
prizes, 6-8



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Acushnet Town Meeting breezes through all articles

By Beth David
Editor

With little discussion and not a single “no” vote, Acushnet Town Meeting wrapped up 29 spending and other articles on the annual and special town meeting warrants in about 90 minutes on Monday, 6/1

The town’s operating budget, totalling \$28,569,644, passed with no discussion, including \$13,489,953 for the School Department.

Other spending articles totalled approximately \$729,643 between the annual TM and the Special TM.

Selectboard member David Wojnar started the annual TM by saying that the budget presented “is fully funded and addresses the needs of the community.”

Town Moderator Bob Francis asked Mr. Wojnar to verify that no money was coming out of the stabilization fund to balance the budget.

Mr. Francis then thanked the Finance Committee, saying it was the first time in years that had happened.

“It was very hard,” said FinCom chairperson Robert St. Jean.

“But you did it,” said Mr. Francis.

A few spending articles did generate some discussion, although they all passed

in the end.

Joe Costa questioned the need, in Article #9 of the STM, for a new Ford Escape SUV for the Board of Health for \$23,110. He said there were always lots of vehicles around in other departments.

Selectboard member David Wojnar explained that the new SUV was actually a “scaled down version” of what the BOH already had. The larger vehicle will go to the public works department.

There was some confusion when Mr. Joseph, from the floor, questioned the need to spend all the certified free cash. He asked for a count of what they had to begin with, what had been spent so far and what would be left after all was said and done.

After some paper shuffling from the big stage, the consensus was that the town started with \$993,960 in free cash for articles (besides the operating budget) and would have \$916,675 left if all articles passed as recommended. However, those numbers do not work out after the math is done.

Even without the SUV, the free cash spending from articles comes to \$74,851.

With all articles passing that used free cash and totalling \$272,043, the remainder

in certified free cash should equal \$721,917. It is unclear how officials came up with the larger number.

Town Clerk Pam Labonte said that she was reviewing the tape at press time and could not be sure how the numbers were calculated.

Most of the night’s discussions involved Community Preservation Act funds. Voters approved \$10,000 in CPA funds for the historic Emergency Management Building/former Civil Defense Building. The money will be used for insulation and sheetrock, and electrical system upgrades to make the building more efficient. The article passed with no opposition and no discussion.

Not so the article on the Perry Hill Church.

Community Preservation Committee chairperson Kevin Dakin explained that the state had cut the percentage it matched on CPA funds.

“It’s still our tax money,” said Stephen Turpel. “It’s not a free bucket. We should tighten up and stop buying these white elephants.”

Mr. Dakin said the match used to be higher, he was hoping for 30-35% this year.

ACUSH: cont’d on page 26



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SELECT: cont'd from page 4

chairs to make sure people are eligible to vote and to make sure there is a quorum.

In his report, Selectboard Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch told the board that there is a hold-up with implementation of the Good Energy contract, which aggregates customers from about a dozen municipalities to save residents money on electric costs. Mr. Osuch said state officials, who must approve the deal, have "strong concerns" with the procedure followed in regard to public hearings. The deal is on hold for now.

Board members also made it a point at the beginning of the meeting to express condolences to the families of Meghan Sargent and Brooklyn Cody Rodrigues, who were killed when the car they were riding in crashed in Mattapoisett. They were both Fairhaven residents and Meghan was set to graduate from Fairhaven High School this Sunday (see page 24).

In other business, the board:

- Tabled an item allowing remote participation by board members, after Mr. Osuch noted that it would have to apply to all boards and, "people are [going to] take advantage of it."
- Chose firms to interview for conducting a search for the new Town Administrator position.

Fairhaven Meetings

Conservation Commission

Mon., 6/15, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Council on Aging

Mon., 6/8, Senior Ctr., 9:30 a.m.

Dog Park Committee

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

Government Study Comm.

Thurs., 5/28, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Marine Resources Comm.

Wed., 6/10, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Planning Board

Tues., 6/9, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 6/10, FHS Library, 6:30 p.m.

Selectboard

Tues., 6/9, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Tree Hearing

Wed., 6/10, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Tree on Bridge Street

Acushnet Meetings

Conservation Commission

Wed., 6/10, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Planning Commission

Thurs., 6/11, Parting Ways Bld., 6:30

Selectboard

Mon., 6/22, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	May 2015	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.	LOW a.m.	LOW p.m.
Thursday	4	0959	2218	0309*	1513*
Friday	5	1047	2306	0354*	1602*
Saturday	6	1137	2358	0438*	1650*
Sunday	7	----	1233	0523*	1741
Monday	8	0056	1332	0615*	1844
Tuesday	9	0154	1429	0720*	2003
Wednesday	10	0251	1525	0828	2118
Thursday	11	0350	1627	0930	2245
Friday	12	0455	1730	1034	----
Saturday	13	0557	1824	0017	----
		----	----	1141	----
Sunday	14	0648	1912	0113	1234
Monday	15	0735	1957	0209	1318
Tuesday	16	0822	2042	0306	1401
Wednesday	17	0909	2129	0347	1447
Thursday	18	0956	2214	0404	1528

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



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Jr. Police Academy meets four-legged partners

By Beth David
Editor

Members of the Juvenile Police Academy got to see and hear how a four-legged partner can help with an investigation and subduing "bad guys."

James Creed and Dennis Desroches, both K-9 Officers with the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department, demonstrated how their dogs helped officers in the field on 5/21 at the Fairhaven police department.

In Fairhaven, the Jr. Academy is at both Hastings Middle School and Fairhaven High School. The class is 36 hours and includes lessons in criminal law, constitutional law, defense tactics CPR, and use of force. at the end, students go on a four-hour ride-along with officers in the field.

Fairhaven police officer Scott Gordon said the program is designed to bring the community together.

"This helps bridge the gap," he said.

Off. Desroches told the students about the various dogs he has had over the years. He said they use a

"food reward system" to train the dogs for a variety of jobs. Dogs can sniff out drugs and people, can help track "bad guys," and can help with crowd control.

Dogs have 220 million olfactory receptors, compared to a human's 5 million.

Off. Desroches explained that dogs smell every individual odor when confronted with any situation, such as the mushrooms and the cheese and the bread. Whereas humans just smell pizza.

"It's unbelievable, their sense of smell," he said.

Off. Creed and Off. Desroches exchanged some tails about their jobs, chasing people in the night, and traveling around the area to go wherever the dogs are needed, getting stuck in the mud, crossing rivers, crashing through the woods where there are no trails.

The two officers explained some details about how to handle a crime scene when a dog would be used, such as informing officers where the searchers left off so the dogs are not chasing the good guy's scent instead of the bad guy's scent.

The best dogs come from Germany, said the pair, but they are using a rescue from a shelter, and she seems to be working out fine.

Dogs with long snouts are best. German Shepherds are preferred for chasing and subduing bad guys. Smaller dogs are find for sniffing out drugs. Dogs with short snouts tire too easily. Intelligence is important, too, and poodles come up high on that scale, but...

"Would you mind if a poodle was biting at your ankle," asked Off. Desroches.

The officers explained how the dogs respond to the officers.

"The dogs is just as jacked up as we are," said Off. Creed.

He said they used the same dog to find a criminal as they use to find a child, but the actions of the officer make the dog be calm it finds a child.

The dogs gave



ABOVE: Trixie, a German Shepherd with the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department, flies through the air while holding her bite on the arm of K-9 Officer James Creed during a demonstration on 5/21 at the Fairhaven Police Department as part of the Juvenile Police Academy course. BELOW: Boing holds her nose to the left pocket of Fairhaven police officer Scott Gordon, to show that she sniffed some drugs, while Off. Creed gets ready to give her a treat. Photos by Beth David.



two demonstrations, one to find drugs that had been planted on Officer Gordon, and one to show how the dogs attack, bite and hold.

The drug dog Boing put her nose on Off. Gordon's pocket and left it there until she got her treat.

Trixie, the German Shepherd, strained to run at Off. Creed, and grabbed onto his protected arm and did not let go, even flying through the air as she held on with her teeth.

Off. Desroches explained that Trixie goes home with him, but does not stay in the house, except on the coldest days. He explained that she may be asked to do something on the job, that she can't do in the house, such as jumping on countertops.

Off. Desroches warned that they should not judge a dog by its looks, either. The tail may be wagging, but the dog will still attack.

They love their jobs, so they wag their tails. The officers love their jobs, too.

Off. Desroches said it took nine tries and 14 years for him to get the coveted spot on the K-9 unit.

"It's an incredible job," said Off. Desroches. "I'm so blessed to have my life. I love my job."

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Vigil brings together friends with memories, stories

By Beth David

Editor

Friends and family gathered in the back parking lot of The Hollywood Scoop in Mattapoisett to share memories and support each other in the wake of the tragic death of Meghan Sargent, 18, and Brooklyn Cody Rodrigues, 21. The two were killed when the car they were riding in hit a tree on Route 6 in Mattapoisett.

Meghan was set to graduate from Fairhaven High School on Sunday. Brooklyn was her prom date and best friend. They were remembered as a couple and individually as fun-loving, adventurous and smart. But they were also very funny and able to laugh at themselves.

Stories about glow sticks on a ghost tour, 10-pound bags of Gummy Bears for band trips, cooking the cat in the toy oven ("cooking with Pepper"), icicles on the clarinet, a frozen trombone, and jealousy over Meghan's extensive knowledge of all the cheer words, brought laughter and tears to the surface.

"The world has had a loss," said Meghan's mother Jeana Sargent. "It's just not going to be the same place without her."

She said she was trying to be positive and just remember Meghan.

"Remember how great her smile was, how smart, and how driven, and the forethought she gave to the things she did. Those are the things I will think of," said Ms. Sargent.

Brooklyn's father David Rutherford spoke very briefly, simply to thank everyone for being there and asking them to "remember them." Brooklyn's mother Cindy Rutherford was at the vigil, but did not speak.

Ms. Sargent told the students gathered there to remember Meghan

as smart, happy, positive, driven, "a beautiful person."

She and Meghan's father, Norman Sargent, told the students not to let the tragedy ruin their graduation. He said it was their weekend and they should enjoy it and be proud of their achievements.

"Don't let a tragedy put a cloud on your time this weekend," he said.

They asked students to remember Meghan as they go through the firsts of their college lives: The first frat party, the first look at campus, all the first adventures.

"Remember my daughter," said Ms. Sargent.

During the vigil, several of Meghan's classmates and bandmates laughed at remembering her laugh, which usually ended in a little snort, and that would make them all laugh harder.

"We laughed more at the snort than at the actual joke," said one.

Audrey Simmons recalled watching movies and eating sundaes with both Meghan and Brooklyn.

She told the story of last July 4, when she and another friend, along with Meghan and Brooklyn, were trying to find the fireworks in Lakeville. They ended up driving around inside the Freetown State Forest and missing the whole show. They had to call 911 to get out, and when they did, realized that they were one turn away from where they wanted to go.

"We must've seemed like idiots [to the police]," said Ms. Simmons, laughing.

She said Brooklyn was "very talkative, and would always say what was on his mind."

"He was very excitable. He was always excited about whatever he was doing," she said.

One young man said he was in awe of their relationship, and that it was



ABOVE: Audrey Simmons (second from right) gets a laugh from those around her as she tells a funny story at a vigil held in honor of Fairhaven High School Senior Meghan Sargent, 18, and Brooklyn Cody Rodrigues, 21, who were killed when their car hit a tree on Route 6 in Mattapoisett on Memorial Day, 5/25, at around 10:30 p.m. BELOW: Meghan's mother Jeana Sargent tells a funny story about her daughter at the vigil held on Friday, 5/29, at The Hollywood Scoop, where Brooklyn worked. Photos by Beth David.

rare to see couples that happy.

"Knowing they left together makes me feel a little better," he said. "They were happy to the end."

One young man said he knew what it was like "not to feel comfortable in your own skin," and that he knew Brooklyn was about to transition.

Brooklyn was originally named "Bria" and was raised female, but he changed his name and was planning to have sex reassignment surgery. He was very open about his identity and his decision to transition.

One woman, who went to middle school with Brooklyn when she was still called Bria, said that they had many inside jokes together. Somehow, Bria managed to write them all in one paragraph in a yearbook.

"Good bye is forever, but 'bye' is for now, so 'bye,'" wrote Bria.

Brooklyn's boss at the Hollywood Scoop, Lori Truehart, said that he was a high energy, positive person.

"He was just so fun," she said. "He said 'bye, see you tomorrow.' But tomorrow never came."

Mr. Sargent said the important thing is to remember the two wonderful young people who died too soon.

"They were best friends, they did everything together. They made each other smile, and now it's gone," he said. "It should be about that. They made each other smile and that's what matters."

The Hollywood Scoop is holding a fundraiser this Sunday. See page 7.



Meghan Sargent laid to rest at Riverside Cemetery

By Beth David
Editor

A full St. Joseph's Church in Fairhaven greeted the family of Meghan Sargent, who was killed in a car crash on Memorial Day, 5/25. The 18-year-old would have graduated from Fairhaven High School this Sunday. Mourners included many high school students, her bandmates, faculty members and Fairhaven elected officials.

Fr. Bob Charlton started by telling those gathered that he once knew a devout altar boy who prayed very hard for his grandmother to get well. When she died, he never went to church again. Fr. Charlton said that it was easy to lose faith when something tragic happens.

He said it is easy to blame God for bad things. But God is very close, said Fr. Charlton, even if we do not see it.

"We are not his marionettes, we are not puppets," said Fr. Charlton. "He doesn't intervene in every aspect of our lives."

He said that God cares, and that His heart is broken at the tragedy, too.

"It's okay to want to scream at Him," he said, and told the story of his mother's anger when Fr. Charlton's brother died.

He reminded them of the story of Lazarus, and said it is natural for people to wonder, that if God has the power over life and death, then, "why not for us?"

He explained that in Jesus' day, a widow who lost her only son could lose all her possessions to her in-laws, and would not be okay.

"How many are married," he asked, followed by how many get along perfectly with your in-laws.

"You must be sitting with them," he said, and chided them that a lie is a sin and a sin in church is three times worse, getting a bit of a chuckle out of the congregation.

He said his point was that Jesus wanted to make sure that Lazarus' mother would be okay, that's why He gave her son back to her.

"God doesn't take someone without being sure we're going to be okay," said Fr. Charlton. "It's not a crap shoot. God is not shooting dice with us. He's not playing fast and loose with our feelings or our futures."

So if Meghan is gone, he said, it is not by chance. God cares, a lot.

"I would push it as far as to say God has cried your tears today," said Fr. Charlton.

He also referred to the Ecclesiastes 3, a time for everything, including a time to die and a time to weep.

"It does not say God is the cause," said Fr. Charlton. "He doesn't intervene as time unfolds, as we live our lives."

"And we will be all right," he said.

"If you grew up with no God, or if you grew up with God as a fierce judge and you had to measure up, it's baloney," said Fr. Charlton. "God loves you to death. I do not want the



ABOVE: Students, faculty and staff at Fairhaven High School stand outside in the pouring rain as the funeral procession for FHS student Meghan Sargent passes by on Tuesday, 6/2. Meghan was killed in a car crash on Memorial Day. BELOW: Members of the Iron Order Motorcycle Club carry Meghan's casket out of St. Joseph's Church in Fairhaven. Photos by Beth David.

emptiness of death. I don't believe it. I believe God loves us to death."

"That is where Meghan is," said Fr. Charlton. "And that is what we want, too, to be with God forever."

He said he went to a Catholic school when he was young and the nuns told him that when he died he would understand everything.

"It didn't satisfy me then and it doesn't satisfy me now," said Fr. Charlton.

He said that no one truly can understand another person, no matter how close they are.

"Our deepest hope and desire is to have someone really know us and love us anyway. We can't have that unless we leave our bodies behind," he said. "Meghan has that. I don't begrudge her, I love her, too. So as we pray for her, we also want to pray very much for ourselves."

So like the woman in the gospel, we will be okay, he said.

Meghan's brother Michael read a prayer during the services.

"You are the God of all comfort," read Michael. "We trust you to see the way in time."

After the church service, mourners went to Riverside Cemetery for a service that included songs by the Fairhaven High School band and a delegation from the New Bedford High School Band.

The motorcade passed by Fairhaven High School where the entire student body, faculty and staff stood out in the pouring rain.

Members of the Iron Order Motorcycle Club led the motorcade and carried the casket.



From our readers

Thanks from Bikeway Committee

On behalf of the Fairhaven Bikeway Committee I want to thank Gail Isaksen and her staff for putting on a spaghetti dinner to raise funds for the Fairhaven Bikeway Committee. All the food and staff were donated by Gail Isaksen which resulted in the raising of over 800 dollars.

The Fairhaven Bikeway Committee is looking to use some of these funds for a beautification project with plantings on the [bike] path.

*Kenneth Pottel, Chairman
Fairhaven Bike Way Committee*

TA search should go beyond familiar faces

Executive Secretary Jeff Osuch's 28 year tenure will end very shortly, and it is a testament to his professionalism in handling the job that had he wished to extend his tenure, it would have been readily granted. But he has expressed the desire to move on, and I thank him for his service to Fairhaven.

I would like to commend the Board of Selectmen for beginning the process to hire a professional search firm to be engaged to find the best candidates from which to choose our new Town Administrator. Yet it is disheartening to hear that already a couple of past and present members of Fairhaven town boards and committees are considering advancing their names as candidates for the position.

Up front I will state that all things being equal I could gladly endorse an experienced, qualified candidate from an elected or appointed town board or committee, but in my opinion service to the town in these areas does not make someone a qualified candidate. Why do I say this?

I have previously served on the Fairhaven Finance Committee for over 10 years, and have had colleagues and friends who served multiple terms on the Board of Selectmen. We have discussed this very question to determine if our service sufficiently qualified us as candidates for the Town Administrator's position. None of us felt our service had gained us the necessary experience to qualify for this important position.

This critical position demands specific qualifications in education,

background and experience that should not be overlooked in favor of local influence or political relationships.

As many others have pointed out, Fairhaven is facing challenging times ahead, requiring wise, dispassionate decisions in the town's best interest. Mr. Osuch's performance has always been with one and only one constituency in mind, Fairhaven! And so must his successor. He or she must be beholden to no special interest group if Fairhaven's best interests are to be served.

The challenging times ahead require experience, knowledge of best practices in addressing common town issues, and the ability to motivate, manage and lead a team of more than a dozen department heads.

Fairhaven needs a Town Administrator who is capable of creating a positive and dynamic culture within Town Hall. This position requires the ability to listen to and consider multiple opinions other than one's own, and reach consensus rather than imposing one's own solutions.

Moreover, the position requires that he or she subordinate their opinion however strongly felt to the wishes of Town Meeting and Board of Selectmen where necessary and appropriate.

Fairhaven's debt ratings are under current watch for downgrade by Moody's, and taxes keep rising by the maximum allowed under Proposition 2 1/2. Is this really the time to choose a Town Administrator who has never managed a town? Is this really the time to hire a candidate whose best qualifications are that he or she is a longstanding member of a Fairhaven Town Board or Committee? The questions answers themselves.

I respectfully urge the Board of Selectmen to expedite the process of hiring a professional search firm to identify the best possible candidates, in order to begin the interview process, select the best possible candidate, and insure a smooth transition from Mr. Osuch to the new hire with minimal disruption.

Mark Badwey, Fairhaven

EPA misrepresents

The EPA is deliberately and knowingly misrepresenting their actions in the Fairhaven Harbor. The PCB dumps they are building in

Fairhaven Harbor will be there FOREVER. The toxic contents can be spread throughout the harbor AGAIN, by countless natural and human activities.

Their representative, Kelsey O'Neil in her "explanatory" letter to FNN, has obfuscated the EPAs use of and reliance on the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) #11669 of Oct 2003 as the legal basis of their plan to construct their PCB dumps in the Fairhaven Harbor. EPA terms these PCB Dumps, the "LHCC" (Lower Harbor CAD Cells).

EPA's O'Neill is using jargon to bewilder the public. She refers to the "DEIR". This document was the "DRAFT Environmental Impact Report" (DEIR), which was preliminary to and not the officially recognized report that has allowed the LHCC In the Dredge Material Management Plan (DMMP) to move forward. She should not be allowed to get away with this misrepresentation, and her inaccurate assertions.

The FEIR #11669 hid the fact that the PCB Dumps built in Fairhaven Harbor were going to be built adjacent to Fairhaven High School and the Oxford Village Area. The substitution of "Marsh Island" for "Oxford Village" was systematic and complete. The project manager for the EPA PCB Dump (David Lederer) used these same fraudulently constructed maps when he presented his 1 March 2012 PPT to the general public to explain where the LHCC was to be located. His report again labeled Oxford Village as "Marsh Island." The public comment period for this project was a travesty of misrepresentation.

Since the EPA representatives have been aware of the misrepresentation in the FEIR since they began to utilize the document, and since they are now fully aware of this misrepresentation, they are no longer guilty of negligence, but a far more serious offense. Many would call it deliberate Fraud, an activity for which they should be promptly and criminally indicted.

Paul Spooner, Fairhaven

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ACUSH: cont'd from page 20

"Ideally, we'd like 50%," said Mr. Dakin. "But 30 cents on the dollar is better than nothing."

Joyce Reynolds, who is on the CPC and the Historical Commission, told TM that the improvements would make it possible to use the building for revenue generating events. She said they had already received inquiries about using the site for weddings and concerts.

Leslie Dakin started on a history lesson of the building, but got pulled back to the question: how close to completion would the building be after these improvements?

He said it would be 98% complete.

The building does not have heat, but the plan is to install an antique wood stove.

Robert Rocha asked to clarify that the money is going to be collected and set aside for CPA uses.

"So whether you spend it or not, it's in the account," he said.

The article passed with some opposition, allocating \$50,000 from the undesignated/budgeted reserves, and \$10,000 from historic resources.

Another CPC article, #14, also had some opposition. The article appropriated \$112,000 in CPA funds for upgrades to the ball fields at Pope Park.

Norma York wanted to know why Acushnet should bear the cost of the repairs when the fields are also used by

Fairhaven.

She said Fairhaven should help pay for it, and got quite the rise out of the room when she declared that, "Baseball is a dying sport."

Town Clerk Pamela Labonte explained that the league is called the Fairhaven-Acushnet Little League and Acushnet also uses Fairhaven's fields.

The article passed.

Voters also approved \$28,486.27 to the Solar Capital Revenue Fund. Cynda Williams made sure the board clarified that any specific project would still have to be voted on by Town Meeting.

TM also voted to accept the new flood plain maps required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), after some discussion about what the new maps actually meant.

Officials said the changes were minor and "insignificant."

Town Planner Henry Young told town meeting that FEMA prepares the maps and the town has to accept them.

Responding to questions about flood insurance premiums going up, Selectboard member Kevin Gaspar, Sr., said, "If you weren't impacted by flood [insurance] before, you will not be impacted now."

The article passed with the required 2/3 vote for a bylaws change.

Town Meeting also approved changes in the bylaws, Zoning Article VIII, described as "administrative edits, additions and clarifications to improve use and enforcement."

Selectboard member Garry Rawcliffe explained that the changes were just for "cleaning up" the text. He said they were printing a new book and, "want it to be right before we print it."

In other articles voters

• Approved \$100,000 from the



ABOVE, L-R: Cynda Williams and Leslie Dakin, Sr., are at the podium together as they discuss an article at Acushnet's Town Meeting on Monday, 6/1. BELOW, L-R: Community Preservation Committee member Kevin Dakin listens as Stephen Turpel questions the need to buy "white elephants in town." Photos by Beth David.

Community Preservation Fund to acquire the White Woods;

- Approved \$271,648 in snow removal funds for last year, FY15, with \$100,000 from overlay surplus and \$171,648 from free cash;
- Approved \$5,366 for radio pagers for the Fire Department;
- Approved \$50,000 for a radio receiver designed to monitor fire alarm systems in the dispatch area of the new police station;
- Approved \$20,485 for a fuel pump system at the Department of Public Works garage;
- Approved, in the only close vote of the night, \$5,300 for Assesspro GIS in the Assessor's office;
- Approved, with some opposition, \$1,500 for a fax machine and dedicated phone line for the Assessor's office;
- Approved \$65,000 from the Golf Contingency Fund to offset a revenue shortfall for FY15;

Town Meeting tabled Article 13, for improvements to Lake Street, because the town needs an agreement with the City of New Bedford, which owns the water as part of their municipal water supply.



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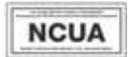


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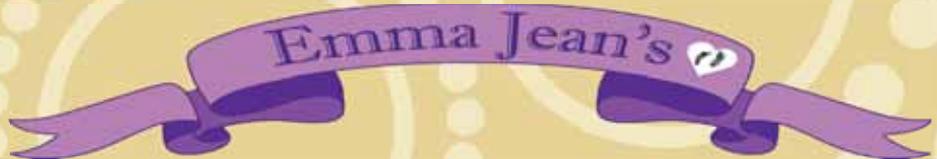
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