



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



The little paper
with a big voice!

Volume 17, Issue 4 • January 20, 2022

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

Now, that's more like it



After a couple of days of temperatures well below freezing and with wind chills dropping them into the teens, the marsh at Jack's Cove in Fairhaven is almost frozen solid on Sunday, 1/16/22. That night, temperatures hiked up just enough for a rain storm to pass through the region and melt all the ice. Temperatures dropped into the 20s on Tuesday and are set to stay cold for a couple of days with more wind or snow on the way for Thursday. See page 12. *Photo by Margie Green Joseph for the Neighb News.*

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."



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From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

Brrr...it's cold out there. Again.

I suppose you skiers will like it, but...how can you DO that?

My little dog just turns tail and runs right back in the house. He's a smaht dog.

Anyway, it looks like this batch of cold air won't last either. I hope we get one picture of the marsh completely frozen over. Today's cover is close, but...not quite there yet.

See page 12 for some more frozen pics.

We have an election update for you this week (see page 3). And, we have TWO races. Five people are going after the three seats on the ballot in April, and two are running for one spot on the Board of Health.

Oh...I DO love a race.

Let the games begin!

We have COVID sniffing dogs in the schools now (see page 22). Apparently they've been in there for months. They will also be visiting some town government buildings, too. I'm hoping to catch one of those soon and get a good report to you on how it all works.

We also have a little meeting coverage for you. Fairhaven BPW is on page 17, and Acushnet Selectboard is on page 16.

The Oxford Residences seem like they are on track (see page 13). On the company's website they are still saying they anticipate spring 2022 occupancy. The building looks pretty much constructed, but it still looks like they have a long way to go. I couldn't raise up anyone at the company by press time.

There's other stuff in here, of course. The happenings pages are have some fun stuff to do, so be sure to check them out.

And, while you're doing that, be sure to notice who our advertisers are and let them know you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*.

And don't be shy about donating to your favorite local free sheet.

Until next week then...see ya



Beth David, Publisher

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Thursday, January 20, 2022

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our Fairhaven Select Board story last week, we made a mistake on who suggested language in the Rogers School RPF to add 50 feet to the available parcel. It was the committee that suggested it, but ultimately the language was changed. We apologize for any confusion our error may have caused.

Support local journalism

No one does local like a local newspaper. And it does not get more local than the *Neighb News*. Any small amount will help. Just clip the coupon and send check or money order to *Fairhaven Neighborhood News*, 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719. Ask for a bumper sticker that says "I Support the *Neighb News*." And thank you for reading *the little paper with a big voice*.

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Five to vie for 3 Select Board seats, 2 for 1 Board of Health seat

By Beth David

Editor

As of press time, five candidates had taken out nomination papers to run for three Fairhaven Selectboard seats in the 4/4/22 election. Only two have returned those papers with the required signatures to be on the ballot. This election will have three seats on the ballot, as it is the election that will expand the board from three to five members.

We also have a contested race for Board of Health, with two people taking out papers for one seat.

So far Leon Correy, Cameron Durant, Cathy Melanson, Charles Murphy Sr., and incumbent Stasia Powers have taken out papers for Select Board. Mr. Correy and Mr. Murphy have returned them.

Incumbent Peter DeTerra has taken out papers and returned them with the required signatures for this seat on the Board of Health. Heidi Hacking has also taken out papers for that seat.

School Committee incumbents Kyle Bueno and Erik Andersen have both taken out papers for their seats, and both have returned them. Cathleen Marchessault has also taken out papers to run for one of the two seats, but had not returned them as of press time.

Incumbent Barbara Acksen has taken out papers for her seat as a Commissioner of Trust Funds; Louise Ponte has taken out papers for the seat she holds on the Commission, which is an unexpired term she was appointed to recently. Neither one has returned papers.

On the Board of Public Works, only the unexpired term held by Steven Riley is up for election. He indicated to the Select Board when he was appointed that it was unlikely he would run for the seat in 2022. Ronnie Medina has taken out papers for that seat.

Acting town clerk Linda Fredette has taken out papers for her seat; and Gary F. Souza has taken out papers for Housing Authority.

Nomination papers for all offices in Fairhaven in the 4/4/22 election are now available. Next year, three seats will be on the ballot for the Select Board. The seat now held by Stasia Powers will be up for re-election as scheduled, and two new seats will also be on the ballot. The person with

the most votes will serve three years, the second place person will serve two years, the third place person will serve one year before needing to run again. After this year, all seats will be three year terms. Town Meeting voted in 2021 to increase the number of seats on the SB to five, from three, and the Mass. state legislature voted to enact the change.

The Annual Town Election will be held on Monday, April 4, 2022. Polls will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Deadline to register to vote is 3/15/22.

You may register to vote any day from 8:30 a.m.-4:30p.m. Monday-Friday. Mail-in Voter Registration Forms are available at the Town Clerk's Office, the Millicent Library and State and Federal offices.

- **Friday, January 24, 2022, 5 p.m.:** Last day and hour for Town Meeting Member incumbents to file written request for re-election with the Town Clerk
- **Thursday, February 10, 2022, 5 p.m.:** Last day and hour for requesting nomination papers
- **Monday, February 14, 2022, 5 p.m.:** Last day and hour for filing all nomination papers with the Registrar of Voters (Town Clerk's Office)
- **Wednesday, March 2, 2022, 5 p.m.:** Last day and hour to withdraw nomination papers
- **Tuesday, March 15, 2022, 8 p.m.:** Last day to register voters for the Town Election. The Town Clerk's Office will be open from 8:30 a.m.-8 p.m. this day
- **Monday, March 28, 2022** Warrant must be posted

Where do I vote?

The Town of Fairhaven Precinct Boundary Map can be found at (<https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf3131/f/uploads/fairhaven2010.pdf>). This map will be updated with the 2020 Census Re-precincting information as soon as we receive the final approved information from the State.

- Precinct one: Town Hall, 40 Center Street
- Precincts two and three: Elizabeth Hastings Middle School, 30 School Street
- Precinct four: Fire Station Meeting Room, 146 Washington Street
- Precincts five and six, Recreation Center, 227 Huttleston Avenue

2022 Town Election Seats

- Town Clerk, 3 Years, One seat, Linda Fredette, incumbent
- Select Board: 3 Years, One seat, Stasia A. Powers incumbent
2 Years, One, Vacant (New)
1 Year, One, Vacant (New)
- School Committee 3 Years, Two seats, Kyle Bueno and Erik Andersen incumbents
- Board of Health, 3 Years, One seat, Peter Deterra incumbent
- Commissioner of Trust Funds, 3 Years, One seat, Barbara Acksen incumbent
1 Year (unexpired term), One seat, Vacant
- Board of Public Works, 3 Years, One, G. Steven Riley incumbent
- Planning Board, 4 Years, Two, Geoffrey Haworth II and John Farrell incumbents
- Housing Authority, 5 Years, One seat, Marc Scanlon incumbent

How to run

Nomination papers are available now at the Town Clerk's Office located inside Town Hall at 40 Center Street, Fairhaven. Nomination papers for town-wide office election 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.

How do I get on the ballot as a Town Meeting Member?

Nomination papers are available as now at the Town Clerk's Office located inside Town Hall at 40 Center Street, Fairhaven. Nomination papers for Town Meeting require 10 certified signatures from your precinct only. Town Meeting Members who seek re-election should file a written request with the Town Clerk no later than Friday, January 24, 2022 at 5PM.

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 information on registering to vote, visit <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/town-clerk/pages/voter-resources> or call the Town Clerk at (508) 979-4023 ext. 3

For more information on Fairhaven's local election, visit <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/town-clerk/pages/election-resources> or call the Town Clerk at 508-979-4023 ext. 3

New Bedford responds to NY Bight wind proposal

Press Release

The Port of New Bedford, Massachusetts, the center of the East Coast commercial fishing industry, is offering mixed reaction to the Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management's (BOEM) announcement on 1/12/22 that the agency will conduct a wind energy lease auction for six areas totaling 480,000 acres of the New York Bight in February.

The New Bedford fishing fleet — the nation's top-grossing fleet — relies heavily on the fishing grounds of the New York Bight for its success. Given the importance of the Bight, New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell and the New Bedford Port Authority (NBPA) have been actively engaged with BOEM regarding the development of the Bight for offshore wind energy projects.

In an April 2021 letter to BOEM Director Amanda Lefton, Mayor Mitchell, as Chairman of the Port Authority, recommended changes in the configuration of the proposed Bight lease areas to help reduce the impact on the Atlantic sea scallop industry and other fish species

principally landed in New Bedford.

Specifically, the Mayor called for the southeastern boundary of the Bight's Hudson South lease area to be shifted five miles to the west. The Mayor's letter was followed in August 2021 by a second letter further explaining the need for a boundary adjustment.*

With its announcement on 1/12, BOEM responded to the New Bedford requests, agreeing to shift the boundary in question 2.5 miles to the west, as well as reducing the size of another Bight lease area, the so-called "Central Bight" area.

Mayor Mitchell commented on yesterday's developments, "The overarching lesson from yesterday's announcement is the importance of staying engaged and offering pragmatic solutions that are responsive to the concerns of both wind proponents and fishing interests. I appreciate the willingness of Director Lefton and the BOEM team to listen and adjust their approach based on the strength of the case we have made to them."

Mitchell added, "This is by no means to say that the Port's concerns

with BOEM's approach to offshore wind development in the Bight are all addressed. We will continue to call on BOEM to use the wind project permitting process to minimize the economic impact on commercial fishing, and, equally important, to ensure fishermen are compensated for any economic damages caused by wind project development.

"I can't emphasize enough how important the fishing industry is to our nation's food security and how economically important the industry is to state economies of New England. The federal government should pursue a policy agenda that simultaneously takes into account the economic consequences to fishermen and the economic opportunities from offshore wind energy development. It's not an "either/or" proposition. Federal regulators at BOEM and other agencies must consider both in all their decision-making," said Mitchell.

For its part, New Bedford is uniquely positioned on issues of both economic impact and economic benefit. The Port is the largest and

NB: cont'd on page 20

MAC'S SODA BAR

Reopening February 2nd
For Lent Serving Your
Seafood Favorites

- Fish & Chips
- Scallop Plate
- Clam Plate
- Fried Shrimp
- Pan Seared Scrod with Herb Butter
- Lobster Roll

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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Tim Cox on NESN

Fairhaven Harbormaster Tim Cox is on NESN on an episode of "The Drift" produced by John Methia. Air dates on NESN are 1/24 at 2:30 p.m.; 1/30 at 2:30 p.m.; on NESN+, the episode will air on 1/26 at 6:30 p.m.

After its run on NESN, the episode will also be available on The Drift's YouTube channel. Visit <https://www.driftsociably.com/home> for links.

The episode (S1 E8) features people working in the Marine Trades.

Fairhaven boaters and beachgoers will recognize many of the places in the video that recognizes the Mr. Cox for his awards and recognition in the Harbormaster community, and explains a little bit about what a Harbormaster does.

Free COVID Test Kits

Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order four free at-home COVID-19 tests. The tests are completely free. Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days.

Order your tests now so you have them when you need them. We have tests for every residential address in the U.S.

Visit <https://www.covidtests.gov> or <https://special.usps.com/testkits> and fill out the form online.

Residential households in the U.S. can order one set of four free at-home tests from USPS.com.

- Limit of one order per residential address
- One order includes four individual rapid antigen COVID-19 tests
- Orders will ship free starting in late January

Boating Class

The US Coast Guard Auxiliary's Flotilla 65 will be starting its 14-week Boating Skills & Seamanship Course on Monday, January 31, 2022 from 7-9 pm through May 2, 2022 at 80 Middle Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719

This 14-week comprehensive course is designed for both the experienced and the novice boater.

It is a perfect introduction to recreational boating's fundamentals, such as: choosing, equipping, trailering and handling a small to midsize boat; rules of the road; how to: read a chart and chart plotter; make a May

Day call; handle on-water emergencies; tie ropes/lines; and understand weather.

The \$45 fee includes the textbook, workbook, and all course materials.

To register, please go to <http://flotilla65.com/public-education-class>.

If you have any questions, please contact MaryBeth Soares, Flotilla Staff Officer-Public Education at 508-493-5531 or via email: mbsoares11@verizon.net

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

Quit Tobacco

Take the First Step toward a Nicotine-Free Life for the New Year

Make a resolution for a healthier life for you and your family.

If you want to quit smoking, vaping or using other tobacco products, don't give up. Many say quitting is the hardest thing they've done. Help is available, so take the first step now!

1-800-QUIT NOW (1-800-784-8669), the Massachusetts Quitline for tobacco/nicotine is available for FREE coaching 24 hours each day, seven days a week to support you through quitting. No lectures. No judgments. You can connect with the Quitline online, too, at mass.gov/quitting.

For more information, visit mass.gov/quitting, or call Colleen Kennedy-

Mello at 774.634.3955. Make the holidays and New Year the start of your quit journey.

Alerts sign-up

To sign up to receive alerts for weather warnings and other town emergencies, visit the Fairhaven Fire Department's web page, www.fairhavenfire.org and click on "Fairhaven Emergency Alert" and follow the prompts. Or call the Fire Department at 508-004-1428, or the Fairhaven Senior Center, 508-979-4029. Alerts can be sent to your landline, cell phone and/ or by email.

Volunteer Vacancies

Get involved, join a committee and make a difference.

The volunteer boards and committees in Fairhaven are vital to the running of our town. They provide a rich source of knowledge and expertise, expand the town's ability to research issues and best practices, and enhance the communication between residents and town staff and elected officials.

If you are interested in serving on a Town Board or Committee please email your letter of interest to Selectboard@Fairhaven-MA.gov. Letters may be mailed to the Selectmen's Office, 40 Center Street.

Boards or Committees with current vacancies are:

Agricultural Commission, Two Full Members/One Associate Member; Bikeway Committee, Two Full Members; Broadband Study Committee, one associate member; Cable Advisory Committee, One Full Member; Commission on Disability, one full member; Conservation Commission, Two Non-Voting Members; Council on Aging Board of Directors, One Associate Member; Cultural Council, Two Members; Economic Development Committee, Two Non-Voting Alternate Members; Finance Committee, Precincts 2, 3, 5 and 6, apply to clerk@fairhaven-ma.gov; Lagoa Friendship Pact Committee, Two At-Large Members, One Member of the Business Community; Millicent Library Trustees, One Full Member; Sustainability Committee, One Full Member, Five Alternate Members; Zoning Board of Appeals, One Associate Member.

Mass. Seafood Value Reaches an All-Time High in 2021

By Story Reed, Permitting & Statistics Program Manager, Mass. Division of Marine Fisheries

Preliminary data shows that the ex-vessel value of seafood landed in Massachusetts reached an all-time high of over \$800 million in 2021. This is a remarkable turnaround from 2020 when many segments of the seafood industry suffered revenue losses due to the impact on traditional markets caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

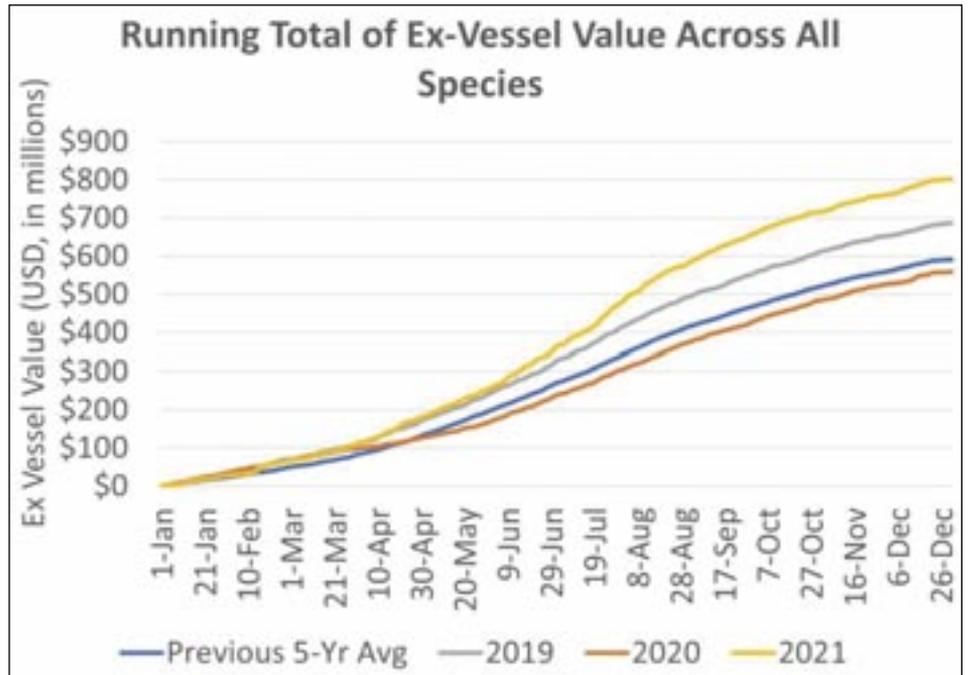
For comparison to the \$800 million, the 2020 ex-vessel value was \$558 million and the five-year average (2015-2019) ex-vessel value was approximately \$600 million. The ex-vessel value is the value of the fish when it is unloaded.

In recent years, sea scallops and lobsters accounted for approximately 70% of the ex-vessel value of seafood landed in Massachusetts. While quantities landed followed similar trends to previous years in 2021, these two species had consistently higher than average per unit prices through the year, resulting in them accounting for 79% of the total value of all species landed.

The ex-vessel value of sea scallops and lobster reached all time highs of approximately \$500 million and \$120 million, respectively. These drove the dramatic increase in total ex-vessel value.

Although scallops and lobster drove the increase in total ex-vessel value, other species did rebound to near pre-pandemic levels. These included finfish and shellfish species.

The oyster fishery was hit particularly hard due to restaurant closures in 2020 with a nearly 35%



This chart shows the total ex-vessel value of seafood in Massachusetts in 2021. The ex-vessel value is the value of the fish when it is unloaded. *Division of Marine Fisheries graphic.*

drop in total ex-vessel value as compared to the previous five-year average. In 2020, ex-vessel value dropped to approximately \$17 million from nearly \$30 million in 2019. The preliminary total value for 2021 rebounded to over \$28 million with the reopening of restaurants and other traditional markets.

During the COVID-19 public health emergency, many wholesalers, retailers, and fishermen pivoted their operations to provide more local seafood options for Massachusetts consumers. The pivots included curbside pickup, home delivery, and increased retail boat sales. Many of

these models were very successful and continued throughout 2021.

DMF's Seafood Marketing Program will continue to work with the industry to promote sustainable Massachusetts seafood.

The Division of Marine Fisheries manages the state's commercial and recreational saltwater fisheries and oversees other services that support the marine environment and fishing communities.

Learn more at https://www.mass.gov/news/massachusetts-seafood-value-reaches-an-all-time-high-in-2021?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

WHEN LOCAL NEWS FAILS...

“ The public, which depends on accurate, factual information in order to make decisions, suffers. ”
 — Margaret Sullivan, "Ghosting The News"

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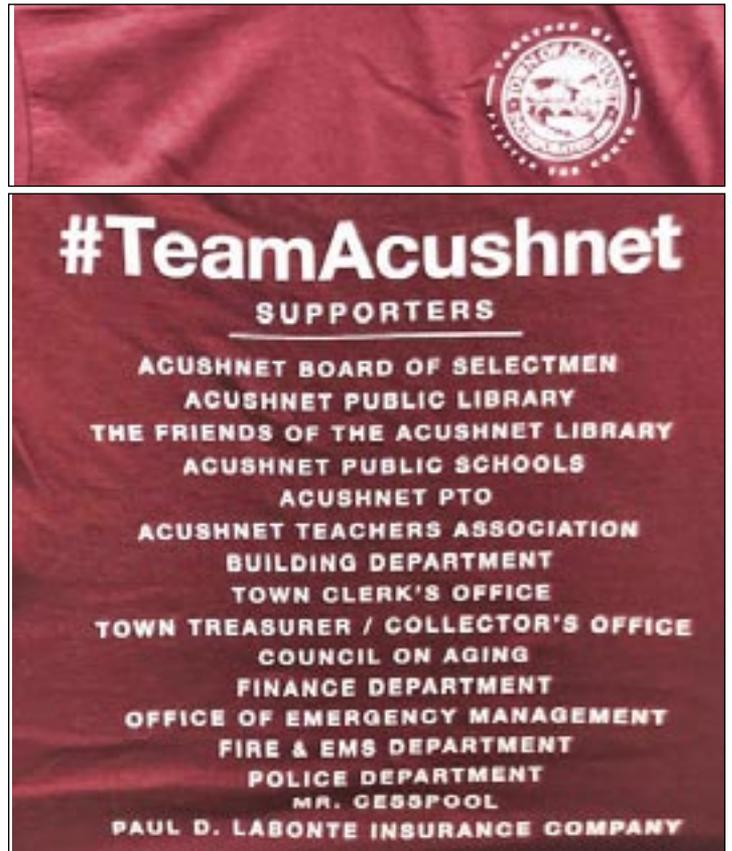
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Team Acushnet shirts give pride and a little \$\$



When the pandemic began in 2020, "Team Acushnet" tee shirts were sold, with the proceeds to benefit the Acushnet Senior Center. The Acushnet Firefighters Union (IAFF 3281) fronted the cost of the shirts and acted as the project's savings account. These funds will assist our town's senior population. The front of the shirt has the town seal with an extra ring of type around it reading "Together we can flatten the curve," a reference to lowering the amount of COVID infections, which are depicted on a graph as a curve. The back of the shirt lists the supporters. The shirts were created when the Acushnet team made it a mission to test as many people as possible every week. ABOVE: Acushnet Council on Aging Director Heather Chew receives a check for \$1411 from Firefighter/Paramedic Tom Farland. TOP RIGHT: The front of the shirt. BOTTOM RIGHT: The back of the shirt. *Photos from the Acushnet Council on Aging and Senior Community Center Facebook page.*



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YTI Comedy

Your Theatre serves up a cure for the pandemic blues in their production of Paul Slade Smith's *The Outsider*. Directed by Eric R. Paradis, it's a timely, hilarious comedy that skewers politics and celebrates democracy.

Ned Newley doesn't want to be governor. He's terrified of public speaking and his poll numbers are impressively bad. But political consultant Arthur Vance sees things differently. He believes Ned could be a winner, if the public is convinced that the worst possible candidate to run for office is, in fact, the one that they want.

Remaining dates are Friday and Saturday, Jan. 21-22 at 7:30 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 22-23 at 2:30 p.m. Performances are at Your Theatre, 136 Rivet St. (County St. entrance) in New Bedford. Free parking in the St. Martin's Church lot, next to the church hall (theatre) on the south side of the church. Tickets are General Admission \$18; Seniors and Students \$15. All seats are reserved; call 508-993-0772 or email boxoffice@yourtheatre.org.

Your Theatre is grateful for the generous support of HarborOne Bank, sponsor of its production of *The Outsider*; and Bank 5, sponsor of the theatre's current 75th season.

For the safety of all who attend Your Theatre performances, all cast, crew, and volunteers will follow YTI's mask and vaccine protocols. All patrons over the age of 12 years old will be required to show proof of vaccination or negative COVID test result (within 72 hours). Details on current protocols are available at <https://yourtheatre.org>.

Vaccination Clinics

With New Bedford seeing nearly triple the amount of COVID-19 cases as this time last year, City health officials are reminding the public that it's never too late to start your vaccinations and that boosters are crucial for those who completed their vaccinations at least five months ago.

While cases are surging due to the highly contagious omicron variant, death rates are not: case fatality rates in New Bedford have fallen by more than half from a year ago, with the highest fatality rates among unvaccinated residents. About 63

percent of all COVID-19 deaths in the city in December 2021 were among unvaccinated residents, and 31 percent were among those who completed their vaccinations five months ago or more, according to Health Department data.

Free, walk-up COVID-19 clinics in New Bedford offer CDC-approved booster shots, in addition to first- and second-dose vaccines and, at most locations, pediatric vaccines and boosters for teens 12-17. Please bring your vaccination card when getting a booster. Visit vaxnb.com for updated schedules of local COVID-19 vaccination and testing locations. Upcoming vaccine locations in New Bedford include:

Friday, Jan. 21: PAACA (360 Coggeshall St.) – 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Pfizer, Moderna, J&J, boosters, w/ pediatric vaccines for children 5 – 11 years old & boosters for teens 12-17

COVID Testing

Testing sites in New Bedford and surrounding towns can be found on the state's Stop the Spread website, www.mass.gov/info-details/find-a-covid-19-test. Upcoming testing locations in New Bedford include:

Fri., Jan. 21: Former Fire Station 11 (754 Brock Ave.) – 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Members Exhibit

New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks! is exhibiting the annual Member's Exhibition until May 8th.

Nancy Whitcomb's *Dog Eat Dog World* was awarded Best in Show. Susan Gilmore's *Blustery* was the first runner up, and Dora Atwater Millikin's *Nantucket Light Ship* was the second runner up. The staff pick was Elizabeth Stanton's *Waiting On Citrus To Ripen*.

New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks! (NBAM) is located in the beautiful Seaport Cultural District in historic downtown New Bedford at 608 Pleasant Street. NBAM presents a rotating schedule of exhibitions, workshops, and digital experiences as a local cultural institution and is open Thursday through Sunday from 10 AM - 4 PM. Advanced booking is required, and timed tickets are available through newbedfordart.org/ visit or by phone (508) 961-3072. You can connect with NBAM on Facebook and on Instagram @nbam_aw.

Whimsical Winter At the Z

Cinema New Bedford showcases acclaimed films from around the world that feature great storytelling and a variety of perspectives. Join us to experience award-winning films that harness the power of feeling to entertain and enlighten. Visit <https://www.zeiterion.org/program/cinema>

February 8: *Rushmore*, the story of a gifted, rebellious teenager who falls for his elegant teacher and competes for her attention against his friend's wealthy father. Tickets: \$10

March 8: *Moonrise Kingdom*, set on an island off the coast of New England in 1965, tells the story of two 12-year-olds who fall in love, make a pact and run away together. Tickets: \$10

At the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center, 684 Purchase St., New Bedford, 02740; 508-994-2900.

Contact the theater for COVID protocols.

World AIDS Day

In honor of the more than 32 million people who have died from HIV/AIDS worldwide since the first official reporting of the disease 40 years ago, as well as the 38 million people currently living with HIV, The South Coast LGBTQ+ Network hosted the region's first-ever World AIDS Day Conference on December 1 at UMass Dartmouth with the support of the university's Center for Women, Gender & Sexuality.

The event featured retrospectives and presentations from some of the area's leading authorities on HIV/AIDS education, prevention, and treatment. It also offered Continuing Education Units (CEUs) to assist professionals with maintaining their license in their profession.

See the conference at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YqGBKvPt-KM>

Many of the South Coast's leading providers of healthcare services for the LGBTQ+ community were present, including The Greater New Bedford Community Health Center, SSTAR Family Health Center of Fall River, Coastline Elderly Services, The Women's Center, Seven Hills, Health Imperatives, the Inter-Church Council, Relief Home Health Services, the American Red Cross, and PAACA.

HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

Music and Dance

FirstWorks, a Rhode Island non-profit dedicated to building community through world-class arts, will present renowned composer, violinist and activist Daniel Bernard Roumain (DBR) and "The Telling" at 8 p.m. on January 22, 2022 at WaterFire Arts Center. "The Telling" is a new collection of his original compositions with instrumental solos, dance and chamber music — each exploring the question: how can we, the living, honor the lost? A Town Hall dialogue will follow the live concert.

"The Telling" will premiere at the WaterFire Arts Center on January 22, 2022 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$35-\$55 with a pay-what-you-can option, to offer equitable access. Tickets are available firstworks.org or by calling 401-421-4278.

A month-long video exhibition titled "The Seeing," produced through a creative partnership between FirstWorks and WaterFire Providence, will accompany the premiere performance of "The Telling," on view at the WaterFire Arts Center from January 12 through February 6, 2022. The exhibition will feature seven film works scored by Daniel Bernard Roumain and is open to the public.

All attendees must show proof of vaccination against COVID-19 with photo ID, or a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours of the performance. Masks are required for all.

Music at the Museum

The following events will be held at the Mattapoisett Museum, 5 Church St, Mattapoisett; 508-758-2844. Winter Hours: Thursday by appointment, Friday & Saturday 12-4 PM, Sunday by appointment. Please email info@mattapoisettmuseum.org to schedule.

January 21, 6pm 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. FREE

January 23th, 1:00 PM Southcoast Lessons presents Old Time Fiddle Session - Join us for a gathering of traditional string band musicians and music lovers. Bring an instrument if you play, a seat if you've got one you

love, and yourself whether you play and own seating or not! FREE

February 4, 6:00 PM Southcoast Lessons presents New Sounds of Silents: silent films set to live music - Join us at Mattapoisett Museum for the continuation of Southcoast Lessons' silent films set to live music series! 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. FREE

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

Art History Prog.

An engaging, educational, art observation experience designed to broaden the minds of its participants, artists and non-artists alike. Visit artforyourmind.com for more information.

- Friday, January 21st | 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Early American Colonial Painting. A selection of simple, straight-forward paintings by self-taught artist. Learn how to recognize their unique style in the context of this transitional time-period in America's history. Local art historian Jill Sanford leads. In-person: Mattapoisett COA, 17 Barstow St., Mattapoisett. Register: 508-758-4110 Free.

- Wednesday, February 2nd | 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Early American Art/Revolutionary Images An opportunity to observe famous people, places, and events of the Revolutionary War, through the eyes of those who experienced it. From the Boston Massacre to the surrender at Yorktown—interpret images of America's turbulent start and increase your awareness of the many ways art can tell a story. With local art historian Jill Sanford!

In-person: Mattapoisett COA, 17 Barstow St., Mattapoisett, Register: 508-758-4110. Free.

Auditions

Rhode Island's oldest community theater, The Community Players, currently celebrating their 100th season, will hold auditions for their

spring musical *Mamma Mia!* on **Sun., 1/30 from 1-4pm and 6-9pm** with callbacks on Thursday, February 3 from 6-9pm at Jenks Auditorium, 350 Division Street, Pawtucket, RI, (across from McCoy Stadium). Sign-in will begin at 12:30 pm and 5:30pm.

Told through the legendary music of ABBA, this worldwide mega hit musical tells the tale of Sophie, a 20-year-old bride-to-be, who is on a search for her father. On the eve of her wedding, her quest to discover her father's identity brings three men from her mother's past back to the island they had last visited 20 years earlier.

Director Terry Murray, Music Director Ray Santos and Choreographer Laura-Jeanne Ferranti are looking for a diverse cast of three women and three men in their 40s, six women and six men in their early 20s and a chorus of various ages over 20 to fill the following roles: Donna Sheridan – Sophie's mother; owner of the Taverna; Tanya – Former Dynamo; Rosie – Former Dynamo; Harry Bright – May be Sophie's father; Bill Austin – May be Sophie's father; Sam Carmichael – May be Sophie's father; Sophie Sheridan – born and raised on the island; Ali – Sophie's friend; Lisa – Sophie's Friend; Sky – Sophie's fiancé; Pepper – Barman at the Taverna; Eddie – Helps Sky with beach activities; Chorus – Islanders who work at the Taverna; family friends

All roles are open.

Those auditioning should bring sheet music and prepare 16 bars of a Broadway style song (not from *Mamma Mia!*). Sheet music should be clearly marked and in an appropriate key. An accompanist will be provided. Be prepared and dressed to dance. The audition may also include cold readings from the script.

Auditioners will need to show proof of vaccination for Covid 19, along with an official government issued identification. Masks will be required unless actively auditioning.

No appointments are necessary and auditioners do not need to come to both sessions. The show will be produced at Jenks Auditorium on April 1, 2, 3, 8, 9 and 10, 2022.

For further information, call (401) 474-4521 or email auditions@thecommunityplayers.org.

For more information about The Community Players, visit www.thecommunityplayers.org.

Recipe of the Week

JFK Chowder

America's 35th president was a New Englander through and through. Among his favorite meals was a delicately flavored, creamy chowder perfect for cold winter nights. .

- 2 pounds haddock, deboned
- 3 cups water
- 2 ounces salt pork, diced
- 2 onions, sliced
- 4 large potatoes, diced
- 1 cup celery, chopped
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ground black pepper, to taste
- 1 quart of milk
- 2 tablespoons butter

In a soup pot on the stove-top over medium heat, add in the haddock and 2 cups of water. Bring to a simmer for 15 minutes. Drain, reserving the broth and the fish.

Sauté the salt pork in the soup pot until crisp. Remove the pork with a slotted spoon and set aside, reserving the fat in the pot.

Sauté the onions in the pork fat until golden brown, about 3 minutes.

Add the reserved fish, potatoes, celery, bay leaf, salt, and pepper.

Pour in the reserved fish broth and the remaining cup of water.

Simmer until the potatoes are fork-tender, about 30 minutes.

Remove the bay leaf.

Add the milk and butter and simmer for 5 minutes.

Serve hot, sprinkled with the reserved salt pork.

From cookingprofessionally.com

To share a recipe with your neighbors

Mail to 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719; fax to 508-991-5580; email to neighbnews@comcast.net (Email preferred)

Dear Frankie



Doggie Day Care

Dear Frankie,
Dear Frankie

I see my friend Lily at the park only on **w e e k e n d s** . Monday through Friday, she goes to doggie day-care.

I asked her if she liked going,

and she said, "Are you kidding? It's like winning the canine lottery."

She said, "Who wouldn't like having a warm homemade breakfast, gymnastics, free play, nap time (with a soft blanket on a cushioned cot), lunch (also homemade), games, and a delicious snack before getting on the bus to go home.

When I asked my mother why I wasn't going to daycare, she said, "I'll tell you why, it's expensive, and you have a mother who stays at home and provides you twenty-four hours of doggie daycare, plus a daily trip to the dog park, where I patiently wait for you to see your friends and get some exercise."

I don't understand why she got so riled up. I just asked a simple question. Anyway, If I could get her to agree to send me, do you know of any scholarships for dogs who would give their right paw to attend?

Riley

Dear Riley,

Tuition aside, I'm not sure what you could say to convince your mom to send you to doggie daycare. Your question made her feel that you didn't appreciate all she did to take care of you. She was probably insulted that

you thought that going to a daycare staffed by people who were paid to care for dogs in a group setting was better than the companionship, meals, treats, and daily dog park outing she provides.

As for your question about scholarships, I am not aware of any. If there were, I think your chances of getting one would be slim, seeing that you have a caring stay-at-home mom.

Are you aware, Riley, that many working parents leave their dogs at home alone when they go to work? Some dogs are also left in a crate whenever their parents are out of the house.

Don't get me started on crates.

I suggest you count the many blessings your mom provides. You might also think about getting down on your knees and offering her some words of thanks.

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.

We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

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NOAA to host webinar on how to get data

NOAA Fisheries' Marine Recreational Information Program will host its third data user seminar on Tuesday, January 25, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. ET. The training session will provide an overview of how the MRIP Query Tool can be used to filter NOAA Fisheries' recreational catch and effort statistics by time series, geographic area, species, mode, and other characteristics. It will walk participants through several different queries, and also explain how the tool will change following the full implementation of the agency's Recreational Fishing Survey and Data Standards, including the switch to cumulative rather than wave-specific estimates and the adoption of a precision threshold.

To pre-register for this event or get Zoom information for the day of the meeting, visit <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/event/mrip-data-user-seminar-mrip-query-tool>

To dial in, call 1-415-527-5035 and enter access code 2760 242 8757. The event password is noaa.

This presentation will cover topics documented in sections two and four

of the MRIP Data User Handbook (available at previous link). The terms used to set queries are defined in the Recreational Fishing Data Glossary. The third in a series of training sessions for stock assessors, fisheries analysts, and other Marine Recreational Information Program data users.

Additional Seminars

This event is part of a series. Access previous seminar recordings or sign up for future training sessions at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/event/mrip-data-user-seminar-mrip-query-tool>.

- An Introduction to MRIP Data (October 26, 2021)
- Statistical Methods and Procedures (November 30, 2021)
- Custom Domain Analyses (February 22 and March 31, 2022)

Contact Lauren Dolinger Few, Lauren.Dolinger.Few@noaa.gov, with questions about the seminar series.

The MRIP is the state-regional-federal partnership responsible for developing, improving, and implementing surveys that measure how many trips saltwater anglers take and

how many fish they catch.

Do you have a question about recreational fishing data collection or estimation? Email Dave Bard at david.bard@noaa.gov or visit countmyfish.noaa.gov.

NOAA Fisheries' Recreational Fishing Survey and Data Standards guide the design, improvement, and quality of the information produced by the recreational fishing surveys that are administered or funded through the agency's Marine Recreational Information Program.

By providing a single set of guidelines for recreational fisheries data collection and estimation, the standards support the program's commitment to transparency. By promoting data quality, consistency, and comparability across data collection programs, the standards facilitate the shared use of the statistics these programs produce. Ultimately, the standards will further ensure the scientific integrity of our data collection efforts, the quality of our recreational fisheries statistics, and the strength of science-based management decisions.

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Frozen marsh shows just how cold it's been



After a couple of days of temperatures well below freezing and with wind chills dropping them into the teens, marshes and shorelines froze in Fairhaven. The marsh at Jack's Cove, above, is not completely frozen, but it was well on its way on 1/16/22. It takes at least a few days of frigid temps to get the whole thing completely frozen over. Before that happened, temperatures hiked up just enough for a rain storm to pass through that night and melt all the ice. Temperatures dropped back into the 20s on Tuesday and are set to stay cold for a couple of days with more wind or snow on the way for Thursday. ABOVE AND BELOW: Jack's Cove in Fairhaven is almost completely frozen on Sunday, 1/16/22. BOTTOM: The pilings in the finger dock area at West Island Marina are surrounded by ice on 1/16/22. Photos by Margie Green Joseph for the Neighb News.



Oxford School residences nearing completion



All indications are that the Oxford School Residences in Benoit Square in Fairhaven are still on track to start receiving tenants in the spring. The project will create 52 new senior housing units, for people 62+, with 45 units affordably priced and rented to individuals who earn 60% or less of the area median income. The project re-uses the old Oxford School building for 10 apartments, with the rest in a new building constructed where the old addition was. HallKeen Management will provide on-site management for the property, and is accepting applications through January 31 for the affordable housing lottery, which will be hosted virtually on February 10. Applications received after that date will be placed on a waiting list. Call 781-915-3071, TDD 7-1-1, or email oxfordschool@hallkeen.com for an application. Applications are also available at the Millicent Library, Fairhaven Town Hall, Fairhaven Housing Authority (Oxford Terrace), and Fairhaven Senior Center. Visit www.OxfordSchoolResidences.com for more details. ABOVE: The front of the building, with the old school building on the left, and the new construction on the right. BELOW: The view of the back of the building from Livesey Park, which abuts the property. *Photos by Beth David.*



Fairhaven Recreation Center

Open Mon-Thurs, 6 a.m.-8 p.m.; Fri., 6 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.-2 p.m.; Closed Sunday • 227 Huttleston Ave, 508-993-9269 <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/recreation-department>

NEW Pickleball!!!!

We are now dedicating court time for Pickleball time slots., Please contact the front desk for available times! Pre-registration may be made online at <https://fairhavenrecreation.activityreg.com>. Payments must be provided at the time of registration. Once booked we are unable to issue refunds.

Home Alone Safety Class

This course is designed to encourage children to be more independent. Topics covered will be basic first aid, door and telephone protocol, accident prevention, first aid for choking and safety measures.

Pizza will also be provided. pace is limited...sign up soon. Ages: 9-11 Date: January 24 Instructor: Beth Oleson Time: 6 PM-7:45PM Cost \$55 members / \$65 non-members

Babysitting Class

This is a comprehensive 3 hour course for 11-14 year olds. Topics will include first aid, choke saving techniques, mealtime, bedtime, diapering, discipline, contracts and ethics. Pizza will be provided.

Ages: 11-14 Date: Feb. 7 Instructor: Beth Oleson Time: 6-8:15PM Cost: \$55 members/\$65 non-members

Fairhaven Senior Center

508-979-4029 • 229 Huttleston Ave
Supportive Senior Day Care Program, 9-3 • 508-993-9455
Respite Care: one day, half-a-day. Regular rates apply.

Visit our website at:

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

Fairhaven Council on Aging

Weather Cancellations

If we have any amount of snow accumulation, there will be no shopping that day and activities may be canceled. Call the Senior Center 508-979-4029 to confirm. So please stock up on non-perishable food items.

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.

Financial Help

Financial Help might be available if: you are a woman over 70 years old, live in Fairhaven, live alone, have unpaid bills due to low income. Call the Senior Center, 508-979-4029 if you meet these criteria and ask for Lucille. All information is confidential.

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Acushnet back in the hunt for an Interim Town Administrator

By Beth David
Editor

The Acushnet Selectboard held a brief meeting on 1/14/22 to announce that contract negotiations with Richard Lafond for the Interim Town Administrator position stopped when he notified them that he had taken another position.

Selectboard chairperson David Desroches said that Mr. Lafond had taken a position in western Mass.

"We wish him the best of luck concerning that position," said Mr. Desroches.

The board voted to have Mr. Desroches contact other candidates.

The board is scheduled to meet on Friday, 1/21 at 11 a.m. to discuss the position. One item on the agenda is in open session, the other is in executive session to meet with James F. Kelley about the Interim TA position.

The board is also scheduled to

meet in executive session to address open meeting law complaints against the Selectboard by Patrick Higgins dated December 19, 2021.

The board also noted that the town has a number of volunteer positions open on a variety of boards, including the position of Town Moderator.

Anyone interested should submit a letter of interest to the Selectboard, 122 Main Street, Acushnet, MA 02743

Acushnet has volunteer board/committee positions open

The town of Acushnet has a number of vacancies on a variety of boards and committees.

All positions are on a volunteer basis. Anyone interested should submit a letter of interest to the Selectboard, 122 Main Street, Acushnet, MA 02743

- Agricultural Commission has two vacancies for alternate members

that needs to be filled.

- Beautification Committee has seven vacancies that need to be filled.

- Community Preservation Committee has one vacancy for a member of the Housing Authority that needs to be filled.

- Cultural Council has 13 vacancies

that need to be filled.

- Open Space Committee has one vacancy that needs to be filled.

The town is also looking for a moderator, who is responsible for running the annual town meeting.

Visit the town's website at <https://www.acushnet.ma.us/home/pages/volunteer-opportunities>

More Acushnet News...

Acushnet Residents COVID Testing

Covid Testing will be held every Saturday, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Acushnet Elementary School, Middle Road. Open to Acushnet residents only. Proof of residence will be required.

Watch Acushnet Meetings and Events on YouTube

Acushnet Cable is on YouTube. Visit <https://www.youtube.com/c/AcushnetCable> to watch meetings and other events produced by the Acushnet Cable TY Department.

Sign Up for Alerts

The Town of Acushnet encourages residents and business owners to sign up for emergency notifications. Such alerts include evacuation notices, missing child alerts, and boil

water notifications.

Based on your personal preference, alerts will be delivered via phone call, text message, email or a combination of all three.

To sign up <https://www.acushnet.ma.us/subscribe>

Recycle Clothes, Support Acushnet Schools

A Great & Easy Way to support our schools...Planet Aid

Recycling and donating your clothes will keep them out of the trash and in the hands of someone who can give them a second life. Donating your clothes also helps the Acushnet Public Schools. We will receive 7 cents per pound of donated textiles. Your donation is tax-deductible and you can easily get a receipt on the PlanetAid website.

You will find two bins on Middle

Road facing the end of Ford and in the AES chute. Planet Aid accepts the following clean items in our yellow bins: Clothing, shoes, bedding, towels, curtains, sleeping bags, socks, underwear, bras, stuffed animals.

Snow Parking Ban

By vote of Town Meeting, parking is restricted, as follows: in water district parking allowed opposite side of hydrants, out of water district parking allowed north side of street running east and west and parking allowed on west side of streets running north and south. Violators subject to being towed away at owner's expense. (Authority, Article 17, March 11, 1970 Annual Town Meeting, which adopted Chapter 40, Section 22D of the General Laws.) Parking restriction is from January 1, 2022 to April 15, 2022.

Appreciate this news?

Only with your support, can we continue to cover the events, news stories, and the number of town meetings we cover. The *Neighb News* covers more Fairhaven and Acushnet meetings than any other newspaper.

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BPW discusses Capital Plan

By Mary Chasse

Neighb News Correspondence

At its meeting on Monday 1/10 the Fairhaven Board of Public Works discussed the Capital Plan and budgets to be discussed at the next BPW meeting, and discussed the new water meters, and Covid matters.

The board first discussed the cost of the installation of water meters being done by Tata and Howard. BPW Superintendent Vinnie Furtado explained that there have been three amendments to the contract and the price of the whole project has increased, but it is necessary to get the water meters installed properly.

The board voted unanimously to approve the amendment to the contract.

Vice-Chairperson Robert "Hoppy" Hobson asked if there will be an installation fee for the residents when the new water meters are installed.

Mr. Furtado said the town is paying for the new meters to be installed and there will be no extra cost to the residents.

Chairperson Brian Wotton said the new meters are being installed to

save residents money. With the new meters the Water Department and residents will be alerted immediately if there is a leak in their home.

Mr. Wotton also said the new meters will save a lot of labor costs because employees will not have to go to every meter and read them manually anymore.

In another matter board member Steve Riley asked about how the departments are running with the latest Covid cases.

Mr. Furtado said they are being more cautious. If a town employee is positive they must quarantine for at least 10 days. If they are a close contact and vaccinated they do not have to quarantine, but the town employees are being tested.

Mr. Wotton asked if it was like the test-and-stay policy adopted at the schools, and Mr. Furtado said it was.

He said if an employee is a close contact and not vaccinated they must quarantine for five days and then test.

Board member Cameron Durant asked if positive employees need to test before returning. He said that he thought people could test positive up

to 90 days after having Covid.

Mr. Furtado said that positive employees do not have to test to return to work, but their symptoms have to be much better and they have to continue to wear a mask.

In another matter Mr. Furtado informed the board that at the next BPW meeting the superintendents of each department will discuss the budgets for FY23 and they will also discuss the Capital Plan.

Board member Marcus Ferro said he was excited that the accessibility at Town Beach with the beach mats will be addressed in the budgets for next year. He asked what the plan looks like for paving the whole parking lot at Town Beach., and where it falls in the five-year plan for the town.

Mr. Furtado said that paving the lot is in the plan, but it looks like it could take five years before they can even consider having enough money for the project.

He explained that the drainage and paving for the Town Beach parking lot is estimated to be around \$600,000,

BPW: cont'd on page 21



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Bikes for All still working on bikes, donating to community

Press Release

Supply chain and completing the bike path delays haven't stopped the volunteers of "Bikes for All" from collecting and repairing the generous contributions of more than 100 bicycles of all sizes.

Over fifty children and adults have been able to enjoy their recycled bicycles throughout the past Summer and Fall. Each bicycle was refurbished, equipped with a bell and each rider was fitted with a helmet to ensure safe riding.

We are thankful to all of you in the tri-town area who responded to our call for gently used bicycles.

Thanks to the continued efforts of our super repair team, we have a limited selection of bikes still to distribute. These include:

- 2 small Girls' bikes
- 2 Boys' bikes
- 1 Youth/Adult bike
- 1 Adult cruiser bike
- 2 Adult Male bikes

Although our repair team is still working on additional bicycles that will be available in the late Spring, we hope you will keep us in mind if you're thinking about replacing your bike or your children have outgrown their bikes.

We know from one of our families who having been enjoying their recycled bikes that biking is making a positive difference in their lives.

The Vieira family expressed their appreciation for what we are all doing as a community.

Twelve-year-old Brianna told us that, "It feels good because I could finally go out and go to the wharf."

While Nicole, 13 years old, said, "I like being in the fresh air and not staying inside."



Bill Emmons (foreground) puts a finishing touch on a bike for the D'Orlando family who took advantage of the Bikes for All program sponsored by the Friends of the Mattapoisett Bike Path. Submitted photo.

Mom Deann summed it up by saying, "We were happy to let the kids go off safely with their siblings and their helmets."

None of this would have happened without our community's shared desire to help one another enjoy safe bicycling.

If you would like to make a charitable contribution of a gently used bicycle or a financial gift to help us buy the supplies needed to repair the bikes, purchase bells and helmets, please contact us.

We appreciate whatever you are able to do. And most importantly, if you have bicycle repair skills and would like to be a part of our Repair Team to help recycle the donated bicycles, please join us by contacting

Jane or Liz!

The Friends of the Mattapoisett Bike Path is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization, so contributions to the Friends for "Bikes for All" are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. The Friends will apply 100 percent of contributions toward "Bikes for All".

Contacts: Jane Finnerty, 508-758-4548, jane.mattrail@gmail.com; Liz DiCarlo, 508-942-9343, lizdicarlo@comcast.net or feel free to send your check to: Friends of the Mattapoisett Bike Path, P.O. Box 1336, Mattapoisett, MA 02739. Or simply go to our Mattapoisett Rail Trail GoFundMe page. Please note that your financial contribution is for "Bikes for All". Thank you all.

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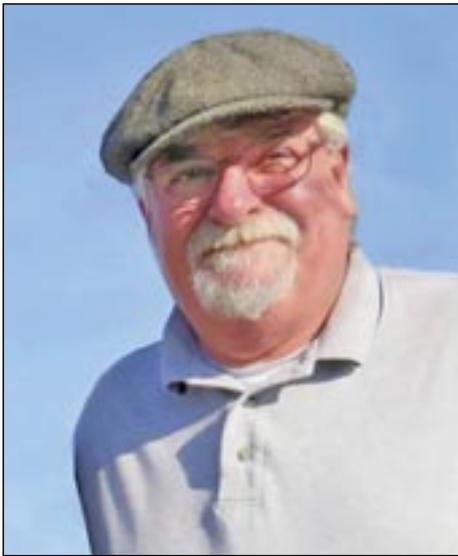
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Obituary



Thomas A. Potter

Thomas A. Potter passed away unexpectedly at home Saturday, January 8, 2022. He was the loving husband of 25 years to Michelle (Forand) (Girouard) Potter.

Born and raised in Taunton, son of the late Ralph W. Potter, Sr. And Virginia (Higgins) Potter, he was a graduate of Taunton High School. Tom settled in Fairhaven in 1992 and was a member of the First Congregational Church of Rochester.

Tom had worked at Rand McNally for twenty years and then Nye Lubricant for 20 years until his retirement at age 60. He also enjoyed working at Yester'year Cyclery in New Bedford.

Tom was a member of the Eagle's Club in Lakeville, the Sippican Rod and Gun Club and the NRA.

He is survived by his wife

Michelle and her daughter, Sandra L. (Girouard) Avila and her husband Michael of Fairhaven; three grandchildren, Elizabeth, Justin and Nicole; three great grandchildren; two sisters, Virginia Latham and her husband

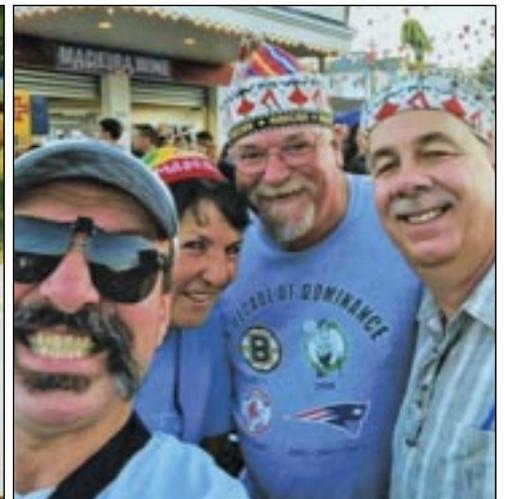


Russell of Rehoboth and Sandra O'Connor and her husband Roger of Norton and several nieces and

nephews. Tom was the brother of the late Ralph W. Potter, Jr. and is also survived by his wife Karen Potter of Dighton.

Mr. Potter will be cremated and a Memorial Service will be held Friday, January 28, 2022 at 11 a.m. in the First Congregational Church of Rochester, 11 Constitution Way, Rochester, MA 02770, followed by a reception in the church hall. Arrangements are by the Fairhaven Funeral Home, 117 Main St., Fairhaven. For memorial register please visit www.hathawayfunerals.com.

In lieu of flowers, donations (of any type, monetary, clothing, food donations, etc.) may be made to the First Congressional Church of Rochester.



NB: cont'd from page 4

most profitable seafood port on the East Coast and also has the distinction of being home to the nation's only purpose-built offshore wind staging facility, the New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal. The nation's first industrial-scale offshore wind project, Vineyard Wind, will begin staging from the Commerce Terminal in 2023.

Advocating for an effective mitigation strategy is part of the Port's commitment to ensuring that offshore wind advances in ways that safeguard the viability of our commercial fishing industry. Of particular concern to the Port is BOEM's mitigation approach, which remains limited to consideration of environmental impacts. The Port's position is that wind project mitigation plans need to consider economic impacts, given the size of the fishing industry: Thirty percent of the nation's \$5.5 billion seafood industry is landed in the Northeast, with seafood landings in the Port of New Bedford itself worth \$450 million annually. In New Bedford, the scallop fishery alone is responsible for \$300 million in annual landings.

A 2019 economic impact study of the Port of New Bedford conducted by Martin Associates and Foth-CLE Engineering Group determined that the regional seafood industry's economic contribution comprises 39,000 jobs, \$11 billion in local economic impact, \$162 million in direct state taxes and \$391 million in direct federal taxes.

Mitigation efforts also need to acknowledge that economic disruptions to commercial fisheries from wind farms will be felt across multiple states, not just those whose waters will host wind projects. While wind projects may be built off the coast of New York and New Jersey, their impacts will not be limited to those states. Large volumes of sea scallops caught off the coast of New York and New Jersey are landed daily in New Bedford, and fishermen who live in New England regularly fish in federal waters off the coasts of New York and New Jersey. Commercial fishing is an interconnected, region-wide industry, and needs a mitigation plan that is similarly broad in its scope.

The Port has therefore advocated

for BOEM to take a proactive approach to its fisheries mitigation efforts by establishing definitive minimum standards for the mitigation process and requiring developers to use specific measures and methodologies to mitigate the impacts of offshore wind projects.

**Find the letters on our website at www.neighbnews.com under archives and the 1/20/22 issue.*

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BPW: cont'd from page 17

and he does not know if the town will ever get the money for it.

Mr. Ferro said the town let the School Department steal that much money for a football field. He said paving the beach parking lot would benefit all in town.

Mr. Wotton said if they ever have any extra money maybe they could use it to pave a small strip for handicap spaces, just as a start. Mr. Wotton said that if they have \$10,000 leftover somewhere that money could pave 50 feet for some handicap spaces.

Mr. Furtado said he would look into it.

Mr. Wotton told Mr. Ferro that he could always stand up at Town Meeting to discuss paving the beach parking lot.

Mr. Ferro said maybe he would do that.

In another matter Mr. Durant gave an update on the search for a new Town Administrator.

He said the final candidates have been selected and are going through background checks right now. Once the background checks are complete the Selectboard will start the interviews and there will be between two to four candidates for the Selectboard to choose from.

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Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Board of Appeals

Tues., 2/1, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Board of Health

Wed., 2/2, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

Board of Public Works

Mon., 1/24, Arsene St., 6:15 p.m.

Broadband Study Comm

Thurs., 1/13, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

Charter Committee

Thurs., 1/13, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 1/24, Remote, 6:30

Espindola Office Hour

Tues., 2/1, Remote, 6:40 p.m.

Submit questions ahead of time at respindola@fairhaven-ma.gov.

School Committee

Wed., 2/9, Media Ctr., 6:30 p.m.

Select Board

Sat. 1/22, Town Hall + Zoom, 9 a.m.

Goal Setting Workshop

Mon. 1/24, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Acushnet

Board of Assessors

Wed., 1/26, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

Planning Board

Thurs., 1/20, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Thurs., 1/6, Ford Middle Sch., 3:30 p.

Selectboard

Thurs., 1/20 Remote, Joint mtg with Planning Board to appoint PB member, 6:30 p.m.

Fri., 1/21, Town Hall, 11 a.m.

Tues., 2/1, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	Jan. 2022	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.	LOW a.m.	LOW p.m.
Thursday	20	0923	2150	0221*	1456*
Friday	21	1005	2233	0305*	1532*
Saturday	22	1049	2321	0347*	1609*
Sunday	23	1140	----	0431*	1651*
Monday	24	0015	1235	0525*	1743*
Tuesday	25	0109	1330	0633	1846*
Wednesday	26	0203	1427	0743	1949*
Thursday	27	0304	1534	0851	2051*
Friday	28	0412	1643	1011*	2200*
Saturday	29	0513	1740	1128*	2309*

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

COVID sniffing dogs in Fairhaven Public Schools

The following is a letter sent to parents from Fairhaven Public Schools Superintendent Tara M. Kohler
Dear FPS Families,

Fairhaven Public School District's top priority is and always will be the safety of our school community. While the health of our town, state, country and world has been in limbo for the past two years dealing with COVID-19 — the goal of Fairhaven Public Schools has remained the same — to keep students in school for as long as possible.

That said, in partnership with the Bristol County Sheriff's K9 Unit and Florida International University, FPS has recently become the second school district in the country to utilize Law Enforcement K9 COVID-19 sniffing dogs as an additional mitigation measure to help stop the spread and keep students in school.

The dogs, who are trained to distinguish the unique odor of COVID-19, have a 97% accuracy rate when it comes to indicating the scent on a surface. Not only are these dogs capable of mitigating COVID-19 proactively, they are also friendly dogs who enjoy being around people.

We believe that utilizing this scientific strategy will be the difference between sending a whole class home and just a couple of students in the case of a possible exposure in a classroom. We hope that this will help us proactively notify families to monitor for

symptoms instead of constantly quarantining students after the fact.

The program was developed at Florida International University by a team of professors, doctors, and scientists who already specialized in K9 detection of viruses. The shift to scientifically identify COVID-19 is the first of its kind in the country.

First piloted by the Freetown-

We believe that utilizing this scientific strategy will be the difference between sending a whole class home and just a couple of students in the case of a possible exposure in a classroom.

Lakeville School District in September, FPS became aware of this program in November 2021 and officially signed on in December 2021, after the Fairhaven school committee unanimously supported the project.

While we weren't expecting things to move as quickly as they did, by January, the Bristol County Sheriff K9 Unit called looking for a new building

to allow the dogs to complete their formal training certification. Their certification process was completed by Dr. DeEtta Mills and Kip Schultz of Florida International University.

The timing of their request came along with the news of a regional spike in positive cases. As such, we thought it would be a great opportunity to have the dogs train in our schools. As you know, the dogs searched East Fairhaven Elementary School that week and formally received their training certification. Quickly, the media jumped onto the story, choosing to highlight the project on FUN 107, WBZ News, and WBSM.

We appreciate your support and truly believe this initiative is a forward-thinking approach to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in our schools. We look forward to our continued work with the Bristol County Sheriff's Office to conduct weekly checks in our schools.

To capture the idea behind the COVID-19 sniffing dogs and the amazing program, please watch this video summary of the project: <https://youtu.be/DIFhNWX5Jv8>

Feel free to reach out to me directly with any questions. Also, the Bristol County Sheriff's K9 Unit has offered to make themselves available to anyone who has questions.

Thank you,
Tara M. Kohler
Superintendent



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