



# The Heartbeat

*The mission of Father Bill's & MainSpring is to help homeless people obtain a home by giving temporary shelter and food, finding safe and affordable housing, and providing permanent housing with supportive services. Father Bill's & MainSpring helps people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to achieve self-sufficiency.*

SPRING 2012 NEWSLETTER

## Veteran House in Hingham Named for Commander Paul F. Anderson

### LATE COMMANDER WAS LONG-TIME HINGHAM RESIDENT

Father Bill's & MainSpring (FBMS) is pleased to announce that a home designed for six veterans at 111-113 Fort Hill Street, Hingham will be named for the late Commander Paul F. Anderson, a decorated military veteran who spent his childhood in Hingham and graduated from Hingham High School, class of 1976.

The original home was replaced with a 2,800 square foot, handicapped accessible, two-story wood frame structure within the existing footprint, complimentary to the Fort Hill neighborhood. Completed in May 2012, the home provides private rooms for each resident with shared kitchen, dining, living, laundry and bathrooms. Residents are expected to occupy the home by early summer 2012.

"We are so pleased that the Hingham Veteran's Council recommended naming our latest veteran housing project after Commander Anderson, a man who loved his family and country with unwavering devotion. His educational achievements and military record will be inspirational and life-affirming to future residents," said John Yazwinski, President & CEO of FBMS.

Hingham residents voted unanimously at a town meeting in April 2010 to approve \$300,000 in funds for the project through the Hingham Affordable Housing Trust and Hingham Community Preservation. Additional funding for the \$1.4 million project comes from the MassHousing CCRI (Center for Community Recovery Innovations) Grant and the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (HIF). Lending was provided by The Property & Casualty Initiative (PCI), Rockland Trust and South Shore Savings Bank. A challenge grant was provided also by Charlesbank Homes. In fall 2011, a committee of private Hingham residents together raised \$173,000 toward a goal of \$200,000 to complete the project and provide ongoing supportive services for residents. It is estimated an additional \$30,000 per year will be needed to support ongoing operations.

An open house for the public will take place Sunday, May 20, 2012 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

*Continued on page 6*

*Commander Paul F. Anderson*



## Evelyn House Restoration

The Evelyn House restoration project is part of our efforts to provide support suitable "family friendly" accommodations for families in transition.

The beautiful new 3<sup>rd</sup> floor education and resource space at the Evelyn House shelter is a place where families have access to classes, tutoring, training and more, leading them on a path to greater self-sufficiency. Funding for this project was provided in part by Franklin Square House Foundation, Arbella Insurance Foundation, Eastern Bank, the estate of Arthur McBain, South Shore Savings Bank and WB Mason. The new playroom is provided courtesy of Horizons for Homeless Children.

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## President's Message

Dear Friends,

Each day, we aspire to educate those living and working within our service area about the many challenges we face in our mission to end homelessness on the South Shore and in Southeastern, Massachusetts.

At a recent speaking engagement at my alma mater, Bentley University, I answered many questions from students, but one in particular stood out from the crowd. The student wanted to know what a typical day was like working at Father Bill's & MainSpring. My response to this student was, "Let me explain my last two hours."

On my way into the office at 8:00 a.m., I received a call for help from a doctor concerned about his 40 year-old patient who required an oxygen tank and would most likely be living out of his car by week's end. As I was completing that call, a voice mail came in from a city councilor about a father and his two children who were living in a hotel room. The councilor wanted to know how we could help this dad, who was desperately trying to keep his job and find permanent housing for his family. As I sat down to my desk by 9:15 a.m., a local veteran's agent came by to discuss a veteran he was working with who needed to find shelter before nightfall. By

10:00 a.m., I finished a call with a faith leader from a nearby parish, a local official, and a father worried about his 18 year-old son, all looking for help from our emergency shelters, prevention services and WorkExpress program.

While all this is happening, the public resources needed to respond to these cries for help are being cut. Our two adult emergency shelters which are funded currently by the state to support 125 men and women per night are serving more than 200 nightly, as our mission is to never turn anyone away.

The challenges to some may seem insurmountable, but I've yet to mention the rewards. There is nothing more gratifying than seeing a family receive a key to their own front door, a child's face light up when they walk into their very own bedroom, or a veteran landing that new job. All of this is able to happen thanks to our generous private donors, diligent volunteers and our focused staff, who are all committed to working toward the day when every single veteran, individual and family in our community will have a safe and permanent place to stay.

It is my hope that someday, a typical day at Father Bill's & MainSpring will include never having to worry about anyone being without a home for any reason. Thanks to all of our continued supporters, I believe that day will come.

Sincerely,

John Yazwinski  
President & CEO

## Accomplishments in FY 2011

**Creating Housing** – Provided 309 affordable apartments or rooms for individuals and families exiting shelters, adding 22 homes to our growing housing inventory in the community.

**Transforming Emergency Shelters into Triage Centers** – Continued to shift to a new approach to shelter, with Triage Centers focused on rapid assessment and moving people quickly to housing or treatment.

**Connecting People to Job Opportunity** – Redesigned our workforce programs, preparing 271 people for employment, with 56% gaining jobs by fiscal year-end.

**Securing a Pathway Out of Homelessness for Veterans** – Increased our services for veterans so that 339 veterans benefited from shelter, housing, and access to training and jobs.

**Preventing Homelessness** – Helped more than 175 households to stay in their homes.

**Feeding People in Need** – Added a community lunch program at MainSpring House in Brockton, by giving a new home to *The Table*, which feeds an average of 150 neighbors in need six days a week.

***This year, we helped more than 4,000 individuals and families.***



## Save the Date FoodFest 18! July 31, 2012

Mark your calendars for the 18th annual FoodFest & Auction to benefit FBMS! Thank you to premier sponsors Arbella Insurance Foundation and DePasquale Ventures, Inc. who has generously donated their beautiful venue, The Ocean Club at Marina Bay in Quincy, where we will host the biggest beach party on the South Shore! More than 1,000 attendees enjoy an evening of entertainment, exciting live

and silent auctions, and delicious food and beverage samplings from 40 of the South Shore's finest restaurants and vendors. Scott Wahle returns as board member Jim Wells' venerable auction co-host, and WBZ 1030 News Radio will broadcast live from Marina Bay! Purchase tickets early and save!

Please visit our website at [www.helpfbms.org](http://www.helpfbms.org), or email [events@helpfbms.org](mailto:events@helpfbms.org) for sponsorship opportunities, auction donations and ticket purchases.

### See you at the Marina!

*l to r: East Coast Acappella entertains the crowd.*

*2011 attendees having a great time!*

*The Lantana, one of the forty premier restaurants serving up their signature dishes.*

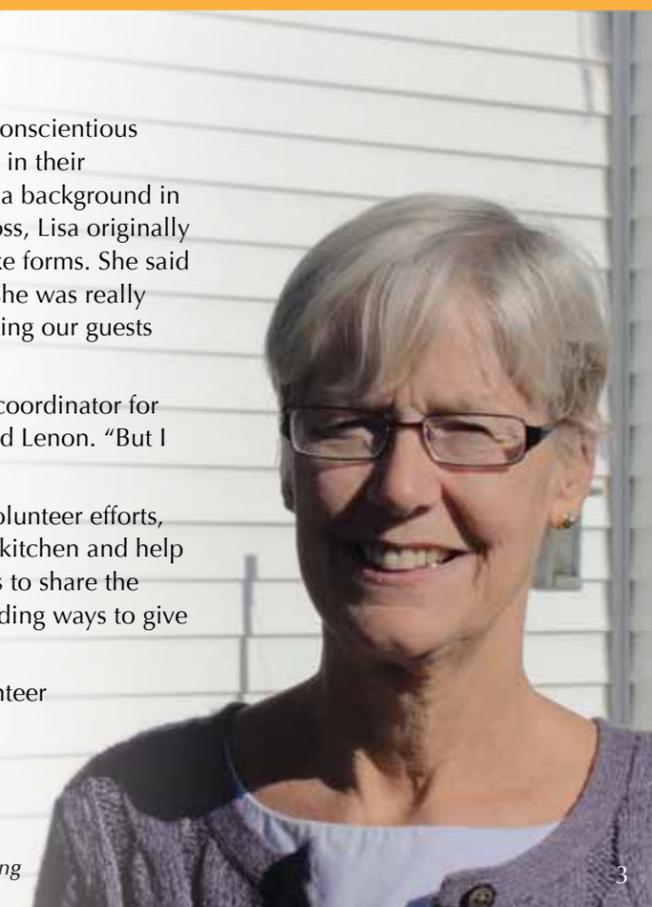
## Volunteer Profile: Lisa Lenon

Lisa Lenon is no stranger to volunteerism. As the daughter of socially conscientious parents, she and her sister were continually challenged to get involved in their community and give back where they could. With a career in law and a background in volunteering for various political campaigns and The American Red Cross, Lisa originally came to the Quincy shelter to work on computer entry and client intake forms. She said she could "always see other things that needed to be done." Lisa said she was really impressed with the staff's continued commitment to the mission of getting our guests out of the emergency shelters and into permanent housing.

Joining the organization officially in 2002, Lisa became the volunteer coordinator for FBMS. "I love working with volunteers, they are the nicest people," said Lenon. "But I was always wondering – how can I make their experience better?"

A recent family illness led Lenon away from the agency, limiting her volunteer efforts, but she still finds time to work with the Meal-A-Month program in the kitchen and help other non-profits streamline their volunteer curriculums. She continues to share the FBMS message, because she says she "believes in it," and is always finding ways to give more time.

Lisa's long-time commitment to FBMS makes her a highly valued volunteer in our eyes. Thank you to Lisa and the hundreds of other volunteers yearly who make our programs successful.



*Lisa Lenon, longtime volunteer at Father Bill's & MainSpring*

# Considering a Planned Gift to FBMS?

Please consider a gift to FBMS when planning your will. Called a "charitable bequest", this type of gift offers three primary benefits:

- **Simplicity:** Just a few sentences in your will or trust states your intentions. "I, (name), of (city, state, ZIP), give, devise and bequeath to Father Bill's & MainSpring (written monetary amount, percentage of your estate, or description of assets or stocks) for unrestricted use or for use in greatest area of need."
- **Flexibility:** You can change the amount or percentage of your gift at any time based on your needs, desires or family. You can structure the bequest to leave a specific item or amount of money, make the gift contingent on certain events, or leave a percentage of your estate.
- **Tax Deductable:** Your estate is entitled to an estate tax charitable deduction for the gift's full value.

To make a charitable bequest, you need a current will or revocable living trust. Most attorneys who deal with estate and financial matters can work with you to create a will or revocable living trust that suits you and your family.

If you have questions or would like more information about making a planned gift, please contact Lucille Cassis, Chief Development Officer at 617-376-2255 x222.

## Spring for Hope Campaign:

### A NAMING PROGRAM IN SUPPORT OF THE RESIDENCES AT 26 SPRING STREET, BROCKTON, MA

Looking for a perfect gift for that "hard to buy for" friend or family member? FBMS is offering a brick and paver program in support of The Residences at Spring Street in Brockton. Bricks and pavers can be personalized according to your wishes and make thoughtful gifts for any occasion: birthdays, anniversaries, holidays, or just because. Simply inscribe your name, a special message or date, the name of a loved one, or in honor of a veteran. When you purchase a brick or paver as a gift, we send a special acknowledgment to notify the recipient.

Plans are underway for a similar program at Father Bill's Place in Quincy.

Please visit our website for ordering information.



The brick campaign at The Residences at 26 Spring Street in Brockton

## Evelyn House Restoration

Continued from page 1.

Evelyn House served 48 families in 2011. Of these families, 15 were able to successfully exit to permanent housing. Some families transferred to shelters closer to support networks. Young mothers were able to graduate from high school, gain an advanced training certificate, or increase their income from minimum wage.

### THE RENOVATION:

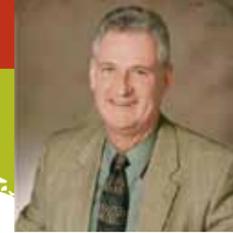
The project includes existing kitchen updates and a family friendly education and resource center. The kitchen updates include new cabinets and drawers and new countertops so that families will be able to prepare nutritious meals for their children in improved kitchens.

The education center will give parents, staff, and volunteers' access to classes, training, and computers to gain employment and income. Parents will be able to build their work skills in a space that is convenient for them and their families. Families will be able to find employment with income to support their transition to housing. Children will have a dedicated space for tutoring with School on Wheels and other classes, so that they can succeed in school.

Father Bill's & MainSpring recognizes how important it is to create a healthy and encouraging space for our families, especially during this sensitive transitional experience. As these families face seemingly insurmountable challenges and uncertain futures, it is imperative that they feel supported. The Evelyn House 3<sup>rd</sup> floor renovation project is essential to the success of the families we serve. When we improve the health, safety and self sufficiency for families in shelter, it is a crucial first step towards independent living.



The Evelyn House, Stoughton, was dedicated in honor of Evelyn M. Lynch, late mother of Board Member, Jay Lynch.



## CORPORATE PROFILE Stephen J. Wessling

At first glance, Stephen J. Wessling Architects located in Quincy Center is all about sleek design and high profile restoration projects. If you look deeper, you will also find an organization built upon community awareness and generosity.

Stephen Wessling has won numerous awards and recognition for his work including the restoration of the Jamaica Towers and the Winner Historical Building in 2009, and the New England Conservatory exterior restoration in 2011. Yet he remembers very clearly how difficult it was starting out as a young man, a few years out of college, with a family to feed. It was a struggle in those early days, as Stephen tried to find regular work, pay his bills and be an active father.

Wessling himself was raised by parents that were "always doing the right stuff" for their local church and community through hard work and sharing their talents, so it was perfectly natural that Wessling looked to the Catholic Church for support through his own tough times.

Through hard work, great talent and continued prayer, Wessling has built a successful business and today Wessling Architects is a full service award-winning architectural design firm with an extensive national and international client list of more than 500.

As he looks back, he remembers how the Sisters at St. Agatha Church in Milton where he worshipped promised to pray for him and predicted he would find work soon. At this memory, Stephen finds it difficult to keep his emotions in check, saying "given the opportunities and the talented people here, I am so blessed. It means I can give back."

And he does. Currently an active member of many charitable boards and a long time sponsor of FBMS, Stephen believes strongly in charitable giving. I believe there are "good, giving people in this world that can make a huge difference for those who are hurting, and it is my challenge to get to them."

"Our relationship with Stephen is a wonderful example of the faith based community coming together for a greater cause," says John Yazwinski, President & CEO, "As a friend and partner in our mission to end homelessness, Stephen sets the bar high when it comes to doing more for those in need."

In today's uncertain economic times and a 50% drop in employment in the architectural industry, Stephen Wessling recognizes that what he has today may be gone tomorrow, but while he has it, he will share it and wishes he could do more.

FBMS is so very grateful for all that Stephen, his family and Wessling Architects have done to support the local community and our mission to end homelessness on the greater South Shore.

Thank you, Stephen, for "always doing the right stuff."

## Leandra's Story

Leandra Andrade is a sixth grader at the O'Donnell Middle School in Stoughton. She became aware of homelessness while watching a documentary television program. The subject touched such a deep cord in this young girl that she decided to take action. Turning to her grandmother Diane for advice, she came to realize for the first time that there were those struggling with homelessness in her very own community. After visiting the Evelyn House in Stoughton, where 16 families are housed, Leandra sent out a heart-felt letter to the business community asking them to support a fundraiser by offering donations of blankets, sheets and toiletries. The results were astounding. The event, held at the Club Luis de Camoes in Stoughton, where approximately 100 attendees enjoyed pizzas, salads and desserts donated by many of the local restaurants, raised more than \$3,000 towards the purchase of items needed for the shelter.

The Stoughton Target store and Terry Schneider, owner of Multi-Sport, donated additional items that included household items and body and hair products. Schneider, also the executive director of the Stoughton Chamber, calls 11-year-old Leandra's actions "doing well by doing good" and has promised to continue donating soaps for as long as the shelter needs them.

Just recently, Leandra was honored at the Stoughton Chamber of Commerce, along with several other community members, for their good deeds.

"It's really cool because a lot of people have joined the team," says Leandra. Here at FBMS, we think Leandra is pretty cool.



Leandra Andrade ran a drive that collected more than \$3,000 in donations for the Evelyn House

## Commander Paul Francis Anderson, USN

Continued from page 1.

The late Commander Paul F. Anderson was a retired Navy Commander and Sandwich resident, born in 1958, in Winthrop, Massachusetts, the second of six children. He was raised in Hingham and graduated from Hingham High School, class of 1976. He served in the Marine Corps from 1979 to 1981, transferred to the Navy and was commissioned an Ensign through Aviation Officer Candidate School. Commander Anderson was designated a Naval Aviator in October 1982.

He held several graduate degrees and numerous military decorations as well as service in Desert Storm, Kosovo and Kuwait. He made seven operational deployments as a Naval Aviator aboard aircraft carriers, USS Kitty Hawk, USS Saratoga, USS Constellation and the USS Nimitz. He also led a Combat Search and Rescue detachment forward

deployed in Kuwait. During his distinguished 24-year career, Commander Anderson accumulated more than 4,000 flight hours in various types of Navy aircraft.

Commander Anderson's medals include the Meritorious Service Medal; Navy Commendation Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Southwest Asia Service Medal; Kosovo Campaign Medal; NATO Medal for Yugoslavia; NATO Medal for Kosovo, and the Kuwait Liberation Medal. He passed away in 2007 at age 49, leaving a wife and three children.

Dr. Philip Anderson, brother of Paul and Senior VP and Director of Homeland Security Studies and Analysis Institute in Washington, DC, said, "Paul epitomized the 'humble servant,' deeply committed to his family and country, always willing to sacrifice, proud of his service, never asking for anything in return, and fearless to the end."

## 2011 Holiday Wrap Up



*l to r: Santa visits the Conway House in Middleboro thanks to HarborOne Insurance.*

*Reebok employees prepare a delicious Thanksgiving meal with all of the fixings.*

*Granite Telecommunications employees participate in their annual Christmas Giving Tree Drive.*

It was an extremely busy 2011 holiday season for FBMS and our generous supporters! Thanks to Quincy High School, our friends at Reebok and dozens of personal volunteers, more than 300 hot turkey dinners with all the fixings were served throughout the region. A Braintree Girl Scout Troop worked hard to make cheery Thanksgiving centerpieces that were truly admired by everyone.

Granite Telecommunications in Quincy ran their annual Christmas Giving Tree drive, as well as a jeans day, that produced fully decorated trees with gifts and financial support for more than ten very grateful families in the area. HarborOne Insurance brought Santa to the Conway House in Middleboro for some jolly one on one time and family photos

that will surely be treasured, while the Spirit of State Street volunteers diligently worked to fill over 300 gift bags with essentials donated by the entire community and distributed at the shelters. Also contributing was Citizens Bank and their unique approach of donating beautiful hand-made quilts, rocking horses and teddy bears as part of a team building exercise at their November annual meeting.

There were almost too many drives to mention, including; the Quincy 99 Restaurant, Living the Dream Auto Care in Canton, and the Meketa Investment Group out of Westwood.

Thank you to everyone who contributed in some way, as you have given many families and individuals a happy holiday season they will remember for years to come.

## Upcoming Events FBMS and Community Partner

**May 20** Commander Paul F. Anderson Open House, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., 111-113 Fort Hill Street, Hingham

**June 7** Neighborhood Housing Service of the South Shore 13th Annual Mulligan Golf Tournament, 8:30 a.m., Brook Meadow Country Club, 100 Everendon Road, Canton

**June 14** Conway Country Golf Tournament to benefit FBMS, 7:30 a.m. Easton Country Club, 265 Purchase Street, Easton

**June 16** My Brother's Keeper Walk, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Stonehill Campus & Sheep Pasture, North Easton

**July 31** 18th Annual FoodFest & Auction, 6:00 p.m. The Ocean Club at Marina Bay, Quincy

**August 10** Stacey Ann LeRoy Foundation Golf Tournament, 8:00 a.m., Lakeville Country Club, 44 Clear Pond Road, Lakeville

## Father Bill's & MainSpring

### Selected as Social Innovator

#### FOR ROOT CAUSE SOCIAL INNOVATION FORUM

Father Bill's & MainSpring was selected by the Root Cause Social Innovation Forum as one of six innovative, results-oriented nonprofit organizations in greater Boston. FBMS will receive about \$100,000 worth of consultant services and \$10,000 cash from Root Cause and its partners. Evaluation and interview committees made up of more than 70 social issue experts from the business, government, nonprofit, and philanthropic sectors reviewed more than 100 applications to select the 2011-21012 "Social Innovators."

Root Cause chose FBMS for its in-depth educational and job skill programs that help individuals and returning veterans who face multiple barriers to employment, including lack of experience, homelessness and behavioral health issues. The program offers basic interview and job training skills and supportive services designed to acquire and sustain employment.

President and CEO, John Yazwinski said, "We are greatly honored to be recognized and be in the company of so many progressive and socially innovative organizations. We are confident this partnership will help us bring our education and job training to the next level as an established entity in the community."

Root Cause's Social Innovation Forum brings nonprofits, philanthropy, government, and business together to support the spread of emerging social innovations in greater Boston. Their belief is that social innovation often starts with an individual idea, but it takes a vast community of stakeholders to spread ideas that work. The Social Innovation Forum provides promising local nonprofit leaders with opportunities to build the capacity of their organizations. It also introduces these social innovators to community leaders from philanthropy, government, and business who are committed to offering their own skills, networks, and resources.

FBMS joined five other award recipients at a presentation of their social impact model to leaders from Boston's public, private, and nonprofit sectors at the Social Innovation Forum's Showcase event on Thursday, May 3, 2012. For more information, visit <http://rootcause.org>



*l to r: Jass Stewart: Brockton City Councilor, John Yazwinski: FBMS President & CEO, Thomas Todd, Dennis Carmen: United Way of Greater Plymouth County's President & CEO, Mayor of Brockton Linda Balzotti, Barbara Fields: HUD New England Regional Administrator (?), Arthur Jemison: GLC Development Resources Senior Project Manager*



*Paul F. Davis gets a second chance*

### A Second Chance

It's been a tough few years economically and no one realizes it more than Paul F. Davis. As a young man Paul joined the Marines, working as an aircraft mechanic and in construction for more than 20 years. He never anticipated that when he was laid off in July 2011, he would become a statistic among homeless veterans. Unable to find work and no longer able to pay rent, he lost his apartment and had few options. Friends offered to help, but never one to be a burden or compromise his relationships, Paul turned to MainSpring House, Brockton.

He was quickly approached by the work force team to discuss his alternatives. He recognized it was not too late to change his path. Through the help of a veteran's grant and the work force team, Paul immediately signed up to return to school to become an EMT. Still residing at the emergency shelter, Paul used the Massasoit facility and the FBMS Homeless Veterans Reintegration program resources to complete his intense studies, but attributes his overall success to the constant support and encouragement provided by FBMS staff members Michelle Clark, Paul Key, and Brandon Reynolds.

Davis stated, "It has been quite a rollercoaster ride but the staff did a tremendous job in giving me the confidence and tools I needed to succeed. If you show that you want to help yourself, they will help you."

Paul obtained his state certification on February 23 and has since moved out of MainSpring to the Spring Street Apartments adjacent to the shelter. He began his new career in April teaching EMT skills at Massasoit. He also has goals of finding a position working for an ambulance service, or in a local ER. For Paul, the door of opportunity is wide open.

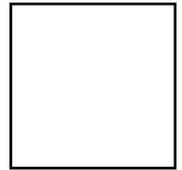
## HUD

HUD New England Regional Administrator Barbara Fields and City of Brockton Mayor Linda Balzotti join Father Bill's & MainSpring President & CEO John Yazwinski and other local agencies on February 23, 2012 for a press event to highlight the work being done in the Brockton area to end homelessness and the work accomplished with the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP) funds and the Continuum of Care (CoC) grants.



# Father Bill's & MainSpring

NOBODY SHOULD BE HOMELESS



## DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

422 Washington Street  
Quincy, MA 02169  
617.376.2255

## EMERGENCY SERVICES HOUSING PROGRAMS

38 Broad Street  
Quincy, MA 02169  
617.770.3314

34 N. Main Street  
Brockton, MA 02301  
508.587.5441

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE FAMILY & PREVENTION PROGRAMS

140 School Street  
Brockton, MA 02302  
508.427.6448



**Save the Date!**  
**Tuesday, July 31, 2012**  
**18<sup>th</sup> Annual FoodFest**  
**The Ocean Club, Marina Bay, Quincy**

Father Bill's & MainSpring

# The Heartbeat

SPRING 2012

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**Special thanks to photographers Jack Foley, Keith Berry,  
Brent Soares and Lisa Frisbie**

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