



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



The little paper
with a big voice!

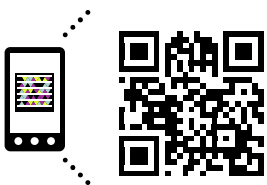
Volume 20, Issue 11 • March 6, 2025

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

Quahog season?



ABOVE: A seagull flies off with a quahog in its beak, looking for a good spot to drop it so it will crack and he can eat it, at the Pease Park boat ramp in Fairhaven on 3/3/25. RIGHT: A few minutes later, he finds his spot, but curiously enough, he did not eat it after dropping it. *Photos 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.



Publisher Beth David with
Charlie, aka Evil Dog

My old friend Jimmy, a commercial quahogger, used to say that seagulls were the best quahoggers in the world.

So, when I was driving around looking for a cover photo this week, I couldn't resist getting the picture of a seagull flying around and around with a big quahog in its beak, looking for just the right spot to drop it so it would crack and he could eat it. He didn't though. He flew off. Not sure what that was about, but...

Let the games begin! We have candidate statements this week, starting with the Select Board. See page 12 for that.

The Historical Commission had a doozy of a meeting (see page 3). They also were going to meet this week, but too late for me to cover it. Mr. Carr was scheduled as a "special guest" to talk about the storage shed. You know, the one he shouldn't be talking about in front of boards because of his clear Conflict of Interest.

Anyway, the one on page 3 is quite the show. Long time member Wayne Oliveira filed an Open Meeting Law Complaint on the commission, and they went after him in a big way, which resulted in his resignation. Whether you're a Wayne O fan or not, that meeting was a disgrace. Really, people, look in the mirror.

Of course, I recall a similar situation some years ago with the Beautification Committee, when Mr. Oliveira was on the other side, trying to get rid of someone who, well, just didn't quite fit into his preferred little clique of the time. I'm flabbergasted that I lasted long enough in this job to see this turn of the tables.

Still, what's bad for the goose is bad for the gander. Watch it yourselves. It's not a long meeting, but it's rough. Clearly, there's more going on here than a few missed meetings.

We change the clocks this weekend! Daylight Saving Time starts at 2 a.m. on Sunday, 3/9. Put your clocks ahead.

The Big Buffoon gave the longest speech in f'g history on Tuesday. It was filled with so many lies, your head will spin. Unless of course you believe everything he says.

Here are just a few. The US did NOT give Ukraine more than Europe, not by a long shot. We gave around \$125 billion, Europe gave \$259 billion. And, we gave them all the old weapons we were going to throw out, anyway. The big numbers are for replacing them, with weapons made in this country, by American workers, profiting American companies. Geesh.

The worst inflation this country has ever seen was in 1980. The Biden economy was literally the best in the world and was called the envy of the world by economists. Growth was steady at 2-3%. How's that growth this month?

Social Security is not paying benefits to millions of people listed as 150+ years old. Honestly, it's been weeks. How long does it take to figure out where the bank accounts are that the money is going to? Well...it isn't, so, they haven't.

Auto CEOs are not happy about the tariffs, they are terrified. The Ford CEO said it would "blow a hole" in the US Auto Industry, that we have never seen.

Joe Biden did not close over 100 power plants. There were more up and running at the end of his term than at the beginning.

There is no such thing as an EV mandate.

Oil and gas production hit all time highs under Biden. Drill, baby, drill, indeed.

Even DOGE did not claim those stupid numbers as savings and they had to remove a bunch of lies from their website.

GAWD....that's just the tip of the iceberg of lies.

And...wah wah wah....the press is picking on me!

And unelected bureaucrats are bad, except Elon.

There's other stuff in here of course. Be sure to notice who our advertisers are and tell them you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*.

Until next week then, see ya,

Glory to Ukraine!
Glory to the Heroes!

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Editor: Beth David

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Wayne Oliveira resigns from Historical Commission

By Beth David
Editor

Wayne Oliveira, a long time member of the Fairhaven Historical Commission, sent his resignation letter to the Select Board, which was received at the 2/24/25 meeting. In his letter, Mr. Oliveira noted he had been on the HC for more than 20 years, and has been serving in some capacity with town government for 40 years.

"I have taken great pride in contributing to our shared goals of preserving and protecting the history of our community," wrote Mr. Oliveira, adding he has worked alongside passionate and dedicated individuals.

"However, I have come to the conclusion that it is no longer feasible for me to continue in this role due to recent developments within the commission," reads the letter. "A select few members have engaged in efforts that have, unfortunately, created an environment where my position is not longer tenable."

He adds that the efforts are aimed at pushing him out, that he had a "lack of support in addressing" his attendance issues, and the HC changed the

schedule of the meeting, which had been in place for more than 20 years, to a time when he cannot attend..

"While I remain committed to the preservation of our community's history, I can no longer participate in an environment that does not foster mutual respect or constructive problem solving."

On 2/12/25 the HC held a special meeting to discuss an Open Meeting Law Complaint (OML) that Mr. Oliveira had filed. In the complaint, Mr. Oliveira said he HC held a meeting on 2/4/25 when they discussed him and his absences from recent meetings without it being on the agenda or notifying him.

The OML requires subjects discussed by board members to be on the agenda unless a matter is not reasonably anticipated.

In his complaint, Mr. Oliveira said the chairperson, Michael Kelly, made "open and disparaging comments" about Mr. Oliveira.

HC chairperson, Michael Kelly, said the matter was not reasonably anticipated because he did not know that Mr Oliveira would be absent until the day before the meeting.

He also said there was no OML

violation because he did not slander Mr. Oliveira. Mr. Kelly said he simply spoke about Mr. Oliveira's missing of four consecutive meetings and five of the seven meetings before that.

The contentious meeting had lots of back and forth between Mr. Oliveira and Mr. Kelly, with both accusing each other of disrespectful behavior.

In remarks at the meeting, Mr. Oliveira said he felt he was being pushed out, "And I don't deserve to be treated like this."

He said he was a "doer, not a talker," and the commission used to do things.

"We weeded, we painted, we did masonry, we did carpentry," said Mr. Oliveira. "We did everything to save the town some money when we had no budget."

He said that he started missing meetings when they changed the day, that he told them he would not be able to make it and they changed it anyway.

The two went back and forth a bit, with Mr. Oliveira saying he was being singled out, and Mr. Kelly saying he was being treated like everyone else.

"You know, here's the thing Wayne.

HC: cont'd on page 4

Vote Patricia Pacella for School Committee: Collaboration, Growth, Inclusion!

Our students deserve more than just a good education — they deserve a community of schools that work together, grow together, and support each other. That's why I'm running for School Committee — to bring a fresh perspective and a commitment to collaboration, growth, and inclusion.

Here's what I stand for:

- **Collaboration with Neighboring School Committees:** I believe that by working together with surrounding districts, we can share resources, best practices, and innovative ideas to create a stronger, more unified educational experience for all students.
- **Fostering Growth:** Whether it's in the classroom, on the field, or through extracurricular activities, I will work to ensure that every student has the opportunity to reach their full potential and grow as individuals.
- **Inclusion for All:** Diversity strengthens our community. Students of all backgrounds and abilities can learn from each other and make a lasting impact. I will advocate for policies that celebrate differences and ensure that every student, regardless of background, has the support and opportunities they need to make lasting friendships.

Let's work together to build an educational environment that encourages growth, fosters inclusion, and prepares our students for the future.

Vote Patricia Pacella for School Committee—Because every student deserves to thrive!



MY WHY...Grace Pacella

PAID FOR BY PATTIE PACELLA

HC: cont'd from previous page

Everybody is tired of you playing the victim. We know that you like it. We know that it makes you feel good about yourself," said Mr. Kelly.

"You always resort to name calling," said Mr. Oliveira.

"There's no name calling," said Mr. Kelly, and explained that slander is a false statement, and he made no false statements.

Mr. Oliveira said he considered the name calling to be slanderous.

Mr. Kelly read a transcript of the 2/4 meeting to prove that he did not call him names, he simply talked about his absences.

"Now tell me, because you are so fragile, obviously," said Mr. Kelly.

"Will you stop with the disparaging insults," said Mr. Oliveira.

Mr. Kelly said that Mr. Oliveira was the one who brought it up.

"Okay, so I will remove the word 'slander' if it offends you so much," said Mr. Oliveira.

Mr. Kelly raised his voice, and pointed and wagged his finger at Mr. Oliveira, saying, "You are potentially slandering me by using it so I would be very careful."

"You have bullied your way through this town for years, and you are not going to get away with it anymore," said Mr. Kelly.

"Nobody just bullied more than you," said Mr. Oliveira.

Mr. Kelly put his head down and then threw his head back laughing loudly, and said: "That is absurd."

"I think I'm done here," said Mr. Oliveira.

"Yeah, I think you are," said Mr. Kelly.

"This seems to be a little clique of people who just want to do what they want to do," said Mr. Oliveira. "And I, I just don't think I have any place in this commission any longer."

"Your opinion is duly noted," said Mr. Kelly, adding, "I'm glad. I'm so happy that you feel that way."

"I think you are a very disrespectful individual," said Mr. Oliveira as he left.

"The pot calling the kettle," said Mr. Kelly.

After Mr. Oliveira left, members weighed in, with all of them agreeing there was no OML violation.

Beth Luey said there was no violation. She also said it was not unusual for a board to remove a member who has

missed a lot of meetings.

Nate Bekemeier said if he missed four meetings he would hope he is not allowed to be on the commission.

Rick Martin said he was disappointed that Mr. Oliveira used the words "disparaging" and "slanderous." He said he reviewed the video from the 2/4 meeting and found "nothing slanderous about anything" that Mr. Kelly said.

Natalie Mello also said she watched the meeting and agreed there was no slander.

Mr. Kelly added that Mr. Oliveira was not singled out for "nefarious treatment."

"It's patently absurd," said Mr. Kelly. "And it is based simply on his own insecurities. I'm sorry, but it's true."

He also said Mr. Oliveira's behavior was "self destructive."

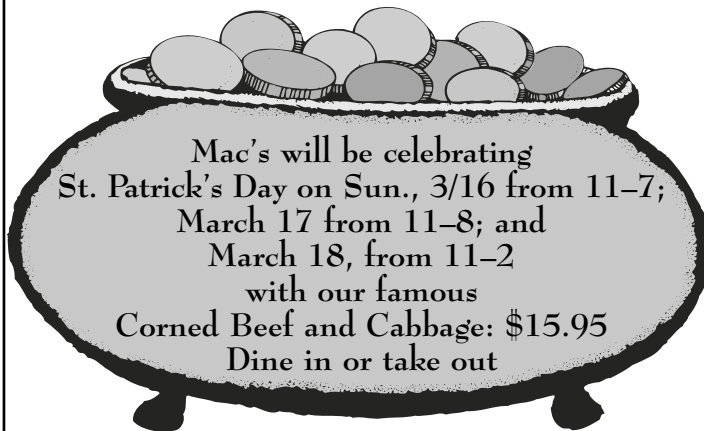
Mr. Kelly urged the public to watch the meetings to decide for themselves, pointing out the 9/4/24 meeting.

The Commission voted to have Mr. Kelly draft a response to send to the Attorney General's office saying they did not violate the OML.

The meeting is available on demand on FairhavenTV.com

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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Submit Questions

The Town of Fairhaven Government Access department will hold a candidates night on Thurs., 3/27, at 6 p.m., in the Town Hall Auditorium. It will run live on channel 18 and on FairhavenTV.com

The public is encouraged to submit questions for candidates to FairhavenTV@gmail.com by March 21. Please specify which position the question is intended for.

Residents are asked to submit questions in advance to be asked anonymously to candidates. Each candidate for a particular seat will have an opportunity to answer the same question, with a rotation of who answers first.

Fhvn Repub Comm

Please join us, be part of something bigger in your community.

The Fairhaven Republican Town Committee membership is growing! We meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 32 Abbey Street, Fairhaven at 6pm. All are welcome to attend our next meeting on Tues., 3./18. Contact us at fairhavenrtc@gmail.com or call

Committee Chair Bob McConnell at 508-863-0416 with any questions or concerns. We welcome any guest speaker interested in addressing our Committee.

Vendors/Eco Fair

The Fairhaven Sustainability Committee, The UU Society of Fairhaven and The Millicent Library present the Fairhaven Eco-Fair, April 12, noon-3, on the Unitarian Church Lawn. Rain date, 4/13. There will be vendors, non-profits, food, demonstrations and workshops.

Any interested vendors should reach out to ann.richard@gmail.com.

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

Tree Advocacy

Would you like to see more trees planted in Fairhaven? Would you like the trees we have to be taken care of? Would you like to prevent future removal of healthy trees...like the two 100 year old trees at 32 Union St in Fairhaven that were torn down on 2/27/25.

Please join our new advocacy group for trees in Fairhaven please contact Treesinfairhaven@gmail.com, Lynne Mason

Rain Barrels

The Fairhaven Sustainability Committee is offering residents discounted rain barrels to help conserve water and protect our environment!

Order at <https://www.greatamericanrainbarrel.com/community/> (Select Fairhaven, MA)

Order Deadline: March 28, 2025

Pickup Date: Saturday, April 12, 2025 (12-3 PM) at the Eco-Fair - Fairhaven Center, UU Church Lawn

Candidate Events

This section is for Acushnet and Fairhaven candidates to announce free events, such as meet & greets. This is NOT for fund-raising events or any event that will solicit donations to support a campaign.

Submit your listing up to 100 words to NeighbNews@comcast.net. Include the kind of event it is, e.g., meet-and-greet; the day and date; time; location, including full address.

Fund-raising events can be pro-

moted 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 a "Hello to Mello" meet and greet event. I look forward to meeting you in person and discussing the issues that are important to you. I

hope to meet you then!

• Sat., 3/8, 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

OLOP Fish Fry

Please join us on March 7, 14, 21, 28, and April 4 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM for Our Lady of Purgatory's Lenten Fish Fry at the OLOP Parish Center, 4254 Acushnet Avenue, New Bedford, MA. It's a great opportunity to enjoy baked or fried fish & chips (cole slaw, rolls, dessert, and a beverage) all for a donation of \$15.00. It's also a great time to share some laughter and fellowship.

Purchase your tickets today by contacting us at (508) 996-8934 or officeolop@gmail.com

Bowling FR

On Sun., 3/9, My Brother's Keeper will be hosting Strikes for Hope, a bowling event for families, colleagues, and friends to support the mission of My Brother's Keeper, Wonder Bowl, 66 Hathaway Rd, New Bedford, MA 02746. Two Sessions: Noon-1 and 3-5. \$100 per lane. Register: at www.mybrotherskeeper.org/strikes25/

Please join our community for an afternoon of bowling and fun! All ages and skill levels are welcome. Registration includes 2 hours of bowling, shoe rentals, event t-shirt, and pizza. During this event, we will host the Strikes for Hope Challenge, where a generous sponsor will contribute \$25 to My Brother's Keeper for each of the first 600 strikes thrown!

To donate or learn more about getting involved with My Brother's Keeper, visit www.MyBrothersKeeper.org or call 774-305-4577.

YTI Production

Your Theatre, Inc., presents "Order of the World, 3/7-8 at 7:30 p.m.; and Sun., 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.

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

We will host sessions via Zoom:

- Friday, March 7th from 12p-1pm (<https://tinyurl.com/3tyf828j>)

Applications will be available on March 10th and accepted on a rolling basis through April 11th. .

If you have any questions or encounter trouble with registration, please email Todd Foy at tfoyl@womensfundsouthcoast.org !

Women's History Exhibit

This Women's History Month, celebrate the powerful stories of the SouthCoast community's trailblazers with the exhibit *Lighting the Way: SouthCoast Women's Lives, Labors, Loves* at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, on view in the Wattles Gallery through May 4, 2025.

The rich collection of over 340 artifacts, portraits, and manuscripts encompass hundreds of women's stories and showcase their diverse contributions to domestic life, education, public institutions, and political and social movements. Visitors are encouraged to reflect on how women and the art, objects, and documents made by and for them continue to shape the area, its culture, history, and life. Starting March 1st and developed as a complement to this special exhibition, the museum will launch a new audio tour featuring stories about local women focused on the permanent galleries.

The Museum will host several programming events during March to enhance the exhibit:

March 11, 5:30 p.m., : Local History Guild, virtual panel discussion on 'New Bedford Women and the Whaling Era' (free)

March 13, 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.: AHA! Night, featuring The New Whaler Bookshop Pop-up (free)

March 16, 4:00 p.m.: "Sweet Freedom" film screening and reception

March 18, noon: Curator-led tour of *Lighting the Way*

March 18, 6:30 p.m.: Lecture on *Lighting the Way* with the Sippican Historical Society

March 29, 10-2pm: Women's History Month: Day of Celebration (open to all ages), focused on women's history

For more information, visit www.whalingmuseum.org.

HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

Clothing & Toy Sale

Gently used clothing for the entire family, toys & jigsaw puzzles. All at bargain prices. Fri., March 21, 1-7 pm; Sat., March 22, 9 am-1 pm.

Sat. special fill a bag for \$3, Boutique items 50% off.

St. Julie Billiard Church Hall, 494 Slocum Rd., Dartmouth. Sponsored by the Ladies Guild

Bike Drive

Bikes for All has refurbished and distributed over 200 bicycles to children and adults throughout Mattapoisett, Rochester, Marion, Fairhaven and New Bedford.

Our ALMOST SPRING Bikes for All bike drive is Sat., 3/8 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. Only bikes with wheels 20" or greater are needed. No children's bikes needed.

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.

Bike Committee

The Acushnet Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Committee is looking for two new members to join us in helping to make Acushnet roads safer for all users. Our next meeting is at 6pm on March 13 at the Town Hall.

Last Fall we held a Bike Rodeo at the Elementary School with help from Mass Safe Routes to School and a Certified Bike Instructor. (photos attached) We are planning on having more events like this in 2025.

Fill out the Citizens Interest Form on the Town of Acushnet website: <https://www.acushnet.ma.us/home/pages/volunteer-opportunities>

MAC Performance

The Marion Art Center (the MAC) would like to announce the opening of the MAC Theater's *Ripcord*. The

playwright is David Lindsay-Abaire, who has won multiple Tony awards for his work as well as a Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

A sunny room on an upper floor is prime real estate in the Bristol Place Senior Living Facility, so when the cantankerous Abby is forced to share her quarters with new-arrival Marilyn, she has no choice but to get rid of the infuriatingly chipper woman by any means necessary. A seemingly harmless bet between the old woman quickly escalates into a dangerous game of one-upmanship that reveals not just the tenacity of these worthy opponents, but also deeper truths that each would rather remain hidden.

The show dates are March 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 2025. Friday, Saturday shows at 7:30pm and Sunday matinee is at 2:00pm. Tickets are \$20 for members and \$23 for nonmembers and are on sale now. More information can be found at marionartcenter.org/events.

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 policymakers, scientists, and the insurance industry. Discussions will cover cutting-edge catastrophe modeling, innovative insurance models, and the real-world impacts on homeowners and businesses.

Water Quality Study Volunteers

Towns around SE Mass. 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.

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.

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

For more information about the broader project, visit: <https://combb.woodwellclimate.org>

SC Rail Information

Monday, March 17, 6:00 pm, The Acushnet Public Library, 232 Middle Road, 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.

Visit <https://acupl.org>

Seed Library

The Mattapoisett Library is excited to announce the return of our well-loved Seed Library Program! It is free and open to everyone, regardless of gardening experience. Patrons only need an active SAILS library card to participate!

Come by 7 Barstow Street in Mattapoisett and borrow what you need to start your garden today! For more information, visit the library, email mfp1@sailsinc.org, or call us at 508-758-4171.



UU Society of Fairhaven welcomes all!

Worship, 10 a.m. March 9:
"Wars of Religion"

Community Conversation: "What is
White Christian Nationalism and Why
Does it Matter?" 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
March 9. Free and open to all.

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

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Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., 7:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.; Wed., 7:30 a.m.–8 p.m.

Visit our website at: http://fairhavenma.virtualtownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA_COA/index

Supportive Social Day Program

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

Mall Trips

Reservations accepted for mall trips at beginning the 15th of the prior month. There is a \$6 charge unless otherwise noted. Please bring exact amount. The van leaves the Fairhaven Senior Center promptly at 9: 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. 17, 12:15 p.m. Featuring *Irish Wish*. Romantic Comedy. When the love of Maddie's life gets engaged to her best friend, she puts her feelings aside to be a bridesmaid at their wedding in Ireland.

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 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.

Mar. 27, 11:30–1:30. Please call to reserve a spot by Mar. 24.

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

Lunch is hot dog, baked beans, carrots, hot dog bun, orange, ketchup. There will be musical entertainment by Tony & Pat following lunch and socializing.

Space is limited. Please sign up by 3/24 at 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.

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>

Flashlight Egg Hunt

24th Annual Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt (pre registration is required) Join us for the annual flashlight egg hunt. Children will search for their eggs on the Recreation center grounds and return them to the Easter Bunny for a special treat. Don't forget to bring your flashlight & camera for pictures with the Easter Bunny. In the event of Rain, the event will be held indoors at the Center. Date: April 11th Time: 7:15 PM for ages up to 5, Time 7:45pm for ages 6-11

\$7 due at registration Deadline to register is Tuesday April 8th. No late registrations will be accepted. No walk-ins will be allowed on the night of the event

Kool Kids April Vacation

Get ready for a fantastic time at the April 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 April 22nd-25th (Tuesday-Friday) 8am-4pm Member \$42, non member \$45. per day

QB Workshop

Join us for an exciting Quarterback Workshop led by Jayce Duarte, former Fairhaven High BlueDevil QB! Young football players will have the opportunity to enhance their quarterback skills through a variety of throwing drills, footwork exercises and agility training. This program is designed to improve accuracy and overall athleticism while learning

from an experienced local athlete. Don't miss this chance to take your game to the next level Sundays April 6th-May 4h (no class 4/20) Grades 6-10 Member \$20 Non-member \$25.

Kool Kids Summer 2025 Register Now!

Get ready for an unforgettable summer with Kool Kids Camp!

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

Recipe of the Week

Dublin Coddle (Irish Sausage and Potato Stew)

- 8 strips thick-cut bacon, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 yellow onions, chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 cup chopped green onions, plus more to garnish top
- 1 cup stout beer
- 1 tablespoon fresh thyme leaves
- 1/4 cup chopped Italian parsley
- ground black pepper, to taste
- 2 tsps kosher salt, or to taste
- pinch cayenne
- 3 pounds gold potatoes, peeled and halved

4 cups chicken broth
6 large pork sausage links, about 2 1/2 pounds total

Cook bacon in a Dutch oven or a large oven-safe pot with a lid over medium heat, turning occasionally, until evenly browned, about 10. Add butter, onions, and pinch of salt, and cook until onions are soft and translucent. Add garlic, and green onions, cook stirring for 2 minutes.

Pour in beer, raise heat to high, and cook, stirring occasionally, until beer has reduced by about 75%. While beer is reducing, season with thyme, parsley, black pepper, salt, and pinch cayenne. Once beer has reduced, add potatoes and broth and bring to a simmer.

Preheat oven to 300°. Prick sausage on both sides, and add to pot on top of the other ingredients.

Cover and place pot into the preheated oven. Cook for about 2 1/2 hours. Remove the lid, and continue cooking uncovered for about 1 more hour.

Remove from oven and skim excess fat from top before serving. Garnish top with green onions.



Dear Frankie

The Barrel

Dear Frankie,

My parents usually rent a beach house during my winter break from doggy day-care. My dad thought the family was getting into a rut, so he rented a ski house this

year. I wasn't hot on the idea, but I was outvoted by my siblings, who are snowboarders.

As a consolation, my dad arranged for me to hang out with the St. Bernard Rescue Corps when the family was skiing. When I met with the St Bernards, I expected to hear of their adventures and dare-devil experiences on the slopes. There were a few stories like that, but mostly, they talked about their lousy work conditions and the barrel they were required to wear around their neck.

The corps leader, Scout, said the

barrel was a joke; he had never used it once in his ten years of service. He said it was, in the truest sense of the word, a pain in the neck and the cause of chronic neck pain for him and several of the dogs.

He had spoken numerous times with the captain of the ski patrol about ditching the barrel but was told the photo shoots of the skiers with the dogs wearing a barrel were a good income stream for the ski resort owners.

Using these canine medical professionals who provide vital life-saving services as money-making props is downright disrespectful. These owners should be ashamed of themselves.

Wilson

Dear Wilson,

I fantasized about hospital administrators telling doctors that part of the job was to raise money for the hospital by being in photo shoots with their patients and families wearing white coats and stethoscopes hanging around their necks. You can imagine how that would have gone over.

FRANKIE: cont'd on page 17

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Union Street trees taken down

By Beth David
Editor

The two 100+ year old oak trees that have been in the public eye recently, were cut down on 2/27/25 to make room for electrical upgrades to the Millicent Library in Fairhaven.

The plan sparked protests from some residents who asked the Fairhaven Select Board to stop the removal of the trees at its 1/13/25 meeting. A tree hearing in December had some opposition, so the SB had to vote. They voted to approve the

removal of the trees (see 1/16/25 issue).

Other ways to bring the new service to the library would have cost more money, argued Eversource and the library.



LEFT & MIDDLE: Sawdust flies as a worker from GBK Company cuts into the trunk of a tree on Union Street in Fairhaven on 2/27/25 to make way for electrical upgrades to the Millicent Library. A worker from GBK Company watches as a piece of the trunk topples over. Photos by Beth David.

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Candidate Statements: Fairhaven Select Board



Natalie Mello

I am running for Select Board for Fairhaven for several reasons. Six of those reasons have names and are my granddaughters — I want to be a role model as they grow up. I want them to know that they can have an impact on their local community and can make a positive difference. I believe I can

do that by serving on our Select Board.

I am convinced that this town needs to start moving forward in a unified way to recover from our financial setbacks. Doing that requires leaving the past behind and working in a collaborative way to get all boards, committees and commissions working together for the common good of all Fairhaven.

We need to hire an excellent Town Administrator with experience managing a town out of our financial situation. My experience in searches for high level positions — at WPI, as a School Committee member for the Wachusett Region, and at the organization from which I retired — prepares me for this responsibility.

I am committed to fiscal accountability and transparency. Having worked for non-profits my entire career, I know what it means to stretch a dollar and to work within a budget that can't be increased by charging more from clients. I have also served on the boards of many nonprofits where this lesson was driven home time and time again.

I am the product of an excellent public education, as are both my sons. I understand that a key democratic responsibility is to fund public education at the level that is needed to responsibly educate our schoolchildren. We must figure out how to drag Fairhaven from the bottom of the net school spending list in MA without compromising current programs while also paying our educators what they deserve.

There are opportunities for Fairhaven to work collaboratively with other towns to regionalize services that needn't be replicated. While some of this exists (Mattapoisett River Valley Water District Commission), there are more opportunities. Acushnet is looking to regionalize their school system — this could be a win/win for both towns. Perhaps we could explore ways to utilize our existing resources (DPW vehicle maintenance) for the use of other towns while generating revenue to benefit Fairhaven.

My experience in collaborative problem solving is an asset I can bring to Fairhaven. Approaching hot topic issues with an open mind, listening to all sides and making decisions based on factual information and Fairhaven's current by-laws are essential to moving forward in a productive way. I have been meeting with various town department heads, not to tell them what I will do for them, but rather to listen to what their concerns are. I understand that if elected, I will be one of five Select Board members. Understanding the role and responsibilities of the Select Board, I vow to listen, research and learn so that I can help identify the best solutions for Fairhaven.

I respectfully ask that you vote for me on April 7th — a vote for positive, forward-looking change in Fairhaven.



Richard "Rick" Trapilo

I humbly ask for your vote to join the Fairhaven Select Board. With years of business leadership, financial oversight, and executive hiring experience, I am eager to bring practical, results-driven decision-making to our beloved town.

As I've shared in many conversations with my fellow residents, Fairhaven deserves financial responsibility and leadership guided by common sense. Many town issues don't require complex solutions — just sound fiscal management and strategic decision-making.

To understand who I am, look no further than my roots. I was raised in a hardworking family, the son and daughter of Polish immigrants, in a three-family home with five siblings and one bathroom. Somehow, we all made it to St. Kevin's Grammar School by 8:30 AM every morning. My parents were frugal out of necessity — we never left a room without turning off the lights. That upbringing instilled in me the values of discipline, hard work, and responsibility — principles I carry with me to this day.

Experience That Matters

I have been fortunate to build a successful career in business and leadership, serving in executive roles and on both public and private boards. My experience includes: MBA, Fairhaven Planning Board; Southeastern Regional Planning & Economic Development Commissioner, Finance Board member; Fairhaven-New Bedford Harbor Plan Committee Board; International President, Tech Industry, Board member public and private sector, Husband, Dad, Grand Dad, Coach, St Joseph Parish member.

A Clear Plan for Fairhaven

- ✓ **Hiring a Qualified Town Administrator.** Our town deserves strong leadership. If elected, I will work diligently with the Board to hire a highly qualified town administrator — one who is clearly vetted to meet Fairhaven's leadership needs. We will establish measurable performance goals and review them quarterly. I will also ensure that costly hiring mistakes — like the unexplained \$600,000 departure of the previous administrator — do not happen again under my leadership.
- ✓ **Stopping Wasteful Legal Battles** Fairhaven taxpayers should not have to bear the bill for unnecessary litigation between town departments. Our historic high school should not be the battleground over a storage shed. With so many pressing needs — educating our children, supporting our teachers, and improving infrastructure — we must resolve this dispute immediately and focus on real priorities.
- ✓ **Fighting Against Unfair Tax Increases** Every resident is feeling the burden of rising costs: property taxes, heating bills, and everyday expenses. Now, our Governor is proposing the "Municipal Empowerment Act," which would allow local boards to increase fees on residents. I firmly oppose this proposal. Instead, I will push for Fairhaven to receive its fair share of Massachusetts' nearly \$9 billion rainy-day fund to ease the financial strain on our community.

TRAPILO: cont'd on page 17

Fairhaven welcomes Play Haven with ribbon cutting

By Beth David
Editor

The Fairhaven Economic Development Committee officially welcomed Play Haven to town with a ribbon cutting on 2/28/25.

The space is an indoor playground, with a climbing structure for kids, themed playhouses, a dress-up area, designated baby area, and a large open space for just running around.

Owner Kaitlin Stephenson owns a day care in Dartmouth and said she wanted to create an affordable, safe space for people to take their kids to play. Cost is \$20 for one child with two adults, with unlimited time on regular days, not holidays or school vacation weeks, which have a two hour time limit. There are a variety of discounts and specials, like grand parents days. There is also a selection of scheduled activities.

EDC chairperson Cathy Melanson welcomed the new business , saying

the town as “very excited” to have it.

“It’s such an awesome concept,” she said.

Ms. Stephenson said she wanted to create a safe space for kids to play, while the adults relax. She said a few parents who work from home spend time at Play Haven. The adults work on their computers while the kids play.

She said they are trying to accommodate families with flexible pricing, including half off for grandparents, and other deals. They are still new, she said, so things

are changing.

They also have a room for parties. Sara and Steve Krol, who found out about Play Hvae from friends, were there with their three children. One daughter most definitely liked the dress up area, but they both liked the climbing toy with slide.

Sarah said it was good to have a place to go on rainy days, or cold days, or hot days.

Young Hannah explored the construction themed playhouse, even trying on a security vest and a hard hat; and then trying on a princess dress a few minutes later.

PLAY: cont'd on page 17



Play Haven owner, Kaitlin Stephenson, cuts the ribbon held by Fairhaven Select Board member Charlie Murphy and Economic Development Committee Chairperson, Cathy Melanson, at a ribbon cutting ceremony on 2/28/25. BELOW LEFT: The Krol sisters play on the climbing toy with slide. BELOW RIGHT: Young Hannah dresses up like a construction worker in a themed playhouse. Photos by Beth David.



Hanami Tea House & Lounge opens in Fairhaven

By Beth David
Editor

The Fairhaven Economic Development Committee officially welcomed Hanami Tea House and Lounge, a Japanese tea house and cafe, with a ribbon cutting ceremony in February.

Alyssa Botelho, Fairhaven Community Development Coordinator, noted Fairhaven’s special connection with Japan, with a sister city relationship with Tosashimizu, the village of Manjiro Nakahama, the first Japanese person to live in the US, in Fairhaven in 1843.

“It’s always exciting to open a new business in town,” said Ms. Botelho, and congratulated owner, William Foley, for seeing his vision “come to life.”

Mr. Foley explained that Hanami is a Japanese tea house, and they also serve coffee and desserts, some small cafe food, and hot food.

“We wanted to make sure we have

something for everyone here,” he said.

Mr. Foley said he has been part of Fairhaven for a long time, and grew up here.

“I’m so happy to be in Fairhaven and having a business here,” he said.

Hanami Tea House and Lounge is located at 358 Main Street, Fairhaven.

Visit <https://www.hanamilounge.com> or find them on social media.



Fairhaven officials pose with Hanami Tea House and Lounge owner, William Foley (holding scissors) at a ribbon cutting ceremony in February, 2025, a couple of weeks after the business opened. L-R: Alyssa Botelho, Community Development Coordinator; Economic Development Committee members, Diane Tomassetti, Karyn Ferreira, Nils Isaksen, Cathy Melanson; owner William Foley; Select Board member, Andrew Romano. Photo courtesy of Fairhaven Community Television.

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From our readers

Fidalgo Supports Ochoa

I am honored to write in strong support of Kelly Ochoa for School Committee. Having known her for years, I have witnessed her dedication to students, colleagues, and ethical leadership. She is not just an advocate in words but in action, always stepping up for others and making a meaningful difference in the community.

With firsthand experience working in schools, Kelly understands what students and staff truly need to succeed. She has seen the challenges educators face every day and knows the impact that thoughtful policies, and the right resources, can have on a school's success. This insight allows her to approach decision-making with both compassion and practicality.

She also brings a valuable perspective on balancing fiscal responsibility with educational priorities. Too often, budget decisions are made without fully understanding how they affect classrooms. Kelly will bring real-world experience to these discussions, ensuring that financial choices reflect the true needs of students and staff while being mindful of the district's resources.

Educators on school committees provide an essential voice, and Kelly is exactly the kind of leader we need.

I wholeheartedly support her and encourage you to vote for her in the upcoming election on April 7th. Our schools and students will be better for it.

Jessica Fidalgo, Fairhaven

Badwey Supports Mello

I first got to know Natalie Mello as

a fellow member of the Fairhaven Historical Society. During our tenure together I found Natalie to be focused, intelligent, and a person who has the ability to get things done.

I was always impressed with Natalie's independent thought and her ability to change minds with her research and knowledge of the facts.

Natalie is a serious thinker who gets to the core of a problem and resolves it.

All of the attributes that Natalie has shown in the past is exactly what is needed on the Fairhaven Select Board.

Most importantly, is Natalie's humility, humanity and her goal to work for the greater good.

It's an honor for me to have her as a friend and to support her candidacy for the Fairhaven Selectboard.

Mark Badwey, Fairhaven

An original poem for Frederick Douglass

Ellen P. Flynn read this original poem at the Black History Month event sponsored by Tri Town Against Racism and the Mattapoisett Land Trust (see 2/27/28 issue)

For Frederick Douglass

By Ellen P. Flynn

"If there is no Struggle there is no progress"

Can we speak of a world of tears
Or do we just drink down brown
beers

Can we see spirits drifting
through rainfall?

Can we sail against the wind
To capture heartache and sin?
We skip through racially divided
culture

To watch and record years of
Torture

Where are the Leaders marching
through the rain of Tears?

When will they bring us answers
to our fears?

We can only show our children
Herstory

And walk them through History.



Daylight Saving Time BEGINS this weekend. Set your clocks FORWARD one hour at 2 a.m. on Sunday, 3/9. DST ends on Nov. 2.



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PLAY: cont'd from page 13

Play Haven is located at 154 Huttleston Avenue (Rte. 6), rear entrance. Hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; 9-4 on weekends. Visit <https://www.playhaveninc.com> or find them on Facebook.

The ribbon cutting event is available on FairhavenTV.com under community videos.

TRAPILO: cont'd from page 12

Leadership That Listens

I bring decades of corporate and entrepreneurial leadership and a deep commitment to responsible governance. Fairhaven deserves leaders who listen, act with transparency, and respect the trust of the residents they serve. That is the leadership I am prepared to bring.

I respectfully ask for your vote. Let's work together to build a stronger, more financially responsible Fairhaven.

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LOOKING FOR SPACE

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

Worldwide, animals are abused and used as income producers. A few that come to mind are elephants who carry tourists on back-breaking treks; porpoises and circus animals who are trained, by abusive techniques, to perform unnatural acts; horses who stand for hours on concrete city streets in the heat and cold waiting to pull their hansom cab, dogs who live chained in yards in brutal weather conditions to provide security.

Are these owners oblivious to the pain they cause these animals, or do they not care as long as it lines their pockets?

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 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.

Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Board of Public Works
Mon., 3/17 Arsene St., 6 p.m.
Conservation Commission
Mon., 3/24, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Cultural Council
Wed., 3/19, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Finance Committee
Thurs., 3/6, Arsene St., 6:30 p.m.
Thurs., 3/13, Arsene St., 6:30 p.m.
Thurs., 3/20, Arsene St., 6:30 p.m.

Marine Resources Comm
Thurs., Town Hall, 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

Planning Commission
Thurs., 3/6, Town Hall, 6 p.m.
Golf Facilities Exploratory
Thurs., 3/6, Town Hall, 5:30 p.m.

Historical Commission
Tues., 3/11, Town Hall, 6:30 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.
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
Friday	14	0849	2109	0328	1502
Saturday	15	0927	2146	0318	1504
Sunday	16	1005	2224	0331	1528
Monday	17	1043	2302	0357	1558
Tuesday	18	1122	2344	0427	1630
Wednesday	19	---	1207	0501	1704
Thursday	20	0032	1259	0539	1744
Friday	21	0127	1355	0629	1835
Saturday	22	0222	1449	0737	1945
Sunday	23	0317	1548	0847	2055

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

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"

FNN, 3/6/25, 3/13/25

ACUSHNET CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Acushnet Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Police Station Conference Room, located at the Acushnet Police Station, 64 Middle Road, Acushnet, Massachusetts.

• **Public Hearing – RDA – Debrah Aubin / 10 Nye's Lane Rear, Map 18, Lot 25** A Request for Determination was filed by Debrah Aubin for property located at 10 Nye's Lane Rear, Map 18, Lot 25. The applicant proposes an in-kind replacement of a 24' X 40' garage. The applicant is represented by David Fredette of Fredette Engineering Services. Plan name is "Proposed Garage Foundation Plan Sheets 1 thru 4" dated February 14, 2025.

Mark Minton, Acushnet Conservation Agent
FNN, 3/6/25

Acushnet Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearings

The Zoning Board of Appeals is hereby giving notice that a meeting will be held by the Board on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at 6:30 P.M. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room located at 122 Main Street.

- **Case #2025.03.25A** A case of Benedict Properties LLC of 36 County Street who is petitioning the Board for three variances to convert a single lot into three individual lots for the construction of single family homes on Lots A & Lot C and an existing home on Lot B. All three lots before the ZBA require the same zoning relief for Frontage, Lot Size & Buildable Upland.
- **Case #2025.03.25B** A case of Buzzards Bay Coalition of 91 South Main Street who is petitioning the Board for a variance from the Acushnet Zoning Bylaws, Section 3.3.2(e)(1), Minimum Lot Area, to create two buildable lots. The Applicant has engaged an engineering firm to prepare an ANR to subdivide the 15,900 square foot parcel of land into two (2) buildable lots. The Applicant seeks to divide the property to create a house lot and a garage lot with the ANR Plan. The Applicant states the house lot will be sold and the garage lot will be retained by the Applicant to service the abutting 17 acre conservation restricted parcel they purchased.
- **Case #2025.03.25C** A case of Frank A. & Karen L. Knox for property located at Mendall Road who is petitioning the Board for two variances from Section 3.3.C., 14 lines 3 & 5, Driveway Construction Standards for the proposed construction of a Common Driveway for

three residential house lots. Assessors Map#9, Lots 24A & portion of 18H. The required driveway construction standards cannot be met due to the narrow (retreat) lot shape and significant topographical changes.

• **Case #2025.03.25D** A case of Norman Shurtleff for property located at 79 Middle Road who is petitioning the Board for two variances from Section 3.3.1 (E) (1), Minimum lot area & Section 3.3.1 (E) (2), Minimum frontage, to create two buildable lots. The Applicant has engaged an engineering firm to prepare an ANR Plan to subdivide the 20,327 square foot parcel of land into two (2) buildable lots. The Applicant seeks to divide the property to create a house lot and a to be constructed house lot with an ANR Plan.

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

FNN, 3/6/25, 3/13/25



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Fiscal Responsibility

- I am an independent hands-on manager, who will work with all departments in the Town of Fairhaven.
- As a seasoned business leader, I will bring fiscal responsibility and common sense to all decisions.
- I do not support the municipal empowerment act. I do not agree to the increased taxes and fees on the shoulders of our businesses and residences.
- I will continue to advocate to stop the pollution of Buzzards Bay. I will advocate for receiving funds from the \$9 billion rainy day fund held by the Commonwealth.

MBA, BA, International Business Studies; Fairhaven Planning Board; Southeastern Regional Planning & Economic Development District Commissioner, Finance Board Member and Environmental Board Member; Fairhaven-New Bedford Harbor Plan Committee Board Member; International President, Tech Industry; Board Member, Public and Private Sector; Mass Real Estate Broker; Saint Joseph Parish Member

VOTE MONDAY, APRIL 7

PAID FOR BY COMMITTEE TO ELECT RICK TRAPILO

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FAIRHAVEN HIGH SCHOOL STORAGE SHED



FORT PHOENIX STATE RESERVATION



FAIRHAVEN PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT



FAIRHAVEN WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY



FAIRHAVEN TOWN HALL

VOTE on Monday, April 7

A leader of integrity who is committed to collaboration with a proven history of working with others to solve complex problems.

**Committed to hiring a highly qualified
Town Administrator who is financially
knowledgeable and a team player, to
provide needed stability and leadership.**



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MELLO
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