



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



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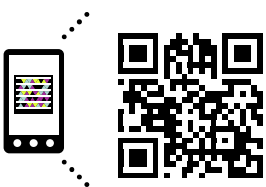
Volume 20, Issue 20 • May 8, 2025

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

Cherry Blossom Festival celebrates Japan ties



The crowd gathers in front of the Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society and Museum in Fairhaven during the Japanese Cherry Blossom (O-Hanami) Friendship Festival on 5/4/25 to hear Ann Richard perform Kamishibai (paper theater), a popular form of storytelling in Japan before television. See page 12 for story. *Photo by Beth David.*



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First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

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

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

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

From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.



Publisher Beth David with
Charlie, aka Evil Dog

This weekend is the annual food drive by the letter carriers (see page 5). So, don't forget: put some nonperishable food out by your mail box. All the food goes to local pantries.

So, here's a good one. Some shmuck took all our papers, about 100, from a restaurant, and probably the place across the street, and ran off with them. How f'g low will you sink to try to put me out of business? Probably the same people who are always screaming about their First Amendment rights.

You not only hurt me when you do that, you hurt our advertisers. They run ads so that people who read the paper will see those ads. You're not just hurting this small business, you're hurting every small business within these pages. But, hey, you do you. Just heaven help you if I ever catch you in the act.

Fairhaven held its annual Town Meeting (see page 4), and managed to squeak through one more time. It does not look good for next year. Unless the state kicks in, we're all in trouble. Acushnet, too (see page 3).

And, no, I'm not going to stop telling people about the Big Buffoon in DC, or all the Little Buffoons in Congress supporting him. They actually could not pass a law that says American citizens can't be deported. The rep who sponsored it said it was "batshit crazy" that we had to make a law of something so obvious. But Republicans shot it down. They think it's okay for American citizens to be deported. Where the hell to, you idiots? Citizens are citizens. They don't have anywhere to go.

You're all just so sure that your name will never appear on a list, right? So F everybody else.

The Big Buffoon actually said out loud that he did not know if he had to uphold the Constitution. He said the lawyers are looking at it. Guess he forgot about that pesky little oath he too.

Our Constitution is what makes us who we are. He is destroying all the things that DO make us great. And so many of you think it's fabulous.

So who hates America, again?

Until next week then, see ya,

Glory to Ukraine!

Glory to the Heroes!

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Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Thursday, May 8, 2025

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Editor: Beth David

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Acushnet pushes TM to 6/16 to reconcile budget shortfall

By Beth David
Editor

At its meeting on 5/2/25, the Acushnet Selectboard set a date of June 16 for the annual Town Meeting, pushing it out a couple of weeks more because the town is trying to reconcile a \$1.2 million shortfall.

Town Administrator, Jaime Kelley, told the board that revenue is up only about \$519K with almost no new growth. The tax levy (property taxes), is about 2/3 of the revenue; state aid is about 25%; and local receipts (building permits, excise taxes) is about 11%. He said local receipts are down about 30% from past year.

"State aid has been lagging," said Mr. Kelley. "The state has not been helping the communities."

The SB and Finance Committee have been working for weeks to try to close the gap, but expenses are simply outpacing revenue.

Last year's School Department budget was about \$19.3 million, leaving \$17 million for the town side of the \$36+ million budget from last year.

This year, the town is facing

increases in water supply from New Bedford, salary increases, and a \$735K increase requested by the school department.

But the increase in revenue is only about \$519.

"How's that math working out," asked SB member Kevin Gaspar.

"The math is working out terrible," said Mr. Kelly.

He said he is especially upset that Old Colony, which has Acushnet students that the town pays tuition for, is expecting more than \$300K, which includes \$132K from last year that they said was a one-time payment. He said he told Old Colony to come in at level funding, and he was hopeful they would be "reasonable."

Mr. Kelly said the town cut every budget they could cut.

"But we are at the bone," said Mr. Kelly. "There's nothing more you can do this year."

He asked the board to go over the submitted budgets from each department, and recommended postponing TM until 6/16.

SB member David Wojnar said if they could not figure it out, they

could just go back to last year's budget.

Mr. Kelly said they could do that, but it would be a "mess."

Mr. Gaspar said they had done staff cuts, supplies, and it is still coming in \$1.2 million higher. One third is the schools, he said.

"I'm a little bit disappointed they can't sharpen the pencils and bring that down," said Mr. Gaspar.

He noted that 70% of voters shot down a debt exclusion for school building repairs.

"People are frustrated," said Mr. Gaspar. "I think all of us share their concerns."

"Last year, you said we are rolling quarters," said Mr. Kelly. "This year we are rolling pennies."

In another matter, the town announced that Fairhaven is making 150 beach passes available to Acushnet residents at the Fairhaven resident rate.

The first 50 passes were first come, first serve, and the board set the date of May 6 for residents to go in person to get them. They sold out very

ACUSH: cont'd on page 19

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- Rats
- Bedbugs
- and more.....

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2834 Acushnet Ave. New Bedford, MA 02745

Fairhaven Town Meeting adopts charter; nip ban stays

By Beth David
Editor

Fairhaven's annual Town Meeting members passed a \$61.4 million general fund operating budget, plus another \$7.6 million in enterprise funds for a total operating budget of about \$69 million on Saturday, 5/3.

Town Meeting also approved \$936,720 in spending from Community Preservation Act funds for nine projects and administrative costs.

The day came with dire warnings from the Finance Committee, Select Board, and Interim Town Administrator, all pointing to next year shaping up to be impossible for balancing the budget. With expenses outpacing revenue, and the state not increasing aid by much, the outlook is grim. The town is looking at possible layoffs and cuts to services next year.

"Unless the cavalry comes over the hill," said Interim Town Administrator, George Samia. "And I don't think that's going to happen."

Mr. Samia presented a plan for the town to try to tackle next year's problem. The key point was that the town cannot wait long to get started.

TM members were asked to fill out a survey asking their preferences to address the projected FY27 deficit including support of a full Proposition 2 1/2 override, full budget cuts, a partial override with some budget cuts, regionalization with Acushnet to share some services and costs.

The projected deficit ranges from \$1.6 million to \$4.8 million depending on the depth of revenue loss. All scenarios result in layoffs, including firefighters, police officers, highway employees, and school employees.

Mr. Samia assured TM members that Fairhaven is not alone. He said the town is actually in much better shape than most municipalities in the state.

"You've done everything right," he said. "History caught up to you."

He said 60-70% of municipalities are in "much worse" shape than Fairhaven.

He advised the town to start planning now to decide how to handle next year's deficit.

"I sincerely hope I'm wrong," said Mr. Samia, but added that "all the red flags are out."

The first article that got a bit of discussion was 4B/1, which asked for

\$132,500 from Surplus Revenue to pay the balance of the separation agreement with the former Town Administrator. TM member Jeff Osuch asked for clarification on where the rest of the money came from. The total payout for the separation is \$366K, with \$100K from insurance, the \$132,500 from Surplus Revenue, and the rest from existing salary accounts.

Patrick Carr made a motion to change the amount from \$132,500 to \$1, calling the settlement a "fiscally irresponsible decision" made by the Select Board.

Town Counsel, Heather White, told TM that the town would still be bound by the terms of the agreement and would simply have to get the money somewhere else.

The amendment failed, and TM voted to transfer \$132,500.

The School Department budget got a bit of discussion, with TM member Steve Riley offering an amendment to decrease the amount by \$200K. The \$25,656,166 School Department budget is \$953,983 higher than last year, not including costs to NB Voc-Tech and

TM: cont'd on page 13

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Sun., 5/11
Breakfast: 8 a.m.-Noon

Creme Brulee French Toast
Red Velvet Waffle w/White Chocolate Mousse
Filet Mignon Eggs Benedict
Biscuits & Gravy w/2 Eggs & Homefries
Strawberry Cheesecake French Toast

Lunch: Noon- 3 p.m.

Filet Mignon • Baked Stuffed Shrimp
Scrod Princess • Chicken Cordon Bleu

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HOURS
Sun.: 8 a.m.-2 p.m. • Mon.-Wed.: 7 a.m.-2 p.m.
Thurs.: 7 a.m.-7 p.m. • Fri.-Sat: 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

NALC Food DRive

The annual food drive of the National Association of Letter Carriers will be on Sat., 5/10. Just leave nonperishable food items near your mailbox or on your porch by 8 a.m. Your postal carrier, or helper, will do the rest.

Harborfest

Sat., 5/10, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM, Grimshaw Park at Fort Phoenix, Green St, Fairhaven, MA 02719, USA

Treat Mom (and yourself!) to a fun-filled day by the water with local artisan shopping, delicious food trucks, live music, and family-friendly activities! Whether you're searching for the perfect handmade gift, craving a sweet treat, or just looking to enjoy the sunshine with your loved ones, this event is for you.

Explore curated goods from talented local makers; Enjoy live music in a beautiful setting; Grab lunch or dessert from your favorite food trucks; Join in on creative activities for all ages

View the full event at <https://www.discoverfairhaven.org/huttlestonharborfest2025>.

Block Party

Discover Fairhaven and the Livable Streets Committee is delighted to invite you to Scoops on the Street: A Ferry Street Block Party for the community on Friday, May 9, from 4:00 to 8:00 PM on Ferry Street and Main Street. We're planning on doing a ribbon-cutting of sorts, with remarks around 5:45 PM.

The event celebrates the updated sidewalk and the seasonal reopening of the Ice Cream Cottage, but more broadly, it's about showing what's possible when we invest in walkable, welcoming public spaces. We expect a handful of businesses local to the Ferry Street area to be present, showcasing their offerings and contributing to the lively atmosphere.

At The Millicent

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

Mystery of writing Mysteries. Thurs., 5/15, 10–11 a.m. Use Walnut Street entrance. This Thursday Morning book club will be hosting

author Debi Graham-Leard with her book *The Uninvited Guest*.

The focus of Debi's talk will be the "Mystery of writing Mysteries" and usually lasts about 45 minutes. She will bring copies of her six published mysteries, and autographed copies will be available after her talk. Light refreshments will be provided, also. Open to all.

Free Movie. South Coast Cine-maniacs Classic Film Club. Mon. 5/12, 5:15–7:45 p.m.. Use the Walnut Street entrance.

Register by visiting our website: millicentlibrary.org/events-calendar

At the Shep

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

Eddie Dillon will perform selected songs from his new, all-original album, "All For a Song." This new album is a compilation of recently-written songs and old favorites. The concert will also include other tunes, both old and new, from his extensive catalog. Dillon is a songwriter, singer, raconteur, and poet whose works reflect a life-time spent observing the human condition. His songs defy classification and range from heart-wrenching love songs and comedy pieces to protest melodies and topical tunes

Sat., 5/10, 7 p.m. Tickets \$20 online; \$25 at door For tickets visit <https://theshepherdcenter.org/>

Climate Talk

Tribal Nations: leading the way in climate change adaptation, planning and resilience, Mon., 5/12, 6:30–7:30 p.m., UUSF Auditorium, 102 Green Street, Fairhaven, MA, 02719

Dr. Casey Thornbrugh is a citizen of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and a geographer with a background in climate Science. Casey will speak about how Tribal Nations and Indigenous Communities have witnessed changes in the climate from time immemorial. Anthropogenic climate change and the Climate Crisis, coupled with the impacts of colonization, pose unique challenges for Tribal Nations. Despite these challenges,

Tribal Nations are leading the way in climate change adaptation planning and resilience. This talk will provide an overview of climate change impacts and adaptation by Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities with an emphasis on the East Coast and coastal communities. Casey will then discuss opportunities to learn from Indigenous climate change adaptation while maintaining respect for Indigenous knowledge and Tribal sovereignty.

The program is part of the Natural Heritage of Fairhaven series, a collaboration between the Millicent Library, the UUSF and Climate Reality MA SouthCoast. The Natural Heritage of Fairhaven Series offers free and ongoing programming exploring the rich connections between landscape, ecology, and culture in our coastal community. Through talks on biology, history, art, and more, the series aims to deepen our understanding and appreciation for the natural beauty of our town.

Register at millicentlibrary.org/events-calendar

Vendors Wanted

Join us for the **Full Bloom Festival**, a summer arts festival, on Sun., 6/29, from 10 a.m.–8 p.m. at Cushman Park, 154 Green St., Fairhaven. Featuring yoga, live music, food trucks, vendors, bounce house, crafts. Presented by Soulflower Yoga and Wellness.

For info and vendor registration, visit www.soulfloweryogaandwellness.com/fullbloom2025

Alice in Wonderland

Alice in Wonderland JR. features Disney favorites such as *The Golden Afternoon*, *The Unbirth-day Song*, and *Painting the Roses Red* along with brand-new songs, including music from the 2010 live-action film.

Whether this is your first experience with Alice or your hundredth, you'll fall in love all over again with this timeless story of adventure, imagination, and pure fun!

This delightful production is being directed and costumed by our own Deacon Maurice Ouellette at St Joseph School in Fairhaven! Choreography by Kaitlin Boudreau!

Bring the kids! Bring your family and friends! Guaranteed to be an

cont'd next page

STILL IN TOWN

awesome production!

Production is on Fri. & Sat., 5/16 & 17 at 6 p.m.; and Sun., 5/18 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00. Please call St Joseph to purchase your tickets now, 508-996-1983

This is a show for all ages... you will be in awe of the costumes and will leave whistling one of your favorite tunes from the show!

SAVE THE DATES:

Memorial Day Parade

Fairhaven will hold its annual Memorial Day parade on Mon. 5/26.

Marches will meet at the corner of Main and Union at 8:30 with the parade stepping off at 9:00. They will march to Riverside Cemetery where there will be a ceremony. If the weather does not cooperate we will have a service at the senior center at 10:00. Regardless of the weather there will be a gathering at the senior center following.

Help With Flags on Graves

Volunteers are needed to place flags on the graves of veterans in Fairhaven cemeteries on Sat., 5/17. Meet at Riverside Cemetery at 9:00

a.m. to help honor our veterans. Rain Date: Sunday, 5/18, 9 a.m.

Republican Committee

We urge all concerned Fairhaven Republican and unenrolled voters to consider attending our Monthly Fairhaven Republican Town meetings.

We meet the third Tuesday of each Month at 32 Abbey Street in Fairhaven at 6pm. Please join us Tuesday evening May 20th. Lots of important information and opportunities will be shared.

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Southcoast Bike

The South Coast Bikeway Alliance 11th Annual Summit, Tues., 5/13, 6:00 PM (doors open at 5:30 pm) at the UMASS Dartmouth - School for Marine Science & Technology, located at 836 South Rodney French Blvd., New Bedford. See page 11.

DAV Annual Mtg

DAV New Bedford Chapter #7 MA, will hold its Installation Meeting at the Fairhaven Council on Aging/Senior Center, 229 Huttleston Ave., on May 10, at 10 a.m.

On this date and time, there will be the Installation of Officers for Chapter #7. A free breakfast will be served starting at 9 a.m. All veterans are welcome to attend.

These men will be installed as officers of our chapter: Commander, Lawrence A. Badger, Jr.; Sr. Vice Cmdr., Rick Martin; Jr. Vice Cmdr., Bill Comeau; Adjutant, Bill Kligel; Treasurer, Louis Matos; Chaplain, Nick LaRocha; Judge Advocate, Jim Gagnon; Sgt. at Arms, Jim Rollins; Web Master, Rick Martin; Greeter, Rick Pires, Service Officer, Dennis Kelley; Service Officer, Virginia Senna Davis.

YTI Production

Dead Man's Cell Phone, by Sarah Ruhl. An incessantly ringing cell phone in a quiet café. A stranger at the next table who has had enough. And a dead man - with a lot of loose ends.

Fri. & Sat., 5/9, 10, 16, 17i at 7:30 p.m.; Sat. & Sun., 5/ 10, 11, 17, 18, at 2 p.m. At Steeple Playhouse, 159

William St., NB. Tickets: \$27; \$22 military, seniors, student. For tickets: <https://yourtheatre.org/wp/>

Food Truck Fest

New Bedford Food Truck and Craft Beer Festival will be held on Sun., 5/11 from noon to 5 p.m. at Fort Taber Park, 1000 S. Rodney French Blvd.

General admission tickets are \$5 if purchased in advance online. Tickets at the gate on the day of the event will cost \$10. Children ages 10 and under can attend for free.

For more details and to purchase tickets, visit <https://www.foodtruckfestivalsofamerica.com/new-bedford>.

AHA!

We all know that New Bedford isn't just anywhere, so join us for a celebration of this unique city during AHA! Night: Preservation. Celebration. May's AHA! Night is sponsored by First Citizen's Federal Credit Union and takes place on Thurs., 5/8

There will also be live music, the 1850s Ladies, poetry, the New Bedford Public Schools' art show, henna, art talks, Sorbae Frozen Treat Truck and so much more.

Visit <https://ahanewbedford.org/next-aha/> for complete schedule.

ArtWeek SC

ArtWeek SouthCoast, the dynamic regional arts festival, returns from Thursday, May 8 through Sunday, May 18, 2025, offering 50+ unique, hands-on, interactive, and behind-the-scenes experiences that invite residents and visitors alike to celebrate creativity in all its forms. From vibrant gallery exhibitions and

live performances to poetry readings, painting demos, and family-friendly activities, ArtWeek SouthCoast is a regional collaboration that unites the community through the power of the arts. Presented by the cities of Fall River and New Bedford and the towns of Dartmouth, Marion, Westport, Fairhaven, Mattapoisett, Somerset, and Wareham, ArtWeek SouthCoast stands as a shining example of how municipalities can work together to amplify the impact of the creative economy.

For a full calendar of events and to plan your ArtWeek SouthCoast experience, visit the website often as events are added every day at www.artweeksouthcoast.org.

Indivisible Meeting

Indivisible SouthEast Mass monthly gathering will be Mon., 5/12, from 7-8 p.m. at The First Unitarian Church in New Bedford, 71 Eighth St.

For more information visit 02719indivisible.bsky.social or email 02719freedom@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATES:

DAV Clamboil

DAV Chapter 7 New Bedford, is holding a clamboil fundraiser on Mon., 5/19, at Danny's Seafood Restaurant, 574 North Front Street, New Bedford, MA 02745; 4-7 p.m. All you can eat \$50.00. There is Priscilla plate for non seafood preference

50/50 Raffle \$1 per ticket. Free Door Prizes, 10 Total Prizes Given Out

Tickets: call DAV at 508-992-3766; at theThe Door; or at Danny's Seafood Restaurant. Thank For Supporting Our Veterans

HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

Mother's Day 5K

Women's Fund Mothers Day 5K, Sun., 5/11, at Cisco Brewers, 1482 E Rodney French Boulevard, New Bedford. Run/Walk at 9:30 AM Registration: \$30.00

The Women's Fund SouthCoast is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit working across the SouthCoast for the last 25 years to advance gender, racial, and economic justice through grantmaking, research, and advocacy. We have distributed over \$2 million to local organizations to advance our mission and create a more equitable and just society for all.

Our Annual Mother's Day 5k Road Race & Walk has been completely volunteer-driven since our first event over a decade ago and has brought together nearly 1,000 individuals annually to raise funds and awareness for our mission.

Visit <https://womensfundsouthcoast.org/15th-annual-mothers-day-5k/>

Music in the Library

Seaglass Theater Company and the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra present Music in the Library.

The concerts are free and all are welcome. The May 10th concerts are part of ArtWeek SouthCoast- a multi-day festival connecting innovative, creative, and affordable art and cultural events in communities from Fall River to Wareham from May 8-18..

Music for string quartet and voice
May 10 11:00AM Dartmouth Library North Branch, 211 Cross Rd.

May 10 2:00PM New Bedford Free Public Library Main Branch, 613 Pleasant St., Downtown

Featuring Addison Pattillo, Soprano; Marcus Huber, Tenor; and instrumentalists from the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra

The Music in the Library series is supported in part by grants from the Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Mattapoisett and New Bedford Cultural Councils, local agencies which are supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. For more information, please visit www.seaglasstheater.com or call 508-951-7187.

At Acushnet Library

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

Free Concert

Saturday, May 10 at noon - Sarang - Colors of South Asian Music - Concert. Indian classical violinist Pranav Swaroop presents Sarang—Colors of South Asian Music. This concert, featuring a trio, will combine live music with conversation. It aims to inspire and educate the community, spark curiosity about the region's history, arts, and culture, and encourage thoughtful dialogue on the power of music to bridge cultural divides and foster a more inclusive society.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Acushnet Cultural Council, a local agency that the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, supports.

Free Movie

Monday, May 12 at 2 pm - Featuring *Green and Gold* (rated PG, 1 hour 43 minutes).

A fourth-generation dairy farmer on the brink of losing his farm to the bank wagers everything on a bet with his beloved Green Bay Packers while his granddaughter pursues music to save what they've worked for their whole lives.

Bird Walk

Lloyd Center Spring Bird Walk - Ready to Nest, Sat., 5/10, 9 - 11 am. Lloyd Center, 430 Potomska Rd., Dartmouth. \$10/member, \$13/non member; \$5/under 12. Visit <https://lloydcenter.org/calendar/>

The Lloyd Center property is alive with bird life, a variety of species likely encountered including both summer resident breeders and birds migrating through. Stop by our woodlands and waterfront at this time when eggs are beginning to fill nests!

Items to bring: footwear for hiking, clothing layers (wind/rain gear), binoculars, camera.

Pre-register online. If you have specific questions regarding the program, please contact Jamie Bogart at 774-438-7321 or at jbogart@lloydcenter.org

Republican Comm

The Mattapoisett Republican Town Committee invites members, guests, and community residents to join us for our monthly meeting on Thurs., 5/15, from 6:00 to 8:30 PM at the

Niemad Building, 57 Fairhaven Rd., Mattapoisett, MA.

We are honored to welcome our guest speaker, David Ladd at 7:30 p.m., from O.U.R. Rescue, a global organization dedicated to fighting sex trafficking and child exploitation by educating and empowering communities, parents, and workplaces to recognize the signs and take action.

This is a vital topic for all concerned community members and families. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how you can help protect children and promote safety in our own neighborhoods.

Enjoy light snacks, a cash bar, and great conversation!

For questions, contact: Paul Criscuolo, Chairperson Email: PCMattyGOP@proton.me Website: MattapoisettGOP.com

Author Talk

Mattapoisett Free Library, 7 Barstow St., Sat., 5/10, 1-2:00 pm. "The Misconceptions of Science Fiction"

Local resident Richard Cutler is the author of what has been described as "speculative fiction." This is a subgenre of science fiction of which there are many genres including horror and space cowboy adventures. Cutler will explore many concepts about these genres.

Cutler will then read a couple of sections from a couple of his books and offer signed copies. Cutler is an engineer living in Rochester and retired from the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole. He has spent much of career writing technical material working with other engineers and scientists, creating a fertile playground for his mind to consider many "what ifs." Those "what ifs" are now put into print by Cutler. His stories are appropriate reading for teenagers and up.

Sheep & Wool Fest

Coggeshall Farm Museum, 1 Colt Farm, Bristol, RI, is excited to share the return of its beloved Sheep & Wool Festival on Sat., 5/17, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with 40+ vendors and artisans. Tickets: \$12/non member; \$5/youth. Visit: <https://coggeshallfarm.org/event/sheep-wool-festival/>

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508-979-4029 • 229 Huttleston Ave • Fairhaven

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

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

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: 5/14, So. Shore Plaza; 5/21, Derby Street Shops; 5/28, Providence Place Mall; 6/4, Twin River Casino.

Join Us for Lunch

We serve lunch every weekday at

11:30 a.m. To schedule a lunch, call the day before by 10 a.m. Voluntary donation of \$3 (Please note price chance). To let us know you want to join us, and to arrange for a ride, call 508-979-4029.

Memory Cafe

May 22, 11:30–1:30. Please call to reserve a spot by Apr. 21.

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 Baked Chicken with mushroom cream sauce, mashed potatoes, carrots, oatmeal roll, pudding, fruit. There will be musical entertainment after lunch and socializing. This month's entertainment is made possible by a generous donation in memory of Brian Hinds.

Space is limited. Please sign up by

5/19 at 508-979-4029.

Monday Movie Matinee

May 19, 12:15 p.m. Featuring *The Life List*. Comedy, Drama & Romance, 2:03. When her mother sends her on a quest to complete a teenage bucket list, a young woman uncovers family secrets, finds romance — and rediscovers herself.

Popcorn, pretzels and candy are part of the movie experience. If you would like a drink other than water, please feel free to bring your own. No alcohol. Thank you.

Would you like to have lunch before the movie? Please call us the Thursday before the movie to reserve yourself a lunch. \$3 donation for the meal. Call 508-979-4029. The movie is free.

Office Hour With State Rep Mark Sylvia

State Rep. Mark Sylvia will hold and office hour every second Monday of the month at the Fairhaven Council on Aging/Senior Center, from 9–10 a.m. Next date: May 12.

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>

Babysitting Workshop

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

Remember to bring a snack! Instructor: Beth Oleson Monday, June 2nd. 5:30-7:45pm at Fairhaven Rec Members \$40. Non-Members \$45

Brazilian Soccer Clinic

Brazilian United Soccer Clinic is open to all kids aged 7 to 14, regardless of skill level. The program focuses on developing technical soccer skills through engaging cultural activities, mini-tournaments, and lots of fun. Participants will make friends, learn new skills from professional Brazilian soccer

coaches, and receive a customized evaluation card at the end of the program. Adapted for each age group, the program promotes distinct personal and sports development with the #BeyondSoccer approach.

Date: July 21-25 Monday - Friday All Day Camp: 8 to 14 years old (9:00 AM - 3:00 PM) Member \$200. Non\$215. Half Day Camp: 7 to 14 years old (9:00 AM - 12:00 PM) Member \$170. Non\$185.

Future Stars Clinic

Designed for children aged 4 to 6, this program provides a fun and engaging introduction to soccer. Through storytelling and playful activities, it promotes motor and cognitive development. Our coaches foster an environment that helps kids feel comfortable, have fun, and develop a love for soccer in a supportive setting. Adapted for each age group, the program promotes

distinct personal and sports development. Future Star Program: 4 to 6 years old (3:00 PM - 4:00 PM) Member \$90. Non \$105

Track & Field

Get ready to run, jump and throw your way to fun and fitness! Our track and field program is designed for kids of all ages and all skill levels, from kindergarten to 8th grade. Our program will focus on developing fundamental skills, building endurance and speed Encouraging teamwork and sportsmanship & providing a supportive environment for all participants! Activities will be tailored to different age groups. Parents/Guardians are required to remain at the park during the program Member FREE Non-member \$35. Grades K-8th Place Cushman Park Fairhaven Start June 25th/ End July 12th Wednesdays 6:30pm-7:30pm & Saturdays 930am-10:30am

Recipe of the Week

Spinach Mushroom Frittata

- 1 c mushrooms, wiped clean & sliced
- 1 tsp water
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1/2 small white onion, chopped
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 cups spinach, washed & dried
- 4 whole eggs
- 2 egg whites
- 1/3 cup feta cheese cubes

Preheat oven to 350°. Place mushrooms in microwave-safe bowl with a tsp of water and microwave on high for 2-3 minutes, until they have shrunk and softened up. Drain water and place mushrooms aside.

Add the oil to an oven-proof skillet. Fry the onions and garlic until translucent and soft, about 3 mins. Add in the spinach and cook until wilted, about 1 min more.

Whisk together the eggs and egg whites until combined. Mix in the mushrooms. Pour the egg mixture over the onion mixture in the skillet. Crumble the dubs of feta over the top. Place skillet in oven and bake for 15 minutes, until the eggs are completely cooked in the center of the skillet.



Dear Frankie

Easter Egg Hunt

Dear Frankie, My parents host an annual Easter Egg Hunt and invite my friends from the dog park. Spike said this year's hunt was the best yet because my parents hid the eggs in

unusual places, and it took forever for everyone to fill their baskets. I told Spike it was the Easter Bunny, not my parents, who hid the eggs.

He said, "You've got to be kidding; you still don't believe there's an Easter Bunny at your age."

I asked him, "Are you calling my parents liars?"

He said no, "I'm telling you the Easter Bunny isn't real, and you are a jerk for believing your parents who say he is."

Why would Spike say such mean things about me and my parents?

Artie

Dear Artie,

Maybe Spike didn't like being corrected when you told him he was wrong about who hid the eggs. So, he retaliated by calling you a name and belittling you for believing what your parents told you about an Easter Bunny.

Spike was a guest of yours and a rude one at that. He could have said he didn't realize the Easter Bunny distributed the eggs or said nothing. He was out of line when he accused you of being naïve for believing what your parents told you.

You might think twice about including him on the guest list for next year's hunt.

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.



UU Society of Fairhaven welcomes all!

10 a.m. Sunday: 'Marmee and Louisa'

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

South Coast Progressive Voices presents free program on "Raising Thriving Boys," 6 p.m. May 9 in the Parish House. Contact dff@uufairhaven.org for childcare.

The Rev. Maria Uitti McCabe

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South Coast Bike Summit is just across the river

Press Release

The South Coast Bikeway Alliance is thrilled to announce the return of its 11th Annual Summit, set to take place on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at 6:00 PM (doors open at 5:30 pm) at the UMASS Dartmouth – School for Marine Science & Technology, located at 836 South Rodney French Blvd., New Bedford.

This highly anticipated event will bring together cycling enthusiasts, community leaders, and advocates to discuss the latest developments in the South Coast Bikeway project. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage with representatives from member communities spanning Swansea to Wareham, learning about ongoing efforts to complete the bikeway and how they can contribute to its development.

The Summit will feature a keynote address by Trish Karter, an entrepreneur, Ride Across America team member, and record-holding cyclist. Karter is the creator of AGING STRONG, an initiative designed to encourage older riders and women to stay engaged in cycling and make the

sport more accessible and enjoyable.

Guests are encouraged to arrive at 5:30 PM to connect with South Coast Bikeway Alliance representatives and explore community initiatives. The speakers' session will begin at 6 p.m. Additionally, group rides to the event will be organized from South Dartmouth and Fairhaven, providing an eco-friendly and engaging way to participate. Refreshments will be served.

To attend, RSVP via the South Coast Bikeway Alliance website. For more details, visit South Coast Bikeway (<https://southcoastbikeway.com/the-summit-is-back-2/>) and email thesouthcoastbikeway@gmail.com.

Ride With Us Over the Bridge

Fairhaven will be well represented at the Summit with members of the Fairhaven Livable Streets Committee staffing a table. FLS members will ride bikes to the Summit, leaving Ferry Street (terminus of Phoenix Bike Path/Fairhaven) at 5 p.m. All attendees are asked to register at southcoastbikeway.com.



Trish Karter, an entrepreneur, Ride Across America team member, record-holding cyclist, and creator of "Aging Strong," an initiative designed to encourage older riders and women to stay engaged in cycling, will be the keynote speaker at the 11th annual Bikeway Alliance Summit on 5/13/25 in New Bedford. *Submitted photo.*

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Cherry Blossom Festival celebrates Japan's ties to Fairhaven

By Beth David
Editor

The Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society held its annual Cherry Blossom Friendship Festival, O-Hanami, on Sunday, 5/4/25, at the site of the Museum that commemorates the relationship between the families of a Fairhaven Whaling Captain and the young boy he rescued from a deserted island in 1841. They eventually made it back to Fairhaven, the home of Captain William Whitfield. Young Manjiro learned to read and write in a Fairhaven school, and lived with the Captain's family, becoming the first Japanese person to live in the United States.

Japan was a closed society in the 1800s, but Manjiro eventually went back, risking death in his mid-twenties because, simply put, he missed his mother.

His return, with some of his other shipwrecked crewmates, changed Japan forever. Manjiro became instrumental in opening up Japan to the west and he became famous in Japan. He was appointed as a Samarai earning a last name, Nakahama.

The Whitfield and Nakahama families have kept close ties for generations, even through WWII. A member of the Whitfield family is on the board of WMFS.

Fairhaven and Manjiro's home village, Tosashimizu, have a sister city agreement. In 2008, Dr. Shigeaki Hinohara, 97, led a fundraising effort to buy the house on Cherry Street

and create the museum and cultural center. He then donated it to the town.

WMFS treasurer Brian Bowcock reminded everyone that Fairhaven has cherry trees from Japan donated by Japanese dignitaries, including Dr. Hinohara.

Suguru Minoya, Deputy Consul General of Japan in Boston, told those gathered on Sunday that the strength of the Japan-US relationship is stronger than ever due to cultural and people to people exchanges at the grassroots level.

"On behalf of the Consulate General of Japan, I would like to express our appreciation to the members of the Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society and the people of New Bedford and Fairhaven for their continued effort to maintain the relationships and to make this festival happen," said Mr. Minoya.

He added that the Mass. House of Representatives adopted a first-ever friendship resolution for Japan, designating May 7 as "Japan Day," the day that Manjiro first set foot on US soil in the port of New Bedford in 1843.

"We are very glad to celebrate this Japan Day every year from now on," he said.

Mass. State Rep. Mark Sylvia, presented a citation from the state house and told the crowd that it was very special to be able to talk about his home town at the state house when designating Japan Day.

Fairhaven Select Board Chairper-



son Charlie Murphy encouraged people to visit Japan, and especially Tosashimizu.

The festival offered a day of activities rooted in Japanese culture, including: paper theater, origami, names written in Japanese, live music, taiko drumming, Japanese flower arranging. Japanese items were also on sale, and Bento Box lunch was available for those who preordered.

The museum offers a number of programs and events to spread the story of Manjiro and the Whitfields.

Every year a Manjiro Festival is held, with the location alternating between Japan and Fairhaven. On October 4, 2025, the festival will be in Fairhaven on Center Street in front of Town Hall.

To learn more about Manjiro's story and the museum, visit <https://whitfield-manjiro.org>



ABOVE LEFT: Suguru Minoya, Deputy Consul General of Japan in Boston, addresses the crowd at the Japanese Cherry Blossom (O-Hanami) Friendship Festival at the Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society and Museum in Fairhaven on 5/4/25, enjoying a laugh with Fairhaven Select Board Chairperson Charlie Murphy (BACK LEFT); and WMFS founding member, Ayako Rooney. ABOVE RIGHT: Mass. State Rep. Mark Sylvia addresses the crowd flanked by Deputy Consul General Minoya, Mr. Murphy. TOP: Carolyn Wingate performs for the crowd. Photos by Beth David.

TM: cont'd from page 4

Bristol County Agricultural.

Mr. Riley said that the town has \$500K in salary reserves for raises and the schools took \$400K, leaving only \$100K for the rest of the town.

"And I think that's disgusting," said Mr. Riley.

Superintendent Tara Kohler told TM that their request was \$1 million more, and they cut it because they realize the situation the town is in. She said the current amount will result in four teacher positions eliminated. She would not specify which positions exactly, saying it depends on enrollment next year and what student preferences are for classes.

She said things do change, for instance, they have four more Special Ed students who need transportation to the tune of about \$200K that has not been included because they just found out about it.

She said the town is only 2% over net school spending (the state's mandated minimum per student), with most districts being around 26%.

"It's super embarrassing," said Ms. Kohler.

"Its appalling that we are even having this conversation," said Kevin Grant.

He said education should not be based on whether their parents can afford to send them to private schools.

"This is our community. Our children are our future," said Mr. Grant. "If you want more of my money, come get it."

Mr. Samia said the other contracts were not decided yet, but he was hopeful there would be enough to cover them.

In the end the amendment failed, and TM voted for the requested amount.

TM also authorized up to \$25,000 for costs associated with adding another lot into the 40R Plazas District; for litigation with the Hiller Avenue project; and contingency funds for the community grant project.

A lot on the corner of Alden Road and David Drown Boulevard was left out because it was thought to be mostly wetlands. A new owner has requested that the lot be added in to allow more flexibility with building.

Bruce Webb, Land Use and Planning Director, said the lot has "significant" uplands and can be developed.

Article 19 then authorized adding that lot to the 40R district.

TM member Wayne Hayward questioned why the small lot, just under an acre, was left out. He said the developer should pay for costs associated with including it in the 40R, not the town.

Planning Board member Patrick Carr said it was "overlooked" because it was such a small parcel. Then he said the developer could put 30 units there, but wants to put 12-15 there to have units along the bike path.

Any development would have to adhere to the standards in the overlay district.

TM passed the measure.

TM also authorized \$1,753,084 in spending from the general fund capital plan, with most funds coming from Free Cash.

Some discussion revolved around \$175K to replace the elevator at Fairhaven High School.

Ms. Kohler explained that the elevator has a life span of 20 to 30 years, and it is 27 years old. She said at this point, 80 students need the elevator for a variety of reasons, including injuries or permanent mobility issues. She said it is costing \$5-10K a year to keep it maintained.

TM approved the \$175K.

Article 13, which created a Revolving Fund account for Grimshaw Park, also got some discussion.

Wayne Hayward said that the park was created for the use of senior citizens in Fairhaven. The new account would only allocate 15% of funds generated from fees from events held at the park to the Council on Aging.

The rest goes to the general fund.

COA Director, Martha Reed, said Grimshaw Park is for use by the COA. She said they are working with Community Development to increase the use of the park. Money will go to upkeep not done by the BPW and hopefully to install bathrooms.

TM passed the measure.

TM also passed the Charter which consolidates the three special acts and some bylaws into one governing document. It also changed the number of School Committee members and Planning Board members to make them both odd numbers.

Several amendments were made and approved.

Bob Espindola submitted an amendment to the Select Board section specifying that the board will reorganize after the election, instead of just "annually." That amendment passed.

Seth Baumgartner submitted an amendment to make it harder to recall an elected official. Instead of requiring that recall petitioners collect 20% of the total number of registered voters, Mr. Baumgartner suggested 30%.

That measure failed.

Brian Monroe, a current School Committee member who announced he is not running for re-election at the end of his term, suggested changing the number of SC members to five, not seven.

That measure passed.

The change to make the Planning Board a nine member board instead of eight stayed.

The charter will have to be approved by the state and then approved by a townwide ballot.

Future changes to the charter will require a vote by Town Meeting, approval by the state, and a townwide ballot.

TM also passed Article 18, which changes the day of the annual election from the first Monday in April to the second Tuesday in June.

Quotable Quotes

It's not a Vinneo, it's a Georgio.
[Town Moderator, Mark Sylvia]

I love eager Town Meeting members [Mr. Sylvia to Mr. Espindola jumping ahead to the next article]

I think you more than answered the question
[Mr. Sylvia]
Is that your way of saying I'm talking too much?
[Superintendent of Schools, Tara Kohler]

Solto holds official ribbon cutting, grand opening

Solto Skin + Massage Studio held an official ribbon cutting and grand opening on Friday, with town officials on hand to officially welcome the new business to town.

In addition to town officials from the Select Board, Economic Development Committee, and Community Development Department, State Rep.

Mark Sylvia attended to get Solto off to a good start.

Mr. Sylvia presented the owner, Sophia Tetreault, with a citation from the state House of Representatives.

Then Ms. Tetreault got a little help from her young nephews to cut the ribbon and get the day officially started.



ABOVE: Sophia Tetreault, the owner of Solto Skin + Massage Studio of Fairhaven, gets a little help from her nephews cutting the ribbon at the grand opening on 5/3/25. TOP: Ms. Tetreault addresses the crowd. Photos courtesy of the Town of Fairhaven.



In Portuguese, the term solto “sohl-toh” means “to release” or “free from restraint,” and Sophia invites everyone to explore the space she has created where you can feel free. Free to be yourself, free from the world’s stresses, and free to leave feeling revitalized and rejuvenated.

Solto is located in the center of Fairhaven at 47 Center Street, inside the Harrop Center, next to the Unitarian Memorial Church.

Visit <https://www.sol-to.com>, call 508-441-7231, or email hello@sol-to.com.



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Obituary: Elizabeth Ann Palm



Elizabeth Ann Palm

Elizabeth Ann Palm, 86 of Newington, Connecticut passed away on April 22nd 2025. Born on January 9th, 1939 in Fair-

haven Massachusetts, Elizabeth, also known as Betty, was the daughter of George Holt and Doris Warburton. She grew up in Fairhaven and graduated from Fairhaven High School in 1956.

In 1958 Betty joined the Air Force

and was in the medical field in Texas for three years. She attained the rank of Airman First Class (A1C). She specialized in one-to-one patient care and was later put in charge of the OB/GYN Clinic.

She married Eric Donald Palm in 1961 while they were both in the Air Force. After the Air Force, Betty worked for Dr. Patel in a laboratory research facility and took care of his brother. She loved to work in her garden and feed the ducks at Mill Pond. Betty also loved buffets and going to tag sales.

Betty was known for her writing skills. She collaborated with her brother George to co-author a novel called "Run Away to Glory".

Betty is survived by her son, Eric Donald Palm Jr., her daughter Lisa Karen Palm, her Grandson Matthew Hernandez, granddaughters Mina and Ellie, sister Edith Ryder and brothers, George Holt Jr. and John Warburton Holt. She is predeceased by her husband Eric Palm; sister Doris Hutchins; and parents George and Doris Holt.

A Celebration of Life for Betty will be held with family and close friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Millicent Library in Fairhaven, MA in Betty's memory.

Betty will be deeply missed and forever remembered for her compassion, dedication, love of life, sense of humor and joyful spirit.

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—Margaret Sullivan, “Hesitating The News”

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Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Board of Appeals

Tues., 6/1, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Board of Assessors

Thurs., 5/15, Town Hall, 4:30 p.m.

Commission on Disability

Thurs., 5/8, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Conservation Comm.

Mon., 5/19, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Council on Aging

Tues., 5/13, Sr. Ctr, 9 a.m.

Economic Development

Thurs., 5/15, Town Hall, 5:30 p.m.

Planning Board

Tues., 5/13, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 5/14, FHS Lib., 6:30 p.m.

Select Board

Mon., 5/12, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Acushnet

Board of Appeals

Tues., 5/20, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Council on Aging

Wed., 5/14, Sr. Ctr., 10 a.m.

Golf Committee

Thurs., 5/8, Golf Maint. Bldg., 4:30 p.

Master Plan Comm

Thurs., 5/8, Police Sta., 6 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	May 2025	HIGH a.m. p.m.	LOW a.m. p.m.
Thursday	8	0555 1819	0050 1250
Friday	9	0638 1857	0132 1309
Saturday	10	0716 1932	0211 1251
Sunday	11	0752 2007	0243 1307
Monday	12	0829 2045	0207 1335
Tuesday	13	0909 2125	0230 1411
Wednesday	14	0950 2206	0305 1453
Thursday	15	1032 2248	0342 1536
Friday	16	1117 2334	0419 1618
Saturday	17	---	1206 0458 1702
Sunday	18	0026 1302	0541 1752
Monday	19	0122 1358	0635 1858
Tuesday	20	0217 1451	0741 2015
Wednesday	21	0311 1546	0843 2122
Thursday	22	0410 1646	0938 2229
Friday	23	0514 1745	1035* 2337
Saturday	24	0611 1836	1133* ---

*= 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"

TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ADA TRANSITION PLAN

The Town of Fairhaven will hold a public hearing to present and receive public comment on the Town's Draft ADA Transition Plan created by the Institute for Human Centered Design. This plan identifies barriers to accessibility in public facilities and outlines steps the Town can take to bring its services, programs, and facilities into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2025

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Fairhaven Town Hall – Banquet Room
40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719

This hearing will be conducted in person and accessible remotely via Zoom. Please see the Town's website for Zoom link.

All interested residents, community members, and stakeholders are encouraged to attend. Public feedback is an important part of the planning process to ensure accessibility for all residents.

For questions or to request accommodations, please contact the Town's Interim ADA Coordinator, Martha Reed at (508) 979-4029.

FNN 5/8/25, 5/15/25

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Fairhaven Conservation Commission

Monday, May 19, 2025 at 6:00pm

Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Street

Fairhaven, Massachusetts

ursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the public body as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be at 40 Center Street, and it is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of the public. MGL, Ch. 30A, § 20(f) requires anyone that intends to record any portions of a public meeting, either by audio or video, or both, to notify the Chair at the beginning of the meeting.

Anyone wishing to access the meeting via remote means may do so in the following manner:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86953155076?pwd=VFdUQkhzdVYrNzJlQktlVl9XSGppZz09>
Meeting ID: 869 5315 5076

Passcode: 633695

Or call: 1-929-205-6099

In-person attendance is permitted for the public at Town Hall at 40 Center Street

The Fairhaven Conservation Commission will hold the following Public Hearings pursuant to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. c. 131, s. 40) and the Code of the Town of Fairhaven Chapter 192, Wetlands:

a. CON 023-501: 3 Saltmarsh Road, Map 43, Lot 46 Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Joseph Braga to install new 3000-gallon capacity sewage holding tank (tight tank) to replace the

existing septic tank and leaching field. Work falls within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage (LSCSF) and within the Buffer Zone to BVW & Saltmarsh.

b. CON 023-502: 1 Boulder Court, Map 2, Lot 6C Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Sarajon Realty, LLC for the construction of a front entry stoop with steps to grade connected to an existing single-family dwelling. The stoop will be supported by two posts on diamond pier footings. An existing stone retaining wall will also be extended to accommodate the new stoop and steps. The proposed work will take place within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to a BVW and within LSCSF, FEMA Flood Zone VE (El. 15').

c. ON 023-503, SE 023-1503: 17 Turner Avenue, Map 2, Lots 275-277 Notice of Intent filed by Douglas & Kamryn Dubois to demolish existing cottage and construct a 32' x 56' 2-story single-family dwelling in compliance with FEMA and Mass Building Code. In addition, the applicant requests to construct a 28' x 32' (896 S.F.) 1-story guest house (ADU). Work to take place within LSCSF, FEMA Flood Zone VE (El. 15').

d. CON 023-504, SE 023-1504: 46 Goulart Memorial Drive, Map 42, Lot 19 Notice of Intent filed by Anthony David to remove existing foundation and construct a new single-family dwelling in compliance with FEMA and Mass Building Code. Work to take place within LSCSF, FEMA Flood Zone VE (El.17').

e. CON 023-505: 15 Robichaud Farm Lane, Map 35, Lot 2 Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Steven Tallarida for the construction of a single-family dwelling, detached garage, well, driveway, and associated grading within Buffer Zone to BVW.

f. CON 023-506: 732 Scoticut Neck Road, Map 42, Lot 6 Request for Determination of Applicability filed by ROSO Investment Realty Trust to install septic tank, pump chamber, and leaching area. Work to take place within LSCSF, Flood Zone VE (El. 19').

g. CON 023-507: 1 Pavillion Way, Map 29, Lot 004H Request for Determination of Applicability filed by John & Sylvia Collins to clear walking path (vegetation & rocks) within Coastal Beach & Saltmarsh.

h. CON 023-508: 3 Beachwood Street, Map 28B, Lot 073 Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Amanda Rader to install push piers to stabilize sinking foundation. Property located within FEMA Flood Zone VE (El.16').

i. CON 023-425, SE 023-1461: 60 Highland Avenue, Map 28A, Lots 164 & 165 Request filed by Laura Tykodi for the following amendments: (1) pier placement locations have been revised; (2) pier count reduced from 22 driven piles to 12 concrete piers; (3) proposed 14' x 16' deck & stairs have been removed; (4) a 7' cantilevered deck has been added to the southwest and a portion of northwest sides of the dwelling; and (5) the driveway location moved northeast. Parcel located within Buffer Zone to BVW & LSCSF, FEMA Flood Zone VE (El.16').

j. CON 019-036, SE 023-1290: Torrington Road, Map 29B, Lot 128 Request filed by Christopher & Laurie A. Stevens for the following amendments: (1) house & driveway will now be outside the 50-foot Buffer Zone; (2) the 10-foot Buffer Zone between the limit of work and the BVW will increase by 25 feet; and (3) construction staging & stockpile area will now be outside of the 100-foot Buffer Zone.

k. CON 023-509: 24 Forestview Avenue, Map 31A, Lot 600K Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Richard Vincent to remove existing asphalt driveway & replace with new asphalt, approximately 1,700 S.F. Work to take place within Buffer Zone to BVW.

The agenda will be posted on the Town's website at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Copies of the applications and site plans may be viewed at the Conservation Office in Town Hall, located at 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA and links to the applications are on the Town Website under current filings.

Brandon Estrella, Chair
Fairhaven Conservation Commission
FNN: 5/8/25

ACUSHNET CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Acushnet Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 14, 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 – NOI and Stormwater – Acushnet Company – 4 Slocum Street SE 001-XXXX A Notice of Intent was filed by Acushnet Company for property located at 4 Slocum Street, Map 25, Lot 24. The applicant's project is to implement a Comprehensive Remedial Action plan which includes excavation and stabilization/removal of impacted soils from the property in wetland resource areas. The applicant is represented by Kyle Apigian of Woodard & Curran, Inc. Plan name is "Slocum Street Infrastructure Improvements" dated May 2024.

Public Hearing – NOI and Stormwater – Town of Acushnet / James Kelley, 0 Slocum Street SE 001-XXXX A Notice of Intent was filed by James Kelley/Town of Acushnet for property located at 0 Slocum Street, Map 25, Lot 108. The applicant proposes to construct a 36 inch diameter stormwater outfall to connect from a proposed manhole within the River Street ROW and the Acushnet River shoreline, portions of the work will occur within Fish Run, Land Under the Ocean, Bank, Coastal Bank, associated 100-foot Buffer Zone, BLSF and Riverfront Area. The applicant is represented by Claire Hoogboom of LEC Environmental Consultants, Inc. Plan name is "Slocum Street Infrastructure Improvements Project" and "Stormwater Drainage Memorandum" dated April 8, 2024.

Public Hearing After the Fact RDA – 7 Tillie Way LLC, c/o Paul Mitchell / 7 Tillie Way An After the Fact Request for Determination was filed by 7 Tillie Way LLC for property located at 7 Tillie Way, Map 14, Lot 4K. The work consisted of the removal of historical fill piles using an excavator and dump trucks. The applicant is represented by David M. Davignon of Schneider, Davignon & Leone, Inc. Plan name is "Plan to accompany RDA for 7 Tillie Way" dated April 29, 2025.

Mark Minton, Acushnet Conservation Agent
FNN, 5/8/25

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From our readers

The issue of banning “nip” bottles in Fairhaven

At annual Town Meeting on May 3rd, there was a “spirited” debate regarding whether glass nip bottles should be legal to sell in Fairhaven.

The debate against them focused a lot on the roadside litter they cause, which to me is very valid in its own right, but some argue, “what about coffee cups, takeout wrappers, etc.?” How practical would it be to ban

them all?”

As a mental health professional, I believe there is more to consider. How often have you bought alcohol nips to drink at home or at someone else’s home? If your answer is not very often then ask why do people buy nips to begin with, especially the ones that end up on the roadsides? Usually, to drink in public, while driving, or before or at work. All are places where drinking is illegal.

Our laws, just as our businesses, benefit the majority of us when they are socially responsible. Littering and public drinking are not. Most roadside litter, while still a problem, is legal to use or consume publicly while alcohol isn’t. By banning nips, we are promoting socially responsible behavior.

*Christopher Andersen, LMHC,
Fairhaven Town Meeting member/
Precinct 5*

ACUSH: cont’d from page 3

quickly.

The next 100 passes will be chosen by lottery. Acushnet residents can get a paper form at the Select Board office or fill out the form online. A link to the form is on the town’s website at: <https://www.acushnet.ma.us>, or at <https://tinyurl.com/y5wce9ps>. Deadline is 5/13. You must have all debts to the town paid up before you apply, and you must have proof of residency. Passes are \$40.

The board also continued a hearing for three Verizon poles on Mendall Road and Perry Hill Road; and one on Middle Road..

Brian Simmons and Anthony Veilleux told the board the poles were new/additional poles, not double poles. They are needed for cable upgrades and to handle the bigger loads.

Mr. Gaspar expressed concern for at least one address because it looked like the pole would be in the way or in front of a window. He said because the meeting was in the middle of the day, he felt the residents did not have a chance to attend.

There was some discussion and confusion on where exactly the poles would go.

Mr. Gaspar said he understood the need for the extra support.

“The problem is, aesthetically it looks like crap for the homeowner,” said Mr. Gaspar. “It’s not their fault somebody is making a bang and a buck on solar.”

Mr. Veilleux said he would have to check with the engineers to see how much leeway they had to move the poles.

Mr. Gaspar said suddenly they were putting poles a lot closer together. He asked if they could move some existing poles instead of always

adding one in the middle.

Ted Cioper addressed the board when they got to the Middle Road pole and asked if they could replace the one at his driveway.

Mr. Cioper said he is two poles away from the one on the agenda. When he uses his boat, he has to have someone climb up on the boat, and push up the wires when he goes in and out of his driveway.

He also said someone actually zip-tied the lines together, and he was wondering if that was okay.

Last year, you said we are rolling quarters. This year we are rolling pennies.

[Town Administrator,
Jaime Kelley]

A taller pole would solve the problem, he said, and asked if someone could go out and take a look.

The board also continued that hearing.

The meeting was the first one after the election, so the board reorganized, voting for Mr. Wojnar to be chair, in keeping with the tradition of the person who is at the end of his term being chosen as chair.

The board also heard from Assistant Town Accountant, Jaime Valesquez; and Treasurer/Collector, Jennifer Garrant.

Ms. Valesquez updated the board on the audit process, and other changes she has made to the

department to streamline processes. She said her department is working with the auditors now.

Ms. Garrant told the board that her “biggest thing” is cross training. She and Ms. Valesquez are able to cover for each other if one is out of the office.

Ms. Garrant told the board that they are also in the open enrollment period for health insurance for town employees, so they are answering a lot of questions.

The department has also been working to get online permitting up and running. Some are online now, including Select Board, Building, and public works, so recycling permits and other permits can be done online. The Town Clerk is next so people can apply for marriage licenses, etc.

In a related item, the board appointed Tania Tavares to be Assistant Treasurer/Collector.

The board also heard from Alliant Insurance Services with an update on the town’s health insurance for employees.

Chris Nunnally told the board that it is a “very challenging time” for municipal plans, with the average increase at 12%.

He said they got quotes from three providers and chose Harvard Pilgrim, which resulted in a 9.9% increase over last year. He said there are a few “augmentations” to the plan, including a concierge service for all active members, which will help members book appointments. There is an app with 24/7 messaging, and no charge for telehealth visits.

The board also met in executive session for collective bargaining; Town Administrator search; and health insurance negotiations with Alliant.

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