



# Fairhaven

# Neighborhood News

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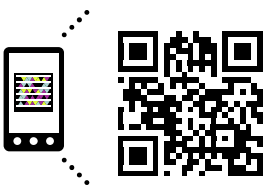
Volume 19, Issue 22 • May 23, 2024

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

## Blessing of the Bikes draws 200+



Fr. Michael Kumar of St. Mary's Church in Fairhaven blesses a motorcycle rider at the Blessing of the Bikes at St. Joseph Church on 5/19/24. See page 12. Photo by Beth David.



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### First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

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

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

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

# From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —  
A day late and many dollars short.



Publisher Beth David with  
Charlie, aka Evil Dog

Here we go...the unofficial start to summer is just a couple of days away (see page 3). Memorial Day events in Fairhaven and New Bedford mark the start of the summer season (yeah, yeah...the solstice, I know).

Meanwhile, the Fairhaven Commission on Disability has an update on what they're up to on page 3.

The Tree Warden is taking down some old trees that have seen better days (see page 4), and the Millicent Library is undergoing some repairs that you might see as you walk around the center (see page 13).

The Huttleston Marketplace opened on a rainy Saturday, but a few die hards were out there at closing time making the best of it. See page 13 for that.

And our cover story is always a blast. More than 200 showed up for the Blessing of the Bikes on Sunday. See page 12 for that.

Acushnet had its election on Saturday. With no contested elections, there just was not much motivation for people to get out. A measly 5.8%, just a tad under 500, showed up to vote. Maybe next year.

Speaking of Acushnet. They have the same budget squeeze as evryone else. They need to get it figured out before Town Meeting in mid-June, so.... See page 8 for that.

There's other stuff in here, of course, including lots of happenings for the warmer weather. It seems we'll be getting a good dose of summer this week.

So, check out each and every page. And while you're doing that, be sure to notice who our advertisers are so you can tell them you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*.

Until next week then, see ya,

*Glory to Ukraine!  
Glory to the Heroes!*

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# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

Volume 19, Issue 22  
Thursday, May 23, 2024  
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Editor: Beth David

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## Contents

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Acushnet election results.....                    | 8       |
| Acushnet Lions gift to Troop 11.....              | 11      |
| Acushnet still crunching numbers.....             | 8       |
| Classifieds/Help Wanted.....                      | 18      |
| COVER: Blessing of the Bikes.....                 | 12      |
| Dear Frankie.....                                 | 10      |
| Fairhaven Commission on Disability.....           | 3       |
| Fairhaven Tree Warden to take town ash trees..... | 4       |
| From our readers.....                             | 8       |
| Happenings.....                                   | 5, 6, 7 |
| Huttleston Marketplace.....                       | 13      |
| Obituary: Constance Goucher.....                  | 19      |
| Rec Center/Senior Ctr.....                        | 9       |
| Legal Notices/Public Hearings.....                | 17      |
| Millicent repairs.....                            | 13      |
| Tides.....  | 18      |
| Upcoming meetings/Fairhaven & Acushnet.....       | 18      |

## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

# From the Fairhaven Commission On Disability

## Accessing Change: Updates from Fairhaven's Commission on Disability

Welcome to this new feature which will regularly update Fairhaven residents about the work of its Commission on Disability!

Established in 1997 through town meeting vote, Fairhaven's Commission on Disability is one of over 200 similar Commissions supported by the Commonwealth's Office on Disability. The mission of Fairhaven's Commission is to remove barriers in town that interfere with equitable access to services for people with disabilities. This includes addressing architectural, procedural, attitudinal, and communication obstacles.

Fairhaven's COD is focused on helping the town and its residents to design, promote, organize, and put into place services that meet the needs of people with disabilities, and to educate the community and encourage involvement. Currently,

the COD consists of eight members, with the goal of adding one more soon. State guidelines recommend that the majority of members be individuals with disabilities, and these members often assume leadership roles within the Commission.

Recently, the Fairhaven Commission was pleased to have a role in securing a state grant from the Massachusetts Office on Disability for the town. This grant funds a town-wide Americans with Disabilities (ADA) audit, leading to a transition plan that opens up opportunities for additional funding to address barriers to universal access in Fairhaven.

The Commission has also advocated for the use of closed captioning for all town meetings, expanded its social media presence, adopted a clear mission statement, and coordinated the availability of free seatbelt covers which notify first responders that a passenger with autism may need additional

assistance or may not respond in an emergency.

It has raised awareness about the importance of keeping curb cut-outs and handicapped parking areas barrier-free and has enhanced collaboration through meetings with multiple town departments.

In addition, the Commission has participated in community events, supported the proposal to pave paths at Cushman Park, and sponsored a town-wide proclamation for Disability Employment Awareness month.

This article, and those that will follow in this regular series, are meant to keep the community informed about the Commission's work, while also encouraging town residents to share their thoughts, concerns, and ideas for specific changes they would like to see.

Connect via email at COD@Fairhaven-MA.gov to stay updated and to make Fairhaven a more accessible place for everyone!

## Memorial Day Parades/events this weekend

### Fairhaven Parade

Fairhaven will hold its annual Memorial Day Parade on Mon., 5/27, meet at 9:30 a.m., step off at 10 a.m. All veterans are invited to march.

Parade route: From Union and Main Streets north along Main to Fairhaven High School for the raising of the big flag, and continue to Riverside Cemetery for a short

ceremony. There will be a gathering at the VFW, 109 Middle Street, after the activities.

Proudly sponsored by VFW Post 2892, Fairhaven Lions Club, and Fairhaven Veterans Service Office.

For info contact Mike or Jane at VSO, 508-979-4023, Ext. 8310/8311.

Veterans who want to ride in the van, contact the Fairhaven Senior

Center, 508-979-4029

INCLEMENT WEATHER: If it rains on Memorial Day, a service will be held at 10 a.m. at the VFW.

### New Bedford

Several events are planned throughout the City this Memorial Day weekend to honor the courageous men and women who lost their lives

cont'd on page 6



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May 26: *Honoring Those  
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Nursery care in Harrop Center starting at  
9:45 a.m. Children welcome at service.

Planning a wedding or special event? Call  
the church office for information.

The Rev. Maria Uitti McCabe

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# Tree Warden to take down four ash trees in center

By Beth David  
Editor

Fairhaven Tree Warden Don Collasius informed the Select Board and the public that he would be removing four large ash trees on Walnut Street, between Center and Union Street. Mr. Collasius told the board at its meeting on 5/13/24, that the four trees were in an “advanced state of decline,” and pose a threat.

The trees are old, he said and just outgrew their space, like a “sunflower in a dixie cup.”

The sidewalks are also regularly salted, and there is a problem with the “Emerald Ash Borer” insect, with all four trees having some evidence of being invaded by the small beetle.

He said he wanted to be transparent about removing the trees because some people have been upset with him, saying he is not transparent.

“This is an attempt to avoid that,” he said, adding that he is letting as many groups as possible know about the plan.

“I hate doing it, I really do,” he said. The removal of the very large and

old trees will change the look of that section of street, said Mr. Collasius.

He also said he had hoped to get some Community Preservation Act funds to repair the sidewalk at the same time, but the project did not make it.

“I know they are in bad shape,” said SB member Keith Silvia, adding they took a four-foot cone and shoved it right through a hole in one of the trees.

In his report to the SB, Mr. Collasius said the trees pose a “high risk to persons traveling in the public right of way and public and private property.”

Three of the trees are 75 feet high, and one is 90 feet high. The Millicent Library and residences are in the fall zone of the trees.

All the trees have had “significant effort to mitigate decline” with extensive pruning and removal of decay in the past few years. All the trees have decay and some are losing limbs regularly.

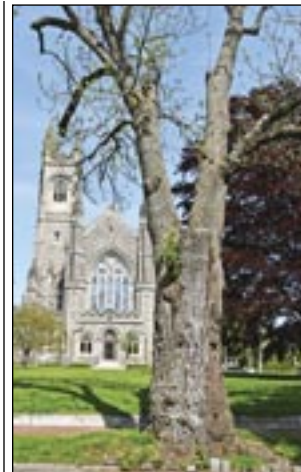
“Given the advanced state of decay of these trees with a cumulative weight of over 100 tons, and their

proximity to multiple targets that cannot be removed these trees pose a high risk and unfortunately should be taken down immediately,” writes Mr. Collasius in his report.

Michael Botelho, who lives near the trees, said he has called several times after large limbs have dropped.

“They’re in terrible shape,” said Mr. Botelho, adding he was “supportive” of taking them down.

The trees are scheduled to be removed on 5/30.



This ash tree on Walnut Street in Fairhaven is scheduled to come down on 5/30/24 due to extensive decay for a variety of reasons, including the Emerald Ash Borer insect. Photo by Beth David.

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Please contact Beth David at the *Neighb News*:  
NeighbNews@comcast.net (preferred)  
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(This issue will have our regular, annual coverage, with no school-sponsored content.)

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# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## Memorial Day

See page 3.

## FHS Documentary

Fairhaven TV proudly announces the release of its highly anticipated documentary, "The History of the Castle on the Hill." Led by Fairhaven High School Alumni Association President Robert Foster ('66) and produced by Erick Sa ('17), this immersive journey explores over a century of fascinating history, architectural marvels, and captivating stories of Fairhaven High School.

Available now for free viewing at [www.fairhaventv.com](http://www.fairhaventv.com) or Fairhaven TV's YouTube channel, the documentary offers an unparalleled exploration of Fairhaven High School's rich heritage.

"The History of the Castle on the Hill" stands as a testament to Fairhaven High School's enduring legacy, inviting viewers on a journey through time and tradition.

## Take the ADA Accessibility Survey

The town of Fairhaven received a grant from the MA Office on Disability to conduct a town-wide accessibility survey. Please answer the questions on this survey to help us assess and address the accessibility needs of Fairhaven.

The Accessibility Survey is now available at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/J8H2T3H>.

Or visit the town's website at [www.fairhaven-ma.gov](http://www.fairhaven-ma.gov) and find it under "News and Notices."

## Wellness Event

Joining forces with the Fairhaven Recreation Department, three passionate individuals are teaming up to provide vital wellness, education on resiliency techniques, and support to nurses and first responders at wellness event at the Fairhaven Rec Center, 227 Huttleston Ave. (behind Stop & Shop) on Fri., 5/31, from 4-6 p.m., featuring light yoga, guided meditation, and community group.

Danielle Mongeau, RN, BSN, brings her background of emergency nursing and holistic nurse coaching, certified as a transformative nurse coach through the Nurse Coach

Collective. She is also a guided meditation teacher certified through Meditation Alliance International and a certified nutrition coach through the National Academy of Sports Medicine.

Vanessa Machado, RN, with over a decade of experience in acute care and critical care, currently working in the Neurosciences Intensive Care Unit and is pursuing a advanced degree in psychiatric and mental health nursing as well as a certification in stress management and resiliency training (SMART) at the Benson Henry Institute for Mind Body Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Sara DaCosta, a certified yoga teacher with a background in special education, offers her skills in trauma-sensitive mindfulness and sound therapy. Together, they aim to nurture the well-being of those who tirelessly serve their communities.

This is open to all healthcare workers and first responders in the Southcoast Ma/RI.

## Book/Puzzle/Bake/Plant

The West Island Improvement Association is holding a Book, Puzzle, Bake and Plant Sale on Sat., 5/25, from 10:00-2:00 at the Association Hall, 41 Causeway Rd., Fairhaven. Proceeds go towards the Scholarship fund.

## Rec Fishing Regs Public Comment

The Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) is taking public comment on a series of recently adopted emergency regulations and draft regulatory proposals to adjust recreational fishing rules at 322 CMR 6.00.

Regulations include changes to Scup for size and bag limits; Striped Bass fillet at sea regs; Summer Flounder size and bag limits.

A public hearing has been scheduled for Monday, May 20, 2024 at 6PM via Zoom. Please register at <https://tinyurl.com/yck7zjj5>.

DMF will accept written public comment through 8PM on 5/20. Please submit written comments to Director Daniel McKiernan by e-mail ([marine.fish@mass.gov](mailto:marine.fish@mass.gov)). For more information, please visit our

proposed regulations website (<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/proposed-amendments-to-division-of-marine-fisheries-regulations>).

## Huttleston MP

Saturdays, through Sept. 28 (except last Saturday in June), 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Fairhaven Visitors Center Lawn/Fairhaven High School Lawn., 141 Main St. at Rte 6, Fairhaven

Huttleston Marketplace is an outdoor bazaar featuring as many as 90 or more vendors selling select hand made arts and crafts, quality antiques and vintage collectibles, upcycled items, fresh farm produce, and locally prepared foods.

On the first Saturday of June, July, August, and September, we are scheduling special Kids Day activities including MR. ViNNY's Giant Puppets, the Millicent Library's Book Bike with story times, and more.

## Tour Guide/Local History Buffs

If you are interested in a fascinating piece of local history, come join us to pass this information to the hundreds of visitors who tour our facilities each year. The first Japanese person to live in the USA was a young boy named Manjiro who was rescued from a small island near Japan by the John Howland whaling ship from New Bedford in 1841. He was invited by Capt. William Whitfield to obtain his first schooling ever in the USA. The school involved is the Old Stone School in Fairhaven which is part of the Manjiro Trail.

We of the Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society have been hosting visitors from around the world to the Captain's home (now museum) and the Manjiro Trail. We wish to invite you to join our efforts as we pass this unique piece of local history to those visitors who will join the 11,000+ who have made the journey to date.

Available to our volunteer tour guides are: complete instructions with demos, 20% discount at museum gift shop and "happy coat" uniform.

For inquiries and/or application, contact Gerry Rooney at the: Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship House Museum, 11 Cherry St., Fairhaven 02719 Office tel. 508-858-5303 or

cont'd next page

## STILL AROUND TOWN

home: 508-995-1219 or cell: 508-269-4659, or e-mail Gerry@WMFriendshipHouse.org

### SAVE THE DATES:

#### **Adaptive Fishing Derby**

Fri., 6/21, Hoppy's Landing, 55 Goulart Memorial Dr., Fairhaven, 2-5 p.m. This event is designed to be inclusive and welcoming to all, regardless of fishing experience. Whether you're a seasoned angler or new to the sport, everyone is encouraged to attend!

In our efforts to ensure accessibility, we will provide adaptive fishing gear to assist those who may need support with casting, reeling, or holding the rod. Additionally, we will

have access to trax matting and a beach wheelchair available to ensure that individuals with mobility challenges can fully participate and enjoy the experience by the water's edge.

Furthermore, representatives from the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries will be present to offer guidance to novice anglers, as well as share insights into marine life and the various fish species that may be encountered.

Participants will be categorized into two age divisions—Youth and Adult (16+).

We anticipate a delightful afternoon filled with fishing, camaraderie, and food and refreshments.

#### **Fairhaven's Got Pride**

Sun., 6/9, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.,

Outdoor Unitarian Memorial Church Service, 10:00 a.m. on church lawn; Lawn of Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center St., Fairhaven, MA; and Center St., between Town Hall and the Millicent Library

Join Fairhaven in celebrating and supporting our local LGBTQ+ community with hours of family-friendly festivity. The event will include guest speakers, vendor, craft, and support booths, music and entertainment, food trucks.

The Unitarian Memorial Church will hold an outdoor service on the church lawn at 10 a.m. For more information, follow on Facebook @FairhavenPride or email belonging@fairhaven-ma.gov.

## HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

CONT'D from page 3

serving the United States.

#### **SATURDAY, 5/25**

- **9 a.m. at Rural Cemetery, 149 Dartmouth St.** The Greater New Bedford Civil War Roundtable will conduct its annual Remembrance Service in the Civil War section of the cemetery. The service will include a wreath-laying, presentations of Logan's Order and the Gettysburg Address, musical selections, and keynote remarks from Mayor Jon Mitchell.

#### **SUNDAY, 5.26**

- **10 a.m. at Pine Grove Cemetery, 1100 Ashley Blvd.** New Bedford American Legion Post One will conduct a Memorial Day exercise at the Veterans' plot.
- **12 p.m. at City Hall, 133 William St.** New Bedford American Legion Post One will conduct a Memorial Day exercise at the Vietnam Veterans' Honor Roll on the William Street side of the building.

#### **MONDAY, 5/27 (MEMORIAL DAY)**

- **8:15 a.m. at Rural Cemetery, 149 Dartmouth St.** New Bedford American Legion Post One will conduct a Memorial Day exercise at the Veterans' plot.
- **10 a.m. at Pier 3, 51 MacArthur Dr.** The New Bedford Port Society's annual Fishermen's Memorial Day Service will follow a procession from Seaman's Bethel. In the event of rain, the event will be held inside

Seaman's Bethel.

#### **11:30 a.m. New Bedford Memorial Day Parade**

This year's parade is presented by the City of New Bedford, the Veterans' Services Department, the City Council, and the Veterans' Advisory Board.

The parade will form at the intersection of Hathaway Boulevard and Parker Street beginning around 10:30 a.m. before stepping off at 11:30 a.m. The parade will march east on Parker Street to County Street, where it will turn left and head north on County Street. The parade will then turn right to head east on Pope Street, where it will make its final turn into Clasky Common Park.

There will be a Memorial Day service at the reviewing stand at the conclusion of the parade. All participants are encouraged to stay and take part in the service, which includes the reading of the Gettysburg Address, Logan's Orders, and roll call of New Bedford veterans who have passed away.

Family and friends of veterans who have passed away are invited to bring a flower to the service and place it at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in remembrance.

### **RJD Free To Military**

This summer, active-duty military families can once again visit The Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum (RJD), 396 County St., New

Bedford, for free as part of Blue Star Museums, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and Blue Star Families (BSF), in collaboration with the Department of Defense. The 2024 program will continue through Monday, September 2, 2024, Labor Day.

RJD is one of many participating museums from across all 50 states. Each year, a wide variety of museums take part, from history, art, and children's museums to botanical gardens, planetariums, and zoos.

For more information about RJD, call the Museum at (508) 997-1401 or visit the Museum's website, [rjdmuseum.org](http://rjdmuseum.org). Additional information and a complete list of participating museums is available at [arts.gov/BlueStarMuseums](http://arts.gov/BlueStarMuseums).

### **Learn to Row**

New Bedford Rowing Center (NBRC) announces Learn To Row sessions. These Saturday and Sunday morning courses will get anyone on the water in four weeks.

Registration is now open for Learn To Row courses, taking place on For more information about the New Bedford Rowing Center and its programs, including signing up for a Learn To Row course, please visit [www.newbedfordrowing.org](http://www.newbedfordrowing.org).

- Session 2: June 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23
- Session 3: July 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28
- Session 4: August 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25

Cont'd next page

## STILL OVERTOWN

For more information about the New Bedford Rowing Center and its programs, including signing up for a Learn To Row course, please visit [www.newbedfordrowing.org](http://www.newbedfordrowing.org).

### SAVE THE DATES: NB Pride

June Pride Month is Right Around the Corner We hope everyone will join us at New Bedford Pride in Buttonwood Park on June 1 and Taunton Pride in Hopewell Park on June 8 to support and celebrate all the wonderfully unique contributions the LGBTQ+ people make to life in the South Coast. We've got something happening for everyone throughout

the month of June. Check out all the action on our website and stay up-to-date our Facebook page! <https://www.sclgbtqnetwork.org/pride-2024.html>

### Oyster Fest

Cisco Brewers and Fishing Heritage Center are excited to launch New Bedford's first Oysterfest, Sat., 6/15, from 4:00 to 7:00pm! Enjoy oysters from some of the region's finest oyster farms, drinks, live music, and more. Meet the growers and learn how to shuck! Tickets will be sold exclusively through the FHC. For tickets visit <http://fishingheritagecenter.org/programs/calendar/>.

A portion of the proceeds support the Center.

### Ernestina-Morrissey Public Sails

Set sail aboard the historic Schooner Ernestina-Morrissey this summer with FHC! These public sails are the perfect opportunity for anyone interested in learning about the history of the commercial fishing industry. We invite you to join us this summer for sunset sails departing from New Bedford's State Pier at 6:00 p.m. on June 29, July 19 and August 16. Tickets are only available through the FHC website, <http://fishingheritagecenter.org/programs/calendar/>: \$60/general public. FHC members receive a 20% discount and a portion of the ticket sales support the Center!

## HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

### Lecture:

#### American Healthcare

*America's failing healthcare system: how we got here and where do we go?* Presented by Dr. Edward Hoffer.

Join Dr. Edward Hoffer at the Mattapoisett Free Public Library, 7 Barstow St., Tues., 5/28, from 6:30-7:30 pm as he discusses America's failing healthcare system: how we got here and where do we go?

Dr. Hoffer will cover why the U.S. spends vastly more on healthcare than other developed countries and yet has mediocre health outcomes; where the money goes and what people can do to protect themselves.

This critical topic is relevant to each and every one of us as we learn to navigate the healthcare system. Dr. Hoffer was an undergraduate at MIT, MD at Harvard; and did his residency and cardiology fellowship at Mass General Hospital. He was in private practice for 40 years combined with research on medical informatics at MGH. Dr. Hoffer works half-time at the MGH Lab of Computer Science on AI, trying to help doctors make more accurate diagnoses. He is the author of the book entitled Prescription for Bankruptcy.

FREE and open to all.

### Clambake Grab & Go Get Tickets NOW!

Hosted by the Knights of

Columbus, Damien Council, 57 Fairhaven Road, Mattapoisett, MA.3 Sun., 6/23. Pickup time, 1-2 p.m.

Includes: clams, fish, sausages, hot dog, linguica, onions, white and sweet potato, stuffing, corn on the cob, brown bread, watermelon.

Benefits Knights of Columbus Mattapoisett.

Tickets: \$45 pp. For info and tickets, call Jim, 508-863-3496. Advanced purchase of tickets is needed. Free delivery of tickets is available.

### Duck Race

#### Get Tickets NOW!

The Acushnet Lions Club will sponsor its annual Duck Race on Sun., 6/23, at the Acushnet Sawmill and down the Acushnet River at 1:30 p.m. Proceeds from the race go to Mass. Lions Eye Research, Scholarships and other Lions Club charities.

Tickets to adopt your duck are \$10 each. See any Acushnet Lions Club member or call Joe Costa, 508-971-1859. First place, \$1000; 2nd place, \$500; 3rd place, \$200.

### Art Exhibit

Painters Robert Abele & Mary Moquin will be exhibiting their work at the Marion Art Center kicking off with an opening reception on Fri., 5/24, from 5:00-7:00pm at 80 Pleasant Street, Marion. The show runs from May 24 through June 28, 2024 and will encompass the annual Art in Bloom festival at the MAC, which sees the

public selecting a painting and creating a flower arrangement that evokes it. Art in Bloom is scheduled Thurs., 6/13 through Sat., 6/15.

Robert Abele is an American fine artist living and working in the South Coast of Massachusetts. His work captures the essence and beauty of architecture, particularly found in early New England homes. His works in oil also depict the coastal landscape of New England.

Mary Moquin is a professional artist and teacher. She lives on the cape and spends part of the year in a remote dune cottage on the peninsula known as Sandy Neck in Barnstable, MA. The inspiration for her paintings comes from observing time passing as the light and shadows fall across the structures there.

Learn more at [marionartcenter.org/events](http://marionartcenter.org/events).

### SAVE THE DATES:

#### Boston Pride

Boston Pride For The People is excited to announce Pride Month celebration in Boston on June 8th, 2024. The celebration will include a parade, a festival, and more! Boston Pride For The People is a volunteer-led organization that plans activities and events that celebrate the rich diversity, culture, and intersectionality of the LGBTQ+ community.

For more information, visit <https://www.bostonprideforthepeople.org/>

# Fewer than 500 vote in Acushnet Election

By Beth David

Editor

Less than 6% of voters turned out for the Acushnet election Saturday, 5/18/24, at the Acushnet Elementary School, where all precincts voted. There were no contested races on the ballot, and there were three vacancies. A total of 498 ballots were cast out of 8,573 registered voters, for a turnout of 5.8%.

Kevin Gaspar was re-elected to his seat on the Selectboard with 437 votes; Francis Mello was elected Assessor with 438 votes; David Davignon was re-elected to the Board of Health with 452 votes; John Howcroft was re-elected to School Committee with 439 votes; Richard Ellis was re-elected to the Planning



L-R: Acushnet Selectboard member, Kevin Gaspar, and detail officer, retired police chief Michael Alves, pose for the local free sheet as voting wrapped up on 5/18/24 when Acushnet had no contested elections and saw a 5.8% turnout. *Photo by Beth David.*

Commission with 433 votes; Peter John Giampa was elected to fill an unexpired term on Planning with 425

votes; Paul Fortin was re-elected to the Cemetery Board with 460 votes; Alan Miner was elected to the Library board of Trustees with 442 votes; Chad Leclair was re-elected Park Commissioner with 443 votes; Andrew Gomes was re-elected to the Housing Authority with 439 votes;

Commissioner of Trust Funds had two vacant spots on the ballot, one for a full term and one for the remainder of an unexpired term. No names were on the ballot.

Trustee of the Free Public Library also had one vacant seat on the ballot.

If you are interested in serving in any of the vacant seats, contact the Town Clerk for more information, 608-998-0215.

## Acushnet Selectboard still crunching the numbers

By Beth David

Editor

The Acushnet Selectboard canceled their meeting on Tuesday, 5/21/24 and scheduled a meeting for Thursday at 11 a.m. The agenda still has

budget items and the Town Meeting warrant on it.

The town is trying to close a budget shortfall that was at more than \$1 million at the start of budget season. Officials have steadily been

chipping away at the deficit with a series of budget cuts and reviewing revenue numbers. The state's budget, with the aid to cities and towns, is not yet finalized. Acushnet's Town Meeting will be held on Monday, 6/17.

## From our readers

steadfast in your responsibilities to the town and your fellow selectboard members.

That's sacrifice.

You are honest and have strong moral principles.

That's integrity.

Your time as a selectboard member was not always smooth sailing, we know that firsthand also. When faced with adversity, negativity, and outright disrespect from some, you upheld your position as a calm, fair and considerate leader. Your ability to keep your composure through what you endured was admirable.

In twelve years of service to the Town of Fairhaven, through it all — the easy and the challenging — you were unwavering and focused on facts and the proper order of the business for our town regardless of what entity, person or group was on the other side of the issue at hand.

That's consistency.

As your siblings, the difficult times were hard for us to witness, but your professionalism and decorum never faltered, and each time these types of situations arose, you proved your dedication, compassion, sacrifice,

integrity, and consistency. Truly, there are not many people who could have sustained and still conducted themselves with such grace.

As your siblings, we are immensely proud of you, and are honored to call you, our brother. Because of your repeated public display of poise and professionalism, we are proud to be Espindolas.

Mom and Dad are watching from heaven above, and we are certain they are so very proud of you also. They would be so proud of the man you have become. Your children are very lucky to have you and Ann as their loving parents and role models. We love you and Ann deeply and are so happy that you will get more time to spend with each other and with your beautiful grandchildren.

We wish you the very best in your retirement, and we thank you,

*The Espindola Family*

### Planning Board Member Vows to Press On

Regrettably, our proposed recommendation to the Town Meeting members, advocating for the

LETTERS: cont'd on page 19

### Family Contratulates Espindola

Congratulations, Bob, on your retirement from the Fairhaven Board of Selectmen

We are so incredibly proud of you. Twelve years of service to the Town of Fairhaven is quite an accomplishment. Your dedication, compassion, and sacrifice were noticed and appreciated by so many.

To some, it may have appeared as though you fulfilled your selectboard duties just once a week, but we know firsthand what the position meant to you.

We saw the time and energy you poured into learning and understanding the issues put before the selectboard. If something needed to be researched and thoroughly vetted for the best possible outcome, you were right there putting in the work.

That's dedication.

When decisions needed to be made, you always had an open mind, and you listened intently to all involved.

That's compassion.

Even in times when life got busy, and you had to stretch yourself in different directions, you remained



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

## Kool Kids

**Get ready for an unforgettable summer with Kool Kids Camp!**

Fairhaven Recreation's premier summer camp experience is designed for children entering 1st grade to 12 years old. Every day, our campers will enjoy a diverse range of sports, games, art and STEM activities. Children will enjoy special themed events, Friday pizza lunches, cool water activities and exciting field trips.

For more information and pricing visit the Rec center or go online at <https://fairhavenrecreation.activityreg.com/> 9 weekly sessions

## CIT Counselor in Training Empowering Teens to become future leaders.

Teens aged 13-16 get ready to develop essential leadership skills and learn how to become summer counselors! Our comprehensive 2 week CIT program includes

- Early education tips and job interview skills
- Planning and executing a theme day for our Kool Kids program
- Assisting senior counselors with projects and running games
- Field trips on Thursdays and pizza lunch every Friday
- Valuable experience and skills to boost your future career.

Sign up online or stop by to register.

Participants will go through an interview with the Director and Program Coordinator for acceptance in the program

Member \$260./ Non member \$310.

## Pickleball Clinic for Teens (12-17)

Bring your paddle and a water bottle, Thursdays May 30- June 20th 4:30-5:30pm.

Location: Livesey Park Pickleball courts. Must pre register online or at the rec

Cost:\$75. for members \$80. for Non members

# Fairhaven Senior Center

**508-979-4029 • 229 Huttleston Ave • Fairhaven**  
Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Wed., 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m.

Visit our website at:

[http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA\\_COA/index](http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA_COA/index)

## Fairhaven Council on Aging

### Memorial Day Cookout

Tues., 5/28, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Fairhaven COA/Senior Ctr. Hot dogs, hamburgers, potato salad, pasta salad and watermelon. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. Following lunch, at noon, will be music bingo with Eddie Freitas until 2 p.m.

Please call to sign up as this event is limited to 75 people, 508-979-4029.

### 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.

### 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: 5/29, Wrentham Village; 6/5, Tiverton Casino; 6/12, Hyannis Mall, Trader Joe's, Whole Foods; 6/19, So. Shore Plaza; 6/26, Thames St., Newport, RI.

### 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.

### Tech Cafe

Do you need help with your cellphone or computer? Stop by the Fairhaven Senior Center for FREE helpat our Tech Cafe! Every Thursday from 3-4 p.m.

### Walking Schedule

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

### Technology Classes

You MUST CALL to see which class is right for you as here are three different skill levels. All classes are 120 minutes. Call 508-979-4029.

**May 29 & 31, Android Beginner.** Must sign up please call 508-979-4029

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

### Do you have old medical equipment?

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

### Caregivers Support Group

The first Thursday of the month, from 1-2:00 p.m. at the Fairhaven Senior Center. Please call 508-979-4029.

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# Recipe of the Week

## Maple Pumpkin Pie

- 1 pkg. prepared pie crusts
- 1/4 cup pure maple syrup
- 1/2 cup brown sugar (packed)
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 3/4 tsp pumpkin pie spice
- 3 eggs, beaten
- One 16-oz. can pumpkin
- 1 1/4 cups evaporated milk

Place one sheet of pie crust in a deep dish pie pan. Use a leaf-shaped cookie cutter to punch several leaves out of the other pie crust, and use the backside of a knife to create the veining; set aside.

In a large bowl, mix syrup, sugar, salt, pumpkin pie spice and eggs. Add pumpkin, evaporated milk, and blend well. Pour into pie shell. Bake at 450° for 15 minutes. Reduce oven to 300°

Add leaf cut-outs around edge of pie, and continue to bake for 25 to 30 minutes longer or until a knife inserted comes out clean. Serve at room temperature or chilled.



she can help, and then she becomes the life of the party. At my Little League games, she wears crazy outfits and screams louder than anyone when we make a home run.

Please don't ask how she behaves at our town parades. It's so embarrassing. On countless occasions, I have asked her to tone her behavior down.

She says, "Don't be such a stick in the mud. You should be grateful that you have a youthful and fun-loving mother who takes an interest in your life."

When I talk to my friends about my mother, they think she's a hoot and

# Dear Frankie

## A Life of My Own?

Dear Frankie, Whatever I do or wherever I go, my mom is involved. If I have friends over to play a game, she joins in. When I'm invited to a party, she asks the kid's mom if

wish their moms were as much fun. Nobody understands how I feel.

*Barkley*

Dear Barkley,

I understand. You feel that you don't have a life of your own. It feels terrible not to be understood. An overbearing and over-involved parent is a lot to deal with. It appears your mom is living her life through you.

Do you have a relative you could talk to who might be able to speak to your mom? Have you talked to the counselor at your doggie daycare? I'm sure your mom is not the first parent to act like this. You could tell your mom that you will not play baseball or invite friends over if she continues to act the way she has in the past and see how that goes.

Sorry, Barkley, I can't offer you better advice. Feel free to write to me again when you need someone to commiserate.

*Best, Frankie*

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Comments and letters can be sent to Frankie at [dearfrankiecolumn@gmail.com](mailto:dearfrankiecolumn@gmail.com). The Fairhaven Neighborhood News

FRANKIE: cont'd on page 18



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# Lions give Troop 11 funds for tool shed in pollinator garden

Troop 11 Boy Scouts of Acushnet received a donation from the Lions Club of Acushnet for \$1,200 for a shed that will be located at the golf course for the pollinator garden that will house the tools that will be used to maintain the garden.

This garden is a community garden created by Troop 11. A presentation was made to the Lions' club from Noah Dionne, Scout Leader Joe Cote, and Den Mother Heather Dionne. Douglas Thomas of the Acushnet Lions worked with Heather putting

this garden shed together for many months to be able to make this possible. The shed will be in place soon and the scouts encourage everyone to visit the garden.

L-R: Eagle Scout Noah Dionne receives a \$1200 check from Acushnet Lion Doug Thomas for a tool shed at Noah's project at the pollinator garden near the Acushnet Golf course. Submitted photo.



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## 203 ride in the Blessing of the Bikes



The annual Blessing of the Bikes by St. Joseph Church in Fairhaven drew 203 riders on Sunday, 5/19/24. Riders gathered at Fort Phoenix, then rode to St. Joseph Church on Spring Street where Fr. Rick LaBrecque of St. Joseph, and Fr. Michael Kumar of St. Mary's blessed each rider as they passed by. The bikes then toured the back roads for a couple of hours and ended up at Knuckleheads in New Bedford for food and entertainment. Proceeds from the ride benefit St. Joseph. ABOVE LEFT: More than 200 motorcycles gather at Fort Phoenix in Fairhaven for the Blessing of the Bikes at St. Joseph Church on 5/19/24. ABOVE RIGHT: The bikes start leaving the fort. BELOW LEFT & RIGHT: Fr. Rick LaBrecque of St. Joseph Parish blesses a motorcycle rider in front of St. Joseph Church. BOTTOM LEFT: Fr. LaBrecque blesses a motorcycle while Fr. Michael Kumar of St. Mary's Church dips his holy water sprinkler into the water to bless the next bike on his side of the road. BOTTOM RIGHT: Fr. Kumar blesses a motorcycle rider. *Photos by Beth David.*





# Huttleston Marketplace starts season in the rain

By Beth David  
Editor

Vendors and patrons at Fairhaven's Huttleston Marketplace faced steady rain on Saturday for opening day. Fairhaven Office of Tourism Director, Chris Richard, said the day started with 33 vendors, about half the number he expected. However, as the day wore on and the rain continued, they packed up one by one.

Just before 2:30 p.m., there were only three left and they were packing up. But they all said it was worth it to stay in the rain.

"I sold 13 things," said Stephenie

Sherman of New Bedford Potters, with Chris Pinard and Nicole Furtado standing by with their purchases as if to testify to the truth of it.

Ms. Sherman said it was her seventh year and she was very happy with the result.

"I sold a little bit," said Ken Vieira of Twisted by Ken, who sells handmade jewelry.

"I did, I did [sell some things]," said Joan of Joan B's Treasure from the Sea, which offers seashell art and other items. "I love Huttleston Marketplace. I like the area. I like the people."

The Huttleston Marketplace is held every Saturday through September 28 (except 6/29) on the lawn of the Fairhaven Visitors Center and the High School at 141 Main Street, Fairhaven, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Vendors sell hand made arts and crafts, quality antiques and vintage collectibles, upcycled items, fresh farm produce, and locally prepared foods. The marketplace features special kids activities on the first Saturday of the month.

Visit <https://fairhaventours.com/huttleston-marketplace/> for more information.



Vendors pack up after a rainy first day of the Huttleston Marketplace in Fairhaven on 5/18/24, L-R: Stephanie Sherman of New Bedford Potters; Ken Vieira of Twisted by Ken, who sells handmade jewelry; Joan of Joan B's Treasures from the Sea, which offers seashell art. Photos by Beth David.

## Millicent Library chimneys undergoing repair work

Submitted

The Millicent Library is currently undergoing chimney repairs necessitating the installation of scaffolding earlier this year. The catalyst for these repairs traces back to late 2019 when water ingress began plaguing several areas of the building where the chimneys are situated. In the Youth Services section, the situation escalated to the extent that the librarian's desk had to be relocated due to leaking water and falling plaster flakes.

Consultation with an architect revealed that frequent and intense rainstorms were exacerbating the water infiltration issue. Following a comprehensive assessment of the chimneys, a detailed scope of work with cost estimates was formulated. Funding for the project was secured through the Town of Fairhaven Community Preservation Committee.

Progress faced a setback with the

onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Subsequently, a new project architect had to be enlisted, leading to the engagement of Stephen Kelleher Architects, Inc. of Fairhaven.

Following a public bidding process, Folan Waterproofing and Construction was appointed to carry out the necessary repairs.

Due to the nature of the terracotta material used in



The chimneys at the Millicent Library in Fairhaven are undergoing restoration work this spring, which may result in elevated noise levels inside the building. Submitted photo.

cont'd on page 14

## Millicent repair work from 12

the chimneys, specific weather conditions are required for the repair work to commence safely. The onset of spring marked the beginning of the repair process. Initial steps involved applying various terracotta samples to match the existing material, followed by a curing period of about 14 days. Once the suitable terracotta sample was identified, the necessary materials were ordered, and repair work has commenced.

The Millicent Library does not anticipate that the repair work will

interfere with the operations of the library. However, noise levels from the work may be elevated at times.

Upon completion of the chimney repairs, a comprehensive water test will be conducted to ensure the efficacy of the repairs. Roof shingle and flashing repairs were finalized last fall, with the restoration of the chimneys slated for completion by early July, weather permitting.

The funding for this project is made possible by the Fairhaven Community Preservation Committee

through the Community Preservation Act (CPA). This act serves as a crucial tool in preserving our town's open spaces, historic resources, land of recreation, and community housing. Established in 2005, the Fairhaven Community Preservation Committee oversees the local Community Preservation Fund, which supports projects like this one. With the Committee's support through CPA, we can ensure the preservation of our town's rich history and heritage for generations to come.

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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"

## TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN PUBLIC HEARING

This is to inform you that a hearing will be held by the Select Board at Town Hall located at 40 Center Street, Fairhaven on Monday, June 10, 2024, at 6:30 pm. This hearing is on petition No. 16256483 of Nstar d/b/a Eversource. Install approximately 99' (feet) of conduit and cable in town road northeasterly starting at newly installed FO Pole 136/3. To install one FO Pole labeled 136/3 with down guy approximately 145' (feet) southeast of existing pole 136/2 on Jason Terrace at the corner of Rita's Way.

Select Board  
Stasia Powers, Chair  
Charles K. Murphy, Sr. Vice Chair  
Andrew B. Saunders, Clerk  
Keith Silvia, Member  
Andrew Romano, Member  
FNN: 5/23/24

Stasia Powers, Chair, Fairhaven Select Board  
FNN: 5/23/24

## Town of Fairhaven Invitation to Bid

The Town of Fairhaven, Massachusetts, will receive bids for Millicent Library Electrical Upgrades Project located at 45 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719.

Plans and specifications will also be available electronically at [www.Projectdog.com](http://www.Projectdog.com) Project Code 862235 on or after May 22, 2024 at 9:00 AM. This project is being Electronically Bid (E-Bid). All bids shall be submitted online at [www.Projectdog.com](http://www.Projectdog.com). Hard copy bids will not be accepted by the Awarding Authority. Tutorials and Instructions are available online at [www.Projectdog.com](http://www.Projectdog.com). For assistance, contact Projectdog, Inc. at 978.499.9014. Bid Forms and Contract Documents shall be available online at [www.Projectdog.com](http://www.Projectdog.com). Log in and enter the Project Code 862235 in the search box and select "Acquire Documents" for a free, downloadable bid set. Hard copies of the documents may be purchased online. A free CD-ROM may be requested by contacting Projectdog - shipping and handling charges apply.

Neither Owner nor Architect/Engineer shall be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than Projectdog, Inc. The Town of Fairhaven will receive General Bids no later than 2:00 PM, June 27, 2024.

FNN 5/23/24

that members of the public body as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be at 40 Center Street, and it is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of the public. MGL, Ch. 30a, § 20(f) requires anyone that intends to record any portions of a public meeting, either by audio or video, or both, to notify the Chair at the beginning of the meeting.

Anyone wishing to access the meeting via remote means may do so in the following manner:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86953155076?pwd=VFdUQkhzdVYrNzJlQktlVi9XSGppZz09>  
or CALL 1-929-205-6099  
Meeting ID: 869 5315 5076  
Passcode: 633695

The Fairhaven Conservation Commission will hold the following **Public Hearings** pursuant to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. c. 131, s. 40) and the Code of the Town of Fairhaven Chapter 192, Wetlands:

a. **SE 023-1460, CON 023-423: 9 Goulart Memorial Drive, Map 42, Lot 15G** Notice of Intent filed by Fernando & Diane Lemos to construct a 20'x6' cantilever deck extension, with a 16'.5"x16'.5" elevated sunroom, and a 9'.5"x11' elevated screened porch with proposed footings. In addition, the applicant proposes a 9'.5"x5' grill deck and an 18'x9'.5" deck attached to the existing single-family dwelling. Work proposed within the 25'-50' Buffer Zone and property within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, FEMA Flood Zone VE (El.20') at Assessor's Map 42, lot 15G.

b. **SE 023-\_\_\_, CON 023-424: 23 Eaton Road, Map 29B, Lot 110** Notice of Intent filed by Michael & Hayden Linley to raze existing house and construct a new residence on FEMA Flood Zone compliant foundation, sewer & water connections and associated site work. Work to take place within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage and FEMA Flood Zone VE (El. 20') at Assessor's Map 29B, Lot 110.

LEGALS: cont'd next page

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE FAIRHAVEN SELECT BOARD

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40R and 760 CMR 59.05(1), the Fairhaven Select Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, June 10, 2024 at 6:35 p.m. at Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, Massachusetts, concerning an application to establish the Fairhaven Smart Growth Overlay District in areas shown on maps entitled "Fairhaven 40R Smart Growth Overlay 4-2 Smart Growth Zoning Map (Plaza Area SGOD)" and "Fairhaven 40R Smart Growth Overlay 4-2 Smart Growth Zoning Map (Waterfront SGOD)," prepared by Dodson & Flinker, dated January 31, 2024 and May 3, 2024, respectively. Said maps are available for viewing in the Office of the Town Clerk. The public hearing is to provide an opportunity for comment and to determine whether the provisions of the aforesaid Fairhaven Smart Growth Overlay District shall be adopted by the Town. Any and all interested parties are invited to attend.

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Fairhaven

### Conservation Commission

Monday, May 6, 2024 at 6:00pm  
Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Street  
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means

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The Town of Fairhaven seeks a full-time custodian for 35 hours per week. The salary ranges from \$19.90 to \$24.26, complemented by a competitive benefits package. Reporting directly to the Director of Facilities, the custodian's main assignment will be at the police station. Applicants must hold a high school diploma and possess 2-3 years of professional experience. Applications must be submitted by June 3rd and can be accessed on the Town's website. Fairhaven is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

### LEGALIS: cont'd from previous page

- c. **SE 023-1461, CON 023-425: 60 Highland Avenue, Map 28A, Lots 164 & 165** Notice of Intent filed by Stan Feck to construct a single-family dwelling on a pile foundation within the Buffer Zone to a Bordering Vegetated Wetland and within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage. The house will be serviced with municipal water and sewer at Assessor's Map 28A, Lots 164 & 165.
- d. **CON 023-426: 5 Bay Street, Map 28A, Lot 409** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Clint Wilson to install new asphalt driveway with same footprint as current dirt/gravel driveway. Property located in land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage and FEMA Flood Zone VE (E1.13') at Assessor's Map 28A, Lot 409.
- e. **CON 023-428: 39 Nelson Avenue, Map 43, Lot 224** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Kathleen Taylor to replace existing fence and replace with a FEMA compliant fence. Work to take place within FEMA Flood Zone VE (E1.18') at Assessor's Map 43, Lot 224.
- f. **CON 023-429: 25 Alder Street, Map 43A, Lot 71** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Mark Silverman to mechanically remove invasive plants and vines, dead trees and fallen limbs in vacant lot at intersection of Alder and Balsam Street; plan to spread 2-3 inches of processed wood chips as a base. Property includes Coastal Beach, Buffer Zone

**FRANKIE: cont'd from page 10**  
publishes the Dear Frankie column. To receive a free online subscription, readers can email [neighbnews@comcast.net](mailto:neighbnews@comcast.net).

### LOCAL ELECTRICIAN:

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

**BEGINNER DOG OBEDIENCE TRAINING** New class starts June 12, 2024 The Wampanoag Kennel Club, 1121 Main St. Acushnet. \$125 for 8 weeks. Call/text 508-858-9962

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and Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage at Assessor's Map 43A, Lot 71.

g. **SE 023-\_\_\_\_, CON 023-430: 25 Shore Drive, Map 29C, Lots 615 & 616** Notice of Intent filed by Young Family Trust to construct a single-family dwelling with a 10' wide crushed shell driveway on the westerly side of the house and install a shadow box privacy fence along a portion of the northerly property line. Work to take place within FEMA Flood Zone VE (E1.17') at Assessor's Map 29C, Lots 615 & 616.

h. **CON 023-431: 178 Balsam Street, Map 43B, Lot 38** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Patricia Roberts to install FEMA compliant fence along back of the property in existing grass. Property within Bordering Vegetated Wetland, Salt Marsh, and Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage (LSCSF) at Assessor's Map 43B, Lot 38.

Information regarding remote meeting access, listed above, will also be provided on the Conservation Agenda posted on the Town's website at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Copies of the applications and site plans listed in this hearing notice may be viewed at the Conservation Office in Town Hall, located at 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA and links to the applications are on the Town Website.

*Karen Isherwood, Vice Chair  
Fairhaven Conservation Commission  
FNN: 5/23/24*

*net, request their name be added to the email list or visit [www.neighbnews.com](http://www.neighbnews.com) to read the paper online or to download the latest issue.*

# Upcoming Meetings

## Fairhaven

### Board of Public Works

Mon., 6/3, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

### Conservation Commission

Mon., 6/3, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

### Cultural Council

Wed., 5/29, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Livable Streets Comm

Thurs., 5/16, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

### School Committee

Wed., 6/12, Media Ctr/Lib., 6:30 p.m.

### Select Board

Tues., 5/28, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

## Acushnet

### Board of Appeals

Tues., 5/28, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Bylaw Review Committee

Thurs., 5/23, Parting Ways, 3 p.m.

### Historical Commission

Tues., 5/14, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Selectboard

Thurs., 5/23, Town Hall, 11 a.m.

Tues., 6/4, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

### Town Meeting

Mon., 6/17, Ford Middle Sch, 7 p.m.

## TIDE TABLE

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

|           | May 2024 |      | HIGH a.m. | LOW p.m. |      | LOW a.m. | HIGH p.m. |
|-----------|----------|------|-----------|----------|------|----------|-----------|
| Thursday  | 23       | 0833 | 2050      | 0149     | 1336 |          |           |
| Friday    | 24       | 0916 | 2134      | 0231     | 1421 |          |           |
| Saturday  | 25       | 1001 | 2220      | 0316     | 1511 |          |           |
| Sunday    | 26       | 1048 | 2308      | 0400     | 1559 |          |           |
| Monday    | 27       | 1139 | ---       | 0442*    | 1647 |          |           |
| Tuesday   | 28       | 0000 | 1236      | 0527*    | 1738 |          |           |
| Wednesday | 29       | 0059 | 1336      | 0620     | 1844 |          |           |
| Thursday  | 30       | 0157 | 1433      | 0727     | 2006 |          |           |
| Friday    | 31       | 0254 | 1529      | 0834     | 2121 |          |           |

|           | June 2024 |      | HIGH a.m. | LOW p.m. |      | LOW a.m. | HIGH p.m. |
|-----------|-----------|------|-----------|----------|------|----------|-----------|
| Monday    | 1         | 0431 | 1708      | 1008     | ---  |          |           |
| Tuesday   | 2         | 0537 | 1807      | 1115     | 1115 |          |           |
| Wednesday | 3         | 0632 | 1856      | 0108     | 1215 |          |           |
| Thursday  | 4         | 0720 | 1941      | 0204     | 1302 |          |           |
| Friday    | 5         | 0806 | 2027      | 0302     | 1346 |          |           |
| Saturday  | 6         | 0853 | 2112      | 0348     | 1434 |          |           |
| Sunday    | 7         | 0940 | 2157      | 0415     | 1518 |          |           |
| Monday    | 8         | 1025 | 2240      | 0419     | 1553 |          |           |

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

# Obituary: Constance Gaucher



## Constance Gaucher

On Saturday, May 18, 2024, Constance V. Gaucher, aged 97, passed away peacefully at Sippican Health Care Center in Marion.

Born in New Bedford to the late Frank and Helen (Regan) Valladoa, Constance spent the majority of her life in her beloved town of Fairhaven. Her life was a testament to the values of family, kindness, and resilience.

Constance leaves behind a loving family, including her daughters, Nancy Bryan and her husband Jon of Mattapoisett; Janice Roy of Mattapoisett; Barbara Silva and her husband Robert of Mattapoisett; Helen

DeForge and her husband Michael of Fairhaven; Mary DesRoches and her husband Marc of Summerville, SC; and Joan Gouveia and her husband Michael of Fairhaven. She was a proud grandmother to 10 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren, and was a cherished aunt to many nieces and nephews.

Predeceased by her husband, Albert B. Gaucher, and sons, Albert B. Gaucher, Jr., and Philip J. Gaucher, Constance was also preceded in death by her brothers, Francis, Richard, and Mark Valladoa; her sisters, Mary Baskowski, Helen Shanley, and Jean Quinn; her great-grandson, Conrad Roy III; and her son-in-law, Conrad Roy, Sr. Despite these losses, Constance's spirit remained unbroken, and her capacity for love and joy continued to shine brightly.

Constance had a zest for life that was reflected in her many hobbies

and interests. She found joy in music, painting, the outdoors, gardening, and reading. Above all, she cherished the moments spent with her family. Known for her compassion, kindness, optimism, and sense of humor, Constance touched the lives of all who knew her.

A devoted member of St. Joseph's Parish in Fairhaven, Constance's faith was a cornerstone of her life.

Visiting hours will be held on Thursday, May 23rd, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Saunders-Dwyer Mattapoisett Home for Funerals, 50 County Road, Route 6, Mattapoisett. Her Funeral will be held Friday, May 24th at 8:45 AM from the funeral home, followed by her Funeral Mass at 10 AM in St. Joseph's Parish in Fairhaven. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery. For online condolence book, please visit [www.saundersdwyer.com](http://www.saundersdwyer.com).

## LETTERS: cont'd from page 8

approval of ADUs, did not secure passage. The Town's vote, by a margin of 60/40 against, concluded our meeting without a resolution and without a PLAN to confront our Town's housing and financial crises.

I am resolutely committed to resuming our proposal at the next Town Meeting, advocating for the approval of ADUs solely within existing residential areas. It is evident that there was confusion and apprehension regarding ADUs in commercial or industrial zones. Furthermore, I will champion the establishment of smart 40R overlay districts along Route 6, drawing inspiration from the benchmark development of the Mashpee Commons on Cape Cod as a model for our Town's growth.

My promise to the residents of Fairhaven, in seeking their trust to serve on this vital Board, was to prioritize the Health, Safety, and Prosperity of our community today and for generations to come. This year, my focus will be threefold: addressing the housing crisis, developing smart tax growth — not new taxes — and raising awareness of the daily pollution of Buzzards Bay by our neighbor, New Bedford. We cannot delay in finding and funding immediate solutions to halt this

economic and environmental catastrophe affecting our coastal community.

With unwavering conviction, I affirm that our community faces imminent peril due to a housing crisis that impacts our youth and young families, who struggle to find affordable housing or rentals, as well as our elderly population, who fear being priced out of their homes by rising taxes and inflation.

Financially, our Town is in dire straits, bound by the constraints of Proposition 2 1/2, which rightly limits government's ability to raise taxes beyond a certain threshold. We must not resort to stopgap measures such as fee hikes, but rather, as the Planning Board, we must innovate with housing and strategic development means to ease the tax burden without further straining our residents, especially the elderly and fixed-income families.

It is imperative that we do not permit any elected official to circumvent Prop 2 1/2. We must demand transparency from every candidate and officeholder on this critical issue. If we allow our Town government to breach this fiscal threshold, no family will be able to afford to reside and thrive in our

picturesque Town.

To my colleagues on the Fairhaven Planning Board, let us be the architects of proactive, visionary solutions to address our housing and financial crises. Let us not merely react but lead with bold, intelligent decisions for the betterment of future generations.

I vow to persist in my mission to RESOLVE our housing crisis, tackle our Town's financial challenges, and combat the pollution destroying our bay, which jeopardizes our fishing and shellfish industries and endangers recreational activities in our waters. from Westport to Marion to the North facing shores of the Elizabeth Islands .

Let us work together for the prosperity of our Town. Our community is relying on our resolve and ingenuity!

With determination and hopes of solidarity,

*Rick Trapilo, Fairhaven Planning Board*

You're dead if you  
aim only for kids.  
Adults are only kids  
grown up, anyway.

*Walt Disney*





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\*Source: MLS PIN total volume of sales - Fairhaven