



# Fairhaven

# Neighborhood News

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



The little paper  
with a big voice!

Volume 19, Issue 48 • December 5, 2024

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

## Blue Devils fall to Dartmouth Indians



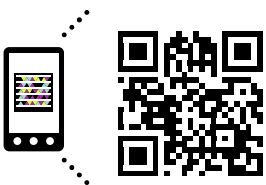
Fairhaven High School Blue Devil, Senior Justin Marques, crosses the goal line during a rain-soaked Thanksgiving Day football game against traditional rival Dartmouth on 11/28/24, when Dartmouth won 21-16. See page 12. *Photo by Sam Simoes.*

### 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."*



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# From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —  
A day late and many dollars short.

Oh, brother, here we go again. Another big man trying to gaslight us.

I'm sorry, Mr. Saunders, but...um...no, I beg to differ (see page 4). You violated the Open Meeting Law.

It does not matter what you talked about. You had a meeting of the committee with a quorum present. The public has a right to know that you met and what you talked about, yes, even the "banter" about budget season, or your kid's soccer game.

You deprived the public of being able to see with their own eyes and hear with their own ears what happened, and you even deprived the public of getting a filtered and abridged version because there are no minutes. There isn't even an agenda. You are asking us to take your word for it.

Nah...that's not what the Fourth Estate is about, and it's not what members of a real democracy expect. They expect to find out for themselves.

You're an attorney, for heaven's sake, look up the regulation when you get on a committee. If you need help, let me know, I can get a high school kid to show you.

On another note...the football team may have lost on Thursday, but they go to the Super Bowl this week. We'll have a report on that in next week's issue.

Meanwhile, there are all kinds of fun events and opportunities for you to give and volunteer, and just have fun during this holiday season. See pages 3, 5, 6, 7 for listings, and look at the ads, too.

Those crazy Acushnet motorcycle riders got out there this weekend....BRRR. See page 13 for why they did that!

There's other stuff in here, of course, including our cover story about the football game; the Acushnet lighting with Santa!); and more.

While you're looking, 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!*



Publisher Beth David with  
Charlie, aka Evil Dog

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

Volume 19, Issue 48

Thursday, December 5, 2024

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Editor: Beth David

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

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www.NeighbNews.com

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## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

# Weekend events include tree lightings, singalongs, and SANTA!

## Benoit Square Lighting & Singalong

Join the North Fairhaven Improvement Association for the annual lighting of Benoit Square, on Fri., 12/6, at 6:30 p.m., at the intersection of Main Street and Howland Road, Fairhaven.

The lights will be turned on for the season and we will sing Christmas carols with Mrs. Claus and Friends. And you can even see Santa! Don't miss this fun kickoff to the holiday season.

NOTE: The Deck the Trunk event has been canceled.

## Fill the Bus Toy Drives

Acushnet and Fairhaven police departments will be holding their annual Fill the Bus toy drives this weekend. Over the past several years this has been a huge success and has supplied countless children with gifts so they didn't have a present-less Christmas.

Both events are in cooperation with Tremblay Bus Company and Safe Zones.

Please go by and take a new toy to help fill the bus.

## Fairhaven

The Fairhaven Police Department will be at Walmart in Fairhaven from 10 a.m.–3 p.m., on Sat., 12/7.

## Acushnet

The Acushnet Police Department will at the Acushnet Town Hall, 122 Main Street from 9 a.m.–1 p.m. on Sat., 12/7, in cooperation with Tremblay Bus Company and Safe Zones.

We were able to fill the bus last year and hope for an even larger outpouring of support this year!!!!

## New Bedford Tree Lighting & Clasky Common Lights

Explore New Bedford's NBfestive website, [explorenewbedford.org/nb-festive](http://explorenewbedford.org/nb-festive), has a full list of holiday happenings around the City. Check it often for event updates throughout the season.

## City of New Bedford Downtown Tree Lighting

Sat., 12/7, 5–6 p.m., Pleasant Street in front of the Main Library. PARADE: 4:30 p.m.

Join Mayor Mitchell, City officials, and New Bedford friends and neighbors near and far for the annual celebration. At 4:30 p.m., a parade

will march from the bottom of William Street, near the Whaling Museum, to the library steps for the tree lighting. The festive parade will feature the New Bedford High School marching band, and a special appearance from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

## Clasky Common Tree Lighting

Sun., 12/8, 5 p.m., Clasky Common, County and Pope Streets

Join Mayor Mitchell and others for the annual celebration at Clasky Common with musical performances, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, and plenty of holiday cheer.

## AHA! Starry Night

Thurs., 12/12, 3–9 p.m., Downtown New Bedford

AHA!'s holiday event will be one to remember. The Custom House building will be transformed into a giant snow globe with an awe-inspiring light show by Broken Glass Projection Mapping. There will be crafts, games, pictures with Santa, live music and more at this free family event.

## Downtown New Bedford Holiday Stroll

Sat., 12/14, Noon–4 p.m., Down-

cont'd on page 6



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## First Congregational Church

34 Center Street, Fairhaven

# Olde-Tyme Holiday Fair

Saturday Dec. 14th • 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

Our popular **Lobster luncheon** is back!  
Handmade Crafts • Baked Goods  
Cheese • Jewelry • Chance Auction  
Local Vendors.

Our thrift store, **Heavenly Treasures**,  
will be open all day and it's bigger  
than ever!

Lobster luncheon 11 a.m.–1 p.m.  
or until sold out

# Select Board sets tax rate for FY 2025.

By Beth David  
Editor

At its meeting on 12/2/24, the Fairhaven Select Board set the tax rate for FY 2025 resulting in a small rate increase. On the recommendation of the board of Assessors and Principal Assessor Joanne Correia, the board voted to approve a residential rate of \$9.32 per thousand, and a Commercial, Industrial & Personal Property (CIP) rate of \$18.48, which keeps the same shift of 1.75% as in previous years.

Last year's rates were \$9.23/1000 residential, and \$18.37/1000 CIP.

Last year's average home value was \$397,455 resulting in an average property tax bill of \$3,668.51. This year's average home value is \$410,731, resulting in a property tax bill of \$3,828.01 with the new rate.

If the town abandoned the shift and adopted a single tax rate, it would be \$10.56/1000 for all property resulting in a bill of \$4,337.32 for the average home vs. \$3,828.01

Ms. Correia ran through several different scenarios using different CIP shifts.

In another matter, Acting Town Administrator, Anne Carreiro, told the board that the Interim Town Administrator Screening Committee met on 11/27 and discussed questions to put forward to candidates. She said they will meet on 12/9 to conduct interviews.

That committee will send at least two names to the Select Board for interviews.

SB member Andrew Saunders, who is the SB representative on the committee, added that there had been some feedback about the Open Meeting Law (OML) because the meeting on 11/22 was not posted and was not recorded. Mr. Saunders had given a report on the meeting at the SB's 11/25 meeting, alerting the public to its existence.

At this week's meeting, Mr. Saunders insisted that no OML violation had taken place. He said the committee met "for the purposes of establishing our schedule."

"We did not have any substantive discussions during that meeting," said Mr. Saunders.

He said his "verbal description" of

the 11/22 meeting was simply about the "banter" between Ms. Carreiro, and committee member Jeff Osuch, who was also the town's Executive Secretary for 28 years.

Mr. Saunders said it was "intriguing" to watch them interact, as they have known each other for so many years.

Ms. Carreiro said their interaction had nothing to do with the TA, but was more about budget season.

Later in the meeting the board discussed the procedure they will use for hiring an Interim TA. The interview process must be done in open session by statute.

The board went back and forth on how to make the process fair, possibly videotaping and not going out live to keep candidates from knowing the questions, etc.

In the end, the board decided to conduct the interviews live and have the other candidates wait in the hall.

They will deliberate and try to make a decision that same night.

The board needs to wait for the names from the screening committee and then will set the date.

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**Prime Rib: \$30**

**Baked Stuffed Shrimp: \$25**

**Stuffed Chicken: \$20**

**Baked Ham: \$20**

All meals come with choice of mashed potato or baked potato, green beans, roll, and dessert.

*Reservations Recommended*

## Saturday Night Scallop Delight

Five Choices: \$15.95

Eat in/Take out • 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.



# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## Wreaths Across Fairhaven

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Join the Fairhaven Veterans Services Office and volunteers to place wreaths on the graves of veterans. Meet at Riverside Cemetery, 274 Main St., Fairhaven on Sat., 12/7, at 10 a.m. (Rain date 12/8)

## FHA Crafters Fair

Join us for the second annual Resident Crafters Holiday Fair at Fairhaven Housing Authority on Sat., 12/7, from 10 a.m.–3 p.m., at Oxford Terrace Community Room, 275 Main St. Featuring hand made items from our residents, including a baked goods table. Free door prizes, complimentary popcorn, hot chocolate, coffee, tea, apple cider.

Come out and start or finish your Christmas shopping.

## HMS Craft Fair

Elizabeth Hastings Middle School PTO, 30 School St., Fairhaven, presents its Winter Craft Vendor Fair on Sat., 12/7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Join us for a fun-filled day with shopping unique vendors, hands-on crafts, live music and great food. Featuring local honey, K9, Fire Truck, wreaths, and pictures with Santa from 10 a.m. to noon.

## Donate books

Do you have books to donate for the Friends of Millicent Library Used Book Sale? Bring your used books in good condition to the Millicent Library front desk during library hours by Dec. 11, 45 Center St., Fairhaven.

Needed: Bestsellers, Fiction, Non-Fiction, Children's Books, Hard Cover and Paperbacks. Please NO encyclopedias, dictionaries, textbooks or magazines.

Your donation will help the Friends of Millicent Library fund free community events and activities at the library such as book talks, Kids' Fest and Teddy Bear Parade

## Bike Path Closed

Phoenix Rail Trail between Egypt Lane and Tripp Street will be closed Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for a headwall replacement. Please use the detour until further

notice.

Any questions or concerns please contact the Board of Public works at 508-979-4030

## Toys for Tots

There is a bin in Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Street, for new toys for the Toys for Tots program run by the United States Marine Corps.

Please donate new, unwrapped toys during Town Hall's regular business hours, and during the Old Tyme Holiday event on Saturday, 12/14. DEADLINE is 12/16.

## Deck the Doors

The Fairhaven Historical Society presents the 2024 Holiday Deck the Door Contest. See ad on page 19 for details.

## AG Guidance on Charitable Giving

In anticipation the upcoming holiday season, Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell is advising residents to make well-researched and informed decisions when donating to charitable organizations.

While some charities raise funds on their own, others pay professional solicitors to seek donations from the public. Charities and solicitors are required by statute to register with the Attorney General's Office (AGO). The AGO encourages consumers who are solicited for donations to ask questions so that they can understand who is contacting them and where their money would go. Specifically, consumers can ask whether the person contacting them is a paid fundraiser. Consumers should find out how much of every dollar they donate will go to charity as opposed to being retained by the professional fundraiser.

Consumers are encouraged to review the AGO's Giving Wisely Advisory (<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/giving-wisely-to-charity>) and the Donating Dos and Don'ts: A Guide to Charitable Giving (<https://www.mass.gov/doc/donating-dos-and-donts-0/download>) for information, including tips on what to consider before donating to a charity.

Individuals with inquiries or complaints about charitable solicitations should call the Attorney

General's Non-Profit Organizations/Public Charities Division at 617-963-2101 or file a complaint online.

## SAVE THE DATES:

### Old Tyme Fairhaven

Mark Your Calendars! Fairhaven's Olde-Tyme Holiday is Sat., 12/14, in and around town hall, 40 Center Street. 10 a.m.–3 p.m. (Main Event); 3 p.m.–6 p.m. (Twilight Traditions)

Step into a nostalgic holiday village like no other, set within the heart of Fairhaven's historic Town Center! This year's Olde Tyme Holiday features a delightful mix of timeless traditions and exciting new attractions for all ages.

Make merry in true old-fashioned style and create cherished holiday memories. All are welcome! For full details, visit <https://www.facebook.com/share/18KzSNWiEM/>.

### Youth Vendor Fair

Join us for a Youth Vendor Fair at the Fairhaven Recreation Center, 227 Huttleston Ave., on Sun. 12/15 from noon to 3 p.m. Youth vendors and youth focused organizations will be sharing their talents and building their business skills. Featuring food, music, artists, jewelers, skincare, candles, gift bags and more!

We have an amazing group of talented kids waiting to share their goodies with you. Visit and support our local youth!

For more info, contact [jessica.wilder13@yahoo.com](mailto:jessica.wilder13@yahoo.com) or 774-634-7066.

### UUSF Holiday Fair

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Fairhaven is decking the hall for its Holiday Marketplace, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 14, in conjunction with Fairhaven's 26th annual Old-Tyme Holiday Village.

Cross the names of lucky gift recipients off your list as you browse the goods of talented crafters, artists, and more. Some vendors will offer face painting, permanent jewelry, personalized items, hand-made wreaths, and more surprises.

In keeping with years past, UUSF will offer lavish raffle baskets, a vendor craft raffle, a 50/50 raffle, a decadent bake sale, a delicious array of soups and sandwiches (11:30-2, or until sold out) in the Harrop Center, photos with St. Nicholas, and

HAPPS: cont'd on page 17

# HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

town New Bedford

Presented by Downtown New Bedford Inc., the popular event will feature food and drink specials, family friendly entertainment like antique fire truck rides and carolers, a visit from Santa, live music and more with shops open until 8 p.m.

Visit [explorenewbedford.org/nb-festive](http://explorenewbedford.org/nb-festive) for more on these and other holiday events throughout the City.

## Free Light Show

Bringing Light and Art to Life, Sat., 12/7, 5:00 pm, at St. Anthony of Padua Church New Bedford, 1359 Acushnet Ave. Presented by Broken Glass Projection Mapping produced by Multimedia Artist, Nelson Raposa.

Free and open to the public.

This will be a completely different experience. To view this light show that is like no other, and see the magnificent New Bedford treasure of a church, this is a "don't miss it" event.

Visit [www.saintanthonyynb.org](http://www.saintanthonyynb.org) Get free tickets at [www.musicatsaintanthonys.org/](http://www.musicatsaintanthonys.org/)

## Greens Sale

The Garden Club of Buzzards Bay is holding its annual Holiday Greens Market on Sat., 12/7, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm at The Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum Coach House, 396 County Street, New Bedford.

Selections include beautiful hand-made decorated wreaths, center-pieces, tabletop trees, garlands, swags, arrangements, ornaments and more! Come early for the best selection. Shoppers can also tour The Rotch-Jones-Duff House at no cost when they present their proof of purchase from the Greens Market.

Proceeds support the Club's Grants Program for Conservation, Civic Beautification, Sustainable Agriculture and Scholarships.

## Holiday Market

The First Unitarian Church in New Bedford is thrilled to announce the return of its annual Holiday Market, scheduled to take place on 12/7, from 10 am to 3 pm. This festive event promises to be a delightful experience for the community, with a wide array of local vendors, a plant sale, refreshments, and a special thrift shop opening on market day.

At the Parish House, 71 8th Street.

Open to all, promising an afternoon of holiday cheer, shopping, and giving back to the local community. Please enter through the parking lot door.

Highlights of the Holiday Market include: More than 18 vendors offering a diverse selection of unique and handcrafted items. This is a fantastic opportunity to find the perfect gifts for your loved ones and support local artisans.

**Plant Sale:** The church will host a plant sale. Your purchase will directly contribute to the preservation of this historic building.

**Thrift Shop:** The church's thrift shop will be open from 10 am to 1 pm on market day. Y

Visit [www.uunewbedford.org/calendar](http://www.uunewbedford.org/calendar) for more details.

## House Tours

The 30th Annual New Bedford Preservation Society Holiday House Tour will take place on Sun., 12/8, 1pm-5pm. The tour headquarters are at the James Arnold Mansion, 427 County Street. This annual tour is a great opportunity to spend a Sunday afternoon with friends and family while enjoying the community spirit of the holidays. Visitors are invited to discover the unique historical character of New Bedford homes and explore the interiors that reflect the creative individual taste of the owners. These spaces are lived in and loved!

The Tour will include: Historic buildings and homes beautifully decked out for the holidays.

The tour will start with brunch at 11am (brunch cost separate from ticket price, call 508-997-7431 for brunch reservations).

Holiday Silent Auction of beautiful gifts, art, antiques and handcrafted items.

Tour tickets are \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members. Tickets may be purchased online on the New Bedford Preservation Society website, <http://www.nbpreservation.org>. Tickets will also be available on the day at the door.

## RJD Museum Tour

The Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum (RJD), 396 County St., NB, will offer a half-hour guided tour of the festively decorated whaling mansion on Sat., 12/7, at

11 a.m. Special attention will be paid to the holiday customs of the original residents of the historic house. Visitors will also have an opportunity to purchase wreaths, greens and seasonal decorations at the Garden Club of Buzzards Bay Holiday Greens Market, which will be held in the Museum's Coach House from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The house tour is free with the price of museum admission or proof of purchase from the Holiday Greens Market. For more information, contact 508-997-1401 or visit the Museum's website: [rjdmuseum.org](http://rjdmuseum.org).

## Christmas on County

The RJD will present Christmas on County on Thurs., 12/12, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Visitors to the historic whaling mansion will enjoy the festively decked halls and hear docents describe some of the holiday customs of the original residents. In addition, participants are invited to taste-test home-baked holiday cookies and vote for their favorite in the Fifth Annual Cookie Challenge which features seasonal sweets from bakers in the area.

Ugly holiday sweaters and seasonal accessories are encouraged. As a part of New Bedford's AHA Night, no admission is required; donations will be accepted. For more information, contact 508-997-1401 or visit the Museum's website: [rjdmuseum.org](http://rjdmuseum.org).

## Hetty Talk

*Hetty's Family: As Different As Possible*

Meet the Green family at 1 p.m. on Sat., 12/7, at the New Bedford Whaling Historical National Park, 33 William St., New Bedford. Free program presented by Dr. Irene Duprey-Gutierrez, a 27-year volunteer at the park.

Husband Edward Green, relatively wealthy with \$2,000,000, was financially risky: Hetty had to repay \$700,000 for him. She was an extreme speculator and earned at least \$1,000,000. Mrs. Green's lifestyle was always based on thrift and frugality, her Quaker upbringing. Despite being a debutante, she never spent on trips, jewelry, or furs. However her husband, Edward, son ,Ned (the Colonel), and daughter, Sylvia, developed very different habits.

The Colonel, an extrovert,

cont'd next page

## STILL OVERTOWN

although he had learned the stock market from his mother, often gave large donations to people and groups, for his extreme interests and hobbies, and he spent millions on his wife — a prostitute.

Sylvia, an introvert, waited for her mother to die in 1916 and soon bought a huge mansion in Connecticut with a large private beach, then rented three floors of the most expensive hotel in New York city where she lived alone. When she gained her share, she failed to put a significant amount into a bank account without paying interest.

## NB Holiday Parking

The City's Holiday Parking Program is back in full swing this year, offering two hours of free parking at both the Elm Street Garage and the Zeiterion Garage Downtown, along with two hours of free parking at meters along Acushnet Avenue in the North End.

The program is designed to encourage shopping, dining, and retail activity in the City's Downtown and North End business districts during the month of December.

The program also features ticket forgiveness for holiday shoppers and

diners. Anyone receiving a parking ticket for an expired meter Downtown or on Acushnet Ave. can be forgiven by presenting a same-day sales receipt for at least \$10 from a merchant or restaurant in the north end business district or downtown.

Receipts must be presented or mailed to the Traffic Commission Office in the Elm Street Garage within three weeks (21 days) of receiving the ticket. The parking ticket will be forgiven with the presentation of the same-day receipt.

For questions, call the Traffic Commission office at 508-961-3153.

## HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

### Wreaths Across Acushnet

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Join the Acushnet Veterans Services Office and volunteers to place wreaths on the graves of veterans. Meet at the Acushnet Cemetery, 91 Main St., on Fri., 12/6, at 1 pm..

### Padanaram Stroll

Join us for a magical evening of holiday cheer at our Annual Holiday Stroll! Fri., 12/6, 4-8 p.m., Padanaram Village

#### 4th Annual Buoy Tree Lighting, 6:30

As the sun sets and the stars twinkle above, gather with us at Maritime Center for the grand illumination of our Buoy Tree. This enchanting tradition will fill you with the spirit of the season as we light up the night with our coastal-inspired holiday tree.

Shop Local: Discover the charm of our community as you stroll through our picturesque streets, lined with local stores decked out in holiday splendor.

Meet Santa: He'll be at the parking lot on the corner of Elm Street & Bridge Street to listen to your Christmas wishes and take photos with kids of all ages. Don't forget your camera!

Also featuring: Live holiday music to get you in the festive mood; Delicious treats and warm beverages; Face painting; Carolers; Food Trucks; Giveaways for kids; A joyful atmosphere that will make your heart glow with holiday spirit; A chance to connect with friends and neighbors in

our beautiful community.

Sponsored by the Padanaram Business Association.

### Jewelry+ Sale

The Friends of the Mattapoisett Library invite you to attend the 2024 Annual Jewelry & Accessories Sale! Great selection of items at VERY reasonable prices. Do some holiday shopping or just treat yourself!

At the library, 7 Barstow Street, Mattapoisett MA 02739, Fri., 12/6, 5:30-7:30 p.m., and Sat., 12/7, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FOML Member\* Only Preview Sale, Thus., 12/5, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

To become a Friend of the Mattapoisett Library stop by the library circulation desk during operating hours to complete the form, or join the night of the Preview Sale: \$20 donation to become a member

### DHS presents ELF

Dartmouth High Theatre Company will be performing "Elf the Musical" for its annual fall production.

Fri. & Sat., 12/6 & 7, at 7 p.m.; Sat., 12/7 at 1 p.m., at DHS, 555 Bakerville Rd., Dartmouth. Limited tickets are still available at the Dartmouth High Theatre Company website (<https://sites.google.com/view/dartmouth-high-theatre-company/tickets>) and all tickets are \$15.00 each. You can also call or text to reserve your ticket at 508-441-4602

### Greens Sale

The Fifth Annual Mattapoisett Woman's Club Holiday Greens Sale will be held on Sat., 12/7, (rain date

12/8) in Ying's parking lot on route 6 at 22 County Road in Mattapoisett, from 9am until 1pm, or until items are sold out. Please note, in past years, all items have sold out in a couple of hours or less!

This year's sale will feature decorated fresh wreaths, swags, centerpieces, and 2024 Christmas ornaments, all beautifully hand-crafted by the talented women of the Mattapoisett Woman's Club! Bundled evergreens and holly branches will also be available for purchase. Cash, checks and credit cards will be accepted.

### ACLU in Matta.

The Mattapoisett Democratic Town Committee will host Olivia Santoro, Deputy Field Director for Civic Education and Mobilization for the ACLU of MA at the December meeting, Tues., 12/10, Mattapoisett Fire Station Public Meeting Room, 62 County Road, 6-7:45 p.m.

Ms. Santoro will present the ACLU's roadmap for opposing the threats posed to residents of the Commonwealth by Project2025. Ms. Santoro will speak about the importance of States, Cities and Towns building firewalls for freedom, barriers to ensure our state and local officials do not assist anti-democratic forces attacking our civil liberties and civil rights.

The ACLU of MA has the playbook and we are ready to fight back to defend our fundamental freedoms. Come join us for an educational evening. Light soft drinks and snacks

**HAPPS/OL: cont'd on page 11**





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

## Supportive Social Day Program

Supportive Social day Program is a structured and supervised program for seniors in need of socialization or for those who may have cognitive disabilities. Persons who are 60 and older, who are independent with eating, ambulation, medication administration, continent, are not an elopement risk, Please contact Sally Bourke or Debra Chmiel at 508-993-9455 for further information.

## Mall Trips

Reservations accepted for mall trips at beginning the 15th of the prior month. There is a \$6 charge unless otherwise noted. Please bring exact amount. The van leaves the Fairhaven Senior Center promptly at 9: 12/11, Hyannis Mall, Trader Joe's & Whole Foods; 12/18 Providence Place Mall 12/25, Christmas Day CLOSED; 1/8, Twin River Casino.

## 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 \$3 (Please note price chance). To let us know you want to join us, and to arrange for a ride, call 508-979-4029.

## Medicare Open Enrollment

To Dec. 7. Medicare Open Enrollment is your chance to review your

coverage for 2025. You can review changes to your current plan, check out new plan options for 2025, and learn if you qualify for programs to help with your out-of-pocket costs.

Call the Fairhaven Senior Center at 508-979-4029 to make a SHINE appointment for your free, confidential and unbiased assistance with your Medicare options.

## Are You Safe on the Internet?

Please join Kraig Perry at the Fairhaven COA on Dec. 12, at 1 p.m. to learn how to protect your information online. You will also learn how to identify online shopping scams during this holiday season on various internet platforms.

Please call to sign up, 508-979-4029.

## Monday Movie Matinee

Dec. 23, 12:15 p.m. Featuring *Falling for Christmas*. After losing her memory in a skiing accident, a spoiled heiress lands in the cozy care of a down-on-his-luck widower and his daughter at Christmastime.

If you would like lunch before the movie at 11:30 a.m., please call the center the Thursday before to reserve a meal, 508-979-4029. \$3 donation towards the meal. The movie is free.

## Memory Cafe

Dec. 19, 11:30–1:30. Please call to reserve a spot by 12/16.

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.

## Tech Cafe

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

## Single Senior Supper Club

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

## LGBTQ Supper Club

Fourth Wed. of the Month 5-7pm. Call to sign up.

## 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.

# Fairhaven Recreation Center

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

## Youth Basketball Clinics

Join this exciting recreational clinic, led by Coach Donald Joseph, Fairhaven High School Varsity Basketball Coach! This clinic focuses on teaching the essential fundamentals of basketball. Each week participants will engage in the skill building exercises and drills, providing a supportive environment to develop their basketball skills and enhance their love for the game. Don't miss the opportunity to learn from an expert and take your skills

to the next level!

Fairhaven Rec gym, Saturday Dec 7-Jan 25 8am-9am. Member FREE Non-Member \$35.

## Babysitting Workshop

Get ready for a fun babysitting adventure! This course covers everything from creative routines to first aid, diapering and discipline. Kids will also learn about contacts, ethics, safety and accident prevention. Designed for ages 10-13, this program is both educational and enjoyable. Remember to bring a

snack!

Instructor: Beth Oleson Wed, Feb 5th. 5:30-7:45pm at Fairhaven Rec Members \$40. Non-Members \$45

## Pint Sized Picassos

Join us for this messy, pre-k art program and watch your little artists bloom as they paint, draw and sculpt their way to becoming creative and confident young individuals. Let the colors of imagination flourish in this enriching art adventure.

Dec 30-Jan 20 10am-10:45am Mondays Members \$35. Non-Members \$45

# Recipe of the Week

## White Chocolate Peppermint Bark

- 1 pound white milk chocolate candy, coarsely chopped
- 1 tbsp butter
- 1 tbsp canola oil

1 cup chopped peppermint candies or candy canes

Line a backing sheet with parchment or waxed paper.

In a microware, melt candy coating; stir until smooth.

Stir in butter and oil until blended. Stir in candies.

Spread to desired thickness on prepared pan.

Refrigerate until firm. Break into pieces.

Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator.

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

# Dear Frankie



## Thanks-giving Blues

*Dear Frankie,*

I was so excited that my aunts, uncles, and cousins were coming to our house for Thanksgiving because I'd get to lick the turkey pan.

When I heard my Aunt Luella and Cousin Georgie, who are allergic to dogs, were coming, I knew it meant I'd spend the day in the back bedroom. My mom said she was sorry I couldn't be with the family and promised to bring me a turkey dinner, save the turkey pan, turn on the TV so I could watch the Macy Thanksgiving Parade, and let me play video games.

I'm bummed out about spending the holiday by myself. It will be torture to hear my family talking and laughing and not be with them. I can't wait for Thanksgiving to be over.

*Raymond*

*Dear Raymond,*

Raymond, I understand you feel left out, but all is not lost. If your mom serves dinner after the Thanksgiving parade, your nonallergic relatives could watch the parade with you. Some might even choose to have their dinner with you and play video games.

There are also pills that allergic people take to prevent a reaction to dogs. Your mom should pass this information on to your aunt. Your mom could also put up a gate that would allow you to join in the holiday fun while keeping you at a distance from your aunt and cousin.

Why don't you suggest to your mom that there are alternative ways to accommodate you and the allergic relatives? Once she sees what they are, she might take you up on a few of your ideas.

*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

FRANKIE: cont'd on page 17







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# HAPPS/OL: cont'd from page 7

will be served.

## Peter Pan

The Marion Art Center Theater is pleased to present J.M. Barrie's *Peter Pan*, adapted by Craig Sodaro. Kate Fishman directs this very special limited presentation. Show dates are Dec. 6, 7, 13, 14 at 7:30pm and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 2:00pm. All performances are in the MAC's Anne Braitmayer Webb Theater, 80 Pleasant St., Marion.

This superb adaptation captures

all the magic and charm of everyone's favorite story. The Darling children love to hear of Peter Pan's adventures during his visits through the open window of the nursery. Then one night after Nana has taken his shadow and Wendy has sewn it back on, Peter Pan and Tinker Bell whisk the children off to Neverland to be part of the adventures.

Wendy, John, and Michael become friends with the Lost Boys and Princess Tiger Lily, and Wendy

becomes everyone's mother. When the evil Captain Hook captures Wendy and the Lost Boys, Peter Pan comes to their rescue. Together with the ticking crocodile, Peter Pan puts Captain Hook in his place and returns the Darling children to their home.

Get tickets, \$20 for MAC members, \$23 for nonmembers, at marionartcenter.org/events. The MAC is also a participant in Mass Cultural Council's card to culture program. Learn more on the online ticket page.

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- MILLICENT LIBRARY (Crafting, Fiddlers, Book Sale)
- \$10 PONY RIDES (FROM FAIRHAVEN REC CENTER)
- TRAVELERS ON TOUR (HOLIDAY COCKTAILS)
- ANIMAL SHELTER PETTING PEN
- REINDEER GAMES

3PM - 4:30PM: TALES OF AN OLD SEAPORT VILLAGE HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR

4:30PM: FAIRHAVEN IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION SING-A-LONG, SANTA, FREE HOT COCOA & COOKIES

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# Fairhaven Blue Devils fall to Dartmouth on Thanksgiving Day

By Beth David  
Editor

The Fairhaven High School Blue Devils fell to the Dartmouth Indians in the traditional Thanksgiving Day matchup on 12/28/24, at Fairhaven's Alumni Stadium. 21-16. The weather

was unforgiving, with rain steady through the whole game and hard at times.

Standout star Justin Marques made one of the touchdowns for the Blue Devils; Richie Sienna made the other.

Photos this page are by Sam

Simoes. See more of his photos at [samueljsimoes.com](https://samueljsimoes.com).

The game is available on demand for free on the Dartmouth Community Media YouTube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ovoncQX8IV4>



LEFT: Fairhaven High School Blue Devil, Richie Senna, runs in for the touchdown during a rain-soaked Thanksgiving Day football game at home against traditional rival Dartmouth on 11/28/24, when Dartmouth won 21-16. MIDDLE: Fairhaven Blue Devil, Junior Josh Vieira (RIGHT), stretches out for a pass that is just past his fingertips. RIGHT: Fairhaven High School Blue Devils Quarterback, Junior Evan Lamontagne, makes a big run down the sideline to put Fairhaven with scoring distance. Photos by Sam Simoes ([samueljsimoes.com](https://samueljsimoes.com)).

## Fairhaven Recreation officially opens new playground

By Beth David  
Editor

The Fairhaven Recreation Department held a ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open its new playground behind the Rec Center on 11/26/24.

Recreation Director Kelley Ramirez said the new playground has all new equipment, and was moved to a spot that is not as wet, is more accessible for children with varying abilities, and is on a surface better than grass.

"It's out of the puddle," said Ms. Ramirez, and adding that it was already being used by children in Rec Center programs.

The old playground was definitely outdated, but the biggest problem is that it was under water so often, she said.

"The kids have always loved it," she said. "It was just time."

The project cost about \$200,000, and used Bristol County ARPA funds (American Rescue Plan Act).

She said the old structure will be donated, once they figure out the proper procedure.

"I'm excited to be here with everyone," said Ms. Ramirez just

before cutting the ribbon.

She thanked everyone who helped get the project done, including the contractor, Premier Park & Play, the Department of Public Works, and Council on Aging Director Martha Reed. The COA shares the grounds behind the building with the Rec.

She said it was team effort.

The handful of children there agreed it was a great playground, calling it "really fun," and the "best playground."

"This is a perfect example of something that will improve our recreation opportunities for kids," said Select Board chairperson Stasia Powers, adding that it

helps them get outside, and it is right near the bike path.

The Recreation Center is located at 227 Huttleston Avenue (behind Stop & Shop). The back field abuts the Phoenix Bike Trail.



Surrounded by children, town officials, and project employees, Fairhaven Recreation Director, Kelley Ramirez, speaks during a ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open the new playground at the Recreation Center on 11/26/24. Photo by Beth David.

# Acushnet Lions hold annual bike run & toy drive...BRRR!

By Beth David  
Editor

Temperatures dropped down into the low 30s this Sunday, 12/1/24, but that did not stop the hardy souls on about 30 motorcycles who joined the Acushnet Lions Club in the annual Motorcycle Run and Toy Drive for the Shepherd's Pantry in Acushnet.

As in past years, the ride started at the River's End. New owners, Ernie &

Jo Jo Medeiros, who bought the bar a few months ago, have not changed anything. They owned a similar establishment in Florida, they said, and are happy to support the Lions and continue with the traditions that the River's End has been involved in.

"There's no sense in changing a good thing," said Ernie.

Former owner and Lions Club member, Mark DeSilva had a list of

people to thank for the event, including Adams & Adams for use of their truck; Rep/Weld; and Seabra Foods for food donations; the Adam Taylor Foundation for donation of toys; and, of course, the volunteers and bikers who donated \$10 or a toy/nonperishable food item.

The Acushnet Lions Club has been operating for 66 years. Find them on Facebook to learn more.



ABOVE: Bikers, Lions, and volunteers line up for the local free sheet after the annual motorcycle run and toy/food drive organized by the Acushnet Lions Club, donating food and toys to the Shepherd's Food Pantry in Acushnet on 12/1/24. TOP RIGHT: Phil Adams hands a box to Bob Brown. RIGHT: Linda Taylor sports a big smile as she carries food into the pantry. Photos by Beth David.

# Santa visits Acushnet for annual lighting

By Beth David  
Editor

The Acushnet Fire Department held its annual lighting of the Christmas display on Sunday, 12/1/24, and Santa came with Mrs. Claus, but so did the Grinch. Mr. Grinch stole a package from the display and made a quick getaway through the crowd. Unfortunately for him, an Acushnet police officer apprehended him just outside the building and recovered the package. Many of the children

saw Mr. Grinch run off, but most were not worried, and the festivities did not suffer from his shenanigans.

There was free hot chocolate and cookies, and people could order Girl Scout Cookies from Daisy Troop 63502. The Ford Middle School Choir led the crowd in a singalong as they waited for Santa and Mrs. Claus to arrive.

The display will be lit up every night until January at Fire Station #1, 24 Russell Street (Parting Ways).



TOP: Young Colson reaches for his father, clearly not impressed with Santa or Mrs. Claus, at the annual lighting of the Christmas display at Acushnet Fire Station #1 on 12/1/24. ABOVE LEFT L-R: Sophie and Levi share a laugh with Santa. ABOVE MIDDLE: Mackenna and Santa share a moment. ABOVE RIGHT: The Grinch steals a package and runs through the crowd to escape. He was apprehended just a short time later by Acushnet Police and the package was recovered. Photos by Beth David.

# Nasketucket ornament market features 40 artists

By Beth David  
Editor

Nasketucket Bay Vineyard in Fairhaven opened its holiday Ornament Market on Friday, 11/29, featuring thousands of Christmas ornaments by 40 artists from Mass. and RI. It will be open during the vineyard's regular business hours until the season closes on 12/22.

The ornaments are being sold on consignment, 70% for the artist, 30% for the Vineyard, so everyone benefits, said Angel Castriano.

All of the ornaments are designed and made by the artists. Some are glass, some ceramic, some painted, some etched, for a wide variety of styles to choose from.

Joy and Derek were enjoying glass

of wine on the couch, and said they looked at all the ornaments and would probably buy something. They said it was nice that the vineyard was supporting local people.

Erin McAlonan said she had been to the vineyard a few times and tries to keep track of the special events they have. She thought it



would be something different to do with her mother-in-law, who is visiting from out of town.

"We're planning to do some day drinking," she said.

Darline Jameson said it was her first time there.

"It's impressive," she said of both the vineyard and the display.

"There's a great variety here," she said, as she gathered up a few things to buy.



ABOVE LEFT: Andrea Charbonneau hands an ornament to Darline Jameson on opening day of the Holiday Ornament Market featuring the work of 40 artists at Nasketucket Bay Vineyard on 11/29/24. TOP: Oyster shell ornaments are on display. Photos by Beth David.



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is love in action.  
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every time we give,  
it's Christmas.

Dale Evans

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HAPPS: cont'd from page 5

sanctuary tours.

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Please join us at 102 Green St. There is a small parking lot for vehicles with handicap placards, reached via a driveway on Center Street, and all buildings are accessible via ramps.

For more information, visit [uufairhaven.org](http://uufairhaven.org) or call 508-992-7081.

## Holiday Fair & Lobster Luncheon

First Congregational Church, 34 Center St., Fairhaven, Old Time Holiday Fair, Sat., 12/14, 10:00am-3:00pm.

Lobster luncheon 11:00am-1:00pm or sold out. Handmade crafts, baked good, cheese, Jewelry, Chance Auction, local vendors. Our thrift store, Heavenly Treasures, will be open all day and it's bigger than ever!

FRANKIE: cont'd from page 10

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## Upcoming Meetings

### Fairhaven

#### Board of Public Works

Mon., 12/16 Arsene St., 6 p.m.

#### School Committee

Wed., 12/18, FHS Lib., 6:30 p.m.

#### Select Board

Mon., 12/16, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

#### Tree Dept. Public Hearing

Wed., 12/18, Arsene St., 6:30 p.m.

### Acushnet

#### Council on Aging

Wed., 12/11, COA/Sr. Ctr., 10 a.m.

#### Planning Commission

Thurs., 12/5, Parting Ways 6 p.m.

#### Selectboard

Tues., 12/17 Town Hall, 4 p.m.

## TIDE TABLE

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

	Dec. 2024	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.	LOW a.m.	LOW p.m.
Thursday	5	1033	2307	0323*	1601*
Friday	6	1127	---	0411	1648*
Saturday	7	0006	1226	0506	1745*
Sunday	8	0103	1323	0621	1853*
Monday	9	0158	1419	0739	1955*
Tuesday	10	0255	1521	0851	2053*
Wednesday	11	0358	1626	1010*	2153*
Thursday	12	0457	1723	1118*	2252*
Friday	13	0547	1811	---	1211*
		---	---	---	2343*
Saturday	14	0634	1859	---	1306*
Sunday	15	0721	1948	0031*	1407*
Monday	16	0810	2039	0123*	1452*
Tuesday	17	0900	2128	0217*	1522*

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

## WHEN LOCAL NEWS FAILS...

“The foundations of democracy weaken.”  
—Margaret Sullivan, “Ghosting The News”

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# Public Hearings/Legal Notices

NOTE: All legal notices are available on the Neighb News website, [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com), under the "Legal Notices" tab on the top of the main page. Legal ads are also available at <http://masspublicnotices.org>, search under "Fairhaven Neighborhood News"

## Fairhaven Board of Health Notice of Public Hearing

The Fairhaven Board of Health is hosting a public hearing at 5 p.m. on **DECEMBER 18, 2024**, to review and hear comments relative to proposed changes to the Fairhaven Board of Health regulations titled, "Restricting the Sale of Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Products." The Public Hearing will be held **in-person** at 40 Center St. Fairhaven, MA 02719, and via **Zoom** (<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/95313326052?pwd=UEFIVzVKUDA5eExrTDN6RXBWMzYyUT09> or call 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 953 1332 6052 Passcode: 118417).

The proposed regulation changes include but are not limited to: the addition of language from the 2020 state law change (105 CMR 665), prohibition of smoking bars, increase in the minimum pricing for cigar sales, and more.

A copy of these draft regulations is available for pickup at the Fairhaven Board of Health (40 Center St.

Fairhaven, MA 02719) or on the Fairhaven Board of Health website: [www.fairhaven-ma.gov/board-health](http://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/board-health)

You are welcome to attend the Public Hearing **in person** (40 Center St. Fairhaven, MA 02719) or **virtually** via Zoom. You also may **submit written comment** to the Fairhaven Board of Health by mail: 40 Center St. Fairhaven, MA 02719.

FNN 12/5/24, 12/12/24

of two rooms with stock in cellar. Consists of approx. 1,507 sq. ft. Located at 1 Middle Road, Acushnet, MA 02743.

Robert J. Hinckley, Chairman  
David E. Wojnar  
Kevin A. Gaspar, Sr.  
Board of Selectmen  
FNN 12/5/24

## TOWN OF ACUSHNET

Notice is hereby given under Chapter 138, Section 15 of the MA General Laws that an open Board of Selectmen's Meeting will be held at the Acushnet Town Hall, which is located at 122 Main Street, Acushnet, MA, in the meeting room on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. to approve a transfer of a Package Store All Alcohol License from Town Wines, Inc. (Antonio Caldera, Manager), to Discount Town Liquors, Inc. (d/b/a Town Liquors), (Bhoomikaben Patel, Manager) (w/Pledge of License & Stock). The premises consists

## Town of Fairhaven Notice of Public Hearing

The Town of Fairhaven will hold a Public Hearing at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 18, 2024 in the Board of Public Works Conference Room, 5 Arsene Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719. In accordance with MGL Chapter 87, Section 3. Discussion of requested removal of 3 nonhazardous trees located at 27 Union Street (Maple 22" ±) and two at 32 Union Street (both Oak 26 ±). Anyone opposed to the removal of these trees should do so in writing per MGL 87 at said hearing.

FNN 12/5/24

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what do you do? You share.

W. Clement Stone

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## UU Society of Fairhaven welcomes all!



**10 a.m. Dec. 8: "Deck the Halls"**  
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for the holiday season

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*The Rev. Maria Uitti McCabe*

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## From our Readers

### Fairhaven Sells Out

During the town meeting, I sat helplessly as a consultant, literally called “Sussman,” gesture like a Disneyland animatronic and convince a crowd into voting against its own interest. With the 40R overlay approved, a few will get rich and most of us will get a headache. Affordable housing schemes, luxury apartments, and dinky boutique storefronts with high rents in a manufactured part of town, are not the answer. In an economy where housing is a financial product, more supply is just more supply at artificially-inflated rates blamed on artificial scarcity.

I grew up in Fairhaven during the ‘80s and ‘90s. The Irish and Portuguese sides of my family have lived and worked in town since the early 1900s. It was a great place to grow up. Local politics were quiet. The town was trusted to govern itself. In the ‘90s, the high school addition project and creation of the bike path sparked debate that now seems quaint.

I left town after high school. For twenty years, I lived and traveled

throughout the continent. I soon discovered most towns in America were ugly and indistinguishable. It made me homesick. In California, I watched my artsy North Hollywood neighborhood become unlivable after developers exploited our “vibrant creative community.” Small theaters, hidden gem restaurants, dive bars, and unpretentious gyms disappeared. Mixed-use, multi-story hell boxes and a rotating roster of failing retail came in their place. The original denizens were replaced with blank-faced tech workers and unbridled homelessness.

I moved back to Fairhaven only to find suburban sprawl encroaching on what little natural open spaces we have left, ostensibly the product of a planning board stocked with real estate types. With that considered, mixed-use zoning makes sense. But not like this. After Sussman talked his way around every hard question, voters were pressured to just say yes to a deal nobody understands. These people are salesmen and not your friends. When the government, consulting groups, lawyers, and real estate developers work together on

something—run from it.

Despite what the unsustainable constant-growth mindset types would have you believe, Fairhaven has remained stable for decades. They scare-mongered voters into believing Fairhaven would become a “town in decline” if their scheme did not go through. Ironically, that’s the only way you’ll ever see an affordable house again. Sustainability, preservation, conservation, and maintenance should be prioritized over constant growth. Budget cuts should be on the table, starting with the Town Administrator role. It’s undemocratic and expensive. We got along fine without one for a long time.

Now, we are set to become a cramped, expensive mess of traffic. They won’t stop with 40R. Woodland and open fields will disappear as cheap new builds crowd the landscape. Back roads will become more congested with every new subdivision. New taxes and fees will keep coming. Little people with a little power create big problems. I sure hope I’m wrong.

*Ryan Fabian, Fairhaven*



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