



# Fairhaven

# Neighborhood News

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



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with a big voice!

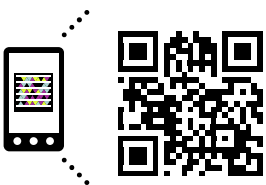
Volume 19, Issue 36 • September 12, 2024

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

## Apple Peach Fest features parade



Acushnet's Miss Apple Peach 2024, Madison Cabucio, who is a junior at Fairhaven High School, waves to the crowd in an antique car driven by Mike Cioper during the parade of the Apple Peach Festival in Acushnet on 9/8/24. See page 12. Photo by Sam Simoes.



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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

Oh boy, here we go again. The Planning Board public hearing from 9/4 (see page 4) is popcorn worthy. Honestly, there are things in there that will make you cringe.

My favorite is the board members telling the public to call the Ethics Commission. No, guys, that's not how it works. YOU are supposed to call. Residents don't call to chat. Residents call to report you.

To make matters worse, I heard from two people who are literally afraid to speak out. One even pulled a letter to the editor that was all written. Not because of some mob going to their house...like, really, a mob is going to get violent because they want a 40R district? Not around here. No, these people are afraid of our town officials because of the bullying tactics, the shouting, the invasion of personal space.

Shame on you. Shame on you all. People should be able to have their say. And it's okay if they get passionate, even if they're a little out of line about it sometimes. That's democracy. It's messy. It can be chaotic. But it includes people. The court have even said that swearing is allowed in meetings. Fancy that. A real First Amendment ruling. Go figure. There's that messy democracy again.

Well, Town Meeting will still have to weigh in on your fabulous ideas. You can't intimidate them all. You're not tough enough.

If you continue to disrespect people and treat the like they do not matter, they will find a way to make themselves matter, by becoming Town Meeting members.

The 40R thing came up at the Select Board meeting too. See page 3 for that.

There's other stuff in here, of course. Make sure you 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

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Editor: Beth David

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## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our 8/29/24 issue about the 8/19 Select Board meeting, we made a mistake when we referenced attorneys' fees for the town. Mr. Silvia noted that one bill was \$11,000 just in phone calls for a three month period (not one month). We apologize for any confusion our error may have caused.

# Fairhaven Select Board discusses 40R zoning article

By Beth David

Editor

At its meeting on 9/9/24, the Fairhaven Select Board discussed a possible change to the 40R Smart Growth Overlay District (SGOD) bylaw that has been the subject of an ongoing public hearing with the Planning Board (see page 4). At the PB public hearing, the possibility of splitting the article in two in order to separate the waterfront district came up, with some board members suggesting the change.

Attorney Adam Costa was tasked with asking the state and the SB about the possibility of making the change. The application has already been submitted to the state's Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) and includes the plazas (Walmart, Staples), with one set of standards; and the waterfront district, which has different standards and densities.

There has been some negative feedback from the community about including the waterfront district for a variety of reasons. Controversy also surrounds that district because PB

members Patrick Carr and Ruy DaSilva both own property in the proposed district. Both have participated in the discussion, with Mr. Carr, as vice chair, even running a portion of the public hearing. Both of them and PB Chairperson Cathy Melanson have said they are allowed to discuss and deliberate, but not vote on the proposal. Despite repeated requests from the *Neighb News*, neither Mr. Carr nor Mr. DaSilva has provided any guidance from the State Ethics Commission to share with our readers.

Mr. Costa outlined for the board the procedure. The Planning Board is required to hold the public hearing and submit the bylaw, but the Select Board is the authority that places articles on the warrant. Fairhaven's special Town Meeting is scheduled for November 19, so the schedule is tight, said Mr. Costa if there will be any changes.

Mr. Costa said he thought there was consensus among PB members to approve a 40R district, but here was some concern that the article would not pass as written.

He said they could have two

articles. One would be the plazas district, with all the regulations. If that passed then TM would be asked to vote on a second article to add the waterfront district to the bylaws.

SB members asked if changing the bylaw at this stage would result in significant costs. Mr. Costa said it would only be a few hours of work.

The question he said, is if the state will be willing to allow the change, or if they will make the town start over, since EOHLC already has the application and has started its review.

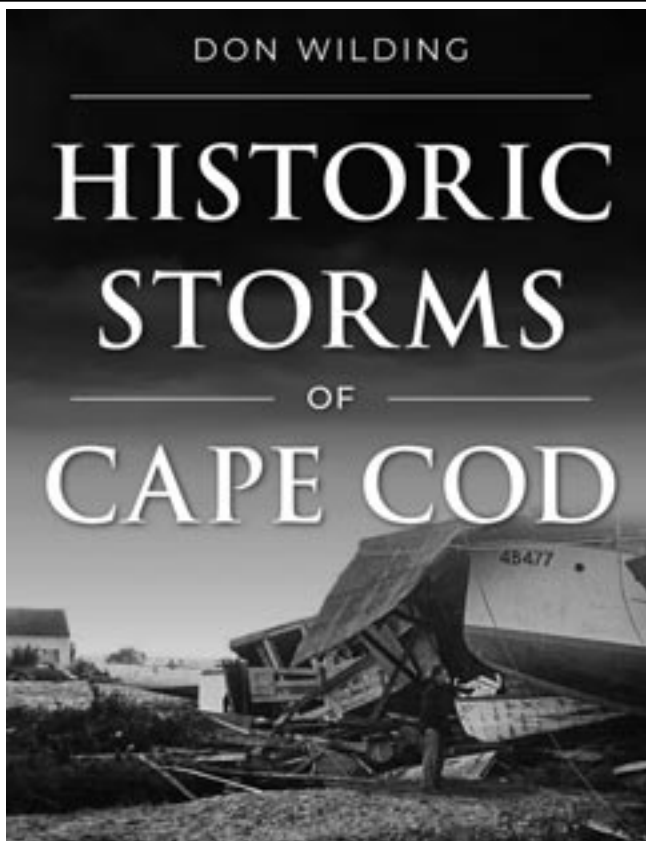
"Let it ride the way it is," said SB member Keith Silvia, adding that they have been working on it for many months. "If it fails, it fails."

SB Chairperson Stasia Powers said she wanted to see the article move forward. She said TM can get overwhelmed if they make it too complicated.

SB member Andrew Romano said he was in favor of the project, but wanted to know how the PB members felt.

There was a little confusion as to what Mr. Costa was asking the board

SB: cont'd on page 13



FREE BOOK TALK

with Don Wilding

Millicent Library  
Auditorium

45 Center St  
Fairhaven

6:30 PM, Monday  
September 16, 2024

PLEASE register for this FREE event at: [www.friendsofmillicentlibrary.com](http://www.friendsofmillicentlibrary.com)

# 40R hearing continued

By Beth David  
Editor

The Fairhaven Planning Board had another lively session at its ongoing public hearing on the proposed 40R Smart Growth Overlay District (SGOD) on 9/4/24. The hearing was continued to October 8.

Questions surrounding the waterfront area in the district again dominated the discussion.

There has been some negative feedback from the community about including the waterfront district for a variety of reasons. Controversy also surrounds that district because PB members Patrick Carr and Ruy DaSilva both own property in the proposed district. Both have participated in the discussion, with Mr. Carr, as vice chair, even running a portion of the public hearing. Both of them and PB Chairperson Cathy Melanson have said they are allowed to discuss and deliberate, but not vote on the proposal. Despite repeated requests from the *Neighb News*, neither Mr. Carr nor Mr. DaSilva has provided any guidance from the State Ethics Commission to share with our readers.

Attorney Adam Costa presented the board and the public with several handouts, including comparisons of other 40R districts that have been passed and their various stages of completion, with timelines on the buildouts.

He also provided more detailed information on income limits for the affordable units, and average salaries for different professions.

The median family income in the metro area used by Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to calculate the limits, is \$91,300 (the New Bedford, MA HUD Metro FMR Area). A single person can make up to \$61,350 to qualify for one of the units; \$87,600 for a family of four.

The board also discussed the possibility of the proposed 40B project at the former Park Motor project that was presented to the Select Board at its 8/19/24 meeting.

But at some point as the meeting got a bit testy, Chairperson Cathy Melanson refused to allow anyone to mention "40B" despite the contention that the waterfront district was added back in precisely because of a 40B proposal. A 40B project can skirt local zoning laws to create more density as long as at least 20% of the units are

for lower income residents.

Resident Michelle Costen, who has been a vocal advocate for affordable housing, and a supporter of the 40R district in the plazas, but not the waterfront, broke down the math for the affordable units, coming to the conclusion that very few would actually go to Fairhaven residents.

Ms. Costen said she was supportive of 40R, but not in the waterfront district because it is prime real estate. The units could sell for more than \$1 million, and rental units will not be affordable except for the number required by regulation.

She said the district is being promoted as helping to make housing

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Call the Ethics  
Committee [sic] and  
ask them. We are here  
to talk about 40R not  
conflict of interest.  
[Planning Board member  
Patrick Carr]

---

affordable, but it will not do that.

Ms. Costa acknowledged that prices will be dictated by the market.

Resident Randall Villeneuve asked about the Park Motors property, noting it is a hazardous waste site. He also asked about the units that would be sold and not rented and how they would remain affordable.

Mr. Costa said the project is "structured to maintain the affordability of those units."

In response to a questions, Mr. Costa laid out the process for a 40B project, which includes getting permits from the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). Although it was still unclear on how that would work since a 40B can skirt local zoning laws.

Resident Ann Richard noted that two members of the PB are also on the ZBA. Those members are also Mr. Carr and Mr. DaSilva.

"We're not talking about 40B anymore," said chairperson Cathy

Melanson. "Everyone knows Fairhaven needs to grow."

Resident Despina Longinidis said she believed there was a conflict of interest (COI) in the room.

"There is no conflict of interest in the room," said Ms. Melanson.

"There is," said Ms. Longinidis.

Ms. Costen, who had at some point been told she could not speak because he has already had her two minutes, said they were not letting people speak.

Ms. Melanson and Ms. Costen mixed it up a little, speaking over each other, with others in the room saying the board is supposed to let them speak at a public hearing.

Ms. Longinidis pressed her point about the COI, with board members benefiting from the project.

"Call the Ethics Committee [sic] and ask them," said Mr. Carr. "We are here to talk about 40R not conflict of interest."

He said that had to be answered by "an attorney in Boston."

Ms. Longinidis pointed out the spot in the town's bylaws, saying it was a violation.

Ms. Melanson interrupted her and pointed first to Mr. Carr and then to Mr. DaSilva saying, "He's not voting, he's not voting."

It's not about voting, said Ms. Longinidis. They cannot discuss or deliberate.

"Go to the ethics committee [sic]," said Ms. Melanson.

"These meetings are exhausting, really," said Ms. Longinidis.

The two went back and forth a bit.

"You're holding these meetings and not listening to the people," said Ms. Longinidis.

The board also discussed the details and wording of the bylaw itself, including the wisdom of including waivers.

After a bit more discussion, Mr. Carr was the one who actually suggested taking out the waterfront. He said he failed to see how he and Mr. DaSilva would benefit from the district.

Mr. Carr said just delete the waterfront, and let the 40B get built, the town will be happy and they won't have to worry about COI.

"And they get what they want," he said.

The board discussed some other

40R: cont'd on page 21

# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## Fhvn GOP

Please consider joining the Fairhaven Republican Town Meeting this coming Tuesday September 17 at 6pm 32 Abbey Street, Fairhaven. Join us to let your voice be heard, to suggest change and action. Most importantly you can help support local Republican candidates on the November ballot, also get information on mass4trump2024 campaign.

Lots going on stay informed by attending all are welcome.

## Silent Movie Night

Join us at the Millicent Library, 45 Center St., Fairhaven, on Fri. 9/13, for an enchanting evening featuring silent films accompanied by live music. Local musician Jeff Angeley of Southcoast Lessons & Company will perform to several short films, including: "Cameraman's Revenge" by Ladislav Starevich; "La Voix du Rossignol" by Ladislav Starevich; "Sleeping Beauty" by Lotte Reiniger

This event is supported in part by a grant from the Fairhaven Cultural Council.

## SAVE THE DATES:

### Food Truck Fest

The Town of Fairhaven is excited to announce its first-ever Food Truck Flavor Fest—an event that promises to bring the community together for a lively evening filled with food, music, games, and an outdoor movie screening.

Mark your calendars for Friday, September 20th, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Town Hall Center (with streets blocked off around William, Walnut, and Center). In case of rain, the event will be held the following Friday, September 27th.

This free entry, family-friendly event will feature a variety of food trucks offering local flavors, activities on the Millicent Library lawn, and live music from the Shepherd Center for the Performing Arts. As the sun starts to set, gather on the Town Hall Lawn at 7:00 PM for an outdoor screening of Fairhaven TV's documentary made in partnership with the FHS Alumni Association, titled *The History of the Castle on the Hill*. This captivating film explores the rich history behind one of Fairhaven's most iconic landmarks, Fairhaven High School.

The Fairhaven Flavor Fest is the perfect way to celebrate the beginning of autumn with your neighbors. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and a healthy appetite as we come together for an evening of delights!

For more information, please contact the Town of Fairhaven's Cable Access Director Derek Frates at [dfrates@fairhaven-ma.gov](mailto:dfrates@fairhaven-ma.gov).

### Hoedown Fund-raiser

Join us for a Hoedown, Sat., 9/28, from 6-9 pm, at the West Island Improvement Association Community house, 41 Causeway Road, Fairhaven. Featuring country line dancing and Southern Charcuterie, \$25 per person (21 and older).

Call Lauren for tickets 774-328-5732. Proceeds to benefit Little Patch of Heaven sanctuary.

### Family Fun Day

FREE Community outreach family fun day at Trinity Lutheran Church, 16 Temple Place, Fairhaven. Rain or Shine. Sat., 9/28, noon to 4 p.m.

Family fun with kids carnival games, prizes, temporary tattoos, Photo Booth, music, popcorn and cotton candy. If you have been looking for an outreach program for help for yourself or someone in your life or have been looking to volunteer your time the following organizations will have representatives at this event: PAACA, Veteran's Services, Alcoholic's Anonymous, MassHIRE, OneVoice, Samaritans Southcoast, The Women's Center,, The Shepherd's Pantry, Boys & Girls Club of Greater New Bedford, Meeting Street - Parents as Teachers, Gifts to Give, Whaling City Jr/Sr High School Come join us for an afternoon of music, fun and community. Nonperishable food items for the Shepherd's Pantry and "like new" or new children's clothes for Gifts to Give will be accepted at this event.

### Run to Remember

The LCPI Matthew Rodriguez Run to Remember is back!

Sun., 10/27, Fort Phoenix State Reservation, Fairhaven, MA, 9 a.m. Sing up NOW.

First 150 registrations by 9/30 receive a FREE race t-shirt. Register at [www.TeamSmilingWarrior.org](http://www.TeamSmilingWarrior.org); \$40 all runners/walkers/virtuat; Same day reg +\$5. All proceeds benefit The LCPI Matthew Rodriguez Memorial Foun-

ation, a 501(c)3 organization. For more information, call 508-733-3269, or email [lisa@thesmilingwarrior.org](mailto:lisa@thesmilingwarrior.org). Visit <https://thesmilingwarrior.org/> to learn more about Matthew's story.

## Boating Course

The US Coast Guard Auxiliary's Flotilla 65 will start its 2024 FALL SEMESTER 13-week Boating Skills & Seamanship Course (BS&S) on Monday, September 16, 2024 and run through December 16, 2024, from 7-9 pm, at the Acushnet River Safe Boating Club (ARSBC) on 80 Middle Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719.

This 13-week comprehensive course is designed for both the experienced and the novice boater. It is taught by experienced Coast Guard Auxiliary instructors with years of experience on local waters.

Many insurance companies will offer discounts on boat insurance to individuals who successfully complete this course.

The \$55 fee includes the textbook, chart and all course material. Family discounts are available for shared materials. Register online at [https://wow.uscgaux.info/pe\\_class\\_flyer.php?unit=NAT&course=31239](https://wow.uscgaux.info/pe_class_flyer.php?unit=NAT&course=31239)

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Schaeffer, Flotilla Commander at (781)422-9746 or via email: [schae5900@gmail.com](mailto:schae5900@gmail.com)

## Farmer's Markets

- Fairhaven Farmer's Market: Every Sunday through Oct. 29, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 151 Alden Road. Parking available on premises, 508-496-9209, [Allnaturalbeef@comcast.net](mailto:Allnaturalbeef@comcast.net)
- Roxann's: Every Sunday, 10-3, 189 Alden Road. Parking on premises.

## Huttleston Marketplace

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.

# Acushnet dedicates bench to Gus Cote

By Beth David  
Editor

The Town of Acushnet honored well known resident and Veteran Army Corporal August "Gus" Cote with a bench at the entrance to the athletic fields at Pope Park. "You were the start," reads the engraving on the bench.

Mr. Cote, 91, was honored by local Masons, veterans, and town officials at the unveiling of the bench on 9/8/24. According to Acushnet Veterans Agent Brad Fish, Mr. Cote was an umpire and referee for over 30 years for Acushnet Youth Athletics Association; was Free Masons District Deputy and Worshipful Master to numerous Lodges in the area and also Shriners Hospital; and was in the US Army during the Korean War.

Larry Santons, Worshipful Master of Masons District 19 said he remembered when he first heard Mr. Cote speak at a Mason event, a "big long spiel," and he "didn't mess

anything up." As time went on, he just got better.

"All of a sudden, everybody wants to do what you do," said Mr. Santos, adding that then they find out all Mr. Cote does for veterans, kids, and Masons. "And everybody wants to be you."

"You're really what Masonry is all about," said Josh Bumpus, of District 19 East. "We all want to emulate what you've done for everyone your whole life."

"You guys do more for me than I do for you," interjected Mr. Cote.

"It's reciprocal. We're giving back from what you gave to us," said Mr. Santos. "Because of you, many of these brothers do what you do: help the community, help other families, and just be an outstanding guy. And we can't thank you enough for that."



TOP: August "Gus" Cote of Acushnet sits with Deven Robitaille, Commander Thomas E. Tuttle VFW Post #7239, Acushnet, surrounded by veterans from the VFW and American Legion after the bench dedicated to Mr. Cote was unveiled on 9/8/24 at the entrance to the Athletic fields at Pope Park. ABOVE: Mr. Cote surrounded by his fellow Masons. Submitted photos.

He noted the different groups that donated to install the bench, including the Masons and veterans. "This was a group effort of

everybody you have touched in our community," said Mr. Santos.

Deven Robitaille, Commander Thomas E. Tuttle VFW Post #7239, Acushnet, got teary eyed when she recounted how it was difficult to shift into being the commander.

"You were always so kind to me, you were always so accepting," she said.

"You er the commander," said Mr. Cote, eliciting some laughs.

"Yeah, I know, but I had no idea what I was doing," said Cmdr. Robitaille.

She said she did not always get a lot of help, but Mr. Cote always helped, and helped her about caring for people. She said the VFW is a family and they all care about each other.

"And it all came from you," she said.

Mike Jenney, Commander of the American Legion in Acushnet, said they jumped at it when asked to help with the project. However, they had a bit of a complication when Mr. Cote skipped the lodge meeting and

GUS: cont'd on page 21

# Fairhaven Rotary awards scholarships

Submitted

Fairhaven Rotary held its annual Scholarship Recipient Dinner on Wednesday, August 21st at Traveler's AleHouse. This year's scholarship winners were Sophia Fleurent, who is going to be attending Bridgewater State University; and Aaron Palhuta, who is attending Wentworth Institute of Technology. Each recipient was awarded \$500. Mr. Palhuta's parents accepted his scholarship award, as he was already away at school.

This year's scholarship was the first of the Robert M. Mitchell Scholarship Fund, honoring and remembering long-time Rotarian of 48 years, Robert Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell passed away in May of this year. Gratefully, Mr. Mitchell's daughters, Jennifer, Heather and Karen were in attendance to award the scholarships and will be part of the Rotary Scholarship Committee in the future.



L-R: Sophia Fleurent, who is attending Bridgewater State University, accepts a \$500 scholarship from Fairhaven Rotary president Jeannine Lopes at the Scholarship Recipient Dinner on 8/21/24 in Fairhaven.

Submitted photo.

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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SCAN HERE



# HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

## Lebanese Feast

Please join us on Fri., 9/13 from 5–11 p.m., and Sat., 9/14, from noon–11 p.m. for our annual Lebanese Festival (Mahrajan) on the Parish Grounds of Our Lady of Purgatory Maronite Catholic Church, 4254 Acushnet Avenue, New Bedford, MA 02745. There'll be lots of delicious Lebanese Food, tasty pastries, refreshments, raffles, music and dancing, and above all a fun time for all, to benefit OLOP. Admission is free so please bring your family and friends!

Live entertainment by George Maalouf & Band and George Dib and Mitchel Kaltsunas with Bashir El Khoury Band.

## Beach Cleanup

Volunteers are needed for the Palmers Island cleanup, Sat., 9/14, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.. Meet at the bottom of Gifford Street, New Bedford. Wear closed-toed shoes. If you find a needle, syringe, or sharps. NOT NOT TOUCH. Gloves, pickers and bags provided.

New Bedford first on Palmers Island, introducing Clean Coast Coalition. Featuring a remote-controlled aqua-drone which conducts water quality testing, records and transmits live footage, and filters debris out of the water to be separated into four categories: trash, compostables, plastics, and other recyclables.

The goal is to improve local water-based ecosystems through the use of the remote controlled PixieDrone device to not only reduce the amount of harmful debris in local waters, but also to educate the local community about the dangers of litter and marine debris in their environment.

Many volunteers are needed to make Palmers Island the picturesque island nature intended it to be.

Pre-register at [OperationCleanSweep.net](http://OperationCleanSweep.net); [newbedfordclean@gmail.com](mailto:newbedfordclean@gmail.com).

## Worker Ed. Classes

The UMass Dartmouth Workers' Education Program is excited to announce the availability of free Adult Basic Education (ABE) and HiSET classes. These classes are designed to help individuals prepare for the HiSET or GED test, providing a valuable opportunity for those

looking to further their education and career prospects.

The program offers both online and in-person options to accommodate different learning preferences and schedules.

For more information or to enroll in our classes, please visit our website at [www.umassd.edu/cas/workerseducation](http://www.umassd.edu/cas/workerseducation) or call us at 508-910-9004. We are located at 800 Purchase Street in New Bedford.

Join us today and take the first step towards a brighter future!

## Dramatic Reading

As part of its 50th Anniversary Celebration the Descendants of Whaling Masters, will be presenting a dramatic reading from Whaling Letters (formerly My Dear Husband.) Published by DWM, the book is a stirring collection of real-life correspondences between whaling captains and their wives and other letters that were written back and forth during whaling voyages.

The reading will take place at Gallery X, 169 William Street, New Bedford from 7 p.m to 8:30 p.m. on Fri., 9/13. The dramatic interpretation composed of poignant and compelling excerpts from Whaling Letters will be performed in period costume by actors Paul Sardinha and Lucy Bly. Light refreshments will be served following the performance.

General admission is \$10 at the door. Books will be available for purchase. The 116 page volume of Whaling Letters includes 25 photographs and retails for \$16.95.

For more information about Descendants of Whaling Masters, write to: P.O. Box 3026, New Bedford MA 02741. Call 508-993-1999 or 508-994-3087 or visit our website [www.whalingmasters.org](http://www.whalingmasters.org).

## The Game's Afoot

KEN LUDWIG'S THE GAME'S AFOOT opens on a blustery December night in 1936, where Broadway star William Gillette, admired the world over for his leading role in the play Sherlock Holmes, has invited his fellow cast members to his Connecticut castle for a weekend of revelry. But when one of the guests is stabbed to death, the festivities in this isolated house of tricks and mirrors quickly turn

dangerous. Before long, hazards and hilarity run rampant in this glittering whodunit set during the Christmas holidays.

Performances are wheelchair accessible at The Steeple Playhouse, 159 William St. in downtown New Bedford. The accessible entrance is located on the east side of the building facing City Hall. This will be the entrance for all patrons for this show. Ample parking is available in the city lot at the corner of 6th and William, and metered street parking is free nights and weekends.

Tickets are General Admission \$27; Seniors, Students and Military \$22. Accessible seating is reserved while all other seats are open seating; reservations can now be made online at <https://steepleplayhouse.ludus.com/>. Contact the box office at 508-993-0772 for group rates. More information at [www.YourTheatre.org](http://www.YourTheatre.org).

## SAVE THE DATES

### Shine On F-R

Enjoy a beautiful fall evening on the waterfront while having an impact on your community. Join us for Shine One, Fri., 9/27, at 6 p.m., Merrill's on the Waterfront, 36 Homer's Wharf, New Bedford, MA 02740. Tickets and sponsorships available at [communitynurse.com/shineon](http://communitynurse.com/shineon)

Tickets: \$75 per person; \$125 VIP.

## Vet of Year Noms

The Board of Directors of the SE Mass. Veterans Housing Program, Inc., known as Veterans Transition House ("VTH"), has opened nominations for the 2024 Veteran of the Year Award sponsored by BankFive.

VTH seeks nominations from the public until 9/15. The nomination form is available at <https://www.vetshouse.org/veteran-of-the-year-application/> and can be requested by emailing [info@vetshouse.org](mailto:info@vetshouse.org) or by calling 508-992-5313 x 2.

The Veteran of the Year Award is presented to a regional veteran in recognition of his or her outstanding contributions to veterans, veterans' issues, and the community as a whole. This year marks the 29th annual award.

For event sponsorship and tickets, please contact David Guertin at [david@vantageinphilanthropy.com](mailto:david@vantageinphilanthropy.com) or 401-868-0365.



# Fairhaven Senior Center/Council on Aging

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

## Supportive Social Day Program

Fairhaven's Supportive Social Day Program is a structured and supervised program for seniors in need of socialization while also providing caregivers much needed respite. Our dedicated staff provides a fun day of activities in a safe and socially stimulating environment maintaining a 1:8 ratio. The staff is CPR, AED and First Aid certified and receive in-service training.

For those 60 and older, or those who may have cognitive disabilities, who are independent with eating, ambulation, medication administration, continent and are not an elopement risk. Residing in Fairhaven, New Bedford, Acushnet, Dartmouth, Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester.

This is a fee based program. Call for costs and other details: Sally Bourke, Program Coordinator, 508-993-9455

## 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: 9/18, Thames St., Newport, RI; 9/25, Wrentham Village; 10/2, Twin River Casino.

## Monday Movie Matinee

Free. Mon., 9/23, 12:15 p.m. Featuring *Lolo and the Kid*. A hustler and the child he took in routinely con the wealthy — but a life-changing opportunity could end their inseparable bond.

If you would like lunch before the movie at 11:30 a.m., please call the center the day before to reserve a meal, 508-979-4029. \$2 donation towards the meal. The movie is free.

## Memory Cafe

Sept. 26, 11:30–1:30.

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

Lunch is Teriyaki Chicken. There will be musical entertainment following lunch and socializing.

Space is limited. Please sign up by 9/23 at 508-979-4029.

## 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.

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**21** | 2024

11 AM - 4 PM

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- Wedding Planning Workshops
- Church Tours
- Sample Tablescapes
- More!



Tickets



508-992-7081  
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# Recipe of the Week

## Banana Nut Oatmeal Muffins

- 3 cups rolled oats
- 1 1/2 cups low-fat milk
- 2 ripe bananas, mashed (about 3/4 cup)
- 1/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 cup toasted chopped pecans

Preheat oven to 375°. Coat a muffin tin with cooking spray

Combine oats, milk, bananas, brown sugar, eggs, baking powder, cinnamon, vanilla and salt in a large bowl. Fold in pecans. Divide the mixture among the muffin cups (about 1/3 cup each).

Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, about 25 minutes.

Cool in the pan for 10 minutes, then turn out onto a wire rack.

Serve warm or at room temperature.

# Dear Frankie



## The Foster Dogs

Dear Frankie,  
My parents have been taking in foster dogs for years.

Despite the hardships that brought the dogs to a rescue agency, most were adopted after several

months. Every few years, however, there would be a dog that, no matter how many months of care and attention he received from us, couldn't adjust to living in a human home and had to be put down.

We suffered over these dogs because we knew that something very wrong had been done to them, and whatever it was, we couldn't undo and make it right for them.

Willy

Dear Willy,

I can understand why you feel sad or frustrated, but remember, every dog you foster experiences care and

affection, which is a gift.

Unfortunately, some dogs can't be rehabilitated, but that doesn't mean you and your parents failed them. You must not forget that these dogs' last months were in a home with people who provided them safety, care, and love, which they might not have known otherwise.

You gave them a chance, and that is what truly matters.

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 publishes the Dear Frankie column. To receive a free online subscription, readers can email [neighbnews@comcast.net](mailto:neighbnews@comcast.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.

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## Family Event • Kitchen Open ANNUAL FIELD DAY

Sun., Sept. 15  
9:30 a.m.–2 p.m.

RAIN DATE: 9/22  
Multiple Vendors

Try your hand at shooting, archery, and fishing. Free hot dogs, soda and chips for the kids  
Suitable for all ages.

Sporting Clays • Archery  
Fishing • Indoor Pistol Range

## Support the Food Pantry

The Shepherd's Food Pantry at the Long Plain United Methodist Church in Acushnet spends more than \$5,500 each month to keep the shelves stocked. It serves more than 120 families each week and has seen a sharp increase in families seeking food.

Tax deductible donations may be sent to Shepherd's Pantry, PO Box 760, Fairhaven, MA 02719. Visit [https://food-banks.org/detail/the\\_shepherds\\_pantry\\_acushnet\\_ma.html](https://food-banks.org/detail/the_shepherds_pantry_acushnet_ma.html)



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## **GOP Meeting**

The Mattapoisett Republican Town Committee welcomes members, guests and community members to join us on Thursday, September 19th from 6:00 to 8:00 PM to attend our monthly meeting. The location is at the Knights of Columbus, 57 Fairhaven Road, Mattapoisett. Join in the discussion and planning of the upcoming Southcoast Rally which will be held on September 22nd from 12:00 to 4:00 PM. Same location. This fun event is a fundraiser to help fund Republican candidates. Volunteers and attendees wanted!

The 2024 MA Republican Primary winner of 10th Bristol State Representative is invited to speak and share his plans for a November victory with us.

There will be light snacks, cash bar and good conversation.

If you have any questions contact Paul Crisuolo, Chairperson, PCMattyGOP@proton.me; Mattapoisett GOP.com

## **Women Run United 5K**

Women Run United is a partnership between Women Run, INC. and the United Way of Greater New Bedford's Women United. Our goal is to bring runners together for a beautiful fun run in South Dartmouth in support of local women

We are teaming up for a 5k fun run to raise money to support Women United's Financial Futures, a 12-week financial literacy program for women in the South Coast. Join us for this scenic 5k with a start and finish at the Dartmouth YMCA, 276 Gulf Hill Rd, Dartmouth, MA; Sun., 9/15, 9 a.m. Registration: Adult, \$50; student, \$30; Family (4), \$120.

Visit <https://www.women-run.com/>

## **Anonymous Women**

Anonymous Blue at Handy House, 202 Hix Bridge Road Westport MA 3 PM – 5 PM Sat., 9/14

Meet Handy House artist-in-residence Tina Tryforos and view her ethereal cyanotype images inspired by her research of historical photographs of women from Westport along with domestic objects those women may have encountered or used in their lives. Tina Tryforos is a photographer and educator. She

has a deep interest in the historic photographic process of cyanotype, the Prussian blue image invented in 1842 by Sir John Herschel.

Tina uncovered images of known and anonymous women from Westport's past in the collections of the WHS, some of which are represented in new cyanotypes on view at the Handy House.

This program is supported by a grant from the Helen E. Ellis Charitable Trust administered by the Bank of America and the Westport Community Gift Fund.

Westport Historical Society, 508-636-6011, [westporthistory@westporthistory.net](mailto:westporthistory@westporthistory.net), [www.wpthistory.org](http://www.wpthistory.org)

## **Annual Field Day**

Join the Fall River Rod & Gun Club, 309, Sanford Rd., Westport, MA, for our annual Field Day, Sun., 9/15, 9:30 a.m.–2 p.m. Open to the public with a focus on safety and introduction to the shooting sports. There will be many introductory events to allow you to try your hand at trap shooting, skeet shooting, clay shooting, handgun, .22 rifle, archery, and even fishing on site. All ammunition provided free of charge. NRA Certified Range Safety Officers will be on site. Free hot dogs, soda and chips for the kids. All ages invited.

Visit <https://www.fallriverrodandgunclub.com/> or find them Facebook; 508-673-4535.

## **Meet the Artist**

In conjunction with JP Powel's Mattapoisett Library Art Series painting exhibit called Back Roads, Wild and Imagined Places at the Mattapoisett Free Public Library (September 3 – 29), Powel will be at the library, 7/ Barstow St., in person on Wed., 9/18, from 4:00 pm – 4:30 pm for a Meet & Greet. Come meet Powell and hear about his work. He will be bringing his sketchbooks containing pen and ink drawings for all to view.

## **Hurricane Talk**

On Thurs., 9/19, from 6pm – 7pm, the Mattapoisett Museum at 5 Church Street is proud to present John Horrigan who will give a unique and interesting presentation on The Hurricane of 1938.

This surprise hurricane raced up

the Atlantic Seaboard on September 21, 1938 at 67 MPH (with a record low air pressure) and left residents of the thickly populated Northeast Coast with no time to react. This maelstrom devastated Long Island, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Western Mass.. Eleven states and two countries felt the wrath of this unforgiving meteorological monster.

Many victims drowned and others suffered tremendous property losses due to the storm surge. Entire landscapes along the exposed southern New England coast were scoured, eroded and decimated. Some victims were swept out to sea, never to be seen again. There were unbelievable acts of heroism, cowardice, kindness, selfishness and poor judgement. Actress Katherine Hepburn lost her family home in Connecticut, while others lost their livelihood to the storm.

New England folklorist and weather historian John Horrigan will take you from the mariner's unheeded warnings through the botched forecasts of the National Weather Service to the blistering winds of a Category 3 hurricane with a driving narrative about "GH38". If you experienced this storm, you are encouraged to attend this lecture and talk about your own personal recollections.

## **Music Fest**

Embrace Boston's inaugural Embrace Massó "¡Con Salsa!" International Music Festival (EMCS), a vibrant celebration of Afro-Latino heritage and the legacy of José C. Massó III, is this Sat., 9/14, from 1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. on The Boston Common, the festival will be headlined by Salsa & Latin Jazz Legend Eddie Palmieri and his Salsa Orchestra. Admission is free, though registration is encouraged.

The EMCS festival is a unique opportunity for the community to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month through music, dance, and cultural exchange. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets, chairs, and dancing shoes to fully enjoy the day!

For more information about the EMCS, please visit <https://www.sembraceboston.org/embrace-massoccon-salsa>.

# Apple Peach festival features parade, Miss Apple Peach

By Beth David  
Editor

Celebrating 43 years, this year's Apple Peach Festival in Acushnet

featured a parade, music, food, and appearances by Acushnet's Miss Apple Peach, Madison Cabucio; Jr. Miss Apple Peach, Willow Niles; and

Miss New Bedford, Emma Gendreau. The celebration also featured a parade from Pope Park to the fair grounds at the Long Plain Museum.



LEFT, L-R: Noella and Milla and their Guinea pics watch the parade of the Apple Peach Festival in Acushnet on 9/8/24. RIGHT: Milla waves to a firetruck in the parade. BELOW LEFT: Children dance while Stephanie Lamb with Last Call performs on Sunday. BELOW RIGHT: A rubber ducky joins the parade. Photos by Sam Simoes for the Fairhaven Neighborhood News.



Acushnet's 2024 Miss Apple Peach, Madison Cabucio (LEFT) and Jr. Miss Apple Peach, Willow Niles (RIGHT), and the two together (MIDDLE) make their first appearances in their new roles at the Apple Peach Festival on 9/7/24.

Photo from Miss Apple Peach Pageant Facebook page.

# Fairhaven Police Dept. promotes two to Sergeant

By Beth David  
Editor

Fairhaven police chief Daniel Dorgan introduced two new sergeants to the Select Board at its meeting on 9/9/24, and both are milestones.

Sgt. Janis Guerreiro is the first female sergeant in the department, and Sgt. Jerome Penha is the first person of color to reach that rank in Fairhaven.

The detectives were ranked one and two after the sergeant promotional process, Chief Dorgan told the board in a letter to Town Administrator Angie Lopes-Ellison who made the appointments. The process

included a 100-question multiple choice test of Constitutional Law, Mass. General Law, and Fairhaven Police Department Policy and Procedure, and a multi-exercise assessment center.

Sgt. Guerreiro has served with the department since 2011, after serving in Acushnet and Fall River. She has been in the Detective Division since 2014 as the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Investigator, and Elder Affairs Officer.

"I believe her work ethic, attention to detail, and expansive skill set will make her a great addition to our department's supervisory team," said

Chief Dorgan in his letter, which he read in its entirety at the meeting.

Sgt. Penha has been a full time officer in Fairhaven since 2015. He has served in the patrol division, as a school resource officer, and as a detective. He helped revamp and reorganize the system in the property room to meet accreditation standards.

"I believe that both officers possess exemplary moral character, integrity, and desire to help the citizens of the Town of Fairhaven and promote our department's mission to be true partners in the community," said Chief Dorgan.



LEFT: Newly minted Fairhaven Police Sgt. Jerome Penha gets his badge pinned on his uniform by his son Trey during the Fairhaven Select Board meeting on 9/9/24. RIGHT: Sgt. Janis Guerreiro's husband Kevin, relinquishes his responsibility of pinning the badge on his wife to a much more capable family member. Photos by Beth David.

## SB: cont'd from page 3

to do. Although they all seemed to be in favor of the SGOD, they were not willing to say they would approve whatever the PB decides. They wanted to see the article before deciding to agree to it.

PB Chairperson Cathy Melanson told the SB that her board was not unanimous. She said the majority wanted it to stay as one article.

She also said there would be a precinct meeting on 10/1 for Town Meeting members to discuss the 40R article.

In the end the board did not have a formal vote.

The article will be presented to TM as one article.

In another matter, the board recognized the Thomas Livesey Memorial Club for its 75 years of supporting athletes. The volunteer-based nonprofit has been "instrumental in sponsoring teams for boys

and girls in baseball, softball, hockey, basketball, and football, fostering a love for sports, teamwork, and healthy competition," reads the proclamation.

The proclamation also recognizes the organizations participation in the Special Olympics, where members volunteer as chaperones. The group also provides scholarships to high school graduates.

"For three-quarters of a century, the Club has embodied the values of teamwork, generosity, and community, profoundly impacting countless lives through its efforts," reads the proclamation.

The board extends its "deepest appreciation for its extraordinary contributions, service, and commitment to the youth and athletes of our community. May the Club continue to thrive and inspire for many more years to come."

In another matter, the board discussed the flag/banner policy. At a previous meeting the plan was to make it a shorter time period for groups to request a banner or flag be hung on town hall. However, the change for the meeting increased the time to 60 days.

Mr. Romano said he thought that the idea was to make the town hall auditorium use and the banner policy the same, but the town hall use was only 45 days.

The reason for the long lead time is that the board only meets once a month in summer.

Mr. Romano made a motion to make the policy 45 days, but there was no second.

The board voted 4-1 to go with the recommendation of 60 days, with Mr. Romano voting "no."

He asked for the town hall use policy to be on the next agenda.

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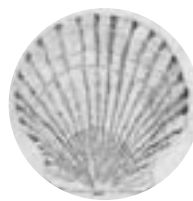
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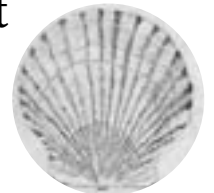
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Thank you for reading the *Neighb News*.

Bullies may be the perpetrators of evil, but it is the evil of passivity of all those who know what is happening and never intervene that perpetuates such abuse.

Philip Zimbardo

## Upcoming Meetings

### Fairhaven

#### Commission on Disability

Thurs., 9/12, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

#### Board of Public Works

Mon., 9/16, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

#### Conservation Commission

Mon., 9/16, Town Hall & Remote, 6 p.

#### Marine Resources Comm.

Thurs., 9/12, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

#### School Committee

Wed., 9/25, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

#### Select Board

Mon., 9/23, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Acushnet

#### Bike Committee

Thurs., 9/12, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

#### Board of Appeals

Tues., 9/24, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

#### Selectboard

Tues., 9/17, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

### TIDE TABLE

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

	Sept. 2024	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.	LOW a.m.	LOW p.m.
Thursday	5	1002	2220	0312	1534
Friday	6	1040	2258	0340	1606
Saturday	7	1119	2339	0412	1639
Sunday	8	---	1203	0445	1715
Monday	9	0027	1255	0521	1759
Tuesday	10	0121	1350	0605	1857
Wednesday	11	0217	1445	0705	2010
Thursday	12	0312	1543	0817	2117
Friday	13	0416	1649	0924	2224
Saturday	14	0523	1750	1033	2330
Sunday	15	0617	1840	1142	---
Monday	16	0703	1925	0021	1239*
Tuesday	17	0748	2010	0106*	1332*
Wednesday	18	0834	2058	0151*	1426*
Thursday	19	0923	2147	0239*	1520*
Friday	20	1013	2237	0328*	1608*
Saturday	21	1103	2328	0412*	1652*
Sunday	22	1156	---	0454*	1737
Monday	23	0025	1256	0539	1837
Tuesday	24	0127	1357	0635	2114
Wednesday	25	0228	1457	0823	2239
Thursday	26	0328	1559	1050	2343
Friday	27	0435	1706	1158	---
Saturday	28	0540	1803	0033	1248

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

# Sustainability Committee supporting businesses

Written by Tim Garcia for the Fairhaven Sustainability Committee

The Fairhaven Sustainability Committee is committed to providing the town, its residents and businesses with ways in which direct or indirect actions affect our future in positive ways. Our purpose is to help guide projects and provide guidance that balances economic, social, and ecological needs. Committee members are kiosks of information pertaining to all Green Initiatives because it's literally what they do.

Think of our recycling program we have throughout town: every two weeks those orange lids are outside and we're reducing waste by 32.1%. In addition, for those who participate, compost pick-ups are becoming available reducing our remaining waste by another 30%.



The Fairhaven Sustainability Committee has launched the Sustainable Business Recognition Program. Use this QR code to learn more.

These are the easiest green initiatives for all of us to relate to because we've seen, heard, know of or even participated in them at some point throughout our lives. Consider this, recycling and composting are just a drop of water compared to the vast ocean of all the possible green initiatives out there.

Growth in green initiatives has risen in recent years, this includes: Clean energy jobs increased 50% in five years; Electric vehicle sales quadrupled and public EV chargers increased by 70%; and the most impressive is 99.5% of businesses throughout the Commonwealth are local small businesses.

*What do local small businesses have to do with successful growth in green initiatives?*

Local small businesses are vital to our economy, especially here in Fairhaven. They act as customers, vendors, employees, and partners to each other supporting a strong sense of community in ways some of us might overlook.

Small businesses help our local environment in many ways, including: reducing transportation, supporting local farms, using eco-friendly practices, and of course reducing waste, just to name a few.

The Fairhaven Sustainability Committee is inspired by our local businesses which is why they have developed the *Sustainable Business Recognition Program*. This provides an avenue for the much-needed recognition our local businesses deserve.

Local small businesses may not employ a dedicated Sustainability Director, or EHS Officer spearheading projects for them. They just do it themselves. Incorporating sustainable efforts, green initiatives, and environmental impacts every day into their business models all on their own. Embedded into their core mission statements are many aspects the Fairhaven Sustainability Committee fully supports.

*The Sustainable Business Recognition Program* offers more than just a place to showcase what green initiatives local businesses are practicing. It's another avenue for education. Recognizing their sustainable practices sheds away any confusions and difficulties when new or current local businesses strive to perform their own green initiatives because these successful examples are out there.

September 2024, Fairhaven Sustainability Committee launched the *Sustainable Business Recognition Program*. Applications are now being accepted on the Sustainability Committee's website for all local business wishing to participate: [Fairhaven-ma.gov/sustainability-committee](http://Fairhaven-ma.gov/sustainability-committee)

Recognition and education aren't the only aspects this program offers. For more information on the *Sustainable Business Recognition Program*, the most current updates, and other green initiatives the committee is rolling out visit the website or click on the QR codes wherever shown.

## Fairhaven CPC applications open

The Fairhaven Community Preservation Committee is accepting applications for the FY26 funding round. The FY26 Community Preservation Submission Guidelines and Application Forms are available on the Town's Community Preservation Committee Webpage - <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/community-preservation-committee>

Since 2006, the Fairhaven CPC has appropriated over \$9,250,000 in funds that have created 126 affordable housing units, supported another 362 affordable housing units, protected over 755 acres, created and maintained several recreation facilities, and

restored 64 historic preservation projects.

- Activities that can be funded are:
- Acquisition, creation, and preservation of Open Space.
  - Creation, preservation, and support of Community Housing.
  - Acquisition, creation, and preservation of Historic Resources.
  - Acquisition, creation, and preservation of land for Recreational Use.

The Deadline for CPC applications is Friday, Sept. 27, 2024 by 12:00 PM.

Further information is available from the Planning and Economic Development Department at (508) 979-4023, Ext. 8123 or email

[recordingsecretary@fairhaven-ma.gov](mailto:recordingsecretary@fairhaven-ma.gov).

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EXPIRES 10/12/24

## From our readers

### Serenity's Pappa Says "Thank You"

Young Serenity is finally home!

We would like to thank everyone who has helped with donations of food, gifts for Serenity, and their good thoughts and prayers.

It turned out that her appendix was leaking and the doctors could not operate right away. She is now appendix-free, infection-free, and is back in school.

The staff at the emergency room at St. Luke's, and everyone at Boston Children's Hospital were fantastic. We were in and out of both places for weeks.

We also want to thank Ms. Pacheco and the whole staff at the school, who were very accommodating to help Serenity start the school year. They are still being very helpful while she recovers fully.

And let's not forget the police and fire departments who gave her that spectacular drive by parade when she came home the first time.

Fairhaven is truly a great community to live in, especially the neighbors on West Island, who showed their support in so many different ways, we can't even count.

*Papa John, aka Big John, aka John Garceau, Fairhaven*

### Support Mark Sylvia

I met Mark shortly before attending my first Fairhaven Town Meeting. Having recently moved from Mattapoisett and possessing a bit of a reputation for outspoken participation at town meetings, I wanted to warn him.

Mark has served as the moderator in Fairhaven for 15 years; he was unfazed. In that first town meeting, lasting six hours, Mark demonstrated all the skills that it takes to be a successful, effective state rep! He was calm; he was kind; he was respectful; he was articulate; he knows Robert's Rules and he knows how to use them.

Mark loves his community! In every speech he makes, he credits his parents, his teachers, his mentors for his dedication to and success in his personal and professional life.

I am continually impressed by his commitment to serving the people of the 10th Bristol district and confident that his presence in the State House will benefit all his constituents.

*Cindy Johnson, Fairhaven*

### Fairhaven Might Be Missing An Opportunity

Dear Community Members:

I have lived in Fairhaven for nearly a quarter of a century and would like to make a comment regarding the proposed 40B/40R project for 60 housing units on the old "Park Motors" site which sits strategically between the Town Landing on the harbor and Cushman Park.

Fifteen years ago I went to Fairhaven's Town Planner to discuss the importance of this lot. I discussed how this lot allows a view to the water from Main Street and is strategically situated between Cushman Park and the Town Landing.

I thought it could make a great park area with almost no maintenance/infrastructure cost if the town just bought it with the help of grants from state and local groups. I explained how cheap it would be to maintain with just some grass and picnic tables.

This area of the town is the actual Town Center (as opposed to the State Park and the commercial area on Route 6). Here there are: Rogers town buildings, charming storefronts, houses dating to the 1700s, popular restaurants, fishing boats, the best sunset/fireworks views over the harbor in the town, walkable shopping and where the bicycle path begins.

If anyone is visiting Fairhaven from the North or the West and puts Fairhaven in their GPS, it is up these streets into this part of town that they are directed.

The response was, "We are not interested in that because we think we can get tax revenue from that lot."

Would any of the other South Coast towns encourage or accept a large complex like this near their historical center and working waterfront? Would Henry Rogers? I think not.

Couldn't the town help the developer to find a more appropriate location with an appealing buffer (the G Bourne Knowles Lot on Route 6 comes to mind).

I applaud the fact that Fairhaven preserves its industrial working waterfront. But this lot has been an empty, poorly maintained parking lot filled with tractor trailer trucks and cranes for years, right where everyone enters the town for the first time.

Please think about what this area could become and how focal it is and

reject an attempt at a large, poorly designed 40B/40R that would be crammed onto that lot. If it is too late to avoid this fate, couldn't the town find a way to have them make it look better? Does the plan violate height restrictions?

I own a small, boutique bed and breakfast a few blocks away. Over the past 23 years we have sent thousands of people from all over the world out walking around the local streets, eating at restaurants, going to retail stores, touring the town buildings, and attending the local churches. I am afraid that Fairhaven might be missing an opportunity and hope that they make the best use of this lot or at least keep it from being a detriment.

*Paul Beauchamp, Delano Homestead  
Bed & Breakfast, Fairhaven*

### What Does Counterproductive Planning Look Like ?

At the Fairhaven Select Board meeting on August 19th, it was made clear to the Chair of the Select Board that a 40B dense development in the waterfront district that is being considered, would provide 60 units. 40R would provide 48 units at that same location. Now remember, this is all being done in the name of providing Safe Affordable Housing, right? We all know we have a housing affordability and shortage crisis, it's been plain as day for the last few years especially. Soooo evidently clear.

Now do the math. Our Short Term Rental (STR) bylaws started out with a 60 cap amount to be allowed into Fairhaven a few years ago, just when our housing crisis was becoming more noticeable by many residents. Then it moved to 120 cap amount moving into 2023.

It was reported at an SB meeting in 2023 as by public comment over a year ago, that we were over our 120 STR cap amount. It was also strongly suggested at that time that we ban short term rentals in family neighborhoods not zoned for business, because we were in a housing shortage and affordability crisis back then, with no steady building commissioner and staff to oversee the bylaws.

Now fast forward, with nothing done about it, we have created an

**LETTERS: cont'd on next page**

## LETTERS: cont'd from previous page

even wider gap in our housing affordability/shortage.

Do the math...This is easy math.

Planning should always have a clear vision of the future in mind, for all Fairhaven residents concerned. No one should be left out.

To note, at the last Planning Board meeting held on August 7th the Vice Chair said we have lost 1400 residents in the last few years.

Do you know why, I asked. The Vice Chair said no, tell me why?

I said because "we priced them out." Our family residential homes were replaced by STR vacationers.

I don't think our Town Officials like

or want to do the math. They had the local authority to ban STR's (mini hotels) and still do, in the reality of an extreme housing shortage, displacement and disparity. Many families and people have suffered from this STR allowance in family neighborhoods not zoned for business.

Our housing equation is unprincipled, which causes shortages and deficits.

All math equations are based on absolute principles. For instance  $2 + 2 = 4$  based on the principle of addition. We have not added into our housing equation in this town, the middle class income earners, who

don't qualify for low income assistance. They were pushed out of the housing market equation completely.

This is only one example of what counterproductive planning looks like in a math equation that doesn't add up.

*Michelle Costen, Fairhaven*

PS. I hope all the Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) that are, and will be built, are not being used for Short Term Rentals. But who would know, if we are not following STR Bylaws? FYI: Our bylaw states that ADU's can not be used as STRs.

## GUS: cont'd from page 6

showed up at the Legion meeting when they were supposed to vote on it. He noted some of the projects Mr. Cote has helped with.

"This man does more for this community than probably 50 percent of the people here," said Cdr. Jenney. "It's an undying love that he has for the community, and I'm just privileged and my legion is privileged to be part of this honor."

Acushnet Selectboard chairperson Bob Hinckley said he has only known Mr. Cote a couple of years.

"But I value anyone who pays this much time and attention to the Town of Acushnet," said Mr. Hinckley. "And I just want to say 'thank you' for

everything you've done for our community, and I appreciate every minute you've been alive."

Brian Fernandes of Masonry District 19 East said he hoped the bench would be a "little, tiny piece" to show how much people appreciate Mr. Cote, and related the story that Mr. Cote was sick as a child. The Shriners visited him in the hospital, and he decided he wanted to do that when he had the chance.

"I think you're a great example that someone can be," said Mr. Fernandes, and listed some of Mr. Cote's activities in the community. "The list goes on. And everybody knows it, and I'm just here to say

'thank you.'"

He joked that no one will forget the name "Gus Cote" because the bench will survive anything.

"It'll be the end of the world, a nuclear holocaust and that'll still be there," he said.

Mr. Fish closed by thanking the different groups who showed up for the ceremony.

"And everybody else who showed up because it's Gus," said Mr. Fish. "It's all about Gus."

The ceremony is available on the town's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4lwpKs5i16c>

## 40R: cont'd from page 4

details of the regulations, including height restrictions.

In the end board members expressed support for the 40R district, but were not necessarily in favor of the waterfront district being included.

They asked Mr. Costa to find out if the state would agree to allow the splitting of the article, as the application has already been submitted. He was also asked to ask the Select Board if they would support that recommendation (see page 3).

The public hearing was continued to 10/8.

The board was also scheduled to meet again on 9/10 to discuss the other bylaws changes they are proposing at the STM, including

changes regarding Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). They will be holding a public hearing on those proposed changes on 9/24/24.

The documents discussed at the meeting were put on the screen but have not been added to the 40R documents that are available online at <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/planning-economic-development/pages/40r-mixed-use-overlay-planning-district>

The meeting is available at [fairhaventv.com](http://fairhaventv.com)

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

## Election Results

Official results of the state's 9/4/24 primary resulted in minor changes to both Acushnet and Fairhaven totals, but did not change the outcome for either town.

John Deaton will be the Republican to face incumbent Democrat Elizabeth Warren for US Senator in the general election on 11/3.

In the 10th Bristol district, Democrat Mark Sylvia of Fairhaven will face Republican Joe Pires of Rochester.

Incumbent US Rep. Bill Keating (D) ran unopposed and will face off against Republican challenger Dan Sullivan.

Turnout was 14.67% in Acushnet, and 19.81% in Fairhaven.

The general election is on 11/3 and will include the presidential race and five statewide ballot questions.

# 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"

## Acushnet Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals is hereby giving notice that a meeting will be held by the Board on Tuesday, September 24th, 2024, at 6:30 P.M. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room located at 122 Main Street.

- **Case #2024.09.24A** A case of Vertex Towers LLC, represented by Parisi Law Associates, who is petitioning the Board for a Special Permit and Variance for construction of a wireless communications tower located at 112 Quaker Lane, Acushnet; owned by Threlfall Family Trust. This request is being made under the provisions of Section 3.3 "C" (10) and 3.3.1 "E" (4).

\*\*\*Plans are available for public view in the Town Clerk's office, 130 Main St., Acushnet, during their normal business hours\*\*\*

FNN, 9/12/24, 9/19/24

## Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearings

Wednesday October 2, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Town Hall Banquet Room, 40 Center Street

Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Public Hearing In-Person in Banquet Room

or via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/94115137952?pwd=MXp0VWpKTfBEUmluT1pVSCtiVzJCQT09>

or call 1-929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 941 1513 7952

Passcode: 361259

1. REF#: ZBA-024-016: 160 Sconticut Neck Road, Map 28A, Lot 220. Applicant: Irina Naryshkova Owner: Irina Naryshkova and Jeffrey Hoefler. Applicant seeks a finding from the Board under MGL 40A, § 6, to allow an increase of area of a nonconforming use and demolish the existing 919 sq. ft. single-family residence, and construct a new 1,258 sq. ft. single-family residence, and that the additions are not more substantially detrimental than the existing noncon-

- forming use to the neighborhood.
2. REF#: ZBA-024-017: 166 Ebony Street, Map 11, Lot 155. Applicant: Jaqueline Alfonso. Owner: Antonio and Jaqueline Alfonso. Applicant seeks an Administrative Appeal of the Building Commissioner's Letter, dated August 15, 2024, regarding the use of a camper as a dwelling.
3. REF#: ZBA-024-018: 62 Maitland Street. Applicant and Owner: Gail Rebello. Applicant seeks a 4.1 ft ± Variance to build an in-ground swimming pool 5.9 ft. from the rear property line as compared to the minimum 10 ft. setback, pursuant to Fairhaven Chapter 475 Swimming Pools, 2 Fencing; sanitation; location, C.

Patrick Carr, Chair, Fairhaven ZBA  
FNN: 9/12/24, 9/19/24

## FAIRHAVEN PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 6:30 pm

Town Hall, 40 Center Street

Fairhaven, Massachusetts

In accordance with MGL c. 40A, § 11, notice is hereby given that the Fairhaven Planning Board will conduct a Public Hearing at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday September 24, 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://us06web.zoom.us/j/85937000162?pwd=OlwGga24UFefJrrADLL347zq7bf9Y.1>

or call 1-689-278-1000 - Meeting ID: 859 3700 0162 -

Passcode: 353776

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 proposed revisions to the Town of Fairhaven Bylaws:

Amend §198-16 (Use Regulation Schedule),

§198-18 (Intensity of Use Schedule), §198-27 (Parking; loading and landscaping requirements), §198-32.1 (Accessory Dwelling Units), and §198-33 (Definitions and word use) to conform to "An Act Relative to the Affordable Homes Act" (Ho. H4977, Acts 2024, Chapter 150, Approved by the Governor, August 6, 2024) and the proposed changes therein to MGL Chapter 40A Section 1A and Chapter 40A Section 3 with regard to accessory dwelling units.

Copies of the revisions 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 revisions call the Planning Department at (508) 979-4023, Ext. 8123 or go to: <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/planning-economic-development/pages/zoning-by-law-update>

Cathy Melanson, Chair, Planning Board  
FNN: 9/5/24, 9/12/24

## FAIRHAVEN SELECT BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

This is to inform you that the Fairhaven Select Board will hold a public hearing at its meeting on Tuesday October 15, 2024, in the Town Hall located at 40 Center Street, Fairhaven. The hearing is as follows:

- To relocate 16 JO poles and install 2 new JO poles with 1 anchor/guy in Sconticut Neck Road, Fairhaven. This proposed location is necessary for MassDOT project #609518

Select Board  
Stasia Powers, Chair  
Charles K. Murphy, Sr., Vice Chair  
Andrew B. Saunders, Clerk  
Keith Silvia, Member  
Andrew Romano, Member  
FNN: 9/12/24

## TOWN OF ACUSHNET

There will be a Special Town Meeting held on Monday, September 30, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. at the Ford Middle School in the Auditorium, 708 Middle Road, Acushnet, MA 02743.

Robert Hinckley, Chairman  
David Wojnar  
Kevin Gaspar, Sr.  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
FNN, 9/12/24, 9/19/24



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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## at Nasketucket Bay Vineyard

**\$5 Cover** **Live Music: The Jethros**  
**Saturday, September 14th from 4-7**  
*The Little Phoenix Food Truck from 3-8*

- 9/14 - Weights & Wine **Fitness Class** from 10-11 Tickets Required
- 9/15 - Sunday **Music Series** w/ Wine Country from 2-5
- 9/19 - Sea Glass Resin Art **Maker Session** from 6-8 Tickets Required
- 9/21 - **Vino & Vinyasa** w/The Studio from 10-11 Tickets Required  
 Special **Live Music:** Acoustic Nation from 4-7 **\$5 Cover**
- 9/22 - Sunday **Music Series** w/ Mike McHugh from 2-5
- 9/28 - **Comedy Night** (Tickets Required) from 6:30-8
- 9/29 - **Wine & Pizza Pairing** (Tickets Required) from 6-8

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VOTE  
ELECTION 5 NOV  
2024

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward  
to serving the 10th Bristol District!

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PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT JOE PIRES