



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



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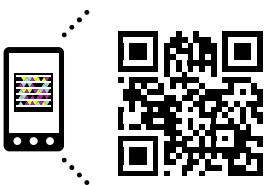
Volume 17, Issue 7 • February 10, 2022

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

The great annual Holly Tree Feed!



Five Robins descend up a holly tree on West Island to eat the berries during a day of frenzied feasting on Wednesday, 2/5/22, an annual event that brings scores of Robins to feed on the tree in late January or February. 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.

The great annual holly tree feed! So glad I got to see it. Every once in a while, I miss it.

Hundreds of birds descend upon my magnificent holly tree and gobble up the berries. I can't get enough of it. Luckily it happened on a Wednesday and I was able to take the time to watch and take pics. See page 12 for some fun shots of Robins feasting on the berries.

Looks like the Selectboard will interview the last woman standing for the Town Administrator position (see page 3). And the town hired a new Council on Agin Director, too.

The election is still heating up a little here and there (see page 4). Another person threw his hat into the ring. That's seven people for the three seats, with five of them returning papers. Ooh...I love a race. Last day to pull papers is today's cover date, 2/10.

And the Board of Public Works has responded to the Tree Warden's idea that the BPW can't handle the tree work. See page 20 for that.

We have more Black History Month connections this week. See page 18.

There's other good stuff in here, of course, so take your time and look through.

Be sure to notice who our advertisers are so you can tell them you saw their ads in the Neighb News.

And enjoy this warm weather. I'm afraid it's just a tease. But...spring is getting closer every day.

Until next week then...see ya



Beth David, Publisher

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Editor: Beth David

Photographers/Correspondents:

Mary Chasse, Glenn C. Silva

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Countdown to DST

Only 31 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!



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SB to interview one candidate for TA

By Beth David
Editor

After the collapse of the process, for a second time, in the search for a Town Administrator in Fairhaven, the Select Board voted to interview just one person for the position.

The board had been ready to interview three candidates last week, but then two dropped out. It is the second time that happened.

At its meeting on Monday, 2/7, the board voted to amend its process that required interviewing a minimum of two people for the position.

SB Chairperson Bob Espindola outlined several possibilities for proceeding. He said they could amend the process they had outlined so the board could interview fewer than two candidates; they could restart the process with a new salary and bonus or incentive structure; continue to work under the current arrangement with Finance Director/Treasurer Wendy Graves also acting as Interim Town Administrator, and former TA Mark Rees working on special projects; they could bring in a new Interim TA to allow Ms. Graves to return to her finance/treasurer job full time and relieve the strain on her.

Mr. Espindola said he was not in favor of any one of those scenarios, but simply wanted the board to discuss them and any possibilities they might have.

Mary Alcardi of the Collins Center, which ran the search, joined the meeting via Zoom and said that the Screening Committee had done its job as laid out in the process. She said her firm would continue to work to find a TA without added cost to the town, except for advertising.

Ms. Alcardi said she did not want anyone to think the caliber of the

candidates was not good. She said the failure of the process was not a reflection on the town. It is a reflection of the numbers, she said.

She said if they need to have at least two candidates, then they need to extend or start the process again.

Mr. Espindola asked if they could bring up to finalist status any of the other candidates that the SC had interviewed. Ms. Alcardi said they only put forth the "A" candidates, not the "B" or "C" candidates.

SB member Keith Silvia said he agreed that the committee did its job and they had three qualified

I know it's awkward...
But we're all grownups
[Mary Alcardi,
the Collins Center]

candidates. He said it was "unfortunate" that two withdrew, but that still left one top candidate.

He said he would like to interview her as soon as possible.

"This has gone on for more than a year," said Mr. Silvia.

SB member Stasia Powers agreed with Mr. Silvia, saying that the Ms. Alcardi was thorough and they should give the last remaining candidate, Angie Lopes Ellison, a chance.

"I have some reservations about doing that," said Mr. Espindola, adding that the important decision deserves a comparison of at least two people.

He said he did not want to prolong

the process, either, but he wanted to make sure that the problem is not about compensation.

Ms. Alcardi had provided the board with a comparison of other towns in the region and what they pay for a TA position.

Ms. Espindola noted that the COA director search included several candidates. He said suppose the interview does not go well with the one candidate, they do not hire her, is it fair to her.

He said they could restructure the position statement to get different results, including adding a range for the salary and maybe a bonus.

Mr. Espindola said he understood the timing was difficult, and that recruitment for top jobs is difficult in the private sector, too.

"It's still a small pool," said Ms. Powers.

Ms. Alcardi said it was a good point, and although she does not like to talk about other searches, she said the center is fielding inquiries from several different communities. Bourne still has not hired anyone, and Plymouth also had to try again even though the salary is more than \$200K.

Mr. Silvia said he looked at it a different way, that if they keep trying and losing out on the process that candidates will think something is wrong with the town.

Mr. Espindola said the first question he ask Ms. Alcardi was that very thing and she pointed to salaries in other communities. He asked if the process would be quicker this time.

Ms. Alcardi said it would be a little shorter, but not by much, a couple of weeks.

She also said the market is going be tougher with more retirements.

SELECT: cont'd on page 13



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Fairhaven Select Board race heats up a little more

By Beth David
Editor

As of press time this week, the Fairhaven Select Board race had seven people pull papers for the three available seats, with five them returning papers with the required signatures to be on the ballot. The newcomer this week is John Farrell, who currently sits on the Planning Board, with his term expiring this year. He has not pulled papers for that seat. This Thursday, 2/10, is the last day to get request nomination papers for the 4/4 election. They will all have to be returned by 2/14.

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

ELECT: cont'd on page 21

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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Book Group

In 1955 a determined 67 year old great grandmother, who lived a hard physical and emotional life as a farm wife raising eleven children, told her grown children she was going for a walk. Her walk was the 2,050 mile, 146 day hike on the Appalachian Trail from Mt Springer in Georgia to Mt. Katadin in Maine. With a change of clothes, wearing light weight sneakers (she went through 7 pairs of shoes), a cloth duffel bag over her shoulder, and less than \$200 she went on a trail that hadn't been maintained.

Snakes, water covering the trail, rain storms where she got soaking wet, rocky trails and she hiked along. She was the first woman to hike the entire trail solo, and first man or woman to do it three times.

"Grandma Gatewood's Walk" by Ben Montgomery: The Inspiring story of the Woman Who Saved the Appalachian Trail is the selection for February's discussion at Fairhaven's Millicent Library, 45 Center Street, Fairhaven, on Thursday, February 17 at 10 a.m., in the library's meeting room accessible through the Walnut Street entrance.

The discussion is free and open to the public. The book is available at the library or through the library's website, www.millicentlibrary.org. For more information call Norma Markey at 508-993-3745.

Working Two Miles Deep

A talk and slide presentation by Don Carlos Collasius will be held on Thursday, Feb. 17th from 7:00 to 8:00 pm at the Fairhaven Town Hall Auditorium, 40 Center St., Fairhaven, at no charge. Don is the current Tree Warden in town and has a deep appreciation for our Earth, both on land and in water.

From 1981 to 1988, he worked for the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute in the Deep Submergence Group, which operates the research vessel, ALVIN, a 3 person mini sub, tasked with exploring some of the world's deepest, darkest and coldest places.

During his 100 dives in the submersible as "Pilot in Command", Don visited many bizarre geological

features and life forms. He will recount some of those dives as well as present a broad picture of what it takes to get a submersible safely down to 4,000 meters deep and back again.

The talk will begin and end with current information about the Fairhaven Tree Department's endeavors to sustain the beauty and health of its trees, and how our town citizens can support him to maintain those trees that are so much a part of the historic aesthetics of our town.

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.covidtests.gov). 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

OLOA Dinner

Our Lady of Angels Club annual Bifana/Chicken Dinner, Sat., 3/26, 5-8 p.m., \$12.00. Eat in or pick up. Call Joe Mello, 508-733-4608, or find him on Facebook.

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

And then it was gone



The Blizzard of 2022, aka Winter Storm Kenan dumped about 18 inches of snow on Fairhaven. Saturday saw hurricane force winds/gusts, whiteout conditions, and frigid temperatures. But Sunday, 1/30/22, saw bright sun and many opportunities for good photography, although temperatures were still well below freezing. LEFT: A bird's eye view of the center of Fairhaven on January 30, 2022. The Unitarian Church is in the foreground, the Town Hall and First Congregational Church are closer to the New Bedford-Fairhaven Harbor in the background. Within days, the warm weather had melted most of the snow, but some piles still remain around town. After this week's warm weather and rain, it should all be gone. That stupid ground hog saw his shadow, forecasting six more weeks of winter, but all is not lost: Only 31 days till Daylight Saving Time on 3/13/22.

Photo by John Maciel.



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NB groups creating connections for artists/performers

Press Release

Eight New Bedford arts and culture organizations have a resolution for 2022: use creativity to create a healthier and more connected community. Already, members of the new Creating Connection cohort have held virtual workshops to collaborate and take action.

“I think that we speak a language through the arts,” says Peter Walker of 3rd Eye Youth Empowerment, and member of the group. “All voices are welcome. We’re not just creating a space for like minds... because we have to find a way to get back to that healthy form of public discourse.”

Developed by Arts Midwest and Metropolitan Group, Creating Connection is a research and messaging initiative that helps creative organizations connect their efforts to existing community values. The program’s broad goals are to make creative expression, arts, and culture a recognized, valued, and expected part of everyday life. Late in 2021, New Bedford was selected as a host city for the program’s first place-based pilot in the state.

“New Bedford individuals and organizations have built a strong practice of constructive interaction and partnering to get creative things done,” remarks David Prentiss of the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra, and another member of the cohort. “I also think we have a learning culture — learning from each other and from our own experiences.”

Organizations went through a competitive process to be among the eight finalists chosen to take part in the project. The eight accomplished nonprofit organizations representing New Bedford in the Creating Connection cohort are 3rd Eye Youth



Live Painting at the Co-Creative Center event with Superflat New Bedford and local New Bedford artists. Submitted photo by Steven Froias

Empowerment, Buy Black New Bedford, New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks!, DATMA (Massachusetts Design Art & Technology Institute), New Bedford Historical Society, New Bedford Symphony Orchestra, Cape

NB CREATE: cont'd on page 22

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

<http://FairhavenTours.com>

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

Vaccination Clinics

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:

Fri., 2/11: 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., 2/12: 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

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

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

Sun., Feb. 13: Project Beacon at New Bedford Regional Airport (1569 Airport Road) – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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.

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.

Business Webinar

The New Bedford Economic Development Council (NBEDC) would like to invite entrepreneurs and small business owners to experience their FREE "Creating a Business Plan for Your Success" webinar on Thursday, February, 17th at 3:00 p.m.

The old expression is true, "If you fail to plan you're planning to fail."

Join Cliff Robbins, Senior Business Advisor at the MSBDC, for this presentation that will show you why and how to write a business plan paving the way for you to build a successful business.

This workshop will help you answer these questions and more:

- Why do I need to write a business plan?
 - Is there a market for my product and service?
 - Is there room in the competitive environment for my company?
- Register today to get answers to these and many more questions.

Register at <https://clients.msbdc.org/workshop.aspx?ekey=110420002>

Bias Workshop

Break the Bias: Addressing and mitigating implicit bias, a virtual workshop, will be held on Tues., 3/8, from noon to 1:30 p.m.. Register at

<https://bit.ly/IWDBIASWORKSHOP> Or <https://www.facebook.com/ywcase.ma/>

Facilitated by YWCA Race, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (REDI) Facilitator Cullen Mulroney & YWCA Director of Mission Impact Raelyn Monteiro Implicit bias is a cognitive process and refers to unconscious attitudes, reactions, stereotypes, and categories that affect behavior and understanding.

This workshop explains what implicit bias is, understanding how the media influences our bias, recognizing manifestations of implicit bias and its harmful consequences.

While being mindful of biases is a step in recognizing and mitigating the harmful impacts they cause, mindfulness alone is not enough to undo the harm of implicit bias. Participants will understand how coming into awareness of bias is the first step in the process of dismantling systemic bias, of undoing the harm both personally and institutionally. In small groups, participants will discuss where they witness bias within their lives and workplaces; share strategies for how to address it both personally and institutionally; and what they would like to see their employer do to address bias within their workplace.

For questions, please contact Raelyn at rmonteiro@ywcasema.org or 508-999-3255

Celtic Sojourn

Since 2004, A St. Patrick's Day Celtic Sojourn concerts have introduced a wide range of new and familiar musicians alike to audiences eager to celebrate the holiday in true Irish style. The pandemic has created challenges, but Brian O'Donovan and his team have assembled one of the finest and most varied casts ever. This year's cast showcases exquisite musicianship from groups and individuals representing the wide range of approaches to Irish music. If you can't join us in person, join us virtually!

Irish or not, the infectious sounds and colorful history of Ireland will quicken the heart and imagination of all! Visit <https://www.zeiterion.org/events/a-st-patricks-day-celtic-sojourn> or call 508-997-5664, or email info@zeiterion.org

HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

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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superstar, Angélique Kidjo. Live performance featuring recent hits, danceable favorites and songs from her Grammy-nominated new album, "Mother Nature"

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>.

At Mattapoissett Museum

The following events are at the Mattapoissett Museum, 5 Church St, Mattapoissett, MA 02739; director@mattapoissettmuseum.org; 508-758-2844

Author Virtual Event

February 16, 6:30 pm - via Zoom with Helen Frink, author of *Oil, Ice & Bone: Arctic Whaler Nathaniel Ransom*. In 1860 fourteen-year-old Nathaniel Ransom followed his five older brothers into the dank foc'sle of a whaling vessel. For fifteen years he hunted seventy-ton bowheads in Arctic waters, for the many uses of "bone", blades of flexible baleen from the leviathan's enormous jaw, raised its value, even as petroleum replaced whale oil as a source of lighting. In 1871 Ransom survived the loss of thirty-two whaling vessels in the frigid waters off Alaska's Icy Cape.

With him, he carried a journal - and kept it, as he and his shipmates jettisoned weapons and warm clothing to save their very lives. His eyewitness account of whaling's brutal slaughter and sudden losses is enriched by the author's affection for an ancestor she discovered through his journals a century after his death.

Helen Frink is the author of two town histories: *These Acworth Hills* (1989) and *Alstead Through the Years* (1992). Her book *Women after Communism; the East German Experience* (University Press of America, 2001) examines the effects on women of the transition from socialism to capitalism.

Her exploration of family history brought her to the journals of great-grandfather Nathaniel Ransom. She delights in using original letters, newspapers, journals, and documents to bring to life social and material history centered in New England. She lives too far from the sea

in Acworth, New Hampshire.

Register at www.mattapoissettmuseum.org/events

Open Mic

February 18, 6:00 pm - Southcoast Lessons presents Open Mic Night - The mic is yours! All ages and all genres welcome - sing a song, play an instrument, read your favorite poem, tell a story, and enjoy what your community has to offer. FREE

Fiddle Session

February 27, 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!

Sound of Silents

March 4, 6:00 PM - Southcoast Lessons presents New Sounds of Silents: silent films set to live music - 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.

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

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

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

HAPPS: cont'd on page 11

Recipe of the Week

Baked Spaghetti Pie

- 6 ounces spaghetti 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup parmesan cheese, grated
- 1 cup ricotta cheese
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon dried basil
- 1/2 pound ground beef
- 1/2 pound mild Italian sausage
- 14 ounces tomatoes, diced
- 2 cups marinara sauce
- 1 c mozzarella cheese, shredded

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease a deep-dish pie plate.

Cook the spaghetti according to package directions. Drain. Toss the spaghetti with melted butter, eggs, and parmesan.

Press the spaghetti into the bottom of the prepared pie plate.

In a medium bowl, mix the ricotta, parsley, oregano, and basil until well combined.

Spread the ricotta mixture over the spaghetti in the pie plate.

In a large skillet, sauté the ground beef and Italian sausage until cooked through, breaking it up as it cooks, about 8 minutes.

Drain the grease and add the diced tomatoes and marinara to the skillet. Stir to combine.

Pour the meat sauce over the ricotta layer in the pie plate, spreading it evenly.

Sprinkle the mozzarella cheese over the meat layer.

Bake until the cheese is melted and the sauce is bubbling, for about 20-25 minutes.

Let the pie sit for 10 minutes before serving.

From cookingprofessionally.com

Dear Frankie



Searching for Love

Dear Frankie,
It seems that wherever I go, I see canine couples. On the rare occasion when I'm down, I think about those couples and wish I had a special canine in my life.

The options for me to meet anyone are limited. There are a few dogs at the park that I would consider dating. However, none of them are available or interested.

By any chance, do you know of any doggie dating sites?

Louise

Dear Louise,

I don't know of any doggie dating sites. I asked my friend Henry, a computer whiz, to do a search.

Would I be correct to assume you discussed your interest in online dating with your parents? If so, have

they given you their permission to sign up? I trust you have addressed the time it will take for them to transport you to and from your dates.

Dating today is not like it was in the old days. You can't assume the guy will agree to meet you in your neighborhood. It's not uncommon for a guy to suggest you meet him halfway and split the bill for any expenses incurred.

Safety is another issue. How are your street skills? Can you recognize a con or a player? If you don't know what I'm talking about, maybe online dating isn't for you. In the event you find a site, I wish you the best of luck in finding the canine of your dreams.

Best, Frankie

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

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“The public, which depends on accurate, factual information in order to make decisions, suffers.”

— Margaret Sullivan, "Ghosting The News"

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HAPPS: cont'd from page 9

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.

History of Lees Market

A History of Lees Market presented by Al Lees III, 2 PM Saturday February 19, 2022 (presented via Zoom)

For 70 or so years, Lees Market has carved out a unique place within the town of Westport and surrounding communities. Part grocery store, liquor store, employer to thousands, and unofficial "town center" (among other things), this fixture in our community has a story to tell ... a story that is worth telling. For the story of Lees Market is really a reflection of our town and its changes over more than seven decades.

Join us to hear Al Lees, former

owner of the market and current WHS President, speak about the evolution of an 800 square foot general merchandise store to an over 50,000 square foot building that contains not only food and adult beverages but more importantly memories for so many of us for so many years.

Register at https://us02web.zoom.us/join/https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_moOsh0adQjeix_yt47mimw

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.

Arts in the Park Call for Applications

The registration and jury process for Arts in the Park 2022 at the Marion Art Center is underway. Arts in the Park is the MAC's signature outdoor artisan market and occurs annually in July. This year the event is scheduled on Saturday, July 9 from 10:00am-4:00pm.

The exhibitions committee is now accepting applications online at marionartcenter.org/arts-in-the-park.

Send questions to info@marionartcenter.org.

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The Great Annual Holly Tree Feed

By Beth David
Editor

Every year the winter Robins descend upon my big holly tree on West Island and feast on the berries. Most years, I'm able to catch it with

my camera. It is, however, usually a quick, one-day event, as scores of birds gorge non-stop until all the berries are gone. Sometimes a few Blue Jays or Cardinals are in the mix. But this year, it was just the Robins

on Wednesday, 2/2/22.

The tree still had some snow from the big blizzard the weekend before, adding to the magic. Below are some pictures from that day, with a couple before pictures and an after picture.



ABOVE: Robin reaches for a berry from a holly tree on West Island during a day of frenzied feasting on Wednesday, 2/5/22, an annual event that brings scores of Robins to feed on the tree in late January or February; then it gets the berry into its beak and throws it back into its throat. BELOW: These little guys are in a sea of edibles and seem to know how lucky they are. BOTTOM LEFT: One Robin seems to give the other the stink-eye for grabbing a berry from the tree. BOTTOM MIDDLE: This little guy seems to see the camera and dare the photographer to try to take that berry away. BOTTOM RIGHT: This little guy doesn't have a berry in its beak, but sings a happy tune anyway while foraging for berries. *Photos by Beth David.*



SELECT: cont'd from page 3

She noted that they lose no time if they conduct the interview for Ms. Ellison right away.

"I know it's awkward," she said to say yes or no for one person. "But we're all grownups."

She also said she did not recommend extending the search again. She recommended starting a whole new search.

She noted that there's nothing wrong with Fairhaven.

"It's just the market," said Ms. Alcardi.

Mr. Espindola asked if any of the other candidates could be "elevated," but Ms. Alcardi said the committee would only put forward the best candidates.

"I feel we have a candidate, she knows what the salary is," said Mr. Silvia, and they had to get things moving.

Ms. Powers noted that a lot of things have been put on hold waiting for the new TA.

"And we could lose her," said Mr. Silvia, meaning Ms. Ellison.

The board voted to amend their process and will interview Ms. Ellison at a special meeting on Thursday, 2/10, at 6:30.

The board also approved the appointment of Martha Reed as Council on Aging director, replacing Anne Silvia, who has retired.

Ms. Reed has an extensive history working with the elderly population, most recently with Catholic Social Services.

Interim Town Administrator Wendy Graves hired Ms. Reed and said she was "very passionate about the care and well-being of elders."

"I'm just so excited to start this position," Ms. Reed told the board. She said the Fairhaven COA had a "stellar reputation."

She said she was looking forward to the next few weeks while Ms. Silvia would be working with her to transition.

Nobody likes change, especially people set their routines, said Ms. Reed.

"I know my wife's happy," said SB member Keith Silvia, referring to the outgoing COA Director. "She has total faith in you."

Ms. Reed said that Ms. Silvia has made such a difference.

"I am so lucky to take over for her," said Ms. Reed, adding that Ms. Silvia is leaving a well organized machine.

Ms. Reed also said she would be keeping the programs that Ms. Silvia started, and restarting the ones that got put on hold due to the pandemic, saying she was a firm believer in not fixing something that works.

Ms. Reed has worked at CSS for 14 years in a variety of positions, including grants and compliance, parish and community outreach, anti-poverty grant management, and coordinator of affordable rental housing programs. She also has experience overseeing housing complexes for the elderly, and has



Martha Reed, the new Council on Aging Director for the town of Fairhaven, gestures while speaking to the Selectboard on 2/7/22 when her appointment was approved in a unanimous vote. Screen shot photo from Fairhaven government access online video.

been a resident services coordinator and property manager.

Ms. Reed told the board that much has changed in society in the last 30-40 years, especially with technology. She said it is important for older people to have someone to look out for them if they do not have family to help them.

She said she is "very concerned" about the high cost of housing, that it is a passion of hers, and she believes it is important to try to maintain people in their own homes.

The board voted unanimously to approve the appointment.

State Rep. William Straus's statement on Route 6 improvements

Press Release

Rep. Bill Straus (D-Mattapoisett) announced that the Massachusetts Department of Transportation has agreed to design safety improvements to Route 6 in the vicinity of Alden Road in Fairhaven.

Rep. Straus, the House Chair of the Transportation Committee on Beacon Hill, initiated a request to the state for these improvements in 2021 for

better pedestrian signals at the busy intersection. Concerns about this intersection were brought to him by local residents. Designs are now being finalized by the transportation department that will enhance the traffic signals and provide ADA-compliant ramps at the intersection, with MassDOT committing \$200,000 in state funding for work on the project.

"This is a particularly dangerous stretch of Route 6 for pedestrians and I am pleased that we are now in a position to make it safer for all road users," said Rep. Straus. "I want to thank the Baker Administration for acting on my request for this safety improvement."

Construction is expected to begin this summer.

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>

Kool Kids February Vacation

This 4 day program is a great opportunity to make new friends while participating in fun group activities such as pillo polo, floor hockey, dodgeball, cooperative games, flag football, arts & crafts, etc. Kids will need to bring their own lunch for the first 3 days of the program The last day is a pizza lunch. Come ready to have fun! Sneakers and active clothes must be worn each day. Kids will be grouped according to their current grade in school. Grades: K-5 Dates: 2/22/22 – 2/25/22 Drop off between 8-8:15, pick up by 3PM Instructors: Staff \$100/Member, \$125/Non Member

Sunrise Gentle Yoga Stretch

A combination of postures coordinated with the breath, performed at a gentle pace which allows time to be present in each pose. With a soft approach, Gentle Yoga focuses on stress reduction, breath work, stretching, strengthening and balance. All levels are welcome.

Ages: 16-Adult Start February 21st End April 4th. Mondays Instructor: Julie Fostin Time: 6:15-7:15 AM. Cost: \$30 Members/\$50 Non Members

Zumba Toning

Kick up your heels with a Latin beat! Join this drop-in class! Wednesday from 5PM-6 PM. \$7 Members/\$10 Non Members. Instructor: Ann-Marie Gallos

Fairhaven Senior Center

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http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.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.

Computer Classes

Next Series of Computer Technology Classes starting February 7-April 22, 2022. To sign up please call the Fairhaven Senior Center, 508-979-4029. Classes are open for Fairhaven and Acushnet Residents

Tax Return Preparation

AARP Foundation, 2021 Tax Return Preparation. Still have a few dates available. Please call the Fairhaven Senior Center @508-979-4029

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Acushnet starts reviewing budgets

By Beth David
Editor

At its meeting on 2/1/22, the Acushnet Selectboard began reviewing budgets for FY23. It was the first meeting with newly appointed Interim Town Administrator James Kelley.

Council on Aging Director Heather Chew told the board she needed to have a \$500 item for phone service reinstated in her budget. She said she no longer has the ability to transfer people to other town departments.

Ms. Chew also said she needed to hire a part time program coordinator. With COVID testing and other demands, she has been working 44 hours a week instead of her 35.

"I don't mind, that's me," said Ms. Chew, adding that they need to discuss positions, not people. "It's not a sustainable model."

Selectboard member Kevin Gaspar asked if the position had been funded with a grant.

Ms. Chew said a position was grant funded, but it was very limited in scope due to the grant specifications. The new position would not have

those limitations because it would be a town position.

Ms. Chew noted that the senior center only shut down for two months during COVID, they moved programs outside.

Mr. Gaspar said they would do what they could to find the money to fund the position, saying it was necessary to "take care of our seniors."

Ms. Chew said she had already met with the Finance Committee and they approved the change.

The board voted unanimously to endorse the changes to her budget.

Animal Control Officer Rebekkah Tomlinson also addressed the board, saying her budget was level funded, and also approved by FinCom. She said everything is working out well the way it is.

She noted that she got her new truck last year, and it is still being retrofitted to work as an animal transport vehicle.

"We still have some things to do with it," she said, but added that there is still money in that budget for the work.

Mr. Gaspar noted that she is another employee who works more than 35 hours.

"As Heather said, I love my job. I love this town," said Ms. Tomlinson. "I have no intention of going anywhere else."

She said she always had the backing of the Selectboard and other departments, and she looks forward to working with new TA, who, she noted, loves animals.

She added that she loves the open door policy and feels comfortable approaching and speaking with town officials.

The board voted unanimously to approve her budget.

The board tabled the discussions on the Library and Planning Department budgets until the next meeting.

The board also discussed a letter from Chad LeClair, the Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Department. In his letter, Mr. LeClair said he hoped to get funding for a number of projects, including resurfacing the basketball courts and adding more courts and Pope Park; upgrading and

ACUSH: cont'd next page



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ACUSH: cont'd from previous page

moving the concession stand; improving the bathrooms.

He also said he was in favor of making the Lake Street recreation area part of the recreation department.

Pope Park, he said is one of the main attractions of the town and he would like to make it more desirable, as well as other parts of town. It will require appropriate funding and a healthy budget.

Mr. Gaspar said he commended Mr. LeClair for his long term vision for the parks, but added that with the "financial constraints," they would probably not be done in the near term. Mr. Gaspar said they could "peck away" at some of the items and speak to Mr. LeClair when he goes before them with his budget.

Mr. Wojnar also sang the praises of Pope Park.

"We all see the value of having a really good park infrastructure," said Mr. Wojnar and what it does for families. "I'll go to the mat for this."

He said Mr. LeClair should meet with the town planner and Mr. Kelley to get some technical assistance and set up short, medium and long term goals.

"I commend Chad for speaking up," said Mr. Wojnar. "I'm all in for what they want to do over there."

In another matter, the board voted again on approving licenses from their 12/14/21 meeting due to the omission of the list of applicants from the agenda on that date.

The board also acknowledged a violation of the Open Meeting Law for not accepting/adopting minutes from the June 23, 2020 meeting in a timely manner, after a complaint was brought by a resident.

Minutes should be accepted within

three meetings or 90 days.

"The board understands its obligation to approve meeting minutes within three meetings or 30 days, whichever is later and will endeavor to do so in the future," said Selectboard chairperson David Desroches. "The board also submits that all board meetings are available for public viewing through links provided on the town's website."

In other business, the board approved a common victualer license for Golden Net on S. Main Street, pending an inspection by the health agent, and a clarification of the hours

We all see the value of
having a really good
park infrastructure...I'll
go to the mat for this
[David Wojnar]

of operation.

Selectboard member David Wojnar took the opportunity to suggest the town highlight businesses on a rotating basis on the town website. He said it would be a little promotion for them to both residents and visitors.

Mr. Desroches said they could discuss it with the web person.

The board also abated a sewer betterment for Allen Street Parcels.

Mr. Gaspar explained that the property was deemed buildable and the parcel was charged. But then the parcel was deemed not buildable, so the town has been abating the

betterment annually.

The board also discussed dates and deadlines for articles for the annual town meeting, which will be held on 5/9/22.

Mr. Gaspar suggested that articles should be in by March 11, instead of 3/22, to give everyone time to usher the articles through the process.

The board spent some time discussing the possibility of the Planning Department trying to get a bylaw change passed. With the need to have two hearings and advertise each one for two weeks, it seems unlikely the deadlines will work.

The earlier date, however, will give Mr. Kelley a chance to get the book together.

"I'm only taking away two weeks," said Mr. Gaspar.

Board members and Mr. Kelley also commended the Department of Public Works for snow plowing during the blizzard. Mr. Kelley noted that they were down 40% of the vehicles they usually have due to equipment breaking down and lack of drivers to begin with.

The board also announced vacancies on a number of boards, including two alternates on the Agricultural Commission, seven on the Beautification Committee, one Housing Authority vacancy on the Community Preservation Committee, 13 vacancies on the Cultural Council, and one on the Open Space Committee.

The town also has no town moderator, who runs town meeting.

Anyone interest in filling a vacancy should visit <https://www.acushnet.ma.us/home/pages/volunteer-opportunities> or contact the Selectboard at Town Hall, 122 Main St., Acushnet, MA 02743.



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February is Black History Month

Second in a series for the month of February

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 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 provided.

Many of these came from <https://www.stagesoffreedom.org>.

W.E.B. Du Bois National Historic Site

Great Barrington, MA

Champion of civil rights and leader for world peace and freedom on the national and world stages, W.E.B. Du Bois began his life's work in Great Barrington, Mass. The site is a collaborative project to identify and interpret those sites in and around Great Barrington that were influential in the life of W.E.B. Du Bois.

Visit <https://www.duboisnhs.org>

Congdon Street Baptist Church

The most historical church in Rhode Island, discussions to create the Congdon Street Baptist Church began in 1819. It was dedicated in 1821 as The African Union Meeting House. After it was torn down by hostile white neighbors, the church was rebuilt nearby and the name was changed to Congdon Street Baptist Church in 1875.

Learn more at <https://www.congdonstreet.org/our-history/>

Buffalo Solider Monument

Ft. Leavenworth, KS

The 10th Cavalry was an all African American regiment which was formed at Fort Leavenworth on September 21, 1866 and was the regiment that the Indians first called "Buffalo

Soldiers." In time, all of the all-black regiments in the United States Army were call Buffalo Soldiers and it was a sign of honor.

Learn more at <http://kansastravel.org/buffalosoldiermonument.htm>

Maggie Lena Walker

Maggie Lena Walker was one of the foremost female business leaders in the US. She became the first woman to own a bank in the US.

Learn more at <https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/maggie-lena-walker>

Her home in Richmond, VA has been designated a National Historic Site: <https://www.nps.gov/mawa/index.htm>

Warren H. Wheeler

Black aviator Warren Wheeler established the first African American owned and operated air service in the US. He was the first airline owner to use government employment training programs to train blacks who wanted careers in the airline industry, and helped them find jobs. He still operates an air travel company in the Caribbean Islands.

Learn more at <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/wheeler-warren-h-1943/>

John H. Johnson

Publisher of "Ebony" and Jet," which were much more than magazines to Black America. He was named to the Forbes 400 richest Americans, and was on the boards of several Fortune 500 companies.

Learn more at <https://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/entries/john-harold-johnson-2354/>

Mary McLeod Bethune

An educator and civil rights activist, Mary McLeod Bethune became the highest ranking African American woman in government when FDR named her director of Negro Affairs of the National Youth Administration. She was the only woman of color at the founding conference of the United Nations in 1945, having been appointed by President Truman. Her home is a National Historic Site.

Visit <https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/mary-mcleod-bethune>

Visit her home at <https://www.nps.gov/mamc/index.htm>

Ben E. King

Member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, singer, songwriter, mentor and philanthropist Ben E. King is a legend in rock & roll and rhythm & blues. Hits include "This Magic Moment," "Save the Last Dance for Me," and "Spanish Harlem."

Learn more at <https://www.beneking.info>

Otis Redding

The "King of Soul," Otis Redding was also a savvy businessman who started his own recording label. He was involved in a variety of business ventures, not all related to music. He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1989. "Sittin' On The Dock of the Bay," is his biggest worldwide hit, and was the last song he recorded before his death. He was killed in a plane crash on his private plane in 1967, at the age of 26.

Learn more at <https://otisredding.com>

Langston Hughes

Poet James Mercer Langston Hughes also wrote plays, novels, and short stories.

Learn more at <https://poets.org/poet/langston-hughes>

Robert Hayden

Poet Robert Hayden was born Asa Bundy Sheffey into a poor family in Detroit. He was the first African American appointed Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress. He was a university professor of English.

His poems include a series on slavery and the Civil War.

Learn more at <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/robert-hayden>

The Men of Alpha Phi Alpha

The first black fraternity at Brown University

In 1921, 11 men formed a chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha, and the university refused to recognize it. Learn more at <https://www.browncollege.edu/alpha-phi-alpha/index.php/articles/2021-06-22/browns-first-black-fraternity>

George Henry

Successful as a grocer, land owner and gardener, George Henry was the first person of color in RI to serve as a juror. Read his book, *Life of George Henry, Together with A Brief History of the Colored People in America*, at <https://docsouth.unc.edu/neh/henry/henryg.html>

Huntah the COVID dog checks out Acushnet COA

By Beth David
Editor

Huntah, the COVID sniffing dog, took a tour of the Acushnet Senior Center after COVID testing on Saturday, 2/5/22. The dog ran around the room sniffing, while handler Capt. Paul Douglass of the Bristol County

Sheriff's Office, kept an eye on her.

Huntah did find a scent at the trash barrel, which did not surprise anyone. She did not find any trace of COVID in the room, on seats, tables, or people.

Capt. Douglas said it was no surprise that the trash barrel would

have a trace because of the amount of gloves and other items used to test people. The rest of the room had been sanitized after testing.

The dog is one of only two in the country trained to detect COVID. She travels to schools and other facilities in the region on a regular basis.



ABOVE LEFT: Huntah, the COVID sniffing dog, is a blur as she runs around the room at the Acushnet Council on Aging to detect COVID after the COA hosted a morning of COVID testing on 2/5/22. ABOVE RIGHT: Huntah sits and looks at her handler, Capt. Paul Douglas of the Bristol County Sheriff's Office, to show she got a hit detecting COVID in the trash barrel. BELOW LEFT: Huntah checks out the testing supplies. BELOW RIGHT: Huntah cuddles up with Acushnet Council on Aging Director Heather Chew. Photos by Beth David.



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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"

TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS INVITATION TO BID



Sealed bids marked for items listed below, will be received at the Board of Public Works, 5 Arsene Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719 not later than 2:00 p.m., March 3, 2022. Bids will be publicly opened and read on March 3, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

1-12: Asphalt, Concrete, & other related work
The BPW reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids if it is in the best interest of the Town to do so.
FNN: 2/10/22

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=NXg5WnUxZ3lLK3drSVBBM2JPTXE0QT09>
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

BPW: Let's Make a Tree Department that Works for Fairhaven

From the Fairhaven BPW

We, the five elected Board of Public Works Commissioners in Fairhaven, are writing to respectfully request that residents and Town Meeting members consider changing the position of Tree Warden from an elected position to an appointed position, and bringing the Tree Department under the Board of Public Works umbrella.

The Tree Department has operated independently for decades, and for decades it has continually failed the people of Fairhaven. The people of Fairhaven deserve a fully operational Tree Department. They deserve a Tree Department that is headed by a full-time certified arborist who not only understands the danger of trees that are withered and trees that obstruct critical points in our public infrastructure, but who is also committed to maintaining trees and green spaces that are integral to Fairhaven's small town charm.

The Board of Public Works oversees public infrastructure such as roads, sidewalks, water and sewer. The BPW also serves as the Town's park commissioners, overseeing Fairhaven's vast number of green spaces. Our

staff both in office and in the field respond daily to calls from residents regarding these matters. However, despite having this infrastructure in place, the BPW is often unable to respond to matters regarding tree removal and maintenance because we lack the legal authority to handle matters under Tree Department purview and don't have the ability to legally access the Tree Department's equipment.

During and after weather emergencies, such as our most recent storm and blizzard, the Tree Department relies heavily on the infrastructure of the BPW to respond to removing fallen trees and the subsequent cleanup of brush in roadways and public spaces. Our public safety departments, along with the burden of having to respond to ongoing emergencies also have to communicate with two departments, the BPW and Tree Department, to fulfill a singular task.

Folding the Tree Department into the daily operations of the Board of Public Works, with a commitment from the Town to provide the BPW with the funding needed to make it fully operational, is the only resolu-

tion that makes logistical sense. It is also the only resolution that can provide people in Town with a municipal government that can swiftly and seamlessly execute the needs of residents regarding tree removal and maintenance.

The Board of Public Works is entrusted with and committed to providing residents with the most essential municipal functions that they rely on in their day-to-day lives, and we are working towards continuing and strengthening that commitment by providing you with the Tree Department that you deserve. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us.

*The Board of Public Works
Brian Wotton, Chair
Robert Hobson, Vice Chair,
Cameron Durant, Secretary
Marcus Ferro
Steven Riley*

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ELECT: cont'd from page 4

Clerk's Office, the Millicent Library and State and Federal offices.

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

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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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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
- 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

Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Board of Appeals

Tues., 4/1, Town Hall, 6:00 p.m.

Board of Assessors

Tues., 2/15, Remote, 6 p.m.

Board of Health

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

Board of Public Works

Mon., 2/28, Arsene St., 6:15 p.m.

Charter Committee

Thurs., 2/10, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission

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

Planning Board

Tues., 2/22, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 3/9, Media Ctr., 6:30 p.m.

Select Board

Thurs., 2/10, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Mon. 2/28, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Sustainability Comm

Tues., 2/15, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

Acushnet

Board of Assessors

Wed., 3/2, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

School Council

Tues., 2/15, Ford Middle Sch., 4 p.m.

Selectboard

Thurs., 2/17, Town Hall, 3:00 p.m.
NOTE DAY/TIME CHANGE

TIDE TABLE

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

	Feb. 2022	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.	LOW a.m.	LOW p.m.
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*
Monday	21	1114	2345	0415*	1627*

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

NB CREATE: cont'd from page 7

Verdean Association in New Bedford, and the Co-Creative Center.

Dena Haden of the Co-Creative Center believes Creating Connection within the group and with the city at large will provide the opportunity for New Bedford to move forward “allowing art to be a common thread and resource for our area and community.”

“The inspiring work of New Bedford artists and cultural trailblazers is being recognized by the Barr Foundation, and now Arts Midwest, for its ability to positively impact and transform the city,” says Margo Saulnier, strategist for New Bedford Creative, the lead partner for the project.

The Barr Foundation is funding Creating Connection as part of its investment in the city’s arts and culture sector. New Bedford Creative is funded by the city’s Arts, Culture and Tourism Fund, with additional support from Bristol County Savings Bank, Mass Cultural Council, and MassDevelopment’s “TDI Creative Cities Initiative.” It is housed at the New Bedford Economic Development Council (NBEDC).

“I think in New Bedford the arts are tangible and we have created a lot of human connection that overall creates a state of wellbeing,” said Lindsay Miś of DATMA. “For me, it reminds me of how you would interact with a family — and I always think of New Bedford as one big family — and I feel like the arts are our vehicle for human connection.”

Indeed, it is why Arts Midwest brought Creating Connection to New Bedford. They believe this city can use its creativity to create a healthier and more connected community.

New Bedford Creative will be sharing the cohort’s journey throughout the year.

Follow NewBedfordCreative.org for all arts and culture updates.

New Bedford Creative is housed at the New Bedford Economic Development Council, and tasked with implementing the city’s first-ever strategic arts and culture plan, published in December 2018. The vision of the plan is that: “In New Bedford, the creative community is an engaged and powerful partner, inspiring social, economic, and cultural growth. In this authentic seaport city, each and every person enjoys an opportunity to experience a diversity of cultures. Art is everywhere, encouraging fun, provoking thought, and nurturing the soul.”

Funding is provided by the New Bedford Arts, Culture and Tourism Fund, proposed by Mayor Jon Mitchell in the spring of 2016 and signed into law by Governor Baker in January 2017. The purpose of the fund is to create a dedicated revenue stream to provide for additional planning, programmatic, and administrative capacity to allow the City of New Bedford to take full advantage of its cultural and tourism assets, and to catalyze and manage the growth of the cultural and tourism sectors.

The New Bedford Economic Development Council has a three-year agreement to manage the fund for the City. This work is led by the Creative Strategist, a 24-member volunteer Creative Consortium, with staff support from the NBEDC and Departments of City Planning, Tourism & Marketing, Parks, Recreation & Beaches, and the Mayor’s Office. Additional funding is

provided by Barr Foundation, Bristol County Savings Bank, Mass Cultural Council, MassDevelopment/TDI, and New England Foundation for the Arts.

For more information, visit newbedfordcreative.org.

Barr Foundation: The Barr Foundation’s mission is to invest in human, natural, and creative potential, serving as thoughtful stewards and catalysts. Based in Boston, Barr focuses regionally, and selectively engages nationally, working in partnership with nonprofits, foundations, the public sector, and civic and business leaders to elevate the arts, advance solutions for climate change, and connect all students to success in high school and beyond. Founded in 1997, Barr now has assets in excess of \$3 billion, and has contributed more than \$1 billion to charitable causes. For more information, visit barrfoundation.org or follow @BarrFdn.

Arts Midwest believes that creativity has the power to inspire and unite humanity. Based in Minneapolis, Arts Midwest supports creative organizations and communities throughout a nine-state Midwest region and nationally. One of six nonprofit United States Regional Arts Organizations, Arts Midwest’s history spans more than 30 years. For more information, visit artsmidwest.org.

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