



# Fairhaven

# Neighborhood News

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



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with a big voice!

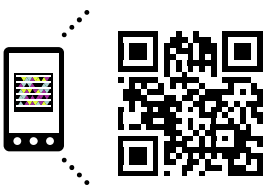
Volume 20, Issue 27 • June 26, 2025

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

## Fairhaven Pride is a party for all



The lawn of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Fairhaven is decorated to welcome everyone during Fairhaven's Got Pride: A Celebration of Love, Family, and Inclusion, on 6/22/25. 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

We have some sad news this week. Well known Korean War veteran, Jimmy Leal, died. He was very active in any event that had to do with veterans. He was a survivor of the notorious “Battle of Pork Chop Hill” where he served as a medic.

I always loved seeing Jimmy at events, and usually with his wife Dolores, until she passed away. They always had big smiles for just about everyone, well, most of the time. Jimmy had no patience for certain types who did not serve, but somehow felt entitled.

He was quite the man. He will be sorely missed in these parts.

The Select Board meeting had the usual drama. Honestly, you’d think there’s money involved or something. These are volunteer positions, people, right? But they do have a certain amount of authority. Did it ever occur to you that they don’t want you in those slots because you never saw a development project you didn’t love? You’re all going to turn this whole town into one big strip mall. Maybe you should learn to say “no” yourselves once in a while. Anyway, see page 4 for that.

There’s lots of fun stuff in here. It’s our last issue for a couple of weeks, while I try to recharge these old batteries. Our next issue is 7/17. So, hang onto this copy.

There’s info on Fairhaven’s July 4th festivities (see page 3), New Bedford’s fireworks, and Homecoming this weekend. So be sure to check every page.

And be sure to thank our advertisers for supporting the little paper with a big voice.

No time for the Big Buffoon and his latest cruelties.

No time to get into how so many people think it’s all a big joke...as long as the people at the other end aren’t quite white, right?

Until next time, see ya

*Glory to Ukraine!  
Glory to the Heroes!*

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# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Thursday, June 26, 2025

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Editor: Beth David

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## Contents

Acushnet TA treats community to cookout.....	7
COVER: Fairhaven’s Got Pride.....	12
Dear Frankie.....	10
Eagle Scout for Troop 52.....	6
Fairhaven Select Board.....	4
From our readers.....	14
Happenings.....	5, 21, 22
Huttleston Harborfest.....	13
Independence Day/weekend events.....	3
Jimmy Leal dead at 93.....	19
Legal Notices/Public Hearings.....	20
Senior Ctr/Rec Ctr.....	9
Tides.....	17
Upcoming meetings/Fairhaven & Acushnet.....	17

## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

## Area July 4 activities include parade, fireworks

Summer events are in full swing this weekend and beyond. Since we go on our summer now and will not be publishing until 7/17, we have included extra events and activities to help keep you busy until then. Happy summer!!

### Fairhaven Homecoming

The 47th Annual Homecoming Day Fair, proudly sponsored by the Fairhaven Improvement Association, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, will be held in the heart of Fairhaven on Sat., 6/28, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Fairhaven Homecoming Day Fair, a cherished tradition with roots dating back to 1903, was envisioned in 1975 by a group inspired by the Fairhaven Colonial Fair. This vision led to our beloved event, named the Homecoming Day Fair.

Featuring over 150 booths showcasing talented artisans and crafters from across New England. From exciting kids' activities to nostalgic fire engine rides, immerse yourself in a day filled with art, delicious food, lively music, and captivating live entertainment. Embrace the spirit of community and tradition.

Visit <https://www.fairhavenimprovement.org/> or email: [Fairhavenhomecoming@gmail.com](mailto:Fairhavenhomecoming@gmail.com)

### FHS Tours

Fairhaven High School tours start in the Rotunda of the main entrance on the Huttleston Ave side of the building and last between 90 - 120 minutes. Admission is free and we ask that you arrive 10-15 minutes before the start time. The next tour dates are: Sat., 6/28, 10:00 am; Sat., 6/28, Noon; Wed., 7/22, 10:00 am; Wed., 7/9, 10 a.m.; Thurs., 7/17, 10 a.m.; Mon., 7/21, 10 a.m.

### Buzzards Bay Swim

A one-of-a-kind, scenic, point-to-point open water swim across outer New Bedford Harbor, benefiting the Buzzards Bay Coalition!

June 28, 7:00 AM - 11:00 AM, Fort Phoenix, Green St, Fairhaven Visit <https://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/>

Your \$25 registration fee and \$300 fundraising minimum also includes shuttle service, swim cap, event tee, and a locally custom-made finisher's medal. Special rates available for youth and lifeguard participants.

### INDEPENDENCE DAY

#### New Bedford Fireworks

New Bedford will hold its annual fireworks display on Thursday, July 3 (YES, the third, not 4th), at 9 p.m.

The fireworks will be staged from a barge located off the State Pier in New Bedford Harbor. Lower Union Street (Between N. Water Street and John F. Kennedy Boulevard) will be closed to vehicle traffic and will be one of the best spots Downtown to view the display.

#### Fairhaven Car Cruise/Parade/Flag Raising/Cannon Fire

On Friday, July 4, 2025, Fairhaven will be celebrating Independence Day in Grand Style with an antique car cruise, parade and Independence Day ceremony.

The car cruise will assemble at Fairhaven High School at 8:00 a.m. to raise the BIG flag at 8:30 a.m. At 8:45 a.m., watch the antique cars cruise through town arriving at Green Street and Washington Street to meet up with the start of the Parade.

cont'd on page 5

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# Fairhaven Select Board to interview 4 finalists for TA

By Beth David  
Editor

The Fairhaven Town Administrator Screening Committee (TASC) submitted four names to the Select Board at its meeting on 6/23/25.

TASC chairperson, Jeff Osuch, told the board that Rick White of Groux-White Consulting had done "very good job" for the committee. He did a "lot of homework" on the candidates.

Mr. Osuch summarized the process that the consultant and the committee went through to get to the finalists. The town heard from 33 candidates from 11 states.

The committee interviewed 12 candidates for about 75 minutes each, asking 10 basic questions. The four candidates chose each have at least 10 years of experience in municipal government.

Mr. Osuch said he was presenting the names in alphabetical order because the committee felt it was not their role to make a recommendation.

The four finalists are Lisa Green, Keith Hickey, Joseph Powers, and James Ryan.

Ms. Green is an attorney who has served as the Town Administrator in Hanson, and Whitman Mass. She is currently the Interim TA in Auburn, according to online sources. She also served on the Selectboard in Whitman.

Mr. Hickey is the Town Administrator in Kingston, Mass., and was the town manager in Winchendon, MA, Salem, MA, Merrimack, NH and Bedford, NH.

Mr. Powers is the Town Administrator in Harwich, although his contract expires on June 30 and is not being renewed. He also served as Interim TA and Assistant TA in Harwich immediately prior to being

named TA. He also served as Assistant TA/Town Clerk in Wellfleet; Interim Town Clerk in Northfield; and Town Clerk & Registrar in Braintree.

Mr. Ryan was the Town Administrator in West Boylston, until February, when he was fired in a controversy over his handling of a Trump campaign flag in the police station, according to news reports. The issue was not that the flag should not have been hung in the space, but that Mr. Ryan solicited the help of a subordinate to remove it.

Mr. Ryan also served as Assistant Town Manager/Human Resources Director in Salisbury; was Finance and Budget Analyst in Wellesley; and Budget Analyst/Intern in Foxborough.

Mr. White advised the board to ask about 10 questions of each candidate and to ask the same questions. He said they will have time to do follow-up questions, and said they will have better responses if they engage in a dialogue with candidates.

Mr. White told the board that the position is a good opportunity. He did not sell the community, he said, he sold the opportunity.

The board will hold a special meeting on Monday, 7/7, at 3 p.m. to interview the finalists. The details of how to handle the questioning so the candidates do not hear the questions and answers will be worked out with the advice of Town Counsel.

In another matter, the board appointed nine members to the Atlas Tack Working Group, declining to make it a real committee that would have to post meetings, take minutes, and record their sessions.

SB member Andrew Romano changed his tune a little, saying he was not against a Working Group, but he wanted a way for the public to

know what the group was doing and when they were meeting.

Cathy Melanson, who had pushed for the group not to be a committee so they did not have to adhere to the Open Meeting Law, said someone from the group could brief the board once a month.

SB chairperson Charlie Murphy noted, though, that the SB would have a liaison on the committee who would brief them at every meeting.

SB member Natalie Mello asked if members of the committee needed to be Fairhaven residents. Mr. Murphy said they did not because it is a working group. Nine people applied to be on the committee, and one, David Gerber, who is married to Erin Carr, lives in Mattapoisett. In his application, he said he owns property in Fairhaven. Ms. Carr owns a business with her father in Fairhaven.

The board appointed all nine applicants to the WG: Ken Blanchard, Doug Brady, Brandon Estrella, David Gerber, Fernando Lemos, Cathy Melanson, Brian Messier, Michael Sherman, Rick Trapilo.

The board also read and signed two proclamations. One was in recognition of 31 year of "dedicated public service" by Deputy Chief Joy Nichols, who is retiring. Dep. Chief Nichols is the first woman to achieve the rank of Lieutenant, in 2015, and Deputy Chief in 2021.

"Joy's trailblazing achievements, calm and confident decision-making, and tireless service have left a lasting impact on the Fairhaven Fire Department and the citizens of Fairhaven, who have greatly benefited from her experience, integrity, and compassion," reads the proclamation.

The other proclamation recog-

SELECT: cont'd on page 18

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# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

cont'd from page 3

The route for the car cruise is as follows: FHS traveling North on Main Street to Howland Road, East on Howland Road to Alden Road, South on Alden to Route 6, West on Route 6 bearing left at Washington Street heading west to Green Street.

The parade will begin at 9:00 a.m. from the corner of Green Street and Washington Street and continue down Green Street to Fort Phoenix, with more than 30 groups participating. At the conclusion of the parade the town will hold the Annual Independence Day ceremony and the traditional cannon firing by the Fairhaven Village Militia.

For those traveling to Fort Phoenix during the parade, traffic will be blocked starting at Church Street traveling south on Fort Street. Parking and traffic along Green Street will be restricted until the conclusion of the parade. Southbound traffic on Fort Street will be blocked off at the corner of Fort and Doane Streets until the conclusion of the parade.

Green Street residents are encouraged to decorate your houses and sidewalks!

## Full Bloom Festival

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 more information and vendor registration, visit [www.soulfloweryogaandwellness.com/fullbloom2025](http://www.soulfloweryogaandwellness.com/fullbloom2025)

## Pride Event

Join us for Unconditional Love Day Carnival themed Pride Event at Little Patch of Heaven Sanctuary, 263 Mill Rd, Fairhaven, on Sun., 6/29, 10 am–2 pm. Free admission, carnival games and prizes, carnival themed food, vendors, raffle. All proceeds go to animal care. Contact Lauren Viera 774-328-5732.

## Concerts

Concerts Under the Stars, Presented by the Fairhaven Improvement Association, Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center St. Weather permitting

Join us Thursday nights at 7 PM for live music under the summer sky. Bring a blanket or chair and enjoy these free community concerts.

- July 10: Blu Lobsta
- July 17: Truue
- July 24: G and Friends
- July 31: Pete Lagrange and the Ghost Riders
- Aug. 17: Butch McCarthy and the Gentlement of Leisure

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Fairhaven Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

## Cooling Center

The Fairhaven Council on Aging/Senior Center is cooling center. It is open to anyone who needs to get out of the heat Call 508-979-4029 to find out if they will have extended hours on any especially hot days. Their regular hours are Mon.–Fri., 7:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.; Wednesdays open until 8 p.m.

## Seeking Growers

Fairhaven Community Garden Seeks Growers. Organic Gardening Beds are still available

Have you ever wanted to try gardening but didn't know where to start? Perhaps you're interested in saving money by growing your own organic vegetables? Maybe your yard is too small or too shady for a garden? Or maybe, you just want to be part of a "growing green" community?

If you've answered yes to any of these questions, you're in luck. The Fairhaven Community Garden has garden beds available at three locations in town: East Fairhaven Elementary School, Hastings Middle School and Wood Elementary School. The annual fee is \$10 per 4x8 foot bed. All gardeners agree to use organic practices only.

If you are interested or have a question, visit our website at [fairhavencommunitygarden.org](http://fairhavencommunitygarden.org) where you'll find more information and the 2025 gardening application, or you can email the site coordinator at [sitecoordinator@fairhavencommunitygarden.org](mailto:sitecoordinator@fairhavencommunitygarden.org).

## Water Flushing

The Fairhaven Water Department will be flushing water mains in

different areas of town each day. For more information visit <https://fairhaven-ma.gov/water-main-flushing>

The ultimate plan is to flush the entire Town of Fairhaven now that the new filters are in place to remove sediment not removed by the prior aging filters and due to the summer season's water demand.

During the flushing process, it is not uncommon to experience low water pressure or to have a yellow, brown or reddish tint to appear in the water.

If you encounter discolored water following hydrant flushing, run the cold water taps only.

Do not use hot water taps throughout your home at bathroom sinks, tubs, kitchen faucets, etc. for 5 to 15 minutes, or until water clears.

By not using your hot water taps, this should prevent discolored water from entering your hot water system.

If you do experience discolored water on your hot side

Run water closest to your meter which is most likely outside

Call the Water Department at 508-979-4032

Do not dry or use bleach on your laundry if discolored

Use an Iron-Out product to remove stains

## Outdoor Markets

**Fairhaven Farmers Market** At the Bright Yellow Farm Stand, 151 Alden Rd, Fairhaven, Sundays, 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. through Oct. Visit [www.fairhavenfarmersmarket.com](http://www.fairhavenfarmersmarket.com) or call 508-496-9209. See ad on page 11.

**Farmers Market/Roxann's Garden Center** 189 Alden Rd, Sundays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Huttleston Harborfest** Monthly through the summer, featuring themed celebrations, unique vendors, entertainment. From 11 a.m.–4 p.m. at Grimshaw Park (near tennis courts at Fort Phoenix) on Saturdays: 7/19, Dog Days of Summer for pets and people; 8/23, A Splash of Art, featuring local artists; 9/20, Medieval Renaissance Faire.

Visit [www.discoverfairhaven.org/](http://www.discoverfairhaven.org/)  
**North Fairhaven Market** Weekly on Saturdays through September from 10 AM to 3 PM at Livesey Park. This vibrant market features arts, crafts, farmers, and antiques vendors.

STILL IN TOWN: cont'd on page 11

# Troop 52 to elevate Eagle Scout soon

By Beth David  
Editor

Fairhaven's Troop 52, is ready to welcome a new Eagle Scout to the ranks. Patrick Fleming of Fairhaven, a junior at Bishop Stang High School, completed his Eagle Scout project on May 31, 2025. The Troop has documented his achievements and all badges earned and will hold an Eagle Scout Court of Honor in the coming weeks.

Mr. Fleming replaced the old ceiling tiles in the St. Mary's church hall in Fairhaven. The hall is the home for Troop 52 and many other St. Mary's events and community events.

Mr. Fleming raised money to replace the tiles, then got a crew of

about 20 volunteers to help take out the old tiles and install the new ones.

Fairhaven Fire Chief, Todd Correia, volunteered his time to help with the tiles that surrounded the fire alarms. Troop 52 leaders and Scouts volunteered, and family all the way from Leominster were also part of the crew.

David Goff, who is part of the St. Mary's Parish Council and Scout Master Bob Dorgan were instrumental in helping to get the Eagle project approved and executed. State Rep. Mark Sylvia also stopped by to say "hello."

To learn more about Troop 52, find them on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Troop52Fairhaven>



AFTER photo: the ceiling tiles are replaced around the vent in the basement of St. Mary's Church in Fairhaven on 5/31/25 for the Eagle Scout project of Patrick Fleming from Troop 52. *Submitted photo.*



ABOVE LEFT: Scouts from Troop 52 in Fairhaven and their helpers work on replacing the ceiling tiles in the basement of St. Mary's Church for the Eagle Scout project of Patrick Fleming (LEFT) on 5/31/25. Fairhaven Fire Chief, Todd Correia, lends a hand by working on the tiles around the smoke detector. BELOW LEFT: Scouts take a lunch break. BOTTOM RIGHT: L-R: Patrick Fleming and Scout Master Bob Dorgan take a break to pose for a picture. *Submitted photos.*



# Acushnet TA treats community to cookout

By Beth David  
Editor

Acushnet Town Administrator, James “Jamie” Kelly sponsored his final community cookout on June 12, 2025 at the Council on Aging/Senior Center. Mr. Kelly sponsors the annual cookout as a way to give back to the community. He said it is something he has done in every community he has

worked in.

This year, he not only treated everyone to burgers and dogs, he donated a grill to the COA so they can continue the tradition when he is gone. He is scheduled to retire on June 30.

“Thank you Jamie for your continued generosity and support to the COA,” wrote the COA on its

Facebook page. “Thank you to all of our Acushnet staff, Board of Directors- Chair/Musician, Dan Smith and our community officials for making this event so special!”

The Acushnet COA/Senior Center is located at 59 1/2 So. Main St., call 508-998-0280 to learn about daily programs.



L-R: Acushnet Town Administrator Jamie Kelly receives a gift from Council on Aging Director Lauren Golden at the annual community cookout sponsored by Mr. Kelly at the COA/Senior Center on 6/12/25. MIDDLE: Attendees smile for the camera. RIGHT: Mr. Kelly (RIGHT) gets some help at the grill from Matt Tripp. Photos from Acushnet COA Facebook page.



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# Fairhaven Senior Center/Council on Aging

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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](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: 7/2, Tiverton Casino; 7/9, Garden City, Cranston; 7/16, Plymouth Shopping; 7/23, Wrentham Outlets; 7/30, Thames St., Newport, RI.

## 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 Matinees

- **June 30, 12:15 p.m.** Featuring *Another Simple Favor*. Comedy/Thriller. Stephanie Smothers and Emily Nelson reunite on the island of Capri, Italy, for Emily's extravagant wedding to a rich Italian businessman, which is interrupted by murder and betrayal. This one has a really good ending! (Has crude language.)
- **July 7, 12:15 p.m.** Featuring *Knives Out*. Mystery, Satire, Comedy. When renowned crime novelist Harlan Thrombey is found dead at his estate just after his 85th birthday, the inquisitive and debonair Detective Benoit Blanc is mysteriously enlisted to investigate.
- **July 14, 12: 15 p.m.** Featuring *Glass Onion*. Mystery, Satire, Comedy. Tech billionaire Miles Bron invites his friends for a getaway on his private Greek island. When someone turns up dead Detective Benoit Blanc is put on the case. 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.

## Safety for Seniors

Two States, one Goal: Safety. July 9, 1 p.m. Detective Duarte of the Providence Police Dept. will visit the Fairhaven COA for an important workshop on senior safety. From fraud prevention tips to personal security advice, these sessions are part of the Providence Police Department's ongoing effort to protect and empower older residents.

Please call to sign up, 508-979-4029. Light refreshments.

## Disability Pride Beach Day

Fri., 7/18, Noon–4 p.m., West Island Town Beach, Fir St., Fairhaven. COD@Fairhaven-ma.gov for more info.

Join us for an afternoon of beach fun, sweet treats, and community connection. Enjoy free ice cream, games, and good vibes in a welcoming and inclusive environment.

Accessible beach mats and facilities will be available. All are welcome, come celebrate Disability Pride with us.

Presented by the Fairhaven Commission on Disability and The Belonging Committee.

# 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>

## 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

## Kool Kids

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

## Grilled Tomatoes

1/4 cup olive oil  
 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped  
 3/4 tsp. kosher salt  
 1/2 tsp. black pepper  
 1/4 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes  
 2 lb. tomatoes (3 beefsteak or heirloom tomatoes or 8 roma tomatoes), cored and halved.  
 Choose a firm & meaty tomato.  
 Chopped fresh basil or oregano, for garnish (optional)  
 Preheat a grill or grill pan to medium heat.

In a med. bowl, whisk together the oil, garlic, salt, black pepper, and red pepper flakes. Add the tomatoes and toss to coat.

Grill the tomatoes, cut-side down, until beginning to soften and nicely marked, 3 to 4 minutes, reserving the marinade. Flip and grill the other side until marks appear, 1 to 2 minutes more.

Transfer the tomatoes to a platter, drizzle with the remaining marinade, and garnish with chopped fresh herbs (if desired).

*From thepioneerwoman.com*



# Dear Frankie

## Rehoming

*Dear Frankie,*  
 I finally realized why my parents were arguing when I heard my mom tell her friend she wanted to find me a new home. She said I had become too clingy and demanding since

the new baby arrived.

As a first-time mom, she felt she didn't have the time or energy to care for me, and it wasn't good for the baby not to have her full attention. She thought lots of people would love to have a pedigree dog that was well-behaved and trained.

Her problem was that my dad wouldn't agree to give me up. He said I was part of the family and committed to taking on more responsibility for my care.

She told her friend she resented that her husband cared more about my feelings than hers. Well, how

about mothers who care more about one child's feelings over another's?

*Dear Raven,*

I'm glad your dad stood up for you and his promise to be your forever father. Once he takes on more responsibility for your care, it should lessen your mom's stress level and feelings of being overwhelmed.

In her defense, newborns can be a real drain on their parents' sleep and energy levels. From what I hear, most of them cry a lot, sleep in short bursts, and constantly demand to be fed, burped, or have their diaper changed.

Babies are nothing like newborn puppies who sleep most of the time, get comfort from their littermates, and have a human family to help their mom care for them.

When the baby sleeps longer hours and gets on a regular schedule, your mom might feel more comfortable being a parent and caring for two children. Let's hope so. Otherwise, she might be looking to rehome both you and the kid.

*Best, Frankie*

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FRANKIE: cont'd on page 17



**UU Society of Fairhaven welcomes all!**

Church will be open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesdays in July. Sanctuary tours at 11 a.m. and free kids' activities noon-2 p.m. No worship services held in July

We're hiring a part-time music director - see details at <https://uusf-dom.carrd.co/>

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## Old Stone Schoolhouse Open

The Fairhaven Historical Commission & The Old Stone Schoolhouse are pleased to present our 2025 Season opening schedule. The Schoolhouse, 40 North St., Fairhaven, will be open from 11am - 2pm on the following Saturdays: July 5, July 12, July 19, July 26, August 16, August 30, September 20, October 11, Nov. 1.

In partnership with the Fairhaven Historical Society & the Public School Department, this year we plan to open every weekend in July, to coincide with the tours and openings of the Fairhaven Academy and Fairhaven High School.

Find the Fairhaven Historical Commission on Facebook for updates and info throughout the season. Look forward to seeing you at the Schoolhouse!

## Pirates & Privateers

Ahoy, mateys! Join Greybeard & Companie for a free, family-friendly Pirates & Privateers presentation every Friday morning, June through September at Fort Phoenix (weather permitting). Hear true tales of pirate lore, local privateers, and Revolutionary War history! Fun for all ages.

10:00 AM – 11:20 AM; Fort Pheonix, Green St, Fairhaven, MA 02719

## Fire Truck Fun

Tues., 7/15, 10:30–Noon, Millicent Library/Unitarian Church Lawn, Walnut & Center Street, Fairhaven, MA, 02719

Fairhaven Firefighters will visit the Millicent Library in the truck to share fire safety tips and demonstrate gear — then spray the firehose! Wear your bathing suits!

Visit <https://millicentlibrary.org>

## Museum Open

The Fairhaven Historical Society Museum is pleased to welcome visitors every Saturday through

September 14th, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Located in the Academy Building next to Fairhaven High School, the museum offers a fascinating glimpse into the town's past through a rich collection of artifacts, photographs, and memorabilia.

Admission is free and open to the public. Step inside and explore Fairhaven's story — one artifact at a time.

## Evenings at the Fort

The Fairhaven Village Militia will be hosting "Evenings at the Fort" for the 2025 summer season. The remaining dates are: July 16, and August 20. Time is 5-8pm

There will be a single firing of a large seacoast cannon at 6:30 pm

This immersive event each month offers a unique opportunity to explore the history of Fort Phoenix and the role Fairhaven played in the American Revolution. Talk to period costumed men and women about the Fort's history and life in the 1770s. The Fort Phoenix bunker will be open for tours.



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# Fairhaven's Got Pride is a party in the center

By Beth David  
Editor

Fairhaven's Got Pride: A Celebration of Love, Family, and Inclusion, brought hundreds of people to the streets in front of Town Hall and around the corner to celebrate LGBTQ+ community members during Pride Month.

Young siblings Kenzi, Graeeson, and Lily were enjoying all the free activities with their adults, including drawing with chalk in the street.

"We're here celebrating pride," said Graeeson.

"I think it's fantastic," said Sydney, who wore a t-shirt that read: "The world has bigger problems than boys who kiss boys and girls who kiss girls."

She said it was her first time at Fairhaven Pride, but she had been to many others.

Jessica Fidalgo, the chairperson of the Belonging Committee, one of the organizers of the event, said she got a good crowd, although the heat probably kept some people away.

"Our goal was for it to feel like a party," she said. "And we did that."



ABOVE LEFT: People create works of art with chalk on Center Street in front of Town Hall during Fairhaven's Got Pride: A Celebration of Love, Family, and Inclusion, on 6/22/25. ABOVE RIGHT: L-R: Siblings Kenzi, Lily (front) and Graeeson celebrate pride. BELOW LEFT: People make colorful jewelry on the lawn of the Unitarian Church BELOW RIGHT: L-R: Fairhaven Select Board member, Andrew Romano, and his husband Myles, pose for a picture with the local free sheet BOTTOM MIDDLE: Sydney wears a shirt proclaiming that the world has bigger problems than boys who kiss boys and girls who kiss girls BOTTOM RIGHT: Jocelyn Chandler perform. Photos by Beth David.



# Huttleston Harborfest features “Jaws” theme

By Beth David  
Editor

Huttleston Harborfest treated the world to a “Jaws” themed festival and a free outdoor screening of the award-winning movie on Saturday, 6/21/25.

Discover Fairhaven, the town’s tourism department sponsored the event. During the day more than 30

booths set up at Grimshaw Park at Fort Phoenix with crafts, food, information, and activities for kids.

A dunk tank gave some prominent local figures a cooling off period.

Estimates ranged from 1,000 to 4,000 people showing up for the movie.

The 50th anniversary of the movie that sent everyone out of the water

has been getting lots of hype, especially in these parts, since it was filmed in Martha’s Vineyard.

Harborfest is held once a month in summer. The next one is on July 19, with the theme “Dog Days of Summer” and will feature many pet friendly vendors and activities. Lashed pets welcome.



ABOVE LEFT: Fairhaven Select Board chairperson, Charlie Murphy, gets dunked into the water during the Huttleston Harborfest “Jaws” themed marketplace on 6/21/25. ABOVE RIGHT: The crowd settles in to watch “Jaws” at Grimshaw Park in Fairhaven on 6/21/25 in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the movie. *Screen shots from FairhavenTV.com Select Board meeting on 6/23/25.* BELOW LEFT: Be the Solution to Pollution is one of more than 30 booths at the Huttleston Harborfest “Jaws” themed marketplace at Grimshaw Park in Fairhaven on 6/21/25. BELOW RIGHT: Kids play lawn games during Harborfest. BOTTOM LEFT: The stilt walker plays into the theme as a lifeguard. BOTTOM RIGHT: The New Bedford Whaling Museum has a booth at Harborfest. *Photos courtesy of David Fauteux.*



## From our Readers

### Country Grieves Senseless Assassination

This week our country grieves a senseless assassination of a mother and father; public official and her husband in Minnesota. A heart-breaking reminder of how dangerously polarized our politics have become.

Our small town may seem a world away from violence, but we are not immune to the ripple effects of the national climate. I have watched, with growing concern, how our own local discourse has shifted. Respectful disagreements are now overshadowed by public attacks — in meetings, in letters, and online. People who step forward to serve, whether elected, appointed, or volunteering, are being accused and vilified of breaking ethics laws or being part of conspiracies, often without cause or context, beyond assumptions and disagreements.

This isn't who we are, and it's certainly not the example we should be setting for the next generation of civic leaders — who would want to step into that kind of climate? What are we doing to help the division when we are constantly trying to police others and not be accountable to ourselves and our own actions?

I want to be clear: I am committed to holding our government accountable. I serve alongside many of you, and I take that responsibility seriously. But I also refuse to be a part of the public shaming that has come to define too much of our local conversation. When I speak out, it will not be just to stir controversy — I will do so with facts, documentation, and intention. Our voices matter, and so does the way we use them.

We must not confuse civility with silence. We must not dismiss valid criticism in the name of "keeping the peace." And we certainly must not weaponize disagreement as a tool to censure, shame, or ostracize those who show up and do the work. Democracy doesn't ask us to always agree. But it does ask us to respect one another, even when we don't.

It's time we stopped trying to police each other's tone or social media presence and, instead, focus on what we came here to do: serve the town we love. Most of us are volunteers. We give our time, our energy, and often our peace of mind

because we care deeply. We all want to improve our schools, protect our water, make smart decisions with limited resources, and leave our community better than we found it. That should be the shared goal — not tearing one another down or stacking boards with friends so we don't have to worry about dissent. Democracy needs dissenters.

The violence in Minnesota is a chilling reminder that words have weight, and actions have consequences. We can not allow our town to slip further into a culture of blame and suspicion. Let's lead with empathy. Let's give each other the benefit of the doubt. And let's remember why we're here in the first place.

This is our town. Our shared responsibility. Our opportunity to do better — for each other, and for those who will come after us.

*In solidarity, Jess Fidalgo, Fairhaven*

### Residents Need to Demand Decisive Action on Harbor

At the recent Harbor Plan public meeting held on June 18th, 2025, I addressed the distinguished panel representing the communities of New Bedford and Fairhaven with the following statement: "There can be no Harbor Plan without a plan for clean water in our harbor."

I emphasized three key elements critical to the Fairhaven community:

1. **Bridge Connectivity:** Fairhaven and New Bedford are physically and economically connected by a bridge. While the new bridge must support present and future vessel traffic, it must also reflect the everyday needs of our residents. Safe, accessible pathways for pedestrians and bicyclists are essential and must be incorporated into any design.
2. **Waterfront Development:** The Harbor Plan must align with the will of Fairhaven residents, as expressed through the Town Meeting vote approving 40R smart growth development along designated portions of our waterfront. As a coastal community with real tourism potential, we must encourage mixed-use development — housing, retail, and restaurants — that brings vibrancy, economic opportunity, and sustainability to our harborfront.

3. **Clean Water & Environmental Justice:** A comprehensive Harbor Plan is incomplete without addressing New Bedford's long-standing Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) problem. Fairhaven is leading by example, investing over \$50 million to upgrade our wastewater treatment facility to expand capacity and reduce nitrogen. In contrast, New Bedford has discharged over 133 million gallons of untreated wastewater — human waste, plastics, chemicals — into our shared harbor in just the first 2.5 months of 2025. If rainfall patterns continue, this number could exceed 700 million gallons by year-end.

At a meeting I attended at the Buzzards Bay Coalition headquarters last fall, it was estimated that fixing New Bedford's CSO system would cost approximately \$1.2 billion. The price tag is steep — but how can we place a value on our children's health, our shellfishing industry, and the enjoyment of our coastal environment?

I urge residents of both Fairhaven and New Bedford to demand decisive action from our elected officials. Other cities — Boston, Providence, Fall River, Pawtucket — have taken steps to solve this problem. We must do the same.

*Rick Trapilo, Fairhaven*

### No-Kings is "anti-ideal"

The recent No Kings protest near Fairhaven High School was not, basically, for the right to immigrate, to due process, to individual rights or to any ideal. No Kings is anti-ideal. No Kings is nihilist, a (hidden) attack on ideals, even communism, and their source in man's independent mind.

No Kings is anti-inequality, anti-individual rights, anti-the individual rights Constitution, anti-due process. Democracy and the people are (hidden) methods of sacrificing ideals. Sacrifice to what? To nothing. Sacrifice as an end in itself.

No Kings evaded Biden's evasion of the need to reform the dangerously vague and ambiguous immigration laws that Trump uses to attack the right to immigrate and the right to due process. No Kings evaded the American Founders recognition that democracy is the Tyranny Of The Many, of mob rule, of the emotion-

LETTERS: cont'd on page 17



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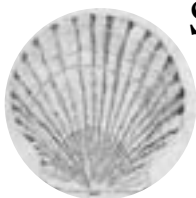


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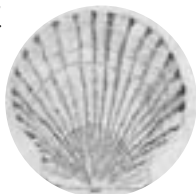
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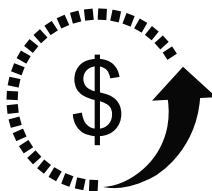
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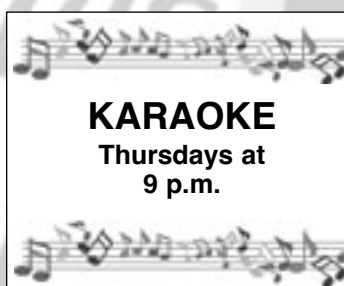


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**FRANKIE: cont'd from page 10**

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

**LETTERS: cont'd from page 14**

guided violation of the rights of the losers in elections.

Rightists are also nihilists, also against America's founding as history's only basically, rational individualist culture. But that's another discussion for another time.

*Stephen Grossman, Fairhaven*

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## Upcoming Meetings

### Fairhaven

**Board of Appeals**

Tues., 7/1, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

**Board of Assessors**

Thurs., 6/26, Town Hall, 4:30 p.m.

**Finance Committee**

Thurs., 6/26, Arsene St., 6:30 p.m.

**Finance Committee/At-Large Member Interviews**

Mon., 7/7, Town Hall, 5:30 p.m.

**Historical Commission**

Tues., 7/1, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**School Committee**

Wed., 6/25, FHS Lib., 6:30 p.m.

**Select Board/Town Administrator Interviews**

Mon., 7/7, Town Hall, 3 p.m.

Mon., 7/14, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Acushnet

**Planning Board**

Thurs., 6/26, Parting Ways, 6 p.m.

**Selectboard**

Tues., 7/8, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

### TIDE TABLE

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

	June 2025	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	19	0244	1518	0811	2102
Friday	20	0340	1617	0909	2209
Saturday	21	0445	1720	1006	2323
Sunday	22	0549	1817	1108	---
Monday	23	0643	1908	0028	1207
Tuesday	24	0733	1956	0125	1301
Wednesday	25	0823	2047	0229	1357
Thursday	26	0916	2138	0331	1458
Friday	27	1008	2228	0411	1553
Saturday	28	1057	2316	0441	1634
Sunday	29	1147	---	0509	1713
Monday	30	0005	1239	0539	1755

	July 2025	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Tuesday	1	0057	1332	0618	1855
Wednesday	2	0149	1421	0710	2121
Thursday	3	0238	1509	0808	2243
Friday	4	0328	1600	0855	2348
Saturday	5	0425	1659	0939	---
Sunday	6	0526	1753	0036	---
		---	---	1026	---
Monday	7	0618	1838	0117	---
		---	---	1116	---

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

## SELECT: cont'd from page 4

nizing July as Americans with Disabilities Act awareness month. The ADA was passed 35 years ago.

The town "affirms the principles of equality and inclusion for persons with disabilities embodied in the ADA and seeks to provide universal access for all its residents," the proclamation reads.

The board also voted to allow Fire Chief, Todd Correia, to participate in the hiring of a new Deputy Fire Chief. Due to conflicts of interest with potential candidates, Chief Correia was not allowed to participate. The SB said that the list of candidates does not include anyone he is related to, so he can participate in the rest of the process.

The meeting was not, however, bereft of the now familiar drama during public comment.

First, Select Board member Natalie Mello read a statement (see page 20) addressing some of the criticism she has received in the last few meetings.

She said the last election brought in a "whole cadre of new faces, fresh voices and innovative perspectives."

She said the voters have spoken and she would do her part to get new people involved on various committees and boards.

"We all enjoy the same rights and all should be welcome to get involved as they are willing," said Ms. Mello. "An assumption that the same folks who have always served will get priority contradicts the principle of true citizen participation."

She said the time expended on "baseless allegations" has been detracting for the board. She also said her campaign showed that bullying does not lessen her resolve, it strengthens her determination.

In response to that, Tracy Travers told Ms. Mello she does not support women. She reiterated her accusation that Ms. Mello's questions to Cathy Melanson when she applied for a spot on the Zoning Board of Appeals were sexist and out of line, and she should apologize."

Patrick Carr addressed the board saying Ms. Mello's questions should have been different on the night in question. He also said that as chair of the ZBA, he was never called by the SB to make sure the associate members were made aware that a full member position was vacant.

Mr. Carr also rehashed the meeting

from last year when Kenneth Kendall was not reappointed as a full member and was offered an associate member position, which he declined, and resigned on the spot at that meeting.

Mr. Carr also complained that the board did not appoint Ms. Melanson at the 5/12/25 meeting, but appointed a "person off the street."

He also said the questions to Ms. Melanson were "sexist in nature."

Mr. Carr said that appointing someone inexperienced could lead to litigation.

He also called out Ms. Mello for calling them "bullies."

"Shame on you for that," he said.

When he ran out of time, the board failed to vote to give him more time because Andrew Saunders was not

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The meeting was not,  
however, bereft of  
the now familiar  
drama during  
public comment.

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present, so it was 2-2, with Mr. Romano and Ms. Mello voting no.

"Of course you don't want to" give more time, he said, although he did not stop talking, adding that they should rescind the vote. He then said they held their discussion about Ms. Mello in executive session.

"You don't even have the balls to do it in open session," said Mr. Carr.

Erin Carr also spoke saying she took offense to the "narrative" Ms. Mello, saying it was misleading, and they are just advocating for people with experience.

Ms. Carr also said labeling them "bullies" was unacceptable.

Ironically, at the meeting, the board also appointed Mr. Kendall to the ZBA as an associate member. Ms. Melanson also applied for the position.

Michelle Costen also spoke, but chose to rail against the town's use of Community Preservation Act funds for the Unitarian Memorial Church building. She also said, in a written correspondence to the board, that the money, given under the "guise of

historic preservation," was being misappropriated and was being hidden from the public in how it was allocated.

"I want answers," said Ms. Costen.

When she needed more time, the board failed to vote for it, but she got in a few more words.

"And I think you're the bully," she said, adding she wants answers. "Because I am very mad."

When it was her turn, Ms. Melanson addressed a controversy from last meeting, when Mr. Romano denied accosting her in the hallway after the meeting. She said she got the video from the hallway and it proves that they spoke. She said he never asked about her ability to do the job on the ZBA. He then stated on camera without her present in the room that he did not "accost" her.

Ms. Melanson said she did not believe she would get an apology from either Mr. Romano or Ms. Mello. But experience is no longer a positive attribute in Fairhaven, favoritism is.

Ms. Romano indicated he would respond at the end of the meeting during board member items, as it was not appropriate for him to respond during public comment.

When he did speak, he said he did not deny speaking with Ms. Melanson in the hallway. He said he also requested the camera footage.

He said he was caught off guard because he did not mean for his comments to be contradictory. He said they have never had the "best relationship," but he felt they had both been "trying really hard."

They have a common goal, he said, and it's Fairhaven.

"I just want to move forward," said Mr. Romano.

He also noted that the footage shows them both laughing as they walk away from each other

In other business, the board:

- Approved the transfer of an All Alcohol Liquor License for the Bitter End to new manager, Andrea L. Perry.
- Voted to waive parking fees at Hoppy's Landing on August 1 from 1-5 p.m. for the inclusive Adaptive Fishing Derby organized by the Recreation Department.
- Voted to reappoint Interim Town Administrator George Samia as his 180 days is running out and a new TA has not been hired.

# Fairhaven Korean War Veteran, Jimmy Leal, dies at 93

By Beth David  
Editor

Well known Korean War Veteran, James “Jimmy” Leal died peacefully on Wednesday, 6/11/25. He was 93. He was the husband of the late Dolores (Couto) Leal, who he was married to for 70 years.

Mr. Leal was well known in the region for his advocacy work for veterans and veterans’ causes. He was especially instrumental in getting acknowledgment for the Korean War, which is often referred to as the “forgotten” war.

Mr. Leal was born in Portugal, and earned his U.S. Citizenship fighting for our Country in the Korean War, in 1952 to 1954. He served as a member of the 17th Infantry Regiment of the 7th Infantry Combat Medics where he was awarded a Purple Heart and The Bronze Star with Valor, aiding his comrades at The Battle of Pork Chop Hill.

He was on the Committee to erect The Korean War Memorial at the Common Clasky Park in New Bedford, in 2001, His image and two other soldiers he served with are etched on

the Monument.

He was always willing to help any and all Veterans in need. He made display cases that he gave to many Veterans for their medals and ribbons to hang proudly in their homes, at no cost to them.

He was on the Fairhaven Housing Authority, The Fairhaven Conservation Commission, was named Fairhaven Man of the Year 2007, and Master of Ceremony of the Veterans Day Parade.

Every year he walked proudly in the parades carrying his red, white and blue umbrella. When he couldn’t walk he would ride in a vehicle. He was also in the New Bedford Veterans Day Parade which ended at the Common Clasky Park where he would lay a wreath at the Korean Memorial.

Mr. Leal has been presented with many awards and dedications throughout the years for going above and beyond helping Veterans.

A mason by trade, Mr. Leal was a board member of the Veterans Transition House in New Bedford, member of the Veteran Buffalo Regiment and Korean War Veterans.

Mr. Leal is survived by his children, Lori Leal and her soulmate Scott Martin; Robert Leal and his wife Diane; Gregory Leal and



Fairhaven resident and Korean War Veteran James Leal smiles for the camera during the Memorial Day ceremony at Riverside Cemetery in Fairhaven on 5/30/22. He died last week at the age of 93. *Neighb News file photo by Beth David.*

his wife Annette; seven grandchildren, four great grandchildren; siblings Palmira Pereira and Eva Sniezek.

In accordance with family wishes he was cremated with all services lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Veterans Transition House, 1297 Purchase St. New Bedford, MA 02740

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# Public Hearings/Legal Notices

NOTE: All legal notices are available on the Neighb News website, [www.NeighbNews.com](http://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 ACUSHNET

Notice is hereby given under Chapter 138, Section 15 of the MA General Laws that an open Board of Selectmen's Meeting will be held at the Acushnet Town Hall, which is located at 122 Main Street, Acushnet, MA, in the meeting room on Tuesday, July 8, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. to approve a transfer of a Package Store All Alcohol License from Bonville's Market (Murli Manohar, Manager) to Golden Liquors Corp. (Girgis Shehata, Corporate Office/LLC Manager) (w/Pledge of License & Stock). The premises consists of one larger retail space with storage. Consists of approx. 2,244 sq. ft. Located at 142 South Main Street, Acushnet, MA 02743.

Board of Selectmen  
David Wojnar, Chairman  
Kevin Gaspar, Sr.  
Robert Hinckley  
FNN, 6/26/25

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Fairhaven Conservation Commission

Monday, July 7, 2025 at 6:00pm  
Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Street  
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Pursuant 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. M.G.L. 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=VFdUQWkhdzVYrNzJlQktlVj9XSGppZz09>  
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 023-516, SE 023-1507: 10 Oxford Street, Map 13, Lot 2 Notice of Intent filed by James Novakoff to remove & replace accessory dwelling unit within the same general footprint with associated site work.

Parcel is located within Buffer Zone of Coastal Bank, Coastal Beach and Salt Marsh.

b. CON 023-517: 501 Nasketucket Way, Map 30B, 139 Request for Determination of Applicability filed by John & Helen Graves to remove (6) trees abutting the north side of the Nasketucket Townhouse Condominiums that pose a threat to the property. Parcel located within the Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW).

c. CON 023-518: 3 Rockland Street, Map 28B, Lot 258 Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Elizabeth Camara for the following additions to their property: front & back stairs with landing & railings (3' x 8' each); 6' x 15' side deck with stairs; 4' x 7' shed; and a 4' x 6' outdoor shower behind home. Parcel located within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage (LSCSF) FEMA Flood Zone, VE (EI.16').

d. CON 023-519: 27 Alder Street, Map 43A, Lot 70 Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Christine Smith to install 20' x 24' asphalt driveway where there is now grass/stone. Parcel located within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage (LSCSF) FEMA Flood Zone, VE (EI.18').

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: 6/26/25

## INVITATION TO BID

Phase IV - Hedge Street Roadway Improvement Project, Fairhaven, MA

Town of Fairhaven Massachusetts invites bids from general contractors for construction of the Phase IV Hedge Street Roadway Improvement Project in accordance with documents prepared by GCG Associates, Inc. will be received by the Public Works Department, 5 Arsene Street, Fairhaven, Massachusetts until 11:00 am, July 11, 2025 at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and bids read aloud. Bids submitted after this time will not be accepted. The work involves the following major item(s):

Phase IV - Hedge Street project is approximately 765 feet in total length and involves the following major items of reconstruction on Hedge Street from Adams Street west toward Main Street: sewer, water and drain improvements, concrete sidewalk construction, precast concrete curb, roadway pavement reclamation, grading and paving. The work is estimated to cost \$700,000.

The award will be to the lowest, responsible, and eligible bidder. The successful bidder must furnish a 100% PERFORMANCE and PAYMENT BOND and will be required to execute the Contract Agreement within

five (5) days following notification of the acceptance of his Bid. The OWNER reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to accept any bid, to waive any informality on bids received, and to omit any item or items deemed advisable for the best interests of the OWNER. All costs associated with the preparation of the bids shall be the responsibility of the bidder, regardless of whether or not the Contract is awarded.

By submission of a bid, the Bidder agrees that this bid shall be good and may not be withdrawn for a period of 30 days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded after the opening of bids.

This project is being funded in part by a CDBG 2024 Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development. Bids are subject to Chapter 30-Section 39M, Federal Labor Provisions, and to Massachusetts minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. Chapter 149- Sections 26 to 27H inclusive, or by the Davis/Bacon Federal Wage Rate, whichever hourly rate pays more. The project is subject to Title VI of the Civil rights Act of 1964, Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 and Equal Employment Opportunity. Fairhaven is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Contract Documents may be viewed and downloaded as a Portable Document Format (PDF) file free of charge on or after Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at [www.accentblueprints.com](http://www.accentblueprints.com). Printed copies may be obtained for fee by completing an order online or calling 978-362-8038 for each set. Completed orders may be picked up at the office of Accent Blueprints located at 99 Chelmsford Road, (Rear#13) North Billerica, Ma 01862 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Printed copies may also be shipped to prospective bidders for an additional charge to cover handling and mailing fees. All payments for printing and shipping are non-refundable. To be added to the project plan holder's list to guarantee receipt of addenda, it is recommended interested bidders obtain the Contract Documents directly from Accent Blueprints. Interested bidders will be prompted to register an email address with Accent Blueprints to access the documents.

General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (considering all alternates) and made payable to the Town of Fairhaven.

Fairhaven Select Board  
FNN: 6/26/25

Standing up to bullies  
is the hallmark of a  
civilized society.

Robert Reich

## Statement from Fairhaven SB member, Natalie Mello

The following is the statement read by Fairhaven Select Board member Natalie Mello at the 6/23/25 meeting (see page 4)

I understand what a privilege it is to have been elected to the Fairhaven Select Board this past April. I ran on a platform that advocated for moving Fairhaven forward — not looking backwards and maintaining the status quo.

The voters elected not only me, but a whole cadre of new faces, fresh voices and innovative perspectives — on the Planning Board and the School Committee. The voters have spoken, I recognize their message, and I take it very seriously. I will do my part to get new people involved in various committees and boards. Yes, some

may be inexperienced, but I do believe people are capable of learning as they serve.

I ran for Select Board so that I could serve Fairhaven and all the people who live here — not just those who have been here their entire lives. We all enjoy the same rights and all should be welcome to get involved as they are willing. An assumption that the same folks who have always served will get priority contradicts the principle of true citizen participation.

The time and resources currently being expended on baseless allegations by a very small group are detracting from the important work that this Select Board needs to undertake. I am grateful for the

support received from so many who have encouraged me to persevere and stay the course.

As Edward R. Murrow aptly stated, "Accusation is NOT proof."

Those who know me can attest that I do not yield to the tactics employed by the vocal few. My campaign provides evidence that bullying does not lessen my resolve; instead, it strengthens my determination to serve the people of Fairhaven.

It is my earnest hope that these distractions will cease, allowing us to focus on the essential duties of the Select Board. Among the priorities is the crucial task of hiring a new Town Administrator.

It's time to move on! Thank you.

# HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

## Douglass Reading

Reading Frederick Douglass  
Together: Honoring the Past, Inspiring  
the Present. Proudly presented by  
Bristol Community College

Join us for a powerful multilingual reading of Frederick Douglass' iconic speech, What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July?, brought to life in Wampanoag, K'iche', Portuguese, and English.

This free public event reflects the cultural richness of New Bedford today while calling us to consider the speech's enduring message of justice, equity, and freedom.

Tues., 7/1, from 4-6 p.m., Bristol Community College, 800 Purchase Street, New Bedford, MA

Refreshments will be provided by Café Arpeggio

This event is free but registration is encouraged. For more information and a link to register visit: [bristolcc.edu/FrederickDouglass](http://bristolcc.edu/FrederickDouglass)

This program is funded by Mass Humanities, which receives support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and is an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

## Free Concerts

### At Custom House Square

FREE summer concerts, sponsored by the Whaling History Alliance, at Custom House Square, Downtown New Bedford, (corner Acushnet Ave. and William St.), from 6-8 p.m. on the following Thursdays: July, 10, Studio Two; July 17, Your Favorite Color Band; July 24, That 80s Band; Aug. 7, Hardwire; Aug. 14, Lively Up!

For more information visit <https://whalinghistoryalliance.org/> or find them on Facebook.

### Summer Sound Series

Visitors and residents are invited to New Bedford's annual Summer Sound Series, now organized by AHA! New Bedford, delivering to downtown a lineup of musicians who will have you dancing in the streets!

The free Summer Sounds Series concerts take place on select Fridays throughout the summer, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, alternating between stages on closed portions of lower Union Street and Purchase Street.

June 27: Melo Green, Funk/Soul/Rock. Purchase Street Stage

July 4: The Jethros, Country/Folk/Swing/Jazz. Stage host: whaling Museum First Fridays, Location: Lower Union Street Stage

## Flag Holders

The Disabled American Vets (DAV), is selling memorial flag holders for graves. They feature branches of the military, police, and fire, for \$25 each. Add-ons, such as Purple Hearts, are also available for \$6.

The DAV is located at 19 Willis St., New Bedford. They are open Tuesday and Thursday, from 9 a.m. to noon. Or call 508-992-3766 and leave a message.

Look for them at Homecoming in Fairhaven and other area fairs.

## Cape Verdean Flag

Join the Cape Verdean Recognition Committee for the raising of the Cabo Verde to celebrate CV Recognition Week on Mon., 6/30, 5:30-7 p.m. on the steps of City Hall, 133 William St., downtown New Bedford. Entertainment at 5:30, followed by the raising of the Cape Verdean flag at 6 p.m. Celebration to follow at the Bisca Club, 161 Acushnet Ave, with music and entertainment.

## Cape Verd. Parade

Sat., 7/5, Union St., to Cape Verdean Veterans Memorial Hall/Serenity Gardens, 11 a.m. Parade route is Union St. to Acushnet Ave., to Grinnell St., to Purchase St, and ends at Cape Verdean Veterans Memorial Hall. Parade Marshall will be Buddy Andrade. Parade will be followed by Kultura Festa at Serenity Garden Fields, between Bedford St., So. sixth St., Wing St., and Pleasant Street from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Kultura will have live music, vendors, cultural food, and much more.

For other CV Recognition week events, find Cape Verdean Recognition week events find Cape Verdean Recognition Committee on Facebook.

## Cooling Centers

In response to the extreme weather, the City of New Bedford will continue its practice of designating public libraries as cooling centers. All library locations have air conditioning and staff on hand to assist residents.

Residents are reminded that several City parks have splash pads that offer a break from the heat for children. Splash pads are located at the following parks: Riverside Park, Brooklawn Park, Ashley Park, Clasky Common, Beauregard-Pina, Harrington Park, Magnet Park, Ben Rose, Montes Park

## Cabo Verd Heritage

The Cabo Verdean Heritage Month Coalition is delighted to announce that this July will mark New Bedford's first annual Cabo Verdean Heritage Month! This occasion seeks to honor and celebrate the rich legacy of tradition, resilience, and achievement of the Cabo Verdean community in New Bedford, and to further historical and cultural knowledge of Cabo Verde and its diasporas through education and various forms of artistic and literary expression.

Through the theme of "Djunta Mon" or "Joining Hands," the Coalition affirms its commitment to unity, inclusivity, and collaboration with the many wonderful Cabo Verdean organizations and events that already do this cultural legacy work in June, July and beyond. In honor of this effort, we have partnered with New Bedford Tourism to host a grassroots digital calendar of Cabo Verdean cultural and heritage events happening throughout the month.

Visit our calendar for details on Cabo Verdean concerts, workshops, parades, outdoor bike rides, cultural festivals, and more happening this July! Cabo Verdean Heritage Month Calendar: <https://explorenewbedford.org/special-events/cabo-verdean-heritage-month/>

## Fishing Exhibit

New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center (FHC) is pleased to announce the opening of *Castig A Wider Net*, an exhibit exploring the stories of Cape Verdean, Vietnamese, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Guatemalan, and Salvadoran members of New Bedford's working waterfront at the historic Verdean Veterans' Memorial Hall (561 Purchase Street, New Bedford). The exhibit will open to the public on Wednesday, July 2, at 6:00pm with a free event. The exhibit will remain on

HAPPS/OT: cont'd on page 23

# HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

## Cooling Center

The Acushnet Council on Aging/Senior Center serves as an emergency shelter for the Town of Acushnet. This location will also serve as a cooling place for those battling the extreme temperatures.

Acushnet Council on Aging, 59 1/2 South Main St., Acushnet, MA 02743; regular hours are Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Call for possible extended hours during heat waves, 508-998-0280

## Coin Club

Coin Show Sunday 6/29 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Westport Town Hall Annex, 856 Main Road, Westport, MA. Free Admission

## At Acushnet Library

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

### Summer Concerts

Concerts are held rain or shine. In the event of rain, join us under the pavilion or in the community room. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Acushnet Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

**Wed., 7/2, 6-7:30 p.m.** The Pearly Baker Band is known for playing Grateful Dead music, but they don't consider themselves a cover band—they play Dead music their way. Early on, Pearly Baker realized that the Grateful Dead had created an interesting musical template that others could use to raise the level of joy in the world, song by song, show by show.

**Wed., 7/9, 6-7:30 p.m.** The Cameron Shave Jazz Orchestra (CSJO) is a dynamic big band based in Massachusetts, featuring some of the finest jazz musicians from New York and New England.

The ensemble is led by composer, arranger, and trumpeter Cameron Shave and brings high-energy performances that blend swing tradition with modern jazz innovation.

### Raffle Fundraiser

Friends of the Acushnet Public Library will be holding a 50/50 raffle at each of the Acushnet library's Wednesday evening outdoor Summer

Concert Series. The winner of the raffle will receive half of the proceeds, with half retained by the Friends to fund future programs and services at the library. Tickets are \$5 each (cash only) and can be purchased during the library's Wednesday evening Summer Concert Series (June 25 - August 6, all concerts start at 6pm). For a list of concerts, see the Library's Facebook page or website (<https://acupl.org>).

The Friends will also be accepting jewelry donations at the Wednesday concerts for their annual September jewelry sale fundraiser. Stop by the Friends Raffle table outside to donate new and gently-worn fine jewelry pieces and men's, women's and children's fashion jewelry. All items should be in saleable condition; no broken pieces please.

## Arts in the Park

Arts in the Park is the Marion Art Center's signature outdoor market held annually on the Saturday after Independence Day. It will be 7/5 from 10-4 pm in Bicentennial Park, across the street from the MAC, at the corner of Main & Spring streets in Marion. The rain date is scheduled for July 6.

The festival features a select group of local artists and artisans, selected by the MAC's exhibitions committee. Goods include baskets, ceramics, clothing, collage, fiber, glass, jewelry, woodworking, painted and hand-crafted furniture, paintings, photography and more.

The MAC sponsors this family-friendly event. It features live music by Richard Lewis and Ric Allendorf, South Shore Smokehouse food truck, free games and kids' activities and a raffle for original artwork. Learn more at [marionartcenter.org/events](http://marionartcenter.org/events).

## Rodeo

New England Rodeo Bulls and Barrels, Rochester Fair Grounds, 65 Pine St., Rochester, MA. Gates open at 5 p.m. Youth Rodeo starts at 6; professional starts at 7. **Show dates:** June 28, July 12, July 26, August 9, August 23, Sept. 6, and Sept. 20.

Feel the adrenaline rush with daring performances, electrifying action, and non-stop excitement that will keep you on the edge of your seat all night long.

Tickets are only sold at the gate at 5pm. Cash only. \$25 per person. Ages

5 and under are free. There are no pre-sale tickets.

There is seating but you are welcome to bring your own chair or picnic blanket.

There will be Non-Profit organizations assisting with parking and accepting donations. There is no on-street parking. There will be handicap accessible parking.

There will be four food vendors on-site. No outside food is welcome unless there is a food allergy/religious requirement. No coolers or alcohol. This is a family friendly event being held on public property. Tailgating before or after the show is not allowed.

The rest facilities will be portable facilities on site that are handicap accessible.

Visit <https://www.facebook.com/NERBullsbarrels>

## Garden Tour

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club is pleased to announce tickets are now on sale for its biennial garden tour, "June in Bloom," for Saturday, June 28th, 10 AM-4 PM, rain or shine. Be inspired by unique and beautiful gardens while spending an unforgettable day with friends and nature.

Advance tickets are \$35 and available at: Pen & Pendulum, Isabelle's, Ying Dynasty, and the Town Wharf General Store. In Fairhaven, they can be purchased at Periwinkles and Gotta Have It. Marion has three locations: Always In Bloom, Fieldstones, and Eden Florist. Tickets are also available online at [www.mattapoissettwomansclub.org](http://www.mattapoissettwomansclub.org)

On June 28th, tickets will be available at the Mattapoissett Woman's Club tent in the parking lot next to Ying's Dynasty on Route 6 in Mattapoissett for \$40/each.

This fundraiser directly supports the scholarships, programs, and community outreach of the Mattapoissett Woman's Club.

The Club is open to new members from the Southcoast area. For more information and a membership application, please visit our website at <https://www.mattapoissettwomansclub.org>

## Mothers of Multiples

The Southcoast Mothers of Multiples Group (formerly known as

**HAPPS/OL: cont'd on page 23**

## HAPPS/OT: cont'd from page 21

display at the Vets through August 2025 and will then travel to locations throughout the community.

This exhibit is the culmination of the FHC's *Castling A Wider Net* community oral history project which was developed to collect and share the stories of the communities of color that have been and continue to be an integral part of New Bedford's commercial fishing industry.

The exhibit features videos, photographs, and quotes from the oral history interviews as well as links to the full interview transcripts. Participants will have the opportunity to hear the voices of each person who was interviewed, view a scrapbook with photos of our narrators and their families, and can even write them a message in our guestbook.

Seven of the people whose stories are featured in the exhibit are Cape Verdean and we are particularly excited to bring this exhibit to the heart of New Bedford's Cape Verdean community this summer as part of the 50th anniversary of Cape Verdean Independence. In addition to the

opening on July 2, the exhibit can be viewed at the Vets during open hours on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays (after 5pm) and on other days by appointment. Contact Lee Andrews at 508-612-9286 for more information. To arrange a youth group visit, contact Joe Ritter at [programs@fishingheritagecenter.org](mailto:programs@fishingheritagecenter.org).

Castling A Wider Net is funded in part by a Wicked Cool Places grant from New Bedford Creative, a grant from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and an Expanding Massachusetts Stories grant from Mass Humanities, which received support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and is an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

### AHA!

Save the date for the next AHA! Night! On July 10th, kids rule with a full slate of family-friendly events. Of course, we didn't forget about the adults who have plenty to choose from during this free arts and cultural experience. This AHA! Night is

possible thanks in part to support from United Way Greater New Bedford.

Here are a few of the highlights of July's AHA! Night:

- There will be bubbles, beats, & birthday fun as we celebrate the 25th birthday of Toe Jam Puppet Band at the Whaling Museum.
- Enjoy Puzzical Chairs & Pops in this mashup of puzzling and musical chairs, with the music of SkyJelly, performing outside the Drawing Room.
- Listen to the Lori Gomes Ensemble at the "Jazz Wall" in this month's Centre Street Jazz performance.
- Stroll the Seaport Art Walk in a guided tour with New Bedford Creative.
- Plus, there will be lawn games, demonstrations, arts & crafts, and so much more.
- Explore the shops & galleries open late and make an evening of it by enjoying a bite at one of our local restaurants!

Events are added each day, so visit <https://ahanewbedford.org/next-aha/>

## HAPPS/OL: cont'd from page 22

Greater New Bedford Mothers of Twins) is excited to announce their 50th anniversary celebration on July 20th from 12-4 at the Back Nine at Heritage Hill Golf Course in Lakeville, MA. Both former and current members are warmly invited to join in honoring five decades of friendship and support.

This non-profit support group is dedicated to mothers of multiples—twins, triplets, and beyond—residing in the Southcoast Massachusetts area. We encourage anyone with multiples to reach out and become part of our group! Our monthly meetings include various activities such as outings, guest speakers addressing parenting topics, holiday parties, family gatherings, and plenty of laughter.

If you were a past member and haven't been contacted, or if you're interested in joining, please don't

hesitate to reach out for more information at [southcoastmothersofmultiples@gmail.com](mailto:southcoastmothersofmultiples@gmail.com) or on Facebook at Twins & Triplets & More (Southcoast Mothers of Multiples). We look forward to being a source of friendship and support as you navigate parenthood.

### Glass Menagerie

The MAC Theater Presents the Tennessee Williams classic, *The Glass Menagerie*, directed by Donn Tyler. Performances are held at the MAC's Anne Braitmayer Webb Theater, located at 80 Pleasant St. Marion.

Remaining dates are June 27, 28, 29, 2025 with Friday and Saturday shows at 7:30pm and Sunday shows at 2:00pm. Tickets are \$20 for MAC members and \$23 for nonmembers. More information and tickets:

[marionartcenter.org/events](http://marionartcenter.org/events)

### Farms in Westport

"Lives on the Land: An exhibition highlighting the stories of Westport's farming families."p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays, at the Handy House, 202 Hix Bridge Road, Westport MA

This exhibition focuses on the 20th century, an era that began with 400 farms and ended with fewer than 30 farms. This is not just a story of potatoes, cows, turnips and chickens, but also a topic that connects people of diverse origins — Portuguese, French Canadian, Polish, Scots, and early English settlers — as well as highlighting an extraordinary example of a farm owned and operated by a Native American family.

Visit <https://wpthistory.org>

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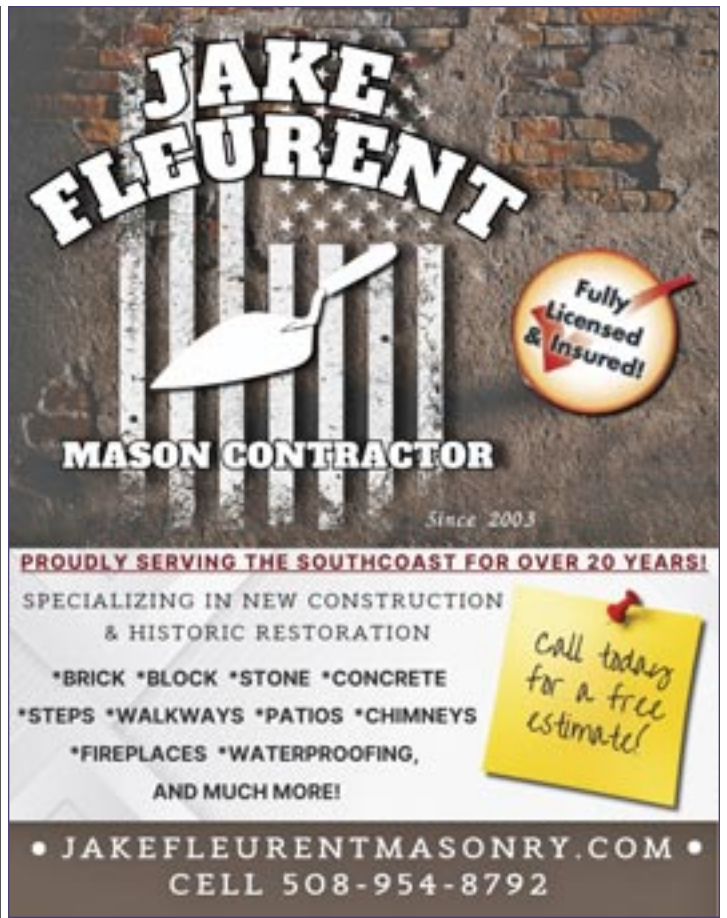


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