

# Selectmen, school committee races top town elections

BY PETER A. SUTTERS JR.  
INDEPENDENT WRITER

After voting publicly at Annual Town Meeting this week, residents will have the chance to cast their votes for town leaders in the privacy of a voting booth on April 15. Polls open at 7 a.m. Tuesday at the high school and close at 8 p.m. There are 8,109 registered voters eligible for the election this year, up from 8,013 last year.

A lengthy list of candidates is vying for the chance to sit on a variety of town boards, led by four people running for two seats on the Board of Selectmen, two candidates seeking one seat on the Planning Board and three residents striving for two seats on the School Committee. Four candidates are also running for two seats on the Historic District Commission, with one incumbent in the mix.

Both the Board of Selectmen and School Committee have incumbents seeking reelection, while the Planning Board will have a fresh face after

long-time member and current chairman Frank Spriggs elected not to run again. Selectman Michael Kopko and Linda Williams are battling for the one open seat on the Planning Board being vacated by Spriggs.

The HDC race features two of its alternates, the current chair and a newcomer going after two full time seats, one of which is being vacated by Dawn Holdgate. HDC chair Dirk Roggeveen is hoping to retain his seat on the board, while alternates John Wagley and Diane Coombs and architect David Barham are also in the running.

Two selectmen, chairman Whitey Willauer and Brian Chadwick, are looking to hold onto their seats for a second term, while Finance Committee chairman Rick Atherton and Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission and Conservation Commission member David Gray are running for the board after unsuccessful attempts in the past.

Dr. Timothy Lepore and Christine Elahi are

attempting to hold onto their seats on the School Committee, while Robin Harvey is making her first run at public office.

There are also a number of uncontested races on Tuesday's ballot. Bill Blount and Fred Holdgate are the only candidates for two seats on the Shellfish and Harbor Advisory Board. Nelson Eldridge is running unopposed for the Nantucket Water Commission, Gerald Eldridge is the only candidate for the 'Sconset Water Commission, Selectman Allen Reinhard is running alone for one seat on the Land Bank and Linda Williams is seeking reelection to the Nantucket Housing Authority.

Typically fewer than half of the island's registered voters cast ballots in town elections, with contested races for selectmen seats in the past garnering 3,000 votes in 2005 and 3,969 in 2005. State or national elections usually bring more people to the polls, with 4,031 casting votes in the 2006 mid-term elections, and 3,336 filling in ovals for the presidential primary last Feb. 5. ■

# Island counseling group reaches out to public

BY PETER B. BRACE  
INDEPENDENT WRITER

Last October, two island therapists were talking about their profession over lunch at the Downyflake when they agreed that it would be a good idea to form a group and share their expertise. From that casual discussion, the Professional Consultation Group was founded by family therapist Richard Ross and clinical psychologist Robert Weaver III. Shortly after the group was established, mental health counselors Mary Michetti and Nancy Rappaport were invited to join, as was family therapist Christine Smith and psychiatric nurse practitioner Anne Kronenberg.

The group's affiliation allows them to exchange clinical knowledge with one

another and refer their patients to each other when multiple areas of counseling and treatment arise. All the group members are in private practice and meet monthly.

"All of us have worked at mental health agencies and we want to put a face on private practitioners here," said Ross. "We can refer people out pretty quickly when we find out what their issues are. I think we can respond a lot quicker than having to go through intakes, and we know each other's strengths. The client gets the advantage of not being married to one therapist. I think it's healthy. People have different needs at different times of life."

As a means of introducing themselves to the community, on Tuesday, April 15, at 6 p.m. in the Atheneum's downstairs

gallery room, the group will present the first in a series of panel discussions they plan to offer free to the public at the start of each season of the year. The first presentation is called "Relationships: What Works and What Doesn't," wherein the practitioners will address particular types of relationships and behaviors for approximately 10 minutes each, then open the talk to a question and answer segment.

"All of us are serious about what we're doing for the community," said Kronenberg, who will discuss the joys and pitfalls of being a grandparent and the importance of creating clear boundaries and mutual respect between grandparents and their own children in the three-way association.

Ross will discuss couples and the principles associated with their successful

relationships as the 'architects of the family.' Michetti will cover the topic of fair fighting and when it crosses a line to become domestic violence. Weaver will discuss living with and understanding the challenges of adolescents. Rappaport will talk about risky behaviors, why people engage in them and their physical and emotional effects.

• Ross received his master's degree in family therapy from UMass Boston. He specializes in marriage and family therapy, individual and couples therapy and alcohol and drug counseling.

• Weaver has degrees from Bowdoin College, Memorial University of Newfoundland and the California School of Professionals in Psychology. He founded two branches of the Weaver Center in

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## FIRE, POLICE

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million to begin the design phase and feasibility study for the project and a 2006 vote to allow the police station to move out of town.

Finance Committee chairman and Board of Selectmen candidate Rick Atherton stressed that it was the right time to build the facility because the competitive bidding climate, pledged funds from the county sheriff's office and the eventual sale of the old fire station on Sparks Avenue will offset the total cost to taxpayers.

The sheriff has pledged \$4 million, while the sale of the existing fire station is expected to fetch \$6 million to \$7 million, bringing the total amount residents

must pay at \$17 million.

Both the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee had recommended the measure be approved.

The town is seeking a 20-year bond for the total \$27.5 million to finance the project, with the sheriff's funds, as well as the money from the sale of the fire station, being used to pay off the principal on the debt.

Resident Alice McWade, who called the article for discussion, expressed concern about the cost and size of the project and asked town leaders to look at a less expensive building, but voters agreed with the article as recommended by the Finance Committee and selectmen.

"I think we were pleasantly surprised by the amount of support we got," said Kopko following the

meeting. "We all did a lot of work. The designers, the administration, the board (of selectmen). I think voters realized, 'Yes, we're going to need this facility,' and there wasn't going to be a better time to do it."

Voters went against a Finance Committee recommendation when they approved Article 20, which finalized a collective bargaining agreement between Nantucket Memorial Airport and its employees. The new contract negotiated by the Airport Commission, gave employees a larger raise than other contracts agreed to between the town and various unions. Airport Commission chairman E. Foley Vaughn said the pay increase was "modest" and it would not affect the average taxpayer because airport employees are paid by the Airport's self-sustaining enterprise fund. The final vote was 308 for and 185 against. ■

## CAIO

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est. Being selected by Sao Paulo is a huge step for the teenager who left Nantucket less than a year and a half ago.

Correa was playing for the Volta Redonda junior team but lately, according to Tarcitano, he would sit in with the adult league and see action towards the end of games. "Every time they'd stick him in, he'd score," Tarcitano said. "Sao Paulo saw him play and bought his contract" from Volta Redonda.

Correa played with the Nantucket High School

varsity for two years. He was named an all-star both years, helped his team into the state tournament in successive years and led the state in scoring his sophomore year. His prowess led to stories in the *Boston Globe* and *Sports Illustrated*.

Back in Brazil, however, Correa had to reestablish himself as a player. "He went there, and had to prove himself and it took him a while," Tarcitano noted. "He sat on the bench until the fourth or fifth game of the season."

Correa's former varsity coach, Rich Brannigan, is happy for his former star. "I think it's great, it's really exciting," he said. "Since he's left Nantucket he has done well for himself and moved up the ladder, I

guess you could say."

Tarcitano believes this is only the beginning for the talented player. "I believe he's going to go all the way," he said. "He'll play for two years in Sao Paulo. In three years, he'll be playing in Europe."

Tarcitano said his son, Brian, a junior at Nantucket High School and a former teammate of Correa's, is thrilled by the news. Even before the recent signing, his son urged him to pick up Brazilian radio on satellite. "I've lived here for 20 years and I never got the Brazilian radio station through cable. We ended up getting it so we could hear Caio playing," he said. ■