



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

A **FREE!** publication of all things Fairhaven



The little paper
with a big voice!

Volume 16, Issue 48 • December 9, 2021

Teeming with information you need.
(And some you don't need, but will be glad you have anyway.)

Benoit Square lights up and welcomes crowd



Fairhaven's Benoit Square welcomed Santa Claus and the public for the lighting of the Square on Friday, 12/3/21. Last year's event was not promoted to the public due to COVID-19, but this year the square was filled with a couple of hundred children of all ages. ABOVE: Santa rides in on an antique fire truck. See story on page 12. Photo by Beth David.



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First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Judge Murray Gurfein, Pentagon Papers case, June 17, 1971:

"The security of the Nation is not at the ramparts alone. Security also lies in the value of our free institutions. A cantankerous press, an obstinate press, a ubiquitous press must be suffered by those in authority in order to preserve the even greater values of freedom of expression and the right of the people to know."

From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

Phew! It's a good thing Santa has Christmas magic or he would not have been able to be everywhere around here this weekend. And he was *everywhere*. Wow.

See page 12 for his Fairhaven visit, page 13 for his Acushnet visit, and page 11 for his upcoming visit next week.

I got my booster! See page 8 for some walk-in clinics where you can get yours (or your first shot...or second shot). It's easy peasy. I got mine at the Pilgrim Hall walk-in clinic. See page 7, and page 8 for this weekend's clinics.

If you're anti-vax...ah...don't waste my time and I won't waste yours. I don't care why. Just don't breathe on me.

K9 Blue and his handler graduated from the narcotics detection academy last week. Blue will also be trained to track missing people. See page 18 for that.

We also have some meeting coverage this week. See page 4 for BPW, 16 for Acushnet Selectboard, and page 3 for Fairhaven Select Board.

Speaking of Select Board: I really want to assure people that, contrary to certain terminology from one of our favorite old-timers, Fairhaven Select Board member Stasia Powers is, indeed, a full grown adult woman and not a girl. Really. I've met her. I will swear to it in a court of law if necessary.

Our Happenings pages (5, 8, 9) are filled up with holiday happenings. Things are picking up in these parts. Not quite back to normal, no sing-along at town hall this year; Santa events were outside. But, we're getting there. Now if you ridiculous anti-vaxxers would just...oh, forgetaboutit.

One more thing. NEXT week is our last issue of the year. So if you have any events to list, you need to get them in right away.

There's more in here, of course. You'll have to thumb through and see for yourself.

Please be sure to notice who our advertisers are and let them know you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*.

And, while you're in a giving mood this holiday season, please remember your favorite local newspaper. We appreciate any help you can give. Until next week then...see ya,



Beth David, Publisher

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Thursday, December 9, 2021

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Selectboard reinstates mask mandate in all town buildings

By Beth David
Editor

At its meeting on 12/6/21, the Fairhaven Select Board reinstated its mask mandate, requiring all who enter town hall, including employees to wear face coverings if they are not able to stay at least six feet apart. The board made the change after receiving information from Health Agent David Flaherty, who informed the board that COVID cases in Fairhaven and surrounding areas are increasing.

For more information, visit the town's website <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov> or call the Fairhaven Health Department at 508-979-4023, Ext. 125.

The board did not hold the tax classification hearing, saying only that there was an issue with the posting of the meeting. The hearing will be held on Thursday, 12/9, at 4 p.m.

The board updated the public on the Town Administrator search. Mary Flanders of the Collins Center notified the board in an email that the search has been extended to 12/15.

"And like any process, a new deadline means different candidates," wrote Ms. Flanders. "We already have

a handful of new applicants."

The screening committee will meet in the next two weeks to review resumes and plans to hold interviews in early January.

The board did hold the hearing on the 61A property at 732 Sconticut Neck Road known as Salt Winds. The town has the right of first refusal on the property because it has received a tax break for agricultural use. The owner has an offer for \$700,000 for three parcels and the town must match that price.

The board voted unanimously to assign its right to buy the property to the Buzzards Bay Coalition. BBC President Mark Rasmussen told the board that the property will be preserved and will be open to the public. The three parcels include Lots 1, 2 and 4, with lot 2 having a residence that is a garage with a two-bedroom apartment above and a 321,399 square foot lot. Lot 1 is a 30,580 sf parcel of land; lot 4 is a 45,286 sf parcel of land.

Mr. Rasmussen told the board that the property will connect to an existing property owned by the Fairhaven-Acushnet Land Preserva-

tion Trust known as the Mononadach Marsh, and will connect to the shore on the western side of SNR.

The acquisition does not include the main house seen from the road or a smaller residence behind it.

Mr. Rasmussen called it a "signature Fairhaven property" that should be preserved for a number of reasons, including that it has USDA Prime Farmland Soils; will maintain scenic views of open fields and water from Sconticut Neck Road; will allow for coastal adaptation to climate change as 50% of the property is identified as "likely upland conversion to saltmarsh" due to rising sea levels; will provide new public walking trails; and will support wildlife and coastal water quality.

Mr. Rasmussen said the BBC may ask for Community Preservation funds to complete the sale.

After the hearing was closed and the vote taken, Robert "Hoppy" Hobson broke in remotely, saying he tried to comment while on Zoom, but was not able to. He complained that the board was shutting people out by using remote means.

SELECT: cont'd on page 22

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BPW discusses West Island sewer tie-ins

By Mary Chasse

Neighb News Correspondent

At its meeting on Monday, 11/29/21, the Fairhaven Board of Public Works discussed available sewer stubs on West Island, and money for the Piping Plovers management on West Island Beach.

The board first met with David Lucio about a driveway waiver for his property on Blackburn Street. Mr. Lucio asked about cutting the curb and adding about 10 feet to his already existing 30 foot opening driveway.

Mr. Lucio explained that the curb damages his camper when he moves it in and out of the driveway.

The board saw no issues with expanding Mr. Lucio's driveway and voted unanimously to grant the waiver.

In another matter the board discussed the Lloyd Center 2022 the Piping Plover management on West Island Town Beach.

BPW Superintendent Vinnie Furtado explained that it is a yearly program between the months of April through September. The board has to

allocate money to protect the Piping Plovers that inhabit a portion of town beach.

Mr. Furtado explained that the cost is \$6,613 dollars which is about 400 dollars more than last year.

Board member Cameron Durant asked if it is confirmed that the Piping Plovers will inhabit the same area of the beach. He said he knew that a few years ago the Piping Plovers used to inhabit the state side of the beach, so the state had to fund it, but for the past few years they have inhabited the town side causing the town to have to fund it.

Mr. Furtado said it was not confirmed but it is assumed they will inhabit the same area. He said in April they can verify that the birds are on the town side of the beach.

The board voted unanimously to allocate the money to the Lloyd Center.

In another matter Mr. Furtado said he talked with former Fairhaven Executive Secretary Jeff Olsuch about the West Island sewer project installed in the 1990s. Mr. Furtado said Mr. Olsuch explained the history

of the project and the deal they made with the state about not exceeding 380 sewer stubs.

BPW Vice-Chairperson Robert "Hoppy" Hobson asked if Mr. Osuch gave a recommendation on what to do with the available stubs left. Mr. Hobson explained that only 378 stubs are accounted for.

Mr. Furtado said that there is only one stub left, but Mr. Osuch had the same mindset that if another resident comes to the board with the proper documentation then they can have the stub, but if they do not have the documentation then they cannot.

Mr. Furtado explained that the recent resident that came in front of the board was the only one who had had the correct documentation.

BPW Chairperson Brian Wotton said he has asked Mr. Furtado to write a letter to the state to meet to discuss the 380 stubs and if there is a way to allow more residents to tie in to the sewer. Mr. Wotton said they are waiting on a response from the state and they will not discuss allowing any more sewer stubs with any West

BPW: cont'd to page 21



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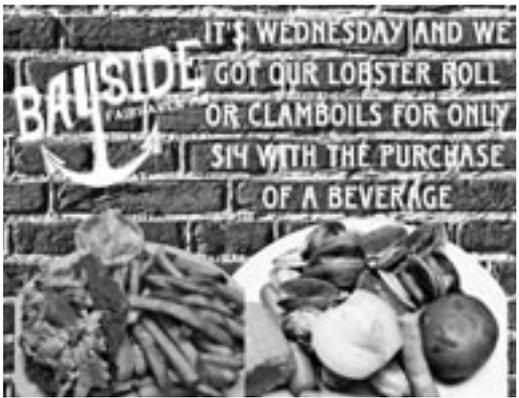
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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Book Group

"A Hundred Small Lessons" by Australia author Ashley Hay portrays the lives of two women living in Brisbane, Australia, who are connected to each other by "memories and the house they share." The author moves back and forth through the lives of ninety-year-old Elsie and thirty-year-old Lucy and her family.

The book will be discussed at Fairhaven's Millicent Library, 45 Center Street on Thursday, December 16 at 10 a.m., in the library's meeting room accessible through the Walnut Street entrance.

The discussion is free and open to the public. The book is available at the library or visit www.millicentlibrary.org. Call Norma Markey at 508-993-3745.

Election info

Nomination papers are now available for the Fairhaven town election on 4/4/22 at the Town Clerk's Office located inside Town Hall at 40 Center Street. Nomination papers for town-wide office require 50 certified signatures. Completed nomination papers with signatures must be submitted to the Town Clerk's office no later than Monday, February 14, 2022 at 5:00PM.

For details on voter registration, seats up for election and other local election details, visit <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/town-clerk> or call the town clerk at 508-979-4023, Ext. 3.

Photos with Santa

Photos with Santa Claus, Sun., 12/12, 1-3 p.m., George H. Taber Lodge, first floor, 20 Center St., Fairhaven. Bring your own camera or cell phone to take photos with Santa Claus during this festive afternoon sponsored by the George H. Taber Masonic Lodge. Refreshments will be available. Admission is free. All are welcome.

The lodge building was built in 1901 by Henry H. Rogers after the Concordia Lodge was renamed in honor of Rogers' uncle, George H. Taber, who was the oldest living Freemason in Mass.s at the time.

Toy Drive

The Wireless Zone in Fairhaven is partnering with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots campaign to

collect new toys for less fortunate children in the area during Christmas, a campaign that has taken on an even larger meaning amid the pandemic. The location at 28 Fairhaven Commons Way has a box in store through December 21 for locals to drop off donations.

Snow Park Ban

Fairhaven Snow Parking Ban. No vehicles shall be permitted to remain on the hydrant side of all streets in Fairhaven from December 1 to March 31 from midnight to 8:00 am and also during the time of any snowfall or snow removal operations. On streets with no hydrants, NO vehicles shall be permitted to remain either on the east side of streets running north and south or on the north side of streets running east and west.

The BPW is authorized to remove, or cause to be removed, to some convenient place, including a public garage, any vehicle interfering with the work of removing or plowing snow or ice from any way, and the cost of such removal with all storage charges resulting there from shall be paid by the owner of such vehicle.

The Fairhaven Police Department will strictly enforce this Parking Ban. Violators will be towed and/or ticketed.

By Order of: FAIRHAVEN BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Oxford Res. Apps

Applications are now available to enter the lottery for affordable senior housing units at the Oxford School Residences, scheduled to open in the spring of 2022. Apartments at the old Oxford School, 347 Main St., Fairhaven, include on-site parking, on-site management, 24-hour emergency maintenance. Monthly rents are \$889 for one bedroom, \$1057, 2 BR. Rents are based on income.

Applicants will be chosen by lottery on 2/10/22. All applicants must meet the community's Resident Selection Plan criteria.

For more information or to receive an application, call 781-915-3-71; TDD call 7-1-1; email, oxfordschool@hallkeen.com

Applications are available at: Millicent Library, 45 Center St.; Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Sr.; Fairhaven Housing Authority, 275

Main St.; Fairhaven Senior Ctr., 229 Huttleston Ave.; online, www.hallkeen.com/oxfordschool

Applications will be taken until Jan. 31, 2022. Mail completed applications to Oxford School, c/o HallKeen Management, 1400 Providence Highway, Ste. 1000, Norwood, MA 02062.

SAVE THE DATES:

Santa Cruise

Come Out to Welcome Santa and Mrs. Claus as they drive through town in an Old Fire Truck. Sponsored by the North Fairhaven Improvement Association. Find a spot and get ready. Santa Claus is coming to Town!

Sat., 12/18, (12/19), starting at Benoit Square at 1 p.m.

Stay tuned: We'll be publishing the whole route soon. Visit the NFIA on Facebook for the route.

Home for the Holidays

Fairhaven TV presents a virtual holiday party, Home for the Holidays. FREE all-ages online event. Thurs., 12/16, 6 p.m. Featuring live interactive show, join the fun on Zoom; chat with Santa on a virtual LIVE call from the North Pole; holiday trivia, stories, magic tricks and surprises hosted by "New England's Favorite Magician," Todd Migliacci.

Fun for the whole family, whatever you celebrate!

For more info and to watch online, visit FairhavenTV.com/HomeForTheHolidays

Light Show

Join us on Sat., 12/18, at 6 p.m. for an outside light show presentation at Victory Baptist Church, 7 Park Ave. Fairhaven,

Christmas Song Ser

Victory Baptist Church, 7 Park Ave. Fairhaven, is hosting a Christmas song service, Sun., 12/19, at 6 p.m. Just singing hymns and songs, no preaching. Refreshments will be served.

Family Fundraiser

The Red Hatters of West Island are raising funds and gifts to donate to a Fairhaven family in need for Christmas. The family has been chosen by the school system. They have four children.

Call Kathi Konicki for details, 561-866-3435.

Wreaths across Fairhaven

By Beth David
Editor

Several volunteers joined Fairhaven Veterans Services Officer Brad Fish on Saturday morning, 12/4/21 to place Christmas wreaths at cemeteries in Fairhaven. At Riverside Cemetery, the volunteers placed 32 wreaths on stands at locations throughout the cemetery.

Mr. Fish thanked volunteers and a list of 21 donors, some who donated in memory of loved ones.

Mr. Fish told the group of about 10 people that this year they had 32 wreaths, and hopefully next year they will have 64.

"It's getting bigger, bigger and better," said Mr. Fish.

Wreaths were paid for with dona-

tions. To contribute, send check or money order to The Fairhaven Veterans Office Wreath Gift Account, 40 Center St., Fairhaven, MA 02719, for next year's event.

To learn more about the Veterans Services Office and the services it provides, call Mr. Fish at 508-979-4023 ext 114.



LEFT: Fairhaven Veterans Services Officer Brad Fish speaks to volunteers before they fan out to place wreaths at the graves of veterans buried at Riverside Cemetery in Fairhaven on Saturday, 12/4/21, an annual program by the Fairhaven Veterans Services Office to place wreaths to honor veterans at all the cemeteries in town. RIGHT: Volunteer Elaine Eldridge places a wreath on a stand in front of the Civil War Memorial at Riverside Cemetery. Photos by Beth David.

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Fairhaven's Festive Front Doors 2021 Entries

The following households and addresses have registered to participate in the first annual Festive Front Doors of Fairhaven decorating contest:

94 Washington Street	41 Middle Street
28 Church Street	116 Center Street
56 Bridge Street	35 Cottage Street
185 Main Street	1 Jordan Lane
336 Main Street	3 Blackburn Street
113 Pleasant Street	14 Hacker Street
136 Pleasant Street	3 Newton Street
30 Chestnut Street	31 Manhattan Ave
92 Chestnut Street	2 Boston Road
39 Laurel Street	5 Kacey Lane
5 Fort Street	15 Oliver Street
3 Walnut Street	4 Suzanne Way

Please check out your neighbors' efforts to create a festive Fairhaven!

Sponsored by The Fairhaven Historical Association

COVID shots and boosters available at walk-in clinics

By Beth David
Editor

The City of New Bedford holds regular vaccine clinics. If you have not been vaccinated, need your second shot, or need the booster, you can walk in without an appointment at several sites in the city. You do NOT have to be a New Bedford resident to take advantage of the clinics. There is no cost to you for the shot.

Regular local vaccine clinics include Mondays from 2 to 7 p.m. at Andrea McCoy Recreation Center, 181 Hillman St.; Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at former Fire Station 11, 754 Brock Ave; and Fridays from 1 to 5 p.m. at PAACA, 360 Coggeshall St.

Other sites are also available on a week to week basis. Keep an eye on our Happenings Overtown on page 8. Visit <https://www.newbedford-ma.gov/health-department/coronavirus>.

Several COVID-19 testing sites are available in New Bedford and can be found on the state's Stop the Spread website: www.mass.gov/info-details/find-a-covid-19-test

Find local pharmacies offering

COVID-19 vaccines by entering your zip code at: www.vaxfinder.mass.gov

To schedule an in-home vaccination with the New Bedford Health Department, call the department's main line, 508-991-6199, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Several COVID-19 testing sites are available in New Bedford and can be found on the state's Stop the Spread

website: www.mass.gov/info-details/find-a-covid-19-test

Find local pharmacies offering COVID-19 vaccines by entering your zip code at: www.vaxfinder.mass.gov

To schedule an in-home vaccination with the New Bedford Health Department, call the department's main line, 508-991-6199, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday to Friday.



Linda Haskins gets her COVID booster shot from Camille of Seven Hills Foundation, at a walk-in clinic on 12/4/21 at Pilgrim Church Home in New Bedford. Photo by Beth David.

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HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Mercy Meals & More

Mercy Meals and More is a non-profit program that provides a nutritious beginning to the day for our neighbors in need.

Breakfast is served daily Monday through Saturday with individual service. Guests are treated with dignity and respect.

We also provide clothing and foot care to those in need. The goal is not only to provide free meals, clothing and foot care, but to also create a healthy atmosphere that builds networks of friendships and a stronger community.

Breakfast is served from 6:30–7:30 a.m., Mon.–Sat., at Pilgrim U.C.C. Hall, 634 Purchase St., New Bedford, MA. Visit www.mercymealsandmore.com or find them on Facebook.

To volunteer or donate supplies, contact Program Director David Motta, 508-264-8183; or send check to to Mercy Meals & More, PO Box 40515, New Bedford, MA 02744.

Vax Clinics

Free, walk-up COVID-19 vaccination clinics are offered regularly in New Bedford. Clinics offer CDC-approved booster shots for eligible adults, in addition to first- and second-dose vaccines and, at some locations, pediatric vaccines. Please bring your vaccination card when getting a booster.

- Fri., 12/10 PAACA (360 Coggeshall St.) 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., J&J, Pfizer and Moderna; pediatric vaccines for children 5 – 11 years old
- Sat., 12/11 Andrea McCoy Recreation Center (181 Hillman St.) 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Pfizer, Moderna, J&J; pediatric vaccines for children 5 – 11 years old
- Mon., 12/13 Andrea McCoy Recreation Center (181 Hillman St.) 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., Pfizer, Moderna, J&J; pediatric vaccines for children 5 – 11 years old

More info: <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/p1021-covid-booster.html>

Caroling for Inmates

Close Ash Street Jail. The Ash Street Jail was built in the 19th century and holds people in inhumane conditions. People report rats, vermin, mold, and plumbing backups that release bathroom waste into cells. Make this

the last holiday season that people must endure under these terrible conditions.

Meet us at 558 Pleasant St. at Noon. From there, we will march together from downtown New Bedford to the Ash Street Jail. At the corner of Ash and Union Streets we will have a chorus to sing songs from outside the prison and advocates to speak about why the jail should be shut down. Contact Marlene Pollock, 508-982-8751, marlenepollock929@gmail.com

Nutcracker

New Bedford Ballet will perform its annual production of A New England Nutcracker December 4 through 12 at the NBB Community Theatre, located at 2459 Purchase Street in New Bedford. Journey back to the 1850s, as this favorite holiday story is reimagined through New Bedford's historic whaling era and prepare for the "City That Lit the World" to light up your holiday season.

Ten performances will take place over two weekends.

Sat. and Sun., 12/ 11, and 12 at 1:30 and 3 p.m.; Friday, 12/10, at 6:30 and 8 p.m. Ticket prices are \$12 for adults and \$7 for seniors, students, and children. Tickets are limited and sell quickly; reserve yours soon by contacting the New Bedford Ballet at 508-993-1387.

Visit our website, www.newbedfordballet.org.

Free CMas Movies

Join Cinema New Bedford for holiday cheer! Experience seasonal favorites on the big screen and share collective nostalgia for some of our favorite holiday memories with the CNB community.

Elf headlines the evening at 8pm, with the beloved holiday classics *Frosty the Snowman* and *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* starting at 6pm.

The event is free, but tickets must be reserved in advance. Concessions will be open, featuring hot chocolate, cookies and popcorn for sale. Full bar available.

To reserve tickets: <https://www.zeiterion.org/events/cnb-elf-holiday-classics>

Holiday Pops

Sat., 12/11, 3:30 and 7 p.m., Yaniv Dinur, Conductor and Emcee. For

tickets, visit <https://nbsymphony.org/2021-2022-season/holiday-pops/>

Join us outside the Zeiterion Performance Art Center, 684 Purchase St., New Bedford, at 2:30 and 6:00 PM for a performance by the Showstoppers with free cider and donuts!

Share the joy of the season with friends and family at the best holiday concert in town! Our magnificent Orchestra plays all your holiday favorites, and the Southeastern Massachusetts Youth Orchestra members join in for a holiday performance that will make everyone merry!

Our family-friendly atmosphere, the festively decorated theater, and your choice of performance times make this the perfect family holiday outing. The children's matinee at 3:30 features fun surprises for the young at heart (like a visit from Santa and a gift for each child!), while the 7:00 concert features a bit more music. Both performances are approximately one hour long, with no intermission.

The Zeiterion requires all attendees at indoor performances and gatherings to wear masks, and attendees over the age of 12 to provide documentation demonstrating full vaccination against the COVID-19 virus or submit documentation of a negative COVID-19 test (PCR test within 72 hours or antigen test administered by a provider within 24 hours of the show that you are attending). The same is expected of all Zeiterion staff, event personnel, and volunteers.

Please visit the Zeiterion's website, <https://www.zeiterion.org>, to view complete details on all Health & Safety protocols.

Women in Fishing

In conjunction with its latest gallery exhibit, *Women's Work: At Sea, On Shore, At Home, In the Community*, New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center will present a variety of programs highlighting women in commercial fishing communities. All programs are free and open to the public, 38 Bethel St., New Bedford; <https://fishingheritagecenter.org>.

Fri., 12/17, 7:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL FILM SCREENING

Open Line Directed by Andres Camacho (2019). A film about Pebble

HAPPS: cont'd on page 17

Advent Services

The Mattapoissett Congregational Church would like to invite the community to several special events during the Advent season. Remaining events:

The White Gifts Pageant which celebrates the birth of Jesus will be held on Sat., 12/11 at 4 pm in Reynard Hall with a donation of gift cards collected for needy families in our area. If you are interested in participating by donating a gift card, please contact the church office at mattcongchurch@gmail.com or calling 508-758-2671 for more details.

A beautiful **Christmas Cantata** by the Mattapoissett Congregational Church choir and performers from Seaglass Theater will be held on 12/12 at 10 am in the sanctuary.

Every Sunday in Advent will be celebrated with lighting of the Advent candle with a culmination of all the candles being lit on Christmas Eve.

The **Christmas Eve Family Service** will be held at 5:00 pm and a Candle-light Service with a performance by the Harper and the Minstrel will be held at 10 pm.

Everyone is invited to celebrate the Advent season at Mattapoissett Congregational Church. Visit mattapoissettcongregationalchurch.org for more information!

At Mattapoissett Mus

December Events at the Mattapoissett Museum, 5 Church St., Mattapoissett, www.mattapoissettmuseum.org

- **NEW DATE** 12/10, 6:00 PM Southcoast Lessons presents *New Sounds of Silents: silent films set to live music* Join us for the continuation of Southcoast Lessons' silent films set to live music series! Our second edition will feature Winter holiday themed silent shorts with multiple teams of performers backing them. Come on out for comedy, documentary, and early special effects movies set to both improvised and newly composed pieces brought to you by Southcoast Lessons staff, students, and guests. Free. Space is limited, registration encouraged, doors at 6.
- 12/11, 12/18, 6:00 PM Christmas Caroling in Mattapoissett Village Hot cocoa and goodies at the museum. No registration required.
- 12/11, 11-3 PM Holiday Fair - 12

artisans to choose from, FREE admission to the museum all day long, and a museum raffle you won't want to miss! New items arriving in the museum gift shop; shop small and support your favorite nonprofit organization at the same time. Bundle up, this event is outdoors.

- 12/17, 6:00 PM Southcoast Lessons presents Open Mic Night - The mic is yours! All ages and all genres welcome - sing a song, play an instrument, read your favorite poem, tell a story, and enjoy what your community has to offer. Space is limited.

All events are free but donations are always appreciated. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Contact Mattapoissett Museum at info@mattapoissettmuseum.org or Jeff Angeley at southcoastlessons@gmail.com for more information.

Art Exhibit

Mattapoissett Free Public Library, 7 Barstow St., 2021/2022 Artist Series: John Middleton: Found Objects Transformed. Exhibition: December 15, 2021 - January 14, 2022.

After receiving a PhD in English in the midwest (writing his dissertation on Moby-Dick), Mattapoissett resident John Middleton was an assistant professor of English in Georgia. He then had a career in sales and marketing. When he retired from business, he earned an MFA in artisanry from UMass Dartmouth.

Middleton began collecting lost or discarded objects he found from local waters. Time, tides, wind, storms, marine organisms, and the sun transformed these found objects, rendering them strange and beautiful. Middleton's purpose is to bring these found objects together in sculpted works of art that call attention to the dignity, beauty, and uniqueness of their transformations as well as to their stories.

Christmas Stroll

Marion Christmas Stroll & Tree Lighting, Sun., 12/12, 3-5 p.m., Bicentennial Park,

The stroll features the charming and historic main streets of Marion as the setting for Santa's arrival by boat, wagon rides, children's activities, as well as many other special treats from

local merchants. Join us at Bicentennial Park for the beautiful tree lighting at 5:30 p.m.

Marion Art Center at the Stroll

The Marion Art Center will join in the community festivities during the Marion Christmas Stroll on Sunday, December 12 from 3:30-5:30pm. The MAC's Christmas Elves will be on the MAC patio serving up free hot chocolate with all the trimmings - marshmallows, whipped cream, candy sprinkles, peppermint candy canes, and chocolate syrup! Children and families can decorate their own cups with festive stickers or drawings, or participate in a quick and easy craft activity. The tree lighting ceremony will begin at 5:30pm in Bicentennial Park. Visitors can shop for handmade goods and original artwork during the two hour event. Guests are required to wear masks to enter the Marion Art Center. In case of rain, this event will be cancelled. Find out more at marionartcenter.org.

Concert

The Marion Art Center, 80 Pleasant St., Marion, is pleased to announce the return of live music in the Anne Braitmayer Webb Theater on Fri., 12/10 with The Jim Robitaille Trio Space Cycles Album Release Concert, starting at 7:30pm. **Tickets are \$18 for MAC members and \$20 for nonmembers.**

The Jim Robitaille Trio performs original music and arrangements that express a wide scope of emotional elements and rhythmic dialects, generating atmospheres realized with a complete dynamic range from moving ballads to compositions displaying explosive energy. The trio features Jim on electric and acoustic nylon string guitar along with bassist Bill Miele and drummer Chris Poudrier. The trio's new recording on Whaling City Sound entitled Space Cycles, documents their ability to deeply listen to one another and create an empathetic and authentic interplay, culminating in an impassioned journey for the listener within the interpretation of each song.

All theater guests must be fully vaccinated. Other restrictions apply. Purchasing tickets in advance is strongly recommended. To purchase tickets visit marionartcenter.org/events.

Recipe of the Week

Garlic Butter Steak Bites

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 1/2 pound sirloin steak cut into bite size pieces, or strip loin, tenderloin, strip steak, rib eye
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, or to taste
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper, or to taste
- 2 tablespoons butter unsalted
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 1 tbsp fresh parsley, chopped

Heat up the oil in a skillet and put in the steak, making sure to season it heavily with salt and pepper as the steak cooks.

Cook the pieces of steak for about 2 minutes before mixing, continue to stir and turn the steak until you reach your desired level of doneness. Remember that the steak will continue to cook after it has been removed off the heat for several minutes, be careful not to over cook.

Remov the steak to a plate and tent it with aluminum foil. Next, turn the heat onto low and melt the butter (you can use the same skillet for added flavor). Once the butter is melted, add in the pepper flakes and garlic, cooking for about another 30 seconds to one minute, making sure to stir it constantly until you can smell the garlic and it starts to brown.

Directly pour the garlic butter over the steak bites and toss it all together. Finally, garnish the dish with parsley and serve hot/warm.

From CookingProfessionally.com



Dear Frankie

Scary Noises

Dear Frankie,
Loud noises terrify me.

Whenever there is a storm my mom immediately dresses me in my ThunderShirt and lets me go into her big closet.

However, whenever she burns something on the stove and the smoke alarms go off, she forgets all about me. At the first beep, she starts swinging a dish towel, cursing and opening the windows and doors.

Why doesn't she realize the smoke alarm stresses me out as much as a storm?

Buddy

Dear Buddy,

It does make you wonder. Noise is noise.

My only explanation is that storms don't scare your mom, so she can focus on your needs. Whereas a kitchen filled with smoke, caused by her, and a screeching fire alarm is scary and can cause someone to panic.

When this happens she's not thinking about anything except getting the smoke out of the house

and stopping the alarm.

I'm sure after the fact when she stops kicking herself for not tending to the stove, she feels terrible that she didn't come to your rescue.

There are times when you have to rely on yourself to get out of harm's way. All I can suggest is you get as far away from the sound as possible, put your paws over your ears, and wait until she gets things under control.

Best, Frankie

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Comments and letters can be sent to Frankie at dearfrankiecolumn@gmail.com. The Fairhaven Neighborhood News publishes the Dear Frankie column. To receive a free online subscription, readers can email neighbnews@comcast.net, request their name be added to the email list or visit www.neighbnews.com to read the paper online or to download the latest issue.

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SAVE THE DATE: Santa cruise coming up



Santa Cruise: Sat., 12/18 (Raindate Dec. 19th)

Hold onto your hats, Santa & Mrs. Claus will be cruising through town! Come out to welcome Santa and Mrs. Claus as they drive through Fairhaven in an Old Fire Truck.

Sponsored by the North Fairhaven Improvement Association. Times are approximate.

NORTH FAIRHAVEN START 1:00 pm

- Oxford School/Benoit Square
- East on Howland Road

- North on Alden Road
- South on Main Street
- **STOP AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH**
- Continue South on Main Street
- East on Route 6
- North on Adams Street
- East on Howland Road
- South on Alden Road to Bridge Street

EAST FAIRHAVEN

- 1:30 pm East on Bridge Street
- South on New Boston Rd to Rt 6
- **STOP AT EAST FAIRHAVEN SCHOOL**
- East (left) on Rt 6
- South on Gillette Street
- West on Hill Street
- South on Brook Drive
- North on Brook Drive
- West on Hill Street
- South on Evergreen Street
- West on Stephen Street to end

- North on Hamlet to Rt 6
- **SCONTICUT NECK TO WEST ISLAND**
- **2:00 pm from Rt 6**
- South on Sconticut Neck Road
- **STOP AT WOOD SCHOOL**
- Continue South on Sconticut Neck Road
- East on Goulart Memorial Drive
- Over the Causeway
- North on Ebony Street
- West on Cherry Stone Street
- South on Balsam Street
- West over Causeway
- North on Sconticut Neck to Rt 6

CENTER/FORT From Route 6

- 2:40 pm West on Washington Street
- South on Green Street
- **STOP AT FORT PHOENIX**
- North on Fort Street
- West on South Street
- North on Main Street
- East on Center Street
- North on Pleasant Street
- East on Washington Street
- North on Adams Street
- END Oxford School 3:10 pm

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Benoit Square lights up for the holidays

By Beth David
Editor

Fairhaven's Benoit Square welcomed Santa Claus and the public for the lighting of the Square on Friday, 12/3/21. Last year's event was not promoted to the public due to COVID, but this year the square was filled with a couple of hundred children of all ages who helped with the singing, and got to have their pictures taken with Santa.

Former Miss New Bedford and Miss New Bedford Outstanding Teen Olivia Marques, and Mia Mitchell, who is this year's Miss Bristol County Outstanding Teen, led the singing. It was her first event as Miss BCOT, as she was only crowned the week before.

Then Santa arrived as they sang "Here Comes Santa Claus" (what else?). This year, due to COVID precautions, the children stayed

outside to have their pictures taken with Santa under the gazebo. They still got their coloring books, though, and a jolly happy elf mingled through the crowd giving out candy canes.

On behalf of the North Fairhaven Improvement Association, which sponsored the event, Mrs. Claus thanked the Fairhaven Police Department, Fairhaven Emergency Management, Matt Paulson and Alex Keuchler from the Fairhaven Protecting Society, Stanley Remillard, Ms. Marques and Ms. Mitchell, NFIA members, Santa and the elves.

She also thanked the set-up volunteers: Troop 52, Fairhaven High School volunteers, NFIA members and their families; and those who donated supplies and money: Sue Leclere, Tom and Paula Cabral, Michael Fluereant, Peter DeTerra, Carol Mercer, Douglas Family Tree Farm, Rui DaSilva.

Benoit Square is at the merger of Main and Adams Street in North Fairhaven at the top of Howland Road. The lights will stay on through the new year.



Mia Mitchell, Miss Bristol County Outstanding Teen, leads the crowd singing Christmas Carols at the annual lighting of Fairhaven's Benoit Square on 12/3/21, sponsored by the North Fairhaven Improvement Association. Photo by Beth David.



ABOVE LEFT: This little one is definitely not sure of this part of the program at the annual lighting of Fairhaven's Benoit Square on 12/3/21, sponsored by the North Fairhaven Improvement Association. MIDDLE LEFT: This little one is prepared with her musical sleigh bells during the Christmas Carol singing. MIDDLE RIGHT: This young'un is clearly taken with Santa as he poses for a picture with the Big Guy. RIGHT: Santa's elf reacts during her conversation with a child on the way to have a picture taken with Santa. BELOW LEFT: This youngster holds up a gift for Santa while taking pictures with the Big Guy. BELOW RIGHT: Volunteers and members of the North Fairhaven Improvement Association pose with Santa and Mrs. Claus under the gazebo. Photos by Beth David.



Acushnet Fire Department lights up for the holidays

By Beth David
Editor

The Acushnet Fire Department welcomed the public to share the public lighting of the Fire Department grounds, at Parting Ways, 24 Russell Street, on 12/5/21. Last year the public event was canceled due to COVID restrictions, although the lights were still lit.

This year, a couple of hundred children and their adults joined in the fun as the Ford Middle School let the crowd singing Christmas Carols. Santa arrived on a fire truck and posed with pictures, although outside only this year due to COVID precautions. Hot chocolate (with marshmallows and/or whipped cream) and cookies were also served up by the Acushnet firefighters. And coloring books were handed out to the children.

Firefighter/Paramedic Eric Arruda

emceed, thanking the Ford Middle School Chorus and the crowd. He said it was a little different this year and hopefully next year will go back to normal, with inside sit-downs with Santa.

Mr. Arruda thanked the community for showing up in force. He said that community support “inspires us to do everything we do for the Christmas.”

Music/Band instructor Brian Shanbrun led the students, but made sure the crowd knew the drill (from the movie, “Elf,” of course): “The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear.”

Mr. Arruda then told the crowd to “sing as loud as you can. Let the neighbors

know we’re here and they can come out and join us.”

After a few songs, Santa arrived on the fire truck. Children and their adults took pictures with the Big Guy outside.



Patricia Davignon poses for a picture with Santa Claus at the annual lighting of the grounds of the Acushnet Fire Station on 12/5/21.

Photo by Beth David.



ABOVE LEFT: This group is all smiles as they wait for Santa to make his appearance at the annual lighting of the grounds of the Acushnet Fire Station on 12/5/21. ABOVE MIDDLE AND RIGHT: Children are (mostly) all smiles as they pose with Santa. BELOW LEFT: Santa waves to the crowd, and some wave back, as he arrives. BELOW RIGHT: The Ford Middle School Chorus leads the crowd singing Christmas Carols as they wait for Santa to arrive. Photos by Beth David.



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ma.gov/recreation-department](https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/recreation-department)**

Kool Kids Christmas Vacation

This 3 day program is a great opportunity to make new friends while participating in fun group activities such as pillo polo, floor hockey, dodgeball, cooperative games, flag football, arts & crafts, etc. Kids will need to bring their own lunch and snacks as well as a reusable water bottle as we replaced our water fountain with a bottle filler.

Come ready to have fun! Sneakers and active clothes must be worn each day. Kids will be grouped according to their current grade in school. Grades: K-5 Time: Drop off 8Am, pick up by 3PM. Instructors: Staff

Cost: \$85 Member \$100 Non Member. Sibling: \$65 \$ 80 12/27 ,12/28 & 12/29

Recreation Basketball Clinic

Fairhaven Recreation will be running clinics to teach the basic fundamentals of basketball. Each week will have skills and drills shown and practiced to develop young players.

Cost: FREE with play card \$30 without Ages: Grades 1-8

Start Date: Saturday December 4th
End Date: Saturday January 29th
Time: Grades 1 through 4 8 AM-9 AM
Grades 5 through 8 9 AM-10:30am

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http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA_COA/index

Fairhaven Council on Aging

Healthy Habits with Joanne

Learn how healthy habits can help you live a happier and healthy life. Informational session about the 6 week course is Thursday, Dec. 9th at 9:00 am at the Fairhaven COA. The course begins Thursday, January 6th at 9:00 am and runs for 6 consecutive weeks. There is a \$3.00 fee paid directly to the instructor each week. Please call the Fairhaven COA to sign up at 508-979-4029.

Computer Lessons

Kraig Perry from the Fairhaven Technology Department is holding computer lessons for Fairhaven and Acushnet Seniors, 60 years old and older.

The classes are given by skill level and include computer safety, internet browsers, the cloud, email/gmail, Google, word processing and smart-phones. Sign up for the classes must be done in person at the senior center to be sure you are signing up for the appropriate skill level being offered. An entire list of classes, dates and skill levels can be found in the Fairhaven COA newsletter or pick up a copy at the senior center.

Holiday Music Show

Join us for some holiday spirit as Judy and Barry DeRossi perform all our favorite Christmas songs. December 9, 2021 1-2:00 p.m. at the Fairhaven Council on Aging.

Please call the Fairhaven COA to reserve your seat at 508-979-4029.

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Acushnet Selectboard discusses ownership of So. Main Street

By Mary Chasse

Neighb News Correspondent

At its meeting on Friday 11/30/21 the Acushnet Selectboard discussed taking ownership of South Main Street, and leasing some replacement vehicles for the golf course.

The board started the meeting with a moment of silence for town employee Jessica Rego who recently passed after a short battle with cancer.

Chairperson David Desroches said Ms. Rego was a town employee for three years and worked as the Senior Clerk for the Accounting Department. Mr. Desroches said she leaves behind her husband and three-year-old son. The board honored her with a few moments of silence.

In another matter Mr. Desroches informed the board that they needed to allocate more money for the speeding signs on Slocum Street. The board voted unanimously to make a reserve fund transfer of \$5,000.

The board also met with Ed Issac from the Golf Committee about some equipment that needs to be replaced.

Mr. Issac said the good news is that

golf participation has been very strong. He said the bad news is that delivery time for new golf equipment to be shipped is very backed up. He said delivery times are between August and September of 2022.

Mr. Issac said he was there to request that the Selectboard place an order for four replacement vehicles/mowers that are critical to maintaining turf quality. The cost of all four vehicles is around \$157,000, which will be in next year's budget.

The board unanimously approved the lease for all four vehicles.

In another matter the board discussed ownership of South Main Street. Mr. Desroches explained that the street is controlled by the state and there are a few options on how the town can take ownership of the road.

He said one option is that the town can take the road now and pay cash to the Department of Transportation, but it will take 12-15 months to get complete ownership of the road.

Option two would be to take ownership of the road after the Department of Transportation does

all of the improvements which could take over two years.

Mr. Desroches said that any utility work would take 6-9 months and also needs permits.

He said that they might want to take the road over sooner rather than later.

Board member David Wojnar said that it was definitely worth exploring, but it will require town meeting approval.

He said that they do not have to take over the road tomorrow, but he would love to have more in depth discussions about it and discuss it with District 5.

Mr. Wojnar explained that if the town took ownership over the road they would have more control over PJ Keating and the truck traffic there.

Board member Kevin Gaspar said he was interested in discussing it further.

The board voted unanimously to allow Mr. Wojnar to engage in dialogue with officials at the Mass. Highway District 5 Office, which includes Acushnet.

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Season's Greetings from the Tree Department

Submitted by Fairhaven Tree Warden
Don C. Collasius

Hello.

It's been a busy time and I thought an end of year update would be a good idea. I want people to know what we are doing and not doing. Government should be transparent and folks should know what they can expect from it.

Having just completed a six-day Tree Wardens Qualification Program hosted by the Massachusetts Tree Wardens and Foresters Association, I now know a lot more about the Tree Warden's job and trees than before. A person could easily spend a lifetime on these subjects and I still have a lot to learn.

The Tree Department is still busy cleaning up some storm issues from the October storm. I apologize if we have not yet responded to a call you made for service, and truth be told it may be buried in the avalanche of

requests we received during and since late October's storm. Please call or reach out again after the New Year if this is the case, and again I'm sorry.

We are getting many calls to remove trees since October's storm. People are spooked from what we all saw. There are few scenarios where I can legally remove a tree without a hearing. A hearing takes time and money. Neither which my department has much of.

If a tree poses an "imminent risk" of failure I can remove it on the spot, if I have the resources to do it. Every tree in this town has recently been stress tested by October's storm. There are trees we see as needing removal and we are working on this.

People are asking us to prune trees away from their houses in such a way it harms the tree and causes it to be imbalanced. We try for at least 10 feet of clearance and usually get more when pruning away from a house.

A tree is like a bowling ball, in that if you cut half of it away on only one side it doesn't work well. We can prune a tree, but we are mandated to preserve them as well.

This year we planted 47 trees. Next year's goal is 100. I have town money to buy 10. People have been donating money to plant trees. Thanks so much. I hope to do several fund raisers in the form of presentations on my work with WHOI's Alvin and Titanic Expeditions. Stay tuned for details.

Public Shade Trees are owned by the public and protected by significant state laws. I am hoping to get some town bylaws in place to bolster that protection and perhaps get the town to a place where it can be a certified Tree City USA. This opens the door further to outside monies for improving our shade tree canopy.

Thanks so much for your patience, Enjoy your Holiday and be well.

From our readers

Masks Work

Covid is on the rise in Fairhaven, and it doesn't need to be.

Yesterday my husband and I were in Cambridge. Cambridge is very different from Fairhaven — bigger, with many students and areas that are crowded and far from affluent.

Nevertheless, the positivity rate is 0.53% (Fairhaven's is over 6%), and the daily incidence is 18.7, compared to Fairhaven's 41.9.

The difference: a mask mandate. Every shop and restaurant posts a sign saying that the City of Cambridge requires masks indoors. Compliance

is high, and even on a Sunday evening business was booming. The restaurants were full, and the shops were busy.

This isn't rocket science. A mask mandate would be good for public health and good for business.

Beth Luey, Fairhaven

HAPPS: cont'd from page 8

Mine and the Bristol Bay salmon fishery featuring Melanie Brown, a Yupik fisherwoman who has been set net fishing on Bristol Bay for over forty years. Melanie Brown and Andres Camacho will participate in a post-film discussion. The program will be presented via ZOOM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89415812320>

Thurs., 1/6/22 - 7:00 p.m.
VIRTUAL CONCERT

A virtual concert with traditional Newfoundland singer, Anita Best, who has spent a lifetime exploring, cataloguing and celebrating the rural Newfoundland lifestyle and culture and is one of the province's most prominent traditional singers. The concert will be live streamed on the Center's Facebook Page.

Learn more about these programs on the Center's online calendar,

fishingheritagecenter.org/programs/calendar.

Holiday Parking

The City is reviving its Holiday Parking Program this year to encourage holiday shopping, dining, and retail activity in New Bedford's downtown and North End business district through December.

The Holiday Parking Program is in effect until 12/31, and offers two hours of free parking at both the Elm Street Garage and the Zeiterion Garage downtown, along with two hours of free parking at meters along Acushnet Avenue in the North End.

In addition to the free hours, people will be able to have tickets forgiven with same-day sales receipts. Anyone parked in either of the downtown garages or at a meter in

the Acushnet Avenue business district, who receives a ticket as a result of parking longer than the two free hours, can have the ticket forgiven by presenting a same-day sales receipt from a downtown or North End merchant or restaurant.

The receipt must be for spending at least \$10 and must be presented or mailed to the Traffic Commission office in the Elm Street Garage within three weeks (21 days) of receiving the ticket. The parking ticket will be forgiven with the presentation of the same-day receipt.

The Traffic Commission office is located at 51 Elm St. and is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Questions regarding the Holiday Parking Program can be directed to the Traffic Commission office at 508-961-3153.

Fairhaven's K9 Blue and his human graduate from academy

By Beth David

Editor

The dogs weren't there (to the deep disappointment of this reporter), but plenty of human brass and supporters showed up to celebrate the graduation of two dogs from the Bristol County Sheriff's Office Basic K-9 Narcotics Detection

Academy last Friday, 12/3/21. The graduates included the members of Fairhaven's brand new K9 unit: K9 Blue and his handler, Officer Jillian Jodoin; and BCSO's K9 Robika and handler Officer Filipe DaSilva.

The 10-week academy trained the dogs to search for and detect narcotics, and taught the officers to be

handlers. Officer Jodoin will go back to patrol, but she and Blue will continue training monthly with the BCSO.

Fairhaven Police Chief Michael Myers and Capt. Michael Botelho said that Blue will be trained in one more specialty, and will also be a comfort dog. They said they would like him to

K9: cont'd on page 20



LEFT, L-R: Bristol County Sheriff Thomas Hodgson, Fairhaven Police Chief Michael Myers, and newly minted K9 Officer Jillian Jodoin of the Fairhaven Police Department pose for a picture after Officer Jodoin received her certificate for completing the narcotics detection academy with K9 Blue at the Bristol County Sheriff's Office on 12/3/21. RIGHT, L-R: Captain Paul Douglas, Bristol County Sheriff's Office; Fairhaven Police Officer Jillian Jodoin; Sgt. William Dillingham and Lt. Kenny Almeida of the BCSO pose for a picture after Officer Jodoin presented the BCSO team with a plaque recognizing their "outstanding service" helping the Fairhaven Police Department's K9 Unit get off the ground. Photos by Beth David.



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Join us for any or all of these special services:

Sunday, 12/19/2021

Blue Christmas/Longest Night Service – 6:00 PM

A quiet, soothing service that acknowledges the varied feelings we may be experiencing this time of year: readings, music, silent reflection time and an opportunity to light candles and be anointed with oil if desired.

Friday, 12/24/2021 Service for Families with Young Children– 4:00 PM

A shorter, family-friendly service. We will tell the Christmas Story in an interactive way, sing a few carols, say our prayers and light glow sticks around the nativity. While designed to appeal to the littlest ones among us, anyone is certainly welcome to attend!

Friday, 12/24/2021:

Candlelight Service – 7:00 PM

A service of readings, music and prayer to celebrate Christmas in our candlelit sanctuary. When we leave we will take Christ's joy and love with us into the December night. All are welcome.

Call 508-993-3368 for more information.

Masks required at all services.

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K9: cont'd from page 18

be trained to track, to look for people who are missing.

Chief Myers said having a narcotics detection dog is a "great asset." The K9 can alert police if someone is concealing illegal drugs. He said the alert from the dog gives police probable cause to search someone or get a search warrant.

He will also be used at the schools to sniff lockers, a practice that has become routine in public schools.

Blue will also be a comfort dog, to help in the schools and police officers after traumatic events. He has already been to long term care facilities and other housing complexes, said the chief.

Chief Myers said that the department has been called on more often to help find people with special needs.

Sheriff Thomas Hodgson told the crowd that it was a "big event."

He said it is a "difficult, difficult job. It takes a lot of work on the part of the handlers, on the part of the trainers."

He also said that law enforcement is unfairly judged in the current political climate.

"There is no greater calling and frankly is no greater sacrifice than what you put in every day," said Sheriff Hodgson.

After the ceremony, Sheriff Hodgson said that the BCSO academies are at no charge to local communities. Not only do they save for the cost of the academy, but they save travel costs and time by not having to go to Boston.

"What's important is the partnership," said Sheriff Hodgson. "If we learned anything post 911 it's that we need to strengthen our partnerships."

He said sharing resources saves the taxpayers money and increases standard operating procedures "all the way around."

Chief Myers said Capt. Botelho was the driving force behind creating a K9 unit in Fairhaven. The BCSO made it possible, because going to Boston was not feasible. He said BCSO was right with them every step of the way no matter how many times they needed to call.

"They made it easy for us," he said. "And paved the way."

"We're excited about this," said Chief Myers. "I think the town of Fairhaven is excited. Officer Jodoin is excited. And every time I see Blue, he's excited."

He said the unit is a great asset to the town of Fairhaven and appreciated everybody's support.

"I couldn't ask for a better department," said Officer Jodoin, adding it

was not only a special moment for her, but for the

department, and that it was truly an honor.

She said it was a lot of work, but she had the BCSO in her corner, and the instructors on "speed dial" to answer any questions she had. They let her know they were "personally invested" in her, she said.

"I can't imagine my life without Blue in it," said officer Jodoin. K9 Blue lives with Officer Jodoin.

Officer Jodoin also recognized Brian's Car Care, that outfitted the K9 cruiser. She presented a plaque to Eric Brasil of Pet Supplies in Fairhaven, who has pledged to give Blue all his food at no charge to the town; and a plaque to the BCSO's K9 Unit for their "vested interest in the foundation of the Fairhaven Police Department K9 Division and the success of Fairhaven Police Officer Jillian Jodoin and K9 Blue."

Captain Paul Douglas of the BCSO said Officer Jodoin represents the K9 Unit "very well."

"It's a tough job. It's not easy. But when the bell rings, every single K9 officer answers," he said, adding that it is usually at 2 a.m. and "nothing good happens at 2 a.m."

"Thank you for trusting us," said Sgt. William Dillingham of the BCSO to Fairhaven. "She did a great job, was willing to learn, and was 100 percent into it."

After the ceremony Officer Jodoin said she was "elated."

"It's been a long time," she said.

So far, she has only observed at school searches, and has participated in training searches.

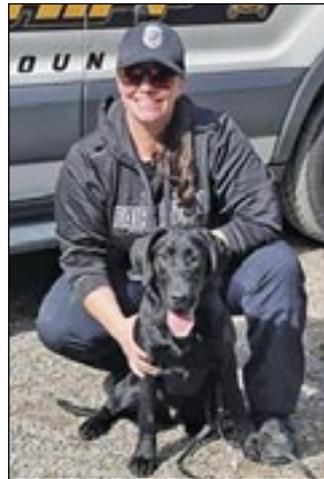
She will go back to regular patrols and will have Blue with her.

And she'll be ready when they call her and Blue out, whenever that is.

To learn more about Officer Jodoin and Blue, follow them on Facebook: "Fairhaven Police Department K9 Unit."



L-R: Fairhaven Police Chief Michael Myers, Bristol County Sheriff Thomas Hodgson, and BCSO K9 officer Filipe DaSilva pose for a picture after Officer DaSilva received his certificate for completing the narcotics detection academy with K9 Robika at the Bristol County Sheriff's Office on 12/3/21. Photo by Beth David. RIGHT: Fairhaven Police Officer Jillian Jodoin with K9 Blue, who also graduated from the academy on 12/3/21. Photo from Fairhaven Police Department K9 Unit Facebook page.



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Journalism can never be silent: that is its greatest virtue and its greatest fault. It must speak, and speak immediately, while the echoes of wonder, the claims of triumph and the signs of horror are still in the air.

Henry Grunwald

Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Board of Health

Wed., 12/15, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

Board of Public Works

Mon., 12/13, Arsene St., 6:15 p.m.

Broadband Study Comm

Thurs., 12/9, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

Charter Commission

Thurs., 12/9, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 12/13, Remote, 6:30

Council on Aging

Mon., 12/13, Senior Ctr., 9 a.m.

Cultural Council

Mon., 12/13, Remote, 6 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 1/12, Media Ctr., 6:30 p.m.

Select Board

Thurs., 12/9, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

Tax Classification Hearing

Mon. 12/20, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Sustainability Committee

Tues., 12/14, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

Acushnet

School Council

Tues., 12/14, Remote, 4 p.m.

Selectboard

Fri., 12/10, Town Hall, 11 a.m.

Tues., 12/14, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

US Army Corps of Engineers, Cape Cod Canal/Piney Point/Wing's Neck

	Dec. 2021	HIGH a.m. p.m.	LOW a.m. p.m.	
Thursday	9	1156 ----	0450	1743
Friday	10	0033 1255	0616	1949
Saturday	11	0130 1350	0842	2059
Sunday	12	0224 1446	0956	2204
Monday	13	0322 1547	1057	2257
Tuesday	14	0421 1645	1146	2337
Wednesday	15	0510 1732 ----	1231	2358
Thursday	16	0551 1812 ----	1316	2342
Friday	17	0628 1849 ----	1359	
Saturday	18	0705 1928	0001	1425
Sunday	19	0744 2009	0032	1336
Monday	20	0825 2051	0110	1407
Tuesday	21	0906 2134	0153	1442

*= Predicted minus tides from -0.1 ft. to -1.0 ft
**Predicted minus tides from -1.1 ft to -2.0 ft or more

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“The foundations of democracy weaken.”

—Margaret Sullivan, "Ghosting The News"

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Relevance Project



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BPW: cont'd from page 4

Island residents until they have a response from the state.

Mr. Furtado said he would like for everyone to be able to tie in, but it is up to the state.

In another matter Mr. Durant informed the board that they have had a setback in the Town Administrator search. He said one of the top two candidates has dropped out, so the committee will be going back to the drawing board.

SELECT: cont'd from page 3

"You're not letting people speak," said Mr. Hobson.

He said no one knows what is going on the that property, that it is four different pieces and he said the board did not know what it was doing.

Mr. Espindola assured him they did know exactly what they were doing, and also told Mr. Hobson that the hearing was closed.

"You're giving away something you don't even know what it is," said Mr. Hobson.

Mr. Espindola noted the town was not "giving away" anything.

"I'll be glad when there's five selectmen," said Mr. Hobson, because, he said "you guys have no clue."

Then he corrected himself, two guys and a girl,* he said.

Mr. Espindola suggested that Mr. Hobson get a lesson on using Zoom, and said town employees would be happy to help him.

In a rather cryptic discussion, Select Board Chairperson Bob Espindola announced the resignation of John Hinds from the Belonging Committee, but, uncharacteristically, did not read his letter.

The letter is, however, included in the SB packet online, and contains some vague and negative reasons.

"So three strikes and I'm out!" reads the letter. "I've been to the two meetings and have had three conversations that I would say were uncomfortable, dictatorial, and unprofessional.

"One in the meeting two after the meetings."

He continues to say that there "could be an issue with the D&I [Diversity and Inclusion] part of the Belonging Committee."

He then wishes the committee "all the best."

Mr. Silvia said he wondered if the board should have Mr. Hinds attend a meeting.

"I thought this group was to bring people together," said Mr. Silvia, adding it seems like it is "dividing."

He said he wanted to bring both sides in.

Neither Mr. Hinds nor the committee chair, Leon Correy, provided any input during the meeting.

The board accepted the resignation, and Mr. Espindola will contact Mr. Correy and Mr. Hinds for more details on the resignation.

During committee liaison reports

SB member Keith Silvia told the board that the Historical Commission has found an old photo that shows street lamps around Town Hall. There has been some controversy around the HC's efforts to place what it calls "Victorian" style lamps on Center, Walnut, and William Streets.

The board also made two committee appointments: Sue Makepeace to the Commission on Disabilities, and Louise Ponte to the Commissioner of Trust Funds.

The board also voted to renew liquor licenses, common victualer licenses and licenses for auto sales and repair shops. A number of licenses were approved pending the payment of taxes/water and sewer bills. Some were approved pending the completion of building inspections, but none were denied outright.

The board met in executive session to discuss "complaints or charges brought against a public officer, employee, staff member or individual."

**Editor's note: There are two males and one female on the board. The editor would like to assure voters that board member Stasia Powers is a grown woman and not a girl.*

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