



# 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 48 • December 17, 2015

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

## Old Time Holiday fills Fairhaven center with the spirit of the season

Fairhaven's town hall was transformed into a marketplace for nonprofits on Saturday, 12/12, during the town's annual Old Time Holiday celebration. Other venues in the center also held events, drawing huge crowds and creating a festive spirit while the bells of the Unitarian Memorial Church rang out Christmas carols. See page 16 for story.  
*Photo by Beth David.*



### Also Inside:

- **Rees is new TA:** Page 18
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- **Happenings:** Pages, 3, 5, 6, 7
- **Truck Crashes into Valero:** Page 24



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# From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —  
A day late and many dollars short.

One of these years I'll get my act together enough to do one of those end-of-year, reflect-back-on-our-stories stories. Right now, I'm just glad to be done before midnight.

It's actually still today!

This is our last issue of the year.

It's hard to believe that it's been 10 years (and 30 pounds) since I started this venture. Dare I look back at all my editor's page pictures? Nah!

Fairhaven has chosen a Town Administrator (see page 18). The town has now officially embarked upon its new phase of government. The challenges never end, but Mark Rees sounds like he's looking forward to them. He's done this before, so he knows some of the pitfalls of switching over to this type of government model.

Of course, those towns weren't Fairhaven, right? Umm...let's see... he hasn't actually signed a contract yet, so, er...maybe I should be careful, huh? Don't want to scare him away. Although, he doesn't look like he scares too easily.

In any case, my faithful readers, let's not try too hard to knock him off his little cloud too soon, okay? Give him a few days to figure out how to pronounce Sciticut (or...Fairhaven for that matter), and to know the difference between Marsh Island and West Island; to learn that when we say "the Shipyard," we each mean a different one, and when we brag about our seafood, well, we've got good reason to.

One thing I will bet on, Mr. Rees: You won't miss that Portland seafood. We've got the best stuff right here in our little burg. As I recall, Mainers have red clam chowder, like they're from New York or something. Don't worry, we'll cure you of that, and it won't take long, either. On another note...

Christmas is right around the corner. I know that most of us around here celebrate Christmas, but some of us celebrate other holidays this time of year. I want all of us to have a wonderful holiday season, no matter what holiday we celebrate.

Enjoy the lights around town and surrounding communities. The one on Gellette Road is as spectacular as ever, they tell me. I haven't had a chance to see it myself yet, but I will. And be careful near that one on Route 6. Don't stop on that crazy road.

And, in your travels, try to remember those who need a little help. A few places are still accepting toys (see page 5), and the food pantry is always looking for donations.

Until next week then...Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and Happy Holidays to you and yours.

May the New Year bring us all good health, prosperity, and a relatively sane president.

YEAR TEN: Completed.



Beth David, Publisher  
(with...you know who)

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

## Upcoming events

The *Neighb News* is not publishing on 12/24 & 12/31 for our winter break. We are listing some events into January to keep you busy until we come back. We will resume

publishing on 1/7/16. Happy holidays to all our readers, and may the new year bring us all good health, renewed prosperity, and a relatively sane president.

### Polar plunge

The theme for this year's annual Ft. Phoenix Polar Plunge is, Hawaiian Luau. Put on your grass skirt, have fun, be a plunger or a spectator!

Come start off the new year with a dash into the ocean! Challenge your family and friends to come out and plunge in remembrance of the victims of domestic violence. A donation of \$25 buys a long sleeve T-shirt. Shirts will be available on a first come, first served basis. You can choose whether or not you jump in. Registration and t-shirts can be purchased at the Plunge from 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Checks can be made payable to: Fairhaven Dollars for Scholars. Please note on check: Ft. Phoenix Polar Plunge.

**Fri., 1/1/16 at 10 a.m. SHARP, at DCR's Ft. Phoenix State Beach Reservation.** Net proceeds benefit scholarships in memory of Fairhaven's domestic violence victims. Part of the Dollars for Scholars/Scholarship America Program (charity navigator 4-star charity rating).

The Plunge is a free event. For your safety, we are requiring that you register for the plunge. You can register the day of the Plunge from 9-9:45 a.m.

Checks can be made payable to Dollars for Scholars. Please note on

check: Ft. Phoenix Polar Plunge. Donations of \$25 or more will receive a long sleeve T-shirt while supplies last. Limited number available. Shirts will be available on a first come/ first served basis. Shirts may be purchased at the Plunge

Be sure to bring towels, blankets and warm clothes to change into after the plunge. We highly recommend water shoes or old sneakers to protect your feet from rocks and cold. There are some unavoidable rocks in the area so be careful!

We will provide changing tents, Port-a-Johns, warming fire, and refreshments. Email Kathy at [lopeska@aol.com](mailto:lopeska@aol.com) for more info.

### Whale Park Winter Hours

New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park has announced winter hours of operation for its visitor center. The park visitor center will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday from January through March, 2016. The center will be closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, as well as on New Year's Day. The park visitor center is located at 33 William Street in downtown New Bedford.

During the winter, the park will

continue to offer a free orientation film about New Bedford's whaling history on the hour from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., a free story hour, Whales, Tales & Sails, on Friday mornings at 10:00 a.m. for pre-schoolers, and special films on AHA! nights (2nd Thursday in February and March). The park also hosts the Dock-U-Mentaries film series on the third Friday of each month in partnership with the Working Waterfront Festival and the Fishermen's Heritage Center.

New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park was established by Congress in 1996 to help preserve and interpret America's nineteenth century whaling industry. The park, which encompasses a 13-block National Historic Landmark District, is the only National Park Service area addressing the history of the whaling industry and its influence on the economic, social, and environmental history of the United States.

The visitor center is wheelchair-accessible, and is free of charge. For more information, call the visitor center at 508-996-4095, visit [www.nps.gov/nebe](http://www.nps.gov/nebe) or visit the park's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/NBWNHP>. Everyone finds their park in a different way. Discover yours at [FindYourPark.com](http://FindYourPark.com)

SEE PAGES 5, 6 & 7 FOR MORE EVENTS

## One arrested after months-long investigation

### Press Release

Fairhaven Police Detectives, working with investigators from the Bristol County Sheriff's Department South Coast Anti Crime Team, executed a search warrant at the second floor apartment of 30 Ashland Place in New Bedford just before 11 a.m. Tuesday morning, 12/15. The search came after an investigation that spanned several months.

During the search, investigators seized over 57 grams of heroin, a small amount of cocaine and over \$2400 in cash.

Fairhaven Detectives arrested 52-year-old Douglas Pickup without incident. Pickup was charged with trafficking heroin and possession of a class B substance, subsequent offense.

Trafficking heroin in amounts 36 grams or more, but less than 100 grams carries a jail sentence of no

less than 5 years. New Bedford Police Detectives provided assistance during the search.



LEFT: Douglas Pickup, 52, of New Bedford was arrested and charged with trafficking heroin and possession of a class B substance, subsequent offense. RIGHT: drugs and money confiscated during the search of 30 Ashland Place, New Bedford, by Fairhaven a New Bedford police, and the Bristol County Sheriff's Department Douth Coast Anti-Crim Team. *Police photos submitted.*

# *Jackson's Variety*

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# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## Toy Drive

Swing by the Bayside Lounge, 125 Sconticut Neck Road, Fairhaven, on **Fri., 12/18, from 6-9 p.m.**, with a new, unwrapped toy for children at two local charities. Eat dinner during that time and the Bayside will donate 10% of your check to the Kennedy-Donovan Center and Better Community Living Special Kids Program. For more info, call Heidi at 508-971-1699

## Toys Still Accepted

The Fairhaven Police Department will be partnering with Safezones.org to sponsor the 5th Annual Safe Zones Fill the Bus Toy Drive. You may drop off a new, unwrapped toys at the Fairhaven Police Department 146 Washington St., **until Christmas Eve.**

We are asking for toys for children of all ages to brighten the Christmas holiday for less fortunate children in our community. All contributions are welcome and will be greatly appreciated. The members of the Fairhaven Police Department and the Volunteers at Safezones.org would like to wish everyone a very happy and healthy holiday season and extend our best wishes for a wonderful New Year.

## POMC Vigil

Holiday candlelight vigil for non-violence and to honor those who have died by violence. **Sun., 12/20, 4 p.m., at Unitarian Memorial Church, 102 Green St., Fairhaven.** By the SE Mass. Chapter of Parents of Murdered Children, for family and friends who have suffered a loss from a violent death.

Bring a picture of your loved one to be hung on our memorial tree. Refreshments will follow. Visit [www.POMC.org](http://www.POMC.org)

## Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are urgently needed to provide a unique, essential service, a lifeline for many low income seniors. The **Money Management Program** was developed to assist low-income elders who have difficulty writing checks, balancing their checkbooks and managing their money. Some of these elders may be homebound, visually impaired, confused, and without family nearby to help.

The program is managed by

Coastline, a private, non-profit agency, with the purpose being to provide assistance to elders who might be at risk of losing their independence due to their inability to pay basic rent, food, and utility bills on time. This service only requires a couple of hours per month of your time.

Please call Linda Aguiar for more information at 508 742-9113 or email [laguiar@coastlinenb.org](mailto:laguiar@coastlinenb.org).

## Christmas Services

The First Congregational Church of Fairhaven at 34 Center Street invites you to worship with us during this Christmas season. Everyone is welcome!

### Christmas Sunday

#### Intergenerational Service

**Sun., 12/20, 10:00 a.m.** On this Sunday before Christmas, join us for an uplifting service of word and song. While scripture doesn't mention any animals in the stable on the night Jesus was born, we can only imagine that there were some critters in attendance. We will tell the old, old story of Jesus' birth in an interactive way that looks at the event from the animals' perspective. Come along and take part, bring a friend and be prepared to have your spirit infused with the wonder and promise of Christmas!

### Longest Night/

#### Blue Christmas Service

**Sun., 12/20, 7:00 p.m.** Christmas can be a bittersweet time of year. While all the media tout the joy of the season and decorations glow on dark nights, many of us feel an ache in our hearts during this season. What sometimes can help is the time and space to just "be" with whatever it is we are dealing with; to feel the feelings but to know that we are not alone. An awareness and reminder of God's presence and God's hope can help us make our way through the holiday season. So we invite you to join us for this meditative service where we will hear scripture, pray for healing and wholeness, listen to music and light candles to brighten the night. Everyone is welcome.

### Christmas Eve Service for Families with Young Children

(all ages are welcome, too!). **Thurs., 12/24, 4:30-5:30 p.m.** A service planned with our littlest ones in mind. Perhaps your children are

too wiggly to sit through a traditional service or maybe your family has other plans for later in the evening. Or it might be that you want an early evening at home, in your pj's, sitting around the tree and warmed by a crackling fire. Whatever the reason, consider joining us for this brief, low-key, interactive service. We will sing some simple carols to pre-recorded music, listen to the holy story with children taking part if they wish, say our prayers and sing Silent Night while holding our glow sticks. It's great for families with young children but all ages, with or without children, are welcome.

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**Thurs., 12/24, 7:00 p.m.** Celebrate the birth of the Christ Child at this special service that will include readings, prayer, music and candle lighting. It is always an uplifting and inspiring service that focuses all of us on the deepest meaning of the season. Join us and bring a friend!

## Sunrise Walk

Join the Buzzards Bay Coalition on **Sun., 12/20, at 6:30 a.m.** for a serene sunrise walk in celebration of the winter solstice. We'll enjoy beautiful views as we watch the sun rise through the forest and over the scenic salt marsh at **West Island State Reservation in Fairhaven.**

Participants should meet at the trail entrance at **163 Fir St. on West Island.** Parking is available along the street. The walk is free, and will run about an hour long. Bundle up for this early morning stroll!

This event is part of the Coalition's Bay Adventures series: programs designed for explorers of all ages to get outside and discover Buzzards Bay. **Registration is required for all Bay Adventures.** To RSVP online, visit [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/bayadventures](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/bayadventures) or contact the Buzzards Bay Coalition at (508) 999-6363 ext. 219.

## Girl Scout Cookies

It's that time of year — the time when Girl Scouts embark on a longstanding tradition, and cookie lovers eagerly look for Girl Scouts selling cookies.

Cookie lovers can visit [hergirlscouts.org](http://hergirlscouts.org) to find out where to buy Girl Scouts cookies near their home or office.

# HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

## Provencher Serv.

The City of New Bedford and the family of New Bedford police chief David A. Provencher will hold a public memorial service on Sunday, 12/20. See page 18 for details.

## Free Parking

New Bedford is offering a special Holiday Parking Program. From now **through Friday, January 1, 2016**, the City of New Bedford will offer FREE parking at your first metered space for up to two hours in both the Downtown and on Acushnet Avenue, or up to two hours FREE parking at the Elm Street Garage, and the Zeiterion Garage!

Contact the Traffic Commission Office, 51 Elm St., is open Mon.- Fri., 8-5. Call 508-961-3153 with questions.

## Day Care for Shoppers

On Sat., 12/19, the Parks, Recreations & Beaches Department will host a Parent's Night Out — an opportunity for parents and caregivers to complete last minute shopping, gift wrapping or other holiday preparations while kids enjoy activities, games and dinner at the recreation center. Children are welcome at the **Andrea McCoy Recreation Center, 181 Hillman St., on Sat., 12/19, 4-8 p.m.** to play games, watch movies and eat dinner under the supervision of the recreation staff.

**The fee for this event is \$5.00 per child with a pre-registration deadline of 5 p.m. on 12/18** at the Andrea McCoy Recreation Center. Children must be between the ages of 6 and 13 to participate.

For more information contact India Russell-Pena at india.russell@newbedford-ma.gov, or 508-991-6298.

## Free Outdoor Events

Get outside during the holiday vacation and join the Buzzards Bay Coalition for a series of **three FREE family exploration programs**. You'll enjoy some fresh air as you discover creatures that live in our region during the colder winter months.

At **Fort Taber beach**, we'll explore the beach through a scavenger hunt and make land art with our findings.

The second program will take place on **Peirce Nature Trail**, where we'll learn how to use a compass and practice orienteering skills during a hike through a maple swamp. And at **The Sawmill** we'll identify and collect natural objects to make a winter craft in the Hawes Family Learning Center.

Winter Vacation Family Exploration is recommended for families with school-aged children. We encourage you to attend all three programs, but it is not required.

- **Tues., 12/29 from 10-11:30 a.m.:** Beach Exploration at Fort Taber, New Bedford
  - **Wed., 12/30, from 10-11:30 a.m.:** Orienteering at Flora B. Peirce Nature Trail, New Bedford (meet at the entrance near 100 Falmouth St.)
  - **Thurs., 12/31, from 10-11:30 a.m.:** Forest Exploration and Winter Craft at The Sawmill (32 Mill Rd., Acush.)
- RSVP: Registration is required. To RSVP online, visit [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/bayadventures](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/bayadventures) or contact the Buzzards Bay Coalition at (508) 999-6363 ext. 219.

## New Spinner Book

### Meet the Authors

It's Finally Here! *A Picture History of New Bedford, Vol. 2*, Premiering at **Gallery X, 169 William St., New Bedford, on Dec. 17, 5-9 p.m.;** **Encore book launch, Gallery X, Dec. 20, 1-5 p.m.**

Meet the authors of Spinner Publications' newest book, *A Picture History of New Bedford, Volume Two ~ 1925-1980*, at one of two gala book-signing events to be held at Gallery X,

Guests can meet the authors, enjoy refreshments, watch a film, view an exhibit and be among the first readers of the long-awaited Volume Two. Free to the Public.

The second in a three-volume set, *A Picture History of New Bedford, Volume Two* is part of the most extensive history of the city ever published. The hardcover book is a numbered, limited edition signed by the five authors: Joseph Thomas, Alfred Saulniers, Natalie White, Marsha McCabe and Jay Avila.

At the event, authors will personalize books and chat with guests. Meanwhile, attendees will be able to view the documentary film, *A Rising Tide*, a highly personal movie

centered on the city, produced and directed in 1953 by New Bedford-born filmmaker Theodore A. Morde.

On exhibit during Spinner's opening events will be Gallery X's "Xmas Show," an annual open-community art show featuring the work of area artisans and artists. Enjoy refreshments and hors d'oeuvres.

Learn more by visiting Spinner's home page at [www.spinnerpub.com](http://www.spinnerpub.com) or call (508) 994-4564. Browse Spinner photographs at [www.flickr.com/photos/spinnerpub](http://www.flickr.com/photos/spinnerpub) or visit Spinner Publications on Facebook.

384-pages; 1000+ photos; Hardcover, \$75.00; Soft cover, \$40.00. Spinner Publications, 164 William Street, New Bedford, MA 02740

## Socks for Vets

During this 2015 Holiday season The Law Office of Surprenant & Beneski, P.C. and the Wound Care Center at Vibra Hospital of SE Mass. are once again teaming up to hold a "Socks for Vets" sock drive. They will be collecting new socks for the Veteran's Transition House in New Bedford as a way of giving back to the community and saying "Thank You" to those who have sacrificed so selflessly for our nation.

**This campaign will run continuously until Dec. 31.** New Sock donations can be dropped off Monday-Friday (9-5) either at Surprenant and Beneski, P.C. 35 Arnold Street, New Bedford, or at the Wound Care Center at Vibra Hospital of SE Mass. (formally known as New Bedford Rehabilitation Hospital) 4499 Acushnet Avenue, New Bedford. Thank you to everyone in advance for your support.

## Free Parking

New Bedford is offering a special Holiday Parking Program. From now **through Friday, January 1, 2016**, the City of New Bedford will offer FREE parking at your first metered space for up to two hours in both the Downtown and on Acushnet Avenue, or up to two hours FREE parking at the Elm Street Garage, and the Zeiterion Garage!

Contact the Traffic Commission Office, 51 Elm St., is open Mon.- Fri., 8-5. Call 508-961-3153 with questions.

# HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

## Library Opening/ Ribbon Cutting

The public is invited to attend an **official ribbon cutting event on Sun., 12/20, beginning at 1 p.m. for the new Acushnet Public Library, 232 Middle Road.**

Among those providing remarks will be Acushnet's Selectboard members, a Library Trustee, and the Library Director. State Rep. Robert Koczera has been invited to attend and provide remarks as well.

Following the speeches and ribbon cutting, the public will be invited inside to view the new Library and to enjoy some refreshments provided by the Friends of the Acushnet Public Library. The Library will officially open to the public in this new facility on Monday, Dec. 21, at 10:00 a.m.

## Wrap Up Holidays

The Women's Center's annual Holiday Gift Wrapping fundraiser at the Dartmouth Mall continues **daily 9 a.m.-9 p.m. through Dec. 23, and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Christmas Eve.** Stop by the booth near Old Navy and get your packages wrapped (they do not have to be purchased at the Dartmouth Mall) or volunteer by signing up online at [www.thewomenscentersc.com](http://www.thewomenscentersc.com). Volunteers are especially needed from 9am-6pm. Thank you for supporting The Women's Center!

## Peace Light is Here

Every November a Scout from Austria fetches the Peace Light from the Grotto in Bethlehem where Jesus was born. This flame travels from Tel Aviv, Israel to Vienna, Austria where it is distributed at a Service of Dedication to delegations from across Europe. They then take it back to their own countries with a message of Peace. The Peace Light then makes its way to New York City where Boy Scouts further distribute it across the United States. Boy Scout Troop 333 has the honor this year of distributing the Peace Light in southeastern Massachusetts.

**Estimates are that the lamp in the grotto has been burning for possibly as long as 1,500 years** and each year since 1986, during the weeks before Christmas, Scouts distribute the light across Europe. The light is then given

from one person to another as a symbolic gift with reference to the meaning of Christmas and the wish for Peace and Forgiveness among human beings.

**Churches, organizations, and the public may obtain their own Peace Light from Boy Scout Troop 333 on Sat., 12/19, which will be available at the conclusion of the 5 p.m. Mass at St. John Neumann Church, 157 Middleboro Road, East Freetown.**

To receive the Peace Light residents should bring their own oil lantern (preferable) or enclosed candle. They are invited to keep the flame burning as long as they would like but are asked to please share it with at least one other person before extinguishing the flame. Some extinguish it after Christmas, some keep it through Epiphany. Some keep the light burning all year. Make plans now as to how you will share your Peace Light, especially with family, friends and neighbors. Please help spread the word of Peace. To learn more about the history of the Peace Light please visit [www.peacelight.org](http://www.peacelight.org).

Boy, Girl and American Heritage Scouts and Scout leaders are asked to wear uniforms.

For additional information please contact Michael McCormack, Chair of the Fall River Diocese Catholic Committee on Scouting at 508-965-1075 or [Michael@FallRiverScouting.org](mailto:Michael@FallRiverScouting.org).

## Children's Clothing

Gifts to Give is in dire need of children's clothing, especially winter clothes. Please donate your gently used coats, hats, scarves, gloves, boots, shoes, etc. We also need new socks and underwear for all ages.

For more information, visit <http://www.giftstogive.org/what-we-accept/what-we-need/>

The **GiftsToGive Philanthropy Factory, 1 Titleist Drive, Acushnet; 508-717-8715.** Open 9 a.m.-2 p.m. every day, except Sunday for drop-offs. Also drop off at **Emma Jean's, 115 Huttleston Avenue, Fairhaven.**

## Dinner for Two F-R

Give the gift that lasts all year long, and help a not-for-profit organization at the same time. During this holiday season and throughout the month of January, the Showstoppers community-service singing troupe

will be selling the Dinner For Two® Dining Books at the regular cost of \$29.95. Ten dollars of the purchase price will help fund the Showstoppers.

This year's Dinner For Two® book features \$1500 in savings at establishments across SE Mass, including Cape Cod, as well as Newport and Providence. Each of the 100+ "buy one, get one free" coupons is good through December 30, 2016.

To purchase a book, or for more information about Showstoppers, please call 508-758-4525 or email [info@showstoppers.us](mailto:info@showstoppers.us).

## Holiday special

Buzzards Play Productions presents **"A Very Special Holiday Episode," an original revue featuring songs and short playlets about holiday TV specials and movies.** Remaining schedule: Fri. 12/18 at 8 p.m. On Sat., 12/19, a matinee at 2 p.m. and an evening performance at 8 p.m. The final presentation, a matinee, will be held on Sun., 12/20, at 2 p.m.

Tickets: **\$12/Adults; \$8/Children** 12 years and under. Buy online at [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com) or at the box office. Call: 508-591-3065 or e-mail: [buzzplayprod@gmail.com](mailto:buzzplayprod@gmail.com)

## Tour Smith-Appleby

Tour the Smith-Appleby House, festively decorated from floorboards to rafters to celebrate Christmas, on **Sat., 12/19, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.,** 220 Stillwater Road in Smithfield, RI, just off I-295.

Visitors will delight in the beautiful Holiday trimmings as volunteers from the Historical Society of Smithfield in Colonial-era dress host tours of the historic 319-year-old house.

The Smith-Appleby House dates to 1696 and was built by Elisha Smith, the grandson of John Smith "The Miller," a member of Roger Williams' original party of six men who left the Massachusetts Bay Colony to start the colony of Providence, Rhode Island, in 1636.

There is a \$5 donation for adults. Children are free. No reservations are needed. In case of inclement weather, check our website at <http://www.smithapplebyhouse.org/calendar> or call 401-231-7363 for cancellation information.

# Teachers take on firefighters for Toys for Tots



Teachers and staff from the East Fairhaven and Leroy Wood school took on the Fairhaven Firefighters on Friday 12/11 in a kickball game under the lights at the Fairhaven High School football field. With a little bit of (very mild) trash talk and a lot of support for both sides from the stands, the Firefighters prevailed 13-3. The price of admission was a toy for the Toys for Tots drive. *Photos by Beth David*

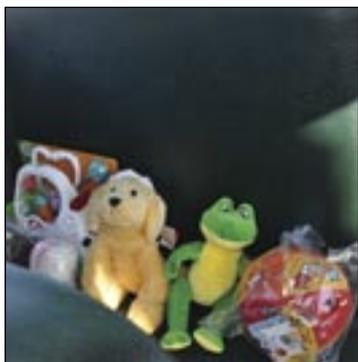


**Fairhaven Visitors Center & Historical Society Museum**  
 Academy Building, 141 Main St.  
 next door to Fairhaven High School  
 508-979-4085  
 M, T, Th, F: 8:00-noon & 12:30-4:30  
 Sat: 8:00-4:30  
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# Toys for Tots: Residents fill the bus...and the room



The Fairhaven Police Department literally filled a bus with more than 150 toys, plus cash donations, for the Safe Zones Fill The Bus Toy Drive. You may still drop off new, unwrapped toys at the Fairhaven Police Department, 146 Washington St., right through Christmas Eve. *Photos by Beth David.*

Cathi & Bob Konicki held their annual Toys for Tots drive on West island Saturday, in memory of fallen Marine Matthew Rodriguez. They "shattered" last year's record with a whopping 248 toys donated. "This year's drive far surpassed last year's drive and garnered a significant number of special gifts such as bicycles and large Star War figures," wrote Bob in an email. "Cathi and I are extremely gratified by the success of the event and want to thank everyone for their generosity and especially for their friendship." ABOVE: The little room can barely hold the toys collected at Cathi & Bob's open house on Saturday, 12/12. *Photos by Beth David.*

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## Recipe of the Week

### Cappuccino Nog

6 eggs, slightly beaten  
2/3 cup granulated sugar  
1/8 tsp salt  
5 cups milk  
2 tsp vanilla  
2 cups hot espresso coffee  
1 cup coffee liqueur or brandy  
2 cups whipping (heavy) cream  
2 tbs packed brown sugar  
Ground cinnamon

Stir together eggs, granulated sugar and salt in heavy Dutch oven. Gradually stir in milk. Cook over low heat 15 to 20 minutes, stirring constantly, just until mixture coats a metal spoon; remove from heat. Stir in vanilla. Stir together coffee and liqueur. Gradually stir coffee mixture into egg mixture; keep warm.

Just before serving, beat whipping cream and brown sugar in chilled large bowl with electric mixer on high speed until stiff. Gently stir 2 cups of the whipped cream into egg mixture.

Pour into mugs. Top with dollops of remaining whipped cream. Sprinkle with cinnamon. Serve immediately. Immediately refrigerate any remaining nog.

*From www.pillsbury.com*

## From our readers

### The greatest story ever told

Even at the height of the Christmas season, truly honoring the unmatched gift of Christ proves elusive.

Sure, we can appear to come close via extraordinary word choices, art work, or in song in hallowing His Creativity, His Name, and His redeeming purpose.

My best effort to pay honest tribute to the One we celebrate at this time of the year, always seems to land at the feet of the same question. What is the Greatest Story Ever Told?

For me, there are several elements worth considering. First, the greatest story should affect the most people; it should be extremely creative, imaginative, comprehensive, inclusive, universal, and engaging; it has to have integrity and completeness; it must pack unparalleled power and life to change its readers for the better, and finally, for something to be the greatest story ever told, IT MUST BE A TRUE STORY!

I don't know about you, but a particular story comes immediately to mind. It is the account of Jesus Christ—the One who supernaturally came to earth as a man to bear witness of the truth.

Of all the books ever written, I'm quite certain that few if any boast a main character as unique and impacting as Jesus Christ. This figure was sent as the highest gift of God to save mankind from sin by dying on the Cross. His was a legacy filled with

supernatural ability, wisdom in the fullness of Father God, ultimate authority obtained via humility, love, and victory over all things evil, including death. His life is depicted in an epic novel that was written over 1,500 years through 40 or so hands, consists of 66 books, and stands as the all-time bestseller by many millions of copies.

If there is another tale as affecting... if there is another work as creative, imaginative, comprehensive, inclusive, universal, and engaging... if there is another author as capable of capturing integrity and completeness... if there is another piece of literature that packs such power and life to restore its reader, then I'd be very interested in getting my hands on it.

The "greatest story ever told" is quite a concept. Only one title is worthy. And while there are many in the offing, I'm convinced it's the narrative that upholds the abundant life found in the honest effort of following Christ

I mean, just listen to the beauty of the prose that goes way beyond a mere Christmas season in Luke 2:10-11: Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

How great is that?

*Steven J. Bouley, Fairhaven*

### To share a recipe with your neighbors

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

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# Acushnet Selectboard voices concern at “secret” LNG talks

Michael Smith

## Neighb News Correspondent

On the heels of being left out of a recent meeting between officials from Eversource and a coalition of concerned citizens over the proposed LNG expansion project, the Selectboard held a frank discussion with both parties at the Selectboard meeting on Monday, 12/14, on the importance of open discussion with town officials.

Reaching out to those involved, Selectboard Chairperson David Wojnar said transparency is key in having the project move forward.

“My perspective as chairman is to acquire information,” he said. “We are the agents of the taxpayers of Acushnet.”

Dennis Galvin representing Eversource, was at the meeting, as was attorney and Acushnet resident Dana Sargent, who heads the South Coast Neighbors United coalition, which is opposed to the project.

Mr. Wojnar asked both sides not to be adversarial in talking to each other and to report to the Selectboard on their progress and findings.

Selectboard member Kevin Gaspar asked that both Eversource and other parties have an open and direct dialogue with the Selectboard, and not exclude the governing body from any future “secret” meetings.

Mr. Sargent told the Selectboard the one secret meeting was held to determine “who our friends and foes were” in their cause.

“It’s the only way to do this to have it done right,” said Mr. Gaspar in bringing “proper and factual” information gathered by any party or individual to the board.

Mr. Wojnar suggested creating a seven-member advisory committee.

“We owe it to our Acushnet residents who have a stake in the town,” said Mr. Wojnar, adding that further discussion on the subject will take place after the New Year.

For now, customers affected by the LNG project will be receiving information no later than next week, according to Mr. Galvin.

Former Selectboard chairperson Leslie Durkin addressed the board with his concern on the size of the new LNG tanks proposed, which, he said, their diameter is equal to that of a football field and stand 17 stories

continue until March 31, 2016.

Dina Brasseur, who was hired in April of this year as the library director, said it has been busy with the anticipation of the opening.

“I shed a few tears today,” said Ms. Brasseur about moving items from the old library to its new location. “I am very eager to start the job I was hired for.”

Tackling new business, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve Christine Lagasse for the open Conservation Clerk position.

Pertaining to matters of the Department of Public Works, the Selectboard unanimously approved several water abatements, as well as final water and sewer charges and three Chapter 90 reimbursements.

In an effort to curb the town leaking money through undetected water leaks, Acting Water and Sewer Superintendent John Westgate appeared before the board with three proposed companies to survey the town’s water system.

Of the three companies involved, Conservation Technologies, Inc. came in with the low bid of \$6,000, according to Mr. Westgate.

The other two companies, Water and Waste Pipe Testing, Inc. and Hydra Tech, Inc., came in with higher bids of \$8,700 and \$8,000 respectively.

The Selectboard voted unanimously review the matter at a future meeting.

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In another matter, the Selectboard announced the much anticipated opening of the new Acushnet Library at 232 Mill Road.

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high.

“It could be called ‘Acushnet’s Twin Towers,’” said Mr. Durkin.

In another matter, the Selectboard announced the much anticipated opening of the new Acushnet Library at 232 Mill Road. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held on Sunday, 12/20 at 1 p.m.

“It’s a real exciting time in Acushnet,” said David Wojnar of the recent opening of the new police station as well.

As the opening of the new library takes place, oversight and access to the Russell Memorial building will

## Ribbon Cutting

To mark the opening of the new Acushnet Public Library at 232 Middle Road, on Sunday, 12/20, from 1–3 p.m. Join us for a short program with town and library officials, a tour of the new library, and refreshments.



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Thurs., 12/24, Pat Long Karaoke, 8 p.m.–Mid.

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## Holiday Hours

12/24 6am-12pm; 12/25 Closed  
12/31 6am-12pm; 1/1/16 closed

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## Kool Kids C-Mas

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while participating in fun group  
activities such as pillo polo, floor  
hockey, dodge ball, cooperative  
games, flag football, arts & crafts,  
etc. Kids will need to bring their own  
lunch for the first 2 days of the  
program. The last day is a pizza  
lunch. Sneakers and active clothes  
must be worn each day. Kids will be  
grouped according to their current  
grade in school, K-5, Dec 28, 29 & 30.  
Drop off 8 a.m., pick up by 3 p.m.  
Cost: \$75/Member; \$100/Non Member

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Thursday.

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*Dr. Seuss*

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## Mall Trips

Dec. 23: Emerald Square Mall  
Dec. 30: South Shore Plaza

Jan. 6: Plain Ridge Park Casino  
Jan. 13: Warwick Mall

## Entertainment: 12:30-2:30 p.m.

12/23 Ray Jay • 1/7 Ray Jay • 1/13 Ray Jay • 1/20 Silver Fox

## Special Activities

### HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

The Senior Center will be **OPEN half a day** DECEMBER 24th and 31st. Lunch will be served. The Center will be **closed on December 25th and January 1st**. If you need to go shopping or banking, make sure you call ahead on Monday or Tuesday of Christmas week (Dec. 21 & 22) and New Year's week (Dec. 28 or 29)

### Telephone Reassurance

The Telephone Reassurance Program is a free service available to Fairhaven senior citizens, offering a daily personal contact to help with a feeling of security and caring, knowing a daily call will be made to confirm all is well. The program was designed for seniors who live alone and would benefit from a daily telephone call to be sure everything is all right. To subscribe, simply telephone our office and ask to be placed on our call list, 508-979-4029

### Free Groceries

SENIORS, Could you benefit from free groceries each month? If you are a Fairhaven resident, 60 years old or older, have MA Health or receive SNAP benefits, you may qualify to receive free non perishable healthy groceries provided by Commodity Supplemental Food Program. The

two bags of groceries will be delivered to the Fairhaven Senior Center where you will be able to pick them up. Verification of identity, age, residence and income will be required upon applying. If you are interested in applying or finding out more about this program call the Fairhaven Senior Center, 508-979-4029, and ask for Anne Silvia.

### PACE Fuel Assistance

PACE Fuel Assistance & Recertification Form, The Fuel assistance program starts in November for the 2015-2016 season. If you received fuel assistance last year you should have already received renewal in the mail to be filled out. If you need help filling out the recertification form or a new application for fuel assistance call the Senior Center at 508-979-4029 for an appointment.

### A Matter of Balance

Coastline is offering A Matter Of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls on Wednesdays in January and February from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at the Marion Music Hall. The program cost is FREE. A workbook is provided and refreshments are served. Please call the Marion COA at 508-748-3570 to register. Registration closes on 12/28/15.

## 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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# Old Time Holiday events fill town center with holiday spirit

By Beth David  
Editor

Fairhaven Center was filled with holiday spirit during the Old Time Holiday celebration on Saturday, 12/12. The Town Hall auditorium was transformed into a marketplace for nonprofits selling all manner of fun stuff.

The First Congregational Church had lunch, including its famous lobster roll, had vendors on two floors, and opened up the Heavenly Treasures Thrift Shop.

At the Unitarian Memorial Church, St. Nicholas hobnobbed with a variety of vendors of home-crafted goods, jewelry, and other items.

The Millicent Library got into the act with activities for children and a presentation of chairs and tables sponsored by local businesses, civic groups and individuals.

And, of course, it would not be complete without Director of Tourism, Chris Richard, gadding about in a costume of some sort. This year, the "scruffy elf," looked festive in red and green duds.

Through it all the Unitarian church's bells rang out Christmas Carols as people criss-crossed from one venue to the next, making for a positively festive atmosphere.

The extra warm weather (hovering near 60 degrees), no doubt made it

more appealing for lots of people to attend. Most vendors said they had great sales, with many selling out, or almost selling out, by the 3 p.m. end time.

The only group that might have had a gripe, was the Boy Scouts who were selling hot chocolate. Maybe they should've sold ice cream this year.

"This is so much fun," said Lisa Plante as she shopped at the thrift store. "It's what Fairhaven is all about, a small town. I love it."

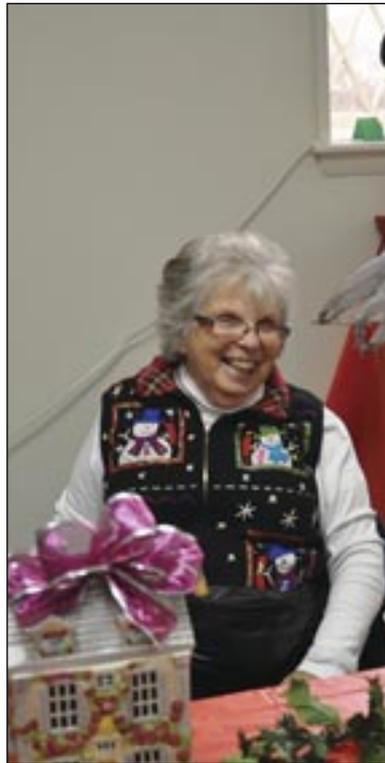
On Saturday night, Santa Claus dropped by town hall during the annual sing-along to greet children and pass out candy canes.

## From the sing-along



People with Christmas spirit showed up outside Fairhaven Town Hall on Saturday, 12/12, to sing Christmas carols, visit with Santa, and enjoy hot chocolate and cookies inside. TOP LEFT: Santa's little helper. TOP RIGHT: Sponsored by the Fairhaven Improvement Association, the group leads residents in song. ABOVE LEFT: Maureen LaVigne and her granddaughter Ashley, who is enjoying one of Santa's candy canes. ABOVE RIGHT: Santa hands out candy canes in front of Fairhaven Town Hall. *Photos by Jim Mahaney.*

## More scenes from Fairhaven's Old Time Holiday



ABOVE LEFT: The kitchen crew at the First Congregational Church gives a big "Merry Christmas" to *Neighb News* readers on Saturday, 12/12. ABOVE MIDDLE: Peg Rogers staffs a table at the First Congregational Church. ABOVE RIGHT: The Christmas Tree at the Unitarian Memorial Church. BELOW LEFT: Fairhaven's "Scruffy Elf," Christopher Richard, Fairhaven Tourism Director, provided some colorful photo ops at Town hall. BELOW RIGHT: The Boy Scouts pose next to their hot chocolate setup, an item not in great demand due to the unseasonably warm temperatures. Luckily, they also sold pastries and some other items. The warm weather helped to bring out large crowds and most vendors were very happy with the turnout. *Photos by Beth David.*



# Fairhaven Selectboard chooses first-ever Town Administrator

By Beth David  
Editor

Fairhaven Selectboard members unanimously chose to offer the town's first-ever Town Administrator position to Mark Rees, the former city manager in Portland, ME.

Mr. Rees has ushered in the town administrator model of government twice. He was the first TA in Ashburnham and Northbridge, both in Mass.

A resident of North Andover, Mr. Rees said he would rent a house in Fairhaven.

"We had three very qualified candidates apply," said Selectboard member Charles Murphy before casting his vote, adding that each candidate had "great qualifications" to be the TA.

Mr. Murphy said he settled on Mr. Rees because he had already been through the same kind of transition that Fairhaven is facing.

Mr. Rees has a lot of experience "creating" a new TA position, said Mr. Murphy. "I think one shined through, and that was Mr. Rees."

Board member Bob Espindola agreed, saying that, although Mr. Rees would not be in the position as long as outgoing Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch had held his position, Mr. Rees had the experience and leadership that the town needed for the transition.

"I agree," said Selectboard chairperson Geoffrey Haworth.

He said each candidate was a good

candidate, but that Mr. Rees stood out because he had held the position before.

Mr. Haworth said that he believed Mr. Rees had the experience that Fairhaven needs right now.

"I think he'll be the ideal candidate," to transition the town to a TA form of government, said Mr. Haworth.

Mr. Haworth made the call to Mr. Rees after the meeting to let him know about the town's decision. Mr. Haworth will negotiate the terms of the contract with Mr. Rees.

The 59-year-old was one of three finalists for the town's top spot. Mike McCue, Town Administrator in Rochester, and Gregory Enos, Assistant Town Manager in Whitman, also interviewed for the position.

In a telephone interview Mr. Rees said he was "honored to be chosen," and that he was attracted to the job for two reasons.

First, because of the other two jobs when he was the first TA. He said he enjoyed being able to bring about a professional environment and positive changes.

"I wanted to be able to do that toward the end of my career, and Fairhaven gave me that opportunity," said Mr. Rees.

Secondly, he said, when he visited the town he was "very attracted to it."

He said Fairhaven has a lot going for it, with the ocean, the historic town center, the working waterfront, and good residential areas.



Mark Rees, former City Manager of Portland, ME, interviews with the Fairhaven Selectboard on 12/5. Mr. Rees was one of three finalists who applied for the job. He will start after the holidays. *Neighb News file photo by Beth David.*

"It's all very positive," he said, adding that he felt it would be a great community to work for.

"My whole career has been in local government management," said Mr. Rees. "In the communities I left, I am able to say I left in much better shape."

He said he believes he can bring his "experience and expertise" to the capital planning process to improve and expand on the progress the newly formed committee has made and help Fairhaven avoid surprises.

He also said that he was involved

REES: cont'd on page 21

## Memorial service for Chief David A. Provencher this Sunday

Press Release

The City of New Bedford continues to mourn the loss of Police Chief David A. Provencher. Arrangements have been made for family, friends and the public to pay their respects.

On Sunday, 12/20, at 11:00 AM the City of New Bedford will host a memorial service for the general public at the Zeiterion Theatre, 684 Purchase Street New Bedford.

Family, friends and colleagues will reflect on the contributions that Chief Provencher made to the community in his 35 years of service with the New Bedford Police Department.

Doors will open to the public at 10:30 a.m. The service will be taped and aired on New Bedford Cable Access Government Channel 18 later

in the week.

On Friday evening from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., Aubertine-Lopes Funeral Home, 129 Allen Street, New Bedford, will host visiting hours.

On Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m., a Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at St. Joseph-St. Therese Church, 51 Duncan Street, near the corner of Acushnet Avenue and Ingraham Street across from Brooklawn Park.

Kindly proceed directly to the church on Saturday morning. Attendees are encouraged to use the public parking lot located in Brooklawn Park, entrance on Acushnet Avenue just north of St. Joseph-St. Therese.

Following the Mass, a procession

will depart the church for Sacred Heart Cemetery #2 located on Mount Pleasant Street adjacent to the New Bedford Airport. The planned route from the church is as follows: north on Acushnet Avenue, west on Brooklawn Street, south on Ashley Boulevard, west on Nash Road, north on Mount Pleasant Street. Motorists are advised to plan for delays along the procession route.

The public is also invited to express their sympathy by signing condolence books located in the lobby of City Hall, 133 William Street), and at each of the City's four police stations.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Chief Provencher's memory to the New England Organ Bank or American Cancer Society.

# SMCU holds 10th annual U.S. Armed Forces Holiday Drive

*Press Release*

Southern Mass Credit Union employees, directors, credit union members, seniors and veterans from the Fairhaven Council on Aging and Dr. Askew of Dartmouth Dental participated in this year's Holiday Drive donating basic items most of us take for granted.

Items included hard candies, gum, Ziploc bags, hand/body lotions, body powders, sunscreens, soaps, wipes, toothbrushes, toothpastes, dental floss and cups of soup, and were presented to the Massachusetts National Guard office located in Taunton, Mass. All the items collected are scheduled for delivery to various units by the end of the year.

"On behalf of Southern Mass Credit Union, we wish to thank our members, employees and community members for their contributions to our U.S. Armed Forces Holiday Drive making this drive our most successful drive to date," commented Daniel E. Waltz, President and CEO of Southern Mass Credit Union. "And above all, we extend a sincere thank you to all soldiers for their service and loyalty

to our country."

Bethany Pinard, Family Assistance Center Specialist of the Army National Guard stated, "I want to express my sincere appreciation to Southern Mass Credit Union and all of the community members who contributed items in support of our Armed Forces. Through your donations, our soldiers will feel the love and honor that they so deserve during this holiday season."

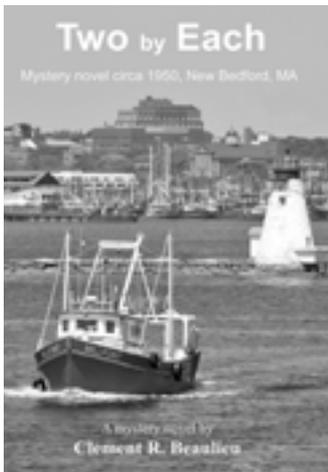
Southern Mass Credit Union is headquartered at 123 Alden Road in Fairhaven with branch offices located at 2926 Acushnet Avenue in New Bedford and at 1101 Stafford Road in Fall River. It is a full service commu-

nity financial institution offering competitive savings, checking, business accounts, auto loans, mortgage loans and equity lines of credit. For more information please contact Southern Mass Credit Union at 508-994-9971 or visit online at southernmass.com.



Daniel E. Waltz, President/CEO, Southern Mass Credit Union presents items collected from the 10th Annual U.S. Armed Forces Holiday Drive to Bethany Pinard, Family Assistance Specialist, Massachusetts National Guard. *Submitted photo.*

## Perfect Christmas Gift



Mystery Novel  
**TWO by EACH**

Award-winning local author, Clement R. Beaulieu of Fairhaven, presents the third in a series of historical mystery novels. **Two by Each**, circa 1950, continues the Lepage family saga: Body vanishes from a waterfront office on Centre Street in New Bedford. His first mystery novel, **Bad Lucky Number**, published in 2011, is set in the Southcoast area of Mass., circa 1930, during

Prohibition and the Great Depression. His second mystery novel, **Round Corners**, follows some of the same characters ten years later, circa 1940, and the era of World War II.

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# Public Hearings/Legal Notices



## Deadline for Town Meeting Articles

The deadline for the Articles of the May 7, 2016 Annual Town Meeting Street Acceptance Articles is January 8, 2016, at 4 pm.  
Deadline for Town Meeting Articles is January 22, 2016, at 4 p.m.

Fairhaven Board of Selectmen



## Who Makes the Magic?

A Nikommo Island Tale  
With Bedtime Version

By Beth David

Available for Nook; and for Kindle and other ebook formats on Amazon.com **Only \$1.49**

All Mark Waters can think of is how awful it will be if there aren't any toys under the tree at Christmas. But with a little help from the Little People of Nikommo Island, Mark learns that there's more to Christmas than bicycles and board games.

Throw in an aging theatrical neighbor, a snooty know-it-all cousin and a little bit of island lore, and you're sure to put this little tale on your list of annual must-reads at Christmastide....or any time of year when you could use a little magic. Written for adults, but suitable for all ages. (Approx. 9,600 words; bedtime version, 2570 words.)

For links to all Beth David's books and stories visit [www.Zorena.com](http://www.Zorena.com)

# Public Hearings/ Legal Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1341 and M.G.L. c. 21 §§ 26-53, notice is given of a 401 Water Quality Certification application for *Proposed Cofferdams with Solid Fill by Fairhaven Shipyard Companies, 32 Water St. Fairhaven, MA on 32 Water St. in Fairhaven for for Marine Industrial Use*. Additional information may be obtained from CLE Engineering, Inc. 15 Creek Rd., Marion, MA 02738, (508) 748-0937. Written comments should be sent to MassDEP *Southeast Regional Office*, Division of Wetlands and Waterways, 20 Riverside Drive, Lakeville, MA 02347 within twenty-one days of this notice.

Any group of ten persons, any aggrieved person, or any governmental body or private organization with a mandate to protect the environment who submits written comments may appeal the Department's Certification. Failure to submit written comments before the end of the public comment period may result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing.

## Conservation Commission

The Fairhaven Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on January 11, 2016 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.

### PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Request for Determination Applicant Wayne D. & Linda J Gallant Location Bridge Street Plot 30 Lot 19G Purpose conduct perc test within the Nasketucket River Basin.
- Notice of Intent Applicant Fairhaven Shellfish Department Location Little Bay / Nasketucket Bay Purpose cultivation of oysters.

Jay Simmons, Chairman

# Nomination papers available

Nomination papers are now available for residents interested in running for office in Fairhaven. The annual election will be held on Monday, April 4.

Candidates may request nomination papers until 5 p.m. on Thursday, 2/11. Papers must be returned with the require signatures by February 16.

Papers for town-wide office require 50 certified signatures. Papers for town meeting members require 10 certified signatures from your precinct only. There are many vacancies for town meeting members.

Offices to be voted on are: Town Clerk, Eileen Lowney, incumbent; Selectboard, Geoffrey Haworth, incumbent; School Committee, Stasia Powers and Bernard Roderick, incumbents; Board of Health, Peter DeTerra, incumbent; Commissioner of

Trust Funds, Barbara Acksen, incumbent; Board of Public Works, Michael Ristuccia, incumbent; Planning Board, Jeffrey Lucas and Ann Richard, incumbents; Housing Authority, vacant.

Town Meeting is looking to fill: Prec. 1, 24 members for 3 years, and one member for 2 years; Prec. 2, 24 members for 3 years and two for 1 year; Prec. 3, 23 members for 3 years, 1 member for 2 years, and 10 members for 1 year; Prec. 4, 25 members for 3 years; Prec. 5, 23 members for 3 years; Prec. 6, 24 mebers for 3 years.

For more information, contact the Town Clerk at 508-979-4025, Ext. 3.



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**REES: cont'd from page 18**

in economic development in his last two jobs and hopes to use that experience in bringing commercial businesses to areas of Route 6 that have been vacant.

Mr. Rees will start after the holidays. His contract was still being negotiated as of press time.

The board also discussed budgets at the meeting, deciding to ask for department heads to submit budgets with a 1-2% increase, due to step and salary increases only.

Mr. Osuch told the board that receipts and other revenue sources were on track to keep the town in the black.

"As long as we can control expenditures," said Mr. Osuch.

The word "reasonable" was bandied about a lot as all three selectboard members and Mr. Osuch talked about individual departments submitting budgets.

"We will be in good shape," said Mr. Osuch if "department heads submit budgets that are reasonable."

Mr. Murphy said he believed that a 1% increase was "reasonable" on salaries, because all capital expenditures should be going through the Capital Planning Committee now.

"So there shouldn't be any surprises," said Mr. Murphy.

"It's a collective effort," said Mr. Haworth. "If the departments give us reasonable budgets, we'll be okay."

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**FREELANCE REPORTERS NEEDED** Write for the *Neighb News*. We need reporters for evening meeting coverage. Reporting experience not required, but must have a solid grasp of grammar, good writing skills, and an understanding of what news writing is vs. your Great American Novel. Freelance only. Email Beth at NeighbNews@comcast.net or call 508-979-5593.

Great deeds are usually wrought at great risks.

Herodotus

### TIDE TABLE

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

	Dec 2015	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.
Thursday	17	0000	1222	0506*	1738*
Friday	18	0058	1320	0616	1845*
Saturday	19	0154	1417	0733	1950*
Sunday	20	0252	1519	0846	2052*
Monday	21	0356	1625	1018	2159*
Tuesday	22	0457	1723	1134*	2302*
Wednesday	23	0548	1812	----	1228*
		----	----	----	2353*
Thursday	24	0635	1859	----	1325*
Friday	25	0721	1947	0041*	1419*
Saturday	26	0808	2035	0130*	1452*
Sunday	27	0855	2122	0217*	1509*
Monday	28	0940	2208	0255	1529*
Tuesday	29	1025	2255	0329	1556*
Wednesday	30	1112	2346	0404	1628
Thursday	31	----	1204	0443	1707

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

## Fairhaven Meetings

### Board of Assessors

Fri., 12/18, Ton Hall, 3:30 p.m.

### Capital Planning Comm.

Mon., 12/21, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

### Community Preserv. Comm. TIME CHANGE

Thurs., 12/17, Town Hall, 6:00 p.m.

### Conservation Commission

Mon., 1/11, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Council On Aging

Mon., 12/14, Sr. Center, 9:30 a.m.

### Dog Park Committee

Wed., 12/16, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Finance Committee

Thurs., 12/17, Arsene St., 7 p.m.

### Oxford Bell Comm

Mon., 12/21 at Selectboard mtg

### Planning Board

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

### Rogers/Oxford Comm.

Mon., 12/21, at Selectboard mtg.

### School Committee

Wed., 1/13, FHS Library, 6:30 p.m.

### Selectboard

Mon., 12/21, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Mon., 12/28, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

## Acushnet Meetings

### Board of Health

Fri., 12/18, Parting Ways, 11:30 a.m.

### Conservation Commission

Wed., 2/23, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

### Planning Board

Thurs., 12/17, Parting Ways, 6:30 p.m.

### Police Station Bldg. Comm.

Wed., 1/6, 60 Middle Rd., 1 p.m.

### Selectboard

Tues., 1/5, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

### TIDE TABLE

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

	Jan. 2016	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.
Friday	1	0040	1258	0536	1801
Saturday	2	0130	1348	0645	1901
Sunday	3	0219	1439	0752	1954
Monday	4	0313	1538	0850	2044
Tuesday	5	0412	1638	1133	2135
Wednesday	6	0503	1726	1049	2226
Thursday	7	0546	1808	1125	2313
Friday	8	0626	1848	----	1202
		----	----	----	2356*
Saturday	9	0707	1931	----	1242*

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

## EFS collects food for pantry

Students at East Fairhaven School engaged in a friendly competition to see which floor could collect more food for the Shepherd's Pantry. First floor (preK to grade 2) collected 491 items, while the second floor (grades 3-5) collected 551, for an impressive 1042 items. The items were lined along the corridors last week before being boxed up by volunteers and transported to the food pantry.

Ella, a student at EFS, said she felt good about contributing to the cause. "Because I know some people don't have enough food for the holidays," she said. "And my mom knows some people, too, that don't have some stuff."



Items for the Shepherd's Pantry food pantry line the hallway at the East Fairhaven School last week as part of a competition between the first and second floors. *Photo by Beth David.*

## Lions save Wood School items

After spending a year in at the old Oxford School, the staff of the new Leroy Wood School left a few articles behind. The Fairhaven Lions were able to save these items, one of which was a carpet from the fifth grade graduating class of 2001. The Lions had it restored to like-new condition. It now sits at the entrance of the Wood School. The Lions thank Richard O'Rourke of Service Master Clean for cleaning the carpet.

The trophy declares "Leroy Wood School Nutron Bowl Champs," which is probably a science fair award. The Lions Club presented the items to the school on 11/20.



King Lion Bill Moniz, Lion John Medeiros, Lion Bob Parent, teacher Jackie LaSalle, Class of 2001 student Justine Canastra with niece Phoebe Yorston, and parent of PTO in 2001 Nancy Greene at a presentation of items recovered for the Wood School on Nov. 20. *Submitted photo.*

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## Who makes the magic?

By Beth David

"Get away from those trees," yelled Mark's dad. "I told you, you're not digging up the lawn to look for gnomes."

"I know, I know," Mark answered.

He wanted to dig up the gnome trees, though, to see if gnomes really existed. Gnomes build their homes under two oak trees planted near each other. One tree is the entrance, the other is the house.

Mark's mother acted positively mortified, hysterical really, that her little boy would want to ruin gnome homes.

But Mark didn't want to ruin their homes. He wanted to contact them and tell them that the Waters family needed help this year.

The gnomes on Nikommo Island often helped families in need.

Mark wanted to tell them that they needed stuff, Christmas stuff. It was Thanksgiving Day and things were looking pretty glum.

Granddad Waters, who used to live on the island, simply said, "You don't contact gnomes, they contact you."

Mark's know-it-all snooty cousin said only fools believed in gnomes and he didn't even know the difference between a puckwudgie and a fairy.

So Mark plotted and planned for a way to contact the gnomes.

Meanwhile, he helped Miss Adamack in her yard, shoveling snow and fixing her

fairy houses.

Finally, he confided in the very theatrical, eccentric old lady.

He found that she, too, believed in gnomes and fairies and all the Little People of the island.

But before he could hatch a plan to contact the gnomes, Miss Adamack had an "episode" and ended up in the hospital.

At first, all Mark could think of was how she could not help him contact the gnomes. Then his little sister Polly got all emotional and weepy and worried about Miss Adamack because she was sick.

Mark felt like a heel.

He changed his mind, and decided to take back is note asking for stuff.

But, before he could do that, he found a little vial of potion right in his secret spot.

Mark could hardly contain himself until the next day. And then, it was a snow day. Gnome magic all the way around.

He made Miss Adamack drink the potion in her hot chocolate, and in no time at all she was singing and wearing her colorful clothes and baking cookies.

What he didn't understand, though, was how the gnomes knew. His note had asked for a bike and a board game, not a potion.

"You don't have to say things out loud for gnomes to hear them," Miss Adamack

told Mark.

"Oh. I don't think I like that."

"No one does," she said. "But if you know that someone is hearing your thoughts, maybe it will make you think better thoughts."

And with that, they wrote down their whole story in the big black book of stories about the Little People on Nikommo Island.

Who Makes the Magic, \$1.49, is a 9,600-word short story available for Kindles, Nooks and other e-book readers. It includes a 2,570-word bedtime version. Visit [www.Zorena.com](http://www.Zorena.com) for links to buy.



In a rare painting, three Woodland Gnomes, probably from different clans, stop for a visit by an old oak tree on Nikommo Island. The painting was found in the attic of an eccentric artis who had lived on Nikommo Island for many years.

## ATRIA FAIRHAVEN

**Our residents are looking forward to an exciting, eventful December & January here at Atria Fairhaven. We'd love for you to join us.**

(RSVP: 508-994-9238)

Join us for:

**Holiday Sing Along with Ray Smith** Sat., 12/19, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Enjoy musical entertainment by Ray Smith and celebrate this special time of year with our residents!

**Christmas Eve is Here** Thurs., 12/24, 2 to 3 p.m. Let's all celebrate this magical time of year with musical entertainment by Frank Noonan.

**Elder Lecture Series** Thurs., 1/7, 2 p.m. Join us for a Lecture series: Embracing the gift that you are. Presented by Magdalana Grace Siegel. RSVP

**Entertainment with Dave Valerio** Fri., 1/8, 2:30 p.m. Enjoy a fun filled afternoon with musical entertainment by Dave Valerio. RSVP



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# Truck crashes into gas pump and canopy post at Valero



A pickup truck crashed into a gas pump at the Valero Gas station at Bridge Street and Route 6 at 3 a.m. on Sunday. The station remains closed to check for structural damage to the canopy over the pumps. Fairhaven police believe the vehicle was traveling east on Bridge Street when it veered off into the pump, according to an email by police spokesperson Sgt. Kevin Kobza. The operator, 25-year-old Michael Bowers of Bernese Street in Fairhaven, is facing an operating to endanger charge. The incident is still under investigation, so more charges may follow. *Photos by Beth David.*

## New business provides “authentic princesses” for parties

*Press Release*

Fairhaven Character Parties is a local entertainment group that provides authentic princesses and characters for birthday parties and events.

Lindsey Ashworth, a student at Fairhaven High, runs this program in hopes of making every child they visit feel like royalty.

From crafts to games to sing-alongs, Fairhaven Character Parties makes sure that your child's birthday party is one that he or she will never forget.

Along with being available for birthday parties, their characters do a fair share of community service. They volunteer at many local community events, most notably Fairhaven's Winterfest and The

Fairhaven Harvest Festival.

Fairhaven Character Parties can be found on Facebook at Fairhaven Character Parties. For more information or to book a party, email [charactersoffairhaven@gmail.com](mailto:charactersoffairhaven@gmail.com).



Fairhaven Character Parties provides princess characters for birthday parties and other events.

## Snow Parking Ban

No vehicles shall be permitted to remain on the hydrant side of all streets in Fairhaven from December 1 to March 31 from midnight to 8:00 a.m. and also during the time of any snowfall or snow removal operations. On streets with no hydrants, NO vehicles shall be permitted to remain either on the east side of streets running north and south or on the north side of streets running east and west.

The BPW is authorized to remove, or cause to be removed, to some convenient place, including a public garage, any vehicle interfering with the work of removing or plowing snow or ice from any way, and the cost of such removal with all storage charges resulting there from shall be paid by the owner of such vehicle.

The Fairhaven Police Department will strictly enforce this Parking Ban. Violators will be towed and/or ticketed.

*By Order of: Fairhaven Board of Public Works*

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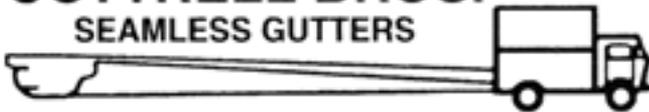
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from Louise Dupre

# FHS Girls basketball team falls to Dighton Rehoboth



The Fairhaven Girls Basketball team fell to South Coast Conference rival, Dighton Rehoboth, 52-29 on Monday, 12/15 at home. In the early season, the Lady Blue Devils are 1-1 and 0-1 in the SCC. ABOVE LEFT: Josie Pimental fights for a rebound for the Lady Blue Devils. ABOVE RIGHT: Breanna Demanche sinks the two-point shot and ended with a team high 10 points. BELOW LEFT: Laela Pepin drives the lane for the Lady Blue Devils. BELOW RIGHT: Laela Pepin goes through two Falcon defenders. *Photos by Ryan Feeney.*



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CHOOSE TWO SALADS

<b>CLASSIC CATCHUP SALAD</b> American cheddar dressing, potatoes, carrots, tomatoes	<b>FRESH GARDEN SALAD</b> Spring garden greens, cherry tomatoes, cucumber, carrots, avocado, cheddar dressing	<b>WARMING PASTA SALAD</b> Spicy marinara, goat cheese, mushrooms, garlic bread, olive oil, parmesan
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CHOOSE TWO ENTREES

**ROASTED PORK SHOULDER**  
grilled tenderloin tips, sautéed onions, apples, stone ground corn sauce  
served with Chef's daily potato and vegetables

**CHICKEN MARILYN**  
Pan-seared chicken breast, mushrooms, garlic, sautéed wild rice, green  
beans and peas

**SCHEER FISHING**  
Fresh local small, spiced - cheese bread, creamy sauce, breaded, breadcrumb, swimming  
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**PICAY LAMB**  
Grilled lamb chops with a sautéed green, and tomato garnish  
served with Chef's daily potato and vegetables

**CHICKEN PARMESAN**  
Chicken cutlet lightly breaded with Italian seasoned crumbs, tomato sauce, and mozzarella  
served with spaghetti and parmesan

**BAKED STUFFED CHICKEN**  
Stuffed chicken with sautéed onions and carrots with parmesan cheese and preserved vegetables  
served with Chef's daily potato and vegetables

<b>CHICKEN BRISKET</b> Sautéed potatoes	<b>HOUSE MADE CHICKEN</b> Pasta with sautéed broccoli, carrots, and tomatoes served	<b>CHICKEN MARILYN</b> Sautéed potatoes
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