

# TNRTA NEWS

TRURO NON-RESIDENT TAXPAYERS  
ASSOCIATION

PO Box 324 Truro, MA 02666  
www.TNRTA.org info@tnrta.org  
Fall 2004 Vol. 8 No.2

## TNRTA 2004-2005 Board of Directors

Alan Frankel, President	
Anthony Garrett, Past President	
Frank Korahais, Secretary	
Regan McCarthy, Treasurer	
Mark Poster, Nominations	
Gwyn Korahais, Communications	
Tom Bow	Mary Frankel
Cathy Haynes	Richard Hersh
Neil Moynihan	Larry Pisapio
Ronald Probststein	David Schwartz
Richard Smith	Peter Weiler

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Neighbors,

As we head into winter, I am pleased to report 2004 has been a positive year for Truro and for its non-resident taxpayers. The news about the continuing financial difficulties of The Ahold Group, including the firing of its two top officers and an on-going investigation of possible criminal activities, reinforce how important the fight against Stop&Shop was. It also points out that with business, as with politics, nothing can be taken at face value and community groups need to be vigilant and active to ensure that reality and truth are available to the public when important issues are at hand.

Our reconstituted Board of Selectmen, under the able leadership of Fred Gaechter, has provided a new spirit of cooperation among the Board and a greater degree of professionalism in its deliberations. The efforts of your organization in the past to build open communication and understanding between the Board and TNRTA are paying dividends in recognition of our issues. An example is the stationing of Town lifeguards last sum-

mer; an issue that was brought to the Selectmen by us during 2003. Additionally, one of our Board Members has been named to the Board of Health as an alternate member.

As this newsletter is being prepared, the town has received no bids for the construction of the combined Community Center and Council on Aging facility. This has necessitated the issuance of a new Request for Proposals. Your Board of Directors feels it is vital that Truro stick to the budget approved at the prior Town Meeting. Our position is consistent with our view that Truro needs to control its expenditures for capital projects over the next several years in order to reduce its debt. The many building projects over the past dozen or so years, including the library, public service building and renovation of Town Hall, have resulted in Truro having the highest debt in relation to revenue of any town on the Cape. We believe it is prudent to digest this debt before adding more and believe the Board of Selectmen agrees with our position.

Ongoing, the greatest issue facing Truro remains that of the availability of water. There are significant concerns over the continuing building expansion taking place in Provincetown and its impact on both the supply and quality of Truro's water. Truro is well represented by two knowledgeable individuals, Gary Palmer and Kevin Kuechler, in this matter. We continue to communicate with them and are prepared to assist in any way we can to ensure that nothing degrades our water supply.

Finally, when I wrote to you in the Spring, I asked for your help in assuring that your Board maintained its viability and enthusiasm by adding new people to take the place of some of our longstanding board members whose terms were expiring. You answered my request and we have added two highly qualified individuals who bring commitment, energy and specific areas of expertise that are vital to our mission of representing the voice of Truro's non-resident taxpayers.

TNRTA will continue to be the preeminent community group in Truro with your support and I urge you to renew your membership if you have not already done so.

Kind regards,  
Alan Frankel, President

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## **TOWN NEWS UPDATE**

Truro is still busy with proposed new public and private building construction in Town. The rehabilitation of the **Town Hall** was completed in early 2004 and is now fully occupied. If you have not stopped in, please do to see the wonderful transformation of the building.

The proposed **Truro Community Center** construction plans are on hold at this time. As of October 26, the original date set for Special Town Meeting, no bids had been received, leading to the postponement of the article until November 29 Special Town Meeting. The Board of Selectmen agreed to revise the Request for Proposals and ask for bids again. Bids are to be submitted by November 22, 2004, with a goal toward meeting the \$2.9 million cap on the project set by Town Meeting in April, 2003. It is expected that the Town will receive a number of competitive bids from qualified primary building contractors for their approval, and will then move forward to commence construction in January 2005. The construction will take approximately 15 months with completion, anticipated for Spring, 2006.

The U.S. Postal Service is considering three locations for a **new postal facility** to be located in North Truro. The properties are located across from Dutra's Market at Highland Road and Route 6A; the corner of Arrowhead Road and Route 6A; and the current site of Babe's Bakery and Restaurant on Route 6A. The selectmen have endorsed the Highland Road property as the most central location. The next scheduled presentation is

planned for the selectmen's meeting on December 1, 2004.

Fred Gaechter, Chair of the Board of Selectmen, is supporting the formation of a town **Affordability Task Force** to include representatives from the Planning Board, Housing Authority and Finance Committee, as well as several "at-large" members from the community. The group's purpose would be to study all aspects of the difficulty of creating affordable housing in Truro.

Sally Sears-Mack was unanimously approved to serve as chair of the **Truro Housing Authority** in October, 2004. The Town received a \$1.5 million dollar subsidy for 14 new affordable housing units on Sally's Way.

In an effort to further address the need for **affordable housing** in Truro, a private business consortium is purchasing the Pilgrim Springs Motel located on Route 6 next to the Seamen's Bank branch, and has presented a plan to include 28 new condos, seven of which are planned as affordable units. The complex is to be known as "The Overlook at Peters Hill."

The Zoning Board of Appeals has given Richard Aiken, owner of the former **Jack's Gas** station on Route 6, permission to rebuild the structure which was destroyed by fire last November and had served as a familiar landmark for years.

On another note, the Town continues to move forward on planning issues that would affect the Town far into the future.

The **Community Preservation Act** was passed unanimously by Truro voters at Special Town Meeting on October 26. The Community Preservation Act, as modified by the so-called O'Leary amendment, would replace the current Cape Cod Open Space Acquisition Plan, or Land Bank. The new Act would allow for significant state match-

ing funds. Under the act, resources would be allocated toward historic preservation and affordable housing as well as open space. The Town would need to adopt a community preservation committee bylaw to establish and set rules for a committee to oversee activities associated with the new law. Numerous towns across the Cape are in the process of enacting the CPA.

Truro and Provincetown have signed a four year extension to the **Water Intermunicipal Agreement**. Truro now has joint jurisdiction of the operations of the Provincetown water system. The amended agreement states that Truro will cooperate with Provincetown in developing well fields that will supply a redundant source of 800,000 gallons per day as mandated by DEP. In return, Provincetown agrees to the establishment of a **Pamet Lens Oversight Group (PLOG)**. PLOG will be comprised of two representatives and an alternate from each Town. PLOG will oversee the implementation of and adherence to all components of the agreement and the development of its three plans. The plans are to formulate a Water System Master Plan, a Watershed Management Plan and a Conservation Plan.

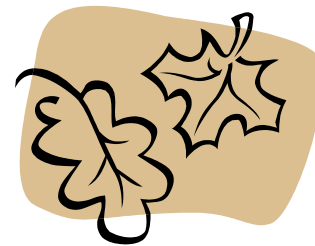
The town also is moving forward on the completion of the Draft **Local Comprehensive Plan** which is to be presented to the Town at the Spring 2005 Town Meeting.

The Board of Selectmen selected Pam Nolan as the new **Town Administrator**. Nolan, most recently the Plymouth Town Manager, has also worked for the towns of Weymouth and Wellesley.

*Contributed by Cathy Haynes*



We are pleased to alert our members to the new hours at the **Truro Transfer Station and Recycling Facility**. The facility is now open 7 days a week from 7:30 to 3:30 with the exception of the following holidays: Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's and Easter. This should be of assistance to those who can only make it to the center during weekend hours.



## **TOWN COMMITTEES**

At the August TNRTA Annual Meeting with the Truro Board of Selectmen, Chairman Fred Gaechter spoke of the major issues facing Truro at this time, one of those being affordability of living in the town. He invited seasonal residents who might have time to serve on various town committees to do so. The town is eager for shared expertise from TNRTA members who might be able to provide information and experience in specific areas.

TNRTA Board Member, Larry Pisapio, applied and was recently appointed as an alternate member to the Board of Health.

If you are interested in serving on a town committee, you can find further information on our Web site...[www.tnrta.org](http://www.tnrta.org). A list of town committees, including the newly-formed affordability task force, is available along with an application which can be downloaded for your convenience.

## FRIENDS OF THE TRURO LIBRARY

*Friends of the Truro Library President Anne Brock has asked TNRTA to inform its members about the activities of the Friends and to survey its members with regard to their interest in types of programs offered at the library during the summer months when they might be there to participate. TNRTA is distributing this for the Friends of the Truro Library as we do not disclose our mailing address or e-mail address lists to any outside organization.*

To our TNRTA friends:

Many of you are members of the Friends of the Truro Library, and your membership is greatly appreciated. You have made possible many improvements and special programs for our wonderful library.

The role of the Friends of the Truro Library is twofold. One goal is to raise money to provide discretionary funds for library use. The Town of Truro is generous with its library budget, but there are no "extras." Here is a partial list of things that FOTL has enabled over the past five years since the library opened:

- Furnishings for the periodicals room and the main reading room.
- Plantings to enhance the exterior of the library.
- Funding for staff to attend workshops, seminars and conferences.
- Busing for Central School students to visit the Library for a day each month.
- New globes to replace the outdated old ones.
- New shelving that will be needed when the lower level expansion is completed.
- \$3500 toward new and updated reference materials.
- Expansion of the CD and DVD collections.
- Folding tables and chairs for the Community Room.

- Two additional computers to upgrade outdated equipment.
- A discretionary account for the library director to use as she wishes.

The second goal of the Friends is to advocate for the library. FOTL pays for FOOTNOTES, the tri-annual newsletter that informs the public about library programs, and FOTL supports library programs in every way it can. The organization supplies a large group of volunteers to supplement the library staff, and it presents monthly meetings and programs which focus on areas of special interest---town history, town government, and Cape Cod organizations---as well as other educational and informational programs of community interest. Recent programs featured Cape Wind representative Rachel Pachter and a discussion on developing wind power on the Cape (October); and Jebba Handley, a food writer for the Cape Codder (November).

FOTL is eager to provide programs and services of interest to the seasonal residents of Truro and is also eager to have seasonal residents join and participate in the organization. If you wish to share ideas on types of programs which would interest you and your friends or if you know of specific speakers you feel would attract an audience to the library, please let us know by responding to [info@tnrta.org](mailto:info@tnrta.org). Your response will be passed on to FOTL.

If you would like to become a member of FOTL, you may download a membership form at [www.trurolibrary.org](http://www.trurolibrary.org). Your membership will help provide many of the extra things covered through funds raised by the Friends of the Truro Library.

Best wishes for a joyful holiday season,  
Anne Brock, FOTL President

### **E-Mail Alerts**

TNRTA alerts its members to important issues in Truro through **e-mail**. Keep your e-mail address current. Notify us of any changes at [info@tnrta.org](mailto:info@tnrta.org).

We also wish to make you aware of possible “spamming” of our e-mails. Certain Internet Service Providers have devices which will automatically delete any e-mail messages sent to large numbers of recipients or messages from unrecognized senders in an effort to reduce spam. Check the **spam settings** for you e-mail to assure receipt of our messages.

visit TNRTA Web site  
[www.tnrta.org](http://www.tnrta.org)  
contact us: [info@tnrta.org](mailto:info@tnrta.org)

### **Tax Exempt Status**

It has come to our attention that some have thought of the organization as tax-exempt and have acted accordingly toward dues and contribution payments. Please note: TNRTA is not a tax-exempt organization and none of the payments made toward dues and/or contributions are tax-deductible.

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### **Membership**

If you have not renewed your membership for 2004-2005, dues of \$35. and/or additional contributions may be mailed to:

**TNRTA**  
**PO Box 324**  
**Truro, MA 02666.**

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