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Subject: **BOOK SALE, WILDFLOWERS, DAM & DEAL**
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FARM & RIVER DAY

Saturday, the Pawtuxet Village Farmers Market will hold its spring book sale Saturday to benefit the education fund of Bob and Alan Fratantuono, the sons of the late Peter Fratantuono of Moosup River Farm.

Peter, a graduate of Cranston High School West, was the first farmer to attend the newly formed Pawtuxet Village Farmers Market in 2003 and helped guide the market's growth. Prior to farming he worked as a substance abuse counselor and psychology professor at the University of Rhode Island. Last November 20, after attending the market, he died unexpectedly of a massive heart attack, leaving his wife Ingrid and three sons, two of whom are still in college. Bob, who is at the market every week, is a sophomore at the University of Rhode Island and Alan is a junior at Wesleyan College in West Virginia.

All proceeds from the book sale will go to the Fratantuono Boys Education Fund established by the market and Ingrid Fratantuono. Donations may be made at the market, or mailed to Ingrid Fratantuono, 1640 Plainfield Pike, Greene, RI 02827.

Book donations may be dropped on porches at 25 Berwick Lane, 10 & 18 Williams Avenue and 37 Ferncrest Avenue in Cranston. Please do not donate textbooks or damaged books. We expect to have another sale in the fall.

Please attend the sale, purchase some books and make a generous donation to help with Bob's and Alan's college educations.

Saturday is also Farm and River Day, sponsored by Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island, at the market. We will have three new vendors, a wildflower walk and a children's cooking program for students at Cranston's Edgewood Highland Elementary School.

Mazie's Organics of Providence (pre-made salads and other foods made from local produce) and the Virginia & Spanish Peanut Company of Providence (peanut butter made with Rhode Island honey and roasted nuts) will join the market for the first time Saturday. Wedgewood Flowers of North Kingstown, which has a wide variety of interesting plants, including Venus flytraps and unusual herbs, joined the market last week.

Also Saturday, Edgewood naturalist Rod Rodrigues will lead a wildflower walk along the Pawtuxet River starting at 10 AM from the recycling table at the market. Children are welcome, but please no dogs.

Finally, thanks to the sponsorship of Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island, children from Edgewood Highland Elementary School will cook some simple items for customers after learning about healthy foods in school. Heidi Hetzler, who occasionally ran the Zephyr Farm market stand last year, will supervise the program.

Attendance at last week's market at the Hall Library was respectable by less than usual at last week's market at Hall Library. We hope it will rebound this week back at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet. Thanks to those who attended last week.

DAM

Plans to remove the Pawtuxet River dam at the bridge in Pawtuxet Village are moving ahead thanks to the Narragansett Estuary Project, Save The Bay and the Pawtuxet River Authority.

Dam removal is primarily to allow herring and shad to migrate from the ocean into the river to spawn. The project should help restore natural conditions and improve fishing in both the river and the bay.

The most attractive and functional option is to remove the southern two thirds of the dam to create a channel that insures proper water flow for fish passage at key times in the spawning cycle. Scientists from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and the National Marine Fisheries Service have helped plan the project and estimate it will have a minor impact on flooding. Upstream, the river will still be passable by canoe, but the water level will drop 3 feet at the dam, two feet at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet and one foot at Warwick Avenue.

The dam removal permit is being finalized. If the permit is approved, sediment behind the dam will be dredged this fall and the dam removed in the spring. Once the permit is filed, a public information meeting will be held to explain the details and answer questions.

Meanwhile, an artist's rendering of what the falls will look like without the dam is on display at Hunter's Garage on the Warwick side of the river in Pawtuxet Village. Hunter's is open from 8 AM to 5 PM and welcomes the public to view the drawing.

LAND DEAL

Thursday June 17, the City Council's Ordinance Committee will again consider a comprehensive plan for Cranston, including a controversial change inserted by council members to encourage half acre development in western Cranston. The West Bay Land Trust urges citizens to attend the meeting and speak against the change, which was previously approved unanimously by the Ordinance Committee. In addition to encouraging sprawl, the change would cost the city more than \$2 million in services than it would collect in taxes, according to a Planning Department estimate. The meeting will be held in City Council chambers in City Hall on Park Avenue at 7 PM.

CONCERT

Rocking Soul Horns, the Cranston East Jazz Band, the Park View Band, Arthur Montanaro and Charlie Hall will all perform Wednesday June 23 at a benefit concert for the Cranston School music program.

The concert will be held in the Cranston East Auditorium starting at 7 PM. Donations of music stands and gently used instruments will also be accepted at the performance.

See you at the market.