



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



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with a big voice!

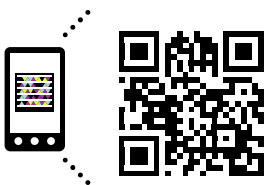
Volume 20, Issue 10 • February 27, 2025

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

15 dogs, including 12 puppies surrendered



Several Fairhaven Police officers stopped by the Fairhaven Animal Shelter to visit and cuddle 12 puppies that were surrendered on 2/21/25 by a town resident who was facing eviction, L-R: Fairhaven Police Officers Cooper Howell, Jillian Jodoin, Ethan Horsley. See page 12 for story. *Photo courtesy of Fairhaven Police.*



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First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

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

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

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

From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.



Publisher Beth David with
Charlie, aka Evil Dog

You know what they say...kids and puppies get attention. Last week we had kids, this week we have puppies. Soooo cute!

Our cover story is about 15 dogs that got surrendered all at once to the Fairhaven animal shelter. YIKES! See page 12 for that.

Our ACO had his work cut out for him that day, huh? People also really stepped up and donated food. But feel free to give them a call and see what else they need.

We had a marathon of a Select Board meeting this week (see page 3). A lot of agenda items, but also three executive sessions in the middle of it.

Geesh...that's getting old, guys. Put those sessions at the end already, or have a special meeting for them. We all cooled our heels out in the hall for more than an hour...or more than more than an hour maybe, I can't remember. I just know it was long.

The budget stuff is looking a little less ridiculous, but it's still impossible. The state needs to give us back more of our income taxes. State aid is way too stingy.

Meanwhile, the teachers union was there saying they have been underfunded and the town needs to give the more.

And in DC, the Big Buffoon is cutting Medicare and Medicaid by \$800 billion. Yeah, BBBBillion. But, hey, it's all waste and fraud. Don't worry about it. They're also asking for a \$4 trillion increase in the debt ceiling. So, they're supposedly cutting waste by 4T, but they need another 4T, because...why?

Oh, right, they're giving \$4 trillion in tax cuts to the same billionaires who just fired a bunch of middle-class workers.

Wait until you need to call anyone in Federal government. Let's hope we don't need the FBI down here anytime, soon, either. I could go on, but I'm out of space.

And to add insult to injury, this country sided with Russia and North Korea against Ukraine. We are officially idiots. Good job MAGA, good job.

Until next week then, see ya,

*Glory to Ukraine!
Glory to the Heroes!*

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Fairhaven Neighborhood News

Volume 20, Issue 10

Thursday, February 27, 2025

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Editor: Beth David

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Contents

Acushnet election update	8
Black History Month event	11
Bikes for All	4
Candidate free events	5
Classifieds/Help Wanted	17
COVER: Puppies!	12
Dear Frankie	10
Fairhaven Select Board	3
From our readers	14
Happenings	5, 6, 7
Legal Notices/Public Hearings	18
RecCtr/Senior Ctr	9
Tides	17
Upcoming meetings/Fairhaven & Acushnet	17

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Fairhaven Select Board meets with Rep. Sylvia, Teachers

By Beth David
Editor

The Fairhaven Select Board had a full agenda on Monday, 2/24/25, including an appearance by members of the Fairhaven Educators Association (teachers' union), and newly elected state representative, Mark Sylvia. SB member Charles Murphy was absent.

The board had discussed in previous meetings which priorities they wanted to discuss with Rep. Sylvia who is serving his first term at the state house. He has been going to the different towns in the 10th Bristol District to talk about their priorities.

Mr. Sylvia said he has sponsored eight bills and cosponsored bills that are important to the district. He is going through the 6,000 bills filed to find others he may want to co-sponsor. He is looking for bills that pertain to issues affecting the district, such as water and wastewater issues.

He noted he signed onto a bill that would create a municipal building authority, that would work like the Mass. School Building Authority, reimbursing municipalities for public buildings.

Rep. Sylvia told the board he did not

get his committee assignments yet, but he asked for transportation and agriculture.

SB chairperson, Stasia Powers, said the town is interested in regionalization opportunities and hoped Mr. Sylvia could help them identify some options as he went around to the different communities.

Ms. Powers also said rising housing costs are a priority for the town, and noted the state has some housing funds to allocate.

SB member, Andrew Saunders, said the town would be sending up a new charter soon. He also cautioned against regionalization going to far out geographically. He noted the most recent change to using a regional service for 911 service.

"It's not working very well," said Mr. Saunders.

He also said the replacement of the Fairhaven-New Bedford bridge was a priority for the town.

Mr. Saunders said the state needs to give more in local aid. He noted that the so-called rainy day fund has more than \$8 billion in it. The interest alone is in the hundreds of thousands of dollars

and that interest could go to the cities and towns. He noted the town has a \$750,00+ deficit that is bound to get bigger.

Ms. Powers also noted that the millionaire's tax flipped from 60% going to education and 40% to transportation, to just the opposite. She said the town would like to see it stay at 60% for education because education benefits everyone. The MBTA is more limited.

SB member, Andrew Romano, asked how the board could help advocate for lower utility bills, such as write a letter or sign onto other letters.

Rep. Sylvia said it is always helpful for the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) to hear from municipalities. He said he would direct them on where to send it. It is important to get as much as they can on the record.

Mr. Sylvia also presented a state flag to the board.

The board also discussed the budget proceedings, receiving a second draft from Interim Town Administrator, George Samia, who told the board that the deficit had closed a bit, from \$1.4 million to \$785,000. All departments had

SELECT: cont'd on page 13



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Bikes for All bike drive starts next week

Press Release

Bikes for All has continued with its mission to make sure that everyone who wants a bike can get one. Throughout the past four years, generous donations from our community members have enabled our volunteers to refurbish and distribute over 200 bicycles. With the help of school counselors and local non-profits, the bikes have been distributed to children and adults throughout Mattapoisett, Rochester, Marion, Fairhaven and New Bedford.

This collaborative effort of the Friends of the Mattapoisett Bicycle and Recreational Path (the Friends) and the South Coast Bikeway Alliance has shared resources for all to enjoy the natural beauty and extra health benefits from cycling on our beautiful ten mile bike path that connects Mattapoisett to New Bedford.

"It's been exciting to see the smiles as kids pedal off to try their new bikes. Our current need is bikes with wheels 20" or greater. We are not in need of children's bikes at this time", said Jane Finnerty, Friends Board member.

Our ALMOST SPRING Bikes for All bike drive is Saturday, March 8th from 11 am to 1 pm. Please bring your donation to the back of the Mattapoisett Congregational Church, in the parking lot on Barstow Street, across from the Center School in Mattapoisett. We are in need of GENTLY USED bikes that you would like to donate. Once again, bikes with

Our ALMOST SPRING
Bikes for All bike drive is
Saturday, 3/8, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

wheels 20" or greater are solely needed.

The next step is refurbishing the donated bikes. A welcome addition to the refurbishing efforts was made by students from Tabor Academy. As part of their community service, students worked with our primary refurbishing team members, Bill Emmons and Jim Finnerty. Bill Trimble, owner of "On the Spot" mobile bike repair service, joined the Friends' team and has brought new life to many bicycles over the past two

years. The "Bills" assess the bikes to be repaired. And thanks to the ongoing commitment of the Friends to ensure everyone has a bike who wants one, the Southcoast Bikeway Alliance has received a grant from the United Way of Greater New Bedford Changemaker Fund to expand the program. Once the assessment is complete, the financial support from these local non-profits ensure that we have all the needed parts and tools to work with on each bike. The bike refurbishing team is always expanding and looking for more community members to join our efforts.

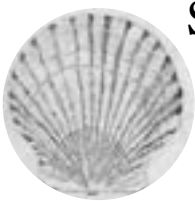
Once again, we are seeking gently used bikes. Please, none with excessive rust or damage. Interested in helping our repair efforts? Contact Jane Finnerty at 631-312-2560 or email jane.mattrail@gmail.com.

Cash donations for parts and safety accessories are always welcome. Donations can be made to the Friends of the Mattapoisett Bicycle and Recreational Path, PO Box 1336, Mattapoisett, MA 02739. Please note that your donation is for Bikes for All. Thank you.

MAC'S SODA BAR & CUSTOM CATERING

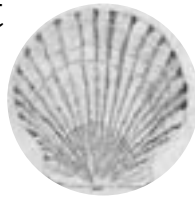
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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Free Political PR

The *Neighb News* will give all candidates for townwide public office in Fairhaven and Acushnet a chance to get their message out. You may submit an article of approximately 500 words, with a picture, and we will publish at no charge before the election.

Please contact the *Neighb News* as soon as possible so we can plan for space allocation in the issues leading up to the election.

DEADLINE: Friday, 2/28, for Fairhaven (4/7 election); Friday, 3/28, for Acushnet (4/22 election)

Send by email (preferred) to NeighbNews@comcast.net, or by fax, 508-991-5580, or mail to 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719.

Call 508-979-593 or email with questions.

Dog licenses

Hey Fairhaven Dog Owners! Just a friendly reminder that March 1st is the last day to license your furry friend! After this date, a \$15 late fee will be applied.

You can license in person, by mail or the Town's website: <https://tinyurl.com/298xxzrb>

Please call the Town Clerk's Office with any questions 508-979-4023 x3.

Movie Night

Movie Night: Sweet Freedom, Thurs., 2/27, 6:30-7:30 PM UUSF Auditorium 102 Green Street, Fairhaven, MA

Join us for a special Movie Night, discussion, and sweet treats during Black History Month! We'll be screening *Sweet Freedom* — a powerful 28-minute historical drama

set in 1839 New Bedford, directed by Fairhaven's own Alyssa Botelho. Witness the incredible story of Mary "Polly" Johnson, an Afro-Indigenous confectioner and Underground Railroad station master who risked everything to protect freedom seekers, including Frederick Douglass.

Following the screening, stay for a conversation and Q&A with Alyssa and historian Lee Blake. They'll dive into the film's historical accuracy, its ties to the region, and the importance of honoring unsung heroes like Polly. Complimentary refreshments from Sweet Lizzie's Bake Shop.s

PLEASE NOTE! This event is held at the UUSF Auditorium at 102 Green Street (across from Millicent Library) and is a collaboration between the Library and the UUSF.

Register on our website: millicentlibrary.org/events-calendar

Kids & Social Media

UUSF presents "Navigating Social Media with Your Child"

Explore the complex interactions between social media and children's education and well-being — and learn to set limits that work for all at a free, public program offered from 6:30 to 8 p.m. March 11 by the Faith Formation team of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Fairhaven.

Church members Laura Gardner, teacher librarian of Dartmouth Public Schools, and Rachel Cesarini, English teacher at Fairhaven High School, will share their experiences as educators and parents. There will be time for discussion and sharing of resources and best practices.

This is the first in a three-part spring series looking at family stressors and how we can work

together to support both parents and children. Upcoming presentations are: Parental Stress Roundtable, 6:30 p.m. April 8, and Raising Thriving Boys, 6:30 p.m. May 13.

The parish house at 102 Green St. is handicapped accessible via a ramp off the Center Street driveway. For more information about the church, call 508-992-7081 or visit uufairhaven.org.

Beer Can Museum

Pop-Up Beer Can Museum and Saint Patrick's Celebration, Wed., 3/12, 5:30-7:30PM, Town Hall Auditorium, 40 Center St., Fairhaven, MA

Happy Saint Patricks! In celebration, join the Millicent Library & Discover Fairhaven for a unique and entertaining evening as we welcome Kevin Logan, founder of the Beer Can Museum, for a fascinating presentation and pop-up beer can exhibit! Kevin's presentation will explore the history of the beer can, highlight local breweries, and feature a Q&A session with the audience.

But that's not all! Before the presentation, enjoy a special Happy Hour starting at 5:30 PM with Traveler's on Tour Food Truck, serving up a delicious St. Patrick's Day-inspired menu. Local beer and wine will also be available inside for guests 21+.

The presentation begins at 6:30 PM, so come early to grab a bite from the truck and a drink upstairs while you explore the museum display. Whether you're a beer enthusiast, history buff, or just looking for a fun night out, this event is for you!

Register on our website: millicentlibrary.org/events-calendar

Candidate Events

Fund-raising events can be promoted in paid ads. See rates in this issue, or visit our website to download a rate card at <https://neighbnews.com>

Mello

Natalie Mello, Fairhaven
Selectboard candidate

Hello, Fairhaven! I am pleased to announce two "Hello to Mello" meet and greet events. I look forward to meeting you in person and discussing the issues that are important to you. I hope to meet you then!

- Sat., 3/1, from 9:00 to 11:00am. The Rescue Cafe, 414 Main St., Fairhaven
- Sat., 3/8, from 9-11 a.m. at Saffron by the Sea, 110 Middle St., Fairhaven

Pacella & Lopes

Join Fairhaven School Committee candidate Pattie Pacella, and Fairhaven Board of Health candidate Cristina Lopes for a meet and greet on Sun., 3/9, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Rescue Cafe, 414 Main St., Fairhaven.

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Bingo Fund-Raiser

Community Nurse Presents BINGO!
Featuring DJ Gazelle from FUN107
Thurs., 2/27, 6-9 p.m., United Fishermen Club, 639 Orchard St. New Bedford. Space is limited – get your tickets now!

Bingo, Raffle & Sweet Treats. Bingo starts at 7 p.m. Suggested donation of \$35 per player

Register online at communitynurse.com/bingo or mail a check with participant names to: 62 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719

Sponsorships are still available
Visit communitynurse.com/bingo

For questions or raffle prize donation, email: donate@communitynurse.com

YTI Production

Your Theatre, Inc., presents "Order of the World, on two weekends: Fri. & Sat., 2/28-3/1, and 3/7-8 at 7:30 p.m.; and Sun., 3/2 & 3/9 at 2 p.m.

When Cass discovers a dirty little secret in her husband's sweater drawer, she flees to the honeymoon capital of the world in a frantic search for the life she thinks she missed. Get ready for a wild ride over Niagara Falls in a barrel of laughs as our heroine embarks on a journey of self-discovery, crossing paths with a blithely suicidal alcoholic, a lonely tour-boat captain, a pair of bickering private detectives, and a strange caper involving a gargantuan jar of peanut butter, all of which pushes her perilously close to the edge.

Performances are wheelchair accessible at The Steeple Playhouse, 159 William St. in downtown New Bedford.

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.

Visit www.YourTheatre.org and www.Steepleplayhouse.org.

Free Symphony

Musical Connections: Epic Stories, Epic Music. Join us as we uncover the musical inspirations that bring epic video games to life! Thurs., 3/6, 6-7 PM, DeMello International Ctr upper lobby, 128 Union St., New Bedford. Suitable for all age. Drop-ins are

welcome but if you know you will be attending please RSVP here so we can get a headcount for refreshments <https://nbsymphony.org/musical-connections/>

This Musical Connections program delves into the legendary video game compositions to understand how their compositional techniques and creativity impact our experience of the game. Education Director Terry Wolkowicz and CEO Dave Prentiss will use animated music graph visualizations, recorded music, and piano to explore and explain the creativity and compositional elements of the music.

Snow Queen

Still recovering from winter fatigue? New Bedford Youth Ballet's performance of *The Snow Queen* is guaranteed to warm your heart. Inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's 19th century fairy tale, audience members will experience the adventures of Gerda as she perseveres to save her best friend, Kiah, from the spell of the imps.

The New Bedford Ballet is hosting its annual March Youth Ballet Performance on Sunday, March 9th at the NBB Community Theatre, 2459 Purchase Street in New Bedford. Performances will be at 1:00 pm and 2:00 pm. Tickets: Adults \$15, Seniors, Students, and Children \$10. All proceeds will benefit New Bedford Ballet, a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

For more information, call New Bedford Ballet at 508-993-1387. Tickets are on sale now and may be purchased online through New Bedford Ballet's website at www.newbedfordballet.org

The New Bedford Youth Ballet is a company of the New Bedford Ballet Foundation, Inc. Founded in 1987, the Foundation is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote and present classical ballets, grant scholarships and educate the community about the beauty of this performing art.

Grantmaking Prog

We are pleased to announce the launch of our 2025 Grantmaking Program! Since its creation, the Women's Fund SouthCoast Grantmaking Program has given out over \$2 million to local non-profit organiza-

tions advancing racial and gender justice for women, girls, and gender expansive individuals across our region.!

We are so excited to share our changes and our expanded priorities with you at our upcoming 60-minute virtual info sessions. While you are not required to attend an Info Session to apply for grant funding, it is strongly encouraged. We will review our eligibility requirements, priority investment areas, and answer your questions.

We will host two sessions via Zoom:

- Wed., 3/5, from 5:30pm-6:30pm (<https://tinyurl.com/2hhcarv4>)
- Friday, March 7th from 12p-1pm (<https://tinyurl.com/3tyf828j>)

Both sessions will cover the same information, so you do not need to attend both unless you would like to.

Applications will be available on March 10th and accepted on a rolling basis through April 11th. Grant awardees will be announced in June 2025 and funding for projects will begin in July 2025.

If you have any questions about our Grantmaking Program or encounter trouble with registration, please email Todd Foy at tfoy@womensfundsouthcoast.org and we will be happy to help!

Science Cafe

Please join us for New Bedford Science Café, Tues., 3/4, from 6-8 p.m., The Last Round Bar & Grille, 908 Purchase St., New Bedford. Open to everyone. Free, save for the beer!

Visual artist and science writer Anna Von Mertens will discuss "To Clearly See: How Astronomer Henrietta Leavitt Helped Us Find Our Place in the Universe."

Up until Leavitt's seminal discovery at the turn of the 20th century, "our imagined universe was flat," notes Anna in her recently published monograph *Attention is Discovery; The Life & Legacy of Astronomer Henrietta Leavitt*. "There was no sense of depth to the stars, no ability to know where we were in space."

Anna will share the fascinating story of how one of America's earliest astronomers "changed all this."

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NewBedfordScienceCafe/>

Water Quality Study Volunteers

combb.woodwellclimate.org

Towns around Southeastern Massachusetts are grappling with how to address declines in coastal water quality. Decisions on what to do rely on water quality data, so it is important that members of the public understand that data. Researchers at the University of Massachusetts Amherst are calling on community members to participate in a study aimed at improving how water quality data is analyzed and communicated.

With advancements in sensor technology, water quality monitoring has entered a new era. Automated, low-cost sensors now collect data more frequently than ever, providing detailed insights into changes and variations in water conditions. However, this wealth of information presents a new challenge: how to interpret and share it effectively with diverse audiences.

The study will explore how people from different backgrounds understand water quality data collected at varying intervals. Researchers hope the findings will shape better ways of synthesizing and presenting complex environmental data to make it more accessible to the public, policy-makers, and scientists alike.

The study involves a 45-minute to 1-hour interview during which participants will review and discuss water quality data. No prior experience with water quality or data analysis is necessary, and adults of all backgrounds are encouraged to participate.

By participating, volunteers will contribute to improving how critical environmental data is communicated and used to protect water resources for future generations.

This research is part of a larger project conducted in collaboration with the Buzzards Bay Coalition, Woodwell Climate Research Center, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and Onset Computer Corporation. The project focuses on using cutting-edge technologies to advance water quality monitoring and governance.

If you are interested in participating email Seema Ravandale at watermonitoringstudy@umass.edu

For more information about the broader project, visit: <https://>

Bible Study Group

The Lamb of God Christian Church of Mattapoisett will be holding a no-cost Bible Study group at the Mattapoisett Free Public Library (Lower Meeting Room), Mattapoisett, MA. on Tues., 3/4 at 10:00 A.M.

This study is open to all who have an interest in the Bible. Any Bible translation can be brought. This group study is moderated by Pastor Mathew (6-year seminary student) using the NASB 1995 Bible translation.

For more information call (508) 998-6990, or E-Mail: pastor@lambogodma.org or Facebook: Mathew Vangel.

Maple Days

Old Sturbridge Village welcomes February with new events, a new exhibit, and many favorite programs returning this month.

Included with standard daytime admission on select dates in February and March, guests can see the entire sugar-making process, from tapping the trees to "sugaring off," and learn why maple sugar was more commonly used than maple syrup in early New England. Costumed historians will also cook period foods made with maple products and the tinner and cooper will make maple-related items.

Maple Days are Feb 19 through March 9 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. In addition, guests can stop by the Miner Grant Store and the Ox & Yoke Mercantile to purchase a variety of maple-themed items. Find maple syrup, maple candy, maple-themed books, maple-scented soaps and lotions, and more!

Additional winter season events include walking through historic buildings, engaging with our costumed historians, and seeing heritage-breed animals. Guests are encouraged to reserve tickets in advance for their date of arrival. Tickets and information can be found online: <https://www.osv.org/event/maple-days/>

Acushnet Library

The following events are at the Acushnet Public Library, 232 Middle Road. Visit <https://acupl.org>

For Children:

- Winter Storytime (ages 0-5): Wed.,

March 5 and 12, at 11:00 a.m.

- Story Explorers Book Club (ages 6-8): Tuesday, March 11, at 4:00 p.m.

For Adults:

- Readers' Group Morning Edition: *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge, Thursday, March 6, 11 am
- Readers' Group: *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Jenkins Reid, Thurs., 3/6, 6 pm.
- Movie Matinee *Wicked*, PG, 2:40 Ages 18+ please, Mon., 3/10, 2 pm

South Coast Rail Information Session

Monday, March 17, 6:00 pm, The Acushnet Public Library is pleased to welcome Jean C. Fox, Director of Public Engagement South Coast Rail, the MBTA South Coast Rail Program, to share the project's history, what they have accomplished recently, and what they must complete before revenue service. She will speak about safety, which is essential. South Coast residents are not used to having fast trains in the region, so we need to acclimate ourselves and be mindful of safe practices at and around railroad tracks.

Jean Fox has been an ardent advocate for enhanced public transportation options in SE Mass. for decades, recognizing the benefit of reliable transit links for economic opportunity and smart growth. She served as MassDOT's Project Manager for South Coast Rail from 2011 to 2019, taking the project through design, environmental review, and permitting.

Climate Forum

Fri., 3/7, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Hybrid format By the Environmental Business Council of New England. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/5ah77pu8>

In this Climate Adaptation Forum we'll explore the critical intersection of insurance and climate resilience. This event will bring together top experts who are leveraging insurance to mitigate climate risks, protect natural resources, and support communities in the face of increasing disasters. We'll hear perspectives from policy-makers, scientists, and the insurance industry. Discussions will cover cutting-edge catastrophe modeling, innovative insurance models, and the real-world impacts on homeowners and businesses.

Acushnet field could still change

Acushnet's election is on Tuesday, 4/22/25. February 28 is the last day to take out nomination papers.

So far there are no contested races, but there is the possibility of a contested Selectboard race. Incumbent Robert Hinckley has taken out papers for his seat on the SB, and former police chief Christopher Richmond also took out papers. Neither one had returned them by press time.

All elected boards have seats up for reelection, including: Selectboard,

Board of Assessors, Board of Health, two School Committee seats, two Commissioner of Trust seats, Cemetery Board, Park Commissioner, Planning Commissioner, Tree Warden.

By press time, Cemetery Board incumbent, Charlene Fortin, had returned her papers; Board of Health incumbent, Thomas Fortin returned papers.

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: 2/28/25, the last day to request; 3/4/25, the last day to file papers.

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

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 at 508-998-0215.



UU Society of Fairhaven welcomes all!

10 a.m. March 2:
"The Lone Wild Bird"

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

"Navigating Social Media with Your Child," 6:30-8 p.m. March 11. Free.

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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: 3/5, Twin River Casino; 3/12, Warwick Mall; 3/19 Prov. Place Mall; 3/26 Hyannis Mall & Trader Joe's; 4/2, Tiverton Casino; 4/9, Hyannis Mall & Trader Joe's; 4/16, Mashpee Commons

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

Mar. 3, 12:15 p.m. Featuring *The Six Triple Eight*. Period Drama. During World War II, 855 women joined the fight to fix the three-year backlog of undelivered mail. Faced with discrimination and a country devastated by war, they managed to sort more than 17 million pieces of mail ahead of time.

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.

AARP Tax-Aide

AARP TaxAide IRS Certified Volun-

teers 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.

Caregivers Support Group

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

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.

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 Summer 2025 Register Now!

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Fairhaven Recreation's premier summer camp experience is designed for children entering 1st grade to 7th grade. Every day, our campers will enjoy a diverse range of sports, games, art and STEM activities. Children will enjoy Special themed events, Friday pizza lunches, cool water activities and exciting field trips. For more information and pricing visit the Rec center or go online at <https://fairhavenrecreation.activityreg.com/9> weekly sessions

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.

Pre-K Nature program

Introduce your little ones to the wonders of nature with our engaging program! Through nature walks, hands-on activities, Storytime, and creative crafts, children will explore ecosystems, spark curiosity, and develop a love for the environment, all while having fun!

Ages 2-6 Begins April 22-May 27th Tuesdays 10:30-11:30am Members \$35 Non-Members \$45.

CSI Investigation

Join our Minds In Motion Crime

Team in this fun and interesting program! We will provide you with all the tools you need to become your very own crime scene investigator. Learn all about forensics, searching for evidence, and gathering clues and bring home your very own detective kit!

Working in groups, you will conduct many science experiments in our crime lab to solve the mysteries at hand. You will learn all about fingerprinting and how to classify them and bring home your very own fingerprint classification sheet! You will also perform chemical analyses and observations working with powders, liquids, and much much more! Be amazed at how much science plays a part in solving a crime. Ages 7-10 March 20th-April 24th Thursdays Member \$130. Non-Member \$145. 4-5pm

Recipe of the Week

Lentil Sloppy Joes

- 2 tbsp. oil
- 1/2 yellow onion, finely chopped
- 1 green pepper, chopped
- 1 large carrot, peeled & chopped
- 1 stalk celery, peeled & chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 oz. mushrooms, chopped
- 2 tsp. tomato paste
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/4 cup BBQ sauce
- 2 tbsp. brown sugar
- 1 cup tomato sauce
- 1/2 tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1/4 tsp. ground black pepper
- 1 tsp. smoked paprika
- 1/2 tsp. chili powder
- 1 tbsp. yellow mustard
- 3 cups cooked lentils
- 4 buns

In a large skillet, heat olive oil. Add onion, pepper, carrot, celery, and garlic and cook until tender. Add mushrooms and cook for an additional few minutes to soften.

Add the tomato paste to the pan and stir to combine. Let this cook for a minute or two before adding salt, BBQ sauce, brown sugar, tomato sauce, Worcestershire sauce, black pepper, smoked paprika, chili powder, and yellow mustard. Bring to a simmer.

Add the lentils and stir to combine. Cook until heated throughout. Serve immediately.



Dear Frankie

Love is Not Enough

Dear Frankie,
I can't believe the things Vinny gets away with. No matter how many tests he fails, the fights he gets into, or the mean things he says, he never gets in trouble at home.

Vinny can do no wrong in his mother's eyes. When she meets with his teachers, guidance counselors, or the principal, she offers all sorts of excuses for his behavior and says, "He's failing his tests because the teacher doesn't know how to teach."

"What was he supposed to do? Let the other dog beat him up?"

"Can't anybody take a joke; he was only kidding."

Some of the dogs at school think Vinny's mom is a riot and wish their moms were more like her.

I'm not convinced. If his mom keeps making excuses for him, how

will he learn to study, pass a test, or get along and make friends?

Charm

Dear Charm,

I agree Vinny's mom is not doing him any favors by blaming others for his failures and faults. She is letting him down by not expecting him to act appropriately and study for his tests.

The actual crime here is that Vinny will be the one to bear the brunt of his mom's poor parenting skills. He won't be asked to play, join a team, or be invited to birthday parties and sleepovers.

I hope the daycare staff will see that their energies would be better spent teaching Vinny how to study, get along with his peers, and praise him for his accomplishments, rather than wasting their time meeting with his mother to discuss issues she neither has the skills nor desire to correct.

Best, Frankie

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Comments and letters can be sent to Frankie at dearfrankiecolumn@gmail.com. The Fairhaven Neighborhood News

FRANKIE: cont'd on page 17

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Tri-Town Against Racism holds Black History Month event

Press Release
by Ellen Flynn

Thank you all for sharing your time on the cold Saturday Morning, February 22, 2025 to celebrate Black History Month with our MLT/TTAR StoryWalk at Munro Property and reception at the Mattapoissett Museum..

This year marks the third year that



the Mattapoissett Land Trust collaborated with Tri Town Against Racism for this event and this year the Mattapoissett Museum also welcomed us.

We were thrilled to have Connor Gaudet, Curator of the Museum; Mike Huguenin, President of the MLT; John Santos, Board member of TTAR for Business and Partnerships; and Moise Saint Louis, PhD, Assistant Dean, Lecturer, and Director of the Frederick Douglass Unity House at UMASS, Dartmouth, who is a Mattapoissett resident with three children in our Old Rochester School District; all offering enlightening remarks.

When I looked out into the audience at the Museum, I saw multi-generations from a young child, to teenagers, young parents, middle aged adults, and seniors.

We had the Tri Town represented plus Fairhaven all thinking of "hope", as Dr. Mo offered us in his remarks, reminding us of Barack Obama's Acceptance speech of "Yes we Can".

It was a wonderful day. I look forward to more open dialog in the near future.



ABOVE: Moise Saint Louis, Ph.D., Assistant Dean, Lecturer, and Director of the Frederick Douglass Unity House at UMASS, Dartmouth, speaks at the Mattapoissett Museum on 2/22/25 at a reception in celebration of Black History month as part of an event in collaboration with the Mattapoissett Land Trust and Tri Town Against Racism that included a StoryWalk at the MLT's Munro Property. LEFT: Mike Huguenin, President of the Mattapoissett Land Trust, speaks at the event. *Photos courtesy of Ellen Flynn.*

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Paid for by The Committee to Elect
Kelly Ochoa for School Committee

15 dogs, including 12 puppies, surrendered in Fairhaven

By Beth David
Editor

Chief Daniel M. Dorgan would like to thank the Fairhaven community for its outpouring of support after the department took custody of 15 dogs surrendered by a town resident.

On Friday, 2/21/25, at about 9 a.m., Fairhaven Animal Control Officer Terry Cripps received a call from a resident who said they were being evicted at noon and had “a few dogs” to surrender. When asked how many dogs they had to surrender, the resident revealed they had 15 pit bulls, three adults and 12 10-week-old puppies who needed a home.

ACO Cripps, along with members of the Fairhaven Police Department, responded to the home and one-by-one removed the dogs.

Six puppies were transferred to Forever Paws for fostering. Three others are being fostered by other families. And three puppies are at the shelter and will be available for adoption in about 5 months.

The remaining adult dogs will remain at the Fairhaven Animal Shelter until they are old enough to have proper vaccinations and be deemed adoptable.

Fairhaven Police initially asked the community for help providing puppy food and supplies, given the unexpected number of animals. The community stepped up immediately, providing hundreds of pounds of food, and more.

“Thank you so much to everyone who answered our call for puppy supplies,” said Chief Dorgan. “The overwhelming response to our request has warmed all of our hearts.

The Fairhaven community is amazing!”

The shelter now has plenty of provisions for the surrendered animals.

“If you haven’t already ordered anything, please wait a little longer to make a donation for our puppies,” said Lt. Timothy F. Souza, the Department’s Public Information Officer. “The amount of provisions our community has provided is staggering. We are grateful to our residents for their kind support.”

Mr. Cripps told the *Neighb News* he did not know why the resident was being evicted. He said he got the call at 9 a.m. that they had to remove the dogs by noon.

He only had three hours to get 15 dogs, and he already had seven dogs in the kennels, and he only has 13 kennels. So, it was a bit hectic and the dogs were the priority.

Mr. Cripps said the adult dogs, two females and one male, were “extremely stressed out,” especially the mother of the 12 puppies.

A trainer was scheduled to evaluate and work with the dogs to “put them



Fairhaven Police and Animal Control took custody of 15 dogs, including 12 10-week old puppies on 2/21/25, from a single owner who was facing eviction. Photo Courtesy of Fairhaven Police.

on a path to make them adoptable.”

No dog is available for adoption before it is six months old because that’s the minimum age to neuter and spay them, he said.

He is not taking applications for the puppies until they are ready to be adopted, in about five months.

Meanwhile, he has five other dogs available for adoption now. He had seven, but two were adopted over the weekend.

The shelter is at 200 Bridge Street, Fairhaven. Call 508-979-4028, to learn more about available animals.

Meet Jake and Ocho



Meet Jake and Ocho, who are at the Fairhaven Animal Shelter, waiting for their forever homes. Jake (LEFT) is about 11 years old. He’s a Shar Pei mix. This senior dog needs a nice quiet home to live out the rest of his days. He would prefer to be the only dog but we would do a meet and greet. Ocho (RIGHT) is about three years old. He’s a short Bully. He loves people and dogs but not cats. He’s a total lap dog. Call 508-979-4028 to learn more.

Photos courtesy of Fairhaven Animal Control



SELECT: cont'd from page 3

been asked to shave off 2% from their budgets. The out of district school costs went down, so that helped, he said.

The budget process is still in the early stages. The governor has not released the numbers for state aid to municipalities, so he used last year's number, adding that it will probably be a little higher. The question is, how much higher.

The Finance Committee and the SB will continue to meet to find ways to balance the budget. Meanwhile, all the union contracts are up for negotiation this year.

The Fairhaven Educators Association showed up in force with matching t-shirts and signs that read: Fund Our Schools, Fuel Our Future; Fund All the Kids All the Time; Strong Education Needs Strong Funding.

FEA President Melissa Duarte addressed the board, asking them to find a solution to properly fund the schools.

She told the board that schools do more than teach reading, math, science, and history.

"We prepare the next generation of problem-solvers, contributors, and engaged members of society," said Ms. Duarte. "Yet, year after year, our teachers are expected to do more with less — less funding, fewer resources, and an ever-growing list of challenges."

She said investing in schools is about the future of Fairhaven. Families choose where to live based on school quality and that leads to strong businesses.

"We understand the challenges of balancing a town budget, but education

is not an expense — it is a necessity," said Ms. Duarte.

She said they were asking for a commitment to the future of Fairhaven.

"An investment in education is an investment in Fairhaven," she said. "When we support our schools, we shape the future of our town."

The visit was prompted by the ongoing negotiations between the union and the district. In a follow-up email Ms. Duarte said the town asked the School Department to cut 2% from its budget and that would result in "deep reductions across the district, which is already operating with minimal staff and resources."

The town funds the schools at 2.3% above net spending (the state's minimum requirement), which is far below the state average of 25%, she said in the email.

Responses from board members were not encouraging.

Ms. Powers noted that the town was in the middle of a "very tough" budget process.

"We'll do what we can," she said.

The board discussed the proposed numbers and said the actual amount was higher for the school department, not a 2% decrease.

Mr. Romano noted that the town has increased fees and they are "pushed against the wall."

"I'm probably the only one on this board that was taught by half this room," he said, and added that he "ran the gamut" of what the school had to offer, and that those programs were "vital."

was the fourth Spanish teacher.

"There are zero now [at HMS]," she said. "Those are the kinds of things we would like to see back."

Ms. Powers reiterated her concern that the governor was changing the split from the millionaire's tax to send more to transportation. The money was intended for education, she said.

In another matter, the board chose Groux-White Consulting to assist them in the Town Administrator search.

SB member Keith Silvia advocated for the town to conduct the search itself and not hire a consultant. He voted "no," but the measure passed.

The board also voted to include a Town Meeting warrant article to change the election date to the first Tuesday in June instead of the first Monday in April.

Ms. Powers argued for the change, saying that Town Meeting is the first Saturday in May, when the budget is voted on. That means that the newest members of the board are trying catch up, after having been elected only a month earlier, and the board members who have been working on the budget since December are gone.

The board agreed it would be better to have the same person stay on the board until after TM.

Mr. Romano noted that when he came on last year he and Mr. Saunders did not even get their own budget books.

The article will ask TM to change the election to the first Tuesday in June, and change the polling hours to 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., instead of starting at 10. The changes are more in line with national and state elections.

The board also had three executive sessions. An appointment with New England Preservation and Development, LLC, was canceled and an executive session was added to discuss litigation with that company, which has been trying to acquire the Rogers School to build housing units. The company entered into an agreement with the town, but then did not meet some of the requirements of the agreement, according to the town. The company disputes that charge and has been in a court battle with the town since 2020.

The board also met in executive session to discuss contracts for the police chief and fire chief; and to discuss litigation, Fairhaven School Department vs. Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals in Mass. Land Court over the ZBA's repeal of the permit for the storage shed at the high school.



Members of the Fairhaven Educators Association wait in the hall for their agenda item to come up at the Select Board meeting on 2/21/25, to advocate for more spending for the schools. *Photo by Beth David.*

Mr. Saunders asked Ms. Duarte what amount she needed.

She answered that she was not in charge of the budget.

Mr. Saunders asked for more "context," asking if they like what they are teaching, and what they would change if they had more.

Ms. Duarte said the state sets the curriculum.

She noted, however, that when she started at Hastings Middle School, she

From our readers

Ms. Powers got it wrong

I take issue with [Select Board Chairperson Stasia] Powers's comments in the 2/13 issue of the *Fairhaven Neighborhood News*, "We can't cut our way out of it anymore," referring to the upcoming budget shortfall.

This will be the fourth year of a budget shortfall for the Town. All the powers to be have done is kick the can down the road again and again and expecting a different outcome.

There has been little discussion on cutting core costs!!!! Cutting road work, putting off buying a vehicle to another year and items such as these is kicking the can down the road.

I am astonished that over the course of four years no one has run projections for two years out of reoccurring costs. That's where you will find the areas you need to get under control. All the past decisions are the decisions we have to work with now on projects and contracts.

The fact is every year the Town can raise property taxes 2.5% along with yearly fees received by the Town. If it's this year or in following years the major expenses in Town are insurance and employees. Those two expenses have to be reviewed to get the core expenses inline. If not you will be juggling capital improvements for years, where departments will struggle when it's not their turn the receive funds.

The difficult part is the willingness of the leaders on the SB to make those decisions.

Steve Riley, Fairhaven

Note: I am a member of FinCom

Mello listens to all sides

We are writing this letter in support of Natalie A. Mello for Fairhaven Selectboard 2025.

We have known Natalie for several years through our church affiliation. We've both been on various committees and teams with her. She is presently the chairperson of the Faith Formation team and a member of the Board of Governors, in addition to holding other leadership roles.

Natalie is a highly organized, detail-oriented person. She has a very strong collaborative leadership style. She listens to all sides of an issue with curiosity, empathy and professionalism.

Natalie asks questions to understand others' points of view. Natalie

dives deep into the multiple possible outcomes of an issue and collaboratively engages with others to come up with the best solution for all.

Throughout her career, Natalie has held many leadership positions, including in her service to the Town of Fairhaven, on several committees. Natalie understands the importance of being fiscally responsible and working with other town departments toward the best outcome for the people of Fairhaven.

Natalie has the experience and drive to support the businesses and residents of Fairhaven in the upcoming years.

We support Natalie Mello for Select Board unequivocally,

*Deb and Stephan Becker, M.D.,
Fairhaven*

Mello is steward of taxpayer money

I am writing to endorse Natalie Mello for the Fairhaven Select Board. Everyone who has worked with Natalie knows that she is smart, articulate, thoughtful, and collegial. What fewer people know is that she is a diligent steward of the taxpayer's money.

Natalie is the secretary of the Historical Commission, which takes care of the town's historic buildings and other resources with a very limited budget. Natalie scrutinizes every invoice, remains up to date with the state of the budget, and asks thoughtful questions about how we spend our resources.

Natalie is also a member of the Community Preservation Committee, which has a much larger budget to fund projects in historic preservation, housing, recreation, and open space. She reads every proposal thoroughly, makes suggestions for improving projects, questions discrepancies between various drafts, and compares bids. She offers ways to reduce costs, but she also supports higher funding when that will improve the outcome.

Fairhaven, like many towns, needs at this time to be extremely careful about how we spend taxpayers' dollars. Natalie Mello will be a voice for fiscal responsibility and wise spending on the Select Board.

Beth Luey, Fairhaven

Buyer Beware

All I wanted to do was pay what I

owed on my Verizon bill. I needed a hard copy of the charges, fees, taxes etc. to understand charges and verify accuracy. Thus began the ordeal of obfuscation, double dealing, conflicting information and misdirection. It is dubious that Verizon will not itemize charges/payments and the agreement clearly in writing. Perhaps disclosure would reveal deceptive practices?

My antenna went up when I realized, with identity theft rampant, that the old phone I turned over was not wiped clean and no guarantee was given that they would do so.

I researched further:

1. When I took advantage of Verizon's advertised promotion, I thought I was transacting directly with Verizon, but it turns out, it was Wireless Zone. The store with a big Verizon sign on the façade (next to Walmart) in Fairhaven is not an "official" Verizon store. It is a Wireless Zone store Doing/Business/As Verizon — a "Verizon authorized" retail operation. The stores in Wareham and Dartmouth are official Verizon stores. Wireless Zone is not a licensed business in Fairhaven according to the town clerk. The accessor's office says the address is listed as Verizon for tax purposes. The MA Secretary of State's database has no current listing for Wireless Zone.

2. Each Wireless Zone is independently owned and operated so you have to navigate conflicting information which each and both saying that you must speak to the other. Classic Runaround! One said the agreement was a 36-month contract; the other said there was no contract — it was an interest-free loan. (Turns out the "free" iPad was included in the amount owed.)

3. Both promise to mail a hard copy of the charges, but nothing is forthcoming and the official Verizon stores are not able to print out charges.

4. When the first Verizon bill arrived, it reflected only a flat amount of \$625. (I had already paid \$416. when initiating the transaction.) After inquiring, I was told that it is customary to be billed for a full month BEFORE the service begins. That was news to me! Also, International calls using WhatsApp were billed for

LETTERS: cont'd on page 18



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Eric Sylvia

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Fairhaven GOP outraged over Rep. Sylvia vote

Press Release by Roert S. McConnell,
Fairhaven Republican Town
Committee Chairman

Local residents and tax-paying citizens are expressing deep disappointment in Representative Mark Sylvia's vote in favor of the controversial \$425 million Shelter Bailout Bill, which will have a significant financial impact on communities like Fairhaven.

Robert S. McConnell, a P.O.S.T.-certified sworn Deputy Sheriff and a Massachusetts-licensed nurse, voiced his concerns in an open letter to Rep. Sylvia, highlighting the public safety risks and lack of accountability surrounding the bill.

"As residents of Fairhaven, we already face economic challenges every day. This funding will only worsen our financial situation while failing to address critical safety concerns. Every single reasonable amendment filed by Republicans to bring accountability to this bill was rejected — including universal background checks, cooperation with federal law enforcement, and reasonable residency requirements," said

McConnell.

McConnell pointed out that the stark contrast between the scrutiny faced by everyday Americans compared to the massive influx of undocumented, unvetted border crossers entering Massachusetts.

"I have faced more scrutiny while volunteering at my church's Vacation Bible School or chaperoning a school ski trip than the individuals receiving emergency shelter in our communities. Should they not, at a minimum, undergo a C.O.R.I. check? Can Representative Sylvia assure us that these checks are being conducted?"

The bill's failure to include basic public safety measures — such as requiring a 12-month residency requirement and ensuring that individuals undergoing emergency shelter assistance are properly vetted — has left Fairhaven residents feeling abandoned by their own representative.

"The seduction, enticement, and outright invitation for people to come to our state has created an economic and societal disaster. This vote was not just unsustainable — it was cruel, both to Americans struggling to make

ends meet and to the so-called migrants being lured here under false pretenses," McConnell continued.

Fairhaven residents are calling on Representative Sylvia to stand up for his hometown, his constituents, and the rule of law. They demand accountability, fiscal responsibility, and public safety measures to protect the well-being of Massachusetts communities.

Letter to Rep. Sylvia

Mr. McConnell sent the following letter to Rep. Sylvia.

Dear Representative Sylvia,

We are extremely disappointed in your initial vote on the first major issue of this new legislative season. As residents and tax-paying citizens of Fairhaven, we face economic challenges and struggles every day. This new funding will have a significant negative impact on the financial situation in our town.

All of the very reasonable amendments to this funding bill, filed by Republicans, were rejected. As a P.O.S.T.-certified sworn Deputy Sheriff and a Massachusetts-licensed nurse,

FHVN GOP: cont'd on page 17



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FHVN GOP: cont'd from page 16

public safety is of utmost importance to me both professionally and personally. I have faced more scrutiny when volunteering at my church's Vacation Bible School or chaperoning my children's school ski trip than the massive influx of undocumented, unvetted, and unknown border crossers have received. Should they not, at a minimum, undergo a C.O.R.I. check? Can you assure us that these checks are being conducted now? The majority of these individuals seeking emergency shelter are from out of state or out of the country — why are universal background checks not being required as well?

Your vote against reasonable amendments — such as allowing cooperation with federal law enforce-

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LOOKING TO RENT a room on the ground floor with availability to water and a bathroom. I am a Certified Reflexologist and Meditation Instructor. Fairhaven, Mattapoisett, preferable. But, I will listen to all opportunities. Elaine:201-388-0225.

FRANKIE: cont'd from page 10

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.

ment, reasonably restricting eligibility, requiring a 12-monthly residency, and mandating universal background checks — is appalling and indefensible.

Please stand up for your hometown neighbors and friends. We are counting on you to do the right thing. Of course, we have a responsibility and moral obligation to care for others, but the seduction, enticement, encouragement, and outright invitation for people to come to our state has resulted in economic and societal disaster. Your vote was not only unsustainable in so many ways, but it was also cruel — both to Americans and to the so-called migrants. Please do the right thing and stand up for your friends and neighbors.

*Respectfully, Robert S. McConnell,
Fairhaven*

Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Board of Appeals

Tues., 3/4, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Board of Public Works

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

Conservation Commission

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

Economic Development

Thurs., 2/20, Town Hall, 5:30 p.m.

Finance Committee

Thurs., 2/27, Arsene St., 6:30 p.m.

Planning Board

Tues., 3/11, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 3/12, FHS Lib., 6:30 p.m.

Select Board

Mon., 3/10, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Acushnet

Selectboard

Tues., 3/4, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	Mar. 2025	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Saturday	1	0842	2108	0205*	1422*
Sunday	2	0930	2156	0254*	1506*
Monday	3	1019	2248	0339*	1547*
Tuesday	4	1112	2345	0424*	1631*
Wednesday	5	---	1212	0517*	1722*
Thursday	6	0046	1313	0635	1835
Friday	7	0146	1415	0854	2006
Saturday	8	0249	1524	1031	2235
Sunday	9	0501	1736	---	1231
Monday	10	0604	1831	0039	1319
Tuesday	11	0652	1914	0130	1404
Wednesday	12	0732	1953	0218	1445
Thursday	13	0811	2031	0300	1514

*= 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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FAIRHAVEN PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 6:30 pm Town Hall, 40 Center Street

Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Notice is hereby given that the Fairhaven Planning Board will conduct a Public Hearing at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday March 11, 2025, at Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA. The Planning Board Meeting will

be conducted in Town Hall and remotely and will be televised live on Fairhaven TV Channel 18 and fairhaventv.com. To Join the Meeting from home Log on to:

<https://zoom.us/j/93163358101?pwd=NXg5WnUxZ3lLK3drSVBBM2JPTXE0QT09>

or call 1-929-205-6099 - Meeting ID: 931 6335 8101 - Passcode: 740257

Live on Fairhaven TV Channel 18 and fairhaventv.com

The purpose of the hearing will be to receive information and public comment on the following application: SP25-05 10 Diamond Street ADU – Ruby & Jaime Medeiros, the owner of 10 Diamond Street,

requests a special permit for re-building garage with an Accessory Dwelling Unit above. The property is located at Map 29 Lot 046 & 72.

Copies of the applications are on file for public review at the Planning Board Office, Town Hall, by appointment and on the Town website. To schedule an appointment to review the application call the Planning Department at (508) 979-4023, Ext. 8128 or go to: <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/planning-board/pages/current-permits-being-reviewed-special-permits-definitive-subdivisions>

Cathy Melanson, Chair, Planning Board
FNN: 2/20/25, 2/27/25

LETTERS: cont'd from page 14

hundreds of dollars as Verizon says the calls did not go through and reverted to a Verizon line. This is highly dubious as nobody I know who initiates a call on WhatsApp has ever been charged.

I could go on but suffice it to say, I'm still waiting for an itemized statement for all charges and a copy of the agreement. When I receive the hard copies, I will pay the legitimate charges and refute charges that are incorrect.

Since I canceled the Verizon service, I have received several phone calls and emails asking me to come back to Verizon for \$500. It is almost comical! I tell them under no circumstances would I ever do business with Verizon again. Life is too short to spend time disentangling the spider web they created to deceive.

Bottomline: Steer clear of the Verizon store in Fairhaven. It is not what it seems.

Cathy Delano, Fairhaven

The Reason for Trump's Victory

I believe it was by the grace of God Trump survived the two assassination attempts on his life. If he didn't turn at precisely the right instant he would have been killed in the first attempt.

Secondly I believe the fervent prayers of many Christians who were prang for him were answered. Thirdly it was the hard work and diligence of many of his supporters including the party workers and volunteers who worked the phones, and rang the door bells, and at the grassroots level attended his rallies and stand outs by the countless thousands. I believe God has given us this opportunity to acknowledge Him and worship Him. If we do this, this nation by the people of the people and for the people will

continue to exist.

The contrast between the present day Democrats and Republicans couldn't be more dramatic. The present day Democrats are socialist Marxists who worship at the altar of power and control where the individual is subservient to the state. They endorse the false premise they are the party of the workers' paradise where everyone works for the common goals but in reality a few individuals seize control and all freedoms are suppressed.

The guiding principle for the Republican party is found in the preamble to our constitution which states all men are created equal and are endowed by their creator with certain rights such as life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Our constitution and bill of rights were written with this as its guiding principle.

The Democrats deny the fact that the unborn is an individual and should be given many of the protections extended to us. I do recognize that there are some circumstances where abortion would be permitted, such as rape, incest and the health of the baby. They support men in women's sports, boys in girls' bathrooms, and performing sex changes on young children.

They lied about the origins of COVID 19 and suppressed very credible reports that it originated in a lab in Wuhan Chin. Needlessly locked down schools, churches, and business for extended periods of time. Despite very credible reports that healthy children were not affected by it. Florida's governor Ron DeSantis used common sense and didn't lock down schools and business for extended periods and had a much better outcome.

The Republicans are the party that respects our constitution and the man and women who fight our wars and fought and died to protect us. Who struggle every day to provide for their families, pay taxes and support their government. The are the men and women who are as quote by Hillary Clinton and agreed upon by many of the present day Democrats as gun toting Bible thumping flag wavers.

John Pond, Fairhaven

Trump's Unfocused Mind

Trump's unfocused, fragmented, Pragmatist mind has no ideology to keep it together. The mystical ideal of nationalism is a pretense that all is well. It is, in the short-run of cats, babies and drug addicts. Yesterday is just a goodbye and tomorrow is merely a pain in the gut. He appeases Putin by selling out our ally, Ukraine, for the art of the deal, like any prostitute.

His Defense Secretary, Hegseth, says anything is possible with Russia and Ukraine. And that a Ukrainian victory is "unrealistic." A year after Chamberlain appeased Hitler in 1938, Munich, by babbling, "Peace in our time," Germany invaded Poland. Go back to sleep, America. Nothing to see here. Maybe you can attend funeral services for the Democratic Party.

When was the last time that you heard a politician praise America's founding morality of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness?

Stephen Grossman, Fairhaven

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