



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



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with a big voice!

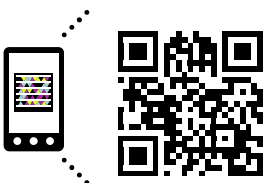
Volume 18, Issue 18 • April 27, 2023

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

200+ take to West Island streets for annual 5K



Runners turn the corner on West Island at the start of the Kids Mile Fun Run, happening about an hour before the West Island 5K on 4/23/23. See page 12.. Photo by Beth David.



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First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

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

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

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

From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

Oh no....It's the 20 year anniversary of the Bouchard Oil Spill (ugh, remember that). I had a spot for it in this week's issue, but...y'know, it'll just have to wait until next week. There are just so many hours in the day...and I use 'em all!

We have more info on the proposed Proposition 2/12 override. It looks like a lot of municipalities in Mass. are hitting the same wall.

It might be time to rethink Prop 2 1/2, although I dread the alternatives. The reason it happened was to rein in spending. That still needs to happen. Time to get creative, I guess.

We're actually in much better shape than a lot of places, but, we also are not as rich as a lot of places. They can handle the millions in overrides that would break so many of us in this part of the world.

Ah well, see page 3 for that.

Our cover story is lots of fun. Road races are great. I took a gazillion pictures, but, alas, can only use a few. See page 12 for that.

Harry Belafonte died at the age of 96 this week. Wow. I've got to say...he had charisma.

He used his voice not only to entertain, but to speak against injustice. He made a difference, and was lots of fun to watch, too.

May he Rest in Power.

There's other stuff in here, of course. Lots of events coming up now that the weather is warming (um...is it?). Be sure to notice who our advertisers are so you can tell them you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*.

Next week is the issue right before Fairhaven's Town Meeting, so we'll be running a preview on what TM members will be voting on, besides the budget.

Until next week then...see ya,

Glory to Ukraine!
Glory to the Heroes!



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Publisher Beth David with
Charlie, aka Evil Dog

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Editor: Beth David

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Fairhaven is not only town looking for Prop 2 1/2 override

By Beth David
Editor

Fairhaven Town Officials are asking Town Meeting to approve a budget with a \$450,000 deficit, which means voters will have to approve a Proposition 2 1/2 override in a town-wide ballot. The Select Board is proposing two budgets for Town Meeting on 5/6. And the Finance Committee also submitted a budget.

The SB recommended budget which is contingent upon the override passing, is \$58,086,901 and will not require any cuts in service. The "non contingent" budget cuts \$450,000 from the recommended budget. It includes a \$200,000 cut to the School Department; and cuts \$250,000 from salary reserves, which is used for raises and promotions for non-union employees. The original plan had been to take \$150K from salary reserves and cut two of the four new firefighters, but the firefighter positions are restored.

The FinCom budget spreads out the cuts, but still takes \$200K from the schools and \$208,605 from salary reserves, and the rest from public

works and tree department.

The cuts to the salary reserves mean that some promotions in the works will not happen, such as an upgrade for the Town Hall Custodian to become a Facilities Manager responsible for all town buildings (except schools), not just town hall.

Ms. Ellison said the deficit is actually \$750,000, but the town took \$300,000 from Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB), to lessen the blow to taxpayers. OPEB is a retirement obligation the town has to the state. It is not fully funded, but at some point, it will have to be.

The town also could use free cash to fund OPEB, but instead used that, along with money from the capital stabilization fund, to pay for the middle school roof. The other option was to borrow the money, which still would have required a Prop 2 1/2 debt exclusion override. The debt exclusion is just for the life of the loan. The operational override is permanent.

Fairhaven is not alone in needing an override this year. A variety of factors has led to the problem throughout Massachusetts. In

municipality after municipality that is asking for overrides, the mantra is the same: fixed costs, such as union raises have grown faster than recurring revenue (taxes and fees). Proposition 2 1/2 limits how much cities and towns can raise in property taxes (the tax levy).

Add to that steep inflation and the residual effects of the pandemic, and the financial situation is dire.

Taxpayers may simply say "no" and tell the town to live within its means. But that is only realistic to a point. The town cannot simply decide not to provide services, nor can it simply find a second job or get creative to raise revenue.

Revenue comes from three main sources: State aid, property taxes, and fees from building permits, excise taxes, etc. Fairhaven has raised fees, which should help somewhat for next year, but does not solve this year's problem. Property taxes are constrained by the limits of Prop 2 1/2. And state aid is decided by Beacon Hill.

"Everything we do impacts some-

OVERRIDE: cont'd on page 16

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Fairhaven announces town-wide water flushing

Press Release

Commencing May 1, 2023, The Fairhaven Board of Public Works will begin a town-wide unidirectional water flushing of hydrants.

As we have mentioned before, the process of unidirectional flushing fire hydrants is an important preventive maintenance activity which will scour the inside of the pipeline, removing and then transporting silt and mineral deposits out of the water system. These procedures are necessary to maintain the integrity of the water system.

During the flushing process, it is not uncommon for a yellow, brown or reddish tint to appear in the water. These harmless mineral deposits settle in the water mains and flushing

fire hydrants stir these deposits, sometimes causing a brief discoloration of the water.

The BPW will send out a location specific Rave notice when flushing will occur in your area. In addition, we will continually update our social media and website.

Here is what you should do if hydrant flushing is taking place in your neighborhood:

- If possible, avoid using water while the hydrant flushing is taking place. By not using water from the tap (cold or hot) or running appliances that use water (dishwashers and washing machines), you can prevent discolored water from entering your household plumbing system altogether.

- If you encounter discolored water following hydrant flushing, run the cold water taps only.
- Do not use hot water taps throughout your home at bathroom sinks, tubs, kitchen faucets, etc. for 5 to 15 minutes, or until water clears.
- By not using your hot water taps, this should prevent discolored water from entering your hot water system. If you do experience discolored water on your hot side
 - Run water closest to your meter which is most likely outside
 - Call the Water Department at 508-979-4032
 - Do not dry or use bleach on your laundry if discolored
 - Use an Iron-Out product to remove stains

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Cancellation

After serious consideration of all options the Executive Committee of the Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society voted at their meeting on Thursday, April 20 to cancel the Cherry Blossom festival for this year. A number of challenges in a short period of time prevented the organization from hosting a quality event for the enjoyment of all. We intend to hold the same festival next year at the same time when the cherry trees in the park are in full bloom.

However, we are still planning on many other activities for the year including: Our participation in Homecoming on June 24th where we will again offer our traditional "yaki soba" noodles; Presentation of our teaching classes on Manjiro and whaling in the latter part of July; Hosting the 2-day visit of Japanese visitors from the "Grass Roots Summit" program in late September. **OUR HUGE BIENNIAL MANJIRO FESTIVAL ON OCTOBER 7TH.** We will host a delegation from our Sister City of Tosashimizu for the week-end.

Of course we continue to schedule and host tours of the Manjiro Trail as well as the Whitfield-Manjiro Museum (info on our web site).

Arbor Day planting

Join the Fairhaven Tree Department on Thurs., 4/27, at 3 p.m., at John Cooke Garrison Park, 52 Howland Road, to plant trees with

volunteers and tree donors.

Join them again on Fri., 4/28, at 10:30 a.m., at the Veterans Memorial on the corner of Huttleston Ave. and Middle Street. The planting will be done by a Fairhaven High School science class led by Cari Mailloux. The Tree Department invites the public to be part of this event. Please meet in front of the high school by 10:15. This event will be filmed by the Derek Frates of FairhavenTV.

Free Trees

Bask, Inc. ("Bask"), a locally owned cannabis dispensary in Fairhaven, Massachusetts, has announced plans for its 6th annual Arbor Day event on Friday, 4/28, from 9am to 9pm at 2 Pequod Road in Fairhaven. Tree seedlings will be available on the lawn outside the company's Fairhaven dispensary. There is no purchase necessary to pick up a free tree seedling.

Meat Raffle

Every Thursday, 7 p.m., Fairhaven VFW Post 2892, 109 Middle St., Fairhaven. Win meat, eggs, breakfast, and a variety of other specials we have every week. Play some Keno, have a drink or two. You will not be disappointed.

Shrubbery Program

Fairhaven Residents Only!

Fairhaven Improvement Association is excited to announce its 2023

annual Shrubbery Voucher Program.

To take advantage of this offer send a check for \$20.00 with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Fairhaven Improvement Association, P.O. Box 404, Fairhaven, MA 02719. You will receive a voucher for double the amount — \$40.00 — to purchase any combination of eligible shrubs at Kenny's Farm Stand, 325 Huttleston Avenue, Fairhaven.

The voucher is valid from May 1st till September 30th 2023. If you use your voucher before July 1st, Kenny will add another \$10.00 to your doubled voucher giving you a total of \$50.00 in buying power at his nursery. One voucher per family is allowed.

For more information and application go to our website: fairhavenimprovement.org or the FIA Facebook page. The application is also available at Kenny's.

Contact Monika Whalley, 508-758-8223 or monikawhalley@hotmail.com

Nemasket Walk

Join us in celebration of our 10th year as we walk or run through the town of Fairhaven with family, friends and neighbors while raising awareness and support for The Nemasket Group.

Sat., 5/6, Fort Phoenix State Reservation, 8 a.m. registration, 8 a.m. walk/run.

Visit our website for more information and to register: www.NemasketGroup.org

HAPPS: cont'd on page 16

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Wanted

Seeking individuals who have knowledge of working with fiberglass and/or wood to teach young people small boat repair skills. This would be a four-hour, two-day a week commitment for six weeks. This would be a volunteer position helping make a difference in a youngster's future. Must be able to pass a CORI check.

For information, call Joe Pacheco, Commodore, Ft. Rodman Marine Educational Association/Low Tide Yacht Club, 774-322-0558.

Exercise Tiger

The City of New Bedford Veterans' Advisory Board will honor the 749 United States sailors and soldiers who lost their lives during the devastating April 28, 1944 attack on the United States military training operation, Exercise Tiger.

Exercise Tiger was a D-Day dry run that was ambushed by a German E-boat flotilla and resulted in America's costliest incident of World War II, second only to Pearl Harbor. The surprise attack sank two American vessels and severely damaged a third. This year marks the 79th anniversary of Exercise Tiger.

A memorial ceremony is planned to honor the service members who perished in this incident on Sat., 4/9, 1:00 p.m. at the Exercise Tiger Memorial at Fort Taber Park, 1000 Rodney French Boulevard in New Bedford. In case of inclement weather, the indoor ceremony will be held inside the Fort Taber Military Museum, also located at Fort Taber Park immediately adjacent to the Exercise Tiger Memorial.

The ceremony will include remarks by Mayor Jon Mitchell and guest speakers from the New Bedford Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps. Families of the late Louis Souza, Vincent Ricciardi, and William O'Connor, Exercise Tiger participants, will be recognized. Presenting the memorial wreath will be the family of PFC Justin Kirby. PFC Kirby was a native of New Bedford who was killed in a vehicle accident while conducting a large-scale military training exercise at Fort Irwin National Training Center in California on March 9, 2020. PFC Kirby was assigned to the Regimental Headquarters and Regimental support

squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment at Fort Irwin.

Additional participants will include the United States Army Brotherhood of Tankers, WWII reenactors, and local veterans' organizations. All veterans are invited to attend and are asked to proudly display their service insignia.

Refreshments will be available inside the Fort Taber Military Museum following the service. For more information about the ceremony, contact Peter Clark, Chairman of the Exercise Tiger Service, at peter.clark@newbedford-ma.gov.

Free Performance

Join New Bedford Art Museum, 608 Pleasant St., NB, as Scott Bishop, aka Scapeghost, performs his six-song EP NBWaves, part of our Sound in Space, Sound in Place exhibition, on Fri., 4/28, 6-8 p.m. Complimentary admission to performance and Museum.

NBWaves, created with support from the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, is a six song EP that bakes the sonic DNA of New Bedford into the music using samples recorded around the city.

Visit newbedfordart.org or call 508-961-3072.

Science Cafe

Join us Tues., 5/2, from 6-8 p.m. at The Last Round Bar & Grille, 908 Purchase St., NB Open to everyone. Free, save for the beer!

Our guests will be Mark Parsons, Founder of New Bedford Research & Robotics [NBRR], and James Nanasca, Director of Design Technologies. Their topic: "Retooling The Robotic Arm for a Multitude of Uses, from Architecture to Fashion Design to Telemedicine."

The field of robotics is changing rapidly, sped by artificial intelligence and the data sciences. Our speakers will explain how NBRR's large space at the former Glaser Glass Company, equipped with a suite of technologies, offers an ideal place for other groups to test and develop robotic arms for just about any application. A robotics-driven revolution is coming, they believe, and what better incubator than New Bedford, historically so innovative?

Free parking is available behind

the building. We ask that you be vaccinated & facemasks are strongly recommended.

Visit <https://newbedfordscience.cafe.weebly.com/>

"The Wiz"

New Bedford Festival Theatre and Executive Producer Wendy Hall present "The Wiz," April 27 - May 6, 2023 at the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center at 684 Purchase St., NB. This will be the last professional production of The Wiz before the Broadway revival next Spring.

Tickets are available from \$35 - \$65.

Get tickets at www.zeiterion.org/events/nbft-the-wiz, by phone (508) 994-2900, or in person at the Zeiterion Box Office 684 Purchase St. New Bedford, MA 02740.

SAVE THE DATES

Voc-Tech Theatre

NB Voc-Tech Theatre Company presents "9 to 5" based on the 20th Century Fox Picture originally produced on Broadway by Robert Greenblatt, April 2009. Music and Lyrics by Dolly Parton; book by Patricia Resnick.

Fri. and Sat., 5/5 & 5/6, 7 p.m.; Sun., 5/7 matinee at 2 p.m.

General admission, all seats \$15.00

Directed by Marianne Morrissey
Choreographed by Beth A. Methia
Musical Director Andrea Rodrigues
GNB Voc-Tech High School

For tickets and info: 508/998-3321
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Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI (mtishows.com).

Author Talk

The New Bedford Historical Society and the New Bedford Art Museum are honored to host an author talk and book signing of *Eye Dreaming* by Anthony Barboza. Barboza is a celebrated artist and writer who has made thousands of photographs in the studio and on the street since 1963. A member of the Kamoinge collective of photographers in New York, Barboza is largely self-taught and has an inimitable, highly intuitive vision that he refers to as

CONT'D NEXT PAGE

STILL OVERTOWN

"eye dreaming," or "a state of mind that's almost like meditation."

This volume follows Barboza's prolific career from his youth in New Bedford, to his formative years in New York in the 1960s, to the present day. Copies of *Eye Dreaming* will be available for sale for \$40.00 at the site.

Join the members of the Historical Society and the Art Museum on Saturday, May 6 from 2-5 PM to meet the artist at a reception and book signing At The New Bedford Art Museum, 608 Pleasant St., NB

Plant Sale

The Garden Club of Buzzards Bay Plant Sale is back and better than ever! Located on the grounds of the Rotch-Jones-Duff House and Garden Museum, the sale will be held on Friday, May 5, from 3-6 p.m. and Saturday, May 6, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Gardeners will be able to buy colorful and varied annuals grown in the Club's own greenhouse, unusual perennials from members' gardens, an array of popular geraniums and

special coleus, striking succulents, heirloom tomatoes, and herbs. The Museum is located at 396 County Road, New Bedford, MA.

Proceeds from the sale are used to fund community projects, including grants, scholarships, and maintenance of the gardens and greenhouse at the Rotch-Jones-Duff House and Garden Museum.

The event is free and open to the public. Cash, checks, and credit cards are accepted. For more information, contact Anne Heller, (617) 893-8491.

HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

Candidates Night

The Acushnet Lions Club is sponsoring a candidates night on Wed., 5/3, at the Council on Aging/Sr. Center, 59 1/2 So. Main St., at 630 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend.

Vineyard Wind

Join the New England for Offshore Wind Coalition's communications director, Jennifer Delony, for an update on Vineyard Wind's progress toward commercial operation and what the project means for the U.S. offshore wind industry's momentum and for Massachusetts' southcoast On Mon., 5/1, at 7:30 p.m., via Zoom only. Visit <https://bit.ly/climateesc> to register. To learn more about Climate Reality SC, visit <https://www.climateactingsouthcoast.com/>.

Coin Show

The Coin Club of Greater New Bedford will be holding a coin show at the Westport Town Hall Annex, 865 Main St., Westport, MA, Sun., 4/30, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Featuring 14 dealers displaying and selling all sorts of coins and currency. Coin grading expert Steve Martin will be available to advise you on the value of your coins for a fee.

Visit <https://www.cccgnb.com/> or find them on Facebook for more information.

Spring Concert

Swing into Spring with a live concert!

"Music of Poetry and Love" will be performed by the Sippican Choral Society on Sunday, April 30, at 4 p.m. in Wickenden Chapel at Tabor Academy campus in Marion.

The program includes works by jazz pianist George Shearing, adaptations of poems by e.e. cummings, Robert Frost, and Shakespeare, and "One Hand, One Heart" from West Side Story, among others.

Get tickets at the Marion General Store, the Symphony Shop in Dartmouth, Isabelle's in Mattapoisett, Euro in Fairhaven, and at the door. \$15 for general admission. \$5 for students, and children six and younger can attend free.

Bluegrass

The Mattapoisett Museum is hosting Four Bridges, a New England-based Bluegrass band, on Sat., 4/29. Doors open at 7 PM, and the show starts at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$15 for general admission. Patron and Sustainer level Mattapoisett Museum members get 10% off two tickets for this event. Get your tickets now, and let's have a night full of bluegrass music.

Visit, www.mattapoisettmuseum.org/events to learn more and to purchase tickets.

This is an event for everyone, so bring your family and friends! As Nelson Hiller says, "We'll have you dancing, crying, hootin', and hollerin'". Four Bridges is a well-seasoned band that loves to perform, and their passion shines through in their music.

Cinderella

The Bishop Stang Theatre Company presents Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*. The performances will truly transport the audience into this classic fairy tale.

There are three performances of *Cinderella* - Thursday, April 27, Friday, April 28, and Saturday, April 29, all at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students, children, and seniors. The show is open to children of all ages.

There is also a special event called, "Bibbidi Bobbidi Bishop Stang," on Saturday, April 29 from 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. Children can come and see a preview of the show, take pictures with Cinderella, Prince Charming and the cast, get their hair and nails done, fence (using foam) and play horseshoes with Prince Charming. Children can come dressed up as their favorite prince or princess! Sweet treats will be provided. It will truly be a day out of a fairy tale! This event is for children ages 3-12. Tickets are \$10 per child and parents enter for free (Pre-registration is encouraged: visit bishopstang.org/theatre for registration link).

Call the school for more information at (508) 996-5602.

Hot Sauce Fest

The Boston Hot Sauce Festival to be held April 29-30, is a two-day celebration that features some of the best hot sauces in the Northeast and held at The Garage B of the Charles River Speedway, 525 Western Avenue, Allston, MA at one of the coolest newer venues in Boston.

This spicy celebration will take place in four sessions and features more than two dozen hot sauce purveyors, spicy hot sauce challenges, amazing food, entertainment and more. Visit <https://www.bostonhotsaucefest.com>

Recipe of the Week

Taco Pie

- 1 (8 ounce) package refrigerated crescent rolls
- 1 pound ground beef
- 1 (1 ounce) package taco seasoning mix
- 8 ounces shredded Mexican-style cheese blend
- Optional toppings: sour cream, shredded lettuce, diced tomatoes, green onions, avocado, olives

Set oven to 350°

Cover your round or square cake pan with the crescent dough flat on the bottom. Bake according to package instructions.

While your crust is baking in the oven, heat a large skillet over medium-high heat on the stovetop. Cook the beef until no longer pink. Add the taco seasoning and combine. When the crust is done baking, add the beef to the crust and layer with cheese. Place back in the oven and bake for another 10 minutes or until the cheese is melted.

Top with toppings of your choice!

From CommandCooking.com

To share a recipe with your neighbors

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



Dear Frankie

Who Would've Thought, Part 2

Dear Frankie,

A couple of months ago, I was elected to serve on the advisory board for my dog park. Ted, a neighbor, was also elected.

I knew of Ted from seeing him around the neighborhood, but we weren't friends. After the board meetings, Ted and I began walking home together. That's when I learned he had been a certified service dog for his grandma before she passed away and that he was now volunteering at the local children's hospital.

The more time I spent with Ted, the more I liked and respected him. I now realize my feelings for him are romantic. I don't know, however, how he feels about me. Should I say something to him or let nature take its course?

Alice

Dear Alice,

My last column addressed the anxiety associated with disclosing romantic feelings to someone you fear may think of you only

as a friend.

There are many ways to express one's emotions without stating them directly. You might tell Ted how much you admire him for his service to the humans, both young and old. You could also tell him the things you like about him. When you get to your house, you could invite him in for a bone nightcap.

You could also suggest meeting at the dog park to discuss advisory board issues further. This buys you more face-to-face time and gives you an opportunity to see how Ted responds to you. If, at times, you notice he gets a moony expression when he looks at you or laughs heartedly at your jokes, you can assume he's interested. If you seek a more immediate answer, read my last column.

Best, Frankie

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Comments and letters can be sent to Frankie at dearfrankiecolumn@gmail.com. The Fairhaven Neighborhood News

FRANKIE: cont'd on page 18



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

Kool Kids Summer

Recreation Staff, Fairhaven Recreation Center, Entering Grade 1 – Age 12, Mon-Fri 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Children will have fun each day by participating in a variety of sports, games and art activities. Each session will also include special themed events and a field trip! Children are grouped according to the grade they will enter in the fall.

Register early! Our summer program is popular and fills quickly. Sign up for 1 week or all 9. Do not miss out, join us! A \$50 deposit is required each week. Multi-child discounts are offered. All staff are CPR certified. Parents must sign their children in and out each day. Children must wear sneakers everyday and bring a refillable water bottle, lunch (Mon-Thu) and snacks.

Each Friday we have a pizza party. Additional information including an informational packet is available on our website

Counselor in Training

Ages 13-16, Recreation Staff, Fairhaven Recreation Center, Mon-Fri (2 Weeks), 7:45 AM - 3:30 PM

Member: \$250 | Non-Member \$300

CIT Session 1: Jun 20-30

CIT Session 2: Jul 3-14

CIT Session 3: Jul 17-28

CIT Session 4: Jul 31-Aug 11

CIT Session 5: Aug 14-25

In the Counselor In Training (CIT) program, teens will learn to become summer counselors. Included in this program is CPR, early education tips, job interview skills and much more. CIT's will plan and run a theme day for the summer Kool Kids program, run games, assist senior counselors with projects, etc. Field trips and a pizza lunch every Friday are included. Program runs for 2 week sessions. Children who apply to attend a CIT session must interview with the Director and Program Coordinator before being accepted into the program.

Fairhaven Senior Center

508-979-4029 • 229 Huttleston Ave • Fairhaven

Visit our website at:

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

Fairhaven Council on Aging

Social Day Program

The Fairhaven Social Day Program provides a fun day of activities for seniors who are in need of supervision or just want to spend the day socializing with others. The program is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:30-3:00. Lunch is provided and transportation can be arranged at an additional fee.

For more information, please call 508-993-9455 and ask for Sally Bourke.

Join Us for Lunch

We serve lunch every weekday at 11:30 a.m. To schedule a lunch, call the day before by 10 a.m. Voluntary donation of \$2. To let us know you want to join us, and to arrange for a ride, call 508-979-4029.

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:

- **Mon, & Wed., May 1 & 3:** Let's learn all about the Apple iPhone Smartphone. This is a two day class specifically on the Apple smartphone. The class will learn about the following: care, charging, con-

necting to WIFI, the operating software, updating, connecting email services to your phone, control panels, airplane mode, notifications, checking storage, emergency SOS, basic gestures (finger swiping) and security. This is a hands-on class, so all participants must have an Apple iPhone and bring it to class.

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.: 5/3, Plain Ridge Park Casino; 5/10, Providence Place; 5/17, Derby Street Shops.

Walking at the Rec Ctr

Let the music move you for 30 minutes from 12:30-1 daily for free at the Fairhaven Recreation gym. You don't have to worry if the weather outside is frightful because the gym is so delightful with its trip-free flat surface and welcoming walkers.

Single Senior Supper Club

If you are a Single Senior, like to socialize and have a great meal, please join us! If you would like to come, please call the center and sign up as soon as possible, 508-979-4029

The third Tuesday of every month. Call the Wednesday before to confirm. If you are unable to attend a supper you have signed up for, but do not call to cancel, you will still be expected to pay for your missed meal.

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From our readers

What is This Override Request All About?

To Fairhaven Town Meeting members and Taxpayers

On May 6th, Town Meeting will convene to determine the fiscal future for the Town, at least for the near term. Although I have not yet seen the agenda for the Meeting, it should be obvious to all that the most important Article to be dealt with is the "2 1/2 override" Article. A "pass/fail" will dictate whether a special town-wide election will be held on this issue.

Relative to this Article, a number of very important questions should be asked and answered before votes are taken.

- How long has the Town known about this shortfall?
- When did we become aware of the shortfall and were there any warning signs?
- Wasn't the Town aware that we had contract raises that had to be met? Doesn't the Town account for those contractual obligations each year along with anticipated cost of living increases?

• If the Article fails and budget cuts need to be made, what is the working rationale for the proposed cuts.....what departments are likely to sustain cuts and by what amount?

• As to the use of "free cash" to support ongoing operating expenses. Were the "powers that be" aware that this was going on? Did Town Meeting have any role in approving this action? Was there oversight?

These are basic questions that Town Meeting deserves to have answered before votes are cast.

Some resolutions to the problem have been proffered i.e., a vote for or against department budget cuts, use monies put aside for the possible Fire/Police safety complex. As to the "put aside", who knew? I personally was unaware that the town has been "putting aside" any money per se for this matter and suspect that the majority of taxpayers were also unaware that this was being done.

I would strongly recommend that Town Meeting members thoroughly understand all the important ramifi-

cations of this matter

Keep in mind inflation is still with us and shows little sign of abating. Our citizenry is getting older, many of whom are on fixed incomes, and our young families are trying hard to make ends meet. Unfortunately, increased taxes regardless of how seemingly small do nothing to ease this reality. They only create an added burden.

Looking to an override for operating expenses is a slippery slope. Give this matter your utmost consideration prior to voting and let us insist on establishing safeguards to prevent this issue from reoccurring.

Bernard F Roderick. Fairhaven

Ban Single-Use Plastics

As a Fairhaven resident, I am writing to show my support for the new bylaws on Single-Use Plastic and Polystyrene being presented by the Fairhaven Sustainability Committee at the next town meeting in two weeks. After attending April's Sustainability Committee meeting with the Board of Health and having

LETTERS: cont'd on page 17

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**Acushnet, Every Vote Counts!
Saturday, May 13th**

I'm the change maker you've been looking for! As part of #TeamAcushnet I volunteered over 280 hours during the pandemic with EMA, and look forward to helping bring that desperately needed team player dynamic back to our town hall.

A vote for Chew on May 13th is a vote for change.

Eric Chew for Selectboard

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More than 200 take to streets under threatening skies

By Beth David
Editor

The annual West Island 5K saw 243 registered runners, with 179 finishing the race on Sunday, 3/23/23. In the Kids Mile Fun Run, 28 runners hit the streets on a cold and blustery day with threatening skies. The forecast was for downpours that could have started any minute. But the rain held off, and, for the most part, runners liked the the colder weather,

although, 52 degrees with 21 MPH winds and stronger gusts, did pose challenges for some.

Rachel Schilkowsky, 31, of Providence, RI, was the first woman over the line, setting a course record for women at 17:18.

Kids Mile Fun Run Winners

Female: Elle Moran, 8:01; Annabelle St. Laurent, 9:23; Piper Pinho, 9:51; Reis Moran, 9:53. Male: Denver Shimala,

6:55; Hudson Davis, 7:12; Michael Lubas, 7:16; Sawyer Hevey, 7:41.

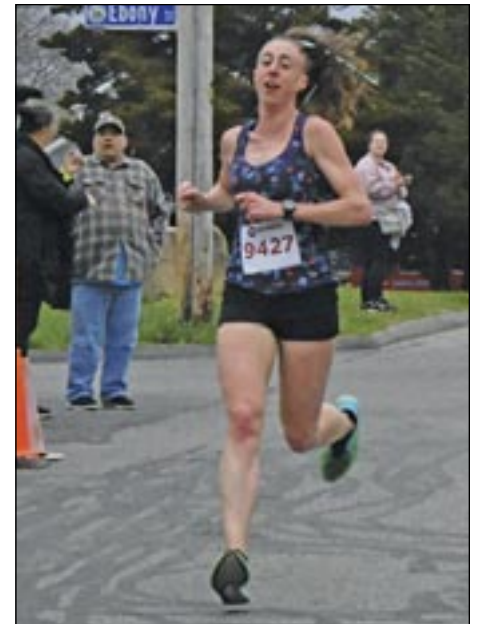
5K Winners

Female: Rachel Schilkowsky, 17:18; Hailey Desmarais, 20:27; Corinne Fortin, 24:48. Male: Damion Perry, 16:57; Whitney Hall, 17:57i; Nathan Brito, 18:49.

The race was timed by Racewire. Results are at <https://my.racewire.com/results/37385>



ABOVE LEFT: Friends and family smile for the camera before the start of the West Island 5K on 4/23/23. ABOVE RIGHT: Jasper Levine looks happy as he starts running in the Kids Mile Fun Run, happening about an hour before the 5K. BELOW LEFT: L-R: Jessica Mendes, Adelia Soares, Kary Silva, and Rafael Mendes pose for the local free sheet during the West Island 5K on 4/23/23 that Jessica Mendes, 31, finished in 38:13 (carrying the little one), and Ms. Silva, 32, finished in 38:12. BELOW RIGHT: Rachel Schilkowsky sets a new course record for women, crossing the finish line in 17:18, and second overall, on 4/23/23. Photos by Beth David. (Names were taken from the Racewire website, based on the displayed numbers.)



More West Island race pictures



ABOVE LEFT, L-R: Gabriela Hernandez, 18; Gregory Bobola, 40, of Fall River; Sophie Bobola, 10, of Fall River; and Lindsey Bobola, 38, of Fairhaven, pose for the local free sheet with their little passenger, after finishing the West Island Road Race together on 3/23/23, in 54 minutes. ABOVE MIDDLE: Elle Moran is first girl, and fourth overall, to cross the finish line, 8:01, in the Kids Mile Fun Run, happening about an hour before the 5K. ABOVE RIGHT: Reis Moran looks happy and energetic as she crosses the finish line in 9:53 for a fourth place win in the Kids Mile Fun Run. BELOW LEFT: James Miller, 67, of Acushnet, pumps his fists as he crosses the finish line in 32:48. BELOW MIDDLE Cheryl Santos (RIGHT), 60, of New Bedford, shows her excitement as she crosses the finish line in 52:30 with Brittany Hamer, 32, of Fall River. BELOW RIGHT: Nancy Jordan of Dartmouth takes a bow after crossing the finish line in 50:55. BOTTOM LEFT: L-R: Lily Conte, 42, of Fairhaven, lifts her hand in triumph with Erin Greenhalgh, 42, of Fairhaven, as they cross the finish line together in 43:38. BOTTOM RIGHT: Causeway Road is filled with runners and walkers at the start of the race. *Photos by Beth David.*



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A love for local history and architecture drew Lauren to the charming and historic town of Fairhaven, where she and her family call home. She is the proud wife of a veteran and mom of 2 daughters, stepson and lab puppy, Noel. When she's not working, she loves to travel and explore new adventures along the beautiful Southcoast with her family.

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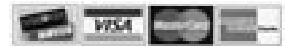
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No charges against man with BB gun on bike path

By Beth David

Editor

Fairhaven Police responded to reports of an armed male on the Phoenix Bike Trail on Friday, 4/21/23, around 4 p.m. It turned out the man had a BB gun pistol and was in emotional distress.

Fairhaven Police spokesperson Lt. Kevin Kobza said the man called 911 and told police he would point his gun at them so they would shoot him.

An officer kept the man on the phone and convinced him to put the

gun down and go to an open field. Fairhaven police used a drone to locate the man in the woods along the bike path near Shaw Road.

Lt. Kobza said the man followed the drone out of the woods to meet police. He told them it was only a BB gun and took them back into the woods where it was recovered.

"We didn't rush in, we waited him out," said Lt. Kobza. "We had someone to reason with him and get him to comply. He cooperated."

He said the man is 34 years old and

from another state. His ties to the area are unclear.

Lt. Kobza said no charges are being filed, so he did not want to identify the man, who was taken to St. Luke's Hospital.

"It was a good outcome," said Lt. Kobza.

Mattapoisett Police assisted during the incident. The Phoenix Bike Trail connects to the Mattapoisett Rail Trail, and Shaw Road is very close to the Mattapoisett town line.

OVERRIDE: cont'd from page 3

body," said Town Administrator Angie Lopes Ellison. "Everything municipal government does, impacts someone, some group. So you can't just say cut this, or cut that."

Fairhaven is not alone. Newton tried for a \$9,175,000 override, but it failed in the election, although voters approved two debt exclusions for school construction. The schools there have a \$6 million operating budget gap.

The town of Dudley passed a \$4,846,597 override for operational expenses for the school district and the town; Marblehead is looking for \$2 million to \$2.5 million; Hingham is looking for \$7,890,467; Brookline is looking for \$4,995,000; Athol is looking for \$895K.

Closer to home, Mattapoisett is asking for an override for a bond issue to pay for road costs, although no amount is specified on the ballot.

The upshot is that most cities and towns are having structural deficits. That occurs when recurring revenues are not enough to cover recurring costs. Some municipalities, including Fairhaven, have used one-time money, such as free cash, to bridge the gap. But that strategy eventually fails. And that seems to be where many towns are this year.

The election for the override is scheduled for June 5.

HAPPS: cont'd from page 5

Event T-shirts are limited, so please register early to ensure you receive a T-shirt

SAVE THE DATES Rogers School Cleanup

All are welcome to join us for a community spring clean-up of Rogers Grammar School exterior grounds, 100 Pleasant Street, Fairhaven, on Sat., 5/13, at 10 a.m. Bring your rake and gloves. It will be a fun time. Sponsored by the Rogers Re-Use Committee.

Mem. Day Parade

Mon., 5/29, meet at 9:30 a.m., step off at 10 a.m. All veterans are invited to march.

Parade route: From Union and Main Streets north along Main to Fairhaven High School for the raising of the big flag, and continue to Riverside Cemetery for a short ceremony. There will be a gathering at the VFW, 109 Middle Street, after the activities.

Proudly sponsored by VFW Post 2892, Fairhaven Lions Club, and

Fairhaven Veterans Service Office.

For info contact Brad or Jane at VSO, 508-202-4603

Father's Day 5K

49th Annual Fairhaven Father's Day Road Race, Sun., 6/18, 9 a.m. Starts and ends at Hastings Middle School, 30 School St., Fairhaven. Family, fun and fitness, a Father's Day tradition.

Online registration ONLY at www.FairhavenRoadRace.org

. Before 6/1, \$20/adults (\$25 after 6/1); \$10 for children under 13 and over 70.

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TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS INVITATION TO BID

Separate sealed bids marked for items listed below, will be received at the Board of Public Works Office, 5 Arsene Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719 not later than 2:00 p.m., May 15, 2023. Bids will be publicly opened and read on May 15, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. To obtain bid specifications email the Board of Public Works at bpw@fairhaven-ma.gov.

24, 25, 28 & 29: Equipment – Rental & Hired
31–38: Road Materials – Sand, Stone & Gravel
39–44: Road Materials – Asphalt
46: Liquid Magnesium Chloride
48: Pavement Markings
49–57: Highway Castings
58: Reinforced Concrete Pipe
59: Ductile Iron Pipe
60: Hydrants
61–66: Water Castings
67–73: Water Brass
74: Wastewater Testing
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.

Board of Public Works for Fairhaven, MA
FNN 4/27/23, 5/4/23

Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearings

Tuesday May 2, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.
Town Hall Banquet Room, 40 Center Street
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Public Hearing In-Person in Banquet Room
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or call 1-929-205-6099
Meeting ID: 941 1513 7952
Passcode: 361259

1. REF#: ZBA-023-007: 148 Dogwood Street, Map 43A, Lots 153-155. Applicant and owner: Nancy Santoro. Applicant seeks (1) a Special Permit to construct a 30 ft. x 25 ft. garage with a living space above attached to the existing house via 20 ft. by 10 ft. deck and a 20 ft. by 12 ft. breezeway, pursuant to Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-15 Use Regulations and (2) a 5 ft. Variance for the garage to be located 15 ft. from the side property line vs. the 20 ft. minimum requirement, pursuant to Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-18 Intensity

of Use Schedule. — Continued from March 7, 2023. Readvertised with updated information for May 2, 2023

2. REF#: ZBA-023-010: 33 Whisper Lane, Map 42A, Lot 196. Applicant and owner: Jose E. Pinda. Applicant seeks a Special Permit for a Home Occupation business to operate a Painting business, pursuant to Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-23. B. (4) Building trades.
3. REF#: ZBA-023-013: Capeview Street, Map 29D, Lots 180-181. Applicant and owner: Michael Gaj. Applicant seeks a Variance for the construction of a 30 ft. x 40 ft. house on a 14,400 sq ft. lot which is under the 30,000 sq ft. minimum lot size and with 120 ft. of frontage vs. the 140 ft. minimum requirement in the Rural Residential District, pursuant to Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-18, Intensity of Use Schedule.
4. REF#: ZBA-023-014: 40 Nelson Ave, Map 43, Lot 233. Applicant and owner: Christopher J. Wolkowicz. Applicant seeks a 2 ft. Variance for the construction of a replacement house on the lot where the planned 37 ft. height of the building will exceed the maximum 35 ft. allowed in the Rural Residential District, pursuant to Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-18 Intensity of Use Schedule.

Peter DeTerra, Chairman, Fairhaven ZBA
FNN: 4/20/23, 4/27/23

LETTERS: cont'd from page 11

the opportunity to preview the data prepared for the May 6, 2023, Town Meeting, I strongly support this initiative.

It is evident a great deal of research was done on the subjects, and the facts on public health are alarming. I own a refill shop in New Bedford which focuses on the reduction of single-use containers for household products and personal care. I can't tell you how many people have thanked me for the work I've done here reducing single-use, but I can tell you that to-date we have prevented close to 1,000 single-use containers since June 16, 2022, World Refill Day.

Fairhaven Sustainability Committee along with Southcoast Massachusetts Climate Reality Chapter and other local representatives came out to help support the mission on World Refill Day last year which helped unite and engage the public on

reducing single-use plastic. The new bylaws being purposed are actions that need to be taken seriously and without delay. It's critical to have all the support needed to push these bylaws forward and accelerate the common bond so many people have today, healthy lifestyles and a healthy planet.

Eileen Brennan, Fairhaven
Owner, Start at the Bottoms

Where is the accountability for Clarence Thomas?

And here we have another startling example of the double standard applied to a prominent official who has ostensibly crossed the line for years. Not a peep from the ethic meister Jim Jordan or the outraged Kevin McCarthy. Thus far there has been no Republican call for an investigative committee to delve into the allegations piling up against Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas.

Probably the least verbally assertive, or inquisitive during substantial issues before the Supreme Court, Thomas has more influence on American lives than any one senator or representative.

A man who stands in

judgment of the behavior or standards of millions of Americans should not continue to render such enormous influence.

Pleading ignorance of how being lavished with expensive vacations from a friend would be considered unethical, or seemingly a conflict of interest, is not an acceptable defense from a person who is at the top of the judicial system. And should he profess an error in not reporting gains from a house sale that excuse will not suffice as well.

That the alleged involvement of his wife Ginny Thomas in very questionable political affiliations and actions has not provoked a hue and cry is understandable as a spouse should not be held accountable for the other's conduct. And perhaps the same could be said about the children of elected or appointed officials.

Perhaps it is naive to be surprised or outraged by the deafening silence of so many legislators and media personalities who rush to pounce upon every misdeed of those they wish to remove from power and choose to ignore blatantly violative behavior from those they consider allies who promote their agenda.

As the three branches of American government are compromised and voters cynically withdraw from voting participation the result will be a victory for those who thirst for money, prestige, privilege and power and democracy will no longer be an impediment to their desires.

Betty Ussach, Dartmouth

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FRANKIE: cont'd from page 3

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— Margaret Sullivan, “Ghosting The News”

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ACUSH: cont'd from page 19

going to have to go in there and work for those people and give 100% of my time,” she said. “And I can leave knowing that I’ve given 100% of myself to the town.”

She said she was proud of what they accomplished, it was a team effort.

“We made great things happen,” said Ms. St. Pierre. “We’ve made that a welcoming and inclusive place for the residents of this town and surrounding communities.”

The board presented Ms. St. Pierre with a citation from the board.

Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Bikeway Committee

Thurs., 4/27, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

Board of Appeals

Tues., 5/2, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Board of Public Works

Mon., 5/8, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 5/15, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Finance Committee

Thurs., 4/27, Arsene St., 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., Media Ctr., 6:30 p.m. (Budget)

Wed., 5/10, Media Ctr., 6:30 p.m.

Select Board

Mon., 5/1, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Sat., 5/6, Hastings MS, 9 a.m.

Acushnet

Board of Appeals

Tues., 4/18, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Board of Assessors

Wed., 4/26, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

Select Board

Tues., 5/9, Town Hall, Time TBA

TIDE TABLE

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

	April 2023		HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.		LOW a.m.	
Thursday	27	0201	1433	0722	1930		
Friday	28	0254	1526	0849	2052		
Saturday	29	0349	1625	1126	2347		
Sunday	30	0450	1724	1045	----		

	May 2023		HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.		LOW a.m.	
Saturday	1	0537	1805	0030	1300		
Sunday	2	0625	1846	0104	1324		
Monday	3	0704	1923	0110	1257		
Tuesday	4	0740	1958	0106	1309		
Wednesday	5	0816	2034	0133	1337		
Thursday	6	0854	2113	0209	1412*		

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

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

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Acushnet gives citation/sendoff to Library Director

By Beth David

Editor

The Acushnet Selectboard recognized outgoing Library Director Dina St. Pierre at its meeting on 4/24/23. She is moving on after eight years in the position, to go to Dartmouth. Her last day is 5/13.

SB Chairperson David Wojnar said she made a "huge impact" on the community. He said she made the library a space for everyone in Acushnet and surrounding communities. He said the atmosphere that she and her team have created is "really gratifying" to see.

He recounted the history of the building. The Russell Library moved to the former community center, which had also been the Howard School. The town used Old Colony students to renovate the space, and used a variety of funds for the project. He said it was an example of how municipal projects should be done.

"We're just really fortunate that you've been the captain of that ship for all these years," said Mr. Wojnar.

"I'm extremely sad to see you go,"

said SB member Kevin Gaspar, adding that hundreds, if not thousands of people are also sad to see her go.

SB member Bob Hinckley said he has repeatedly told her he appreciates everything she does.

"I will miss you," said Mr. Hinckley. "And I think you've done incredible things for this town."

Ms. St. Pierre got a little choked up as she addressed the board. She noted with a bit of humor that her first interview was at town hall, not the old Russell Library, probably because they did not want her to see it. She went to see the new library under construction, and she



Outgoing Acushnet Library Director Dina St. Pierre holds the citation she received from the Selectboard on 4/24/23, L-R: SB members Bob Hinckley and Kevin Gaspar, Ms. St. Pierre, SB Chairperson David Wojnar. Photo courtesy of Jen Alves, Library Trustee.* (*Credit corrected from previous versions.)

named a list of people she encountered.

She left the interview thinking, "These people gave 100% of their time voluntarily for a new library and I'm

ACUSH: cont'd on page 18



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