

## **WINTER GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD.**

We've been working to keep informed of the significant events that we feel impact our neighborhoods. We value your input and hope you will continue to support our organization. We look forward to seeing you this summer.

## **BALL FIELD FENCING**

The new fencing has been installed along the Falmouth Heights ball field, and the roses that complemented the old fencing will be transplanted this spring.

There will likely be two new memorial benches placed in the ball field at the corner of Crescent Avenue and Central Park. If you would like to purchase one of these benches, please contact the Falmouth DPW to obtain an application.

## **SPRING CLEAN-UP PLANNED**

The annual spring clean-up, sponsored by the Falmouth Beautification Council, will be held from April 26 – May 3. Please consider taking part in this important program. More details will be available in the local newspapers and in flyers posted around town.

## **HISTORIC AWARENESS COMMITTEE TO FOCUS ON MARAVISTA**

Our Historic Awareness Committee will be gathering information and photographs of Maravista with the intent to publish a historic brochure—similar to the one done for Falmouth Heights. Any input on this project is welcomed.

## **CASINO WHARF FX**

So far, the residential units remain unsold at the Casino Wharf. The restaurant has stayed open and continues to see a steady increase in business. Use of their upstairs-function room is becoming a popular choice to host parties and special events. New menus and pricing, along with their Sunday Jazz brunch and other special events have been implemented to attract residents to the restaurant.

## **NEW POLICE CHIEF WELCOMED**

We welcomed our new Chief of Police, Anthony Riello, with a letter from our president, Winnie Grant, and enclosed our historical brochure. We look forward to working closely with Chief Riello.

## **LITTLE POND TRIAL SCHEDULED**

Abutters of Little Pond will go to trial on May 27, 2008 to contest development of proposed housing in the Little Pond area. There has been no new information from the developers regarding this project.

## **WOODS HOLE ORGANIZATION FORMS**

The Woods Hole Group Inc. hosted a meeting on December 13, 2007 to gather input from the public in the development of a beach management plan for the public beaches of Falmouth. All activities currently associated with managing the beaches, as well as any new activities proposed, will be included in the plan. Future meetings are planned, but no dates have been listed yet.

*Please mark your calendar for our annual meeting to be held at 8:30 am on Saturday, August 2, at the Falmouth Yacht Club*



## **MARAVISTA SIDEWALK PROJECT**

Some repairs have been made, but the new sidewalks still await final appropriation of funds. This continues to be a safety hazard in the Maravista area.

## **OTHER NEWS...**

Sabatino's Restaurant closed for the season in December, and will re-open on April 15.

No resolution on the disputed encroachment of the walk onto Little Beach at the end of Maravista Avenue. We are still awaiting an answer from the Dispute Resolution Division.

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For further information about these articles, or any other issue impacting Falmouth Heights or Maravista, please contact Marge Maurukas, our Direct of Communications, at (978) 302-0434.

*President:* Winifred Grant

*Vice President:* Marge Maurukas

*Treasurer:* Kevin Smith

*Secretary:* Ellen Hanley

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## 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks were spectacular! The crowds descended upon us through-out the day, and stayed to see another wonderful display of fireworks. Aside from one very unfortunate and largely publicized event after the fireworks, we can call this year a success with many thanks to the Fireworks Committee and the Falmouth Police Department.

## BEACH PARKING

Despite our requests for an earlier closing, the parking lot at the Falmouth Heights Beach will close at 11pm. Please document any disturbances of noise from people and/or tow trucks to the Falmouth Police Department.

## FALMOUTH HEIGHTS BALLFIELD

Once the roses are past their blooming season, the Falmouth D.P.W. will dig them up and store them in their nursery for the winter. The roses will be replanted near the new fencing along the ballpark in the spring.

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

Alyssa Santiago of Maravista Avenue is this year's recipient of the Robert T. Smith Memorial Scholarship. Alyssa, a 2008 graduate of Falmouth High School, will be attending Boston University in the fall. This scholarship was created in memory of Robert T. Smith – a former president of the Falmouth Heights-Maravista Improvement Association – in appreciation for his dedication and tireless efforts to improve the quality of life in the Heights by the elimination of nightclub operations in the former Terrace Gables building and the subsequent construction of residential units at the site. This scholarship is given annually to a graduating senior at Falmouth High School.

## CASINO WHARF FX

On Tuesday, June 5, the Casino Wharf FX went before the selectmen for permission to serve alcohol until 1am. Members of the Falmouth Heights-Maravista Improvement Association attended the meeting and urged the selectmen not to grant the extension of time due to the extra noise that will occur with two bars closing at the same time within feet of one another. Selectmen Carey Murphy and Kevin Murphy voted for the extended serving time, while Mary "Pat" Flynn and Brent Putnam voted against it. Chairmen, Ahmed Mustafa, broke the tie by voting for the late serving.

To date, none of the condominiums at the Casino have been sold; therefore, they have decided to rent several of the units.

Postcards were sent out last month informing you that the Casino Wharf FX will go before the Falmouth Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) on Thursday, July 10, to seek permission for entertainment on their decks, and to increase their seating capacity from 150 to 200 seats. Several of the Falmouth Heights-Maravista Improvement Association board members will attend that meeting to publicly state their concerns and request denial for outside entertainment. In a letter sent to the Falmouth ZBA, the Association stated that they do not object to the increase in seating as long as a fine dining establishment is maintained; however, the letter also states that we do object to any type of entertainment on their decks.

## ANNUAL MEETING

Please mark your calendars for this year's FHMLA Annual Meeting at the **Falmouth Yacht Club**. The meeting will be held on **Saturday, August 2, beginning at 8:30 am**. If you have any items of interest you would like discussed at this meeting or in a future newsletter, please pass your ideas along to a FHMLA board member.

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# THE VISTA

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Volume 3 Number 2

July 2008

## LITTLE POND TRIAL RESCHEDULED

Abutters of Little Pond will go to trial in September to contest development of proposed housing in the Little Pond area. There has been no new information from the developers regarding this project.

## OTHER NEWS...

**Sabatino's Restaurant** as re-opened for the season, giving us three very good, yet different places to dine in Falmouth Heights during the summer.

There has been no resolution on the disputed encroachment of the wall onto **Little Beach** at the end of Maravista Avenue. We continue to wait for an answer from the Dispute Resolution Division.



*Annual Meeting*  
*8:30 am*  
*Saturday, August 2,*  
*Falmouth Yacht Club*

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For further information about these articles, or any other issue impacting Falmouth Heights or Maravista, please contact Marge Maurukas, our Direct of Communications, at (978) 302-0434.

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## HARBORWATCH

Paula Lichter (FHMIA Board member) and DeeDee Mariano are the co-founders of HarborWatch. On behalf of HarborWatch, they have filed a lawsuit against the Falmouth Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) for granting administrative approval of MacDougall's request for 540' of an 8' tall solid white vinyl fence along Falmouth Heights Road and Grand Avenue without any public notice of their intent.

One section of this planned fence would measure 460' long and it would be in front of the almond building—leaving a 3' buffer from the fence and sidewalk. The second section of 80' fencing would extend from the north corner of the rigging loft to the driveway. HarborWatch feels that only 20' of coverage is needed to conceal the yellow HAZMAT containers. The addition 60' would block the breeze and view to the water.

HarborWatch would like to see MacDougall's landscape the entire area in the same attractive manner that they recently did at the north entrance of their property.

The Design Review Committee (DRC) and the town counsel believe this administrative approval is in opposition to the town's bylaws and that the request should have gone through the DRC for public review. To date, the ZBA has not withdrawn their approval of this fencing—they may be waiting for the legal suit to run its course.

If you would like to help stop the construction of these fences, please contribute by donating any amount to the Appeal Fund. Please make your check payable to "HarborWatch" and send it to Paula Lichter, 4 Deacons Avenue #3, Falmouth 02540. Any unused funds will be returned on a pro-rated basis.

## LITTLE POND

Litigation is on hold for the present time. The developer has agreed to file an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) – which is a substantial analysis on the impact of the proposed development on this area.

## RESURFACING BEACH PARKING LOT & NEW FENCE

The Falmouth D.P.W. will be working on the drainage problem on Grand Avenue. We are not sure when the resurfacing of the lot will begin; however, we are awaiting approval from ConCom. The new fence may be up before the summer.

## SPRING CLEAN-UP WEEK

The annual spring clean-up week in Falmouth will be April 25 thru May 2, 2009. Please do your part in helping with this town-wide clean-up, which is sponsored by the Falmouth Beautification Council. There will be posters around town, as well as newspaper ads. Bags can be picked up at the Falmouth Rec. Center.

## HISTORIC AWARENESS COMMITTEE

This committee is currently in the process of creating a brochure for Maravista. Pictures have been taken; however, anyone with input for this area is encouraged to contact the Historic Awareness Committee with any further information for the brochure.

## ANNUAL MEETING

Please mark your calendars for this year's FHMIA Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held on **Saturday, August 1, beginning at 8:30 am** (location TBD). If you have any items of interest you would like discussed at this meeting or in a future newsletter, please pass your ideas along to a FHMIA board member.

## CASINO WHARF FX

In November 2008, the Casino Wharf FX went before the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) to amend the valet parking rules. What follows is the revised schedule for valet parking, which also states that valet attendants shall be on duty any time there is a function of more than 50 people, and on major holidays.

*May 1 – Labor Day:* Valet attendants shall be on duty whenever the restaurant is open

*Labor Day – October 15:* Valet attendants shall be on duty all day on Saturday's and Sunday's. Valet attendants will be on duty every night from 4 p.m. until closing. The valet lot will be open and available for customers to self-park all day during the weekdays.

*October 16 – December 31 & March 1 – April 30:* Valet attendants shall be on duty Friday and Saturday nights, 4 p.m. until closing. The valet lot will not be open during the day.

*January 1 – February 28:* Valet attendants only on duty Friday and Saturday nights, 4 p.m. until closing. Valet lot not open during daytime.

It must be noted that the foregoing are minimal hours of operation. The Casino Wharf FX may extend the times valet parking is available, or when the valet parking area will be available for self-parking. The valet parking lot shall always be clear of cars as of 1 a.m. The restaurant shall also post the current schedule of valet parking inside the restaurant in a manner that will be readily seen by customers.



THE 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY FIREWORKS CELEBRATION  
WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>  
(RAINDATE: JULY 5)

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# THE VISTA

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Volume 4 Number 1

February 2009

## **SPEED SIGNS ON FALMOUTH HEIGHTS ROAD**

Complaints by HarborWatch members to the town's Traffic Advisory Committee have resulted in "Thickly Settled 30 M.P.H." signs being posted in both directions on Falmouth Heights Road.

## **TOWN COMMITTEE AGENDA'S ONLINE**

The Design Review committee has agreed to list their agendas online prior to their meetings. You can view this information at [www.falmouthmass.us/meetings.php](http://www.falmouthmass.us/meetings.php). HarborWatch is working with a selectman to encourage other committees to follow suit. While some committees register their minutes online, most, including the Building Committee, do not advertise their agendas beforehand, thus making it impossible for residents to attend when something of interest comes up (e.g., the Building Committee met twice last summer regarding the Scranton Avenue band stand with no notice to the community).

## **MARAVISTA'S LITTLE BEACH**

The mediation process was unsuccessful in trying to have the town and property owner come to a mutual solution, so the problem is now back in Land Court.

## **CLARIFICATION**

Paula Lichter and DecDec Mariano are suing the Falmouth Zoning Board of Appeals as individuals—*not on behalf of HarborWatch*. The lawsuit against the Falmouth Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is due to the fact that the ZBA granted administrative approval of MacDougall's request for 540' of an 8' tall solid white vinyl fence along Falmouth Heights Road and Grand Avenue without any public notice of their intent.



*Annual Meeting  
8:30 a.m.  
Saturday, August 1,  
Location TBD*

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For further information about these articles, or any other issue impacting Falmouth Heights or Maravista, please contact us in writing:

Falmouth Heights-Maravista Improvement Association  
P.O. Box 43 • Falmouth MA 02541

*President:* Winifred Grant  
*Treasurer:* Kevin Smith  
*Secretary:* Ellen Hanley

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# THE VISTA

Volume 4 Number 2

November 2009

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We are now at peak foliage here on Cape Cod, and the leaves are falling as we enter the shoulder season. If you missed our annual meeting at the Falmouth Yacht Club on August 1<sup>st</sup>, then this newsletter will update you on some of the topics we discussed. Through *The Vista*, we have the opportunity to keep you informed of the activities in Falmouth Heights and keep you posted on issues that impact our neighborhoods, which are discussed during the regular (and frequent) meetings of the FHMIA board of directors.

## **FALMOUTH HEIGHTS BEACH PARKING LOT & FENCE**

The beach parking lot will be resurfaced, as well as new fencing and landscaping will be done to that area. The fence will be the same style as the one along the Heights ball field. We hope to have this in place by the start of the new summer season. The roses that were along the ball field fence on Crescent Avenue are in the D.P.W. nursery and we have been told that they will be replanted in the spring.

## **QUIET ROADS**

Rod Baltz and Howard Grosser have been working with this committee, as well as with the Falmouth Police Department to have signs placed at various streets alerting the motorcyclists that Falmouth has a noise abatement program in progress.

## **HISTORIC APPRECIATION COMMITTEE**

Members have been gathering pictures and information in order to create a brochure for the Maravista area. If you can add anything to this project, please let us know.

## **MARAVISTA LITTLE BEACH**

The problem continues to be in the Land Court. We have urged the town to more on our behalf to have a resolution of the encroachment on the beach.

## **SPEEDING AND TRAFFIC CONCERNS**

Three members have banded together to work with the traffic advisory committee to insure enforcement of the stop signs, regulations and enforcement of the speed limit, and to address illegal parking problems. We will hear more from this group as they move forward.

## **FENCE ALONG MACDOUGALL'S**

The owner of the marina withdrew their request for an 8' white vinyl fence, and instead offered to install a green or black vinyl covered wire fence. There will be additional trees placed along that area in order to screen the fence. There will also be additional trees planted to screen the building and the hazmat yellow containers.

## **SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT**

Falmouth High School graduate, Ann Marie Kallbery, is this year's recipient of the Robert T. Smith scholarship. Ann Marie was awarded the \$750 scholarship and she is attending college in New Hampshire. The scholarship is awarded each year to a Falmouth resident in memory of Robert T. Smith – a former FHMIA president who worked tirelessly during the difficult times in the Heights history.

Once again, a big thank you to Glen Dawson for maintaining the traffic island in Falmouth Heights near Crescent Park. There was a beautiful selection of perennials and annual plantings again this year.

