

fairhaven Neighborhood News

A pripublication of all things Fairhaven

- 🚱 — The little P ^{aper} with a big ^{voice!}
with a big

Volume 20, Issue 5 • January 23, 2025

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

Snow fizzles, but cold remains



The water in Jack's Cove is frozen on 1/21/25 after several days of temperatures in the 20's and wind chill factors below zero. A snowstorm on Sunday, 1/19, into Monday, dropped an inch or two, but did not result in significant accumulation. The storm did cause icy conditions on roads throughout the region. The forecast calls for a light dusting this week, more frigid temperatures, then a warm-up to seasonable temperatures in the mid to high 30s for the end of the week and into the 40s for the weekend. *Photo by Beth David.*



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

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.

Brrr...it's cold out there. And we have might get another little dusting of snow this week, too. But, just a dusting.

C'mon, winter give these kids a snow day and some snow figure snow, will ya?



Publisher Beth David with Charlie, aka Evil Dog

We've got all kinds of fun stuff for you this week.

The Select Board race in Fairhaven might actually be a race (see page 3 & page 8). We won't know for sure until the candidates actually return the papers. But, there's hope!

Speaking of which...two opportunities to learn how to run for office locally. See page 7 and page 16 to learn about two different events aimed at getting people to run for office.

There was a fire in Fairhaven (see page 14). The cause was an overloaded extension cord. Oh...I know that temptation living in a converted camp. Be careful, people, especially if one of the plugs goes to a high draw thing like a space heater.

But, the coolest story in this week's issue is about our own Nellie Zygiel, who actually got a kidney from a live donor. I mean, how cool is that? See page 12 for the story on how it happened. You all may remember that we did a story on Nellie, and we also ran a couple of listings for her fund-raisers.

Oh, I don't have time for the inauguration and the first couple of days in office. This guy thinks he can rewrite the Constitution, ignore a Constitutional Amendment, or change it, with the stroke of a pen. Birthright Citizenship is a right. But with this corrupt Supreme Court in his pocket, who knows, right?

I still find it hard to believe that I know people who support this baffoon. We are in for rocky 4 years.

God help America!

Until next week then, see ya

Glory to Ukraine! Glory to the Heroes!



Support local journalism

No one does local like a local newspaper. And it does not get more local than the *Neighb News*. Any small amount will help. Just clip the coupon and send check or money order to *Fairhaven Neighborhood News*, 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719. Ask for a bumper sticker that says "I Support the *Neighb News*." And thank you for reading *the little paper with a big voice*.

News." And thank you for reading the little paper with a big voice.
Name:
Address:
City/State/Zip:
Email:
Do you want to receive the paper by email? Y N

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

Volume 20, Issue 5
Thursday, January 23, 2025
Copyright 2025 Elizabeth A. David
Editor: Beth David
Published weekly on Thursday by
Fairhaven Neighborhood News, LLC, at
166 Dogwood Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719
NeighbNews@comcast.net
www.NeighbNews.com
508-979-5593 • Fax: 508-991-5580

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

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

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

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

Subscriptions are available for 6 months (24 issues) or one year (48 issues) at \$2.00 per issue for a total of \$48.00 or \$96.00 respectively. Also available for free online at www.neighbnews.com. For free email subscription, send to NeighbNews@comcast.net and include your first and last name.

Copyright 2025 Elizabeth A. David

Contents Acushnet nomination papers available......3 Classifieds/Help Wanted......17 COVER: Fairhaven School Dept. creates hardship fund18 FHS Art Society raising funds for overseas trip......17 Fire started from overloaded extension cord......14 From our readers......19 Legal Notices/Public Hearings..... Mello announces run for Fairhaven Select Board New year, new kidney for Nellie Zygiel.....12 Obituaries: Jackie Kenworthy, Janet Hemingway19 RecCtr/Senior Ctr9 Tides......17 Upcoming meetings/Fairhaven & Acushnet......17

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Our story last week on the Acushnet Fairhaven 4th grade Basketball team, had a typo on the points scored by Jameson Silva. He made 16 points. We apologize for any confusions our error may have caused.

Nomination papers available in Fairhaven and Acushnet

Nomination papers for town elected offices are available in both Fairhaven and Acushnet, available at the Town Clerk's office in each town.

Fairhaven's election is on Monday, 4/7/25. Acushnet's election is on Tuesday, 4/22/25.

Fairhaven

The Annual Town Election is scheduled for April 7, 2025. February 12, 2025 at 5PM is the

deadline for requesting papers.

Elected boards that have seats up for election, include: one seat on the Select Board, with Stasia Powers up for reelection; School Committee, with Erik Andersen and Brendalee Smith up for reelection; Planning Board, with Cathy Melanson and Rick Trapilo up for reelection; Board of Public Works, with Anne Morton Smith up for reelection; Board of Health, with appointed member, Brian Meneses's, term ending; Town Clerk, with Interim TC, Elisabeth Horan's term ending; Commissioner of Trust Funds, with Barabara Acksen up for reelection.

As of press time, Ms. Horan, Interim Town Clerk, had returned papers; Kelly Ochoa had returned papers for School Committee.

The following peope have taken out papers, but not returned them: School Committee incumbents Erik Andersen and Brendalee Smith; BPW incumbent Anne Morton Smith; Rick Trapilo and Natalie Mello for Select Board: Natalie Mello for Select Board: Sean Powers for Planning Board; Incumbent Cathy Melanson for her seat on the Planning Board; Cristina Lopes for Board of Health; Miles Grant for Planning Board.

Candidates for townwide office must collect 50 certified signatures from registered voters. Town Meeting candidates must get 10 certified signatures from their precincts only.

The Town Clerk's office, will be open until 5 p.m. on the following deadline dates.

Last day to request papers is

Last day to file papers with the Town Clerk's office is 2/14/25.

Last day for Town Meeting incumbents to file written request for re-election with the Town Clerk is 2/14/24/

Last day register to vote for the 4/7/25 annual town election is 3/5/25.

The polls will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on election day. All precincts vote at the Fairhaven Recreatioin Center, 227 Huttleston Avenue.

You may register to vote for the Annual Town Election at the Town Clerk's office in Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm, until Friday, March 28 at 5pm. Mail-in Voter Registration Forms are available at the Town Clerk's Office, the Millicent Library and State and Federal offices.

For more information, contact the Fairhaven Town Clerk's Office, at 508-979-4023 ext. 3.

Acushnet

The Annual Town Election is scheduled for Tuesday, 4/22/25.

February 28 is the last day to take out nomination papers.

All elected boards have seats up for reelection, including: Selectboard, with Robert Hinckley up for reelection; Board of Assessors with Liberio DaSilva Soares up; Board of Health with Thomas Fortin up; two School

NOM: cont'd page 18



RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL SOLAR **SOLAR SERVICE &** MAINTENANCE **EV CHARGERS** SERVICE UPGRADES **ENERGY STORAGE GENERATORS**

Free Proposals Rebate Incentives ✓ Local, Honest, & Trusted.

Mike Rotondo, Owner, Fairhaven Resident Portside Renewables, LLC NABCEP Certification 18 Years Industry Experience

508.470.1467 of portsiderenewables www.portsiderenewables.com

LIC MA Masters 22342A HIC 18176 MA CSL CS-102054 LIC. RI Masters A-004998



State Inspection. No appointment necessary!

Free diagnostics for

any dashboard light

Sat. 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

OPEN

Mon.–Fri. 8 a.m.–7 p.m.

Check Out Our Wide Variety of Cars

We accept all competitors' coupons.

A&A WARRANTY!

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

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



Reflex to Balance

Experience Reflexology to help the Mind, Body, & Soul

Holistic Therapy for Stress, Anxiety, Pain, and Fatigue Bring your mind and your body together to promote healing.

Specials each month. "Holiday Specials Coming"! Book an appointment and enter the raffle for a FREE session! Each booking gets you another raffle ticket!

By Appointment Only. Call/Text Elaine Vercellone: 201-388-0225

Located at Reflex to Balance 78 Middle St. Fairhaven, MA

Millicent Library Electrical Upgrade

Press Release

The Millicent Library Board of Trustees is excited to announce that the library's electrical upgrade project is now underway.

This crucial project involves the replacement and relocation of outdated electrical panel boards that pose safety risks and do not meet modern code requirements.

Additionally, the library's electrical capacity is being increased from a 400-amp system to an 800-amp system.

"This upgrade is essential for a forthcoming HVAC system enhancement which will replace the aging boiler and introduce a central cooling system," said Library Director Kyle DeCicco-Carev.

In order to accommodate the upgraded electrical system, a new utility pole was installed in December to replace the existing one. Safety fencing was temporarily erected in the library's alley, and trenching was carried out between the new utility pole and the library to install underground primary and secondary duct banks, along with new conduits.

In the staff parking area, a transformer pad was installed along

with protective steel bollards. Once the installations were completed and passed inspection, the trench was filled, the alley was repaved, and the fencing was removed.

Simultaneously, preparations for the interior work began. A pull box for the incoming electrical service was installed, along with some electrical metallic tubing to route the

...the library's electrical capacity is being increased from a 400-amp system to an 800-amp system.

new cables. As new panel boards arrive from manufacturers, they will be put in place.

"The work may cause some minor noise disruptions in the library. We apologize for the inconvenience," said DeCicco-Carey.

The project is expected to continue throughout the winter. Coordination with the Fairhaven Fire Department and the library's HVAC, elevator, and building alarm service

providers is required for certain aspects of the project, such as the installation of new fire alarm smoke detectors and the electrical changeover for the boiler and elevator.

"We appreciate the community's patience and understanding as we work to enhance the safety and functionality of The Millicent Library, providing a better environment for our patrons, employees, and collections," said Kathy Lopes, president of the library's Board of Trustees.

The funding for this project is made possible by the Fairhaven Community Preservation Committee through the Community Preservation Act (CPA). This act serves as a crucial tool in preserving our town's open spaces, historic resources, land for recreation, and community housing.

Established in 2005, the Fairhaven Community Preservation Committee oversees the local Community Preservation Fund, which supports projects like this one. With the committee's support through CPA, we can ensure the preservation of our town's rich history and heritage for generations to come.





UU Society of Fairhaven welcomes all!

10 a.m. Jan. 26: "The Science of Story"

Nursery care for ages 0-6 provided in Harrop Center, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Children welcome at service!

"Second Hour" at 11:15 - Religious Humanism in UU (adults and youth): intro to Buddhism and Hinduism (children)

The Rev. Maria Uitti McCabe

102 Green St., Fairhaven uufairhaven.org 508-992-7081



You Have a Choice

Remember Riverside when selecting a crematory for your family and friends. We are local, reliable, and affordable.

Riverside Cemetery & Crematory 274 Main Street • Fairhaven, MA 02719 • 508-999-7551 http://riversidecemeteryfairhaven.weebly.com

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH



7 Park Ave. Fairhaven

Sunday: 10 a.m Sunday School • 11 a.m. Sermon

Wednesday: 6 p.m., prayer meeting

Church: 508.997.4388 • dnbpastor@aol.com

It Does Make a Difference What You Believe

Lamb of God Christian Church



Non-Denominational • Expository Preaching **New Time: Sundays 6:00 p.m. • Sermon:** *Jesus explains how to know you are going to heaven.*3 Depot St., American Legion Hall, Mattapoisett

Tel. (508) 998-6990, E-mail: Pastor@lambofgodma.org, Facebook/YouTube: Mathew Vangel

Page 4 Thursday, January 23, 2025 Fairhaven Neighborhood News

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

TM Articles Citizen Petitions

Pursuant to Chapter 50, Section 2 of the Town of Fairhaven By-Laws, all citizen petition articles for the May 3, 2025 Annual Town Meeting, including street acceptance articles, must be submitted in writing with the signatures of not less than 10 registered voters through the Town Clerk's Office to the Select Board, Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA by February 7, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

Petitions can be found on the Select Board page on the town website under licenses, permits and petitions: https://tinyurl.com/2uuhmjsj

Town Moderator Mark D. Sylvia can be contacted at 508-858-7123 or msylvia@fairhaven-ma.gov or msylvia11@comcast.net.

Fhvn Dem Comm

All are welcome to join us for the first meeting of 2025. Fairhaven Democratic Town Committee, Wed., 1/29, at 6:00pm at the Millicent Library Auditorium, 40 Center St., Fairhaven, Walnut Street entrance. This entrance is Handicap accessible.

Please join us in finding out what our plans are for the coming year.

For more information please contact ann.richard@gmail.com.

Winter Parking Ban From December 1st through March

From December 1st through March 31st, a midnight to 8 AM parking ban will be in effect for snow removal and emergency access.

Streets with Hydrants: No vehicles may remain on the hydrant side of the street.

Streets with No Hydrants: No vehicles may remain on:

- The east side of streets running north/south
- The north side of streets running east/west

Violators will be towed and/or ticketed by the Fairhaven Police Department.

For questions, contact Fairhaven Public Works at 508-979-4030. Thank you for your cooperation!

Scholarships

Fairhaven Dollars for Scholars announces over 40 scholarships now available for 2025. Application period

is February 1, 2025 thru April 1, 2025.

Full list of scholarships and details on how to apply available at https://fairhaven.dollarsforscholars.org.

NEW scholarships are being added constantly. Check your profile weekly to see what NEW scholarships you qualify for both at the local and national level. Scholarships are awarded for a variety of reasons, including academics, sports, community service, chosen major, and more.

Fairhaven Dollars for Scholars chapter is a nonprofit foundation that supports academic success in our community. As part of Scholarship America's national network of locally based, volunteer-driven Dollars for Scholars chapters, our mission is to mobilize our community on behalf of postsecondary education success for our students.

Boating Safety Class The US Coast Guard Auxiliary's

The US Coast Guard Auxiliary's Flotilla 65 will run its 2025 SPRING SEMESTER 13-week Boating Skills & Seamanship Course (BS&S) from Monday, 1/27 through April 21, 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. It is a perfect introduction to recreational boating fundamentals, such as: boating terminology, boat equipment/ handling, boat trailering, lake boating, handling a small to midsize boat, rules of the road, navigation, medical/ safety awareness, understanding weather, engines, radios and how to read a nautical chart and chart plotter, buy a boat, tie a knot, handle emergencies, and call in a Mayday.

Many insurance companies will offer discounts on boat insurance to individuals who successfully complete this course. Individuals who successfully complete the course and pass the exam are awarded certificates and cards.

The \$55 fee includes the textbook, chart and all course material. Family discounts are available for shared materials.

Register online at https://tinyurl.com/ 9taexs5n

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Schaeffer, Flotilla Commander, at (781) 422-9746 or via email: schaef5900@gmail.com.

Heat Assistance

It's easy to apply for Mass. Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), a free resource offered in partnership with the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities that helps eligible households pay a portion of winter heating bills.

In this area, PACE is the agency that administers the program. Visit https://paceinfo.org/programs/fuel-assistance/ to find out if you qualify or call (508)525-4271

Broadband Apps

The Massachusetts Technology Collaborative's Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) is now accepting applications for the deployment of \$142 million in funding to deliver high-speed internet access to cities and towns across Massachusetts through the national Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program.

Through this deployment phase of the BEAD Program, MBI will identify and contract with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and other qualified entities, such as local governmental entities, Native American tribes, nonprofit organizations, and other entities that develop and operate broadband networks, to use program funds to connect locations unserved or underserved by broadband to high-speed internet. These locations were previously identified through the BEAD Challenge Process that MBI led on behalf of the state last summer and have since been approved as eligible for BEAD funding by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), the federal agency working to expand access through the Internet for All initiative.

Applicants must submit their funding applications to MBI by Friday, February 28.

Learn more at https://broadband.masstech.org.

The BEAD Program awards will build upon the foundation of prior state and federal investments that have brought Massachusetts to 99% statewide coverage.

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

YTI Production

Your Theatre Inc. presents RED, John Logan's Tony Award-winning play about artist Mark Rothko. This production is generously backed by Productioin Sponsor Servedwell Hospitality.

Mark Rothko has just landed the biggest commission in the history of modern art, a series of murals for New York's famed Four Seasons Restaurant. In the two fascinating years that follow, Rothko works feverishly with his young assistant, Ken, in his studio on the Bowery. But when Ken gains the confidence to challenge him, Rothko faces the agonizing possibility that his crowning achievement could also become his undoing. Raw and provocative, RED is a searing portrait of an artist's ambition and vulnerability.

Your Theatre is grateful for the generous support of Bank 5, sponsor of the theatre's current 78th season. Your Theatre, Inc is proud to have such a longtime partnership with a community leader like Bank 5.

Remaining dates are: Fri. & Sat., 1/24 & 25, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sat. & Sun., 1/25 & 26 at 2 p.m.

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 both lot metered street parking are free nights and weekends.

Tickets are General Admission \$27; Seniors, Students and Military \$22. All seats are open seating; tickets available at https://steepleplayhouse.ludus.com/. Contact the box office (boxoffice@yourtheatre.org or 508-993-0772) for group rates.

Admission for EBT, WIC, and ConnectorCare cardholders, is up to 2 tickets per eligible card for each Regular Production. Admission rate is \$5.00 per person.

Elect Women Training

TrainingJoin us for our Roadmap for Running Workshop!

Keynote Highlight: Massachusetts State Auditor Diana DiZoglio will share her inspiring journey to public office! From breaking barriers to becoming the youngest statewide Constitutional Officer, Diana's story proves anyone can lead with passion and purpose. You won't want to miss her empowering message!

Be the first to see our 2024 data report, "South Coast Women Run," and join breakout sessions tailored to your interests: Education & Library Land Use, Planning, and Zoning, Select Board, City Council, and Finance

Sat., 1/25, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., Bristol Community College, 800 Purchase Street, New Bedford, MA RSVP: bit.ly/ROADMAP25

Breakfast and lunch provided! Email t electsouthcoast@gmail.com

WHALE Speaker Series

WHALE, in partnership with our colleagues at the Rotch-Jones-Duff House Museum & Gardens are thrilled to bring back "Living the Old House Dream" speaker series for a second season. Join us for three evenings with amazing speakers from January through March.

Lee McColgan, author of A House Restored: Tuesday, 1/28 at 5:30 pm

Historic homes can be unique, charming, beautiful, and intimidating and maintenance restoration projects. In this series, hear from about best practices, experts processes, and resources and gain insight into preserving an older home. Trading the corporate ladder for a stepladder, Lee McColgan committed to preserving the ramshackle Loring House, built in 1702, using period materials and methods and on a holiday deadline. But his enchantment withered as he discovered the massive repairs it needed. Attend this talk to find out if he met his deadline before family and friends arrived. McColgan's book about his process expertly examines our relationship to history through the homes we inhabit

Tickets: \$10 WHALE/RJD member, \$13 public; Series Ticket: \$25 members, \$35 public. To purchase tickets visit www.rjdmuseum.org/calendar

Next up: February 25, Patricia Miller, Chief Conservator, Preservation Society of Newport County; March 25, Laura Parrish-Lavin, Historic Home Champion and restorer of New Bedford's "Whalehouse" and the 18th century Crowell Farm in Sagamore

SAVE THE DATE:

Lebanese Hafli

Our Lady of Purgatory Church presents their annual St. Maron's Feast Day Hafli on Sat., 2/1, at OLOP Church Hall, 4254 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford. Featuring cash bar & mezza at 7 p.m.; dinner served at 8. Live entertainment by Rami Badr and Bachir Khoury Band.

Tickets: Dance floor seating, \$100 (all ages); general seating, \$75; Children (8-17), \$40; under 8, N/C.

For tickets, contact the church office, 508-996-8934; Sousou Maalouf, 508-916-1523.

Science Cafe

Tues., 2/4, 6–8 p.m., The Last Round Bar & Grille, 908 Purchase St., New Bedford. Open to everyone. Free, save for the beer!

Our next guest Jennifer Nuzzo, Director of the Pandemic Center and Professor of Epidemiology at the Brown University School of Public Health, will discuss "How worried should you be about bird flu (and other pandemic threats)?"

Although the CDC has described the current bird flu (specifically H5N1) risk to the general public as low, concern among epidemiologists and health officials has risen steadily over the last year as the disease has spread among poultry and cattle. Initial human infections arose in farmworkers, but in recent months the virus has spread to humans without clear exposure and the U.S. reported its first human death from the virus in early January.

Jennifer, a globally recognized leader on public health preparedness and response, will provide an up-to-date look at how the virus possibly spreads, the threat to farmworkers in comparison to the general public, available tests & the development of H5N1 vaccines. The CDC reports that as of Jan. 6 2025, there have been 66 confirmed human cases of H5N1 bird flu in the U.S., and 67 since 2022.

Free parking in rear of building.

Videos of recent events can be found on our website, https://newbedfordsciencecafe.weebly.com/https://www.facebook.com/groups/NewBedfordScienceCafe/

HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

Acushnet Master Plan Workshop

Join the Acushnet Master Plan Discover Workshop on Wed., 1/29, 5– 7 p.m., Acushnet Public Library, 232 Middle Road.

The Town of Acushnet is updating its Master Plan - a local policy guide designed to help towns make planning decisions for many years. A newcomer should be able to read a Master Plan and understand a given community's values and priorities at that time. A lot has changed since Acushnet's Master Plan was last updated and your input will be the essential ingredient – combined with current, accurate data – that will build the Acushnet Master Plan!

To learn more visit srpedd.org/acushnet-master-plan

Scholarships Azorean Hertigate Society

Founded in 1997, the mission of the Azorean Maritime Heritage Society (AMHS) is to promote Azorean culture and whaling heritage by raising awareness and pride in our community. This rich maritime heritage has been shared on both sides of the Atlantic between the Azores and the Greater New Bedford area for more than 150 years.

This year AMHS has designated seven scholarships to be awarded to high school seniors or first time freshman applicants who will be enrolled in an undergraduate college program or an accredited trade school during the next academic year. As a New Bedford based organization, we strongly encourage New Bedford students to apply, but the scholarship is available for all students to apply.

Dr. Mary T. Vermette Scholarship (\$2,000)

Honoring the founder of the Azorean Maritime Heritage Society.

Faial Scholarship Pico Scholarship Bela Vista Scholarship (\$1500 each)

Named after the three authentically handcrafted Azorean whaleboats that are regularly used by AMHS members.

Maria Jose & Diamantino Fidalgo Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000)

Preference will be given to a

student who plans to pursue Maritime Studies.

Memorial Scholarship honoring Arminda C.N.S. da Silva (\$1,000)

Preference will be given to a student who plans to pursue the field of Education

In Memory of Jose Pacheco Branco and Clotilde da Rosa Branco (\$1,000)

In order to be considered for a scholarship, applicants must meet ALL of the following criteria.

- Write a brief essay of 250-300 words illustrating one of the following: your commitment to the community, your appreciation for Azorean culture, or your relationship to the sea such as boating, marine studies, fishing, or other water activities.
- Enclose an official transcript of your grades and class standing.
- Enclose a copy of your SAT scores if you were required to take them.
- Enclose one letter of recommendation from a teacher or other unrelated adult.
- Submit this application along with all required documents postmarked by April 1, 2025 to: Azorean Maritime Heritage Society, Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 40942, New Bedford, MA 02744

All applications must be postmarked by April 1, 2025.

Visit https://azoreanmaritime.org to download the application.

How to Run For Office

The Mattapoisett Democratic Town Committee will hold its first meeting of 2025 on Wed., 1/29, at 6 PM in the downstairs public meeting room of the Mattapoisett Library, 7 Barstow St. We will offer our forum, "So you want to run for Public Office", providing useful tips and information for anyone interested in running for public office or being appointed to any one of our Town boards.

This forum will be moderated by Nicki Demakis, Chair of the Mattapoisett Democratic Town Committee, with contributions from Nicky Osborne, Treasurer of the Mattapoisett Democratic Town Committee and Frances-Feliz Kearns, Mattapoisett Representative to the ORR School Committee. They will be joined by other local elected and

appointed representatives who will share their tips and insight on what it takes to run and win a successful campaign for any local public office.

The forum will provide a road map from pulling papers with your local Clerk, to how to run and manage a campaign through election day. We will provide the tools to encourage those who may have thought about running for public office, but weren't sure how to do it. We have many of the answers.

We will highlight the list of all elected positions up in 2025 as well as open slots on appointive boards and committees which offer great opportunities for volunteer service to our Town.

Please come with a neighbor, family member or friend and bring any questions you might have or just listen in. For more information, please reach out to Nicki Demakis, Chair, at ndemakis@tidlaw.com.

Play

The Marion Art Center presents Sailing *Towards My Father - Herman Melville* performed by Stephen Collins. The only performance will be Fri., 1/24 at 6:30pm at the MAC's Anne Braitmayer Webb Theater at 80 Pleasant St, Marion.

Sailing Towards My Father, written and directed by Carl A. Rossi, is a one-man play about Herman Melville (1819-1891), the American author best known for his whaling epic Moby-Dick. The play chronicles Melville's life from youth to old age, concentrating on his evolution as a writer and his complex relations with God, his parents and siblings, his wife and children, and Nathanial Hawthorne.

Tickets are \$15 for members, \$18 for non-members, and \$10 for students under 18. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit marionartcenter.org/events.

Auditions

Bill Hanney's Theatre By the Sea announces Equity and Non-Equity Adult Auditions for its 2025 Summer Season. Seeking strong singers, dancers, and actors.

Auditions will be held on Sat & Sun., 1/25 & 26 at: The Talent Factory, 46 Frenchtown Road, North Kingstown, RI 02852. Find more info at https://www.theatrebythesea.com

Natalie Mello announces run for Fairhaven Select Board

Press Release

My name is Natalie A. Mello. I am running for a seat on the Fairhaven Select Board, and I ask you to support my candidacy for this important position. Before moving to Fairhaven full-time in 2015, my husband and I lived in Paxton, Massachusetts. Prior to settling in our current home, we owned property in Poverty Point. During the eight years that we owned that property, we got to know Fairhaven. It became clear that Fairhaven was where we wanted to put down our roots.

We have not regretted our decision to move permanently to Fairhaven. We have found this town to be a community that cares about its historic character. This is why I chose to serve on the board of the Fairhaven Historical Society from 2018 until 2023. I currently serve as the vice-chair and clerk on the Historical Commission, and through that the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) and as a Member of Town Meeting.

In the wider community, I have been involved in the Rotch-Jones-Duff

House & Garden Museum in New Bedford. I am also a member of the Garden Club of Buzzards Bay and the Unitarian Universalist Church here in town.

Giving back has always been important to me, and I have tried to bring my talents to organizations that would benefit from them. While in Paxton. I was elected to the Wachusett Regional School District Committee, I served on the Board of Directors for Abby's House (a non-profit shelter for women and children), and on Paxton's Historic District Study Committee.

Now retired, my career was in higher education. At Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) I served as Director of Global Operations. My focus was engineering education and study abroad and bringing those two disparate things together. As a recognized leader in the field of education abroad, I made significant contributions to the development of risk management best practices. My last 10 years were spent at The Forum on Education Abroad — a professional organization that serves as the Standards Development Organization (SDO) for the field of study abroad.

Finding the next town administrator will be my priority when elected. In my career, I participated in several searches for high-level positions at WPI, The Forum and while serving on the Wachusett School Committee. I know how professional search processes should run and what qualities to look for in a strong leader. If done successfully, it will result in a stellar outcome.

I believe in civil discourse, and we must bring that back to politics locally and beyond.

People may not agree, but there are always ways to communicate respectfully while finding a solution that benefits the larger community.

I recognize the challenges facing Fairhaven. My knowledge, experience and temperament can benefit our town. I ask for your vote for Select Board, so I can help Fairhaven continue its path to optimism and opportunity.

Please follow me on Facebook @ "Natalie A. Mello for Fairhaven Select Board" to learn more about me and my platform.

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

24-Hour UL-Listed Monitoring Service Security Systems • Fire Alarms Closed Circuit Television • Card Access

Serving Bristol & Plymouth Counties for over 35 years

MA Master License 21429-A System Security S License SS-001849

jadbois General Contractor

Licensed General Contractor for 44 years Roofing • Decks • Porches • Windows • Doors

Marc A. Gadbois • 508-992-0226

Materials Supplied by ABC Supply Company

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

EPA Lead Safe Certified Fully Insured

EURO SHIP STORE/PHOENIX

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

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



We will treat your family as our own

Page 8 Thursday, January 23, 2025 Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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

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: 1/29, South Shore Plaza; 2/5, Tiverton Casino; 2/12, Warwick Mall; 2/19, Providence Place; 2/26, So. Shore Plaza.

Walking Schedule

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

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.

Monday Movie Matinee

Jan. 27. 12:15 p.m. Featuring *Nyad*. The remarkable true story of athlete Diane Nyad who, at the age of 60 and with the help of her best friend and coach, commits to achieving her lifelong dream.

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.

Free Acting Program

Ever dream of being an actor? No experience required! New Bedford Festival Theatre presents a free acting program, Thursdays, 2/6 to 3/13, 10:30 a.m. to noon, at the Fairhaven Senior Center.

Join NBFT Teaching Artist Derek Rivera for this six-session acting program that will take you through several introductory acting techniques that you'll then use in rehearsing a performance of a "Golden Girls" TV episode script. The program will culminate in a staged reading performance for family and friends!

Call to register, 508-979-4029.

AARP Tax-Aide

AARP TaxAide IRS Certified Volunteers will be in Fairhaven filing federal and state taxes starting in February until April 15, 9 a.m. to noon.

appointment. This is a free service.

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. \$5. The third Tuesday of every month, 2:30-4:30 p.m. Must sign up at the front desk or call a week before.

Wellness Clinic & Blood **Pressure Checks**

Public Health Nurse every Wednesday at the Center from 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

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.

Legal Help

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

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

Caregivers **Support Group**

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

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

Southern Candied Sweet Potatoes

2 cups white sugar

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1 teaspoon ground nutmeg

1 pinch salt

1/2 cup butter

6 sweet potatoes, peeled and sliced

1 tablespoon vanilla extract

In a small bowl, mix the sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg, and salt together.

Melt butter in a large skillet over medium heat; add sweet potatoes, and stir to coat.

Sprinkle sugar mixture over the sweet potatoes, and stir.

Cover skillet, and reduce heat to low.

Cook, stirring occasionally, for 1 hour, or until the sauce is dark and the potatoes are candied.

They should be tender, but a little hard around the edges.

Stir in vanilla, and serve.

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

Dear Frankie

Dear Frankie

Isolating *Dear Frankie.*

On Christmas Eve, my mom and dad said they felt lousy and thought they might be coming down with the flu. I felt fine.

My dad suggested we take a Covid-19 test to

be safe. When we did, we all tested positive. My mom called Nana and told her to count us out for Christmas at her house.

The Christmas holidays are a big deal in my family. This is the only time I get to be with my cousins who live far away. Since I wasn't feeling sick, I asked my mom if I could go alone. My mom said, absolutely not. When you test positive, you are contagious for at least five days and can't be around other dogs or humans.

Why do bad things like this always have to happen to me? Another time, when I had chicken pox, I couldn't go to my best friend's birthday party. Sometimes life isn't fair.

Waffle

Dear Waffle.

Are you listening to yourself? In both examples, you had a contagious illness and had to isolate to avoid infecting others. That's what responsible dogs and humans do for their families and friends and the community at large, for that matter.

Missing a celebration with people you love and enjoy being with is disappointing. However, two missed celebrations in a lifetime aren't having bad things "always" happening to you.

If these are the worst things you must suffer, believe me, you should consider yourself lucky.

Best, Frankie

© 2025 Geneva Woodruff

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

Support Local Journalism!

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

Thank you for reading the *Neighb News!*



508-992-6622

OVER 40 YEARS EXPERIENCE Fairhaven, MA

Quality Remodeling & Finish Work • Kitchens • Bathrooms • Decks All Types of Interior & Exterior Remodeling • Fully Insured

MA H.I.C. Reg. #125134 • MA Const. Sup. Lic #007769 • EPA Lead-Safe Cert.

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





Melville statue design, artist chosen

Press Release

As told in Chapter 9 of Herman Melville's literary epic *Moby-Dick*, Ishmael and Queequeg sat in the Whaleman's Chapel in New Bedford and listened as Father Mapple offered a sermon about Jonah, who was swallowed by a whale but was saved after repenting and committing himself "to preach truth to the face of falsehood."

Stefanie Acclaimed sculptor Rocknak chose this passage as inspiration for her design for New Bedford's Herman Melville statue. Titled Melville and Jonah's Journey and described in detail in her proposal, it captures the famous author standing firm and composed with sea swirls around his feet as three large whale ribs emerge from the water "representing Melville's own journey into and out of the whale. Yet. Melville rises above them. his mouth open, as though beginning to speak — to tell the story of *Moby-*Dick, this truth."

"Melville, like Jonah, was on a journey of transformation. Just as Jonah was cast back to shore to fulfill his divine purpose, Melville returned from his own voyages to write *Moby-Dick* — a novel that immortalized not only his personal journey but also New Bedford's whaling heritage," she wrote in her project proposal.

A committee comprised of artists and city planners selected Rocknak's proposal out of 41 submitted by artists from across the United States and beyond. Mayor Jon Mitchell unveiled the design and introduced Rocknak Friday, 1/10/25, at Seamen's Bethel, which is the inspiration for Melville's Whaleman's Chapel and the future site of the statue.

"The opportuto honor nity Herman Melville in the city that inspired the most famous literary work in the English language attracted firstclass artists from across the country," Mayor Mitchell said. "As the selection committee recognized. Stefanie Rocknak's vision for the statue is compelling and timeless. It will be a source of pride for New Bedford residents and visitors generations."

Rocknak's previous work

includes *Poe Returning to Boston*, a life-sized statue of Edgar Allan Poe located in Boston. She also created a model of the Venus of Lespugue for artist Robert Morris, which was enlarged and permanently installed in The Gori Collection in Fattoria de Celle, Pistoia, Italy. Other venues to feature her work include The Smithsonian, the Grolier Club in New York, the Tampa Museum of Art, and the windows of Saks 5th Ave in New York.

She received a B.A. from Colby College in American studies, art, and art history, and a Ph.D. in philosophy from Boston University. She is currently chair and professor of philosophy at Hartwick College in



sidents and sculptor Stefanie Rocknak's design for New Bedford's statue of Herman Melville was chosen from a pool of 41 proposals and will be located at the Seamen's Bethel. *Image courtesy of Stefanie Rocknak and the City of New Bedford.*

Oneonta, N.Y. Her website is steffrocknak.net.

Mayor Mitchell launched the process of building a Melville statue almost exactly a year ago on Jan. 4, 2024, when he announced a call for artists and that the project will be supported with a combination of public and private funds.

In August, the City reached an agreement with the New Bedford Port Society to locate the statue at the Seamen's Bethel, the historic chapel at the heart of the City's whaling heritage. The Port Society also agreed to contribute 20% of the statue's cost up to \$50,000. The Port Society is accepting donations to support the

MELVILLE: cont'd on page 17





New year, new kidney for Nellie

By Beth David **Editor**

Nellie Zygiel was having a bad day, so she was going to get ice cream. Her phone rang in the car, and she saw that it was Beth Israel Hospital, but, she just could not handle talking to them at that moment. So, she did was any young 20-something would do: she got her ice cream, and then she called back.

Except, the nurse could not talk, so had to call Nellie back.

It was a Friday, and she was worried they would not call her back that day and she would have to wait until Monday. She called her dad, but he was no help. He just said, don't worry, they'll call you back. She went shopping with a friend, and the phone was in her pocket, so, she missed the call back. At that point, she started to wonder if it was about a possible kidney donor.

The West Island woman has been searching for a kidney, hopefully from a live donor, for months. The *Neighb News* and other outlets have publicized her quest along the way.

Finally, as it was getting close to 5 p.m. on that Friday, Nellie tried calling again, and she got through.

They told her they found a match and the surgery would be on December 30.

"I was very happy and started crying," she said.



she said.

Then she called her dad and they were both crying. She figured out quickly that he already knew. When they could not get in touch with Nellie, they called her dad, who did not spill the beans when she called him the first time.

She was at her apartment at UMass Amherst, where she is in school. She opened the door to the common area where her roommate had friends over. She was fully prepared to "blurt it out."

"And I, like, froze, and was crying," said Nellie.

She asked her roommate Aidan Murphy to go to Nellie's room, where she shared the news.

"And she helped me tell the rest of my roommates," she said (she has seven in the duplex).

Nellie said the living donor does not want to go public, but she knows them. They signed up for the registry specifically hoping to be a

match for her. That's why they did it. "And they went through with it,"

She did not know who it was when she got the first call.

"So I was kind of scared it would fall through," she said.

Nellie has been sick with a variety of illnesses since she was a young child, including vasculitis at the age of 10. That left both her kidneys permanently damaged.

Interestingly, they did not remove the damaged kidneys.

"I still have my two original kidneys. They put a third one in. It's more risky and complicated to take out the original ones," she said. "It's kind of weird to think about, but it's kind of cool."

Nellie said the donor is recovering well.

And Nellie is starting to feel like her old self again.

"I didn't notice ho bad I felt because it was a gradual decrease in my health," she said. "Now, after the surgery, I feel much more energized."

She said she felt better immediately, while still in the hospital.

"They said I would, but I didn't really believe them," she said. "I felt better while I was in the hospital. It was kind of crazy."

Now, a couple of weeks later, she said, "I'm feeling really good."

She's at home with mom and dad, taking it easy, and going to appoint-

NELLIE: cont'd next page



TOP: Nellie Zygiel is all smiles in her hospital bed with her stuffed animals one day after receiving a kidney from a live donor on 12/30/24. ABOVE: Nellie reads with her dogs, Hope (LEFT) and Maple, during her recovery. Submitted photo.

NELLIE: cont'd from previous page

ments every week for the next few weeks.

School starts on January 30, and she's hoping to start out remotely to keep up, but she should be able to go back to school in person before the semester is over. She will have some restrictions, such as driving, for while.

She will be on anti rejection drugs for the rest of her life. She will be on "a bunch of drugs at first," then the will taper off some.

Meanwhile, she's reading a lot, coloring, scrapbooking, watching shows, playing games with her parents.

"We like cards and board games," she said.

Nellie said she wanted to thank everyone who supported her over the last few months, whether at a fundraiser or spreading the word to find donor.

"It's a scary and complicated process, and seeing everyone's support really helped."

You can learn more about Nellie's journey at https://sites.google.com/view/kidneyfornellie/home. Learn more about living donors at http://www.bidmc.org/kidneydonor



Nellie Zygiel takes a selfie in the hospital with her parents, Sheryl and Tom, after Nellie received a kidney from a live donor on 12/30/24. Submitted photo.

Duck hunter rescued in Marion

Press Release

Marion Police Chief Richard Nighelli, Fire Chief Brian Jackvony and Harbormaster Adam Murphy report that their departments cooperated to rescue a duck hunter after he fell out of his boat into the water Monday morning, Jan. 20.

Marion's emergency dispatchers received a 911 call reporting that a man fell in the water from a boat about 200 yards offshore around 7:59 a.m. near Silvershell Beach.

Upon arrival, Harbormaster Murphy and Police Sgt. Larry Savery located the 19-year-old who had pulled himself back into his boat but was suffering from severe hypothermia.

Harbormaster Murphy took off his coat and other clothes and put them on the man in order to help warm him back up.

Once ashore, firefighters provided the man with warming blankets and IV warming liquids. The man was then transported by ambulance to Tobey Hospital in Wareham to receive further medical care. His condition is unknown at this time.

The initial investigation indicates that the man was duck hunting with a friend. The man's friend was hunting from the shore when he noticed that the man was no longer in his boat and called 911.

Fire Chief Jackvony and Police Chief Nighelli credit the 17-year-old who called 911 with saving his friend's life.

"Clearly, it was a good heads up that the younger individual was able to make a quick phone call to 911 to get resources out there," Fire Chief Jackvony said. "I'm happy he made that call immediately. It doesn't take long for hypothermia to kick in."

The air temperature was 21 degrees, and the water temperature was 34 degrees at the time of the rescue.

"I would like to thank our Harbormaster and Sgt. Savery for going out there in less-than-ideal conditions and bringing this young hunter back to shore," said Police Chief Nighelli. "Their timely rescue allowed us to provide life-saving measures."

Harbormaster Murphy asked boaters to take extra precautions this time of year.

"Be sure to have all the proper safety equipment with you when you're out there hunting," Harbormaster Murphy said. "At these temperatures, seconds matter. Be prepared."

Hypothermia can set it

within 15 minutes in water that is 34 degrees or colder.



A 19-year-old duck hunter was rescued in Marion on 1/20/25 after he fell out of this boat. *Photo courtesy Town of Marion*.

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

Thursday, January 23, 2025

Fire in Fairhaven started from overloaded extension cord

Press Release

On Saturday, 1/18/25, at 4:10 a.m., the Fairhaven Fire Department responded to a report of a possible structure fire at 215 Main Street in Fairhaven, MA. When the first crew arrived, they found heavy smoke on the first floor.

An investigation revealed that the contents in the front living room had caught fire. Fortunately, the smoke detectors alerted the occupants of the home. One occupant attempted to extinguish the fire using a fire extinguisher. Fire crews worked to extinguish the flames and ventilate the house fully, declaring the fire under control at 4:20 a.m.

Firefighters remained on the scene to perform salvage operations and cleared the location by 6:11 a.m. Due to the damage, the first-floor occupants will be displaced, and the American Red Cross is providing assistance. Fairhaven Animal Control removed two cats until the family was relocated.

Two adults and one child were transported to St. Luke's Hospital for

smoke inhalation.

The cause of the fire was an extension cord that was overloaded and too close to combustible material. The cords had an electric fireplace connected to it, cell phone chargers, Christmas lights, and other items. The cord arced and caught clothing on fire and then the floor.

The damage/cleanup to the structure is estimated to be between \$5-\$10 thousand. Contents are not estimated.

Acushnet Fire/EMS provided an ambulance to the scene. Mattapoisett Police/EMS also provided EMS mutual aid to another incident during the fire.



A fire at 215 Main Street in Fairhaven on 1/18/25 is believed to be caused by this extension cord that was overloaded and close to combustible material. *Photo courtesy of the Fairhaven Fire Department.*

DEBT CONSOLIDATION



One less bill to pay.

Relieve some financial stress with a **Debt Consolidation Personal Loan**. Consolidate higherrate debt and enjoy the convenience of one
monthly payment with an Alltrust Personal Loan.

Personal Loan for Debt Consolidation

Note Rate as low as*

9.990%

Visit one of our neighborhood branches today!

508.994.9971 | alltrustcu.org
FAIRHAVEN | FALL RIVER | NEW BEDFORD | SEEKONK

* Note rate is accurate as of 01/01/2025. Monthly payment per \$1,000 borrowed is \$21.00. Rates shown reflect a loan amount of \$25,000 and a credit score of 740 or greater on a 60-month term with automatic payment from an Alltrust Credit Union checking account. \$5 Regular Savings required. APR is 9.99%. APR is Annual Percentage Rate, which is based on credit score and may vary. Subject to credit approval. Rates and loan terms may change at any time without notice.

MSIC Insured by NCUA | NMLS #422864 Equal Housing Opportunity

strive thrive together



125 Sconticut Neck Road, Fairhaven • 508-996-9212

www.BaysideLoungeFhvn.com



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

Sylvia Electric - Powerful Service

774-849-0425

Licensed Electrician for 24 Years • Lic: 13901A

Fitzgerald Tree Service

"WE GO WHERE PROBLEM TREES GROW"

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

SPECIALISTS IN LARGE DIFFICULT TREE REMOVAL

Free Estimates

508-993-3588

Fairhaven · jfitzgeraldtreeservice.com



Call today!

508-994-1908

fairhaven@peabodyproperties.com www.peabodyproperties.com

PEABODY

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

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

Competitive Insurance Rates for

Auto · Home Business

Call or stop by for a review and quote

Local and national companies represented

Vieira Insurance Agency

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





Surprenant & Beneski, P.C.

Strategic Planning for Your Peace of Mind

ESTATE PLANNING . ELDER LAW

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

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

www.MyFamilyEstatePlanning.com

Winter Accessibility

Submitted by the Fairhaven Commission on Disability

Winter can make travel difficult and challenging as we battle snow and ice. This can be even more true for those of us with a disability affecting mobility, vision, safety awareness, or balance.

In addition to being dangerous, icy or snowy sidewalks are inaccessible for anyone using a wheelchair, a walker, a stroller, or any other mobility device. For the blind, these conditions make it impossible to use a cane to navigate public areas safely. People who have low vision can't safely use a sidewalk if snow or ice is covering the bright yellow curb cuts or sidewalk edges. Without clear sidewalks, those with cognitive or neurologically-based disabilities may also have difficulty navigating or may not understand the additional danger present.

The Fairhaven Commission On Disability is asking each of you, our neighbors, to help make the streets and sidewalks safer and accessible to all by eliminating these barriers.

Here's how you can help:

- Clear the sidewalks surrounding your property. (Per Fairhaven town by-law)
- 2. If there is a bus stop near your property, clear the snow and ice at and all around the bus stop. Ensure at least three feet of access on either side of the bus stop.
- 3. In addition, clear snow and ice all the way to the curb (including curb cut-outs). On two separate occasions, two residents told us how scary and dangerous waiting for a bus after snow can be; they were forced to wait in the street in their wheelchairs because the bus stop was not cleared to the curb!
- 4. If you live in a condo or apartment

complex, bring this issue to the attention of the owners or property managers and request their cooperation and commitment. Remind them of their responsibility to clear sideways and encourage them to clear bus stops as well.

Thank you for your support of this project. With all of us working together we can create safe environments and equal access. After all, no one should have to possibly risk their life waiting for public transportation or accessing public sidewalks.

Want to let us know about a bus stop you cleared? Want to make us aware of other needs or have suggestions as to what your Commission on Disability could consider addressing? Contact us at: COD@fairhaven-ma.gov or on our Facebook or Instagram pages, or join us at a meeting (check the town web site for dates). We would love to hear from you.

Elect Southcoast event to help women serve in government

Dear Women of Fairhaven & Acushnet,

A recent survey by Elect Southcoast highlights an important issue in our local communities of Fairhaven and Acushnet: gender representation in elected government.

While the most recent census data shows that women make up about 54% of Fairhaven's population and 52% of Acushnet's, only 35% of elected roles in Fairhaven and a mere 25% in Acushnet are held by women.

Interestingly, appointed positions in both towns show significantly higher percentages of women in these roles. This stark difference points to an opportunity — and a need — for greater gender equity in our local elected offices. There are key roles in both communities that lack gender parity; while some boards have no women at all. Fairhaven's Selectboard has one woman, of a five-member board. While Acushnet has zero of three. Fairhaven's Planning Board has reached parity with 50% of the board being women, but Acushnet's five-member Planning Board has none.

Elect Southcoast is hosting an event to empower Southcoast women to bridge this gap and work toward gender parity in local government. Let's ensure our representatives

better reflect the residents they serve.

So what does it take to serve? I invite you to join me at ELECT SouthCoast's first event of 2025, Roadmap to Running, on 1/25 from 10-2 at the BCC campus in downtown New Bedford.

There you'll learn more about how our towns are doing when it comes to gender parity on boards and commissions, the roles and responsibilities of key public offices, and what it will take to run or serve this year.

Learn more and register at bit.ly/ROADMAP25.

Submitted by Jessica Fidalgo, Fairhaven

FHS National Art Society raising funds for overseas trip

The Fairhaven High School National Art Society has earned their place in the top 10 in the nation for the Junk Kouture Contest. They are headed to Dublin, Ireland, to showcase their skills to an international audience.

The group needs \$5,500 to cover chaperone support for safe travel, meals, daily essentials, transportation, and luggage fees to transport the students and their "Kraken" design.

"Your support ensures a safe, enriching, and unforgettable experience as they showcase their creativity on the world stage in Dublin!" writes Jamie Lynch, Program Leader on their fund-raising page.

In the global Junk Kouture Contest, young designers create high-fashion pieces from recycled materials. Teh FHS entry, "Kraken," embodies creativity, sustainability, and environmental advocacy, highlighting our students' remarkable talent and vision!

Alanna Robidoux-Couto presented the project to the School Committee on 1/8/25 for approval, representing the three-person team which also includes Lily Moran and Emily Pedersen.

Ms. Robidoux-Couto explained that the outfit had to be from completely recycled materials.

"We spend months creating this outfit," she told the committee.

The team used materials they had, and found stuff on the beach.

The Kraken is like the evil monster in the ocean, explained Ms. Robidoux-Couto, but it's not really evil, it's anger.

"Its just the anger that I think a lot of younger people feel towards climate change and their inability to do anything at a young age," she said.

FHS ART: cont'd next page

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR CLASSIFIEDS

FAIRHAVEN ALARM SYSTEM, SINCE 1976

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

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

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

DON'T FUSS, CALL US!

All Interior, Exterior Work
Additions • Windows • Roofing • Siding
Masonry • Bsmt Waterproof • Painting
Lic/Ins. Since 1988
Winter Specials
508-326-8996

PERSONAL DRIVER Hi there! I've been serving the communities in Fairhaven, Acushnet, Tri-Town, and points beyond since 2017. Comfortable vehicles, safe driving, stress-free trips, reliable service. Trips to/from Green/Logan airports, round trips to appointments and events. Accommodating your unique needs! Text or call Jon the Driver, 508-951-8223, to get info or reserve a ride.

MARK'S PAINTING Specializing in interior and exterior painting. Landscaping, carpentry, power washing and much more. Call for estimate. Call 508-405-5625. Many references upon request.

HELP WANTED



EXCITED ABOUT THE HISTORY OF NEW BEDFORD? NEW BEDFORD HARBOR TOURS IS NOW HIRING FOR SEASON 2025

USCG License required some support is available
Subject to Drug Testing
Excellent Boat Handling Skills a Plus
THIS IS A FUN AND SATISFING JOB!
Please contact us at:
info@newbedfordharbortours.com

FHS ART: cont'd from previous pagee

She grew up seeing the trash at Fort Phoenix, so finding a way to take pieces of trash and turn them into something good, was "really special for me," she told the committee.

The trip will be from March 2–5, with the competition day on 3/4, which just happens to be her 18th birthday.

You can see her presentation at teh SC meeting at FairhavenTV.com

To donate to help the students get to the competition, visit https://tinyurl.com/5n7pespy

As of press time, the students had raised \$2,120 of their \$5,500 goal

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

David J. Dias Plumbing

Local Plumber. 50 years. License # 8366, 508-965-6584 Small jobs preferred/semi retired.

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

HOUSE CLEANING

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

LOCAL ELECTRICIAN:

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

PLUMBING, HEATING, COOLING Wall hung tankless water heater maint.

Repairs: water heaters, gas heat, dishwasher. 35+ years' exp. Master Plumber #12990. Call Ralph, 508-717-1550.

RAY THE PLUMBER:

Professional plumbing and heating service you can afford. License #16266. Call **508-958-0925.**

FOR RENT

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Center of Acushnet. Three rooms, 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath. Call 508-992-0609.

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

379 Sconticut Neck Rd., \$1200/month. Call 508-380-1556

Support Local Iournalism

Donate to the *Neighb News* through a PayPal link on our website: www.neighbnews.com; or mail check to FNN, 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719.

Thank you for reading the *Neighb News*.

MELVILLE: cont'd from page 11

statue project on its website: Seamensbethel.org.

The Melville statue is expected to be completed and installed in 12-15 months.

This project follows other successful efforts in recent years to recognize individuals associated with New Bedford's history. In 2023, the City unveiled a statue of Frederick Douglass at the new Abolition Row Park; and a sculpture and park dedication honoring former State Rep. Tony Lopes was completed in 2016.

See the proposal at https://tinyurl.com/5awptkah

Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Board of Public Works

Mon., 1/27 Arsene St., 6 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 1/27, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Planning Board

1/28, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 2/12, FHS Lib., 6:30 p.m.

Select Board

Mon., 1/27, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Town Meeting Advisory

Wed., 1/29, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Acushnet Golf Committee

Thurs., 1/23, Golf Course, 4:30 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

Jan. 2025		HIGH a.m. p.m.		LOW a.m. p.m.	
Thursday	23	0236	1501	0814	2004
Friday	24	0336	1606	1114	2057
Saturday	25	0437	1704	1056	2156
Sunday	26	0527	1750	1123	2252
Monday	27	0609	1831	1157	2342
Tuesday	28	0650	1913		1235
Wednesday	29	0733	1958	0031*	1318*
Thursday	30	0818	2045	0123*	1404*
Friday	31	0905	2132	0217*	1446*

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



Fairhaven School district introduces hardship fund

Hello Fairhaven Community.

On behalf of Fairhaven Public Schools, I'm excited to introduce our newly established Hardship Fund, which is designed to support families in our community who are facing financial challenges.

We are reaching out to you, our community members, to help make this initiative a success. Our goal is to raise \$3,000 for the fund. Your generous donation will directly assist families in need, ensuring that every child in Fairhaven Public Schools has

the resources they need to succeed.

If you are interested in contributing to the Hardship Fund, please make your check payable to Fairhaven Public Schools. Donations can be mailed or dropped off at the following locations:

- Nicole Potter, School Business Manager, 128 Wa Fairhaven, MA 02719 Washington St.
- Morgan Matthews Byron, Family & Student Coordinator, 30 School St, Fairhaven, MA 02719

If you would like more information

or would like to discuss how your business can contribute, please don't hesitate to reach out. You can contact me directly at 774-929-6032 or via email mmatthewsbyron@ at fairhavenps.net.

Thank you for considering a donation. Your generosity will have a meaningful impact, helping to support students and families in need within our Fairhaven community.

> Morgan Matthews Byron Family & Student Coordinator, Fairhaven Public Schools

NOM: cont'd from pate 3

Committee seats, with Jennifer Downing and Sarah Ann Gomes up; two Commissioner of Trust seats, both to fill unexpired terms; Library Trustees, with Nancy Francis and Stephen Real up; Cemetery Board, with Charlene Fortin up; Park Commissioner, with Christopher Hopkins up; Planning Commissioner, with Mark Francis up; Tree Warden for the unexpired term.

Candidates must collect 42 certified signatures from registered voters.

The Town Clerk's office will be open until 5 p.m. on the following deadline dates.

Last day to request papers is 2/28/25.

Last day to file papers with the Town Clerk's office is 3/4/25.

Last day to register to vote in the 4/22 election is Friday, 4/11.

The polls will be open from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. on election day. All precincts vote at the Acushnet Elementary School, 800 Middle Road.

You may register to vote at the Town Clerk's Office, Parting Ways, 130 Main Street, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday; 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Friday.

Mail-in Voter Registration Forms are available at the Town Clerk's Office, the Acushnet Library and State and Federal offices.

For more information, contact the Acushnet Town Clerk's Office at 508-998-0215.



Your Local, **Independent Pharmacy**

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

Free Delivery Monday-Friday Single and Multi-Dose Packaging

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

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

ALL FOOD AVAILABLE FOR TAKE-OUT



Gift Certificates for all Occasions

Trusted by your friends and family since 1961

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



2off

All purchases of at least \$20

With this coupon. Exp. 1/31/25 Not to be combined with other offers

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



Discover **Exceptional** Senior Living

Independent, Assisted Living & Memory Care • Respite Available

Schedule a tour today!

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



Obituary: Jackie Kenworthy



Jacqueline (Hevey) Kenworthy

Jacqueline (Hevey) Kenworthy passed away January 6, 2025, nearly a year after a terminal pancreatic cancer diagnosis that forecast only a few months remaining life.

Jacqueline was preceded in death by her parents, Maurice R. Hevey and

Yvette (Lefebvre) Hevey, her brother, Maurice O. Hevey, and her first husband, Ronald J. Chadwick. She is survived by her daughter, Christen C. Kenworthy, her granddaughter, Ashleigh R. Kenworthy, her husband of 50 years, Robert A. Kenworthy, and her brother, Michael J. Hevey.

Jacqueline became a young widow at the age of 24, then completed college at SMU (now UMass Dartmouth) where she met Bob Kenworthy. After graduation, she utilized education to become a certified teacher, then used her writing and computer skills to assist and produce newsletters for Fairhaven Council on Aging, Fairhaven Lions, and other local organizations. She thoroughly enjoyed her throughout life as "Mom' for Chrissie and "Grandma" for Ashleigh.

Jackie and Bob always made time to enjoy travel including Chris and then Ashleigh in their early years. In retirement, Jackie and Bob often traveled to Eastern Europe, Canada and across the USA.

Family kindly asks in lieu of flowers for donations to be considered for two local organizations honored by Jacqueline:

- Southcoast Health Cancer Center Hospice
- Fairhaven Social Day Program at the Fairhaven Council on Aging

Arrangements were handled by the Saunders-Dwyer Mattapoisett Home for Funerals.

Visit https://www.saundersdwyer. com/obituary/jacqueline-kenworthy to plant Memorial Trees and visit our Sympathy Store.

Obituary: Janet Hemingway



Janet Marie (Howarth) Hemingway

Janet Marie (Howarth) Hemingway, age 63, passed away peacefully on January 15, 2025 in Port St. Lucie, Florida in the company of her treasured sisters Susan and Lisa. Their care for one another and their sisterhood will never be broken. It's an example of unconditional love and unwavering commitment.

Janet is the daughter of the late John and Gertrude (Bariteau) Howarth. Janet grew up in Fairhaven and has been a resident most of her

life. She is a graduate of Fairhaven High School.

Janet will be remembered as an inspiration to all for her care and devotion to her family. She loved to spend time with family and friends, whether it be at parties, holidays, and games. She would embrace the experience and teach, tell stories, and most of all be positive. There was nothing she would not do for her family. The family had an absolute angel.

Janet leaves behind her husband, Thomas Vickerman Hemingway, with whom she shared 46 years together, her son Tyler John Hemingway, his wife Hailey Anne (Cabral) Hemingway, and her soon to arrive granddaughter Lydia Natalie Muriel Hemingway. Her son Tyler has been and will always be her defining moment. The blessing of his birth was only accomplished by her ability to overcome unbelievable odds. A true grit moment that took over 13 years.

In addition, she leaves behind her many brothers and sisters, John Howarth and his wife Cristina of Acushnet, MA; Susan Faria of Port St. Lucie, FL; Michael Howarth of Bismark, ND; Peter Howarth and his

wife Sharon of Fairhaven, MA; and Lisa Moniz and her husband Kenneth of Fairhaven MA; brother-in-law Kent Hemingway Jr. and wife Carolyn of Tamworth, NH; brother-in-law Peter Hemingway and his wife Leigh of Mattapoisett, MA; sister-in-law Rebecca Howarth of Attleboro, MA, and many nieces, nephews, and their children. She is predeceased by her brother-inlaw Robert Faria; her In-Laws Kent Hemingway and Natalie Hemingway. who she spent much time caring for in their elder years; and her beloved brother Steven Howarth. The loss of her brother Steven was one of the biggest challenges to overcome. Steve's love and commitment to Janet was unsurpassed, protecting her as the best big brother and hero she could ever have.

Respecting Janet's wishes, services will not be held. Janet and Tom would like all family, friends, co-workers, our special Reservation Golf Club family, and dear neighbors to know we truly love you all.

Life is truly delicious when you're with the right people at the right time. Thank you for all your love and support.

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

1/16 page One week: \$26.00 4+ weeks: **\$22.00/wk** (\$88/month) Color: \$148/mo.

1/8 page One week: \$45.00 4+ weeks: \$32.00/wk (\$128/month) Color: \$188/mo.

1/4 page One week: \$77.00 4+ weeks: \$54.00/wk (\$216/month) Color: \$336/mo.

Email: NeighbNews@comcast.net 1/2 page vert. or hor. One week: \$130.00 4+ weeks: \$107.00/wk

(\$428/month) Color:

\$628/mo.

Ad rates • Call 508-979-5593 or

Full Page One week: \$235.00 4+ weeks: \$180.00/wk (\$720/month) Color: \$960/mo.

4,280 copies in 200+ places

Classified: \$7/first 3 lines, \$1.00 each additional line

Gadbois Roofing Contractor



44 years in the business

Detailed workmanship
Attentive, personal service
Certified Owens
Corning Preferred
Contractor

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

Marc A. Gadbois • 508-992-0226

Materials Supplied by ABC Supply Company

MA Const. Sup. Lic. # 003000 MA Home Imp. Lic. #127675 EPA Lead Safe Certified Fully Insured







\$1 off any Pizza, Pasta or Boneless Wing

19 Plaza Way Fairhaven, MA 02719

(Next to Staples)

Come in for our \$6.99 6" MEAL OF THE DAY. A different 6" sub each day with a chip or 2 cookies and a small fountain drink for just \$6.99.

No cash value. Not to be combined with any other offer. Only one coupon per visit. Valid only at 19 Plaza Way, Fairhaven, MA 02719. Expires 2/23/25



Your Local Cleaning & Restoration Specialists

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



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

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



Cyclone Cleaning & Restoration Services

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

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