



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



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with a big voice!

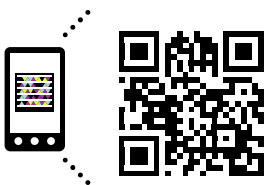
Volume 20, Issue 6 • January 30, 2025

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

Fairhaven PD welcomes four new officers



Fairhaven Select Board members pose with four new police officers after they were introduced to the board and the public at the SB meeting on 1/27/25, L-R: SB members, Charlie Murphy, and Keith Silvia; Officers, Patrick Claffin, Allisen Swisher, Lindsay Halewood, and Colby Nowicki; SB Chairperson, Stasia Powers; SB members, Andrew Saunders and Andrew Romano. See page 4. *Photo by Beth David.*



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First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

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

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

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

From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

Well, the local elections, might actually have a couple of contested races, even in Acushnet.

Of course, the field isn't set yet, so things might change. Meanwhile, we can hope right? See page 14 for who took out papers in Fairhaven and Acushnet.

We had an earthquake! No, I don't mean the Big Buffoon in Washington, DC, although his foolishness is causing big shock waves. I mean a real earthquake, from, like tectonic plates and stuff. It started in Maine and could be felt all the way to Connecticut and throughout the Cape. See page 3 for details on that.

The Fairhaven Select Board held a meeting this week (see page 4) and got their first look at the budget. It looks terrible, but apparently, we're not supposed to panic yet. A \$1.4 million deficit is not real yet. There are other numbers that have to come in before we get to panic.

We also got an update on the work New Bedford has been doing to stop the outflow into the harbor. I think we knew for months that the state has been overdoing it with the shellfish bed closures. On the other hand, the outflow situation really has to be tackled for real. See page 13 for what it's all about.

We have four new police officers in Fairhaven. Congratulations to them all. See page 4 for info on our new officers and be sure to say "hi" if you see them out an about.

It's Black History Month starting this weekend. See page 11 for some events coming up through the month to celebrate Black Americans. Hopefully, we'll be getting more events as the month goes on.

There's other stuff in here, of course. You'll have to thumb through to find it all. While you're doing that, please take note of 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 20, Issue 6

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Editor: Beth David

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our article about Nellie Zygiel and her kidney transplant, we made a mistake on the date of her surgery. It was 12/31/24.

We apologize for an confusion our error may have caused.

Earthquake in Maine felt in Fairhaven

By Beth David
Editor

An earthquake that started off the coast of Maine, shook homes all the way to Rhode Island on Monday, 1/27/25 at about 10:22 a.m. The 3.8 magnitude earthquake's epicenter was about 10 km/7 miles southeast of York, ME.

The US Geological Survey online showed the effect of the earthquake reaching as far south as Cape Cod in Mass. and Hartford, CT, and as far north as Augusta, ME. The Tsunami Warning Center in Palmer, AK, said there was no tsunami danger from the earthquake. There were no injuries or damages reported.

According to the USGS, New England has had earthquakes since colonial times. Moderately damaging earthquakes strike somewhere in the region every few decades, and smaller earthquakes are felt roughly twice a year.

According to USGS: "The Boston area was damaged three times within 28 years in the middle 1700's, and New York City was damaged in 1737 and 1884. The largest known New

England earthquakes occurred in 1638 (magnitude 6.5) in Vermont or New Hampshire, and in 1755 (magnitude 5.8) offshore from Cape Ann northeast of Boston. The Cape Ann earthquake caused severe damage to the Boston waterfront. The most recent New England earthquake to cause moderate damage occurred in 1940 (magnitude 5.6) in central New Hampshire.

Massachusetts experienced three earthquakes in 2024 and all were below 2 magnitude.

Details of the earthquake can be found at <https://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/eventpage/a00sqr6q8/shakemap/intensity>



This map from the US Geological Survey website shows the impact area of the 3.8 magnitude earthquake felt from Maine to Connecticut on 1/27/25 at 10:22 a.m. Screenshot from USGS website.



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Fairhaven SB welcomes new officers; gets first budget draft

By Beth David
Editor

The Fairhaven Select Board welcomed four new police officers at its meeting on 1/27/25, and received the first draft budget prepared by Interim Town Administrator George Samia.

The four new officers had been officially sworn in that morning by the town clerk. They were introduced to the board and the public by Police Chief Daniel Dorgan, who also noted that the Fairhaven PD Honor Guard presented colors at the graduation in Plymouth on Friday, 1/24, when the four officers graduated.

Off. Patrick Claflin is the son of retired Fairhaven Police Officer Richard "Dicky" Claflin. The younger Claflin worked in hospital security for many years and has a strong background in working well with people in unpredictable and sometimes volatile hospital settings.

Off. Lindsay Halewood has worked for four years as a paralegal. She has a very good understanding of the importance of writing strong detailed police reports and how that relates to success as a police officer.

Off. Colby Nowicki was a public safety officer at Morton Hospital and has worked in the areas of public safety and security for more than four years and has learned essential skills, such as verbal de-escalation, strong communication skills and the ability to work well with others.

Off. Allisen Swisher has served in the US Navy for five years as an intelligence analyst and was deployed overseas in Africa. She was then assigned at the Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron in Newport, RI where she will maintain her reserve status while employed by the town.

"We're very proud of all of them," Chief Dorgan told the board. "I expect a lot of good things from this group."

He said they will now undergo several months of field training. He asked the public to say "hi" if they see the new officers around town.

After they left the meeting, all four officers said they relied on each other to get through the academy. They rode in together, and helped each other with emotional support and in practical ways, such as making sure

their uniforms were correct.

Off. Claflin said the job was the fulfillment of a childhood dream, and his first day was "fantastic," although it was mostly paperwork.

From his father, a 36-year veteran of the Fairhaven PD, Off. Claflin said he learned to respect people, and, "to maintain my integrity."

Off. Nowicki said he was "very grateful."

"We worked hard," he said. "We stuck together as a team."

His first day he was "a little nervous," because he did not know what to expect.

"I'm very happy to be out of the academy," said Off. Halewood. "I'm grateful to this department and my fellow student officers, now officers. We had a good group going to the academy."

"I'm grateful for the experience and the opportunity," said Off. Swisher, from Capt. Gordon, to the Chief, and other officers who were "so helpful" along the way.

The four are from different local towns, and it was the "power of the

SELECT: cont'd to page 12

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Stevie's WINE & SPIRITS
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Checkout our website for
a list of tasting events!
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**UU Society of Fairhaven
welcomes all!**

10 a.m. Feb. 2: "The New Colossus"

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

Save the date! Coffeehouse fundraiser
featuring the Green Street Band Feb. 15

The Rev. Maria Uitti McCabe
102 Green St., Fairhaven uufairhaven.org 508-992-7081



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3 Depot St., American Legion Hall, Mattapoisett
Tel. (508) 998-6990, E-mail: Pastor@lambofgodma.org,
Facebook/YouTube: Mathew Vangel

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

FHS Art Soc FR

Help Fairhaven National Art Society hit their goal. We're raising money to support Fairhaven National Art Society.

Any donation amount helps us reach our fundraising goal and has a major impact on our program!

Donations will cover chaperone support for safe travel, meals, daily essentials, transportation, and luggage fees to transport our students and their "Kraken" design (<https://tinyurl.com/5n8k7tc8>). Your support ensures a safe, enriching, and unforgettable experience as they showcase their creativity on the world stage in Dublin!

You can also support us by sharing our fundraiser with your own network of friends and family. Donate at: <https://tinyurl.com/5n7pespv>

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.

Winter Parking Ban

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.

One Man Show

Jackson Gillman will be performing A Mid-Winter Night's Dream at the Shepherd Center for the Arts, 34 Center Street, Sun., 2/1, at 3 p.m. Tickets: \$20.

What better way to celebrate Groundhog Day than with a storytelling performance of "A Mid-Winter Night's Dream" by Stand-up Chameleon Jackson Gillman? Early in his performance career, Jackson was dubbed a chameleon for his penchant to change into many different characters while entertaining audiences of all ages.

During this wintry fantasy, one of those characters will be an adventurous groundhog named Dreyfus. This will lead the audience to wonder whether — is it a groundhog or Jackson who leaves his den to go on a snowy walkabout, track an otter, go airborne after an exhilarating slide, plunge into icy water, somehow survive hypothermia and dance under the Northern Lights with an angel? Jackson swears that much of these winter adventures are

true-life. This warm-hearted story will surely be a wild ride, and intriguing fun trying to divine fact from fiction.

This fanciful escapade is geared for adults but older children can easily follow and enjoy the story as well, so families are welcome.

For tickets and more information: <https://theshepherdcenter.org/jackson-gillman/>

At the Shep

The following events will be held at Shepherd Center for Performing Arts, a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization dedicated to supporting local and regional Music, Dance, Theatre and Film, 34 Center St (William St entrance), Fairhaven

- Sat, Feb 8, 7 pm: Matt York performs "Songs and Stories of the Highwaymen," the legendary Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Kris Kristofferson, Waylon Jennings. Tickets \$20
- Fri, Feb 14 & Sat, Feb 16, 7:30 pm: Jennifer Palmer directs "Love Letters," by A.R. Gurney, a beautiful story with 2 powerful actors; with delectable Valentine's Day desserts. Tickets \$25
- Sun, Feb 16, 3 pm: The Hot Club Cheese Roll performs a vocal and instrumental mix of jazz in the style of "Gypsy Jazz" from 1930's Paris, along with a contemporary song or two. Tickets \$25

Doors open 1/2 hour before shows. For more information and tickets, visit theshepherdcenter.org

At The Millicent

The following events will be held at the Millicent Library, 45 Center St., Fairhaven. Accessible.

New: Dungeons & Dragons. Starts, Tue., 2/5, 3:30—5:00 PM. Join the adventure! Led by an experienced young dungeon master, the campaign: Turn of Fortune's Wheel, is supervised and hosted by the Library.

Whether you are a D&D veteran or a total beginner curious to try it for the first time, roll the dice with us over these 6 weekly sessions! For ages 10-14, Spaces are limited. Register at: millicentlibrary.org/events.

Mariner Soccer Mtg.

The Mariner Youth Soccer Club's

HAPPS:cont'd on page 17

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/>

Women On Target

Sun., 2/23, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at New Bedford Rifle and Revolver Club, 246 Bolton St., New Bedford, MA 02744

Women's Instructional Shooting Clinic. Come join us and receive a basic level of firearm safety instruction so that you will know how to safely handle firearms.

Then under the direct supervision of Certified Firearms Instructors, you will enjoy some hands on experience with both revolvers and semi-automatic handguns. This clinic is FREE for any woman. Learn the safe and proper Way to handle firearms.

***This event does NOT fulfill the

requirements to obtain your Massachusetts LTC License***

Class is limited to 45 participants.

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/48tmehtn> at least one week before the event. For info contact Michael DaRoza 508-294-4082

RJD Free to Acushnet Residents

The Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum (RJD) is welcoming visitation from Acushnet residents by offering free admission for the month of January 2025. Ring in the new year with a visit to one of New Bedford's most grand whaling estates.

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

Noir Nights

Film noir, what critic Roger Ebert once called "the most American film genre," is known for low key lighting as dark as a killer's heart, camera angles more skewed than a gumshoe's moral compass, and weaving plots as convoluted as was to circumvent the production code.

Join us for a five month series of dim lit alleys, ambivalent motivations, hapless hard drinking men and women who would just as soon kill you as love you.

Subscribe: Feb. 23-June 22 Members: \$120; Non-Members: \$125. Subscription includes all five film screenings, insightful pre and post film discussions with film professor, Dr. Mocha J. Herrup, popcorn, and a soft drink. Visit <https://newbedfordart.org/noir-nights/>

Tickets may be purchased in-person. Advanced entry tickets are available through our website newbedfordart.org or by phone, 508-961-3072. New Bedford Art Museum, 608 Pleasant Street, New Bedford, MA 02740 Hours: Thursday-Sunday, 9am-5pm.

Opening Nigt: "Chinatown" (1974)

Sun., 2/23, Showtime: 5:00pm

A classic noir shot in broad daylight, updated for the Watergate generation, Polanski's thriller stars Jack Nicholas as a private eye uncovering corruption in 1930s Los

Angeles, a desert town where water equals power.

For his richly intricate screenplay, Robert Towne researched historic power struggles over the water supply to Los Angeles, creating in tycoon Noah Cross - played by old-guard film director John Huston - one of cinema's most disturbing villains.

Volunteer Readers

The SouthCoast Community Foundation seeks community-minded individuals to join its team of volunteer readers for its 2025 scholarship program. This rewarding opportunity allows volunteers to play a pivotal role in shaping the futures of local students while supporting the Community Foundation's commitment to access to education.

Each year, the Foundation awards over \$800,000 in scholarships to students across 41 cities and towns in southeastern Massachusetts. These scholarships help young people pursue higher education and achieve their dreams. Volunteer readers are essential to the scholarship selection process, bringing their unique experiences to evaluate applications and ensure a fair and equitable review.

What volunteer readers do:

- Review and score scholarship applications through an easy-to-use online platform.
- Dedicate approximately 20 hours during the month of February to reading applications.
- Provide thoughtful and constructive feedback that helps identify deserving candidates.

Who can volunteer? Anyone with a passion for education, equity, and community impact is encouraged to apply. No prior experience is necessary, and training will be provided to ensure volunteers feel confident and prepared.

How to get Involved: Visit bit.ly/3CisxNq to sign up for an info session. **Applications are open until January 31st.** For questions, please contact ahead@southcoastcf.org

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 Heritage 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.

Fish Regs Comment

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) is seeking public comment on Draft Addenda on the Recreational Measures Setting Process for Bluefish, Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass. The states of Maine through North Carolina have scheduled hearings to gather public input on the Draft Addenda between January 14 and January 29, 2025, and written comments will be accepted through February 15, 2025. A virtual public hearing intended for Massachusetts stakeholders will be held on January 14 at 6:00 p.m. (however, you may attend any hearing).

The Draft Addenda consider changes to the process used by the ASMFC and the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) to set

recreational management measures (bag, size, and season limits) for bluefish, summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass.

The public is encouraged to submit comments at any time during the addendum process. Public comment will be accepted until 11:59 PM (EST) on 2/15/25 and should be sent to: Chelsea Tuohy, FMP Coordinator, 1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200 A-N Arlington, Virginia 22201; or to comments@asmfc.org (Subject line: Recreational Measures Setting Process)

For meeting schedule and remote access links, visit <https://asmfc.org/about-us/public-input>

At Acushnet Library

The following events are at the Acushnet Public Library, 232 Middle Road.

Homeschool Meet & Greet, Mon., 2/3, 2–3 pm Are you looking to connect with other homeschoolers? Would you like to learn more about library resources? Do you need a place to meet? Come to the Acushnet Public Library's Homeschoolers meet-and-greet.

LEGO, Tues., 2/4 and Thurs., 2/13, at 11 a.m.; Wed., 2/19 and Wed., 2/19 at 6 p.m. Discover the Joy of Adult LEGO Building! Were you born before LEGOs were introduced to the USA in 1961? Did you grow up with LEGOs but miss building with friends? Discover or rediscover LEGOs at our drop-in LEGO Brick Building events. LEGOs will be provided. Ages 18+, please.

Readers' Group Morning Edition, Thurs., 2/6, 11 a.m.– noon. This month's selection is *The Stranger in the Lifeboat* by Mitch Albom.

Readers' Group Thurs., 2/6, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm This month's selection: *The Splendid and the Vile: a Saga of Churchill, Family, and Defiance During the Blitz* by Erik Larsen.

Movie Matinee, Mon., 2/10, 2–4 p.m. Here is an original film about multiple families and a special place they inhabit. The story travels through generations, capturing the human experience in its purest form. Directed by Robert Zemeckis, written by Eric Roth and Zemeckis, and told much in the style of the acclaimed

HAPPS/OL: cont'd on page 19

Pattie Pacella announces run for School Committee

Press Release

Hello, Fairhaven!

My name is Pattie Pacella and I kindly ask for your vote on Monday, April 7, 2025, for me for the School Committee! I grew up in Fairhaven and attended Fairhaven public schools and am very proud to have been a 1987 graduate!

I am a Mom of a very special young girl, Grace, who is an "out of district" student at this time, as Grace has many special abilities (don't we all?) and has spent most of her school years either at East Fairhaven in the SPED program when she was younger or with SMEC (Southeastern Mass Educational Collaborative), which is an out of district program in a sub-separate classroom.

I am very familiar with how Fairhaven works, as I was employed by the Town for a little less than ten years. I started in the Planning Department, then worked in Assessor's, and ended my career there in the Building Department! I am currently on the Finance Committee, which has been a great experience, especially

the passionate discussions; let's face it everyone cares for our Town, and sometimes, it's just putting that passion in constructively!

I am choosing to run for School Committee because it will allow me to Learn, Collaborate, and be a Resource to parents. I think that I can relate to the parent who may just be at the start of navigating their system for their child who may need additional services to the parent who just wants an ear to hear them.

I believe there should be more transparency among the SC to the Town residents without the negative connotations, from both sides!

When I ask residents and/or parents what concerns they may have with the School Committee, the responses are around the football field and the shed. Although I can understand the conversations behind both of these subjects; I think it's also important to talk about other things happening within our School Department. Teachers and other different departments within the School Department.

Regarding the budget, the School Department budget is 49% of the Town Budget and in the past, it's been as high as 58%. We all need to learn more about net student spending and how that affects the money we receive from the state. It wasn't until my first year on the Finance Committee that I began learning about that term.

I am open to learning, listening and being a resource for all parents who have students in our beautiful Town of Fairhaven Schools!

Please feel free to reach out to me at getpersonalpattie@gmail.com if you have any questions! I look forward to speaking to you!

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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: 2/5, Tiverton Casino; 2/12, Warwick Mall; 2/19, Providence Place; 2/26, So. Shore Plaza; 3/5, Twin River Casino.

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

Feb. 3, 12:15 p.m. Featuring *Find Me Falling*. Comedy/Romance. After a failed comeback album, rock star John Allman escapes to a dreamy Mediterranean island, only to discover that his new cliffside home has an unfortunate notoriety that attracts unwanted visitors and old flame.

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.

Please call 508-979-4029 for an 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.

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>

Kool Kids February Vacation

Get ready for a fantastic time at the February Vacation program.

Designed for children in kindergarten through 6th grade, each day is packed with fun activities, including games, team building challenges, STEAM projects and art.

Your child will make new friends and create lasting memories. Don't forget to pack a lunch, snacks, a reusable water bottle, and be sure to wear comfy clothes and sneakers!

Program runs Feb 18th-22 (Tuesday-Friday) 8am-4pm Member \$42, non member \$45. per day Fairhaven Recreation Staff

Sweet Creations

Ages 8-11. Join us for a delightful baking journey! In this engaging 4

week program, children will learn baking fundamentals, creativity and teamwork. Hands-on baking and decorating, new recipes each week! Each participant will receive measuring cups & spoons of their very own along with printed recipes of what they made in the program. Cookies explored will be no bake, bars and drop cookies. Best of all they get to bring home their tasty treats. Please inform us of any food allergies at sign up. (Thursdays) Feb 20th-Mar 13th 4 weeks 4-5:30pm Members \$50. Nonmembers \$55

Build Your Own Solar Robot

Build explore and take home your very own Solar Fleet Robot! This hands-on science adventure from Minds in Motion will ignite your curiosity as you create six unique

solar-powered lunar models, including Space station, Space dog, Space shuttle Astronaut and more! Join us for this exciting journey into the world of solar energy, space exploration and creativity.

Saturdays 9-12pm March 8&15th Member \$140./ Non-member\$150.

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

Recipe of the Week

Sheet Pan Salmon and Bell Pepper Dinner

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 4 (3 ounce) salmon fillets
- 2 red bell peppers, chopped
- 1 yellow bell pepper, chopped
- 1 onion, sliced

Sauce:

- 6 tablespoons lemon juice
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 tablespoons water
- 1 tablespoon maple syrup
- 5 cloves garlic
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1 1/2 teaspoons red pepper flakes
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 bunch fresh parsley, chopped
- 1 lemon, sliced

Preheat oven to 400°. Grease a sheet pan with 2 tbs olive oil. Place salmon fillets, red and yellow bell peppers, and onion on the prepared sheet pan.

Combine lemon juice, 3 tablespoons olive oil, water, maple syrup, garlic, salt, red pepper flakes, cumin, and parsley in a small bowl. Drizzle 2/3 of the sauce over the ingredients on the sheet pan.

Bake in the preheated oven until salmon is cooked through and flakes easily with a fork, 10 to 15 minutes.

Serve with lemon slices and remaining sauce. Great served with rice.



they accept themselves for who they are.

Mimi had a list of resolutions long enough for a PowerPoint presentation. Darcy was working on her list but said she was seriously leaning toward a diet, and Harry was thinking about ways he could be more helpful around the house.

I don't know if I should make any resolutions because every time I do, I never stick to them. It's terrible not to keep a promise, especially if it is to yourself. Some days, I think I should make a resolution and try harder; other times, I think, what's the sense of setting myself up for failure?

Wilson

Dear Wilson,
It sounds like you would like to make some resolutions, but you

Dear Frankie

New Year Resolutions

Dear Frankie,
All my friends talk about these days is New Year's Resolutions. Well, almost everyone. Rufus, the park mayor, said resolutions weren't for old dogs because

fear you will fail again at keeping them.

Could the resolutions you made in the past be unrealistic? Let's say you resolved to run a mile every day. A mile-a-day run would be a reasonable goal if you are fit and healthy. However, doing it every day would be unrealistic. If you missed one day because of snow, sickness, or traveling ten hours by car, you would have failed to reach your goal.

However, if you resolved to run a mile four or five times a week and missed a day or two, you would still have time to reach your goal for the week.

If you decide to take the leap and make a resolution this year, choose an attainable goal with a rate for achievement that allows some flexibility. This should improve your chances of success.

Best, Frankie

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Comments and letters can be sent to Frankie at dearfrankiecolumn@gmail.com. The Fairhaven Neighborhood News publishes the Dear Frankie column. To

FRANKIE: cont'd on page 17



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February is Black History Month

By Beth David
Editor

February is Black History Month, and organizations around the country will be holding events to celebrate the contributions of Black Americans.

This year's theme is African Americans and Labor.

On its website, the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, the founders of Black History Month, write: "The 2025 Black History Month theme, African Americans and Labor, focuses on the various and profound ways that work and working of all kinds – free and unfree, skilled, and unskilled, vocational and voluntary – intersect with the collective experiences of Black people. Indeed, work is at the very center of much of Black history and culture. Be it the traditional agricultural labor of enslaved Africans that fed Low Country colonies, debates among Black educators on the importance of vocational training, self-help strategies and entrepreneurship in Black communities, or organized labor's role in fighting both economic and social injustice, Black people's work has been transformational throughout the U.S., Africa, and the Diaspora. The 2025 Black History Month theme, "African Americans and Labor," sets out to highlight and celebrate the potent impact of this work."

Visit <https://asah.org/black-history-themes/> to learn more about Black History Month.

Also visit <https://blackhistorymonth.gov/> for programs for teachers and biographical information on notable Black Americans.

Here are some local events in

honor of Black History Month.

SAVE THE DATE Friends of the Millicent

To celebrate Black History Month, the Friends of the Millicent Library will sponsor a discussion of Mark Twain's *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and Percival Everett's *James*. We will meet in the auditorium of the Millicent Library, 45 Center Street (Walnut Street entrance) at 6:30 on Monday, 2/24.

In 1884, Twain published the story of Huck Finn, his friend Tom Sawyer, and the fugitive slave Jim as they dodged danger and death on the Mississippi River. The book has remained popular, though controversial, ever since.

In 2024, Percival Everett retold their adventures from the point of view of James — as the fugitive slave prefers to be called. This prize-winning novel is as difficult to put down as the original.

You are welcome whether you've read one book, both books — or are just curious.

TriTown Against Racism

Visit <https://www.tritownagainstracism.org/events> for more Black History Month events sponsored or highlighted by TriTown Against Racism in Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester.

Story Walk

Feb 1 at 8 a.m. through Feb 28 at 4 p.m. at Munro Preserve, 1 Main St., Mattapoisett.

We are thrilled to be collaborating with the Mattapoisett Land Trust for the third Black History Month Story Walk™ at Dunseith Gardens located at the corner of Rt. 6 and North St.

The walk will be up for the entire month of February. To learn more about this trail and the Mattapoisett Land Trust visit <https://mattlandtrust.org>

This year we will feature "There Was a Party for Langston" (Caldecott Honor & Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor) by Jason Reynolds.

New York Times bestselling and award-winning author Jason Reynolds's debut picture book is a snappy, joyous ode to Word King, literary genius, and glass-ceiling smasher Langston Hughes and the luminaries he inspired.

Back in the day, there was a heckuva party, a jam, for a word-making man. The King of Letters. Langston Hughes. His ABCs became drums, bumping jumping thumping like a heart the size of the whole country. They sent some people...

Story Walk/Accessible Trail

Feb 01, at 8:00 a.m. through Feb 28 at 4:00 p.m. at Osprey Marsh, Marion, 354 Point Rd, Marion.

We are excited to collaborate with Sippican Lands Trust for the third Black History Month Story Walk™. This year we are featuring "The Vast Wonder of the World: Biologist Ernest Everett Just" by Mélina Mangal (Author), Luisa Uribe (Illustrator). This trail is handicapped accessible, to learn more about it visit <https://sippicanlandstrust.org>

Ernest Everett Just was not like other scientists of his time. He saw the whole, where others saw only parts. He noticed details others failed to see. He persisted in his research despite the discrimination and limitations imposed on him as an African

TTAR: cont'd on page 19



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SELECT: cont'd from page 4

Internet” that got them to Fairhaven, said Chief Dorgan.

Off. Swisher said there were some student officers who were there alone and did not know anyone, and she felt it was harder for them. She felt grateful for the camaraderie she has with her fellow recruits.

“We have built a good relationship with each other,” she said, adding it will be there throughout their careers.

“If one fails, we all fail,” said Off. Nowicki.

In another matter, Interim Town Administrator, George Samia, presented “Draft 1” of the FY26 budget. Although it shows a \$1.47 million shortfall, Mr. Samia told the board and the public not to panic. He said the revenue estimates were very conservative, and he fully expected state aid and other revenue sources to be higher. Departments are also working on shaving two percent from their budgets.

Mr. Samia noted that the details of the budget are on the town’s website as supporting documents to his presentation.

“The budget is very fluid,” said Mr. Samia. “Let’s not panic. Things are going to change.”

He gave a quick lesson in municipal budgets, noting four sources of revenue: 1) the tax levy, aka, property taxes; 2) state aid; 3) local receipts, such as permit fees and excise taxes; 4) other available funds, such as funds appropriated in previous years and not used, or free cash.

Mr. Samia said the draft was based on a lot of assumptions.

Board members asked a series of questions based on the documents and their knowledge of previous budgets.

Mr. Samia noted that the overlay amount was more than \$400K and those funds will largely be returned to the general fund. The overlay account is the amount the Assessor holds to pay out for property tax abatements and errors.

He said they estimated local receipts very conservatively, and expected that number to go up when the new December numbers come in.

SB Chairperson, Stasia Powers noted that the town had just raised fees in the fall.

Assistant Town Administrator of Finance/Town Accountant, Anne Carreiro said they also estimated the

cost of tuition at New Bedford Voc-Tech high to be safe.

In response to questions, Mr. Samia noted that the draft did not include capital items and spending from enterprise funds (water and sewer), so the overall operating budget number was lower.

“This is strictly the budget,” said Mr. Samia, not capital items.

The budget presentation and draft are available on the town’s website at <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/town-administrator/pages/budget-information>

In another matter, the board accepted the resignation of Karen Isherwood, Carrie Hawthorne, and Ronnie Medina from the Conservation Committee.

SB member Andrew Romano said it was “very concerning” that three members of one board all resigned in one day, and noted that Ms. Isherwood’s letter cited staffing changes as the reason. He asked if the SB or Mr. Samia should reach out to the former members to get some more detail on why they were leaving all at the same time.

Bruce Webb, Director of Land Use who works closely with that board, joined the board remotely to say that Mr. Medina had been talking about resigning for some time.

Mr. Samia said he would contact Ms. Isherwood to see if he could get some details from her because her comment was “vague.”

SB member Andrew Saunders took the opportunity to remind the public that there are many volunteer opportunities with the town, saying it is very fulfilling to volunteers.

Mr. Webb said while he was always happy to have additional applicants for ConCom, the town had already

received three applications from “very qualified” people.

SB Chairperson, Stasia Powers said they should be encouraging people to apply so they have a good choice.

Any members of the public who wish to volunteer on a board or committee should visit the volunteer page on the town’s website at <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/volunteer-opportunities> to see what is available and to apply; or call or stop by the Select Board/Town Administrator’s office, 508-979-4023.

In other business, the board held a public hearing for two concurrent liquor license transfers. The board approved the transfer of the Ice House license, previous owner Lars Vinjerud, to Mario Ribeiro, current owner of Bocca. The Ice House will be renamed Soco Tavern, dba Soco, with new manager, Jacob Galary.

The board also appointed Eleanor Chew to the Open Space and Recreation Committee; and Robert Hanaan to the Zoning Board of Appeals and Economic Development Committee.

The board also met in executive session to conduct strategy in preparations for negotiations with non-union personnel: Fire Chief.



The Fairhaven Police Department Honor Guard presented colors at the Plymouth Police Department Graduation where the four newest members of the Fairhaven Police Department graduated on Friday, 1/24/25. Back row, Honor Guard, L-R: Det. Josue Ostolaza, Sgt. Jerald Bettencourt, Off. Ian Furtado, Sgt. Jerome Penha; Front row, new officers, L-R: Colby Nowicki, Lindsay Halewood, Allison Swisher, Patrick Claflin. *Photo from Fairhaven Police Department Facebook page.*

City's Combined Sewer Outflow summary and update

By Beth David
Editor

At the Fairhaven Select Board meeting on 1/27/25, Chairperson Stasia Powers reported on a meeting convened by the Buzzards Bay Coalition of local leaders in the watershed to learn about the problem and progress the City of New Bedford has made over the years trying to keep sewage out of the harbor. She said Harbormaster Tim Cox also attended; and Rick Trapilo, Planning Board Member and a member of the New Bedford Harbor Plan Committee, who has been strongly advocating to stop the sewer outflow.

The Combine Sewer Outflow (CSO) is the amount of dirty water that goes into the harbor and outer harbor during a large rainstorm. The city's storm water and sewage flow into the same pipes causing an overflow (CSO) of untreated water into the bay that includes stormwater and sewage.

The City has the second highest number of CSO pipes in the state with 27; Boston has 36, Springfield 23, Fall River 17, Chicopee 16.

To fix the problem, the city would need \$1.2 billion, an amount clearly out of the reach of New Bedford residents. As it is the average household sewer bill for City residents is projected to double by 2037 to \$1,106 per year.

City residents are already spending more of their household income on sewer than others and they are the lowest income households.

The City has been addressing the issue, spending \$602 million since 1990 on wastewater and CSO improvements. New Bedford will spend

\$172 million from 2017 through 2025. The City has budgeted the maximum amount that residents can pay. There are several different plans at different amounts attacking different parts of the problem.

The bottom line is that the residents of New Bedford cannot afford the \$1.2 billion required to fix the problem. State and federal funds will have to pay for the project.

Some residents have pointed to the project in Providence that built five miles of huge storage tunnels under Providence and Pawtucket to hold water. Ms. Powers pointed out that the project cost \$1.7 billion and served more than 1 million people. The New Bedford project would cost \$1.2 billion and serve 100,000 people, so getting funding from the federal government is a challenge.

Ms. Powers said residents in the whole region need to make it clear that the problem affects all the communities in the watershed, not just New Bedford.

Last year, the state shut down all of Buzzards Bay to shellfishing when the CSO reached a certain level, affecting communities from Westport to Wareham.

Due to the work the City has done over the decades, the water quality of the harbor and the bay has increased dramatically. Water clarity improved and eelgrass meadow are recovering off Fort Phoenix. Sewer discharges are actually down more than 90% since 1990. And shellfish bed closures were down from 2004 to 2015. A significant reason for that is the upgrade of the W a s t e w a t e r Treatment Plant in 1996.



TOP: This slide by the Buzzards Bay Coalition, which was presented at the Fairhaven Select Board meeting on 1/27/25, compares the number of New Bedford's Combined Sewer Outflow pipes to other cities in Massachusetts. ABOVE: This slide shows a decrease in shellfish bed closures in the Bay from 1990 to 2015.

The reason we

are suddenly hearing so much about CSOs, she said, is a new reporting tool on the City's website; an increased number of large volume rain events; and the state closing shellfish beds. The website is required to report releases in real time, which has greatly increased public awareness of the issue.

Ms. Powers also explained that the outflow into the harbor and bay is not all raw sewage. Most of it is rainwater. The state, she said, is closing shellfish beds based on the amount of water, not testing the water to see if it is okay.

She said the federal Environmental Protection Agency wanted to close it all down, but local and state officials want them to test the water first.

Next steps include the BBC assisting the City to work with surrounding communities. The City will try to find grant opportunities to upgrade the City system.

Residents can help, she said, by sending letters to their state and federal legislators to let them know that the problem affects more than the City of New Bedford. It affects all the communities in Buzzards Bay.

The legislative delegation will be invited to a future meeting of the group to push them to get federal money.

Ms. Powers encouraged residents to share the information and slides to let people know it is a real problem, but the City of New Bedford is not neglecting it.

The group will meet quarterly, the next meeting is on April 26.

The entire presentation is available at www.FairhavenTV.com

The City's CSO reporting website is <https://www.newbedford-ma.gov/public-infrastructure/wastewater/new-bedford-cso-report/>

Let's see who took out papers so far 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 Barbara Acksen up for reelection.

As of press time, Ms. Horan, Interim Town Clerk, had returned

papers; Kelly Ochoa had returned papers for School Committee; Anne Morton Smith returned papers for her seat on the BPW; Rick Trapilo returned his paper for SB; Natalie Mello returned for SB; Cristina Lopes returned for Board of Health.

The following people have taken out papers, but not returned them: School Committee incumbents Erik Andersen and Brendalee Smith; Pattie Pacella for School Committee; Sean Powers for Planning Board; incumbent Cathy Melanson for Planning Board; Incumbent Brian Meneses for Board of Health; Miles Grant for Planning Board; incumbent Barbara Acksen for Trustee Commission.

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 2/12/25.

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 Recreation 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,

ELECT: cont'd on page 16



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From our readers

Laura Gardner Supports Ochoa

I am writing in support of Kelly Ochoa for the Fairhaven School Committee. I strongly believe that we need an educator on the school committee. Kelly is a lifelong educator and knows firsthand the challenges that teachers, families, and students face in this complicated school landscape. Her many years teaching high school Spanish at ORR have given her critical experience she can use right away on the school committee. She will bring an important perspective to the school committee that is currently not present.

I also back Kelly Ochoa because she has demonstrated leadership. Kelly is a vital member of the Unitarian Universalist church here in Fairhaven, which I also attend. We also worked together supporting migrants to our community in 2023 as part of the Welcome Corps; Kelly was the unofficial leader of our group.

Kelly is professional, approach-

able, and has a can-do attitude that we need on the school committee. I encourage all voters to give her their consideration!

Laura Gardner, Fairhaven

Local Newspapers have a responsibility

The financial considerations and avowed commitment to reporting only news that is specific and pertinent to the local constituencies is understandable, but it is now imperative that all local newspapers on the internet, or in printed form, must report what is transpiring as a result of the new presidential administration. Only covering local or state issues implies that all the world beyond is normal and seemingly inconsequential. Everything that is being proposed and is being enacted pursuant to executive order, voted into law, or cabinet positions approved, will have enormous effects on millions of Americans.

Newspapers, of minimum circulation, and those of a vast readership,

must provide information constantly on the front page or as a major headline. The information must be factual and include statistics that are reliable or credible scenarios presented by trusted researchers.

No doubt the distrust infused in the public at large during the last decade by virtue of hyper distorted television, radio and internet sources, will be a difficult barrier to overcome. But, adhering to provable information without editorializing, will ultimately be believed by large numbers of viewers and readers.

At this juncture the three branches of government have been unable or unwilling to provide the protections that are being consistently challenged, or eroded, by those who should be faithful to the principle of "justice for all," and are enabling a dismantlement of our evolving democratic system. Local newspapers must endeavor to alert and inform the public, regaining its trust and thereby become a reliable truth sentinel.

Betty Ussach, Dartmouth

ELECT: cont'd from page 14

with Robert Hinckley up for reelection; Board of Assessors with Liberio DaSilva Soares up; Board of Health with Thomas Fortin up; two School 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.

As of press time, Mr. Hinckley had

taken out papers for his seat on the Selectboard. Former police chief Christopher Richmond also took out papers. Neither one had returned them.

The following people have also taken out papers but not returned them by press time: Ebony McGlynn and Jesse Ellis for School Committee; incumbent Liberio DaSilva Soares for Board of Assessors; Lucas Correia for tree warden, unexpired term ending in 2026; incumbent Charlene Fortin for Cemetery Board.

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.

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

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1/4 page

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FRANKIE: cont'd from page 10
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HAPPS: cont'd from day1

Annual Meeting will be held Tues., 2/11, at 7:00 pm at the Fairhaven Council on Aging, 229 Huttleston Avenue, Fairhaven, MA 02719. All members are welcome to attend.

The meeting will include voting on changes to the organization's by-laws, elections for board positions and committee appointments.

Please address questions or interest to: info@marineryouthsoccer.onmicrosoft.com

Take Your Child to The Library Day

Take Your Child to the Library Day, Sat., 2/1, during open hours 9-3

Celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day with an afternoon of family fun at Millicent Library! Enjoy activities like a library scavenger hunt, designing your own tote bag (while supplies last), coloring, and more! Share a book and discover how your family can make the most of your library—all ages welcome!

Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Board of Public Works

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

Community Preservation

Wed., 2/5, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 2/24, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Marine Resources

Public Hearing

Mon., 2/10, Town Hall/SB mtg, 6 p.m.

Planning Board

2/11, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

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

Select Board

Mon., 2/10, Town Hall, 6:00 p.m.

Acushnet

TIDE TABLE

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

	Feb. 2025	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.	LOW a.m.	p.m.
Saturday	1	0951	2220	0306*	1527*
Sunday	2	1040	2312	0352*	1607*
Monday	3	1134	---	0439*	1652*
Tuesday	4	0009	1233	0537*	1747*
Wednesday	5	0107	1331	0654	1856*
Thursday	6	0205	1431	0824	2006
Friday	7	0309	1542	1039	2130
Saturday	8	0420	1652	1143	2326
Sunday	9	0520	1746	---	1236
Monday	10	0608	1832	0025	1327*
Tuesday	11	0652	1915	0120	1412*
Wednesday	12	0734	1958	0208	1445*
Thursday	13	0815	2039	0234	1455*
Friday	14	0856	2119	0240	1450*

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

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Public Hearings/Legal Notices

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

Town of Fairhaven Invitation to Bid

Spring Street Water Main Replacement Project,
Fairhaven, MA

Location of Work: Town of Fairhaven, Massachusetts. Sealed Bids for construction of the Spring Street Water Main Replacement Project will be received by the Public Works Department at 5 Arsenne Street in Fairhaven, Massachusetts until 10:00 a.m., February 7, 2025, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and bids read aloud. Bids submitted after this time will not be accepted. The work involves the following major item(s):

The water main improvements involve installing approximately 4,600 linear feet of 8" and 6" water pipes, water services, hydrant, 12"x8" tapping sleeve valve, 8"x8" tapping sleeve valve, temporary and permanent trench paving, and abandon existing water main on Spring Street.

The work is estimated to cost \$1,600,000.00

Contract Documents may be viewed and downloaded as a Portable Document Format (PDF) file free of charge on or after Wednesday, January 22, 2025 at www.accentblueprints.com. Printed copies may be obtained for a fee by completing an order online or calling 978-362-8038 for each set. Completed orders may be picked up at the office of Accent Blueprints located at 99 Chelmsford Road, (Rear#13) North Billerica, Ma 01862 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Printed copies may also be shipped to prospective bidders for an additional charge to cover handling and mailing fees. All payments for printing and shipping are non-refundable. To be added to the project plan holder's list to guarantee receipt of addenda, it is recommended interested bidders obtain the Contract Documents directly from Accent Blueprints. Interested bidders will be prompted to register an email address with Accent Blueprints to access the documents.

BID SECURITIES shall be in amount of 5% of the bid and in the form of a certified check drawn upon a bank within the State of Massachusetts or a bid bond

executed by a surety company authorized to do business in Massachusetts, made payable to the OWNER.

The successful bidder must furnish a 100% **PERFORMANCE** and **PAYMENT BOND** and will be required to execute the Contract Agreement within five (5) days following notification of the acceptance of his Bid. The **OWNER** reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to accept any bid, to waive any informality on bids received, and to omit any item or items deemed advisable for the best interests of the **OWNER**. Bids are subject to Massachusetts-M.G.L. Chapter 30-Section 39M, and to Massachusetts minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. Chapter 149- Sections 26 to 27H inclusive. All costs associated with the preparation of the bids shall be the responsibility of the bidder, regardless of whether or not the Contract is awarded.

Board of Public Works for Fairhaven, MA
FNN 1/30/25

Fairhaven Housing Authority INVITATION TO BID

Selective Brick Repointing, Project #094088
Section 00 11 13

ADVERTISEMENT TO BID
MGL c.149 §50K to §150K

The **FAIRHAVEN HOUSING AUTHORITY**, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the Selective Brick Repointing at State Aided Development: Dana Court (667-4) in Fairhaven, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by **RGB ARCHITECTS**.

The Project consists of but not limited to: masonry cleaning and repointing of patio wing walls.

The work is estimated to cost **\$99,992.82**.

All Bidding Requests for Information (RFIs) shall be submitted online by 02/18/2025 at 5:00PM EST for general bids.

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §26 to 27H inclusive.

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY

BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. All Bids shall be submitted online at biddocs.com and received no later than the date and time specified.

General Bids will be received until **26 February 2025 at 10:30AM EST** and publicly opened online, forthwith.

General bids and sub-bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (including all alternates) and made payable to the **FAIRHAVEN HOUSING AUTHORITY**. Note: A bid deposit is not required for Projects advertised under \$50,000.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for review at biddocs.com (may be viewed and downloaded electronically at no cost).

PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE VISIT: Scheduled Date and Time: 02/12/2025 at 11:00AM EST
Address: 180 Adams Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719
Instructions: Meet Outside the Front Door

The hard copy Contract Documents may be seen at: Nashoba Blue Inc., 433 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749; 978-568-1167

FNN 1/30/25

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TTAR: cont'd from page 11

American. His keen observations of sea creatures revealed new insights about egg cells and the origins of life.

Through stunning illustrations and lyrical prose, this picture book presents the life and accomplishments of this long overlooked scientific pioneer.

A marsh exploration activity will be announced soon. This story walk will be up for the entire month, so you have plenty of time to visit.

Story Time with The Excellent Family

Feb 08, 11:00 a.m. to noon, Marion Music Hall, 164 Front St, Marion.

Join the Excellent Family: John, Kate, and Owen for a Black History Month Story Time and activity.

They will be reading:

- *All Because You Matter*, by Tami Charles, and illustrated by Bryan Collier
- *Beautiful Blackbird*, by Ashley Bryan
- *The Year We Learned to Fly*, by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by Rafael López

Creative Contest Reception

Black History Month Creative Expressions Contest. 2025 Theme:

African Americans and Labor. Feb 08, 2:00–4:00 p.m., Mattapoissett Free Public Library, 7 Barstow St, Mattapoissett, MA

Join us for a reception and unveiling of this year's Black History Month Creative Expressions Contest entries in the Community Room at the Mattapoissett Public Library. Winners will be announced at 3:00 PM.

Light refreshments will be served. RSVP encouraged: <https://tinyurl.com/bdfv8w3s>

For more events by TriTown Against Racism, visit <https://www.tritownagainstracism.org/events>

State Rep. Mark Sylvia announces office hours

State Representative Mark Sylvia (D) Fairhaven is pleased to announce a series of office hours and community events throughout the 10th Bristol district. These gatherings will provide constituents with an opportunity to meet with Rep. Sylvia, discuss issues of concern, and stay informed on state and local matters.

Rep. Sylvia encourages residents of Acushnet, Fairhaven, New Bedford (Ward 1 Precincts A, B, and C1), Marion, Mattapoissett, and Rochester to attend these events and take advantage of the opportunity to engage with him directly.

Rep. Mark Sylvia is serving his first term as State Representative for the 10th Bristol District, which includes Precincts 1 and 2A in Acushnet, the town of Fairhaven, Ward 1 Precincts A, B, and C1 in New Bedford, and the towns of Marion, Mattapoissett, and Rochester.

For additional information, please contact Rep. Sylvia's office at 617-722-2800 ext. 7320 or visit Rep. Sylvia's

website www.staterepmarksylvia.com

Rep. Sylvia's scheduled office hours and events are as follows:

Acushnet

- Office Hours: Acushnet Council on Aging and Senior Community Center, 59 1/2 South Main Street, Acushnet, MA 02743. First Monday of the month, 20–11 a.m. First Date: Mon 2/3.

Marion

- "Meet Your State Rep." Spring Brunch, Marion Council on Aging, 465 Mill Street, Marion, MA 02738, Thursday, 3/20, at 11:00 AM. RSVP: Contact COA Director Karen Gregory at 508-748-3570

Mattapoissett

- Meet & Greet with Rep. Mark Sylvia, Mattapoissett Council on Aging, 17 Barstow Street, Mattapoissett, MA 02739, Tuesday, 3/25 12:00 – 1:00 PM. RSVP: Contact COA Dir. Jackie Seney at 508-758-4110
- Office Hours, Mattapoissett Public Library, Marine Room, 7 Barstow

Street, MA 02739. Third Tuesday of the month, starting 3/18, 10–11 a.m.

Fairhaven

- Meet & Greet at the Fairhaven COA Supper Club, Fairhaven Council on Aging, 229 Huttleston Avenue, Tues., 3/18, 2–4 p.m. RSVP: Contact COA Director Martha Reed, 508-979-4029
- Office Hours: Fairhaven COA, Outreach Room, 229 Huttleston Avenue, Fairhaven, MA 02719. Third Tuesday of the month, starting 4/15, 4:30 – 5:30 PM

New Bedford

- Office Hours: CareOne at New Bedford, Conference Room, 211 Fitzgerald Drive, New Bedford, MA 02745, First Monday of the month, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., starting Monday, 3/3

Rochester

- Office Hours: Rochester Council on Aging, 67 Dexter Lane, Rochester, MA 02770, Fourth Wednesday of the month, starting 2/28, 8:00 – 9:00 AM during their breakfast gathering

HAPPS/OL: cont'd from page 7

graphic novel by Richard McGuire on which it is based, Tom Hanks and Robin Wright star in this tale of love, loss, laughter, and life, all of which happens, right Here.

Intro to Birding: Birding Past & Present Sat., 2/15, Noon–1:30 p.m. Mass Audubon will lead the Intro to Birding: Birding Past & Present program. This program will introduce you to birding basics, from identifying bird families to the various available tools and resources. Find out what makes birds unique in the animal

kingdom, where and how to locate birds in urban, suburban, and rural communities, and learn about basic bird biology and behavior. Join one of the fastest-growing hobbies in North America. All ages are welcome.

Programs for youth

Winter Storytime Wednesdays, 11–noon Join us as we read books, sing songs, learn, and have fun! This program is for children from birth to five years old and their caregivers.

Story Explorers Book Club, ages 6-8 Tues., 2/11, 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Tweens Book Club ages 9-12. Tues. 2/25, 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Young Adult Book Club ages 13+ Thurs., 2/20, 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Drop-In Valentine's Card Craft. Sat., 2/8. Sat. 2/8, Noon–1:30 p.m. Make a special Valentine for someone you love. All ages are welcome.

Drop-In Chess, Tues., 2/18 starting at 1:00 p.m.: Do you love to play chess? Join like-minded enthusiasts in this casual game setting where you can hone your skills while having fun. Recommended for ages 9 and up.

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