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Neighborhood News

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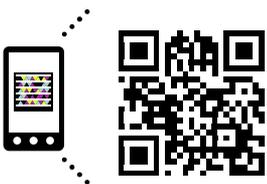
Volume 17, Issue 6 • February 3, 2022

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

Blizzard dumps 18 inches on Fairhaven



Serenity has some fun with the spray from the snowblower as her papa works to clear the side of the house on Sunday, 1/30/22, one day after the Blizzard of 2022 dumped 18 inches in Fairhaven. See page 12. *Photos 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.

Well, I haven't watched it myself yet, but it sounds like the BPW meeting (see page 19) was absolutely popcorn-worthy. Really...can you say "I changed my mind?"

That was a doozy of a storm wasn't it? Shoveling was no fun, that's for sure. Thank you to my neighbors who came by with their snowblowers. I was doing okay with the walkway and driveway. But when that plow came by, ugh. I thought I'd just die. But, luckily, my neighbor came by and took care of it (he didn't break sweat). And later on my other neighbor came by and widened it a bit.

My little dog liked it much better, too.

I think we should give a shout-out to the electric company workers, too. We lost power for a few hours, but we got it back long before the storm was over. They got out there in that mess so we could flip that switch.

Honestly, it's so much easier if there's power, isn't it? It just changes everything. See pages 12 & 13 (ohh...and page 6, too) for some fun pics of the storm.

The election update is on page 3. We still have a vacant slot for one of the Planning Board seats.

And, last but certainly not least, the Town Administrator search hit another snag (see page 4). Oh...let's hope this doesn't drag on much longer.

Time to run...see ya,



Beth David, Publisher

Countdown to DST

Only 38 more days before Daylight Saving Time begins, when we re-set our clocks and spring forward, to get an additional hour of sunlight. Get ready!



Yes,
I know it's probably too early.
But after this weekend,
I just couldn't resist

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Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Thursday, February 3, 2022

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

One week left to request Nomination papers in Fairhaven

By Beth David
Editor

We're almost there, Folks. The last day to request nomination papers to run for office in Fairhaven's April election is next Friday, 2/10. Since last week, there have been no additions to the candidate list, but a couple of people have returned papers with the required number of signatures to appear on the ballot.

As of press time this week, there were six candidates for the three Fairhaven Select Board seats in the 4/4/22 election. 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.

Steve Riley, Cameron Durant and Cathy Melanson had not returned papers as of press time. Leon Correy, Charles Murphy Sr., and incumbent Stasia Powers, have returned them.

Incumbent Peter DeTerra has taken out papers and returned them with the required signatures for his seat on the Board of Health. Heidi Hacking has also taken out papers for that seat and returned them on 1/28.

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 for School Committee, but had not returned them as of press time.

Planning Board has two seats up for election. Sharon Simmons has taken out papers for one of those seats, but had not returned them by press time. No one has taken out papers for the other seat;

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 the BPW seat, but has not returned them.

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

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.

• **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/vyhlif3131/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,

ELECTION: cont'd on page 21



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Fairhaven Town Administrator search stymied again

By Beth David
Editor

Fairhaven's attempt to hire a Town Administrator has been stymied again. The town's third try at hiring a replacement for former TA Mark Rees, who retired in January, 2021. Since then, Finance Director/ Treasurer/ Collector has been serving as the Interim TA in addition to her other duties.

A search last year ended in controversy when Ms. Graves did not make the finalist list, then Select Board member Keith Silvia insisted on giving her an interview. Then Mr. Silvia was barred from participating due to a conflict of interest because his wife was the Council on Aging Director, a position that reports directly to the TA. This left a stalemate between SB member Bob Espindola and then-chairperson Dan Freitas.

The process did not move forward, with some acrimonious discussions in the mix. Mr. Freitas was recalled by voters, and Stasia Powers replaced him. The town moved forward with a new process, but at the very end of

the process, two of the three finalists withdrew, in November of last year.

The town reposted the position and the Screening Committee continued its work, and chose three finalists again: Jennifer Callahan, Angie Lopes Ellison, and Thomas Guerino.

The three finalists were on the agenda to be interviewed for a meeting this week, 1/31/22, with Mr. Guerino's name crossed out. The board also scheduled a meeting on 2/1/22 with the two remaining names on the agenda. Then meeting was also canceled.

SB chairperson Bob Espindola said that Ms. Callahan also withdrew, citing personal reasons. He said that she also withdrew from Bourne, where she had been offered the position of TA. Mr. Espindola said the Mr. Guerino did not give a reason for withdrawing.

"Our process was we would need at least two," said Mr. Espindola in a phone interview.

The board will discuss the options at their meeting on Monday, 2/7, unless a board member requests an emergency meeting,

Mr. Espindola said he expected Mary Alcardi from the Collins Group, the town's consultant, to be available on Monday to advise the board on options.

He said there is a lot of competition for people at the TA level.

"It's a tough market. It's not just us. Other people in the municipal world are having trouble, too," said Mr. Espindola, adding that the private sector is also having competition problems. "It's just that there's so much demand."

He said he is open to listening to options.

"Anything is on the table," said Mr. Espindola. "Anything any board member comes up with or [Ms. Alcardi] comes up with that's something that could help, I'm open for suggestions. At this point, we just have to get something done here."

A quick internet search shows that many towns in Massachusetts are currently looking to fill the top job, with many of the same names appearing as finalists.

Acushnet just hired an interim TA (see page 16).

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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Free COVID Test Kits/New Phone

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.

Tests can be ordered online at [COVIDtests.gov](https://www.mass.gov/forms/mep-boating-safety-course-online-enrollment-form). To place an order, all you need is your name and residential address. No ID, credit card, or health insurance information is required. You may also share your email address to get updates on your order.

If you have difficulty accessing the internet or need additional support placing an order, you can call 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489) to get help in English, Spanish, and more than 150 other languages – 8am to midnight ET, 7 days a week.

The Disability Information and Access Line (DIAL) is also available to specifically help people with disabilities place their orders. To get help, call 1-888-677-1199, Monday-Friday from 9AM to 8PM ET, or email DIAL@usaginganddisability.org.

For those who have questions about eligibility, the online ordering form, shipping, or delivery, you can contact the USPS Help Desk at 1-800-ASK-USPS (1-800-275-8777).

Youth Boating Class

Fairhaven Harbormaster Timothy Cox and Environmental Police will be hosting a Youth Boater Safety Class this March at the Coast Guard Auxiliary in Fairhaven.

Boat Massachusetts is a recognized safety course that meets the National Boating Education Standards and is approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators.

All graduates in the 12 through 15 year-old age group will be issued a safety certificate allowing them to operate a motorboat without adult supervision, as required by state law. The same is true for 16 and 17 year old youth who wish to operate a personal watercraft.

This class is for students ages 12-17. Space is limited. Please follow the link below to sign up!! Because space is limited, parents and guardians are not permitted to stay during class hours. Please drop your student off. Light refreshments will be served.

All State Covid-19 protocols will be in place.

March 12, 13 & 19, 8:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m., U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Station, 80 Middle St., Fairhaven, MA 02719. Visit <https://www.mass.gov/forms/mep-boating-safety-course-online-enrollment-form> to sign up. Course ID: FAIRHAVEN

Presentation

Working 2 Miles Deep, By Don Carlos Collasius. A talk and slide presentation to raise awareness about street trees in the town of Fairhaven.

Thurs., 2/17/22. Coors open 6:30 presentation 7:00 to 8:00, Town Hall Auditorium 40 Center St. Fairhaven, MA. 02719

From 1981 until 1988 Don C. Collasius worked for the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute in the Deep Submergence Group. The Group operates the Deep Sea Research Vessel ALVIN, a three-person mini sub tasked with exploring some of the world's deepest, darkest, coldest places.

During his 100 dives in the submersible as "Pilot in Command" Mr. Collasius visited a host a varied and bizarre geological features and life forms on the ocean floor. He will recount some of those dives as well as present a broad picture of what it takes to get a submersible down to 4000 meters deep in the ocean, and back again.

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

COVID Testing

Fairhaven will hold walk-in testing on Sat., 1/29, from 9-11 a.m., at the Fairhaven Emergency Management building, 150 Sconticut Neck Road.

We are presently watching the impending storm so this schedule remains fluid and may change.

Find us on Facebook for updates.

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.

Let's Talk About Food!

On Wed., 2/9, at 7:00 PM, South Coast Progressive Voices (SCPV) invites you to attend "South Coast Food Revolution: What Is It? Why Does It Matter?" with Christine Smith, program manager for the Southcoast Food Policy Council (SFPC). See page 11 for details.

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. Visit <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/volunteer-opportunities> for a list of vacancies.

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 Select Board Office, 40 Center St., Fairhaven, MA 02719

Ice fishing?



A fox crosses the ice at the Causeway Road beach on West Island at about 5 p.m. on Friday, 1/31/22, after a blizzard and subsequent subfreezing temperatures iced up everything, including the ocean waters. *Photo courtesy of Sue Rizzo.*

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Tree Warden: BPW should not merge with Tree Department

Submitted by Don C. Collasius
Fairhaven Tree Warden

Trees and the Board of Public Works. I was asked to appear before the BPW on January 25 to discuss the merging of the Tree Department with the BPW. I think this is a bad idea. Please allow me to explain.

I had gone before the BPW on October 4 2021 to ask for permission to prune trees and remove some dead and very poor park trees. Parks are not under my jurisdiction and I wanted formal permission from the Park Commission. Several residents had pointed out trees that they thought were hazardous. Some next to a playground. In September a large branch fell at the Rogers school playground.

I met with two members of the BPW board at Livesey Park to show them the trees in question. I used a drill two feet long to drill into deadwood to show the extent of the rot in these trees. I did not get permission during the October 4 meeting. That meeting is on the town website and worth reviewing. You really have to see it to believe it.

I offered several options to the board to mitigate the risk these trees posed. None were acted on. Over three weeks later one of the trees in question fell onto a resident's property causing the very damage he had predicted. I asked the Board if

These are not the folks you want in charge of our trees.

I want change, but change that will make things better.

they wanted help with trees again last Monday. One member said they would review the October 4 meeting. I urge you and them to do that.

The BPW does not take care of the trees they are responsible for, nor take help when offered. To be clear this is not the guy in charge of daily operations or anyone under him. The vast majority of town employees I have worked with have been nice, professional, helpful, and eager to do

their job well. This goes from folks in all the town offices, police officers on details and their dispatchers, to those running the maintenance shop, road crews and loaders. All great.

This is about the BPW board itself. In regards to trees, they do not understand the consequences of not taking care of trees. The board does not know what a Massachusetts Qualified Tree Warden is nor what that qualification entails.

These are not the folks you want in charge of our trees. I want change, but change that will make things better. The Tree Department has always been an independent department in town. It needs a professional to answer to, and that's why I think it should be the town administrator until such time a better solution is available. We also need a full time Warden (not me) and tree crew. We cannot do what our mandate is with our current resources.

I'm going to try again for permission in writing to the Park Commission. Wish me luck.

Be well and be green. Thank you,
Don C. Collasius, Fairhaven Tree Warden

Happy New Tax Season!

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Sat: 8:00-noon & 12:30-4:30

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twitter <http://twitter.com/FairhavenTours>

Vaccination Clinics

New Bedford 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.

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:

Fri., 2/4: 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

Sat., 2/5: Andrea McCoy Recreation Center (181 Hillman St.) – 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Pfizer, Moderna, J&J, boosters, vaccines for children 5 – 11, boosters for teens 12-17

Sun., 2/6: 9am-12:30pm, Workers Community Center/Centro Comunitario de Trabajadores, 1534 Acushnet Ave., corner Phillips Ave. all vaccines

Sun., 2/6: 10am-2 pm Keith Middle School (225 Hathaway Boulevard) Pfizer, Moderna, boosters, vaccines for children 5 – 11, boosters for 12-17

Access your vaccine records at <https://myvaxrecords.mass.gov/>, and find local listings at <https://vaxfinder.mass.gov/>.

Mobile Food Market

United Way of Greater New Bedford will provide free produce, soup, and non-perishable food to people in need at Winter Mobile Markets in February.

Markets will take place on Tuesdays from 5:30 to 7 p.m. alternating between New Bedford and Wareham locations. No registration, ID, or proof of residence is needed to receive food. Face masks are required for anyone who attends.

New Bedford Mobile Markets will be held at BankFive located at 1724 Acushnet Ave. in New Bedford on Feb. 15. Wareham Mobile Markets will be held at Wareham Middle School, located at 4 Viking Drive on 2/8 and 22. Markets are held when weather permits, and people can check at unitedwayofgnb.org or United Way of Greater New Bedford's Facebook page. Visit unitedwayofgnb.org.

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

Sun., Feb. 6: Project Beacon at New Bedford Regional Airport (1569 Airport Road) – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Fish Talk/Virtual

New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center will present "Can She Bait a Line?" a virtual talk by historian and poet Katrina Porteous on Thursday, February 10th at noon. The talk will be presented free of charge via Zoom. Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86095216612>

Porteous' talk will explore the lives of women in northeast England's fishing communities, with a focus on the pre-WWII period, considering real-life examples from both small-boat and industrialized fishing.

Katrina Porteous was born in Aberdeen, Scotland, studied History at Cambridge, and has lived on the Northumberland coast for over 30 years, recording the lives of fishermen and women.

A recording of the talk will be presented for February's AHA! Night at 7 PM, Feb 10. The link to watch the stream is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88919757856>

This program is part of Women's Work, an exhibit and year-long program series exploring the lives, skills, and experiences of women who work in the fishing industry as well as those who are connected through family. Learn more about these programs on the Center's online calendar, fishingheritagecenter.org/programs/calendar.

Funding for Women's Work is

provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Women's Fisheries Network, the Mass Cultural Council, and the Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, and Westport Cultural Councils, as well as the Women's Fund of Southeastern MA.

Please contact programs@fishingheritagecenter.org with any questions.

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/cinemanb>

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.

Whale Exhibit

One Whale Makes Seven Shores Prosperous February 11, 2022 - June 26, 2022, New Bedford Art Museum, 608 Pleasant St., New Bedford

In this new exhibition from the New Bedford Free Public Library's art curator, Allie Copeland, we get a new look at whaling from a Japanese perspective. Beginning in the 18th century, feudal lords who oversaw whaling efforts commissioned emakimono, or picture scroll, to illustrate whale hunting methods as well as anatomically describe the known species of whales.

Our hours are Thursday through Sunday from 10 AM - 4 PM. Advanced booking is preferred and timed entry tickets may be purchased through our website newbedfordart.org or by phone (508) 961-3072.

Tri Town Scholarships

Mattapoisett Congregational Church is pleased to once again offer scholarships to students graduating from high school in June who reside in the town of Mattapoisett, Marion or Rochester. Two \$2,5000 scholarships will be awarded on the basis of scholastic achievement, community service and financial need.

Applications and supplementary information are now available at the local public and private schools. The deadline for electronic submission of documents is Thursday, March 31.

Students will be notified of their selection by May 5th via email. Scholarship recipients will be presented in Church on Scholarship Sunday, May 21st during the 10 o'clock service of worship.

If you are a graduating senior and have any questions about the scholarship application process, you are invited to contact the Mattapoisett Congregational Church office via email at mattcongchurch@gmail.com.

Music at the Museum

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.

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.

Lebanese Feast

Please join us on February 5, 2022 for the Annual St. Maron Hafli to benefit New Bedford's Our Lady of

Purgatory Maronite Catholic Church. This year's Hafli will take place at the St. Sharbel Hall at St. Anthony of the Desert Church, 300 North Eastern Avenue, Fall River, MA. We are very excited to announce that Chaddi Naddaf will be our featured entertainer and he will be accompanied by the Bachir El Khoury Ensemble.

Tickets are \$85 for Dance Floor Seating, \$75 for General Seating and \$40 for MYO (12-17 yrs). Children under 12 are admitted free. We'll be providing Mezza, Dinner & Deserts. They'll be plenty of Dancing and we'll also have a Cash Bar.

For more information, please contact Our Lady or Purgatory Church at (508) 996-8934 or by e-mail at ourladyofpurgatory@verizon.net.

Pet Adoption Day

Looking for love in all the wrong places? Looking to change your life? Maybe a little unconditional love? Just in time for Valentine's Day. If you answered yes to any of these questions it might be time to consider adopting from your local pet shelter!

CARE, Southcoast will be holding a kitten/cat adoption event at the Acushnet Senior Community Center, 59 1/2 So. Main St., on Saturday, February 12th from 11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. Walk-ins welcome.

For more information or to fill out an application before the event, please visit www.caresouthcoast.com

Mending Workshop

The Marion Art Center will offer a new one day workshop, *Visible Mending with Sashiko* with Instructor Crickett Warner, on Sat., 2/12 from 10:00am-1:00pm. Join the renewed trend of repairing your clothing with beautiful traditional Japanese mending techniques and patterns.

First recorded in Japan in the 16th century, peasants repaired worn out clothing using scraps and layering to make material stronger. Local patterns identified people from different regions. Using thread and needles specifically made for sashiko stitching, most students will complete one patch during the workshop, and some may finish up the last bits at home. Patterns and directions will be provided. Some denim jeans will be available to practice on, but it's best for students

to bring their own (holes not required) so the masterpieces can be worn!

The cost for the three hour workshop is \$60 for MAC members and \$65 for nonmembers, plus a \$10 materials fee per student. Registration is open now online. More information including a list of provided materials can be found at marionartcenter.org/adult-classes.

Concert

Join us for a radiant return to live performance with a joyful and visionary concert, rooted in a deep understanding of musical tradition, yet endlessly forward-thinking and inventive.

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Sun., 2/13, 7:00 p.m. at The VETS, 1 Avenue of the Arts, Providence, RI 02903

Tickets are \$39-\$69 (including a \$4 VETS restoration fee) and are available now at <http://firstworks.org>.

Play

Rhode Island's oldest community theater, The Community Players, presents *A Tree Falls in Brookline* by local Rhode Island award-winning playwright David Christner from February 18-27, 2022. This comedic play tells the story of Cormac "Mac" McIntyre, a largely unproduced and unrecognized playwright whose work is beginning to get some recognition abroad, when a tree falls in Brookline, leaving him with a traumatic brain injury and only a shadowy recollection of his past. Could the key to his recovery be through the characters he created in his plays? Does every character he created represent some aspect of his persona, which could help him piece together his fragmented memory? Mac's roller-coaster ride through his tumultuous past to discover who he is in the present is a trip you'll not soon forget.

Memberships and individual tickets can be purchased online at www.thecommunityplayers.org. Visa and Mastercard accepted. Individual tickets may be reserved by calling (401) 726-6860.

Recipe of the Week

Breakfast Pizza

- 1 can prepared pizza crust or homemade pizza dough
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 6 eggs
- 3 tablespoons milk
- 1/2 teaspoon dried basil
- salt & pepper, to taste
- 1/2 lb sausage, cooked & drained
- 1/4 cup cooked bacon or bits
- 3 green onions, sliced & divided
- 1/4 cup red bell pepper, finely chopped
- 8 oz pepper jack cheese, shredded
- 2 ounces extra-sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
- parsley, for garnishing

Preheat the oven to 425°

Grease 10x15-inch (rimmed) pan using 1 tablespoon of olive oil. Press the dough into the pan and brush with the remaining 1 tablespoon of olive oil.

Drizzle the dough with basil. Bake until lightly browned, about 7-8 minutes.

While the dough is baking, grab a mixing bowl and whisk the milk, eggs, salt, and pepper together.

Pour the mixture into a lightly oiled skillet and cook for 3-4 minutes over medium heat, just until set. The eggs should be undercooked and shiny.

Drizzle the pizza with sausage, bacon, green onions, bell peppers, and the egg mixture. Then, sprinkle the cheeses on top.

Bake until the cheese is melted, 8-10 minutes.

Remove from oven and sprinkle with parsley. Allow it to rest for 2-3 minutes before serving.

Dear Frankie



Birthday Presents

Dear Frankie, My mom's birthday is next week, and I can't think of what to get her for a present.

My human siblings are getting her perfume and making a card.

My usual birthday gifts for friends are a ball, a bone, or a chew. Whenever I find one, I bring it home and hide it under my bed. This way, I'm always prepared if I get invited on short notice to a canine birthday party.

I know none of my stashed gifts would be appropriate for my mom. But as you can see, my options are limited. Any ideas?

Ramon

Dear Ramon,

Thank goodness for your mom; you are not a cat. I understand they bring dead birds and mice to family

members as gifts. Yuck!

You did say in your letter that your siblings were making a card. How about putting your foot on an ink pad and signing the card with a paw print?

Another idea is to ask your sibs to dress you up with a big bow and tell your mom you're her present.

You might also think of ways you might lighten the load she carries taking care of you. You could wipe your feet before you come into the house or stop slopping the water out of your water bowl onto the floor, or sleep on your bed instead of the couch.

She might not know these new behaviors are birthday gifts, but she will be appreciative. She might even take credit for your changed behavior.

It never hurts to let someone else take the credit. .

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.

WHEN LOCAL NEWS FAILS...

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— Margaret Sullivan, "Ghosting The News"

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Changemaker grants info sessions avail.

Press Release

Do you have an idea for changing the world — or at least your corner of it? You may be eligible to apply for a Changemaker Grant.

United Way of Greater New Bedford is seeking applications for their Changemaker Grants (formerly the Community Building Mini-Grants Program) which aim to empower ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things to help their neighborhoods and their community.

All-volunteer groups in Greater New Bedford can apply for up to \$2,500 to complete projects that are engaging, community driven, solutions-focused, and that foster unity through community action.

“Changemaker Grants are a unique opportunity for residents to identify a challenge and come up with a creative way to address that challenge,” said Michelle N. Hantman, President & CEO of United Way. “Since 1995, we’ve funded 825 projects that have helped to build stronger connections between people and that fill important needs. Over the years, we’ve seen projects such

as community gardens, neighborhood cleanups, and care kits for different populations including moms, students, babies, and homeless.”

To be eligible for a grant, groups must be all volunteer with budgets less than \$40,000. Projects should be small in scale, but have the potential for long-term impact. Changemaker projects ideally should support one of the following United Way impact areas: health, education, financial stability, and basic needs.

United Way is hosting two virtual information sessions in February for groups to learn more. Sessions will take place via Zoom on Tuesday, Feb. 8 at 1 p.m. and Wednesday, Feb. 9 at 5:30 pm. To register, visit unitedwayofgnb.org/changemaker-grants or call 508-994-9625.

In addition to funding, Changemaker groups are further supported with skill-building workshops, networking opportunities, and recruiting new volunteers to assist with their projects through Volunteer SouthCoast.

Applications will be accepted Feb. 1 through March 11 through United Way’s grant portal.

Did you Know?

The *Neighb News* accepts advertisements for births, anniversaries, engagements, obituaries, etc. We charge only \$20 per column inch; or use our convenient set sizes: **1/6 page, \$77; 1/4 page, \$77; 1/3 page, \$130; 2/3 page, \$200 (obituaries only).**

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The *Neighb News* prints 4,280 copies each week, distributed at approximately 200 places in Acushnet, Fairhaven, Marion, Mattapoisett, and New Bedford.

The paper is also online in its entirety, and we have a growing email list.

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Official: It's the Blizzard of 2022

By Beth David
Editor

This weekend's storm hit all the markers to be officially declared a blizzard, with the following conditions lasting for more than three hours: falling or blowing snow, sustained winds or frequent gusts of at least 35 MPH, visibility of less than a quarter mile. The snow started falling late on Friday, intensified overnight, and blew all day Saturday, tapering off in the evening and ending at night.

In addition to Massachusetts, Blizzard conditions were confirmed in parts of New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Rhode Island.

We definitely had it all with this classic nor'easter. The snow was a little wet and heavy at first, but then, as predicted, the temperature dropped and the bulk of the snow was light and fluffy. High winds caused huge drifts. Anyone who cleared snow before it was over saw the wind put it all back.

Temperatures dropped to about 10 degrees, with wind chills about nine

below zero. Thousands of homes in Fairhaven and Acushnet lost power for several hours, but most had it back before nightfall on Saturday. More than 120,000 outages were reported in Mass. at one point.

Sunday was dig-out day, with the buzz of snow blowers and the grunts and groans of shovelers on nearly every block.

Fairhaven Public works superintendent Vinnie Furtado said the town was already well stocked with salt and sand before the storm. He said they started out using a mixture of salt and sand on the road but then switched to straight salt as the storm progressed. Salt is more expensive, he said, \$2,000 vs. \$500 for sand, so they usually use a combination.

They sanded/salted at 1 or 2 a.m. on Saturday, and then started plowing around 6. Mr. Furtado said they had 20 trucks out, more than normal because he knew the snow would be falling at such a fast rate. Almost anyone who could drive a plow was plowing, he said. He also had



ABOVE: Gabe Soares gets splayed out as he hits a hole on his way down a hill at Fort Phoenix in Fairhaven on Sunday, 1/30/22, one day after a blizzard dumped about 18 inches of snow on Fairhaven, while his friends get ready to follow him, L-R Jackson Lussier, Samuel and Noah Martinho. *Photo by Beth David.*

mechanics and other personnel working throughout the storm.

STORM: cont'd next page

Showing us how it's done



The local youngsters did not disappoint after this fun little blizzard. A group of boys took advantage of the big snow to sled at Fort Phoenix. And, they were not shy at all about mugging it up for the local free sheet. Thank you Noah and Samuel Martinho, Jackson Lussier, and Gabe Soares for being so patient with this old lady as she tried to navigate the hill covered in snow. This page is for you! ABOVE LEFT & MIDDLE: L-R: Samuel Martinho and Jackson Lussier nearly collide as they reach the bottom of the hill at Fort Phoenix in Fairhaven on Sunday 1/30/22, one day after a blizzard dumped about 18 inches of snow on Fairhaven. ABOVE RIGHT: Noah Martinho hits a hole but manages to stay on his sled as he barrels down the hill. BELOW LEFT: Gabe Soares gets sprayed with snow as he sleds down the hill. BELOW LEFT MIDDLE: Noah Martinho almost gets dumped as he reaches the bottom of the hill. BELOW RIGHT MIDDLE: Jackson Lussier hangs on as his snow tube pops up after hitting bottom on the hill. BELOW RIGHT: L-R: Samuel Martinho and Jackson Lussier race down the hill while Noah Martinho and Gabe Soares get ready to follow. *Photos by Beth David.*



STORM: cont'd from previous page

In a typical storm of 5-8 inches, “we can get by with a couple of passes on all routes,” said Mr. Furtado. “This time, we made multiple passes.”

He also said that some residents believe the plows only went down their roads once.

“That’s not true,” he said, adding that the wind caused drifts that made

it look like no truck had plowed. “It was just the conditions we had.”

He sent everyone home after about 24 hours.

“Because they were beat,” he said.

Boston got buried in 23.8 inches of snow, and made a new record for the most snowfall in one day. According to news reports, Stoughton hit the

jackpot with 30.9 inches; Sharon, 30.4 inches, Quincy, 30 inches. Thirty nine municipalities in Mass. got 20 inches or more.

The last blizzard the area had was in 2015 when Boston got 24.4 inches over two days; Fairhaven got 19” and wind gusts of 60 MPH; Acushnet saw 22.2; and New Bedford got 21”.



ABOVE LEFT: An ATV rider takes advantage of a snowy and low-traffic Scoticut Neck Road on Sunday, 1/30/22, one day after a blizzard dumped about 18 inches of snow on Fairhaven. ABOVE RIGHT: Willow and Tara Cox make snow angels at Fort Phoenix on Sunday. BELOW LEFT: Young Gus helps his father Doug dig out the car on Sunday. BELOW RIGHT: Jim Mahaney gives a big smile and wave to the local free sheet after clearing snow from the First Congregational Church in Fairhaven on Sunday. BOTTOM LEFT: Fairhaven Tree Warden Don Collasius shovels snow in front of his house on Sunday. BOTTOM RIGHT: Custodian Kevin Fournier gives a wave as he clears snow in front of Fairhaven Town Hall on Sunday. *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

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

Fairhaven Council on Aging

Grief Meeting Virtual

Adult Grief Education and Support Group Thursdays Feb. 17, 24 and March 3, 10, 17, 2:30-4:00 pm. To register contact email-info@communitynurse or call 508-992-6278.

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.

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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to dreams,
for if
dreams die,
life is a
broken-winged bird
that cannot fly.

Langston Hughes

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Acushnet hires interim Town Administrator

By Beth David
Editor

The Acushnet Selectboard hired James F. Kelley to serve as interim Town Administrator at its meeting on 1/26/22. Mr. Kelley has served as a Town Administrator, a Finance Director, Human Resources Director, and was Vice Chair of the state's Labor Board. An attorney, has also worked in the state auditor's office, bureau of state buildings, and has held several other government positions.

Mr. Kelley told the board and the public that he lives in Norton and has served on boards there.

"I understand the small town," he said.

Mr. Kelley met with town department heads earlier that day and told the board that he was "encouraged," because they had a "great group of department heads," and he looked forward to working with them.

"I understand my job as interim is to make sure the continuity of operations keeps going. I have done this in the past in other communities, he said, noting he was a interim TA in

Millbury.

Mr. Kelley said that making sure town services, "that are superior," continue and getting through town meeting will be his focus in the next few months.

Before the vote, Selectboard member David Wojnar thanked SB Chairperson David Desroches who had "stepped up to fill the void," and has "essentially been the de facto Town Administrator the last month and a half."

He said Mr. Desroches had worked behind the scenes "putting out a lot of fires," and Executive Administrative Assistant Lisa Leonard had done the same.

He also recognized that fellow SB member Kevin Gaspar had done a lot of work on the town's finances.

He said it was a time of "transition and change, hesitating to use the



James Kelley gestures as he speaks to the Acushnet Selectboard on 1/26/22 when they appointed him to be Interim Town Administrator. Screenshot from Acushnet Cable TV online streaming.

word "crisis," so as not to overstate.

"But when things got a little funky, you guys have all pitched in," said Mr. Wojnar. "So I want to commend all three of you for your work on that."

The board voted unanimously to make it official, and Mr. Kelley assumed his seat next to the long table.

"That's your seat for the next five months, my friend," said Mr. Gaspar.



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DaCunha's

Dispatches

News from high school in the age of COVID

By Elizabeth DaCunha



Special to the Neighb News

Happy (Late) New Year!!

Since I last wrote in the *Neighb News*, the winter sports season has begun, and Fairhaven has also introduced a new Culture Club, and a new Social Justice & Teens elective.

First off, the Blue Devils Boys Track Team won the conference championship which junior Adin Monroe, a three-year track member spoke about: "Winning two years ago and winning this year is evidence that our team's hard work has proven ourselves to be worthy of the back-to-back conference championships."

Kate Flannery, runner for the Devil's Girls Track Team spoke about the team's progress as well.

Ms. Flannery stated, "Even though the girls' team didn't have the size or the experience that other schools did, everyone has fought hard and gave it their all every day and every race. I am proud of everyone's efforts, setting a lot of personal records throughout the season, and we have had a successful season win or lose."

Both the girls' and boys' basketball teams have had some great wins as well! Although the boys started the season 0-3, with assistance from primary ball handler and scorer Peter Joseph, along with consistency from Junior Tyler Chang and high energy on the court from Caden Letendre, the team has been able to improve their record and overall team immensely.

Our athletes on the girls' team led by Team Captains Maya Medeiros and

Emerson Bourgalt have shared a great season as well.

Junior Tenley Dakin, a key member of the team's successful strides throughout the season, shared a statement in regards to the team's progress so far: "Our team this year has honestly been the best despite our numbers being so low. We can all shoot well, play aggressive defense, and pass the ball effectively and efficiently. This team gets along so well, and it's been so much fun."

Fairhaven has also introduced a new club chapter to the school, called Culture Clubs of America. Eddie Gonet started this non-profit organization at Old Rochester Regional High School with a goal of "uniting students across schools, raising awareness of cultures, and educating students about life experiences."

The Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Committee of Fairhaven High has also made great efforts towards improving the school community with the addition of a new elective known as the Social Justice & Teens elective.

The non-profit has spread to other schools in the area, such as Tabor Academy, Dartmouth High School, Wareham High School, and more. After four months of applying for grants and undergoing the club application process, I have been able to found Fairhaven's CCOA chapter!

It is very exciting for our school to be able to take part in this non-profit organization as it is an opportunity for the diversity within our community to be acknowledged and appreciated.

Along with club advisor Mrs. Duarte's help, it is with great hope

that we will be able to take part in the several virtual conferences and field trips that will help to educate students about different cultures including Irish Heritage, Deaf Culture, and Portuguese Heritage.

The Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Committee of Fairhaven High has also made great efforts towards improving the school community with the addition of a new elective known as the Social Justice & Teens elective.

First off, it is important to understand the committee and their goals.

Senior Astha Patel explained this: "It is our collective mission to have open minds and open conversations about inequities in race, sexual orientation, gender, class, age, and ability. We strive to educate ourselves and others, working on issues connected to prejudice, bias, and privilege while promoting inclusiveness, awareness, and acceptance."

Although the committee just began last year, it has already brought significant change within our school for the better, changing the dress code to be more inclusive, and now, creating this opportunity for students to take this newly offered elective.

Samantha Brodner, a leading member of the committee says that they started the class, "because of the disparities seen in our regular curriculum."

She further explained the process of creating the elective saying, "We were able to hand pick the lessons for the social justice class for a much needed introduction to an inclusive education. We've been working with Mrs. Higgins to change the curriculum to make it more inclusive and encompassing."

The goal of this elective is to help mold Fairhaven's curriculum into bringing "more inclusivity and acceptance into our community, trickling into everything from history to English to health education."

See you all in March with more insightful updates to come from yours truly.



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February is Black History Month

February is Black History month, an annual celebration of the achievements of African Americans. The 2022 theme is Black Health and Wellness, to explore the legacy of Black scholars in Western medicine and the traditional healing arts. Black History Month began in 1915, by the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, now the Association of for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH). Visit <https://asalh.org>

The organization is holding a virtual festival all month long, with workshops and seminars, author events, the announcement of the ASALH Book Prize, and more.

Most major networks will run special programming for Black History Month.

Learn more about these prominent African Americans and places of significance at the links provide.

Black Wall Street

Tulsa's "Black Wall Street" flourished as a self-contained hub in the early 1900s, with luxury shops, theatres, restaurants, a library, pool halls and nightclubs. Until a white mob attacked for two days of bloodshed and destruction.

Visit <https://www.history.com/news/black-wall-street-tulsa-race-massacre>

Frederick Douglass house

The grounds of the Frederick Douglass National Historic Site are open, with limited hours, and no in person tours due to the pandemic.

You can tour it virtually at <https://www.nps.gov/frdo/index.htm>

Mr. Douglass lived at Cedar Hill in Washington, DC, for the last 13 years of his life. The 20-room colonial mansion has been preserved as a national historic site.

Visit <https://www.nps.gov/frdo/index.htm> to tour other historic places, and join online programming during the month of February.

Daisy Bates

In 1957, Daisy Bates, civil rights activist, newspaper publisher and head of the Arkansas NAACP, helped nine African American students to become the first to attend the all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, who became known as the Little Rock Nine. Visit <https://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=14563865>

Her home is now on the National Register of Historic Places. Visit <https://civilrightstrail.com/attraction/daisy-bates-house/>

Bessie Blount Griffin

Bessie Blount Griffin invented a device that enabled paralyzed or limbless World War II veterans to feed themselves. She also became a forensics expert.

Visit <https://wednesdaywomen.com/bessie-blount-griffin-inventor-crime-fighter-hospital-wonder-woman/>

Garret Augustus Morgan

Owner of a sewing machine retail and repair shop Garret A. Morgan invented the gas mask and the traffic signal. After he used his "gas inhaler" to save lives of people trapped after a big explosion, he received many orders for his device. After people found out he was Black, orders dropped off and he had to pass himself off as an Indian, with a white man demonstrating his device.

Visit Black History Magazine online <https://bkhonline.com/332-2/>

Lewis Latimer

A key figure behind the light bulb and the telephone, collaborating with Alexander Graham Bell and Thomas Edison. Mr. Latimer also helped found the Unitarian church in Flushing NY.

Visit <https://www.uuworld.org/articles/latimer-african-american-inventor>

Shirley Jackson

Dr. Jackson's research paved the way for the touch-tone phone, portable fax, caller ID, call waiting and fiber-optics. She is currently the president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Visit <https://physics.mit.edu/news/shirley-ann-jackson-68-phd-73-to-receive-aapt-2021-oersted-medal/>

Marie Van Brittan Brown

Ms. Brown was a nurse who invented the closed circuit television home security system.

Visit <https://lemelson.mit.edu/resources/marie-van-brittan-brown>

Otis Boykin

Mr. Boykin's most noteworthy inventions include a wire precision resistor used in TVs and a control unit for the pacemaker. He had 26 patents in his name, including a device used in guided missiles and

IBM computers.

Visit <https://www.biography.com/inventor/otis-boykin>

Engineer Marian Croak and Ophthalmologist Patricia Bath

Ms. Croak and Ms. Bath are the first two women to be inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame... in 2022 (announced in September).

Dr. Bath's work reshaped cataract surgery. She died in 2019 at 76.

"Bath invented laserphaco, a minimally invasive device and technique that performs all steps of cataract removal, from making the incision to destroying the lens to vacuuming out the fractured pieces," according to NPR.

Ms. Croak currently leads Google's Research Center for Responsible AI and Human Centered Technology. She has more than 200 patents to her name. Her work includes Voice over Internet Protocol, and creating a text-to-donate system for donations in disasters, and bringing broadband to developing countries.

Visit <https://www.npr.org/2021/09/27/1040795026/patricia-bath-marian-croak-national-inventors-hall-of-fame-first-black-women>

Benjamin Banneker

A mathematician and astronomer, Mr. Banneker built a clock entirely out of wood. He published an almanac from 1791 to 1801, and he worked on the surveying team that laid out Washington, DC, having impressed Thomas Jefferson who recommended him for the job.

Visit <https://www.loc.gov/item/today-in-history/november-09/>

Mabel Mercer

Cabaret artist who performed for big names such as Frank Sinatra and Ernest Hemingway. President Ronald Reagan presented her with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1983.

Visit <https://www.mabelmercer.org/mabel-mercer/>

Charlotta Amanda Spears Bass

Likely the first African American woman to own a newspaper in the US. By the 1930s, "The California Eagle" was the largest African American paper on the west coast.

Visit <https://www.nps.gov/people/charlottabass.htm>

Fairhaven BPW meets with Tree Warden, sparks fly

By Mary Chasse

Neighb News Correspondent

At its meeting on Monday, 1/24, the Fairhaven Board of Public Works briefly discussed the FY23 budgets with the Superintendents of each department. The board also met with the Tree Warden and discussed options for Pickleball court locations.

The board first met with Sewer Superintendent Rene Robillard, who said there were only a few budget increases for things like training, chemicals, and salaries. The biggest budget increases would be for plant upgrade which is in the Capital Plan.

The board also met with Water Superintendent Jeff Furtado. Mr. Furtado said there would be budget increases for purchases because there is some new equipment that they need. He said the cost of water testing has also increased, as well as utilities. They will be repainting one of the water towers, as well as replacing a water main on Bay Street. The department also needs a new vehicle.

BPW Superintendent Vinnie Furtado announced the budget changes for the Park Department and the Highway Department because Highway Superintendent John Charbonneau could not make it to the meeting.

Mr. Furtado said for the Park Department there would be budget increases for equipment repairs, playground expenses/new equipment, and materials.

For the Highway Department there would be budget increases for building maintenance for new doors; increases for office supplies, signs, frontloaders, and roads.

Mr. Furtado said all department budgets for FY23 still have to be approved by the Finance Committee.

In another matter the board met with Tree Warden Don Collasius about a Town Meeting article to merge the Tree Department and BPW.

Mr. Furtado said that the board wanted to hear Mr. Collasius's thoughts about putting the Tree Department under the BPW's jurisdiction.

Mr. Collasius said he appreciated the opportunity to talk about it.

Vice Chairperson Robert "Hoppy" Hobson said he thought Mr. Collasius wanted to make the Tree Department better. The question he had for Mr. Collasius was whether or not he was

in favor of the BPW taking over the Tree Department.

Mr. Hobson explained that when Mr. Collasius ran for Tree Warden he said he wanted to make the Tree Department part of the Park Department. Mr. Hobson said that Mr. Collasius is doing a good job, but during every storm they call BPW for help. Mr. Hobson said he thinks the departments belong together.

Mr. Collasius said he had not made up his mind yet on whether or not he thinks the departments belong together. He said he wanted to make an informed decision, and felt like the BPW having jurisdiction over the Tree Department is a conflict of interest.

Board member Marcus Ferro said that did not make any sense and

To say the BPW is incompetent is an offense to me, the board, and the entire department, who worked really hard during storms. It's an insult to all of us for you to call us incompetent.

[Marcus Ferro]

asked Mr. Collasius to explain.

Mr. Collasius said that last October he told the board about trees at Livesey Park that needed to be taken down. The BPW wanted to ask for other opinions before taking the trees down and one of those trees ended up falling and damaging someone's property.

"That doesn't seem like a conflict of interest," Mr. Ferro said. "It seems more like maybe an issue of departmental resources.

"No, I think it has to do with competency," Mr. Collasius said.

Mr. Ferro noted that Mr. Collasius said that the Tree Warden does not have authority during storms and the BPW ends up doing the job and cleaning all the storm mess.

"To say the BPW is incompetent is

an offense to me, the board, and the entire department, who worked really hard during storms," Mr. Ferro said. "It's an insult to all of us for you to call us incompetent.

Mr. Ferro said he thought Mr. Collasius has worked hard and tried to make the Tree Department better, but to say the BPW is not competent enough to take on the Tree Department is offensive.

Mr. Collasius said he was not referring to the whole department. He said the department does a great job. Mr. Collasius said the competency issue lies with the board. He went to the board about some problem trees and the board was supposed to get back to him, but never did and the tree fell and damaged property.

BPW Chairperson Brian Wotton said the tree he was speaking of fell less than a week after Mr. Collasius mentioned it to the board.

Mr. Collasius said the tree fell three weeks later, adding that another reason the BPW has a conflict of interest is because trees cause problems for BPW with sidewalks, streets, and curbs etc.

He said it makes the BPW's job much easier if there are no trees.

"It appears to me that you guys are kind of on an agenda to get rid of street trees," Mr. Collasius said.

Mr. Wotton and Mr. Hobson both said they thought they had heard enough.

"Can I speak," Mr. Collasius asked, "You can speak, but I am fully insulted that you just said the BPW wants to clear every tree in town from every street side," Mr. Wotton said. "That is ridiculous, Don."

Mr. Wotton told Mr. Collasius that he needs to think before he speaks because he is really aggravating everyone here.

"And if you are going to ask us for help in the future, which you do on a daily basis, the answer is going to be 'no' because we're incompetent and have a conflict of interest," Mr. Wotton said.

"Okay, is now when I'm supposed to talk," Mr. Collasius said.

He told the board that on Bellvue and Brown Street numerous trees were removed to pave sidewalks and new curbs were placed in a way to make it impossible to plant new trees.

Mr. Wotton said he is not denying

BPW: cont'd on page 22

Public Hearings/Legal Notices

NOTE: All legal notices are available on the Neighb News website, www.NeighbNews.com, under the "Legal Notices" tab on the top of the main page. Legal ads are also available at <http://masspublicnotices.org>, search under "Fairhaven Neighborhood News"

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Fairhaven

Conservation Commission
Monday, February 14, 2022 at 6:30pm
Remote

Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, these public hearings will be conducted via remote means.

Members of the public who wish to access the meeting may do so in the following manner:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82977038991?pwd=TTH5N0RzSkRnTWZTck1CMGlsZy9TdZ09>

or CALL 1-929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 829 7703 8991

Passcode: 367350

No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, and public participation in any public hearing conducted during this meeting shall be by remote means only.

The Fairhaven Conservation Commission will hold the following Public Hearings pursuant to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. c. 131, s. 40) and the Code of the Town of Fairhaven Chapter 192, Wetlands:

1. CON 023-263: **128 Huttleston Avenue** Notice of Intent filed by Michael Sullivan, Wash Ashore Car Wash, for the redevelopment of the 1.5-acre property into a proposed car wash and auto detailing facility, including associated parking, access drives, vacuum stations, landscaping, stormwater measures, and utility infrastructure, at the property located at 128 Huttleston Avenue, Assessors Map 25, Lots 240C and 243. Work to take place in the 100-foot buffer zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetland.
2. CON 023-264: **130 Ebony Street** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by John Hinds for a new determination whether an area is subject to the Commission's jurisdiction under the Wetlands Protection Act and Fairhaven Wetlands Bylaw on the property at 130 Ebony Street, Assessors Map 43A, Lots 235, 236 & 237. No work is proposed as part of this request.

Information regarding remote meeting access, listed above, will also be provided on the Conservation Agenda posted on the Town's website at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Copies of the applications listed in this hearing notice may be viewed electronically at: <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/conservation-commission/pages/current-filings>

Geoff Haworth, Chair, Fairhaven Conservation Commission
FNN: 2/3/22

Fairhaven Planning Board NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 6:30 pm
Banquet Room, Town Hall, 40 Center Street
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Notice is hereby given that the Fairhaven Planning Board will conduct a Public Hearings at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 for the following hearings. The Planning Board Meeting and public hearing will be conducted remotely for the public and will be televised

on Fairhaven TV Channel 18 and fairhaventv.com.
To Join the Meeting from home Log on to:
<https://zoom.us/j/93163358101?pwd=NXG5WnUxZ3lLK3drSVBMM2JPTXE0QT09>
or call 1-929-205-6099 - Meeting ID: 931 6335 8101 - Passcode: 740257
Live on Fairhaven TV Channel 18 and fairhaventv.com

1. RZ 2022-01: **Narragansett Rezone to Residential (RA)** The purpose of the hearing will be to receive information and public comment on a proposed amendment to the Zoning Map in Fairhaven at the north end of Narragansett Boulevard north of Progress Avenue (a paper street) to be rezoned from Business (B) to the Single Residence (RA) District to be considered at the Annual Special Town Meeting on May 7, 2022. The proposed Rezone specifically includes the following described lots which are currently shown on the zoning map as in the Business District (B) to be rezoned to the Residential District (RA) and are comprised of the following Assessor's Map-Lots:
Map 30a Lots 198-207, Map 30a Lots 209-213, Map 30a Lots 215-220, Map 30a Lots 306-328.
2. GB 2022-01: **Fairhaven Public Shade Tree Bylaw** The purpose of the hearing will be to receive information and public comment on a proposal to establish a General Bylaw Amendment, proposed by the Planning Board, for a Fairhaven Public Shade Tree Bylaw to promote a diverse, healthy and sustainable community forest in order to maintain the historic character of Fairhaven, to provide for the general welfare, and enhance the appearance and land values of the Town.

Copies of the applications are on file for public review at the Planning Board Office, Town Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and all information is accessible at the Planning Board webpage: <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/planning-board>
To schedule an appointment to review the application call the Planning Department at (508) 979-4023, Ext. 123.

John Farrell Jr., Chairman of the Planning Board
FNN: 2/3/22 & 2/10/22

Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearings

Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.
Town Hall Banquet Room, 40 Center Street
Fairhaven, Massachusetts
Public Hearing In-Person in Banquet Room or via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/94115137952?pwd=MXpoVWpKTFBEUmluT1pWSctiVzJCQT09>
or call 1-929-205-6099
Meeting ID: 941 1513 7952
Passcode: 361259

1. **Administrative Appeal by Fairhaven Shipyard** re: 7 Union Street. REF#: ZBA-AA 01: Seeking reversal of zoning determination by the Town of Fairhaven Building Commissioner dated February 20, 2020. Continued from April 7, 2020, May 5, 2020, June 2, 2020, July 7, 2020, August 11, 2020, September 2, 2020, December 1, 2020, August 3, 2021,

September 7, 2021, October 5, 2021 November 2, 2021, December 2, 2021.

2. **Administrative Appeal by A1 Crane** re: 86-88 Middle Street. REF#: ZBA-AA-02: Administrative Appeal from a letter dated April 7, 2020 from the Building Commissioner stating that the operation on the site is in violation of the mixed-use zoning regulations. Continued from December 1, 2020, August 3, 2021, September 7, 2021, October 5, 2021, November 2, 2021, December 2, 2021.
3. REF#: ZBA-2022-022: 184 Balsam Street. Applicant & Owner: Robert and Karen Sullivan. Applicant seeks a Variance to construct a dock greater than 75 feet in length due to shallowness of docking area pursuant to Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-32.2(3)(a). Continued from December 2, 2021.
4. REF#: ZBA-022-023: 2 Elliot Lane, Map 12, Lots 196-198. Applicant & Owner Sandra Gifford. Applicant seeks a Special Permit under the Fairhaven Bylaw 198-16, to construct a two-floor addition, for the purpose of an in-law suite of approximately 1,400 square feet. Continued from December 2, 2021.
5. REF#: ZBA-2022-025: 2 Oxford Street. Applicant and Owner: 2 Oxford Street, LLC. Applicant seeks: (1) Special Permit, pursuant to the Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-32.2, for a proposed 70' fixed pier, 30' gangway and four (4) floats totaling 2500 sq. feet; (2) Variance from 198-32.2(C)3(b) to exceed the 150' maximum pier length to the proposed 215' length; (3) Variance from 198-32.2 C. 7 to exceed the 300 sq. ft. total area of any and all floats to the proposed four (4) floats with 1500 sq. ft. of area; (4) Variance from 198-32.2(C)8 for an increase from the maximum amount of boats not to exceed two (2) as the four (4) floats will accommodate several boats. Continued from December 2, 2021. Revised plot plan has been submitted.
6. REF#: ZBA-2022-030: 114 Sconticut Neck Road, Map 28A, Lot 192. Applicant and Owner: Ronald Oliveira. Applicant seeks a finding from the Board under MGL 40A, Section 6 to allow for increase of area of a nonconforming use by 916 square feet and that the alteration is not more substantially detrimental than the existing nonconforming use to the neighborhood. Continued from January 4, 2022.
7. REF# ZBA-2022-001: 7 Alves Lane, Map 28, Lot 24E. Applicant and owner: Antonio Alves. Applicant seeks a Special Permit for an in-law addition on an approved single-family home under construction, pursuant to the Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198.16.
8. REF# ZBA-2022-002: 10 Littleneck Road, Map 43A, Lot 86 & 87. Applicant and owner: Paul Federico. Applicant seeks a finding from the Board under MGL 40A, Section 6 for the expansion of a nonconforming use by 297 square feet and that the alteration is not more substantially detrimental than the existing nonconforming use to the neighborhood.
9. REF# ZBA-2022-003: Akin Street, Map 31B, Lot 85 & 86. Applicant and Owner: Jennifer Raposo. Applicant seeks Variance for lot coverage for proposed 10,445 square feet from the 15,000 square foot requirement, pursuant to the Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198.18.

Peter DeTerra, Chairman, Fairhaven ZBA
FNN: 1/27/22, 2/3/22



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ELECTION: cont'd from page 3

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

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FREELANCE REPORTERS NEEDED Write for the *Neighb News*. We need reporters for evening meeting coverage. Reporting experience not required, but must have a solid grasp of grammar, good writing skills, and an understanding of what news writing is vs. your Great American Novel. Freelance only. Email Beth at NeighbNews@comcast.net or call 508-979-5593.

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Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Belonging Committee

Wed., 2/9, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

Board of Appeals

Tues., 3/1, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Board of Health

Wed., 2/16, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

Board of Public Works

Mon., 2/7, Arsene St., 6:15 p.m.

Broadband Study Comm

Thurs., 2/3, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 2/14, Remote, 6:30

Marine Resources Comm

Thurs., 2/3, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

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

Select Board

Mon. 2/7, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Acushnet

Selectboard

Thurs., 2/15, Town Hall, 4:00 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

| | Feb. 2022 | HIGH | | LOW | |
|-----------|-----------|------|------|-------|-------|
| | | a.m. | p.m. | a.m. | p.m. |
| Thursday | 3 | 0922 | 2149 | 0300* | 1527* |
| Friday | 4 | 1008 | 2236 | 0337* | 1554* |
| Saturday | 5 | 1055 | 2325 | 0412* | 1623* |
| Sunday | 6 | 1145 | ---- | 0449 | 1658* |
| Monday | 7 | 0017 | 1238 | 0538 | 1742 |
| Tuesday | 8 | 0108 | 1329 | 0657 | 1840 |
| Wednesday | 9 | 0158 | 1420 | 0945 | 1938 |
| Thursday | 10 | 0253 | 1521 | 1054 | 2032 |
| Friday | 11 | 0356 | 1627 | 1145 | 2133 |
| Saturday | 12 | 0455 | 1721 | ---- | 1228 |
| | | ---- | ---- | ---- | 2238 |
| Sunday | 13 | 0541 | 1803 | ---- | 1307 |
| | | ---- | ---- | ---- | 2320 |
| Monday | 14 | 0620 | 1842 | ---- | 1331 |
| | | ---- | ---- | ---- | 2357 |
| Tuesday | 15 | 0658 | 1920 | ---- | 1248 |
| Wednesday | 16 | 0737 | 2001 | 0036 | 1317* |
| Thursday | 17 | 0818 | 2042 | 0120* | 1353* |
| Friday | 18 | 0859 | 2123 | 0206* | 1431* |
| Saturday | 19 | 0940 | 2205 | 0250* | 1508* |
| Sunday | 20 | 1024 | 2252 | 0332* | 1546* |

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

BPW: cont'd from page 19

that some trees had to be removed to make sidewalks ADA compliant.

Mr. Furtado said whenever the BPW can save a tree they do.

Mr. Wotton said had nothing more to say, adding that the BPW endorsed Mr. Collasius because he said he wanted to work with the BPW to make the Tree Department better to help get more funding for the department and better more qualified personnel.

Board member Steve Riley asked about the budget Mr. Collasius is proposing for the Tree Department.

Mr. Collasius said it is not a proposed budget it is just to start a conversation. Mr. Collasius said he would propose a full-time tree warden, an arborist, and a laborer.

Mr. Riley said suppose that all goes through, would the Tree Department be able to handle every tree problem in Fairhaven? He asked if a Tree Department with that personnel would be fully operational with no need for help from the BPW.

Mr. Collasius said he did not know that and if there was a storm or a hurricane they may still need the BPW. He said he believed the BPW

and Tree Department would always have to work together. Mr. Collasius said that he and Mr. Furtado work together almost on a daily basis.

Mr. Riley said if he was talking daily, the departments should be one department.

Mr. Collasius said he would advocate to make the Tree Warden an

It appears to me that you
guys are kind of on an agenda
to get rid of street trees

[Tree Warden Don Collasius]

appointed position, but not to combine the department with the BPW.

Mr. Wotton said the board will move forward without Mr. Collasius's support to continue the process of trying to merge the departments.

In another matter the board met with Al Valle about the location of new Pickleball courts at Livesey Park.

Mr. Valle said the Community

Preservation Committee is asking that they look at the roller hockey rink at Livesey to see if it is usable for the courts instead of taking up more green space at the park.

Mr. Riley said he felt that may cause problems for people who still use the roller rink.

Mr. Ferro agreed that he would rather not take away the rink from people who are using it.

They both said they support the new Pickleball courts, but the CPC should allow them to choose a free space in the park to build them, not take away the rink.

Mr. Valle said the CPC does not want to fund the project if it is going to take away more green space.

Mr. Wotton said the BPW will write a letter in support of putting the Pickleball court in green space and not use the rink. He said if the board members are available they will also attend the next CPC meeting with Mr. Valle in support.

In another matter Mr. Furtado said the board would vote on articles for town meeting at the next BPW meeting.

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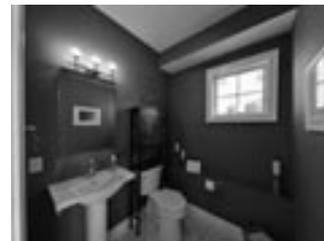
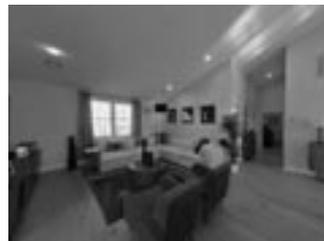
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