



# Fairhaven

# Neighborhood News

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



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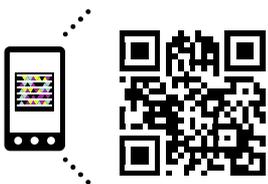
Volume 19, Issue 2 • January 4, 2024

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

## BRRR! Hundreds plunge into new year



These two young'uns show no fear while some of the older folks give a victory sign while plunging into the chilly Atlantic at the annual polar plunge at Fort Phoenix in Fairhaven on 1/1/24. See page 12 for story. *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.



Publisher Beth David with  
Charlie, aka Evil Dog

We have an absolutely heartbreaking and tragic story in this week's issue (see page 3). A man well known in Fairhaven and across the river in New Bedford pulled his gun on police at a local bar in Fairhaven, forcing police to shoot and kill him.

The Bayside is a place with lots of regulars, and he was one of them. So many people will tell you how they meant to drop in at one time or another for just a few minutes to get take-out, and ended up staying because they saw people they knew there.

It's a casual spot where people see people who know their names. They really do. It's that kind of place. People drop in after work, drop in for lunch, go for the entertainment, hang around for a bit, or a bit longer.

So often we hear that things like that don't happen here. But more and more we are hearing: It can happen anywhere.

I don't know the specific demons that Paul Coderre had in his head. I do know that his actions will give others nightmares.

We should all be thankful that the Acushnet police officer who was shot will be okay. And we should all be thankful that no one else was hurt.

But this one will stay with us for a long time. It will stay with those officers who responded in a very intense way for a long time.

Think, people. Think of how your actions affect others. No one lives in a vacuum. Our lives touch others in many ways. Think of how that touch will affect them before you do anything drastic.

My heart goes out to his family, and to all the people who witnessed this horrible event, especially the first responders.

It was not the way any of us envisioned closing out the year. Let's hope 2024 starts a new slate.

There's other stuff in here, of course. You'll have to thumb through to find it all. And while you do, please be sure to tell our advertisers you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*.

Until next week then, see ya

*Glory to Ukraine!  
Glory to the Heroes!*

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Editor: Beth David

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## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

We had a couple of errors in our last issue (12/14/23). We got the names wrong on a photo in the story, "Fallen Heroes Remembered." They are 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.

Also, in our story on the upcoming Fairhaven election, we left out the Town Moderator position, which is indeed up for reelection. We apologize for any confusion our errors may have caused.

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# Man killed by police in Fairhaven, Acushnet police officer shot

By Beth David  
Editor

A man who shot at police was killed, and an Acushnet police officer was injured at the Bayside Lounge in Fairhaven on Friday, 12/29/23.

Former New Bedford Deputy Fire Chief Paul Coderre, 55, of Dartmouth, who was also the Acting Fire Chief for a time, fired a handgun at police while standing in the parking lot at the Bayside, while police had automatic weapons trained on him. They fired back, and he was killed.

An Acushnet police officer was shot in the ankle, treated at the hospital and released.

"Thankfully the Acushnet Police Officer wounded in tonight's incident has been cleared by a local hospital and is at home resting," wrote the Acushnet Police on its Facebook page. "Thank you for the outpouring of support."

According to Bristol County District Attorney Thomas Quinn, Mr. Coderre had been drinking during the afternoon at the bar, and was prevented from driving home by his friends.

The police were called at about 4:30 p.m. and learned that Mr. Coderre was in possession of a firearm. Officers from Fairhaven, Acushnet, Mattapoisett, and State Police Troopers converged on the property in force.

Scotcut Neck Road was blocked off and scores of cruisers, unmarked cars, and other police and fire vehicles filled the area.

Mr. Coderre stood in the middle of the parking lot while police and one of his friends spent more than half an hour trying to talk him down, according to the DA, patrons inside the bar, and *Neighb News* sources.

A variety of non-lethal methods were used, including a tazer, to subdue Mr. Coderre, but nothing worked.

"They attempted to speak to him and deescalate the situation," said DA Quinn. "Several attempts were made to use non-deadly force to subdue him, including the use of a tazer. Those attempts were not successful."

At some point, Mr. Coderre fired his firearm, said the DA.

"Police returned fire, and as a result of that Paul Coderre died," said

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I heard gunshots and thought "somebody's life is ending right now." It was awful. A lot of us just started crying.  
[A patron]

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Mr. Quinn, adding that during the altercation the Acushnet police office was shot in the leg.

He was released from the hospital just a few minutes before the press conference and was in "good spirits," said Mr. Quinn.

"I would just say that this highlights the dangers that police officers face every day when responding to these types of situations," said Mr. Quinn.

"It's important to highlight the human part of this," he said. "There's a person doing his job. He's shot, he could've been killed. And this is the danger that people face."

He added that police are confronted with more and more of "these lethal situations" with so many guns on the street.

"They don't know what they are walking into," he said. "I appreciate their effort and the danger they face as they try to subdue individuals who are out of control."

In response to a question, Mr. Quinn said "several other means of deescalation were used that were not successful."

He said the incident was still under investigation, and that there was a lot of evidence at the scene, but he was "not in a position" to comment on it.

"He was in possession of a weapon, fired it. They went out of their way to try to subdue him without using deadly force. Unfortunately, as a result of him firing his gun they returned fire and he died," said Mr. Quinn.

He credited the police more than once for trying to use non deadly force to resolve the situation.

"I want to commend police for their conduct in dealing with a life and death situation trying to use non deadly force until they were left with no alternative," said Mr. Quinn.

During the standoff, some patrons moved outside to the opposite side of the building. Several patrons and people in the neighborhood said they heard one shot, then a volley of shots.

"We didn't realize the lady there was his wife, and they were all crying. It was awful," said one patron. "I heard gunshots and thought 'somebody's life is ending right now.' It was awful. A lot of us just started crying."

She said the bartender, a young woman, handled it all very well. The patron even contacted her the next

SHOOTING: cont'd to page 13

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# Fairhaven Select Board adopts DEI resolution

By Beth David  
Editor

At its meeting on 12/18/23, the Fairhaven Select Board voted to adopt a resolution condemning racism and pledging to promote Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) among all Town Departments and in the community.

The resolution notes that Fairhaven has a long history of promoting the ideals of liberty, independence, and the values of its diverse residents.

“Fairhaven recognizes that diversity and inclusion are integral to the very fabric of our community, uplifting all people irrespective of their race, national origin, religion, disability, age, sexual orientation, or gender identity,” reads the resolution.

The resolution states it is in response to the “regrettable defacing of Rogers’ School with racially charged graffiti,” and acknowledges Fairhaven’s “commendable generosity towards unsheltered and migrant families housed at the Seaport Inn.”

The resolution condemns “all forms of racism, discrimination, and intolerance within our Town,” and pledges that through “purposeful action,” the board will promote initiatives among Town Departments, Boards, Committees, and residents, “fostering partnerships and dialogue that uphold the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion.”

The resolution charges the Belonging Committee with a creating “substantive programs addressing the issues of race and DEI.”

“This proclamation stands as a testament to our unwavering commitment to combat racism, foster

inclusivity, and create an environment where all individuals are treated with dignity and respect.”

The resolution has been posted on the town’s policies page on its website at or at <http://tinyurl.com/2sap96xx>

At the meeting, SB member Stasia Powers suggested taking the item out of order and taking it up early in the meeting, while the room was still full of people. The board voted to take the item out of order, and Ms. Powers read the proclamation.

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Hopefully the implementation of the proclamation will be received with more enthusiasm than the making of the motion to read said proclamation

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[SB Chairperson Leon Correy]

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“Hopefully the implementation of the proclamation will be received with more enthusiasm than the making of the motion to read said proclamation,” said SB Chairperson Leon Correy.

He then immediately moved on to the next item he wanted to address, also out of order, which was the mural painted at the Rogers School.

Town Administrator Angie Lopes Ellison interjected something, and Mr. Correy then said he would entertain a motion to accept the DEI Resolution.

“I’d like to enthusiastically make that motion,” said SB Member Bob Espindola.

“I will second,” said Ms. Powers.

There was no discussion, and the resolution was adopted unanimously.

The board then took up the item recognizing Brian Tillett and two of his friends for painting a mural of Henry Huttleston Rogers on the wall of the Rogers School.

Ms. Ellison said that after the racist graffiti was painted on the school, Mr. Tillett contacted her office with the idea.

He saw the issue, she said, and “Rather than being a passive voice, reached out and made an initiative to put something more beautiful there, and try to promote something more positive out of the negative situation.”

Mr. Tillett said he and his friends recognized the “gravity of what was going on those walls,” and they wanted to do their part to change it.

“We’re just glad that we could do it,” said Mr. Tillett.

“You guys are absolutely talented and I just appreciate the fact that you took....that it wasn’t a passive effort,” said Mr. Correy.

It was an “active effort” for them to reach out and suggest it, he said.

The board also took some time to recognize the Fairhaven High School Football Team, which won the MIAA Division Six State Championship on 11/30/23. The proclamation declares November 30th as FHS MIAA MIAA Division Six State Championship Day.

Coach Derek Almeida and several players were on hand to receive the proclamation. Mr. Almeida said not all the captains could make it because they play other sports.

“Congratulations,” said Mr. Correy. “What you did was amazing. And like, just really special.”

SB: cont’d on page 14

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# Rasputin’s penalty put on hold pending appeals

By Beth David  
Editor

The Bristol County Superior Court issued a preliminary injunction on 12/14/23 to stay the penalties imposed on Rasputin’s Tavern by the Fairhaven Select Board at its 11/20/23 meeting and signed at its 12/4 meeting.

Attorney John P. Connell issued a statement on 12/15/23 saying that until Rasputin’s appeal to the ABCC

(Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission) is adjudicated, the bar is allowed to operate.

“Until such time as the ABCC reviews this matter, and especially over the next couple of weeks, Rasputin’s welcomes all fisherman and office Christmas parties alike, and especially also welcomes anyone who wants to sit at the same bar as Jennifer Ortega and Tommy Lee Jones sat at during the [filming] of the

*FinestKind* to share the spirit of that great locally based movie,” wrote Mr. Connolly.

After a hearing in open session, the Select Board issued three 10-day suspensions for a variety of offenses, including serving an intoxicated person and serving an underage person.

The hearing with the ABCC is scheduled for 1/31/24.

# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## Cinemaniacs

South Coast Cinemaniacs presents SHADOW OF A DOUBT (1943), Mon., 1/8, at Millicent Library, 45 Center St., use Walnut Street entrance. Doors open 5:15 p.m., film starts 5:30 p.m.

Screening and club membership are free.

Kick off a new year of filmgoing with Alfred Hitchcock's SHADOW OF A DOUBT (1943)! In this psychological suspense thriller, precocious small town girl Charlie (Teresa Wright) is delighted when her beloved and urbane Uncle Charlie (Joseph Cotten) visits — at first. The more time they spend together, the more she becomes convinced her uncle isn't who he pretends to be, and the more she fears he's someone terrible and dangerous. Is she right or wrong?

For more information, email club president Beth Ann Gallagher at: southcoastcinemaniacs@gmail.com

## CMas Tree Pick up

The Town of Fairhaven Christmas Tree Pickup is January 9 - 12, 2024 - one day after your regular rubbish day.

Please place trees curbside by 7:00 am on day of pick up and be sure to remove all ornaments and tinsel. Also, please DO NOT place tree in plastic bag.

Missed trees may be dropped off at the gate at the Recycle Center located at 5 Arsene Street in town. Call the BPW with questions at 508-979-4030.

## Parking Ban

One side snow parking ban in effect midnight to 8 a.m. through March 31. No vehicles shall be permitted to remain on the hydrant side of all Fairhaven streets during the parking ban, during the time of any snowfall, or during snow removal operations.

On streets with no hydrants, no vehicles shall be permitted to remain either on the east side of streets running north and south or on the north side of streets running east and west.

The BPW is authorized to remove, or cause to be removed, to some convenient place, including a public garage, any vehicle interfering with the work of removing or plowing snow or ice from any way, and the

cost of such removal with all storage charges resulting therefrom shall be paid by the owner of such vehicle.

The Fairhaven Police Department will strictly enforce this parking ban. Violators will be towed and/or ticketed.

By order of: FAIRHAVEN BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

## Update on Families at the Seaport

As we move into the new year, we are NO longer accepting clothing donations. Please direct your clothing donations to one of these other organizations: Gifts to Give or Walts Mobile Closet. While we no longer need clothing, the families do still need diapers. We will continue to collect diapers and wipes. Please email scwelcomecorps@gmail.com to learn where you may take donations.

In the new year, we are going to be focusing on ways we can help these families move from their current situation to a more permanent one as members of our community. We will be helping them look for jobs so that they can move into more permanent housing. We want to help both the children and the adults to learn English. And eventually we want to help them find stable housing. If you have some means to assist us with any of those things, please reach out to us at scwelcomecorps@gmail.com

## Try Transit

Starting January 1st, the South-eastern 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.

"Try Transit" is an excellent opportunity for new riders to see if public transportation can work for their daily lives, without the pressure of learning how to access the system. Additionally, the program will provide financial relief for our existing customers in challenging times.

## SAVE THE DATES:

### Open House

St. Joseph School, 100 Spring St.,

Fairhaven, is holding an open house on Sun., 1/28, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., for grades preschool to 8. Come visit or call 508-996-1983; visit [www.saintjosephschool.org](http://www.saintjosephschool.org). Financial aid available.

## Mariner Youth Soccer Mtg

The Mariner Youth Soccer Association's Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, January 30, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Fairhaven Council on Aging located at 229 Huttleston Avenue, Fairhaven, MA 02719. All members are welcome to attend.

Any questions should be addressed to: Angela Dawicki, Secretary, [angela@marineryouthsoccer.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:angela@marineryouthsoccer.onmicrosoft.com)

## WI 5K

The 11th Annual West Island 5K will be held on Sunday, April 21, 2024 with the Kids Mile at 10am and 5K at 11am (more information at [westisland5k.org](http://westisland5k.org)).

Registration is open and can be completed online at <https://my.racewire.com/event/7782>.

We are always looking for former or new businesses to sponsor the race. If you are interested in volunteering, we will need help on Saturday, April 20, 2-4pm at the West Island Improvement Association to support registration, number pick-up, and course setup. On Sunday, April 21 (race day), we will need help 8am-12pm to support registration, number pick-up, Kids Mile setup/execution, awards setup, and site cleanup.

Please email Lyle at [westisland5k@yahoo.com](mailto:westisland5k@yahoo.com)

## Internet Survey

The Town of Fairhaven is pleased to collaborate with the Mass. Broadband Institute (MBI) on a residential survey which is intended to assess internet accessibility, device and technical support availability, service affordability, and digital education needs within the community.

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

## 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.

## Bridge Mtg

A Public Informational Meeting will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed Swing Bridge Replacement project in Fairhaven and New Bedford, MA. at Hayden-McFadden Elementary School, Auditorium, 361 Cedar Grove Street, New Bedford, MA 02746, on Tues., 1/9, at 6 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Swing Bridge project. All views and comments made at the meeting will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

The proposed project consists of Fairhaven-New Bedford-Bridge Replacement, F-01-002=N-06-001, US-6 Over Acushnet River. Bicycle accommodations consisting of a usable shoulder have been provided in accordance with applicable design guides.

This location is accessible to. For

accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), fax (857-368-0602), TTD/TTY (857-368-0603) or by email (MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us). R

In the event of inclement weather a cancellation announcement will be posted on the internet at <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events>.

## Science Cafe

Please join us for New Bedford Science Café on Tues. 1/9 from 6 to 8 p.m., at The Last Round Bar & Grille, 908 Purchase St., New Bedford. Open to everyone. Free, save for the beer!

Our guest Bill Burke, the National Park historian for Cape Cod National Seashore, will discuss "Excavating the Great Island Tavern, Wellfleet: A place where Native Americans, Whalers & European settlers may have gathered to drink, smoke and socialize, from 1690 to 1740."

The archeological site known as The Great Island Tavern is one of the oldest recorded taverns in New England. Since its first excavation by the National Seashore in 1969, the surprising story to emerge is that whalers, European settlers and Native Americans appear to have lived at this remote site and engaged in mutual activities. Bill will describe how roughly 80,000 dug-up artifacts are filling in the past's puzzle. Items like leftover bottles and clay pipe stems that can be dated very tightly reveal the site's unusual commingling of peoples.

Bill has served as the National Seashore park's "keeper of time" for 25 years. He has an MA from The College of William & Mary in Colonial History and Historical Archeology.

\*\*Free parking in rear of building. Videos of recent events can be found on our website. <https://newbedfordsciencecafe.weebly.com/> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/NewBedfordScienceCafe/>

## CPC Hearings

Mayor Jon Mitchell and the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) invite all interested community members to review the FY24 Community Preservation Act (CPA) applications submitted for funding

consideration and to provide public comment at three virtual public meetings in January.

Twenty-two applications seeking over \$2.9 million in CPA funding were received by the deadline. For FY24, there is \$2.2 million available to be awarded by the CPC. During January, the CPC invites applicants to present their projects at a public meeting and allows the community to comment in this public setting. Once the CPC has completed its application review, the committee will vote on the projects to recommend for funding and submit their recommendations to the City Council for consideration and vote.

All meetings will be held via Zoom. To participate, go to:

<https://zoom.us/j/82545448651>

Meeting ID: 825 4544 8651

Passcode: 897001

Or call: (646) 931-3860

Meeting ID: 825 4544 8651

Passcode: 897001

MEETING DATES: Tues., 1/9, 6 p.m.; Thurs., 1/18, 6 p.m.; Tues., 1/23, 6 p.m.

To review the FY24 applications, please visit the CPC webpage at: <http://www.newbedford-ma.gov/planning/community-preservation/>

Public comment must be received by January 26, 2024, and can be provided by:

- Attending the virtual meeting for the project you wish to comment on. Public comment will be allowed after each project presentation.
- Emailing your comment to [CPA@NewBedford-MA.gov](mailto:CPA@NewBedford-MA.gov)
- Mailing your comment to: CPC, Department of City Planning, 133 William Street Room 303, ew Bedford, MA 02740

For more information, call the CPA Manager at 508.979.1488 or email [CPA@NewBedford-MA.gov](mailto:CPA@NewBedford-MA.gov).

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) was adopted by New Bedford voters through a ballot question in November 2014. This statewide enabling legislation allows communities to create dedicated funding for: Open Space, Outdoor Recreational Facilities, Historic Preservation, and Community Housing projects in the City. Oversight of this process rests with the Community Preservation Committee (CPC). Since FY18, the CPC has recommended, and the City Council has approved, 101 grants totaling over \$10.3 million in CPA funding

# HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

## Free at RJD

The Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum (RJD) is welcoming visitation from Acushnet residents by offering free admission for the month of January 2024. Ring in the new year with a visit to one of New Bedford's most grand whaling estates.

Upon arrival, individuals are asked to produce proof of residency with a piece of current mail, or I.D. For more information about hours of operation and current exhibitions, visit the Museum's website, [rjdmuseum.org](http://rjdmuseum.org).

The historic house, now the site of The Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum, was built in 1834 for whaling merchant William Rotch Jr. This Greek Revival mansion, located on a full city block of formal gardens, is a National Historic Landmark, one of only 2,500 in the nation. The period rooms of the house chronicle 150 years of the economic and social evolution of the City of New Bedford, as reflected in the residencies of the Rotch, Jones, and Duff families and their domestic staff.

The Museum is located at 396 County Street, New Bedford. It is open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Advance booking for admission is encouraged, but not required. Admission is \$8 for adults; \$6 for AAA members, seniors and students; and \$3 for children (age 7-17). The Museum is free for RJD members, as well as for EBT, Connector-Care, WIC, and Wunderfund cardholders.

The RJD gardens are open to the public at no cost and available to visit from sunrise to sunset, seven days a week. Visitors are urged to go to [rjdmuseum.org](http://rjdmuseum.org) to book their Museum visit and to review the most current information on hours and programs.

## Auditions

The Marion Art Center, 80 Pleasant St., announces open auditions for the classic *Arsenic & Old Lace* on Sat., 1/6, from 10:00am-12:00pm and Sun., 1/7, from 12:00-2:00pm. The play, written by Joseph Kesserling, will be directed by Donn Tyler. There are nine performance dates scheduled March 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 2024. Evening shows begin at 7:30pm, while Sunday matinees begin at 2:00pm.

Synopsis: Drama critic Mortimer Brewster's engagement announce-

ment is upended when he discovers a corpse in his elderly aunts' window seat. Mortimer rushes to tell Abby and Martha before they stumble upon the body themselves, only to learn that the two old women aren't just aware of the dead man in their parlor, they killed him! Between his aunts' penchant for poisoning wine, a brother who thinks he's Teddy Roosevelt, and another brother using plastic surgery to hide from the police — not to mention Mortimer's own hesitancy about marriage — it'll be a miracle if Mortimer makes it to his wedding. *Arsenic and Old Lace* is a classic black comedy about the only thing more deadly than poison: family.

View all character details and more information, and download sides (script samples), online at [marionartcenter.org/auditions](http://marionartcenter.org/auditions). Questions can be addressed to [tyler.donn@gmail.com](mailto:tyler.donn@gmail.com).

## Family Hike

Tracks and Traces with MassAudubon and Mattapoisett Land Trust. MassAudubon and Mattapoisett Land Trust have partnered up to run a fun family hike this winter: Tracks and Traces! Join us for a hike on Saturday January 13th in the Old Aucoot District where we will be searching for signs of wildlife. We will learn about animal tracks and other clues that help us to identify wildlife.

The hike will go from 10:00-11:00am, beginning from the Mattapoisett Land Trust trailhead at the Prospect Road parking lot (between 29 and 33 Prospect Rd.). All folks are welcome, this is a family friendly program.

Please dress appropriately for the weather and wear sturdy shoes that don't mind some mud. This hike is free but registration is required beforehand on MassAudubon's website; search the date "January 13th" on <https://www.massaudubon.org/programs>.

## New Bedford Harbor Meeting

On January 17, 2024, from 6:00 – 7:30 PM, the EPA will be hosting our annual New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site community update meeting. In this meeting, EPA staff will

be discussing the work completed this past year and give a look ahead to what will be done in 2024. The meeting will be run virtually on Microsoft Teams. The meeting information is below and can be found on EPA's New Bedford Harbor website: <https://www.epa.gov/new-bedford-harbor>

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device.

Visig <http://tinyurl.com/49spm4m> to join the meeting:

Meeting ID: 258 782 453 845

Or call in (audio only)

+1 202-991-0477, 764774803#

Phone Conference ID: 764 774 803#

## Art Exhibit

Chuck's Fantasia - Artwork by Chuck McIntyre. From the neurodivergent mind of Mattapoisett resident Chuck McIntyre comes an exhibit called Chuck's Fantasia.

It can be viewed at the Mattapoisett Free Public Library, 7 Barstow St., until January 31, 2024.

Chuck considers himself an abstract surrealist although he creates landscapes and portraits as well. His acrylics are based on various themes such as emotions, states of mind, and identity. He feels his imagination and passion lead him to producing canvases the audience can be wowed by and appreciative of. Free and open to all.

## Nomination Papers Available

Nomination papers for elected positions in the town of Acushnet are now available. The last day to take out nomination papers is Wed., 3/27 at 5 p.m.

Candidates need at least 42 certified signatures of registered voters to get on the ballot.

The last day to register to vote is Mon., 4/17, at 5 p.m.

The last day to register as a voter in Wed., 5/8, at 5 p.m.

The Acushnet election is Sat., 5/18. Polls are open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. All precincts vote at the Acushnet Elementary School, 800 Middle Road.

Deadline for Vote by Mail Applications is Mon., 5/13.

Contact the town clerk if you have any questions, 508-998-0215; 130 Main St. (Parting Ways Building).

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[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)

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# Fairhaven Senior Center

508-979-4029 • 229 Huttleston Ave • Fairhaven

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[http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA\\_COA/index](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: Twin River Casino; 1/10, Warwick Mall; 1/17, Hyannis Mall, Trader Joe & Whole Foods.

### 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](mailto: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.

### Cribbage

Every Monday, from 10 a.m.-noon

### Medical Transportation

Did you know we can help you get to your medical appointments? Call us for more info, 508-979-4029.

### Legal Help

Free 15-minute consultation with Atty. Suzanne Seguin. Call the center for info, 508-979-4029.

South Coastal Counties Legal Services, advocates for older adults, 508-979-7150.

### Single Senior Supper Club

If you are a Single Senior, like to socialize and have a great meal, please join us! Call the center to sign up, 508-979-4029. \$3. The third Tuesday of every month, 4-6 p.m. Call the Wednesday before to confirm.

### Medical Transportation

Did you know we can help you get to your medical appointments? Call us for more info, 508-979-4029.

### LGBTQ Group

Older Adult LGBTQ+ support group. For more information, contact Sue Roque, 508-678-7542.

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# Recipe of the Week

## Christmas Carrots

How do vegetables manage to keep up with all the succulent fare on the feasting table? Christmas Carrots show how to do it with the carrots roasted to a golden brown and caramelized perfection! Christmas Carrots will make you wonder how we put up with less exciting vegetable dishes during the rest of the year!

- 2 pounds carrots, peeled and trimmed
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 3 tablespoons honey
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- salt, to taste
- pepper, to taste

Preheat the oven to 425°  
Line a rimmed baking sheet with foil.

Place the carrots in a large bowl.

Melt the honey, the brown sugar, and the butter together in the microwave for about 15 seconds, stirring to combine.

Pour the honey mixture over the carrots and toss to coat.

Arrange the carrots on the baking sheet and season them with the salt and the pepper.

Roast the carrots for 15 minutes, then flip them.

Continue to roast the carrots until tender and caramelized, about 10 minutes.

Serve hot.

From *CommandCooking.com*

# Dear Frankie



you need them. You can rely on them to be on your side.

They are willing to tell you what they think. Sometimes, you may not like what you hear, but you know the intention was to be helpful and

protective.

Dear Frankie,  
How can you tell if someone is a good friend?

Lorraine

Dear Lorraine,  
Good friends are available, reliable, honest, and inclusive.

They make themselves available when

They include you in their life and with their friends. A good friend stands ready to celebrate your victories and provide a safe port during stormy times.

Best, Frankie

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

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# Acushnet Selectboard approves police contract

By Beth David  
Editor

The Acushnet Selectboard approved the police union contract at its meeting on 12/19/23. The negotiations have been going on for three years. All three board members said it was a difficult process.

SB member David Wojnar was the board's representative in the negotiations. He presented the package that the union agreed to at the meeting on 12/5/23. The board met for hours in executive session at the meeting but did not vote.

Mr. Wojnar said they have been going "back and forth and had some real robust discussion."

He credited his fellow board members with doing their homework on how the contract will affect the budget. He said there will be an impact, but it was about prioritizing public safety. He said they need to view it as an investment.

SB Chairperson Kevin Gaspar said he only saw the details a couple of weeks ago. He spoke to police officers and looked at contracts from other towns. He said it was not fair the kind of scrutiny that police officers face now.

"I know I'm the fiance guy and try to

break down the numbers," said Mr. Gaspar. "At some point I gotta let go and say what's in the best interest of the men and women who are serving this community and are keeping us all safe."

SB member Bob Hinckley said it was "refreshing" that they came out of their executive session talking and smiling. He said sometimes the board has to make the hard decisions.

"I'm happy to say we worked together to get this done," said Mr. Hinckley.

The board also voted to appoint two new police officers to attend the next policy academy.

Colin Matton and Adrian Fontes both grew up in Acushnet, and both told the SB they have wanted to be police officers their whole lives.

Chief Richmond told the board they both had demonstrated a great work ethic. He said a panel of sergeants interviewed them and the "resounding opinion is that we have two great candidates here."

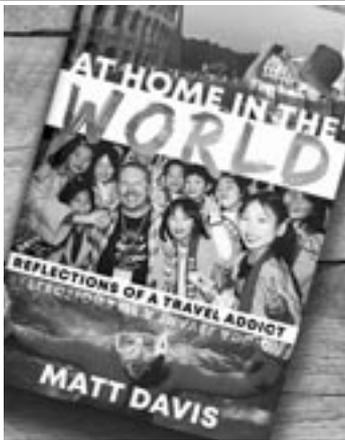
In another matter, the board met with State Representative Paul Schmid and Kevin Hart, a representative of State Rep. William Straus to receive an \$80,000 grant for the Council on Aging. The money will be used to re-roof the building and install air conditioning.

"We were able to secure a little earmark," said Rep. Schmid. "And you know everybody hates earmarks except when they're for their town."

He said it was a team effort, and included the help of Sen. Mark Montigny.



L-R: Kevin Hart, from State Rep. William Straus's office; State Rep. Paul Schmid; Acushnet Selectboard Member Bob Hinckley; SB Chairperson Kevin Gaspar; SB member David Wojnar, hold the big check for \$80,000 in grant money for the Acushnet Council on Aging. *Submitted photo.*



## New Bedford author to share travel stories

Matt Davis born, raised, and currently living in New Bedford will be presenting excerpts from his new book, *At Home in the World: Reflections of a Travel Addict*, at the

Millicent Library in Fairhaven, on 1/10.

Mr. Davis spent his thirty-year career as a psychology professor and researcher at a California university. His career provided him with many opportunities to explore the world. He will share some of his favorite experiences in Australia, Italy, Japan and Israel. This event is FREE to the public.

**Wed., 1/10 • 6:30 p.m.**

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**Acushnet Wesley United Methodist Church**  
67 Main Street, Acushnet, MA  
Saturday Service @ 4 p.m.  
Sunday Service @ 9 a.m.

**We are excited to announce that we will be starting Sunday School for children of all ages beginning Sunday, January 7, 2024, from 9 to 10 a.m.**

**We look forward to seeing everyone!**

**Please contact Nancy @ 916-764-0061 or Karin @ 774-473-7787 for more information**

# BRRR! Record number plunge into the new year.

By Beth David  
Editor

The annual Fort Phoenix Polar Plunge saw the largest turnout ever, with 268 people registering to plunge on 1/1/24 at Fort Phoenix in Fairhaven. And we all know that some people don't register, so...

They even ran out of t-shirts.

Select Board member Charlie Murphy emceed, while Greg Fitzgerald handled the music. Mr. Murphy thanked the volunteers and before the countdown.

The plunge is free, but people are asked to register. The event raises

money for the Fairhaven Dollars to Scholars program, which gives money to graduating high school seniors.

Young brothers Carson and Hudson, and their friend Denver took the plunge. It was the first time for the brothers, but the fourth for Denver.

"Cold."

"Cold."

"Cold."

They said one by one.

"My feet are numb," said Carson.

"My inside is as cold as icicles," said Denver, adding that it was not as cold as Mattapoissett was last year,

though. "This was much easier, I think."

"Cold," said Sloane, who plunged for the first time.

"I feel like I have frostbite," said Caroline.

Will the do it again.

Yes...big yes, from both of them.

"Cold. Really, really cold," said Cecelia, who plunged last year, too.

She will definitely do it again, though, because..."I get to do it with my dad."

You can find lots of pictures of the plunge on their Facebook page: 2024 Fort Phoenix Polar Plunge.



ABOVE AND BELOW MIDDLE: People react to the cold water after plunging into the chilly Atlantic at the annual polar plunge at Fort Phoenix in Fairhaven on 1/1/24. BELOW LEFT L-R: Brothers Carson and Hudson, and their friend Denver are all smiles after plunging. BELOW RIGHT A man helps his young charge get bragging rights, while not actually making him to into the water. BOTTOM LEFT: L-R: Edward doesn't look too happy, but sisters Sloane and Caroline are all smiles after all three plunged. BOTTOM MIDDLE: Cecelia poses with her mom Nicole and little sister Izzy after plungin. BOTTOM RIGHT: A couple of happy plungers make their way out of the water. Photos by Beth David.



## SHOOTING: cont'd from page 3

day to thank her for “holding everyone together.”

After the shooting, people went inside, but police kept them from the windows.

“The ambulance came right up and scooped him up,” she said. “I don’t believe it happened. I don’t believe I was there.”

She said the police tried to take care of him. They took their time trying to calm him down.

“It was about a half hour,” she said. “I think at that point, he said my life is screwed right now and he shot, and that was his death wish. It’s so messed up. It really is. It’s awful.”

Ed “Fitzzy” Fitzsimmons was also in the bar. He said he watched much of it unfold. He saw two of Mr. Coderre’s friends go out to take his keys. When they came back, one was bleeding. Other sources also said Mr. Coderre physically fought his friends to keep possession of his keys.

Then police were called, and Mr. Coderre stayed in the parking lot while patrons were not allowed to leave.

“In a matter of five minutes of someone telling us not to go outside, there were cops everywhere,” said Mr. Fitzsimmons.

He said he could see out the window from where he was standing. He could see Mr. Coderre outside, but could not see who was speaking to him.

“There was a cop blocking the door,” said Mr. Fitzsimmons. “So we were trying to look around his head.”

He could see enough to realize that Mr. Coderre was talking to someone.

“Hats off to the cops because they were trying to talk this guy down for 30 to 45 minutes,” said Mr. Fitzsimmons. “You could see him getting aggressive, with his hands moving.”

Then he heard the shots.

“Bottom line: I think they did a great job,” said Mr. Fitzsimmons. “They did what we want them to do. We want them to try to diffuse the situation, until it can’t be diffused. They tried to calm him down. He didn’t calm down.”

The Fairhaven Firefighters union, Local 1555, issued a statement that reads in part: “Responding to an incident involving a fellow brother firefighter presents unique challenges, both professionally and emotionally. Local 1555 acknowledges the difficulties faced by our members and their families stemming from this incident, and we are committed to providing the necessary support and resources to ensure their well-being and mental health.”

“I am profoundly grateful for the outpouring of support from our community and fellow first responders during this challenging time,” said Local 1555 president Kevin Gonsalves in the statement. “Together we will navigate through these difficult times, supporting one another and ensuring the safety and well-being of our community.”

The Town of Fairhaven also issued a statement thanking Acushnet and Mattapoisett for mutual aid, and offering support for the officer who was injured.

“The collaboration and support



demonstrated by the responding agencies underscore the strength of unity within our communities,” reads the statement, which also includes thanks to first responders, including dispatchers, for their unwavering commitment to public safety. “Your dedication does not go unnoticed, and we are immensely grateful for your service.”

The town also said that the Employee Assistance Program is available to support employees in need, and encourages those who require assistance to reach out.

“For community members seeking counseling in the wake of this incident, New Bedford’s Community Services Department has offered the services of the Community Behavioral Health Center,” reads the statement. “They can be reached at 508-996-3154. Walk-ins are welcome at 965 Church Street, New Bedford, MA, and additional support can be accessed online at [www.child-family-services.org](http://www.child-family-services.org). We thank them for their support.”

Both statements are available on our website at [www.neighbnews.com](http://www.neighbnews.com)



TOP: Bristol County District Attorney Thomas Quinn speaks to the press, with Fairhaven Police Chief Michael Myers in the foreground, after former New Bedford Deputy Fire Chief Paul Coderre, 55, of Dartmouth, was killed by police after he fired his handgun at them from the parking lot of the Bayside Lounge in Fairhaven on 12/29/23. ABOVE LEFT: Members of the press from Boston to Providence await a press conference on Sconticut Neck Road in Fairhaven by Bristol County District Attorney Thomas Quinn ABOVE RIGHT: An evidence markers and medical paraphernalia sit in the parking lot after the shooting. *Photos by Beth David.*

## SB: cont'd from page 4

"We're extremely proud of this," said Coach Almeida. "I think this group really embodied the town of Fairhaven and the spirit and the heart of this town."

He said the team was an "extremely hard working group, and he did not think anyone outside of the group had high expectations for the team."

"And through hard work dedication and commitment to each other they just got better and better as the year went on," he said. "Some of them had to check the ego a little bit at the door."

He said they just practiced every night and committed to the total team.

"And I think they really made the town proud," he said. "I know I'm proud and you guys should be too."



Coaches and members of the Fairhaven High School MIAA Division Six championship football team pose with the proclamation from the Select Board honoring their achievement during the SB meeting on 12/18/23. BACK L-R: Coach Derek Almeida, Jayce Duarte, Nikko Morris; FRONT L-R: Zack Isakson, Nate Pickup, Coach Dana Almeida. Submitted photo.

## Three running for Select Board so far

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

Three people have taken out papers for Select Board so far: Cathy Melanson, Andrew Romano, and Andrew Saunders.

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 informa-

tion 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; the Town Moderator position, held by Mark Sylvia, will also on the ballot.\*

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 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.

**ELECTION: cont'd on page 16**

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# ELECTION: cont'd from page 14

As of press time, in addition to the SB, the following people had taken out papers: Nicole Pacheco for SC; Jessica Fidalgo and Diane Tomassetti for their seats on the PB; Robert "Hoppy" Hobson for his seat on BPW; Town Moderator Mark Sylvania. Ms. Tomassetti, Mr. Romano, and Mr. Hobson had returned papers by press time.

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.



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# Public Hearings/Legal Notices

NOTE: All legal notices are available on the Neighb News website, [www.NeighbNews.com](http://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 23, 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 23, 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](http://fairhaventv.com). To Join the Meeting from home Log on to:

<https://zoom.us/j/93163358101?pwd=NXg5WnUxZ3lLK3drSVBBM2JPTXE0QT09or>

call 1-929-205-6099 - Meeting ID: 931 6335 8101 -  
Passcode: 740257

Live on Fairhaven TV Channel 18 and  
[fairhaventv.com](http://fairhaventv.com)

The purpose of the hearing will be to receive information and public comment on the following application: **SP24-01 50 Rodman Street** – Matthew and Chelsea Varao, the owners of 50 Rodman Street, request a special permit to convert a planned second level of the existing garage into an Accessory Dwelling Unit. The property is located at Map 25 Lot 211.

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: 1/4/24, 1/11/24

## THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MASS. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION NOTICE OF A PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Project File No. 612557

A Public Informational Meeting will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed Swing Bridge Replacement project in Fairhaven and New Bedford, MA. WHERE: Hayden-McFadden Elementary School, Auditorium, 361 Cedar Grove Street, New Bedford, MA 02746

WHEN: Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 6:00PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this meeting is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Swing Bridge project. All views and comments made at the meeting will be

reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of Fairhaven-New Bedford-Bridge Replacement, F-01-002=N-06-001, Us-6 Over Acushnet River. Bicycle accommodations consisting of a usable shoulder have been provided in accordance with applicable design guidelines.

This location is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (including but not limited to interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats, such as audio tapes, Braille and large print), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), fax (857-368-0602), TTD/TTY (857-368-0603) or by email (MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us). Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten (10) business days before the meeting.

In the event of inclement weather a cancellation announcement will be posted on the internet at <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events>.

JONATHAN GULLIVER, HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR  
CARRIE E. LAVALLEE, CHIEF ENGINEER  
FNN 1/4/24

## Andrew Romano announces run for Fairhaven Select Board

*Alone we can do so little;  
together we can do so much.*  
[Helen Keller]

My name is Andrew Romano, and I'm excited to announce I will be seeking a seat on the Fairhaven Select Board in the 2024 town election.

I am a real estate broker, small business owner and life-long Fairhaven resident, committed to making our town the best it can be. I currently serve as the President of the North Fairhaven Improvement Association and am a member of the

Fairhaven Rotary Club. I am also a current member of the Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals and a Town Meeting Member.

I am no stranger to town government. I am a former Director of the Fairhaven Government Access Channel 18, where I sat in on all board, committee and town meetings. In that capacity I was also the staff liaison to the Cable Advisory Committee. Now, I want to use my experience gained and apply myself to a position that has a more direct impact on the lives of my fellow town residents.

I am excited to bring a fresh perspective to town leadership. My key areas of focus are community advocacy, economic development, transparency, and accountability.

I am excited to be an independent voice, and to use my skills to navigate the complex decision-making processes to help guide our town towards a prosperous future.

I thank you for the opportunity to meet you, and to earn your vote. Please reach out to me at [romanofairhaven@gmail.com](mailto:romanofairhaven@gmail.com). I look forward to working with you.

## From the Tree Warden

Happy New Year from the Fairhaven Tree Department. I hope the new year is good to you.

As the new year is on us, I reflect on what the last year had brought and what this one, I hope, has in store. Our to date tree planting count is 282 trees. We reached our goal of planting just over 100 this year in part thanks to your generous financial support and the support of some local businesses: Howe Allen Real Estate, Koopmans Lumber, Eversource, Harvey, and Bask. Thank you so much.

If you watch the news or read it, it is hard to not see the turmoil many people deal with on a daily basis. I'm a bit of a history buff. I got it from my dad. Lately I came across a box of books in the town hall basement that

were town yearly reports from pretty far back. The covers were brittle and the pages darkened from time but they were very readable and I found myself drawn to the Tree Wardens' annual reports. A few things really struck me.

First off it was common to blanket the town with DDT numerous times a year, sometimes three, including swaths of private land. This was to fight off numerous pests such as Elm beetles and moths. History has shown that really didn't work, urban foresters have not successfully stopped a pest or pathogen in the last few hundred years.

Second, in 1945, we had not yet won WWII and it was still raging, the Tree warden had planted 354 trees that year and had 200 more to go.

Think about that. At a time when the whole world was dealing with a conflict on a scale never seen before the people of this town between the shortages and frozen wages and rationing, they managed to plant 5 times more trees than I did last year. At first, I was a little surprised by this, but when I started reflecting on it, I think I made some sense of it.

Aside from the obvious benefits of trees why put in that much effort? Well, what else could folks left at home to deal with all the hardships and missed loved ones do to make the world a better place? What could they do to promote hope? I think they planted trees because it gave them hope. The folks of that generation

TREE: cont'd next page

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The Town Clerk's Office is currently seeking a **Part-Time Clerk** to join our team. This non-union position works 19 hours per week with a starting salary of \$21.29 per hour. Responsibilities include active participation in election preparations and assistance with general office tasks. Detailed job description and the application can be found on the Town's website under Job Opportunities. The application deadline is January 19, 2024 and applications can be sent to hr@fairhaven-ma.gov. If you're ready to contribute to our community-oriented team, apply now for a position at the Town Clerk's Office. The Town of Fairhaven is an equal opportunity employer.

**TREE: cont'd from previous page**

were truly optimists and would by sheer will and determination create a better world than what the Depression and WWII gave them.

Look around you. There is so much good and beautiful around us to be thankful for. And there are so many things we can't control to any large degree. But what we can do is be optimists and grab a shovel, or your wallet and plant a tree. If it gives you half the sense of hope, and pride, and joy it gives me, you may just be overwhelmed.

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Public Auction at Devon Self Storage at (16 Lambeth Park Rd Fairhaven, MA). The Property contained in the units will be sold to satisfy the Owner's lien for rent under the Massachusetts Self Storage Facility Act. Property contained in the units will be sold to the highest bidder via an online auction on www.storage-treasures.com. Online bidding will begin on January 15, 2023, at 10 AM and will continue until January 29, 2023, at 10:00 AM. Devon Self Storage reserves the right to set minimum bids and to refuse bids. Please refer to www.storage-treasures.com for all other terms and conditions governing the bidding and auction process.

E003  
**BRIAN TILLET**  
MISC. HOUSEHOLD/AUTOMOTIVE ITEMS  
E013  
**MICHAEL COBB**  
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You can volunteer or donate by reaching out to the Tree Department at 40 Center St Fairhaven MA, 02719 or email me at dcollasius@fairhaven-ma.gov

Thanks so much for the opportunity to serve,

*Don C. Collasius,  
Fairhaven Tree Warden*

PS: Stand by for the kick off of the Junior Deputy Tree Wardens program for kids coming soon.

## Upcoming Meetings

### Fairhaven

**Board of Public Works**

Mon., 1/8, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

**Broadband Study Comm**

Thurs., 1/4, Remote, 5 p.m.

**Conservation Commission**

Mon., 1/8, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

**Marine Resources**

Thurs., 1/4, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**MassDOT Bridge Mtg**

Tues., 1/9, Hayden-McFadden Aud.,  
361 Cedar Grove St., NB, 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., 1/8, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Acushnet

**Board of Assessors**

Wed., 1/10, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

**School Comm/FMS Council**

Wed., 1/10, Ford MS, 6 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	4	0137	1354	0655	1904
Friday	5	0225	1446	0756	1956
Saturday	6	0320	1548	0853	2046
Sunday	7	0420	1647	0955	2141
Monday	8	0512	1736	1054	2238*
Tuesday	9	0557	1821	1142	2330*
Wednesday	10	0641	1906	---	1229*
Thursday	11	0727	1954	0022*	1320*
Friday	12	0817	2046	0118*	1412*
Saturday	13	0907	2137	0217*	1458*
Sunday	14	0957	2228	0310*	1541*
Monday	15	1049	2323	0359*	1623*
Tuesday	16	1145	---	0451*	1711*
Wednesday	17	0021	1243	0557*	1812*

\*= 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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# Obituary: Anna (Mikina) Quintin



## Anna Quintin

Anna M. (Mikina) Quintin of Fairhaven, MA, passed away peacefully with loved ones by her side at Charlton Memorial Hospital on December

26, 2023 at the age of 101.

Anna was born on April 10, 1922 in New Bedford, Massachusetts. She was the daughter of Mary (Gula) and John Mikina.

She was the beloved widow of Ernest R. Quintin. She is survived by Ronald Quintin and his wife Sandra, Robert Quintin and daughter Patricia Young, daughter-in-law Louise

Quintin and son-in-law Tony DaPonte. She is also survived by her special son, Glenn Costa and friend Rachel, her special grandson Bobby and special granddaughter Heather Quintin, special niece Karen Kach and special nephew Richard Hopp and her very caring neighbors Joel and Lucy Philia.

She was the sister of the late Nellie Sojka, Victoria Hopp, Celia Kach, and her brother Joseph Mikina. Also her son, the late Ernest Quintin, (Sam), Gayle DaPonte, and granddaughter Deborah Aguiar. She is also survived by 13 grandchildren, 32 great grandchildren and 4 great great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Anna was a former parishioner of O.L.P.H. parish. She attended New Bedford Regional Vocational High School and was formerly employed by Acushnet Co., Mutterperl Corp. and Quint's Kitchen.

She enjoyed cooking, knitting, sewing and taking care of her grandchildren. Her greatest memories were spending Christmas Eves with her children and Santa (Sam) giving gifts to the children on these special occasions.

On Anna's 100th birthday, she received a citation from the Town of Fairhaven declaring April 10, 2022 as Anna M. Quintin Day. She was also interviewed on WBSM Radio where her quick wit, intelligence, and zest for life were displayed. Anna was a very generous and loving person to all her family and friends and will be dearly missed by all of us who loved her so very much.

Arrangements are in the care of WARING-SULLIVAN HOME AT FAIRLAWN MORTUARY. For on-line tributes and service information updates, please visit our website at [www.waring-sullivan.com](http://www.waring-sullivan.com)

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