



Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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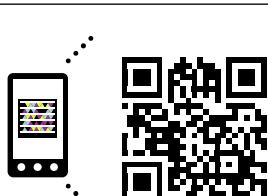
Volume 18, Issue 11 • March 9, 2023

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

Missing woman found alive and safe



Lt. Kevin Kobza of the Fairhaven Police Department speaks to the press on 3/7/23 at the end of Manhattan Avenue to update the public on the search for Ana Huggins, who was last seen in that area more than 24 hours before. She was found alive later in the day with no apparent injuries. See story on page 7. Photo by Beth David.



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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, we had a lucky one this week. A missing Fairhaven woman was found alive and okay (see page 7). Things were starting to look a little grim after 30'sh hours, but then she showed up.

Good work by all the agencies that searched so hard for her, and the volunteers and residents who contributed with information, surveillance video, etc.

The latest word is that she's going to be okay.

On another note...

DST is here! Change your clocks FORWARD this weekend. This was supposed to be the last time we had to do this, but those numbnuts in the Senate did not pass it. The House passed a bill to keep DST permanent after this change, but the so-called "upper chamber" didn't get their part done.

Call your senators. Tell 'em we want to see the light!

There's a bunch of great news in here, of course, but it's time to get this baby to bed.

Please support our advertisers.

Until next week then...see ya,

*Glory to Ukraine!
Glory to the Heroes!*

Publisher Beth David with Charlie, aka Evil Dog



Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Thursday, March 9, 2023

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Editor: Beth David

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Fairhaven budget shortfall down to \$450K

By Beth David
Editor

The Fairhaven Select Board held a budget meeting on Wednesday 3/1/23, with the Finance Committee, and also held a regular SB meeting on 3/6. At the budget meeting, the two boards received an update from Rich Bienvenue, who is the Assistant Town Administrator/Finance Director for the town of Eastham, Mass., and has been helping out a day or so a week while Fairhaven searches for a Finance Director.

Mr. Bienvenue told the board that a couple of things had changed on the revenue side, making the projected \$750K budget shortfall drop to \$450K. In order to balance the budget, he proposed an override of the Proposition 2 1/2 tax law to cover the \$450K. An override requires a majority vote at Town Meeting, and a ballot initiative. The override, if it passes, will increase taxes by about \$47 per residence.

Mr. Bienvenue said the preliminary state budget included more for the school department than first projected, and the regular state aid to

cities and towns in the governor's projected budget (the Cherry Sheet) was higher than first estimated.

This still leaves a \$450K shortfall that must be addressed.

Mr. Bienvenue said he estimated use of local receipts (building permits, excise taxes) at 92.5% which is high and does not leave much cushion if the economy softens. It also means a decrease in free cash, which is used for capital expenses. Free cash is what is left over after local receipt money is spent, and money left in department budgets from previous years.

The cannabis host agreement money may also be changed at the state level, leaving that amount in doubt; and the excess capacity at SEMASS, the waste-to-energy plant where Fairhaven's trash goes, which the town could sell for revenue, is also change, so that revenue source is no longer available.

Increases in the budget include four new firefighters, partially funded by an increase in ambulance receipts; addition of a part-time finance intern; maintenance position at the public

works department; increased costs due to inflation; and an unknown in the salary budgets because not all union contracts have been settled.

The two boards are holding extra joint meetings to try to figure out how to fix the shortfall.

At the Select Board's regular meeting on Monday, Town Administrator Angie Lopes Ellison announced that the police department had hired five new police officers and one dispatcher. She said they are filling vacant positions and are also in anticipation of retirements. Three of the new hires will need to go to the academy, so they will not be on patrol for several months.

The board also voted on the aquaculture license renewal for Matt Loo. At the last meeting, Ms. Ellison told the board that town counsel had advised her that only town meeting could issue the license. Mr. Loo had disputed that.

Ms. Ellison said she looked into it further and got an opinion from Mass. Wildlife and provided information back to town counsel. Ms. Ellison said

SELECT: cont'd to page 17

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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Candidates Night

Fairhaven's Government Access TV Channel 18 will be hosting a Meet the Candidates Night for candidates on the ballot in the April 3, 2023 Annual Town Election.

Meet the Candidates Night will be held on Wednesday, March 29 at 6:00pm in the Town Hall Auditorium. Each candidate will be given an opportunity to make opening and closing statements within a 3-minute time limit. Residents will be asked to submit questions in advance to be asked anonymously to candidates. Each candidate for a particular seat will have an opportunity to answer the same question, with a rotation of who answers first.

Residents can send questions for consideration to northfairhavenimprovement267@gmail.com

Please indicate which position on the ballot that the questions are directed to.

This event will be filmed, broadcast LIVE and replayed on Government Access Channel 18 and FairhavenTV.com.

Youth Soccer Mtg

The Mariner Youth Soccer Association's Annual Meeting will be held Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 7:00 pm at the Fairhaven Council on Aging located at 229 Huttleston Avenue, Fairhaven, MA 02719. All members are welcome to attend.

Homecoming Apps

The 46th Annual Fairhaven Improvement Association Homecoming Day Fair will be held on Sat. 6/24/23.

Vendors can obtain and submit applications for booths. Applications are available on our website, www.fairhavenimprovement.org, as well as on the Facebook page, Fairhaven Homecoming Fair 2023 or <https://www.facebook.com/FairhavenimprovementAssociation>.

The application is also available in hard copy at the Town Hall, Millicent Library and Office of Tourism/Visitors Center. Copies are on yellow paper for easy visibility.

Women's History

During Women's History Month, the Friends of the Millicent Library is presenting informal talks and

discussions about women in Massachusetts history who changed people's lives. The conversations will be led by Beth Luey, a Fairhaven resident who has written about these fascinating historical figures. The talks will be held at the Millicent Library, 45 Center St., Fairhaven, in the auditorium (William Street entrance), at 6:30 and will last about an hour.

- **Wednesday, March 29 Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper," and Postpartum Depression** Charlotte Perkins Gilman became famous as a lecturer and writer about political economy, particularly the importance of women's work. Much of her thinking grew out of her experience of severe postpartum depression and the popular treatment—complete rest, no work, and no reading—that nearly cost her her sanity. Her barely fictionalized account of her breakdown—"The Yellow Wallpaper"—made her a feminist icon in the mid-twentieth century.

OLOA Dinner

Our Lady of Angels annual dinner, Sat., 3/18, 5pm - 8pm, at OLOA, 7 Jesse St., Fairhaven. \$15.00 per person. Your choice of Bifanas or Chicken Mozambique. Call Joe Mello for tickets: 508-733-4608.

"Annie" at FHS

Tickets for Fairhaven High School Drama Club's production of "Annie" are now on sale! Follow the story of everyone's favorite red-headed orphan with songs like "'Hard Knock Life,'" "NYC" and "Tomorrow."

Thurs.-Sat., March 23-25 at 7 p.m.; Sun., March 26 at 2 p.m. at Fairhaven High School Performing Arts Center.

Tickets can be purchased online at <https://fairhaven-public-schools.ticketleap.com/annie/>. Adults: \$20; Student/Senior: \$15.

Volunteers

The Fairhaven Senior Center has volunteer opportunities for those who enjoy lending a helping hand. Volunteer opportunities include, but are not limited to: Social Day help, medical appointment drivers, serving meals at supper clubs, answering phones, bingo, newsletter distribu-

tion, monthly food package deliveries.

For more information, call the Council on Aging, 508-979-4029, and speak with Martha Reed, or email mreed@fairhaven-ma.gov

Scholarships

Fairhaven Dollars for Scholars

Many different scholarships available with different requirements for graduating high school seniors.

Create profile/apply online, <https://fairhaven.dollarsforscholars.org>

Colonial Club

One \$1,000 scholarship for graduate attending a two or four-year college in the fall. For Fairhaven residents only. Applications available at guidance offices.

Goytizolo Scholarship

One time \$1,000 scholarship. The Enrique Goytizolo Scholarship, awarded by the Fairhaven Historical Society for graduating seniors attending college in the fall. Must be Fairhaven resident. Email: historicalsocietyfairhaven@gmail.com

Azorean Maritime Heritage Society

Five scholarships for graduating seniors attending college in the fall. Application available at our website: www.azoreanmaritime.org

Mattapoisett Woman's Club

For Mattapoisett residents. Two awards of \$2,500 for graduating seniors; one \$1,500 scholarship for a returning student. Applications available at area high schools.

Mattapoisett Cong Church

For students in Mattapoisett, Marion or Rochester. Two \$2,500 scholarships will be awarded on the basis of scholastic achievement, community service and financial need. Applications and information are now available at the local public and private schools. Deadline is Friday, March 31, 2023. Email mattcongchurch@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATES

West Island 5k Run/Walk

Sun., 4/23, 41 Causeway Road, West Island, Fairhaven. 5K race at 11 a.m., Kids Mile Fun Run, 10 a.m.

You may now register online at <https://tinyurl.com/mrx5wpah>

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Bowling F-R

My Brother's Keeper will be hosting Strikes for Hope, a bowling event for families, colleagues and friends to support the mission of My Brother's Keeper. At Wonder Bowl, 66 Hathaway Rd, NB; Sun., 3/26, (two sessions). Family bowl from noon-2; \$25 pp, \$75 max for families; \$250 family lane sponsorship. Office Bowl, 3-5 p.m.; \$250 corporate lane, sponsorship available.

To register: Family Bowl: www.mybrotherskeeper.org/strikes-for-hope; Office Bowl: www.mybrotherskeeper.org/strikes-for-hope-office

To donate or learn more about getting involved with My Brother's Keeper, visit www.MyBrothersKeeper.org or call 774-305-4577.

Radical Roots

The Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum (RJD), 396 County St., NB, presents a hybrid lecture, *Dr.*

Marie Equi's New Bedford 1872-1892, with Aneshia Savino on Wed., 3/15, at 5:30 p.m. Savino's talk will reveal the radical roots of physician and crusader Marie Equi's fighting spirit. Before Equi became known for her labor and anti-war activism, and a life spent with and loving women, she grew up in New Bedford. This talk will explore the City during a time of transition when whaling fleets were shrinking and textile mills were on the rise.

Savino is a New Bedford High School graduate who earned her B.A. in Anthropology/Archaeology at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque. She curates and installs the Marie Equi Zine Library and is a Community Board Member of the Queer Arts Council of New Bedford.

Attendees may join the live lecture in person at the Museum or virtually. The virtual presentation requires pre-registration at <https://rjdmuseum.org/calendar/>. Audience members must sign up with an email address to

receive a ZOOM code. There is a suggested donation of \$10 in lieu of a ticket fee for this lecture; donations can be made at <https://rjdmuseum.org/support/>.

RJD Open House

The Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum (RJD) will hold an Open House on Sat., 3/18, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Visitors are invited to drop by the historic estate at 396 County Street in New Bedford for brief guided tours of the 1834 whaling mansion, which will include the newly installed Home Is Where the Hearth Is exhibition about kitchens in the Victorian era. Visitors can also enjoy refreshments, enter a drawing to win a Museum membership, and take home a goody-bag.

Admission to Open House at the RJD is free, and no registration is required. For more information about the Museum, visit the website, rjdmuseum.org.

HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

Dog Walk

Join the Mattapoisett Land Trust for a walk, and bring your four-legged friends! On Fri., 3/10, we will meet at 4pm the MLT kiosk on Anchorage Way and walk the Brandt Island Cove loop trail, about 1.5 miles altogether. MLT has plenty of trails that are great for long walks out in the woods with your dogs. We'll tell you about some of our favorites while we walk.

Visit www.mattlandtrust.org/events. Dogs must be leashed, under voice control and picked up after.

Alzheimer's Prog

Saturday, March 18, 2023, Greg O'Brien will be the special guest speaker at the Acushnet Senior Community Center, 59 ½ South Main Street. He is an investigative journalist and author of the award-winning book, "On Pluto, Inside the Mind of Alzheimer's." Greg was diagnosed with Early Onset Alzheimer's 12 years ago and rather than giving up, he felt the calling to double down and educate the world about the vicious disease known as Alzheimer's. A resident of Cape Cod, Greg is a featured speaker coast to coast about living with this disease as

well as the emotional and financial strain it places on a family.

• At 12:00 p.m. *Have You Heard About Greg? A Journey Through Alzheimer's with Faith, Hope & Humor*, an award-winning documentary, by Director Steve Ecclesine, will be shown followed by a meet and greet, and book signing, at 1:45 p.m. with Greg O'Brien. This event is generously sponsored by PJ Keating Inc. and is free and open to the community. For more information, please call the Acushnet Council on Aging, 508-998-0280.

SAVE THE DATES

St. Patrick's Day Parade

St. Patrick's Day Parade
Boston St. Patrick's Day Parade, Sun., 3/19, 1 p.m., begins at Broadway Station. Visit <https://southbostonparade.org/>. The parade will be broadcast live on NECN.

Leprechaun Loot Hike

We're setting off to find where the leprechauns have hidden their gold this St. Patrick's Day, Fri., 3/17. Come along with the Mattapoisett Land Trust as we search for the treasure on a hike in the woods.

Bring the family out after school and wear your green! We are meeting at 3pm at the Oliver Wendell Holmes Junior Foundation parking lot on Angelica Ave. and will embark on our quest for the leprechauns' gold. Our journey will only be about 1 mile, but please wear sturdy shoes and appropriate outdoor clothing.

Event information is also on the MLT events calendar www.mattlandtrust.org/events.

Clothing & Toy Sale!

Gently used clothing for the entire family, toys & jigsaw puzzles.

Fri., March 24, 1-7 p.m. 1/2 price 5-7 p.m. & Sat., March 25, 9 a.m. -1 p.m. fill a bag for \$3. St. Julie Billiart Church Hall, 494 Slocum Rd., Dartmouth. Sponsored by the Ladies Guild

The Belle of Amherst

Fri., 3/24, 7:00 p.m. the Bishop Stang Theatre Company will present William Luce's play "The Belle of Amherst", an inspiring play portraying both the heartbreak and the joy of one of the most important and influential figures in American poetry, Emily Dickinson.

Tickets at the door: \$12/adults, \$10/seniors, Free/students

Missing woman found alive and safe in Fairhaven

By Beth David
Editor

Ana Huggins, a Fairhaven resident who also owns Fairhaven Wellness on Huttleston Avenue with her husband Brian, was found on Tuesday after being missing for about 30 hours.

Mr. Huggins reported his wife missing at about 11:30 a.m. on Monday, telling police that she had left to walk the dog at about 7 a.m. Police obtained video of her walking on Pope Beach at the bottom of Manhattan Avenue, about a mile from her home on Raymond Street.

Police issued alerts to the public asking for help in searching for the 43 year old mother of two young children. First responders from all around the

region, State Police, Coast Guard, Harbormasters, all converged on Fairhaven for the search.

Lt. Kevin Kobza, spokesperson for the Fairhaven Police Department said the search was by helicopter, boat and ATV along the whole shore of Fairhaven. Police asked for residents to check their surveillance cameras and their sheds, garages, and vehicles.

At about 3:20 p.m., Ms. Huggins walked out of the woods at the hurricane barrier, along the bike path near Egypt Lane. Lt. Kobza told press outlets that she had no apparent injuries. She was taken to St. Luke's Hospital to make sure she was not suffering from hypothermia or frostbite.

The area had been searched the night

before, he said, but it was not clear if she had been in that area when they searched.

"Many assets" were utilized, with the Southeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (SEMLEC) Search and Rescue Unit activated for the search. Officials went door to door to ask for surveillance video, and to check out buildings near Pope Beach, where Ms. Huggins had last been seen.

"The Fairhaven Police Department would like to thank the many public safety partners from around the region who assisted in searching Monday and Tuesday, as well as members of the public who helped to share the information," wrote the department in a press release.

PJ Keating submits permit application for quarry to Soil Board

By Beth David
Editor

The Acushnet Soil Board, which is comprised of the Selectboard members, received the long awaited permit application from PJ Keating for the quarry, which has not been operating for more than a year.

The company had argued in court that they did not need a permit because they had been operating on the site for more than 100 years. The company lost that argument last April and agreed to apply for the permit, which will, presumably, include operating restrictions.

A couple of other lawsuits are also gumming up the works on the asphalt side of the operation, a cease and desist order from the Board of Health, and another court decision in favor of the town, all culminating in the company submitting the application on Tuesday, 3/6/23, at the public hearing. A standing-room-only crowd of more than 125 people packed the room and out the door at the Council on Aging/Senior Center. Around 30 people wore "YES" stickers to show support for the company re-opening. Many of them said they were PJK employees.

PJ Keating's new president, Derrick Hill, opened up by noting that the operational quarry is important for the South Coast economy. He said the bluestone quarry dates back to the 1880's, and the asphalt plant has been there since the 1950s.

Since the quarry has been shut down, he said the company has had to use material from other facilities owned by its parent company, CRH, adding to cost and more trucking.

"We are the circular economy," said Mr. Hill, saying they produce a stone, it goes

into concrete or roads, and when they have served their usefulness, they are recycle and brought back into the stream as a percentage of the product, including a failed roadway that goes back in. "We are a sustainable product."

The quarry has "proven reserves" of 50 million tons, with a peak of 1.2 million extracted in a year. The property has 381 acres, with some of it undeveloped, some of it wet.

Soil Board chairperson Kevin Gaspar said the ultimate purpose of the hearings and permit should be for the town and its residents to coexist with the company, something they have done for more than 100 years.

Board member David Wojnar the change in the bylaw allows the town to put in "guardrails." The footprint, the amount of activity is "clearly: not 1880 volume, and 1950 is along way off."

"So let's be realistic about what we're dealing with now," said Mr. Wojnar, adding he is looking at the impact on the community and how to make life better for the people who live in the neighborhood.

Mr. Wojnar said he would "fight tooth and nail" for the quality of life of the neighbors, and he would fight for PJK to operate.

Mr. Gaspar said the problem was capacity and how much more dust the company is producing in the neighborhood.

"Nobody deserves to live that way," said Mr. Gaspar, who then proceeded to go through the 120 page permit with specific questions.

Both the board and the company agreed that the document needed to be peer reviewed by a qualified engineering firm.

Mr. Gaspar and company representatives

discussed hours of operation, blasting schedule, dust and noise mitigation, and stormwater control.

"What I see is same old, same old," said Mr. Gaspar. "This is what we tried in the past and it hasn't worked."

He said residents have been disrespected in the past with complaints being ignored, adding it is "inexcusable" to tell residents, "I don't see it, smell it," which the company has claimed in the past.

He said if the company does everything they say and there are no complaints, then their permit would be renewed every year without public hearings.

"We have a lot of money invested in this rodeo, we can't stop now," said Mr. Gaspar.

Mr. Hill said the company has invested \$3 million in a variety of measures to mitigate dust and noise, but the quarry has been shut down so they haven't been tested. They bought a \$550,000 state-of-the-art water truck, put covers on the conveyors, installed an automatic water sprinkler system for road dust control, and other measures.

He noted a couple of measures taken at the Cranston, RI, plant, including a street sweeper on site at all times.

Mr. Wojnar asked to get a tour of that facility.

SB member Bob Hinckley told Mr. Hill that as the new president, he had an obligation to listen to the complaints, that residents need to feel heard.

Mr. Hinckley said the town needs to feel like it's appreciated, and the company needs to listen to the concerns of residents.

Resident Kevin Smith said he had heard it all before, including the automatic sprinkler that doesn't work. He said he

PJK: cont'd on page 17

Recipe of the Week

Healthy Apple Crisp

For the apples:

4 medium tart apples, peeled and thinly sliced
1/4 cup sugar
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons lemon juice
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon

For the topping:

2/3 cup old-fashioned oats
1/2 cup brown sugar, packed
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
3 tablespoons butter, cold
Vanilla ice cream, optional, for serving

Grease a microwave-safe 9-inch-deep pie plate.

Toss the apples with the sugar, 1 tablespoon of the flour, the lemon juice, and 1/4 teaspoon of the cinnamon

Transfer the apples to the prepared pie plate.

Mix the oats, the brown sugar, the remaining flour, and the remaining cinnamon together.

Cut the butter into the oats mixture and mix until crumbly.

Sprinkle the topping mixture over the filling in the pie plate.

Cover the pie plate with wax paper and microwave on high until the apples are tender, about 5-7 minutes.

Serve hot with the ice cream.

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The Fight



Dear Frankie,
On a recent class trip, I got into a fight with Lionel.

Before it began, I told him two times to stop, or he'd be sorry.

Despite my warnings, he kept teasing me. So, I bit him. Later, I learned that the bus driver said she would return to the doggie daycare if we didn't knock it off. I never heard her and don't know that even if I had, if it would have made a difference.

Now everyone in my class won't talk to me and blames me for ruining their class trip. I don't get why they aren't mad at Lionel. He was the one that started it.

Thomas

Dear Thomas,
Reread your letter, Thomas.
Yes, Lionel teased you. But by your

own admission, you began the fight by biting him.

You could have taken other courses of action. You could have ignored Lionel or moved to another seat, but you didn't. You chose to bite him.

You know that it's against the rule to fight on the bus, or anywhere for that matter.

I am concerned that you are blaming Lionel for your behavior and not taking responsibility for your actions.

I suggest you make an appointment with the daycare counselor to work on your anger management issues.

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 neighnews@comcast.net, request their name be added to the email list or visit www.neighnews.com to read the paper online or to download the latest issue.

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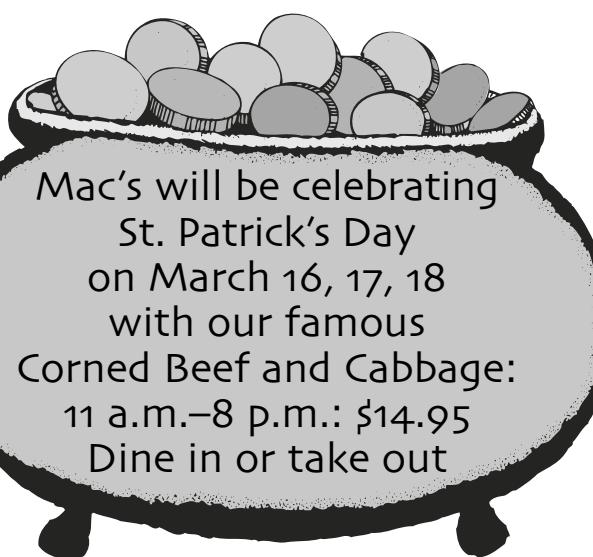
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Grades: K-5 Dates: 4/18/22—4/21/22. Time: Drop off between 8 & 8:15, pick up by 3PM. Cost: Member \$120/Non Member \$145

Annie Musical Theatre Class

Come join in on the fun of learning how to take part in a musical theatre performance. Children will learn the basics of putting together a production. In this class, boys and girls will audition for a role in the musical "Annie's Medley Excerpts." This play has been rewritten along the theme of the original "Annie." Children will sing, dance, and act their way into a world of excitement. Costumes are encouraged, but not necessary. No experience needed. Everyone receives a speaking role of some kind. AGE: 5yrs.-13yrs. DAY: Wednesdays TIME: 3:45-4:45 PM DATE: April 12-May 24, 2023 (No Class 4/19)

Home Alone Safety Class April 24

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. Space is limited... sign up soon.

Ages: 9-11 Date: Instructor: Beth Oleson Time: 5:30-7:30PM Cost \$60 members / \$75 non-members

Fairhaven Senior Center

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Technology Classes

The Fairhaven Senior Center will host a series of technology classes from basic/novice to expert. All classes will be 90 minutes long, Monday and Wednesday only. Each class will be rated as to how much computer skill the participant should have: (maximum number of participants 10) All participants must preregister for the classes they want to take by either the phone or at the main desk. Next classes:

- Monday-March 13 & 15. Sandisk iXpand Flash Drive. Must have access to a USB Device that can connect to your Android or Apple iPhone. Class will learn how to download personal pictures from their Smartphone to a USB device and then transfer to a laptop or desktop. Participants should bring their laptop, smartphone and USB flash device to class both days. Class will also if time permits be shown how to access their apple iCloud and Android Cloud.

Mall Trips

Reservations accepted for mall trips at beginning the 15th of the prior month. There is a \$6 charge unless

otherwise noted. The van leaves the Fairhaven Senior Center promptly at 9 a.m.: 3/15, Prov. Place Mall & Whole Foods; 3/22, Hyannis Mall, Xmas Shop, Trader Joe's & Whole Foods; 3/29, So. Shore Plaza.

St. Patty's Day Bingo Social

Fri., 3/17, 12-3 p.m. Bingo starts at 1. Please join us for a fun filled game of bingo. There will be light refreshments to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Congregate lunch is at 11:30 and the meal will be Lentil Chili. If you would like lunch before the social, please call to reserve a seat.

The Bingo Social is limited to 60 persons. Please call or visit the center to sign up, 508-979-4029.

Walking Trip/ Fort Adams

Newport, RI, walking trip. \$10. March 23. Depart COA at 9 a.m. sharp. Trip limited to 12 people. Please call to sign up, 508-979-4029. Take a trip with Patsy to the Historic Fort Adams in Newport. This is a walking trip. Please wear proper footwear as well as outerwear. Must bring a bagged lunch. Return to COA by 3 p.m.

Walking at the Rec Ctr

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Re-Elect
Brian Monroe
 Fairhaven School
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Monday, April 3, 2023



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Vote for Experience:

- Opened state-of-the-art Wood School in 2013.
- Developed town meeting approved FHS Alumni Stadium.
- Made FHS one-to-one. Every student has a Chromebook.
- Created K-2 literacy program improving reading skills.
- Created Family Engagement Center providing social supports for our school community.
- Created Unified Sports program where FHS was named a Special Olympics Unified Champion School.
- District will be first in Massachusetts to receive District Accreditation from NEASC.
- Enhanced before/after school programming.
- Created innovation pathway to teach STEM skills at the elementary level.
- Continued restoration of FHS as the crown jewel of our town.
- Solar Energy projects at both elementary schools.
- Created robust social/emotional system to support student mental health which is vital in the aftermath of the pandemic.
- FHS has been consistently highly ranked in US News and World Report and College Board AP rankings.

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Candidate Statements: School Committee (cont'd next page)



**Laura
Gardner**

I am a 20 year educator, a parent of two school aged children, and a proud member of the Fairhaven community. I currently serve on the Sustainability Committee and have previously served on the Fairhaven Cultural Council.

I am running for school committee because I feel strongly that all kids in Fairhaven deserve an excellent education at every grade level..

The backbone of an excellent education is literacy. As a nationally-recognized school librarian, I am uniquely qualified to help guide the district in cultivating world-class readers. Many of you may remember me from when I was the children's librarian at the Millicent Library. Those of you who saw me kiss a goat at the summer reading celebration know I will do anything to promote literacy!

For the last 14 years, I have been a school librarian at Dartmouth Middle School. In this role, I have had the privilege of helping students to find books they love, guiding them through the research process, and teaching them to be discerning consumers of information. I firmly believe that literacy and a love of reading are the foundation for a successful future. I will ensure that our teachers get necessary funding for classroom libraries and that all Fairhaven students have access to a wide variety of books. I will advocate for having librarians in all of our schools. Our students deserve the best literacy education possible. We can make this happen by providing our schools and teachers with the resources they need.

I am also committed to advocating for increased civic engagement and service learning in Fairhaven Public Schools. I believe in the importance of creating a safe, supportive, and joyful school environment and believe that students' mental health improves when they find greater meaning and purpose in their studies. I am committed to helping bolster programs in the district that give students voice, choice, a chance to grapple with problems that they see in the world, and the opportunity to advocate for change on the local level. I am a big proponent of the new civics projects required by Massachusetts in 8th grade and high school and get excited about the potential for these projects in terms of both student learning and student engagement.

Finally, I am deeply committed to supporting students with disabilities. As a parent of a student with a disability, I have first hand knowledge of how difficult it can be to get appropriate and needed services. If elected, I promise to represent all students and parents in the district and keep the needs of students with disabilities in mind at all times.

Fairhaven is a wonderful place to live and I'm proud to call it home. I would be honored to serve on the School Committee and contribute to the town's future success.

*Laura Gardner
Candidate for School Committee*



Brian Monroe

My name is Brian Monroe, and I am running for reelection to the Fairhaven School Committee. Fairhaven has been my home for 24 years, and I am proud of my family's tradition of service. My father-in-law, Joseph Ste. Marie, was a long-time call firefighter. My wife, Keri, is the nurse at East Fairhaven School. I am an engineer for the US Navy and have served on the school committee for 12 years. I have coached for both FAYA and Southcoast Girls Softball. You will also see me and Anthony Ramous announcing/playing music at most FHS home games.

Keri and I have three children that have graduated or will graduate from FHS. Gabriel (2021) is a sophomore at Clemson University on an Army ROTC scholarship. Adin will graduate from FHS this year and attend the US Naval Academy. Elaine is a freshman at FHS.

Everyone knows the past three years have been some of the most difficult of our lives. You may disagree with the decisions made, but I hope you see they were made to keep our school community safe. We weathered the storm, and the worst is behind us.

In the past 12 years, I have personally been involved in many accomplishments. Some of these include:

- Opened the state-of-the-art Leroy Wood Elementary School in 2013.
- Involved in every facet of the FHS Alumni Stadium Project.
- Made FHS a one-to-one school. Every student has a Chromebook device.
- Created a K-2 literacy program to improve reading and comprehension skills.
- Created a Family Engagement Center to provide social support for our community.
- Created a Unified Sports program. FHS was named a Special Olympics Unified Champion School.
- Set our District on a course to becoming the first in Massachusetts to receive District Accreditation from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)
- Enhanced before/after school programming by bringing in Champions.
- Created an innovation pathway to start teaching STEM skills at the elementary level.
- Continued maintenance/restoration of FHS as the crown jewel of our town.
- Solar Energy projects at both elementary schools.
- Created a robust social/emotional system to support the mental health of our students. It is vital in the aftermath of the pandemic.
- FHS has been consistently highly ranked in US News and World Report rankings.

Our school district is a positive asset. One only needs to look at the value of their home to see that Fairhaven is a highly sought-after community. One of the top reasons is our schools.

Continuity of leadership at all levels has made our school district successful. This is why it was an easy decision to hire Tara Kohler as our new Superintendent

MONROE: cont'd on page 18

Candidate Statements: School Comm. (cont'd from previous)



Stephanie Pickup

As a mother of four fantastic children, business professional, and dedicated community volunteer, I, Stephanie Pickup, will do my best to earn your vote for Fairhaven School Committee on April 3, 2023.

Over the past few weeks I have met, and will continue to meet, with parents, teachers, paraprofessionals, and community members. I'm committed to understanding their concerns, ideas, and vision for our schools. In our shared desire to give Fairhaven children the tools needed to thrive in an ever-changing world, my campaign platform is inspired by the very people I seek to serve. Here is a brief summary of the issues most important to them and the ideas I will champion:

1. Opportunities for student success individually and as a school district

- ★ Gifted students program
- ★ Inclusive special needs programs from pre-K to post-graduation
- ★ Trades program
- ★ Strengthen and encourage extracurricular opportunities, such as athletics, art, music, and community service.

2. Recruitment and retention of top talent teachers within the district.

- ★ Equip teachers with the resources and support they need to do their jobs every day
- ★ More frequent professional development, including integration of peer facilitated professional development to share best practices and creative ideas for successful classroom management
- ★ Encourage positive parent support of teachers and faculty
- ★ Implement continuous improvement by evaluating attrition of teachers and administrative processes and positions.
- ★ Competitive pay for paraprofessionals, teachers, and school leadership.

3. Enhance and promote Trade Education

- ★ Collaborate with local trade companies, nonprofits, and organizations to develop enrichment programs during or after school
- ★ Bridge connections to local businesses through trade-based co-op programs.

4. Promote a culture of kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.

- ★ Be respectful of each other.
- ★ Teach students how to think, not what to think, by demonstrating critical thinking skills, tolerance of opposing viewpoints, civil debate, and open mindedness.

If given the opportunity, I would be committed to transparent, collaborative, and receptive leadership as your elected representative. I invite parents, students, teachers, and community members to share their concerns and ideas with me at VoteStephPickup@gmail.com and hope to earn your vote on April 3, 2023.



Brendalee Smith

My name is Brendalee Smith and I am running for a seat on the Fairhaven School Committee. I currently serve as a Town Meeting Member and as a member of the Fairhaven Charter Commission.

I believe our children deserve an educational experience that develops the leader within them and discovers their individual passion. My hope is to work to promote the greatest parental, student, and faculty communication methods to enable a seamless learning proficiency. I am also running because I believe we must continue to examine the impact of the pandemic on our students and faculty while providing support for all elements of education.

I am a lifelong Education Consultant and Business Owner. My passion and dedication is to enhance a student's academic experience through comprehensive education initiatives. I developed and guided the RIGHT START PROGRAM, an educational solution that educates students, via interactive videos and practice scenarios, to confidently exercise the appropriate response for in-person and online communications. The program teaches students how to make decisions based on solid facts, rather than on feelings and peer pressure.

As the Coordinator of Multidisciplinary Teams, I co-led personnel from all departments of law enforcement and agency-team support to provide victims of crime with restorative care and prevention. A quote from one of my colleagues... "Brendalee handled this position with great efficiency, organization and professionalism." The most rewarding aspect of this work was bringing teams together to provide our students with opportunities to reach their highest potential.

As the Director of Admissions at a private school, I assisted in obtaining accreditation and established an active Parent-Student-Teacher Organization. I also led student service teams to Belize to work in local schools. During a trip to Belize, I was invited to be the commencement speaker at the high school graduation ceremony. It was an honor to hand the students their diplomas and remind them that you only need one person to believe in you, and that is yourself.

Currently, I am the Director of Community Development for a New Bedford-based non-profit organization. My role is to assist individuals on the verge of becoming homeless with housing and strength-based programs. I have the humbling privilege of leading an outstanding team that has a passion to eradicate homelessness. I believe together we will, one person at a time.

In addition, I serve on the board of Rebuilding Lives, a non-profit organization that offers shelter, food distribution, and wellness education to students and families.

The best part of my life are my four incredible children and three beautiful grandchildren, who reside around the United States. They are genuine adventurers and pioneers. I am overjoyed that they have all taken courageous efforts to becoming their best selves.

SMITH: cont'd on page 18





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BPW discusses recycling center, Cooke Park

By Mary Chasse

Neighb News Correspondent

At its meeting on Monday 2/27 the Fairhaven Board of Public Works discussed beautification at Cooke Park and updates on the new recycling center. The board also briefly discussed which roads they would like to see fixed for next year.

The board first met with Joe Ingoldsby about the beautification of Cooke Park. BPW Superintendent Vinnie Furtado said Mr. Ingoldsby was for a letter of approval/support for grants to help pay for plants and flowers at Cooke Park. Mr. Furtado said the board has sent the letter in previous years.

Resident Gary Lavalette said that he watered the plants faithfully after Mr. Ingoldsby left. Mr. Lavalette said he did not mind taking care of the perennial plants, but the annuals were hard for him to maintain.

Mr. Ingoldsby said that last year he had an eagle scout helping to maintain the plants, but the young man left and for school. He said he did not realize all the work Mr. Lavalette put into maintaining the plants and thanked him for it.

Mr. Ingoldsby said he had spoken with the New Bedford Garden Club and they have offered to maintain all the plants at the park so Mr. Lavalette will not have to do it anymore.

The board voted unanimously to send the letter of support.

In another matter the board discussed tree removal at. Mr. Furtado explained that the Tree Warden is asking for the board's consent to take down two trees at Cooke Park that are rotted.

BPW Chairperson Brian Wotton told the board the Tree Warden will plant two new trees in their place.

The board voted to allow the removal of the trees.

In another matter the board met with Highway Superintendent Joshua Crabb to discuss the new recycling center. Mr. Crabb said they have been cleaning the BPW yard to make room for the new recycling center. He said he had made a sketch of what the recycling center will look like.

The recycling center will be reduced in size significantly to fit in the space. The recycling bins will be 30x60, which is very small. It will limit the recycling center's capacity significantly. Mr. Crabb said the small

bins will fill very quickly, so they might need to discuss who they accept material from as well as what materials they will be accepting.

He suggested having days quarterly to drop off electronics, mattresses, etc., that way those items are not coming in daily and taking up space.

Mr. Crabb said no formal engineering has been done and the sketch of the new recycling center is just based on aerial imagery.

Mr. Wotton said they might need to change the recycling center hours or slow down hours to catch up with bins being filled more quickly. He said once the new center opens they will

The recycling center
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the recycling center's
capacity significantly.

know more and figure out what will work and what will not work.

Mr. Wotton said he wants to do more research before making any decisions and look into different avenues for usage of a grinder for the recycling center.

Mr. Crabb said the sewer treatment plant will break ground this summer and he would like to be able to open the new recycling center for spring cleanups, hoping to open it around April.

BPW board member Marcus Ferro asked what is going to happen with the Bridge Street land.

Mr. Furtado explained that the state conditionally approved the land to be used, but only if the town does a big cleanup of the site. He said the town does not want to do the cleanup, which leaves the land unusable. There is a good possibility that the land will be cleaned up at

some point because the state is now asking for it. However, it could be years though before it happens.

In another matter the board discussed which roads they are considering to be fixed in the upcoming year. Mr. Furtado explained to the board that they are looking to work on two paved roads and to pave one gravel road. The number one road on the list is Hathaway Street. There is also a petition for Chase Road which is gravel.

Mr. Wotton said if they do Hathaway which is the first pick that would leave them with \$149,000 left. He said Chase Road will cost \$56,000 and it only has two or three houses on it. Mr. Wotton said it would not leave them with much money and he did not think it is worth it. He suggested they give Chase Road some love, but not pave it completely.

Mr. Crabb agreed that they could do gravel, spread, and grade Chase Road for a lower cost.

Mr. Wotton suggested doing Hathaway Street and the number four street on the list from Beechwood Street to Bonney Street and the street off of it. Mr. Wotton said that would help 23 homes.

Mr. Furtado suggested Alpine Avenue because it is in North Fairhaven. Mr. Wotton said he liked the idea of helping out residents in North Fairhaven.

BPW Vice-Chairperson Robert "Hoppy" Hobson suggested that they think about it and decide on the roads at the next BPW.

The board voted to accept the \$425,000 for road work for Hathaway Street and potentially Alpine Avenue.

Mr. Crabb told the board he is also requesting \$100,000 to try cold in place recycling for paving roads, which would be an alternative to traditional paving. He said that type of paving is more aggressive, has more structural integrity, one third of the cost of traditional paving, and has a longevity of 15-20 years.

He said it cannot be done on any road, but Causeway Road or Sycamore Street would be great candidates.

The board voted to allocated \$100,000 to \$100,000 to try cold in place recycling.

In another matter Mr. Lavalette met with the board to discuss usage of Cooke Park. He said he knows that

BPW: cont'd on page 19

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 Notice of Public Hearing

Tree Removal Hearing And Explanation/Discussion of Eversource Vegetation Management Activities in Town this spring

Thursday March 23 at 5:00 PM Fairhaven Town Hall Banquet Room 40 Center St, Fairhaven, MA. 02719 In accordance with MGL Chapter 87, Section 3. Discussion of requested removal by residents of 4 nonhazardous trees located at Fairhaven Police Dept Washington St 16" Hawthorne 108 Howland Rd Chestnut Tree 30 inches ABH 8 Sunset Lane Apple Tree 28 inches ABH 28 Welcome Street Pear Tree 7 inches ABH Anyone opposed to the removal of these trees should do so in writing per MGL 87 at said hearing.

Respectfully submitted Don C. Collasius Town of Fairhaven Tree Warden
FNN: 3/9/23, 3/16/23

Town of Fairhaven Notice of Public Hearing

FY 21 Community Development Block Grant
Monday, March 27, 2023 at 6:00 pm
BPW Building, 5 Arsene Street
Fairhaven, MA

Public Hearing in person in the Conference Room or via Zoom
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85163021236?pwd=YURTV3JCQWtGbkNsL3o4QXByN1JhZz09>
or CALL
1-309 205 3325
Meeting ID: 851 6302 1236
Passcode: 723513

Town of Fairhaven will hold a Public Hearing at 6:00 pm on March 27, 2023, BPW Building Conference Room, 5 Arsene Street, Fairhaven, MA. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public comment on the

performance and outcomes of the Town's FY2021 Community Development Block Grant project, Hedge Street Improvements Phase 3, from Main Street to approximately #70 Hedge Street.

Any person or organization who wishes to be heard on this matter will be afforded the opportunity to speak. Previous years' CDBG projects may be discussed. The meeting room is handicapped accessible and the Town will make reasonable accommodation with seven days prior written notice to the BPW@fairhaven-ma.gov. In addition, comments in writing to Paul Foley, Director of Planning & Economic Development, Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719, by email to pfoley@fairhaven-ma.gov, will be accepted prior to the hearing.

Fairhaven Select Board
FNN: 3/9/23

Pedestrian killed in Sconticut Neck Road accident

By Beth David
Editor

A woman who was hit by a car on Sconticut Neck Road near Manhattan Avenue on Tuesday, 2/28/23, has died. Carolyn Preece, 81, of Fairhaven died on Monday at St. Luke's Hospital, according to a statement by the the

Bristol County District Attorney's Office. No charges have been filed against the 67-year old driver, a Fairhaven woman, who remained on the scene after the crash.

The driver was not impaired by drugs or alcohol, and did not have a cell phone on her, according to the

print it. Ms. Szala said she was concerned that the information was not going to be included in this year's Town Meeting materials. She said she had not received an answer to her emails.

Ms. Ellison noted that she was researching what other communities do. Ms. Szala countered that the employee salaries have been included in the Fairhaven TM materials for at least 20 years.

Ms. Ellison said it is all part of the "budget book," and said it was a "level of redundancy."

Ms. Szala said she felt that if she herself did not take on the task, that it you're going to do."

Douglas Thomas submitted a petition to the board that Mr. Gaspar read. Mr. Thomas said moving the asphalt plant near the road was a "giant mistake," and he is asking for them to move it back.

"Shame on the people that signed that documentation to allow this to happen," said Mr. Thomas.

Mr. Gaspar agreed that the town bears some responsibility for the situation.

Michael Ventura, a resident and PJK employee, said the town and residents keep putting up road blocks.

"Give us a chance," he said, and said the "elephant in the room" was that no matter what they do, some people will complain, their minds are made up. "All I'm asking you guys to do is be fair. All we want to do is

statement.

"The victim was not in a cross walk, was wearing dark clothing and visibility was poor at the time of the incident," reads the statement. "Investigation ongoing, but this appears to be a tragic accident."

would not be printed and included in the TM materials.

Select Board Chairperson Stasia Powers assured Ms. Szala and the public that the information would indeed be in the Town Meeting Warrant/Finance Committee book

"It'll be in the book," said Ms. Powers. "She'll take care of it."

Ms. Szala said somehow the information got taken out.

Ms. Ellison said she would look at what the town has done in the past.

"I sent you a copy of it," said Ms. Szala.

"It's going to be in the book," said Vice Chair Leon Correy.s

make a living."

One woman said it was frustrating to hear they should not have bought houses near the quarry. When she bought her house 30 years ago it was not the same, and the company is now talking about 50 years from now.

"We're not holding you back. They're holding you back," she said, adding that if they had done what they were supposed to do, they would be open.

Mr. Gaspar said they were "all aligned" with the same goal of coexisting.

"I know we're going to figure this out," said Mr. Gaspar. "There's no question in my mind."

In the end, the board voted to have the document peer reviewed, and to continue the hearing to April 11 at 5 p.m.

SELECT: cont'd from page 3
TC thought it was a land lease. Licensing does not need TM approval, the SB is the licensing authority.

The board voted to renew Mr. Loo's license for ten years, citing Mr. Loo's record of being a good steward on the water for the past six+ years, and language that allows the board to revisit the agreement in case of any violations.

FinCom member Terry Szala asked the board if they would authorize her to get the employee salary list that is customarily included in the Town Meeting Warrant/FinCom report, and

ACUSH: cont'd from page 7
bought his house 41 years ago when the plant was a third the size it is now.

"I'm not anti-business," said Mr. Smith, and pointed to the people in the back that have been out of work, but because of PJK. They could have easily solved the problems if they did what they said they were going to do.

Mr. Smith also asked if the dust they have been breathing in is toxic, noting there are seven cases of cancer just on Lawson Street.

"All I want to see is them be a good neighbor," said Mr. Smith. "Be a good neighbor. Keep the dust down. And just don't talk to us like we're idiots."

"Just be honest and up front with us," added Mr. Smith. "And do what you say

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JANITORS/CUSTODIANS Custodians needed in a variety of settings, including offices, light manufacturing facilities, etc. Duties include dusting, mopping floors, cleaning restrooms, emptying trash, and other tasks as necessary. Full and part time positions available. Five days/week, day shift; and five days/week evening shifts available. Call Cyclone Cleaning Services, 508-995-8816 or 508-400-4494.

CUSTODIAN The Millicent Library is seeking a detailed oriented individual to join our team as a part-time morning custodian. As custodian, you help create a welcoming atmosphere and a safe place for the community by providing solid maintenance, repair, cleaning, and technical skills. Pay is \$15.00-\$15.75 per hour. For a complete job description and to apply please send a resume and three employment references to kdecicco-carey@sailsinc.org.

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Thank you for reading the Neighb News!

MONROE: cont'd from page 12

after the departure of Dr. Baldwin.

Many have agreed or disagreed with my decisions. Yet, I hope you see that I serve our town with respect, honor, and dignity. I have never lied to you and have been direct. Everything I do is with the needs of our students, faculty/staff, and district leadership in mind.

Please give me the honor to continue to serve by voting for me, Brian Monroe, on Monday, April 3rd.

SMITH: cont'd from page 12

Living in Fairhaven has been an incredible experience and I have all of you to thank for that! Our community is filled with generations of extraordinary people who work hard, are self-reliant and are devoted to their family and friends. I cannot think of a more rewarding opportunity than to replicate these values as a member of our school committee.

I respectfully ask for your vote on Monday, April 3rd.

Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Board of Public Works

Mon., 3/13, Arsene St., 5:15 p.m.

Commission on Disability

Thurs., 3/9, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 3/13, Remote, 6 p.m.

Finance Committee

Thurs., 3/9, Town Hall Auditorium, 6:30 p.m. with Select Board

Mon., 3/13, Town Hall Auditorium, 6:30 p.m. with Select Board

School Committee

Wed., 3/8, Media Ctr., 6:30 p.m.

Select Board

Thurs., 3/9, Town Hall Auditorium, 6:30 p.m. with FinCom

Mon., 3/13, Town Hall Auditorium, 6:30 p.m. with FinCom

Mon., 3/20, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Sustainability Committee

Tues., 3/21, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

Acushnet

Board of Appeals

Tues., 3/7, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Historical Commission

Tues., 3/14, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Housing Authority

Wed., 3/15, Gomes Comm Ctr, 9 a.m.

Planning Commission

Thurs., 3/9, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Selectboard/School Comm/ FinCom Joint mtg

Tues., 3/14, Police Station, 64 Middle Road, 4 p.m.

Select Board

Tues., 3/14, Police Station, 4 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

US Army Corps of Engineers, Cape Cod Canal/Piney Point

Mar 2023	HIGH	LOW
	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	9 0903	2123 0214*
Friday	10 0942	2203 0252*
Saturday	11 1023	2247 0330*
Sunday	12 ----	1211 0510*
Monday	13 0040	1307 0557*
Tuesday	14 0138	1406 0657
Wednesday	15 0237	1506 0812
Thursday	16 0339	1614 0926
Friday	17 0450	1726 1048

* = Predicted minus tides from -0.1 ft. to -1.0 ft

**Predicted minus tides from -1.1 ft to -2.0 ft or more

Update from the tree warden

Submitted by the Fairhaven Tree Warden

Greetings from the Tree Department. Winter is on its way out and spring is coming. Lots is happening with the Tree Department, but the best thing is spring planting.

We typically only get to plant trees in April and November. For species this spring we are planting four varieties of Service Berry trees and a few others. I have not seen many of these native trees in town and they will add to our street tree diversity. This is important for pest and pathogen resiliency.

We hope to plant 30 trees throughout town this spring. We would love to have your help with this in the form of donations, or labor, or just moral support. You can also help newly planted trees by hand weeding or watering during the summer. String trimmers kill trees!

Donations or inquiries can be sent to the Tree Memorial Gift Fund, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719. We are probably the smallest funded

department in the town, but what we do has a large impact on the town's character and safety. Our trees grow, our budget does the opposite.

Our town wide tree survey and tree count continues. You can't really manage something if you don't know what you have. Of our 110 miles of roads we have surveyed about 75 miles. Some streets have 100 trees per mile (Oliver Street), some have 0. We have counted 12 of those so far.

Clark University has done a study on neighborhood trees. Just three trees per acre in an urban setting can significantly reduce heat island effect. This has to do with how much an area absorbs and retains heat. Trees are by far the best bang for the buck when it comes to cooling an area, including your yard and house.

If you would like a tree planted somewhere please reach out to us on the town tree department website. This spring we will surpass 200 trees planted since April 2021. These new plantings are crucial to having a healthy safe future tree canopy and

beautiful town.

Please do not prune, trim, or cut a town tree. Not only is it illegal and could result in fines it's something we can do for you. We have already closed out several hundred requests for service or pointed folks in the right direction to get free trimming from the utility company. Once again our website has a request form.

Eversource has hired Barnes Tree Service to clear wires in most of the town. This happens every 4-5 years on a rotating basis. You will get a letter from them if they are going to work in your area. It could be a great time to get your service wire cleared while they are around if it fits their criteria.

Lastly we will be having a tree hearing on March 23rd at 5:00 in the town hall (see legal ad on page 17). This is when we discuss the potential removal of nonhazard town trees. Please join. Thank you.

Don C. Collasius, Fairhaven Tree Warden, <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/tree-department>

BPW: cont'd from page 16

it will need to be put on an agenda for a future meeting, but he just wanted to bring it up to the board first.

He explained that two years ago the board granted a resident permission to hire archaeologists to conduct ground penetrating radar to look for graves at the park, but no bodies/graves were found.

Mr. Lavalette said now that they know no bodies have been buried there, he was asking the board to consider opening Cooke Park up again to events and festivals.

Mr. Wotton said he agreed with Mr. Lavalette, but did not want to discuss it any further that night. He said he wanted to put it on an agenda of a future meeting.

When it was time to set the date and time for the next meeting, Mr. Hobson said he wanted the next meeting to be at 6 p.m. instead of 5:15. He said no other board meets before 6 p.m. He said he does not want the meeting changed for one person. They changed the meeting time for one person and that person

still leaves early.

Mr. Furtado said that that board member leaves early because he has to work.

"Then he shouldn't be on the board," said Mr. Hobson.

The board voted for the next meeting on 3/13 to be at 5:15, with Mr. Hobson voting against it.

Marcus Ferro is the board member who leaves early because he co-hosts a radio show on WBSM every weekday night at 7 p.m.

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