



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



The little paper
with a big voice!

Volume 19, Issue 1 • December 14, 2023

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

Fallen heroes remembered



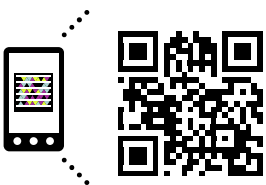
Lisa Rodriguez, the mother of US Marine Corps LCpl Matthew R. Rodriguez, who was killed in action in Afghanistan on 12/11/13, is flanked by the US Marines and police and fire color guards, with the Patriot Guard Riders in the rear as she speaks during a ceremony at the New Bedford Airport on 12/11/23, the 10th anniversary of Matthew's death. See page 12 for story. *Photo by Beth David.*

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."



Get the free mobile app at
<http://gettag.mobi>

From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

Are we there yet?
Almost...almost.

This is our LAST ISSUE of the year. We are going on our winter break and will not return until 1/4/24. So, take your time reading, but not too much time. Some events are coming up you'll want to join, like...um, the Polar Plunge? BRR.

We have some meeting coverage in here. See Acushnet Selectboard on page 17, and Fairhaven Select Board on page 4. Oh, Mr. Carr. You really, really, really want to be on ZBA, huh? I mean, you'd think it paid money or something. Someone pointed out to me that you said you would resign that position anyway, if you got elected to the Planning Board. So, what happened? What changed your mind? Now that's something that has to "be known."

We have a jam-packed issue, so I had to ditch the annual Christmas lights photos. Sorry about that. But see pages 5, 6, and 7 for fun events.

And, well, just drive around and see for yourself who has lights up. Gellette Road is back at it (see page 5) with Santa, too.

Our cover story is a serious one, and one that is not getting easier with time. Young Matthew Rodriguez of Fairhaven was killed 10 years ago in Afghanistan. In honor of that milestone, the family got the Fallen Heroes Memorial to New Bedford.

Young Matthew was remembered by those who knew him best at a ceremony on Monday. They talked about his smile. I have to say, the photos of him show it in a big way. They call him the smiling warrior, and you will see why when you see that big grin.

Our hearts go out to the Rodriguez family with sadness and gratitude. We can honor young Matthew and his family by simply remembering him. See page 12.

We are now just seconds away from starting our winter break for the holidays.

I wish you all a very merry holiday season. I hope you are able to enjoy whatever holiday you celebrate with family and good friends, those who lift you up, energize you, inspire you, and make you laugh. That's the magic of Christmas. May it spread through your life and the lives of those around you and bring lots of good (and bad-for-you) food with it. And may we all have a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Please be sure to tell our advertisers you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*.

Until next YEAR then, see ya

*Glory to Ukraine!
Glory to the Heroes!*



Publisher Beth David with Charlie, aka Evil Dog

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

Volume 19, Issue 1

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Copyright 2023 Elizabeth A. David

Editor: Beth David

Published weekly on Thursday by
Fairhaven Neighborhood News, LLC, at
166 Dogwood Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719

NeighbNews@comcast.net

www.NeighbNews.com

508-979-5593 • Fax: 508-991-5580

Contributions: The *Neighb News* accepts press releases, editorial contributions and letters to the editor at the above address; by email with copy in the body of the email, not as an attachment. If mailed by USPS or faxed, editorial must be typewritten, 500 words or fewer. Unfortunately, The *Neighb News* is not able to pay money for contributions at this time. Contributors agree, by virtue of their submissions, to grant The *Fairhaven Neighborhood News, LLC*, the right to publish submissions in print and online. Contributors also verify, by virtue of their submissions, that they own the right to publish the work submitted. Any claims of copyright infringement will be referred to the contributor, who will also be responsible for any and all costs associated with said claims.

Advertising: Call or write for rate card and sample issue or visit our website at www.NeighbNews.com.

The *Fairhaven Neighborhood News, LLC*, reserves the right to refuse advertising and editorial for any reason. The *Neighb News* will not assume any liability, financial or otherwise, for errors in ads or in editorial content submitted by contributors. The *Neighb News* will run a correction on the inside front cover to rectify any misprints or errors in the previous week's issue. Readers, advertisers, and writers are responsible for notifying The *Neighb News* of any inconsistencies or errors in the paper.

Advertisers are responsible for all claims made in their ads. The *Neighb News* is not be liable in any way for claims made by advertisers. Advertisers are responsible for their own content. We will, to the extent reasonable, try to verify any claims that seem unreasonable or unlikely to be true. Readers are encouraged to report any problems with our advertisers.

Subscriptions are available for 6 months (24 issues) or one year (48 issues) at \$1.75 per issue for a total of \$42.00 or \$84.00 respectively. Also available for free online at www.neighbnews.com. For free email subscription, send to NeighbNews@comcast.net and include your first and last name.

Copyright 2023 Elizabeth A. David

Contents

Acushnet Selectboard.....	17
Classifieds/Help Wanted.....	18
COVER: Fallen Heroes Memorial.....	12
Dear Frankie.....	10
Fairhaven Old Time Holiday.....	14
Fairhaven Police accept Tutu Challenge.....	19
Fairhaven Select Board.....	4
Happenings.....	5, 6, 7
Holiday Happenings.....	3
Legal Notices/Public Hearings.....	17
St. Joseph School teaches reason for the season.....	11
Tides.....	18
Upcoming meetings/Fairhaven & Acushnet.....	18

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Support Local Journalism! Donate online
through a PayPal link on our website at
www.neighbnews.com

Nomination papers available in Fairhaven

Nomination papers for all town-wide elected positions and Town Meeting members are available in Fairhaven.

Candidates seeking to be elected to office need to take out papers from the town clerk's office and return them with the required number of signatures from registered voters.

Town-wide offices require 50 signatures; town meeting requires 10 signatures from the precinct in which you are running.

Call the town clerk's office, 508-979-4023, ext. 3, for more information on how to run for office in Fairhaven.

Select Board has two seats up for election, held by Leon Correy III and Robert "Bob" Espindola; School Committee has two seats up, held by Donna McKenna and Colin Veitch; Board of Health has one seat held by Kevin Gallagher; Commissioner of Trust Funds has one, held by Colleen Silvia; Board of Public Works has two seats, held by Robert "Hoppy" Hobson and Travis Rapoza; Planning Board has two seats up, held by Jeff Lucas and Jessica Fidalgo; Housing

Authority has one seat on the ballot, Anne Silveira.

School Committee will also have one seat for an unexpired term on the ballot, currently held by Nicole Pacheco, who was appointed to fill Kyle Bueno's seat.

Planning Board will also have an

The last day to obtain nomination papers is Monday, 2/8/24. The last day to return papers is Monday, 2/12.

unexpired term to fill, currently held by Diane Tomasett, who was appointed to fill David Braga's seat.

Precincts will also choose their Town Meeting representatives. All six precincts have 23-25 seats up for reelection and several other vacant seats.

Select Board members, Leon Correy and Bob Espindola, and BOH member, Kevin Gallagher, have all announced publicly that they do not

intend to run for reelection.

Monday, 1/22/24 is the last day for Town Meeting member incumbents to file written requests for reelection with the town clerk.

The last day to obtain nomination papers is Monday, 2/8/24. The last day to return papers is Monday, 2/12.


You may register to vote Monday-Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The last day to register to vote for the town election is Friday, 3/22/24. The Town Clerk's Office will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. on that day.

Mail-in Voter Registration Forms are available at the Town Clerk's Office, the Millicent Library and State and Federal offices. Monday, 3/25, is the last day to submit vote-by-mail applications to the Town Clerk.

The election will be held on Monday, 4/1/24. Polls will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. All six precincts vote at the Fairhaven Recreation Center, 227 Huttleston Ave. (near Stop & Shop).

Call the town clerk's office, 508-979-4023, ext. 3, if you have any questions.

ORIGINAL ARTWORK & PRINTS



Open at the original home to our first gallery where it all began in 1979!



Tues.-Sat. 11:00-4:00
or by Appointment

28 Smith Street, Fairhaven
508-992-6050
We Do Custom Framing

ArthurMonizGallery.com

Fitzgerald Tree Service

"WE GO WHERE PROBLEM TREES GROW"

- TREE REMOVAL • LOT CLEARING
- AERIAL BUCKET TRUCK & BOBCAT SERVICE
- FIREWOOD
- PRUNING OF LARGE HISTORICAL TREES
- YEAR ROUND SERVICE

SPECIALISTS IN LARGE DIFFICULT TREE REMOVAL

Free Estimates
508-993-3588
Fairhaven • jfitzgeraldtreeservice.com



First Congregational Church, UCC

34 Center Street
Fairhaven, MA
508-993-3368

Worship with us this Christmas Season!

Sunday, December 17 • 6 PM
Ecumenical Blue Christmas Service

Presented by St. Joseph's, Trinity Lutheran and First Congregational Churches. Designed for those experiencing loss of any kind or anyone who is finding it hard to feel joy this Christmas: readings, music, silence, candle lighting

Sunday, 12/24/23 • 10 AM
4th Sunday of Advent and Family Friendly Christmas Eve Service

A casual service. We will light the 4th Advent candle, tell the Christmas Story interactively, sing a few carols and light glow sticks. All ages are welcome to attend!

Sunday, 12/24/23 • 6 PM
Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

A service of readings, music and prayer to celebrate Christmas in our candlelit sanctuary. When we leave we will take Christ's joy and love with us into the December night. All are welcome.

Store owners advocate for rescinding nip ban

By Beth David
Editor

The Fairhaven Select Board heard from several liquor store owners at its meeting on 12/4/23, asking the board to delay implementation of the Nip Ban bylaw that goes into effect on 1/1/24. Town Administrator Angie Lopes Ellison told the board that they do not have the authority to delay the bylaw that was passed at Town Meeting. She said the town can help business owners meet the deadline in a variety of ways, including by being “creative” in selling supplies.

The owners said they have a lot of inventory that they have deeply discounted, but some things just do not sell that quickly.

Mark Riley, who owns two liquor stores in Fairhaven called the Nip Ban a “sneak attack.”

He said in Mattapoisett they asked how it would affect businesses before they voted and that is how Fairhaven should have done it.

Mr. Riley said it would take about \$1 million from businesses in town.

He said they will not be able to exhaust their inventory before January 1. For some, he said, it will be nine months. They could not buy less, he said, because they have to buy in bulk to make money.

He said the town asked how removing plastic bags would affect businesses, and they should have done that with the nip ban.

“It was a sneak attack,” he said, because they just wanted the ban.

SB Chairperson Leon Correy told Mr. Riley he got off on the “wrong foot” by making accusations. The vote happened in May, he said.

Mr. Riley apologized and said alcohol cannot be bought on consignment. He said if they knew ahead of time, there were options they could have pursued. He said a bill in the state legislature would put a deposit on nips, as with soda cans.

He noted that it was a close vote. If the owners had been given some time to get their information out, he said, it might have gone differently.

He said the owners were asking for two things: first, to delay implementation of the ban; second, to vote again.

“There is a solution besides just banning,” he said.

Mr. Correy asked if there was a way to delay it, but Ms. Ellison said Town Counsel had already weighed in and

said only Town Meeting can change it.

She said enforcement of the ban, was by the police department.

Mr. Riley asked if a violation would go before the SB.

Ann Richard, who is the chairperson of the Sustainability Committee, said she was concerned that they seemed to be discussing the possibility of not enforcing the bylaw.

She said she wanted to be sure that as of January 1, all liquor stores would not be selling nip bottles.

“Yes, that’s what she said,” said Mr. Correy.

“Just making sure,” said Ms. Richard.

Later, during the public comment period, another liquor store owner reiterated what Mr. Riley had told the board. He said they were selling at a loss to get rid of inventory, but they needed more time.

“What do we do as a store to take on this loss,” he asked. “That’s all we really need is more time. Just banning

There’s a degree of
patience. And there’s a
degree of like, this
entitlement in this town
is getting ridiculous
[Leon Correy]

it just harms the businesses.”

Mr. Correy suggested he speak to Ms. Ellison to figure out next steps.

Also during the public comment period, Patrick Carr, an Associate Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, took the podium to again advocate for the board to reconsider their vote to make Andrew Romano a full time member of the ZBA instead of Mr. Carr.

Mr. Correy reminded him he had two minutes to speak during public comment.

Mr. Carr responded that his comments would take more than two minutes.

“This is important,” he said.

He asked SB member Stasia Powers why she recused herself from the vote at the previous meeting.

Ms. Powers said that Mr. Romano

and she both raise funds for the same nonprofit.

Mr. Correy told Mr. Carr that public comment was not supposed to be interactive.

“I need to establish exactly what happened at this meeting,” said Mr. Carr and also the June 5 meeting, and that involves Ms. Powers recusal. He asked her if the fundraising was before June 5.

“Am I on trial,” asked Ms. Powers.

Mr. Carr said that “these things have to be known.”

Mr. Correy and Mr. Carr went back and forth a bit. Mr. Correy told Mr. Carr that he asked to be on the agenda, and he would be on an agenda, not necessarily the next meeting. Mr. Correy said it was a full agenda, noting it was ten o’clock.

“There’s a degree of patience,” said Mr. Correy. “And there’s a degree of like, this entitlement in this town is getting ridiculous.”

He said just because someone says so is not how it works.

“If you want it to work that way, then you can run and get on this side,” said Mr. Correy. “Otherwise you can just be patient like anybody else who has ever asked to be on the agenda.”

He said he had told Mr. Carr he would be on the next agenda.

“I’m not going to lie about that,” said Mr. Correy. “You can’t come in public comment and start interrogating members of the Select Board. That’s not how public comment works.”

Mr. Carr said none of that was ever explained to him. He was told he would be on public comment.

“I never told you that,” said Mr. Correy.

“You didn’t tell me that. You didn’t tell me anything,” said Mr. Carr, explaining he got an email from staff telling him. “So I’m not here trying to take over your meeting at ten o’clock at night, and I’m patient.”

He asked when he could bring it up again.

Mr. Correy said it would be on the agenda at the next meeting.

Mr. Carr is also an elected member of the Planning Board. In his candidate statement in the 3/23/23 issue of the *Neighb News*, Mr. Carr wrote, “Please note, if elected, I will resign my positions on the ZBA and EDC and concentrate solely on the planning board.”

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Christmas Lights & Santa

Santa will be at 35 Gелlette Road on Sat., 12/16, and Sat., 12/23, from 5–9 p.m. both days. Take pictures with Santa and the Grinch, and enjoy complimentary refreshments. Please bring a non-perishable, non-expired food item to be donated to the MO Life food pantry.

Fill The Bus

The Fairhaven Police Department will be accepting toys for their fill-the-bus toy drive at WalMart in Fairhaven on Sat., 12/16, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please come by and donate a toy for a needy child. Look for the bus in the parking lot. Let's fill the bus!

Toys for Tots

The Fairhaven Veterans Office has a Toys for Tots box at the Fairhaven Senior Center, 229 Huttleston Ave. (near Stop & Shop). Collections end Dec. 15th. Please bring unwrapped NEW toys for all ages.

Christmas Service

Lamb of God Christian Church is holding a 10:00 A.M. Christmas Eve Service on 12/24 at the Hampton Inn, Hampton Way, Fairhaven. Open to the Public.

Gift Wrap FR

You do the shopping. Let the elves handle the wrapping.

Too busy to wrap, or too many piles to get through? Come to the Firehouse, 267 Adams Street, Fairhaven, Sun., 12/17, from 1–3 p.m. The North Fairhaven Improvement Association will be wrapping to earn money for the scholarship program they are starting up. It's pay what you can! Support a local nonprofit, students, and shorten up your to do list all in one stop!

Holiday Concert

The Shepherd Center for the Performing Arts will host a Holiday Concert at the First Congregational Church of Fairhaven, 34 Center Street, on Sun., 12/17 at 1:30 p.m. in the church.

Scheduled to perform will be Art Tebetts, Carolyn "Cal" Wingate, Eddie Dillon, Barbara Phaneuf, Stephen

Redfern, Ross Wicherski, Rodney Daigle and Johan Gundersen. They will be playing and singing music of the season and promise a few surprises.

Tickets are available at the door (cash or check, please) for a donation of \$15.00. Children under the age of 14 will be admitted free when accompanied by an adult.

A meet the performers reception will follow in the Shepherd Center's new home, Babbitt Hall, of the First Congregational Church, William Street entrance.

Come see what is going on in Fairhaven and help us welcome the Shepherd Center to town.

Help a Local Family

Please take a moment during this season of giving, to help a local family.

Leah (Ketchum) DeArruda is Fairhaven born and raised. She went to Fairhaven Public Schools, and now lives in the Town Center with her husband and 1 year old daughter. She is pregnant with another, due in the spring.

Shortly after discovering their family would be growing, her husband Brad was diagnosed with testicular cancer. For many, this diagnosis is scary, but full recovery can usually be made with surgery. Brad's cancer has spread, and he has started chemotherapy.

In an already stressful situation, the family has learned that their insurance may not cover the cost of chemotherapy. Brad is a welder, and can not work during treatment. Leah works customer service for a roofing company.

This is an average family, and they desperately need our help.

Visit their GoFundMe page at <http://tinyurl.com/bd2c59ub> to donate.

Internet Survey

To further its digital equity efforts, the Town of Fairhaven is pleased to collaborate with the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) on a residential survey. All households are encouraged to complete the survey which is intended to assess internet accessibility, device and technical support availability, service affordability, and digital education needs

within the community. Data gathered from this survey will be used to inform statewide digital equity efforts and ensure that forthcoming federal funding – administered by the state – will directly benefit local programs for Fairhaven residents.

The survey will be available online and in print, and will be provided in multiple languages: English, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Vietnamese, Russian, Arabic, and Khmer. To participate in the online survey visit <https://made.civilspace.io/en/projects/ma-digital-equity/engagements/ma-sdep-public-survey/sections/1>.

If you do not have access to the internet, printed surveys can be picked up and returned to the Fairhaven Select Board Office, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719

FinestKind Premiere

FinestKind, the movie shot locally, with many scenes in Fairhaven, will premier on Fri., 12/15, on Paramount+/. The story revolves around two brothers in the fishing industry, from opposite sides of the tracks who are reunited as adults. Desperate circumstances force them into a deal with an organized crime syndicate in Boston, and a young woman gets caught in the middle.

Polar Plunge

Come on down and take the plunge on Sun. 1/1, at 10:00 a.m. sharp. Remember the plunge is free. We sell long-sleeve t-shirts to raise funds for Fairhaven Dollars For Scholars to provide scholarships to area high school students. T-shirts are \$25. You don't have to plunge to purchase a shirt and support our cause.

Hope to see you there!

Try Transit

Starting January 1st, the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority will bring back the "Try Transit" program. Building on the success of last year's six-week "Try Transit" Program which ran during the winter holidays, SRTA is now able to offer fare-free service from January 1st to June 30th to grow ridership and support the local economy.

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Clasky Lights

Although the big opening night was canceled due to rain, the holiday light display at Clasky Common Park in New Bedford is on.

County Street, between Pearl and Pope Streets and down to Pleasant Street. Lights are on nightly

Candlelight Service

Sun., 12/17, 4 p.m., Seamen's Bethel, 15 Johnny Cake Hill, NB. Free.'

Join us for our Annual Christmas Candlelight Service. We will be kicking off the holiday week with some great folks!! Please come down and hear Pastor Paul Wheeler deliver his sermon and the talented vocalists -Sister's in Song along with our awesome organist, Paul Sardihna!

Celebration of Carols

Grace Episcopla Church, corner of County and School Streets, NB, presents "A Celebration of Carols," on Sun., 12/17, at 3 p.m. Admission, \$20, children under 12 free with adult. The concert provides an inspirational respite from holiday chores and preparations.

The program will feature Vivaldi's "Magnificat", a traditional classical choral work and selections from "A Ceremony of Carols" by Benjamin Britten using middle and early modern English poems edited by Gerald Bullett. The second half features familiar carols arranged by Will Todd in a jazz setting and more!

A Christmas Carol Solo

A Your Theatre production at the Steeple Playhouse, 159 William St., NB, Fri., 12/15, 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$25. Reservations can be made by calling 508-993-0772 or emailing boxoffice@yourtheatre.org

Join Neil McGarry as he performs his award winning solo performance of CHARLES DICKENS' A CHRISTMAS CAROL.

Armed only with a bare stage, a few props, and Dickens' glorious words, McGarry delivers the perennial holiday classic in a tour de force that has left audiences riveted from Boston to Prague. Joyous, captivat-

ing, and witty, *A Christmas Carol* is a fully staged, full-throated leap into Dickens' most famous story, delivered with a simplicity that disarms and touches the heart.

For more information about Neil McGarry, please visit www.neilmcgarry.com

AHA! Night

This month, it's all about holiday fun! In between experiencing free cultural experiences from New Bedford's creative community, on Thursday, December 14th, visitors can stroll many of downtown's favorite shops and galleries, staying open after hours for Starry Night or try craft mocktails and cocktails created especially for AHA! by downtown restaurants and bars to celebrate the season.

Custom House Square, a favorite AHA! gathering spot, will host a roaring firepit for warmth, an ethereal Light Angel, and the Sippican and Southcoast Brass Bands for holiday entertainment. The schedule for Custom House Square will be Firepit 5:00 -7:00 pm; Light Angel 5:00 -7:00 pm; Holiday Songs from Sippican School Band (youth choir) 5:00 - 5:30 pm; Holiday Music from Southcoast Brass Band 5:30 - 7:00 pm

In addition to the festivities in Custom House Square, visitors can take in a comprehensive assortment of experiences following the yellow AHA! flags from County Street down to the harbor. There will be open studios, art and history talks, crafts and gingerbread house making, maker demonstrations, art exhibit openings, a film screening, cookie challenge, star gazing, tours, and plenty of music experiences.

Free parking is available at the Elm Street Garage.

Visit <https://ahanewbedford.org/next-aha/> for full schedule

First Night

Come ring in the New Year with family and friends in New Bedford! From 5-8 PM on Sun., 12/31, enjoy family-friendly programming in historic downtown and at 8:30 PM the city has a special treat in store: for the first time in New Bedford an LED drone show will light up the sky with a curated display set to the tunes of DJ Mikey Life of Abstrakt Music! The

viewing area for the show will be on Union Street between South 6th and North Water Street, which will be sectioned off for pedestrians only. (The show will not be viewable from the waterfront, Route 18, or the South End so head downtown as you don't want to miss this show!)

Other programming includes fire spinning and LED performances by Cirque de Light in Custom House Square, Toe Jam Puppet Band, Vinny's Miracle Fish Puppets and a photo booth at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, Doctor Finnegan's Circus featuring magic, unexpected comedy circus routines and balloon tying at the Whaling National Historical Park, Acoustic tunes with local musician Richie Oliver at the Whaling National Historical Park, and the Buttonwood Brass Band at 222 Union Restaurant and Bar at the chic New Bedford Harbor Hotel and more.

For more details and updates visit <https://destinationnewbedford.org/city-celebrates-new-years-eve/>

Moby-Dick Marathon

From January 5 - 7, 2024, the New Bedford Whaling Museum, 18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford, will host one of the world's best-known readings of Herman Melville's iconic American novel, *Moby-Dick*. Free.

The Moby-Dick Marathon features the main 25-hour read-a-thon from Saturday to Sunday, interspersed with fun Melville-inspired activities, including opportunities to chat with the scholars from the Melville Society Cultural Project (MSCP), a live performance of Chapter 40 by Culture*Park, and much more.

The New Bedford Whaling Museum has celebrated Melville's 1841 departure from the Port of New Bedford and Fairhaven aboard the whaleship *Acushnet* with this mid-winter tradition since 1997.

Are you ready to join us on the hunt for the elusive white whale?

Visit <https://www.whalingmuseum.org/program/moby-dick-marathon-2024/> for full schedule.

"Midnight on the Forecastle" (Chapter 40) will be performed by Culture*Park at approximately 8 p.m. on Sat., 1/6, in the Cook Memorial Theater (Lobby) of the Whaling Museum, 18 Johnny Cake Hill.

HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

At Acushnet Library

The following events are at the Acushnet Public Library, 232 Middle Road.

- December 14 & 21 @ 10:30 am Mindful Melodies - a PACE CFCE Program for children ages birth to 6 years. Registration requested.
- December 21 @ 2-3 pm chill, chat, craft Ages 10+
- December 21 @ 6 pm Cameron Shave's Holiday Jazz Octet The Cameron Shave Holiday Jazz Octet, comprised of eight New England musicians, will be playing original jazz arrangements of classic Holiday favorites. Come and join us for some Holiday fun.
- December 22 @ 2-4 pm New Bedford Art Museum presents On the Road to Creativity at Your Local Library - The Whooooo-nders of Owls Learn about owls and create a clay owl, while supplies last. Ages 6 -12.
- December 29 @ 2 pm LEGO Club Ages 5+

Holiday Fair

Last minute holiday vendor fair, Sun., 12/17, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Knights of Columbus Hall, 57 Fairhaven Road (Rte. 6), Mattapoisett. Featuring crafters, vendors, food. Come see Charlie's Hot Dogs!

First Night Boston

Since 1976, Boston's First Night has been a New Year's Eve celebration of artistic performances, the wonders of the season, and the beginning of a new year. In keeping with this fantastic Boston tradition, the First Night celebration will open 2024 with an array of performances.

All performances are free and open to the public. Indoor performances may have capacity limits and are first come, first served.

Events include fireworks at 7 p.m. and midnight. Visit <https://www.firstnightboston.org/schedule> for details.

Holiday Sing Along

Come one! Come all! Join the Mattapoisett Museum at 5 Church St on Sunday, December 17 at 4:00 for its all Holiday Sing-along. Led by Steve LaValley and accompanied by Gail Roberts, the song list will include old time favorites such as Jingle Bells,

Rudolf, Deck the Halls, White Christmas and many more. Santa will also be making a special appearance and participants will enjoy some festive refreshments. Please join the Museum for this jolly event!

Winter Lights

Now through January 1st, explore over 100 illuminated sites across the Greater Cape Ann region: Gloucester, Rockport, Essex, Ipswich, and Manchester-by-the-Sea.

Winter Lights on Cape Ann is brought to you by Discover Gloucester and the Greater Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce. Stay tuned for more window decor highlights!

Pack your car and head to Cape Ann for an unforgettable holiday experience. Be part of the magic and cast your vote in the decorating contest! See the full list of businesses, vote on your favorites, and access the digital map with event details, sales, and more at discovergloucester.com/winter-lights-cape-ann. You can also pick up a brochure in any of the participating businesses, or download the PDF on the website.

Visit discovergloucester.com/winter-lights-cape-ann for a chance to win a \$50 Greater Cape Ann gift check!

Bless Baby Jesus

During the seasons of Advent and Christmas, many of us display the Nativity scene in our homes. The manger reminds us of the humble birth of Christ.

Pope John Paul II began the tradition on the 3rd Sunday of Advent of Bambinelli Sunday, also known as 'Blessing of the Baby Jesus,' to remind families about the joyous event of Baby Jesus' arrival in the manger.

We encourage everyone, young and old, to bring their statue of baby Jesus from their home Nativity set here on Sun., 12/17, La Salette, 947 Park St., Attleboro. at the 12:10 p.m. Mass for a special blessing before Christmas. Let us gather together in faith and joy, as we prepare our hearts and homes for the arrival of Christ this Christmas season.

At The MAC

The Marion Art Center is located at 80 Pleasant Street in Marion.

The Marion Art Center will kick off the month of December with the opening of its new play, *Miracle on South Division Street*, written by Tom Dudzick, directed by Donn Tyler and Maura Van Voris. The show runs through Sat., 12/16. Don't miss this lighthearted and heartfelt comedy on the MAC stage! See all details and purchase tickets at marionartcenter.org/events.

Visit the MAC during the Annual Holiday House Tour sponsored by the Sippican Women's Club on Saturday, December 9. The MAC will have extended hours from 10am-5pm. Shop for unique, one-of-a-kind gifts and artwork from the current gallery exhibition, Small Works + Holiday Shop. Artworks are all under fourteen inches, and the shop features a curated selection of handmade goods such as jewelry, textiles, ceramics, woodworks, and more. All pieces may be immediately removed from the galleries upon purchase for this cash and carry show.

Guests will have another opportunity to shop and join the MAC festivities during the Marion Holiday Stroll on Sunday, December 10 from 3:30-5:30pm. Take your own fun family photos, pet portraits, and selfies in the MAC's winter wonderland igloo. Use your new photos for a fun holiday greeting card! Tag the MAC or check in on social media to get a free glitter tattoo from the Glitter Witches, who will be on site from 4:00-5:00pm.

Looking for the perfect gift? The Marion Art Center now offers gift cards! Gift cards can be purchased for any amount and used for anything at the MAC including artwork, tuition for classes, memberships, concert or play tickets, and more. They make great stocking stuffers, birthday presents, and are the perfect gifts for those hard-to-shop-for folks in your life. Give the gift of art!

La Salette Lights

Visit the spectacular Christmas Lights at La Salette Shrine, 947 Park St., Attleboro, MA. FREE.

Lights are on every night, 5-9 p.m. through January 1, including Christmas night (when the shrine is closed). The majority of the Christmas lights are on trees so they can be seen from (almost) everywhere on the property.

J & L Cemetery Plot Maintenance & Design

Headstone cleaning

Year round maintenance
Seasonal plantings and decorations

Reasonable Rates
Call 774-365-7968 for appointment

Makes a great family gift

John & Lori Sharples
We will treat your family as our own

K's Meat & Market



Farm fresh local products such as
beef, pork, lamb, veal, chicken,
milk and eggs

Open
Saturdays & Sundays
10 a.m.–3 p.m.
197 New Boston Road, Fairhaven

Find us on Facebook for updates:
<https://www.facebook.com/Ksmeatandmarket>

Marc A.
Gadbois
General Contractor

Licensed General Contractor
for 43 years

Roofing • Decks • Porches • Windows • Doors

Marc A. Gadbois • 508-992-0226

Materials Supplied by ABC Supply Company

MA Const. Sup. Lic. # 003000
MA Home Imp. Lic. #127675

EPA Lead Safe Certified
Fully Insured

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

Ad rates • Call 508-979-5593 • Email: NeighbNews@comcast.net

1/16 page
One week run: \$26.00
4+ weeks: **\$22.00/week**
(\$88/month) Color: \$148/mo.
1/8 page
One week run: \$45.00
4+ weeks: **\$32.00/week**
(\$128/month) Color:
\$188/mo.
1/4 page
One week run: \$77.00
4+ weeks: **\$54.00/ week**
(\$216/month) Color:
\$336/mo.

1/2 page vert. or hor.
One week run: \$130.00
4+ weeks: **\$107.00/ week**
(\$428/month) Color:
\$628/mo.
Full Page
One week run: \$235.00
4+ weeks: **\$180.00/week**
(\$720/month) Color:
\$960/mo.
Classified: \$7/first 3 lines,
\$1.00 each additional line

4,280 copies in 200+ places



OPEN
Mon.–Fri.
8 a.m.–7 p.m.
Sat.
8 a.m.–2 p.m.

Check Out
Our Wide
Variety of
Cars

www.ausedautos.com



Come in for your MA
State Inspection. No
appointment necessary!

Free diagnostics for
any dashboard light

196 Huttleston Ave. • Fairhaven, MA • 508-758-9500

We accept
all competitors'
coupons.

A&A WARRANTY!

All of our parts come with a 12/12
warranty (12 months/12,000 miles,
whichever comes first)

ALL FOOD AVAILABLE FOR TAKE-OUT

WAH MAY RESTAURANT



We serve
Beer & Wine

51 Main Street, Fairhaven Center
Gift Certificates for all Occasions
Trusted by your friends and
family since 1961

Finalist for
Best Chinese
Restaurant Four
Years in a ROW.
WINNER in 2021



\$2 off All purchases of
at least \$20
With this coupon. Exp. 1/5/24.
Not to be combined with other offers.

Complete Menu of Chinese &
American Selections
Call 508-992-8668 for take-out.
Hours: Sun.–Thurs., 11-9
Fri.–Sat., 11-10 • Closed Tuesdays



Indoor/Out Door Seating & Take-Out

MUSIC



"PLUS WHATEVER OTHER GOOD THINGS WE CAN DO"

EVERY TUESDAY / 7PM

PRIZES! FUN! GOOD FOOD! COLD DRINKS!

Kitchen
Open
till 9:30 p.m.
Full menu
available for
pick-up or
delivery

Call 508-996-9212 for reservations or take-out.
Now serving full bar and breakfast daily:
Weekdays at 8 a.m., Weekends at 10 a.m.
TRIVIA IS BACK: Thursdays at 7 p.m.

125 Sconticut Neck Road, Fairhaven • 508-996-9212
www.BaysideLoungeFhvn.com

Fairhaven Recreation Center

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

Young Entrepreneurs

Join this exciting program that fires up your creativity and equips you to dominate the business world with your unique products or services. This course is a passport to entrepreneurship, essential skills and a path to success!

Participants will need to bring their own laptop or tablet, earbuds or headphones and access to an email account.

Start date: Jan 30- March 12 Time 3pm-4pm Members \$135; Non-members \$145.

Encanto Musical Theater Class

Come join 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 "Mirabel's Medley Excerpts." The play has been rewritten along with the theme of the original Encanto. "Children will sing and dance and act." Every child receives a speaking role of some kind. Costumes are encouraged but not necessary.

Jan 24th-March 6th (No class 2/21)
Ages 5-13 Time 4-4:45pm

Member:\$105. Non-member \$125.

Hip Hop Dance Class

Come take the class with a dancer from the Celtics games! Join in on the fun of learning the latest dance moves to the popular music out there right now. Class incorporates choreography and different forms of freestyle movement. At the end of the 6 week session, the children will have a short performance of their hard work. No experience necessary.

Jan 24th-March 6th (No class 2/21)

Support Local Journalism!

Donate to the *Neighb News*
through a PayPal link
on our website:
www.neighbnews.com

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.

Mall Trips

Reservations accepted for mall trips at beginning the 15th of the prior month. There is a \$6 charge unless otherwise noted. Please bring exact amount. The van leaves the Fairhaven Senior Center promptly at 9: 12/20, Warwick Mall; 12/27, Prov. Place & Whole Foods; 1/3, Twin River Casino; 1/10, Warwick Mall; 1/17, Hyannis Mall, Trader Joe & Whole Foods.

Toys for Tots

The Fairhaven Veterans Office has a Toys for Tots box at the Fairhaven Senior Center inside the building. Collections end Dec. 15th. Please bring unwrapped NEW toys for all ages.

Holiday Party

Join us for a holiday party on Wed.,

12/20, from noon to 2 p.m., at the senior center, featuring entertainment by Jordan Paiva. Please call to sign up, 508-979-4029.

Memory Cafe

Dec. 28, 11:30-1:30. Please call to reserve a spot by 11/27.

A Memory Cafe is a gathering that individuals with early to moderate Alzheimer's or other memory loss and their care partner, family or friends can attend. It's a time and place where everyone can interact, find support, establish friendships and share concerns without feeling embarrassed or misunderstood.

Entertainment will be Rebecca Pink.

Space is limited. Please sign up at 508-979-4029 by December 26.

Volunteers Wanted

The Fairhaven Senior Center is looking for volunteers to assist with various positions, including front desk, serving/cleaning at Supper Clubs, food box delivery, newsletter delivery.

Please call or email Martha Reed, 508-979-4029; mreed@fairhaven-ma.gov

Walking Schedule

Walk with friends at the Rec Center gym next door from 12:30-1 p.m., Monday-Friday. FREE

Do you have old medical equipment?

We are happy to take an unused medical equipment in working condition to loan to others in need.

Be sure
to tell
our
advertisers
you saw
their ads
in the
*Neighb
News!*

Atria
SENIOR LIVING

Discover
Exceptional
Senior
Living

Independent, Assisted Living &
Memory Care • Respite Available

Schedule a tour today!

391 Alden Road, Fairhaven, MA
508.994.9238 • www.atriafairhaven.net

Recipe of the Week

Rum Balls

A classic holiday treat.

Store in the refrigerator for several days for an even better flavor!

- 3 cups crushed vanilla wafer cookies
- 3/4 cup confectioners' sugar
- 1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 1/2 cups finely chopped pecans
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 3 tablespoons light corn syrup
- 1/2 cup spiced rum

In a large bowl, stir together the crushed vanilla wafers, 3/4 cup confectioners' sugar, cocoa, and nuts.

Drizzle in vanilla, corn syrup and rum.

Scoop and shape into 1 inch balls or larger, about two level scoops from a small OXO cookie scoop.

Add small amounts of crushed wafers or more rum as needed to get the perfect texture.

Roll Rum Balls in additional confectioners' sugar, cocoa, sprinkles or whatever strikes your fancy.

Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator for several days to develop the flavor.

Makes about 20 large rum balls.

Variation: Use other kinds of crushed cookies like graham crackers or butter cookies.

From mybakingaddiction.com



red coat, mine is brown.

I don't think my brother deserves to get as many presents as I do.

He's always in trouble at doggie daycare for teasing the other dogs, for not listening, and for not doing what he is told. I, on the other paw, am popular, well-behaved, and a good student.

Why should he be rewarded the same as me?

Dear Roger,

You are confusing rewards with presents. Rewards are given to acknowledge accomplishments.

Roger

Don't forget to tell our advertisers you saw their ads in the Neighb News!

Dear Frankie

Christmas Complaints

Dear Frankie,
Every Christmas, my brother and I, who are close in age, get the same presents from my mom and dad. If I get a blue leash, he gets a green one. If he gets a

Presents are given to express love.

Have you ever considered that you are rewarded daily by being born with a good temperament and the intelligence to get good grades?

I am sure your parents are proud of you, but it doesn't mean they love your brother any less. Good parents understand their children have different strengths and weaknesses.

The Christmas presents from your parents are their way of saying they love you and your brother the same and for who you are. It's time you follow their lead and work on becoming a more compassionate brother.

Best, Frankie

© 2023 Geneva Woodruff

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



ALDEN COURT
Nursing Care & Rehabilitation Center

389 Alden Road • Fairhaven, Mass.

508-991-8600

Short Term Rehab and Long Term Care

"We Take Good Care of our Neighbors"

Fairhaven Computer Repair

A local repairman for the local community!
29+ Years' Experience



New and Used Systems for sale

Repairing all Major Brands including:
Dell, HP, Acer, Asus, & Apple products

- House Calls • On-Site Service 24/7
- Repairs • Installs • Upgrades
- Networks • Laptops • Wireless

508-991-0169

Discreet, Professional, and Personalized Services.

Serviceing the residential, commercial, and educational sectors.

LUZO FUEL

\$3.53
Gal

Price may change

HEATING OIL & DIESEL

We strive to maintain our competitive reputation by reducing costs

24-Hour Service

www.luzofuel.com

Over 15 years' experience



508-996-8042 • 126 MacArthur Drive
New Bedford, MA 02740



St. Joseph School teaches reason for the season



The Kindergarten class at St. Joseph's School in Fairhaven had a special package delivered to their classroom! It was "A Gift from God!" Mrs. Kuliga, our principal, read the accompanying letter to the children and then opened the box...much to their delight! The students will be filling their classroom with "heart prints" and when their room is "full," they will be able to open their special gifts. For now, the gifts wait patiently under the class Christmas tree. ABOVE: The children place the Gifts From God under the tree, which will be opened when they fill their classroom with "heart prints," hopefully in time for Christmas. *Submitted photo.*



The students at St. Joseph's School in Fairhaven celebrated the first week of Advent with a prayer service in their "chapel-torium." The Pre-School and Pre-Kindergarten classes brought up holly leaves to add to our giant Advent wreath on our bulletin board. ABOVE: Students hand holly leaves to Sr. Muriel Lebeau to place them on their giant advent wreath on the bulletin board. *Submitted photo.*

RELAX & RECHARGE AT OUR
HOLIDAY POP-UP
12/16/2023
11:00-2:00

FIND YOUR INNER PEACE WITH A REFLEXOLOGY
OR ENERGETIC AROMATHERAPY MINI SESSION!

- Aromatherapy Custom Blending •
- Crystal Bowl Sound Healing • Yoga
- Gift certificates •

Enter to win a free healing session
Complimentary snacks
78 Middle Street • Fairhaven, MA
FREE Event by appointment only.
Call Elaine for Reflexology, 201-388-0225.
Call Janice for Aromatic Healing Touch,
508-308-4356

Janey Kalife Paul
508-971-9824
Jack Conway Realtor
Mattapoisett

JUST SOLD:
\$319,000
28 Dana Street, New Bedford (North End)
Ranch Style Home with 2 Bedrooms & 1 Full Bath.

TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN
Office of Tourism & Visitors Center
Academy Building, 141 Main Street
next door to Fairhaven High School
508-979-4085
FairhavenTours@fairhaven-ma.gov
Open: Mon. Tue. Thu. Fri. Sat. 8:00-4:30
<https://FairhavenTours.com>
<https://www.facebook.com/FairhavenTours>
<https://www.instagram.com/fairhaventours/>

Matthew Rodriguez and other fallen heroes remembered

By Beth David

Editor

Marine LCpl Matthew Rodriguez, 19, was killed in Afghanistan on December 11, 2013, ten years ago. His family struggled this year to find a fitting way to mark the milestone. His mother, Lisa, said she saw an email announcing the “Remembering Our Fallen” exhibit would be at Gillette Stadium for the Army/Navy game. She wondered how she could get in to see it. She shot off an email and one thing led to another, and she managed to mobilize her crew to get the exhibit to New Bedford.

They got it together in 3–4 weeks, a monumental task.

The exhibit consists of 33 tribute towers with more than 5390 names of service members who have died since the 911 attacks. It includes those killed in action, those who died later from wounds they sustained in combat, those who died in training accidents, and those who succumbed to post traumatic stress and died from suicide.

Ms. Rodriguez said she called the people who will call anyone and ask for anything: Michael Knabbe and Hank Turgent.

“The rest is pretty much history,” she told the crowd at the ceremony on Monday, 12/11, at a hangar at the New Bedford airport, flanked by Marines, fire and police color guards, the Patriot Guard Riders, and amid the tribute towers.

“I’m pretty sure it was Matt who

made sure I saw that email and gave me the courage to ask for something so amazing,” she said. “You see, Matt had pretty high standards. One of his favorite sayings was, ‘Only the Best.’ I think we were all able to deliver that for him today!”

She talked about Matthew a bit: “My Matthew was beautiful,” with his big sparkly blue eyes, infectious smile, big heart, and “a sensitive soul which he tried to hide.”

He loved baseball and hockey, history and camping, and being a goofy uncle.

She said he was wise beyond his years and a mechanical wizard.

He often argued just for the sake of arguing, which was infuriating.

“That’s when he knew he got you, and then that damn smile would make you laugh,” she said.

She told the crowd that Matthew wanted nothing more than to be a Marine and to be deployed, to be the “tip of the spear.”

“I do take comfort in knowing that Matthew gave his life doing exactly what he wanted to be doing,” said Ms. Rodriguez, adding he chose to serve with “deep thought and understanding, love of country, and a profound pride and purpose.”

She said when you lose a child, you grieve not only for them and the hole in your heart, but for the life they did not get to have. His sisters lost their



oldest little brother and “the family comic relief,” his brother lost his “best friend and advisor, and also... his chief tormentor.”

“And our hearts will always break for Matt’s fiancée Julia who had every plan for her future ripped from her at far too young an age,” said Ms. Rodriguez.

The best way to honor Matt, she said, is for all to live their lives well.

“Anything less would be an insult to his love for us, and his sacrifice.”

A fellow Gold Star mother told her it does not get better, it gets different, she said.

“She was right,” said Ms. Rodriguez. “And just different is okay, because to grieve means you loved and you remember. Matthew was so very loved, by so many. He will be forever missed and he will always be remembered. He is our hero.”

Others who spoke about Matthew said he was a person of values and integrity.

Fairhaven Select Board member Bob Espindola, who coached Mat-

MATT ROD: cont’d next page



TOP: Lisa Rodriguez, the mother of US Marine Corps LCpl Matthew R. Rodriguez, who was killed in action in Afghanistan on 12/11/13, speaks during a ceremony at the New Bedford Airport on 12/11/23, the 10th anniversary of Matthew’s death. ABOVE LEFT: Fairhaven Select Board member Bob Espindola, who is also a friend of the family, speaks during the ceremony. ABOVE RIGHT: A hangar at the New Bedford airport is filled with the exhibit “Remembering Our Fallen,” a tribute to military service members who have been killed or died as a result of their service in the war on terror, from 9/11/01 to 8/30/21, where the exhibit was displayed from 12/10 to 12/12. Photos by Beth David.

MATT ROD: cont'd from previous page

thew in Little League baseball, and whose niece was engaged to him, said Matthew had values even as a 12-year-old.

Even though we appreciate the sacrifice of those who served and died, when it is someone close to you, "It takes on a whole new dimension," said Mr. Espindola.

Whenever the National Anthem is played, he thinks of Matt. The fun fund-raisers they hold and the memorial playground at the airport also serve to remind people of Matt.

He said his parents used to take them to the airport to watch the planes take off, a simple thing. Now, children can use the playground while they do that, and someday they will understand the meaning of the words on the entrance to it.

New Bedford mayor Jon Mitchell said Matthew was the kind of kid any parent would want. He had values and he lived those values.

Matthew was not "required" to be there, said the mayor. We have an all volunteer military. He could have been doing something "far more ordinary."

"But he knew for himself, he had to be there," said Mayor Mitchell, adding Matthew was the kind of person "our country has needed since the founding of the republic."

State Rep. Chris Markey also addressed the crowd, saying he was sorry that this is where the family is and sorry that they have given something that we take for granted every day: our children.

He said the photos in the exhibit show that they are mostly kids. The pictures show them with their cars

and doing other fun things.

"May you reflect a lot more on the value of life, on the value of virtue, on the value of goodness, on the value of trustworthiness, on the value of courage," said Rep. Markey. "And the need for all that every day in your life. I hope my kids do that."

Mr. Markey credited Matthew's family and community with helping him become who he was. He said people promoted him, gave him a chance, saw potential in him.

After the ceremony Matthew's brother Adam, 27, said he helped set up the exhibit, taking time to grieve, as always, when he needed to.

"You get through it. You take your time to grieve, when it's done. You say, 'not now, in 10 minutes. I'll cry later. Now I have to get through it,'" said Adam. "I've gotten good at it over the years."

"I'm all right," said Matthew's niece Katelyn Webber. "These events make me nervous, but I'm always here to support my family. It's always a little hard."

She said walking through the exhibit was not easy.

"It's bittersweet," said Matthew's sister Lauren Webber. "It's hard to believe it's been 10 years. But days like today remind us he'll never be forgotten."

His sacrifice is not in vain, she said, and the family is surrounded by "awesome people who love us and loved him."

"It's a reminder that freedom comes at a cost," said Matthew's sister Lisa Doherty, and these service members and their families paid that cost

with their lives. "It's a visual reminder of how very lucky we are to live in this country. So awesome."

Gilly Rebello and his son, Troy, made their way through the towers, looking at the names.

Gilly said it was "fantastic. There should be more of it."

He said all the names he had seen had been 19-24 years old.

"You see the names and the faces," said Troy. "It creates a heck of an impact. It's emotional."

Sage, 19, and her mother Tracy also wandered among the towers, looking at the pictures.

They were there to "pay tribute," said Tracy, noting her father was in Korea.

"A lot of kids my age are on there and it's terrifying to see that," said Sage. "It's not right."

"It's very said," said Tracy.

On the website of the exhibit, it says "A Gold Star family's greatest fear is that their Fallen will be forgotten."

The Rodriguez family is determined to make sure that never happens around here.

Matthew's photos are on tower 26.

Visit www.RememberingOurFallen.org to learn more about the exhibit or to add someone. An immediate family member must contact the organization.

The ceremony will be available on Fairhaven Community Media, www.fairhaventv.com.

Visit the LCpl Matthew R. Rodriguez Memorial Foundation at <https://the.smilingwarrior.org>



LEFT: Mike Bouvier tells a funny story about US Marine Corps LCpl Matthew R. Rodriguez, who was killed in action in Afghanistan on 12/11/13, to Matt's relatives after a ceremony at the New Bedford Airport on 12/11/23, the 10th anniversary of Matthew's death. L-R: Matthew's sisters, Lauren Webber and Lisa Doherty; Lauren's husband, Scott*; Matthew's niece, Katelyn Webber; Mike Bouvier; Lisa's husband, Joseph*. RIGHT: Matt's photos in the exhibit include one of him with his fiancée, Julia Tapper. Photos by Beth David. *Corrected names from previous versions.

Old Time Holiday & Sing-Along get people in the spirit



Fairhaven held its annual Old Time Holiday celebration this weekend, including craft fairs, food, and the annual sing-along with a visit from the Big Guy. ABOVE LEFT: Members of Pack 52 pose for the local free sheet while staffing their table at the Town Hall Shops, in the auditorium of Fairhaven Town Hall, during the Old Time Holiday celebration on 12/9/23. ABOVE MIDDLE: Amanda Allison of Pack 52 makes a gnome at the Town Hall Shops. ABOVE RIGHT: Kelsey, of Wicked Handmade, works on a piece while staffing the table at the craft shop in the First Congregational Church. *Photos by Beth David.* BELOW LEFT: The Hamiltons, L-R: Ned holding Jack, Shelby (right), and Milo (front), join in the annual Town Hall Sing-Along sponsored by the Fairhaven Improvement Association on 12/9/23. BELOW MIDDLE: Santa hands out treats at the Sing-Along. BELOW RIGHT: Neighbors, the Cunhas and Larrows, join in the annual Sing-Along. *Photos by Samuel Simoes.*



Stevie's
WINE & SPIRITS
**FAIRHAVEN'S
BEST KEPT SECRET**
JOIN US FOR WEEKLY TASTINGS
115 Huttleston Ave. Fairhaven
774-510-7881 | stevieswineandspirit.com
Mon-Thurs: 10AM-8PM |
Friday & Sat: 10AM-9PM | Sun: 10AM-6PM

fairwaystreeandlandscaping@gmail.com
Fairways
TREE & LANDSCAPING
Est. 1997
• MOWING
• FERTILIZING
• PRUNING
• CLEAN-UPS
• MACHINE WORK
• SNOW REMOVAL
AARON LAGUE
508-989-6626

MAC'S SODA BAR

508-992-8615

Christmas Day Dinner

11-3 Takeout



- Prime Rib: \$30
- Baked Stuffed Shrimp: \$25
- Chicken Kiev: \$20
- Baked Ham Dinner: \$20



All meals come with choice of mashed or baked potato, fresh greenbeans, roll, and dessert.
Reservations recommended!

Wing in the New Year!

Order your wings...Plain, Sesame, Buffalo, Asian Chille, Garlic Parmesan, Ranch (dry rub), or Honey BBQ.

Also available, hot and cold custom platters:
Lasagna, Scallops wrapped in Bacon, Cacoila, Finger Sandwiches, Antipasto, and more...

*Call ahead. All orders in by Friday, Dec. 29, 2023.
Pick up December 31st by 5 p.m.*

HOURS

Sun.: 8 a.m.-2 p.m. • Mon.-Wed.: 7 a.m.-2 p.m.
Thurs.: 7 a.m.-7 p.m. • Fri.-Sat: 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

116 Sconticut Neck Road • Fairhaven • 508-992-8615

Competitive Insurance Rates for

Auto • Home Business

Call or stop by for a review and quote

Local and national companies represented

Vieira Insurance Agency

Fairhaven Center for Business
65 Alden Road, Fairhaven, MA 02719
508-997-8515
www.VieiraIns.com

Now Accepting Applications



Fairhaven Village

330 Main Street | Fairhaven, MA 02719

Call today!

508-994-1908

fairhaven@peabodyproperties.com
www.peabodyproperties.com

- 1 & 2 Bedrooms
- Heat Included
- On-site Maintenance
- On-site Professional Mgmt.
- On-site Laundry Facilities
- On-site Parking
- Resident Services Programs



Housing for 62 yrs+ & handicapped & disabled person 18 yrs+. Rent based on 30% of adjusted gross income.



Surprenant & Beneski, P.C.

Strategic Planning for Your Peace of Mind

ESTATE PLANNING • ELDER LAW

MEDICAID PRE-PLANNING & CRISIS PLANNING
ESTATE TAX PLANNING
SPECIAL NEEDS PLANNING
POWERS OF ATTORNEY • WILLS
HEALTH CARE PROXIES
HIPAA AUTHORIZATIONS
BLOODLINE PLANNING

35 Arnold Street, New Bedford, MA 02740 • 508-994-5200
336 South Street, Hyannis, MA 02601 • 508-427-1102
45 Bristol Drive, Easton, MA 02375 • 508-427-5400
www.MyFamilyEstatePlanning.com

EURO SHIP STORE/PHOENIX

THE place for
UNIQUE items
From clothes to toys
and everything in between!

24 Center Street • Fairhaven, MA 02719
508-992-1714 • On Facebook: Euro Ship Store/Phoenix



Made in
USA

BREWER BANNER Designs
77 Forest St., New Bedford, MA ★ info@brewerbanner.com

ON SALE NOW: U.S. Flags, Bunting Fans, Veterans Flags
Display Cases, Decorative Banners, Poles, & accessories

Custom Design is our specialty!
www.brewerbanner.com 508-996-6006



18 Center Street
Fairhaven MA 02719

774-202-3813 howeallenrealty@gmail.com

Wayne electric alarms &

508-997-5600 508-758-3068 walarms.com

24-Hour UL-Listed Monitoring Service
Security Systems • Fire Alarms
Closed Circuit Television • Card Access
Serving Bristol & Plymouth Counties for over 35 years



Sylvia Electric

Eric Sylvia

Commercial & Residential • MA/RI/CT
Upgrades • Repairs
Emergency Calls • New Installation
Renovation & Re-models • Service Calls

Sylvia Electric – Powerful Service

774-849-0425

Licensed Electrician for 24 Years • Lic: 13901A

FYNAL TOUCH HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Free Estimates

Quality work at
affordable prices



Jeff Cardoza

774-451-1204

Jeff Cardoza Jr.
774-263-3362

Garages • Vinyl Siding • Replacement Windows
• Decks • Additions

MA Reg. #13124
Unrestricted Lic. #086009



Robert A. Furtado

CARPENTER-CONTRACTOR

508-992-6622
OVER 40 YEARS
EXPERIENCE
Fairhaven, MA

Quality Remodeling & Finish Work • Kitchens • Bathrooms • Decks
All Types of Interior & Exterior Remodeling • Fully Insured
MA H.I.C. Reg. #125134 • MA Const. Sup. Lic #007769 • EPA Lead-Safe Cert.



Who Makes the Magic?

A Nikommo Island Tale With Bedtime Version
By Beth David

Available for Nook; and for Kindle and other ebook formats
on Amazon.com **Only \$1.49**

A Christmas tale of magic on a small island. Written for adults, but suitable for
all ages. (Approx. 9,600 words; bedtime version, 2570 words.) For links to all
Beth David's books and stories visit www.Zorena.com



Fairhaven Pharmacy

Your Local,
Independent Pharmacy

Offering everything you expect,
only focused with your health
and well-being
in mind.

**Free Delivery Monday–Friday
Single and Multi-Dose Packaging**

72 Main St. • Fairhaven, MA 02719
Phone: 508-525-4455 • Fax: 774-206-1692
www.FhvnRX.com

Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.–6 p.m. • Sat., 9 a.m.–1 p.m. • Closed Sun.

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"

FAIRHAVEN PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 6:30 pm
Banquet Room, Town Hall, 40 Center Street
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Notice is hereby given that the Fairhaven Planning Board will conduct a Public Hearing at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA. The Planning Board Meeting will

be conducted in Town Hall and remotely and will be televised live on Fairhaven TV Channel 18 and fairhaventv.com. To Join the Meeting from home Log on to:

<https://zoom.us/j/93163358101?pwd=NXg5WnUxZ3lLK3drSVBMM2JPTXE0QT09or>
call 1-929-205-6099 - Meeting ID: 931 6335 8101 -
Passcode: 740257
Live on Fairhaven TV Channel 18 and fairhaventv.com

The purpose of the hearing will be to receive information and public comment on the following application: SD23-04 – Joel Brienzo and Mary Jane Brienzo, the owners of 11 Sandra Lane, seek to

discontinue the area of a paper road, Sandra Lane, that abuts the north side of their property. The property is located at Map 36 Lot 30.

Copies of the applications are on file for public review at the Planning Board Office, Town Hall, by appointment and on the Town website. To schedule an appointment to review the application call the Planning Department at (508) 979-4023, Ext. 8126 or go to: <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/planning-board/pages/current-permits-being-reviewed-special-permits-definitive-subdivisions>

Cathy Melanson, Chair, Planning Board
FNN: 12/7/23, 12/14/23

Acushnet Police contract still not approved by SB

By Beth David
Editor

The Acushnet Selectboard met for more than three hours in executive session on 12/5/23, but still failed to agree to the terms worked out by negotiators for the police contract.

Police have been working without a contract for more than two years. SB member David Wojnar was assigned as the board's liaison in the negotiations. At some point, the negotiations went to the labor board which assigned mediators to work out a deal.

The two sides finally agreed to terms and the union has voted to approve the contract.

No details were provided as the board has not voted. It is all still an executive session matter.

Before going into executive session to discuss the contract, SB Chairperson Kevin Gaspar warned everyone in the room that it would be a long time. About 10 members of the police department were at the meeting and planned to wait it out

After about three hours, the board took a break and Mr. Wojnar announced that they were not going to vote on the contract that night. He said they were still going over details and had some questions for the finance department.

The matter will be taken up at a future meeting.

In open session, the board discussed the property at 7 Eileen Street. Mr. Gaspar read three letters, one from the building inspector, one from the health agent, and one from the conservation/stormwater agent.

The letters detailed ongoing issues at the property with work being done without permits and possibly in wetlands or bordering wetlands.

Conservation/Stormwater Agent Patrick Hannon issued a cease and

desist order on 11/21 for work done on the property including filling and grading; any activities in the wetlands or buffer zone; any work at all until wetlands have been delineated.

Building Commissioner Andrew Bobola declared the property unsafe and required the owner, Joshua Barriball, to get permits for plumbing, gas, electrical and building.

Health Agent Joe Correia wrote on 12/1 that no correction orders were necessary. The only outstanding issue was a Title V inspection needed to be completed.

Mr. Gaspar said he did go by the site and it looked like it was getting cleaned up.

But a woman from the neighborhood, who did not identify herself, told the board that the property was "still a garbage dump."

Mr. Gaspar suggested she speak with the health agent. He said he would ask the fire chief to take a look at the electric because it was "iffy."

"We're figuring this out one step at a time," said Mr. Gaspar.

The board voted to place the matter on file to hear back from other officials.

The board also introduced Jennifer Grant as the new Treasurer/Collector. The appointment was made official at the previous meeting, but Mr. Gaspar



Members of the Acushnet Police Department (and Acushnet COA Director Heather Chew) wait for the Selectboard to come back from several executive sessions, including one reviewing the proposed contract for the PD, at its meeting on 12/5/23. Photo by Beth David.

was not present.

"This is more of a courtesy," said Mr. Wojnar, to allow Mr. Gaspar to ask any questions.

Mr. Gaspar said he knew she came "highly recommended," and welcomed her aboard.

The board also announced that the town still needs 8-10 snow plow drivers for this season. Call Kathleen at the DPW, 508-998-0233 for more information. The town offers a \$1,000 perfect attendance bonus.

The board passed over two items that were on the agenda. The recognition of Eagle Scout Matthew Tripp, Jr., was postponed because he could not make it to the meeting.

A presentation of \$80K in grant money to the Council on Aging also was postponed because state representatives Paul Schmid and William Straus were unable to attend.

The next meeting of the SB is Tuesday, 12/19.

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR CLASSIFIEDS

HAVE A BUSINESS TO PROMOTE? Place a classified ad! Only \$7 for three lines, \$1 each additional line. Call Beth at 508-979-5593.

FAIRHAVEN ALARM SYSTEM, SINCE 1976
Burglar, Fire and Camera Systems.
Ask about our low rate on U.L 24-hour alarm monitoring and **FREE MONITORING**.
Replace your old alarm system with a new system for as little as \$299 Complete
FREE ESTIMATE: 508-992-7633

TED SILVA
PRIVATE INVESTIGATION
TEL: 508-965-6072.

DON'T FUSS, CALL US!
All Interior, Exterior Work
Additions • Windows • Roofing • Siding
Masonry • Bsmt Waterproof • Painting
Lic/Ins. Since 1988
Fall Specials
508-326-8996

GT CARPENTRY Exterior, interior painting and repairs, sheetrock, siding, yard cleanup. Call George, 774-810-5008.

BEGINNER DOG OBEDIENCE TRAINING New class starts Jan. 3, 2024 The Wampanoag Kennel Club, 1121 Main St. Acushnet. \$125 for 8 weeks. Call/text 508-858-9962

HELP WANTED

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.

Maintenance Mechanic The Fairhaven Housing Authority is seeking a qualified/experienced candidate to fill a 40 hour per week position. The Authority is responsible for 284 units of housing. Must have experience in building maintenance or related field, possess a high school diploma and be able to do routine and diversified work involving repairs to, and maintenance of buildings, building systems, apartments, and grounds. Licensing in a trade is a plus. On call rotation coverage required. May be regularly required to exert physical effort (i.e. lifting and carrying over 50 lbs.) and work outdoors under adverse conditions. Must be able to pass a physical exam and drug screening. Must possess a valid MA driver's license and have a favorable criminal history. Excellent benefit package. Send resume and cover letter to Fairhaven Housing Authority, 275 Main Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719 or email maintenance@fairhavenhousing.org with a letter of interest and resume by January 4, 2023. **NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.** The Fairhaven Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Don't forget to tell
our advertisers
you saw their ads
in the
Neighb News!

Professional Organizer Available to help you declutter, downsize, and make your home or office space happy again. Rona 508-971-9743.

ALL PHASES OF CARPENTRY Windows, doors, decks. Small jobs, big jobs. Free estimates. Call Dave, 508-971-0929.

ESTATE SALE SERVICES
Always discreet.
508-728-5339.

JIM THE LAWN GUY Mulch, Leaf/brush removal. Rototilling, Gutter Cleaning (1st floor only). Call Jim, 508-916-7655.

HOUSE CLEANING
Experienced cleaner, \$15/hour
Call 508-991-1104

LOCAL ELECTRICIAN:
28 years' experience. Lic. #13901A.
Small jobs preferred. *Old houses a specialty.*
Generator hook-ups. Eric, 774-849-0425.

FIREARMS SAFETY COURSE State approved for Mass. license to carry firearms or FID card. Call Phil Lacerda, 508-989-6093.

FOR SALE 27" Poulan Pro snowblower Model PP115ENP27. Great Condition. \$550 Cash. 508-971-3742.

HOME HEALTH AIDE 38 years exp., CNA. Avail. for light housekeeping, errands, whatever you need. Affordable rates. Call Nicole, 774-319-7739 or 508-207-8918.

WHEN LOCAL NEWS FAILS...

“The foundations of democracy weaken.”

— Margaret Sullivan, “Ghosting The News”

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THIS NEWSPAPER

Relevance Project

Design by Metro Creative Graphics, Inc. NEWSPAPER POWER.

Support Local Journalism!

Donate to the *Neighb News* through a PayPal link on our website: www.neighbnews.com
Or send check or money order to *Neighb News*, 166 Dogwood Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719.
Thank you for reading the *Neighb News!*

Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Board of Public Works
Tues., 12/26, Arsene St., 4 p.m.

CDBG Hearing
Thurs., 12/7, Arsene St., 6:00 p.m.

Conservation Commission
Mon., 12/11, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Planning Board
Tues., 1/9, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.
School Committee
Wed., 1/10, Media Ctr/Lib., 6:30 p.m.

Select Board
Mon., 12/18, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Acushnet

Golf Committee
Thurs., 12/14, Town Hall, 4:30 p.m.

Selectboard
Tues., 12/19, Town Hall, 4:30 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	Dec. 2023	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	14	0834	2103	0126*	1423*
Friday	15	0924	2154	0222*	1510*
Saturday	16	1015	2249	0314*	1554*
Sunday	17	1111	2349	0405*	1641*
Monday	18	----	1211	0501*	1739*
Tuesday	19	0049	1310	0619	1851*
Wednesday	20	0145	1407	0753	1958*
Thursday	21	0242	1507	0935	2101*
Friday	22	0345	1613	1057	2213*
Saturday	23	0445	1712	1152*	2312
Sunday	24	0536	1800	----	1244*
				----	2352
Monday	25	0620	1844	----	1338*
Tuesday	26	0703	1927	0025	1427*
Wednesday	27	0746	2012	0100	1501
Thursday	28	0830	2057	0139	1508
Friday	29	0913	2140	0219	1511
Saturday	30	0955	2224	0256	1532
Sunday	31	1038	2309	0331	1601

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

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK:
www.Facebook.com/NeighbNews

Fairhaven police accept the Tutu Challenge



The Tutu Challenge began as a viral campaign on social media to help raise funds to buy gifts for less fortunate children during the holidays. It was so successful in its first year that it became an annual tradition that raises close to \$10,000 in donations for toys.

Founded in 2019, Friends of Jack's mission is to provide and expand overlooked programs that benefit the physical, mental, and emotional health and well-being for children and families throughout Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

While navigating stressful hospital stays with her son, Jack, Founder Jill Fearons recognized the importance of overlooked healthcare programs and child life specialists in coping with scary and unfamiliar medical situations.

This experience inspired Jill to create the Friends of Jack Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to protecting children's mental health and well-being along with their physical health while undergoing treatment. We accomplish this mission through several programs, including our Superhero program, Hero Bears, Therapy Cars and Comfort Dogs.

As we provide children with superhero capes, masks, and bears to help them feel less alone, Friends of Jack also pays for the salary and all associated costs of child life specialists at local hospitals throughout the South Coast and Providence.

Visit

<https://www.friendsofjack.org/programs/tutu-challenge>

L-R: Fairhaven Police Captain Daniel Dorgan and Officer Michael Carrette are dressed to impress in their red tutus in support of The Friends of Jack Foundation. *Photo from Fairhaven Police Department Facebook page.*

Marc A. Gadbois Roofing Contractor



43 years in the business
Detailed workmanship
Attentive, personal service
Certified Owens Corning Preferred Contractor

Offering extended warranties available only through an Owens Corning Certified Preferred Roofing Contractor

Marc A. Gadbois • 508-992-0226

Materials Supplied by ABC Supply Company

MA Const. Sup. Lic. # 003000
MA Home Imp. Lic. #127675

EPA Lead Safe Certified
Fully Insured



YOUR LOCAL CLEANING & RESTORATION SPECIALISTS

Whether you need seasonal cleaning or complete fire and flood clean-up and restoration, Cyclone can take care of it quickly and professionally. A local, family owned business, Cyclone takes special care with each and every project.



Visit www.CycloneCleaning.com to learn more about all our services.

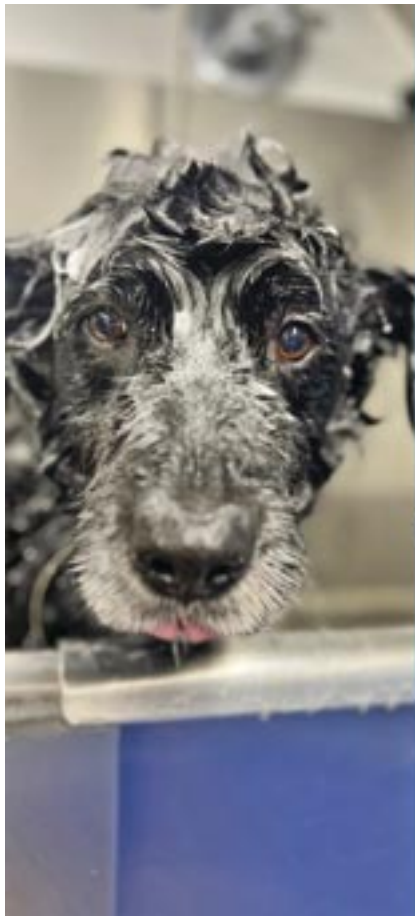
**Floors: Wash/Wax/Strip • Heavy Cleaning
Fire/Flood Rehab • Carpets & Upholstery**



CYCLONE CLEANING & RESTORATION SERVICES

Proudly serving Greater New Bedford for 40 years
Cyclone: a name you can trust.

508-995-8816 • Anthony David
833 Mt. Pleasant St. • New Bedford • www.CycloneCleaning.com



Harborside Hounds
Mobile Grooming

Your Dog
Deserves the Best

**Nail
Trims,
Baths &
Full
Groom
Haircuts**

Get \$10 OFF your
first appointment

Call 508-728-7930
or book online!



Fairhaven

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



The Board of Directors, Management
and Staff would like to wish you and your
family a wonderful Holiday Season and a
very Happy New Year!

508.994.9971 | alltrustcu.org

FAIRHAVEN | FALL RIVER | NEW BEDFORD | SEEKONK



Insured by NCUA | NMLS #422864
Equal Housing Opportunity

strive thrive together

JAKE FLEURENT
MASON CONTRACTOR

Fully Licensed & Insured!

20 YEARS

Cell: 508-954-8792
Email: J-Fleurent@comcast.net

BRICK, BLOCK, STONE,
CONCRETE, FIREPLACES,
WALKWAYS, PATIOS,
STEPS, CHIMNEYS,
AND MUCH MORE

Call today!
for a
free estimate

www.JAKEFLEURENTMASONRY.COM

DeLuca's
FAST, DELICIOUS PIZZA

**19 Plaza Way
Fairhaven, MA 02719
(Next to Staples)
508-991-2344**

Get \$2 off a Footlong Sub,
Wrap or Large Pizza or \$1
off a 6" Sub or Small Pizza

No cash value. Not to be combined with any
other offer. Only one coupon per visit. Valid
only at 19 Plaza Way, Fairhaven, MA 02719.

EXPIRES: 2/4/24