



# Fairhaven

# Neighborhood News

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



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with a big voice!

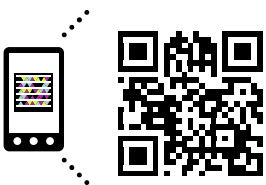
Volume 20, Issue 28 • July 17, 2025

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

## Music night livens up Benoit Square



People dance in the street during the North Fairhaven Improvement Association's Music Night on 7/13/25 in Benoit Square. 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.

Okay, okay, he said “gall” not “balls.” Is this really the sword you want to fall on? (See correction this page.)

Oh my, the Facebook hissy fit...that my readers would be “appalled” to find out a town official said someone didn’t have the “balls” to do something. Really? Our president used the F word on the White House grounds.

My readers aren’t that squeamish.

A few people listened to it, too. The old people heard “balls,” the young people heard “gall.” I mean “gall” doesn’t even make sense. But, hey, since when does that matter, right?

So, I fixed it online, and I put in a correction. You can come for your pound of flesh later.

Meanwhile, the same guy withdraws his name for the Historical Commission (see page 4) because they changed the agenda last minute? Really for real? HAHAAHAHA! Like he’s never done that on ZBA...oh, wait, didn’t we write about that once? (See 2/6/25 issue)

Oh, and I decided to remind my readers how this guy said, in writing, that he would resign from ZBA if he got elected to the Planning Board...in 2023. Some of my readers keep reminding me of that and asking me to mention it. Y’know, I think I will.

The word “entitled” just keeps popping up over and over again in this little burg.

Meanwhile, the Historical Commission (see page 3) is asking the Select Board to say out loud and put in writing that you’re not supposed to threaten people or you can’t get your privileges. How pathetic. Any three-year-old knows that. But...here we are.

Meanwhile, we have real problems in this town to contend with. We are facing a budget shortfall of \$1.5 million, more if the Big Buffoon gets his way. And we all know there’s no stomach for an override. But, we’ll have to come up with something. At least we will have a Town Administrator soon, if they can make the deal (see page 19). He’s got his work cut out for him with this crew, eh? I’ll hold off on the formal...welcome to Fairhaven thing until he inks the deal.

And also while we mess around with foolishness, a Fairhaven family has lost their beloved teenage daughter to a car crash (see page 19).

Marin Stackpole, 17, was killed on Route 6 in a three-car crash. It sounds like the world lost a great kid who was on her way to becoming a great adult. It’s shattering that her life was cut so short so abruptly.

My heart goes out to the family and friends of this teenager who was robbed of her life.

Let’s keep things in perspective, okay?

Until next week, then, see ya

Glory to Ukraine!  
Glory to the Heroes!



Publisher Beth David with  
Charlie, aka Evil Dog

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Editor: Beth David

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## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our story about the Select Board in our 6/26/25 issue, we misquoted Patrick Carr. The correct quote is:  
“You don’t even have the gall to come here and do it in open meeting session”  
We apologize for any confusion our error may have caused.

# Historical Commission asks for SB help with abusive resident

By Beth David  
Editor

The Fairhaven Historical Commission held a special/emergency meeting on 7/10/25 to discuss alleged harassment and verbal abuse of members and volunteers by a resident. The same individual reportedly verbally attacked commission members while they were engaged in their official duties on two occasions.

HC chair Mike Kelly said the situation created a “threatening environment” that has caused stress among committee members.

On Homecoming Fair day, the individual engaged in an obscenity laden rant against volunteers staffing the old firehouse/jail on Washington Street.

On July 4, said Mr. Kelly, the same individual, “began to spout all manner of obscenities at me in public.”

Although the HC did not name the person, which is standard protocol, unless the person is present and able to defend himself, it was apparent that the person in question is Wayne Oliveira. Not only is he the commander of the Fairhaven Village

Militia, a title that was named, but this is not the first time he has been accused of the specified behavior. He was banned from Town Hall for 60 days in 2022 after an alleged altercation with the town administrator. Mr. Oliveira denied that his behavior was threatening. (See 8/18/22, 8/25/22, 9/1/22 issues.)

At the 7/10/25 meeting, Mr. Kelly said the July 4 issue centered around the flag flying at Fort Phoenix. He said that he left the flag with Militia members, but was confronted by the individual who said the flag had been lost. The flag was ultimately located.

HC member Nate Bekemeier related the incident that happened at the fire house. He said he extended his hand to the individual to thank him for his good work to the town over the years, and was rebuffed.

“But I will say, I’ve never been abused like this. Never want to be abused like this again in my life, and don’t believe anyone else on this planet should ever be abused like that,” said Mr. Bekemeier.

The board discussed the limitations of what can be done about a

person who is not a town official. If people feel physically threatened, they should call the police.

In the end they decided to send a letter to the Select Board setting out their concerns and asking for the board to agree to a code of conduct.

On Monday, 7/14/25, Mr. Kelly sent his resignation to the Select Board. In a letter outlining the commission’s accomplishments during his tenure, Mr. Kelly also said, “...there is only so much abuse a person can take.”

He also asked the Select Board to do more to protect volunteers: “I hope that in the future, the Selectboard will move more quickly to protect and defend volunteers and commission members from the hostile actions of a small but vocal group. While we all accept a level of scrutiny and invective when we put ourselves forward, the level of unjustified vitriol & abuse allowed in Fairhaven Town Government is truly breathtaking.”

Find Mr. Kelly’s letter on our website: [www.NeighbNews.com](http://www.NeighbNews.com)

The meeting is available on demand at [FairhavenTV.com](http://FairhavenTV.com)

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# Select Board to require metal detectors at OLOA feast

By Beth David  
Editor

At its meeting on 7/14/25, the Fairhaven Select Board discussed new security measures for the annual Our Lady of Angels Feast this September, and required the OLOA association to install a metal detector at the entrance before they would approve the alcohol license required for the three-day feast starting on 8/31. The board also made a number of appointments to several boards, but postponed an item to discuss the "promotion process" for the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Lt. Kevin Swain told the board that the department met with the association and came up with some security enhancements that include more officers working the feast grounds, especially at night; some changes at the gate openings; bag checks; cameras; and metal detectors.

He said the association had agreed to a "majority" of the changes.

SB member Natalie Mello asked what was left out.

Association president, John Barbosa, said they did not want to use metal detectors because they felt it

would only create long lines. He said they felt the bag checks and ID wrist bands for alcohol purchases would be sufficient.

The board went back and forth with Mr. Barbosa and Lt. Swain discussing details of how the entrance and exits would work; the ID wrist bands; and the placement of officers.

SB member Andrew Romano noted that last year, he was vocal that the feast should have been shut down completely after a drive-by shooting on Alden Road of a 19-year old who sustained non life threatening injuries. Police shut the feast down for the night, but it resumed the next day.

Mr. Barbosa noted that the shooting was two blocks away, and at one point said they are getting blamed for something that did not happen on the grounds. He said their responsibility is what happens on the grounds, not on the street two blocks away.

"You really think that?" said SB member Andrew Saunders.

Mr. Barbosa said he understood that the feast brought the people there.

Mr. Saunders said the feast was the "proximate cause" of the person being

there.

In the end, the board voted to approve the alcohol license, and Mr. Barbosa said he was sure the association would buy the metal detector.

The Select Board also voted to appoint Alexander Kuechler to the Historical Commission to fill a vacancy. Three other people had also applied: Patrick Carr, Benjamin Hevey, and Jay Lanagan.

Mr. Carr, who is a member of the elected Planning Board and a member of the appointed Zoning Board of Appeals, withdrew his application, citing the latest meeting of the Historical Commission (see page 3). He made a number of complaints and accusations, including that the HC at that meeting did not allow public comment; they revised the agenda late in the day; and they voted to recommend someone for the open seat without notifying the candidates or inviting them to speak.

He said it was inappropriate for the HC to vote on a recommendation, saying no other board has ever done that.

SELECT: cont'd on page 13

## Fairhaven Farmers Market

*At the Bright Yellow Farm Stand*

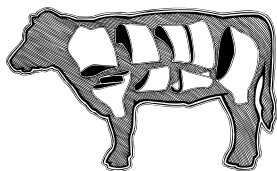
151 Alden Rd, Fairhaven  
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# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## Protest

"Good Trouble" rally on the anniversary of the death of John Lewis. At Fairhaven High School, corner of Main and Rte. 6, 5-7 p.m. Join us on the new footbridge on Rte. 18 from 4-5:30 p.m.

Organized by: GoodTroubleLives On.org (National Organizer); Indivisible South Coast New England, 50501 Mass., Fairhaven Democratic Town Committee, Mujeres Victoriosas of New Bedford

Both events are explicitly committed to nonviolence.

## Comedy Fund-Raiser

To benefit Fairhaven Animal Shelter and Fairhaven Police Department's K9 Blue, 18+ event. Fri., 7/18, Nasketucket Bay Vineyard, 237 New Boston Rd., Fairhaven; doors open at 6 p.m., show starts at 7. Tickets: \$25. Wine and food available for purchase, raffles, 50/50 drawing, silent auctions.

To buy tickets, or donate, or sponsor, please visit [www.funny4funds.com/events](http://www.funny4funds.com/events)

For more information, please contact Terry Cripps, 508-965-5619.

## Disability Beach Day

Fri., 7/18, noon to 4 p.m. West Island Town Beach, Fir Street, Fairhaven. Please stop by the Fairhaven Council on Aging/Senior Center, 229 Huttleston Ave., for a parking pass. A limited number is available, so carpooling is advised. If you have a seasonal beach pass you do not need to go to the COA. Day passes are not available.

Presented by the Fairhaven Commission on Disability and the Belonging Committee. Join us for an afternoon of beach fun, sweet treats, and community connection at West Island Beach! 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.

## Tree Meeting

Meeting for the Protection of Trees in Fairhaven, Mon., 7/21, 6-7pm, Harrop House 47 Center St., Fairhaven

Please join us as we improve the

care, planting, tree and stump removal of our Fairhaven Trees.

All are welcome.

Last month we elected officers, reviewed our tree survey preliminary results, outlined our strategy and learned about exciting help for our trees. We accomplished a lot and laughed a lot with our new chairperson, Michael Bothelo, of Fairhaven.

Handicap entrance on the west side of the building.

Contact: [treesinfairhaven@gmail.com](mailto:treesinfairhaven@gmail.com) if you have questions or if you want email about future Tree related meetings and events.

## Cultural Council

The Fairhaven Cultural Council's annual survey is now open! We are seeking feedback from Fairhaven residents about cultural activities. Complete our brief survey to share your opinions about Fairhaven's cultural life. Your input will help us better understand our community's needs and interests. We want our programs and funding decisions to reflect what matters most to you.

The Fairhaven Cultural Council supports and promotes cultural activities that enrich our town. Annually we award grants to the cultural project proposals that best demonstrate a clear benefit to Fairhaven's residents. By state mandate, we fund programs within the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences that have a public benefit. The majority of our funding comes from the Mass Cultural Council, and the Town of Fairhaven provides additional funding.

Our community survey will remain open through Friday, August 1, 2025. To access the survey, visit: <https://forms.gle/bQv7tLxynJM1FMZL7>

If you any have questions email Chair Beth Ann Gallagher at: [culturalcouncil@fairhaven-ma.gov](mailto:culturalcouncil@fairhaven-ma.gov)

## 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 17: Trueue
- July 24: G and Friends

- July 31: Pete Lagrange and the Ghost Riders
- Aug. 7: 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.

## 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, antiques vendors, and Puerto Rican Food Court.

Interested vendors can email [NorthFairhavenMarket@gmail.com](mailto:NorthFairhavenMarket@gmail.com). Visit [visit Facebook.com/NorthFairhavenMarket](https://www.facebook.com/NorthFairhavenMarket).

## FHS Tours

Fairhaven High School Alumni President Robert Foster '66 has been leading guided tours through the 1906 building since 2009. The 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 last tour date of the season is Mon., 7/21, at 10 a.m.

To view "The History of the Castle on the Hill," an award winning Video Tour of our high school produced by Fairhaven Cable TV with the FHS Alumni Association, <https://tinyurl.com/3ba7579h>

cont'd next page

## STILL IN TOWN

### School — in July?

It's purely voluntary, and it should be fun. Go back in time to the classrooms of Fairhaven's past, with no computers, no plumbing, and no heat!

The Fairhaven Historical Commission, Fairhaven Historical Society, and Fairhaven High School Alumni welcome visitors to the town's historic schools this summer.

In July, the Stone Schoolhouse at 40 North Street will be open Saturdays from 11 to 2. The Academy Building will be open Saturdays, 11 to 2, with an informal talk about what it was like to go to school in Fairhaven in the 18th and 19th centuries.

In August, the Stone Schoolhouse will be open on the 16th and 30th; and the Academy Building will be open Saturdays from 11 to 2, with informal talks to be announced.

### Art Night

An Elegant Night of Art and Auctions in the Grand Fairhaven Town Hall hosted by the Fairhaven Summer Art Gallery! Fri., 7/18, 7–9 p.m., Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center St, Fairhaven, MA 02719

Come for a night at the historic, majestic Fairhaven Town Hall to hear a Variety Show-Style Review of Art Happenings in and around Fairhaven, and also view a Display of the Art from the First Annual Plein Air on Open Lands. Prizes will be announced at the event. The paintings will be for sale and also available via Silent Auction and Live Auction.

Fun formal dress encouraged.

This event is free but registration is required to allow for bidding. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/5n8f9c4w>

Part of the Fairhaven Summer Art Gallery Events: <https://www.fairhavensummerartgallery.com>

### 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 Phoenix, Green St, Fairhaven, MA 02719

### Dog Days of Summer

Sat., 7/19, 11–4, Grimshaw Park at Fort Phoenix, Green St, Fairhaven.

It's a paw-ty! Bring your furry friends and the whole family for a tail-wagging good time at this summer celebration made for both pets and people. Pet-friendly vendors & treats. Activities and games for pups and kids alike.

## HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

### JazzFest

New Bedford JazzFest (NBJF) continues its Acoustic Jazz Series on Sunday, July 20, with the Becky Bass Trio. Bass is an award-winning vocalist and steel pannist. The concert will take place from 4:00-6:00 PM at the newly renovated venue, the historic Steeple Playhouse, 159 William Street, New Bedford. Tickets are available at [steepleplayhouse.org](http://steepleplayhouse.org).

Early bird tickets are \$22-\$25, with general admission \$27 at the door. The festival takes place rain or shine, as it is indoors. The building is completely accessible to all, and there is free parking on the street, as well as in the adjacent parking lot and Elm Street Parking Garage.

Doors will open at 3:30 PM.

Acoustic Jazz concerts will have concessions and soft drinks available for purchase. The series will continue on August 24, with local live acoustic jazz in an informal setting, ideal for questions and conversation. Visit [steepleplayhouse.org](http://steepleplayhouse.org), <https://newbedfordjazzfest.com/>, <https://www.facebook.com/NewBedfordJazzFest>

### 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 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.

**July 18:** NB Rude Boys, Ska with NB Roots and Branches Festival. Purchase Street Stage

**July 24:** The Groovalottos, Funk, Thump & Soul. Lower Union St. Stage

### Roots & Branches

7/18, Friday night kicks off the 3rd annual NB Roots and Branches Festival with 12 stages of music, dance, art & theatre!

NB Roots and Branches is a two-

day acoustic music and art festival "by and for the people." The festival is 100% free to all and devoted to ensuring the various diverse communities of Greater New Bedford are represented on both the performance schedule and in the audience.

Visit <https://www.nbrootsandbranches.com/>

### Clean Up

Volunteers Needed Sat., 7/19, 9am - 12pm. Headquarters located at SERVPRO 1476 Purchase St. New Bedford, MA. For cleanup of Clask Common Park and downtown area.

Pre-register at <https://operationcleansweep.net/cleanups-operation-clean-sweep/>

Free t-shirts to all volunteers. Gloves and tools provided. Wear closed-toe shoes. Review the safety notes. Walk-ins Welcome. Free pizza from Dominos!

### 30 Authors

Readers and South Coast enthusiasts alike are invited to join the Westport Writers Group to hear selections from the newly-released *Waterscapes: A SouthCoast Anthology* on Friday, July 18th, 5:30pm to 7:00pm at the Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum, 396 County Street,

cont'd next page

## STILL OVERTOWN

New Bedford. Visit [rjdmuseum.org](http://rjdmuseum.org)

This is a unique literary opportunity to share the insightful narratives and striking images of thirty area authors and photographers, right in

the historic RJD gardens. Like the award-winning Landscapes before it, Waterscapes chronicles the life-sustaining essence of this shared coastal canvas through singular

moments that define us, quench our thirst for connection, and wash over us with meaning and memory. Donations welcome in lieu of a fee; books will be available for purchase.

## HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

### Harbor Days

Sat. & Sun., 7/19 & 20, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. plus other events after hours, Shipyard Park, Mattapoisett. Free shuttle from the Mattapoisett Council on Aging.

This is the annual event families plan their vacations around! Shop with approximately 100 vendors, listen to live entertainment, enjoy delicious food (including strawberry shortcake), visit with Mattapoisett Fire fighters and check out the fire engine, bid at the Silent Auction (under the big tent) and try your luck at the U Pick 'Em!

<https://www.mattapoisettlionsclub.org/harbor-days>

### Westport Fair

Westport Fair, 200 Pine Hill Rd., Westport, MA 02790. Visit <http://westportfair.com> Through Sun., 7/20.

Hours: Thurs., 7/17, 6–10 p.m.; Fri., 7/18, 6–11 p.m.; Sat., 7/19, 10 a.m.–11 p.m.; Sun., 7/20, 8:30 a.m.–7 p.m.

Featuring tractor pulls; animal tent; mini pulls; entertainment, including music (different genres); magic show; horse contests; carnival rides; antique and livestock exhibits; arts & crafts; animal contests.

For schedule visit <http://westportfair.com/2023-schedule-of-events>

Admission Pricing: \$5 per person ages 11 years old & up; Free

admission aged 10 Years old and under

Chicken BBQ: Sat., 7/19, 5:00pm–7:00pm.

Advanced sales only! \$20 per Adult BBQ ticket; \$10 per Child BBQ ticket

BBQ Tickets Do NOT include gate admission. BBQ tickets can be purchased from any fair committee member.

### GOP Gov. Cand

Marine Corps Veteran, successful business leader, and proven government reformer Brian Shortsleeve, Republican Candidate for Governor, will be speaking to the Acushnet Republican Town Committee on Tuesday, July 22nd, at 6 p.m., VFW, 28 Roosevelt St., Acushnet.

### 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.

**July 23 Pumpkin Head Ted** feeds

on a steady diet of blues, jazz, country, swing, Afro-Latin, rock and roll, show tunes, punk, alternative, and any other eclectic sounds that may catch their ear. Acushnet's concert lineup features Jason Smith on guitar, drums, washboard, and vocals. John Nieman on Drums, guitar, and vocals. Eric Costa on keyboards and vocals. Matt Ryckebusch on bass and vocals. Tom Short on Saxophones, flute, clarinet, and vocals.

**July 30 The Whelks** are a Rhode Island-based acoustic trio consisting of Peri DeLorenzo on fiddle, Mark Dobbyn on guitar, and Erin Lobb Mason on upright bass. They play a mix of swing, country, old time, bluegrass, Irish, folk, and original songs, all dressed up in glorious three-part harmony.

#### 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.

#### History Coffee Hour

Thursday, July 24 at 11 am. This new group gathers to discuss Acushnet's history. Join the conversation and share stories or photos from the past. Bring your coffee and memories. We will supply historic documents, photos, newspaper clippings, and more!

## Fire at assisted living facility in Fall River claims nine lives

### Press Release

District Attorney Thomas M. Quinn, III announced that at approximately 9:38 pm, on Sunday, 7/13/2025, a box alarm and multiple 911 calls were reported for a building fire at the Gabriel House Assisted Living Facility located at 261 Oliver Street in Fall River.

Upon arrival first responders found the front of the building to be covered in heavy smoke and flames with multiple occupants trapped inside and active fire alarms sounding. The fire quickly elevated to a five-

alarm blaze and mutual aid was requested from surrounding communities. Through the significant effort of fire crews, the blaze was brought under control, and a sweep of the building was conducted.

The Gabriel House had approximately 70 residents on scene at the time of the fire. Nine residents were confirmed deceased. Approximately 30 other residents were transported for treatment with one resident in critical condition. Five firefighters were transported for minor injuries; all firefighters have been discharged.

The deceased residents have been identified as: 64-year-old Rui Albarnaz, 61-year-old Ronald Codega, 69-year-old Margaret Duddy, 78-year-old Robert King, 71-year-old Kim Mackin, 78-year-old Richard Rochon, 86-year-old Eleanor Willett. In addition, a 70-year-old female and a 77-year-old male (next of kin notifications pending).

The origin and cause of the fire are being investigated by the Massachusetts State Police Fire and Explosion Investigation Section assigned to the

**FIRE: cont'd to page 17**



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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.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA\\_COA/index](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: 7/23, Wrentham Outlets; 7/30, Thames St., Newport, RI; 8/6, Plain Ridge Park Casino; 8/13, Hyannis Mall & Trader Joe's; 8/30 Providence Place Mall

## 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 & Show Series

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.

**July 21, 12:15 p.m.**, featuring *My Cousin Vinny*, Legal, Drama, Comedy & Crime. 2 hrs. Two New Yorkers accused of murder in rural Alabama while on their way back to college call in the help of one of their cousins, a loudmouth lawyer with no trial experience.

**Mon., 7/28, 12:15 p.m.** TV Series: *The Four Seasons*. 30 min. episodes. Episodes 1, 2 & 3.

Three suburban couples vacation together each season, but tensions arise when one couple splits up and the husband brings a much younger woman on subsequent trips.

## 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.

## Attention Veteran Women

We would love to include more images of the veteran women from Fairhaven to be featured alongside their fellow veterans.

If you have served and would like to contribute a photo, we would be honored to display it. We kindly request that the photo be unmounted, in either 8x10 or 5x7 size, with the name of the individual written on the back. Additionally, if someone other than the veteran submits a photo, we ask that permission from the family be obtained.

Thank you for your service and for helping us recognize and celebrate the contributions of our veteran women.

# 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

### Ranch Potato Skins Appetizer

*Perfect for parties or family dinners...filled to the brim with savory melted cheese and delicious crispy bacon to win over any crowd. They're easy to serve as an appetizer for your next dinner, but they just might outshine the main course..*

4 baked potatoes, quartered  
1/4 cup sour cream

2 tbsps Hidden Valley Ranch

Seasoning, Dressing & Dip Mix  
Shredded cheddar cheese

1 cup sliced green onions and/or  
bacon pieces, optional

Preheat the oven to 375°F.  
Scoop the potato out of the skins;  
combine with sour cream and  
dressing mix. Fill skins with  
mixture. Sprinkle with cheese.

Bake for 12-15 minutes or until  
cheese is melted. Garnish with  
green onions and/or bacon bits, if  
desired. Serve hot.

From [www.hiddenvalley.com](http://www.hiddenvalley.com)



## Dear Frankie

### Alpha Dog

Dear Frankie,  
Is this what  
humans think  
about dogs, or is  
it just my mom?

Her friend  
asked her, Do you  
ever wonder what  
Talia thinks about  
when she looks at  
you like that?

My mom said  
she does that to  
communicate that she loves me. In truth,  
when I look at her that way, I usually have  
lost my ball and wonder if she has seen it.

She then said she was the Alpha Dog in  
our pack (she is single; it's just the two of  
us). She explained that the Alpha Dog's  
role is to provide her pack with family  
guidance, nurturance, and comfort. I  
never realized she thought she was a dog.

Should I play along or tell my Nana so  
she can get her some help?

Talia

Dear Talia,

If I have said it once, I said it a  
thousand times. Forgive me for being  
repetitive. Humans believe some of the

strangest things.

My mom thinks I will only eat out of a  
red bowl. She will even go as far as to  
show her friends what I do when she  
offers me food in a green bowl. I'm not  
dumb, so as expected, I turn away.

I love her and want her to look good to  
her friends. When she makes her point  
about the bowl, my only thought is, will  
she dump it into a red bowl so I can get on  
with my day? You can't believe how  
thrilled she is to tell her friends she  
knows my every thought and feeling.

My friends at the park and I often crack  
up at the crazy things our families say  
about us. I wouldn't be surprised if your  
mom does think of herself as a dog. But I  
don't think Nana needs to be involved.

Best, Frankie

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Comments and letters can be sent to  
Frankie at [dearfrankiecolumn@gmail.com](mailto:dearfrankiecolumn@gmail.com).  
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# Obituary: Leona (Aguiar) Souza



**Leona Souza**  
Leona (Aguiar) Souza 98, of Fairhaven, passed away at Alden Court Nursing & Rehab on Monday, July 7, 2025.

She was the daughter of the late Manuel Aguiar and the late Evangeline (Arruda) Aguiar and loving wife to the late George Souza. Leona was the time owner and original founder of Leona's Variety Store in Fairhaven. Upon closing the store she worked for a short time at Knapp Shoe and Cornell Dublier. She enjoyed spending her time playing bingo. Leona is survived by many nieces, nephews, great nieces, nephews and

cousins. She is preceded in death by her sisters; Margaret Williams, 2" Diamond Sylvia, Beatrice Aguiar, Mary Aguiar, Irene Aguiar; brothers, Antone Aguiar, John Aguiar, Alfred Aguiar, Manuel Aguiar, Jose Aguiar, and Frank Aguiar. Services were held on Tuesday, July 15. Burial was at Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne, MA. Arrangements were by Boulevard Funeral Home in New Bedford, MA.

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# Music night livens up Benoit Square

By Beth David  
Editor

The North Fairhaven Improvement

Association held its annual Music Night in Benoit Square on Sunday, 7/13/25, and the crowd showed up



Eddie and the Exciters perform oldies under the gazebo at the North Fairhaven Improvement Association's Music Night on 7/13/25 in Benoit Square. Photo by Beth David.

despite the heat. Hundreds of people set up their chairs in the shade. Some danced in the street to the oldies performed by Eddie and the Exciters.

The NFIA dished up some burgers and other goodies; and a few classic cars were also on display.

Charlene Correia of Acushnet said she was hanging out with the self-described "Cha Cha Girls." Some of them follow Eddie around and dance in the street whenever they have a chance.

Manny Silva was there with his 1961 Buick Special. He said his well known "Marilyn Monroe car" got totaled recently.

"That was sad," he said, but admitted it did not take long for him to "get back to it."

To learn more about the NFIA and the events they sponsor visit <https://northfairhavenimprovementassoc.weebly.com> or find them on Facebook. They meet the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. 267 Adams St., at Benoit Square. Their next meeting is 7/24/25. They are actively seeking volunteers.

## 100 years old and going strong!

By Beth David  
Editor

Helen Fiske, 100, insists she has no advice or secret for people on aging well. But she does have a message: Go to college.

"Go to a damn college," she said at her 100th birthday party on 6/25/26, at Atria Assisted Living in Fairhaven. "You have to. You can get grants, scholarships."

Once you have the degree, she said, "From there, you can do anything."

Ms. Fiske worked at Community College of Rhode Island before she had her degree.

"I helped them build five campuses," she said, and that's what made her go to college herself, earning a degree in business when she was well into middle age.

Besides that, she said, "Just try to help people when they need help."

She said her memory was not as good as it used to be, but URI (University of Rhode Island) was a "big memory" for her: The place where she got her degree, while she worked and raised a family. She vowed to family members that she was going to ask them to donate to her alma mater for her 100th birthday.

"It was a good degree," she said. "At least I had it in my hand."

She had three children, has six grandchildren, and 14 great grandchildren. And a good number of them were on hand to celebrate the occasion.

"It's an exciting milestone," said her great grandson, Xan Allen, 22. "It's so nice to have this connection to

family."

Helen's grandson, Jeremy, said he grows gladiolas and recently learned that his grandfather, Helen's husband, owned Allen's Garden in Cranston, RI, where he grew and sold cut flowers. He died before Jeremy was born, but somehow that connection is there.

"I'm amazed," said Jeremy. "I didn't even know."

"She's a brilliant woman, unbelievable," he said, adding she did not accept any goofing around. "I'm the goofy one."

"It's good to see her," said grandson, Tom Barrett. "And to get everybody to come and visit and celebrate with her."

Of course, there was cake and food, and a phone visit from granddaughter, Emily, who lives in California, too.



LEFT: Helen Fiske poses with her friend, Marion (seated LEFT) and family members gathered for the occasion of Ms. Fiske's 100th birthday celebration on 6/25/26 at Atria Assisted Living in Fairhaven. RIGHT: L-R: Marion, Helen Fiske, and Debbie Barrett share a big laugh. Photos by Beth David.





## SELECT: cont'd from page 4

"Since when," he said does the Historical Commission feel its "their place" to do that and not follow "due process."

In a bit of irony not lost on those who attend meetings regularly, Mr. Carr has addressed the Select Board repeatedly during the Public Comment section for months to rail against the SB's decision last year not to re-appoint Kenneth Kendall to his position on the ZBA; and Mr. Carr has addressed the board during Public Comment at nearly every meeting for months demanding that the board rescind that vote and rescind the vote for Geoffrey Sullivan at its 5/12/25 meeting, insisting that they choose either Mr. Kendall or Cathy Melanson, or an associate member.

Mr. Carr, who is the chairperson of the ZBA, said the associate members did not know of the opening.

In another bit of irony, Mr. Carr had promised that he would resign from the ZBA in 2023 if he got elected to the Planning Board (see 3/23/23 issue/candidate statement).

Mr. Kuechler told the board he wanted to join the HC because he has been helping with the antique fire trucks since he was "a kid." Most people in town have seen him over the years helping his grandfather, John Rogers, with the trucks. Mr. Kuechler now often drives the trucks giving rides during events.

"I know I'm young and don't have much experience," said Mr. Kuechler, but added that he sees the opportunity as a chance to learn.

"Don't sell yourself short," said SB member Keith Silvia, noting that Mr. Kuechler helped his grandfather for a lot of years.

Benjamin Hevey introduced himself saying he loves the town and he won't be involved in any drama.

"I just want to do my job," he said.

A history teacher at Fairhaven High School, Mr. Hevey said he teaches a local history class and invites local speakers to talk about Fairhaven's history. He said he would like to bridge the gap between the town and the high school.

He also noted that Mr. Kuechler was a former student.

Jason "Jay" Lanagan got a chuckle when he told the board he did not know it was a competitive process.

He said he has had a career in fixing up historic buildings and has worked

with historical commissions in New Bedford and with state agencies. He is familiar with a variety of regulations regarding historic properties.

SB member Andrew Saunders disclosed that Mr. Lanagan was represented by Saunde who handled the case about seven years ago. He said he did not believe there was any conflict.

"In that spirit," Mr. Romano disclosed, in classic small-town fashion, that Mr. Lanagan went to his wedding; he grew up with Mr. Kuechler; and Mr. Hevey was his history teacher.

The board voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Kuechler. Mr. Murphy also noted that the HC had a new vacancy that would be filled at the SB's next meeting (see page 3), and encouraged

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In the end, the board  
voted to approve the  
alcohol license, and  
Mr. Barbosa said he  
was sure the association  
would buy the metal  
detector.

---

the applicants to let the SB office know if they were still interested. Members of the public can apply on the town's website.

The board also voted to appoint Jason Lanagan, Patrick Carr, and Patricia Estrella to the Atlas Tack Working Group; voted to appoint Kerri Cummins to the Commission on Disability; and Nancy Santoro to the Council on Aging.

In another matter, the board voted to update the mission statement of the Economic Development Committee. Chairperson Cathy Melanson told the board that when the former town administrator made changes to the structure of some town departments, it changed the staff connection the EDC has in town hall.

The Planning and Economic Development department was changed to Land Use and Planning. The EDC is now under Community Development/Discover Fairhaven, with Alyssa

Botelho as the staff liaison.

The board discussed the changes and possible confusion because the Land Use department also meets with developers and coordinates with businesses.

Mr. Romano said he wanted to be sure that Ms. Botelho would not be getting zoning questions.

"So what you're saying is the Economic Development Committee can't create its own mission statement," said Ms. Melanson to Mr. Romano.

She said EDC has nothing to do with Planning.

The board voted to adopt the changes the EDC requested.

In another matter, the board tabled a discussion on the "Zoning Board of Appeals Promotion Process," an item added to address the previously mentioned process for choosing members of the ZBA.

SB member Keith Silvia and ZBA chairperson Patrick Carr have insisted that the board should be required to appoint an Associate Member to a full voting position if one becomes available and not go outside the ZBA.

Mr. Romano said he wanted to know if they were going to discuss future appointments or past appointments. He said if the item was to go back and change a vote, he would not support it. If the discussion was about going forward, he said he would.

However, Mr. Murphy said they could not go into detail because they were tabling it until they could arrange a joint meeting with the ZBA.

Mr. Saunders said he would be in favor of an open debate about prospective votes and retrospective votes.

The board voted to table the item.

In a related matter, during the public comment period, ZBA Associate member, Kristen Russell said she was surprised that the open full time seat had been filled "without notice."

She said she was the most senior associate member, and it was only reasonable for her to expect to be considered for the full time slot.

She noted that the ZBA has faced challenges recently, the turnover has been constant, and the latest appointment made it worse. It is the kind of thing that drives people away, she said. The board needs stability and a "clean break from the drama of the past."

# Miss Apple Peach Pageant seeks contestants

## Press Release

You could be the next Miss Apple Peach or Jr. Miss Apple Peach! Win scholarship awards and the chance to represent your town.

Acushnet's Miss Apple Peach Pageant is seeking contestants for their annual competition to be held

on Saturday, August 30th as the kick off to the following weekend's Apple Peach Festival.

Miss Apple Peach 2024, Madison Cabucio, and Jr. Miss Apple Peach 2024, Willow Niles, have enjoyed being active in town events and have participated in Acushnet events such

as the Little League Opening Day, the Christmas Lighting, the Lions Club's Duck Race, the Halloween event, and have volunteered at the schools.

The pageant is open to all young women from Acushnet in grades 5-12. Students in grades 5-8 will compete for the title of Jr. Miss Apple Peach and students in grades 9-12 will compete for the title of Miss Apple Peach, the winner of which will receive a \$500 scholarship. In total, \$1,000 will be awarded and sponsored by the Acushnet Lions Club.

There is a \$30 registration fee and contestants will compete in four phases of onstage competition. No previous experience is required and there is no talent portion of competition.

To register or for more information, visit social media pages, call/ text (508) 965-4465 or email [MissApplePeach@gmail.com](mailto:MissApplePeach@gmail.com) by August 8th.

Acushnet has held a Miss Apple Peach Pageant since 1980.



L-R: 2024 Miss Apple Peach, Madison Cabucio, and Jr. Miss Apple Peach, Willow Niles, are crowned at the ceremony on 9/6/24. They have spent the past year representing the town of Acushnet at a variety of events. Photos courtesy of K. Garcia Productions.

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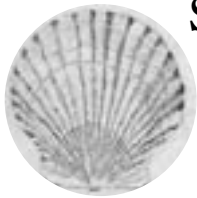


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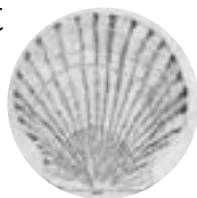
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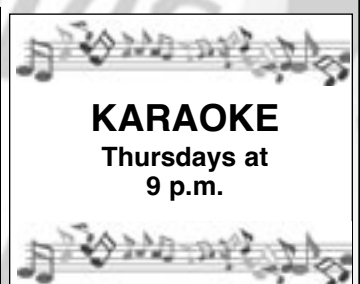


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### FIRE: cont'd from page 7

State Fire Marshal's Office, the Fall River Fire and Police Departments, in conjunction with State Troopers assigned to the Bristol County District Attorney's Office. The investigation is ongoing. However, the cause does not appear to be suspicious at this time.

"My heart goes out to all of the victims, their families and all of those impacted by this terrible tragedy. I would like to commend the first responders for their efforts in bringing many of the residents to safety while being confronted with very difficult circumstances," District Attorney Tom Quinn said.

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### CRASH: cont'd from page 19

under investigation although charges are not anticipated at this time.

## Teen Hit By Car Near Bridge

A teenager was hit by a vehicle at about 3 p.m. near the New Bedford/Fairhaven bridge on July 4, 2025, and suffered serious injuries. According to the Hopkinton Independent (<https://tinyurl.com/5yk3s5ur>), 16-year-old Raphaela "Rafa" Cristeli, was walking to a friend's boat on Pope's Island.

The friends witnessed the accident and tried to help. The credit an off-duty police officer who performed CPR until emergency responders arrived, according to the news article.

She has already had several surgeries and faces a long road to recovery.

A GoFundMe page with a goal of \$45,000 had collected \$39,905 by press time. Find it at <https://tinyurl.com/4vty772f>

## Upcoming Meetings

### Fairhaven

#### Board of Appeals

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

#### Board of Assessors

Thurs., 7/31, Town Hall, 4:30 p.m.

#### Board of Health

Wed., 7/30, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

#### Conservation Comm

Mon., 8/4, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

#### Lagoa Friendship

Mon., 8/4, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

#### School Committee

Wed., 8/20, FHS Lib., Time TBA

#### Select Board

Mon., 7/28, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Acushnet

#### Golf Committee

Thurs., 7/18, Golf Course, 4:30 p.m.

#### Planning Board

Thurs., 7/18, Parting Ways, 6 p.m.

#### Selectboard

Fri., 7/18 Town Hall, 11 a.m.

## TIDE TABLE

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

	July 2025	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	17	0125	1359	0639*	1931
Friday	18	0221	1454	0742	2043
Saturday	19	0317	1553	0845	2155
Sunday	20	0421	1700	0946	2334
Monday	21	0531	1803	1055	---
Tuesday	22	0630	1855	0049	1206
Wednesday	23	0720	1943	0148	1304
Thursday	24	0808	2030	0248	1402
Friday	25	0857	2118	0335	1504
Saturday	26	0946	2204	0404	1547

\*= Predicted minus tides from -0.1 ft. to -1.0 ft

\*\*Predicted minus tides from -1.1 ft to -2.0 ft or more

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# Public Hearings/Legal Notices

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

## Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearings

Tuesday August 5, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.  
Town Hall Banquet Room, 40 Center Street  
Fairhaven, Massachusetts  
Public Hearing In-Person in Banquet Room  
or via Zoom. Join the Zoom Meeting  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/94115137952?pwd=MXp0VWpKTFBkUmluT1pWSctiVzJCQT09>  
or call 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 941 1513  
7952 Passcode: 361259

1. REF# ZBA-025-033: 9 Jeannette Street, Map 34A, Lot 062C. Applicant and Owner Richard Ferreira seeks a Special Permit to authorize housing chickens on property in a Single Residence (RA) district not to exceed 10 chickens, not to include roosters, for the coop to be at least 20 feet from any dwelling and at least 10 feet from the property line, and for the applicant to submit an operations and maintenance plan for manure, food and water to the Board of Health, pursuant to the Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-16, Use Regulation Schedule and Chapter 405, Animals.
2. REF# ZBA-025-034: 0 Point Street, Lot 131. Applicant/Owner is seeking a special permit for seasonal camper on lot pursuant to Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-16 regulation Schedule.
3. REF# ZBA-025-035: 159 Scoticut Neck Rd, Map 28B, Lot 279. Applicant and Owner: Roy Gendron. Applicant is seeking a variance for building coverage and lot coverage. Applicant building coverage is 15% and the proposed is 26%. The lot coverage is 25% proposed is 37%, pursuant to Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-18 RR District Use Regulation Schedule.
4. REF# ZBA 025-036: 17 Shore Drive, Map 29C, Lot

619 & 620. Applicant/Owner is seeking variance for setback rear needs 30' proposed is 22 1/2'. Left and Right side needs 20' proposed is 10.7'. Pursuant to Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-18.

Patrick Carr, Chair, Fairhaven ZBA  
FNN: 7/17/25, 7/24/25

## ACUSHNET CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Acushnet Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, July 23, 2025 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Meeting Room, located at 122 Main Street, Acushnet, Massachusetts.

- Public Hearing NOI – Clem's Way Solar, LLC c/o ReWild Renewables, LLC / 1094 Main Street, Map 7, Lot 15SE 001-0607 A Notice of Intent was filed by Zachary Farkes for property located at 1094 Main Street, Map 7, Lot 15. The applicant proposes to construct ground-mounted solar arrays in open fields and forested land. The work proposed is within Bordering Vegetated Wetland, Bank, Land Under Waterbodies and Waterways and Bordering Land Subject to Flooding as well as the 100-foot buffer zone to a Bordering Vegetated Wetland and Bank. The applicant is represented by Sarah Sterns of Beals and Thomas, Inc. Plan name is "Clem's Way Solar Project, 1094 Main Street, Acushnet Massachusetts" dated June 11, 2025.
- Public Hearing NOI – NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy Map 12 Lot 22B, 23B, 23FSE 001-0608 A Notice of Intent was filed by NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy, Map 12, Lots 22B.23B.23F. The applicant proposes

the installation of approximately 1-mile overhead transmission line within existing Eversource Right-of-Way #142 between the Mendall Road Substation and the Mattapoisett town line. The applicant is represented by Jack Vaccaro of Epsilon Associates. Plan name is "Line 112 Wetland Replication Area Grading Plans" dated May 12, 2025.

James Souza, Chair  
FNN, 7/17/25

## Announcement:

The following bylaw changes which were accepted at the Fairhaven Special Town Meeting which convened on November 19, 2024 have been approved by the Office of the Attorney General, are published herewith in accordance with the current regulations. Claims of invalidity of any of the amendments to the bylaw by reason of any defect in the procedure of the adoption or replacement may only be made within ninety days of this announcement.

Copies of the bylaw may be examined at the Town Clerk's Office, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA

### ARTICLE 13: BYLAW AMENDMENTS, CHAPTER 198 ZONING

Motion was made and seconded that the Town vote to amend Chapters 198-16, 198-17, 198-18, 198-22, 198-27, 198-32.1 and 198-33 to conform to "An Act Relative to the Affordable Homes Act" (Ho. H4977, Acts 2024, Chapter 150, Approved by the Governor, August 6, 2024) and the proposed changes therein to MGL Chapter 40A, Section 1A and Chapter 40A, Section 3 with regard to accessory dwelling units or take any action relative thereto.

Elisabeth E. Horan, Town Clerk, Fairhaven  
FNN 7/17/25, 7/24/25

## From our Readers

### Two Things to Worry About

I can't take credit for the following. It's my recollection of a presentation by comedian, Mike Goodwin, I saw on Facebook. Like I predict you will, my first reaction was to laugh. Then I began to think about what was subtly said in a more serious light.

There are only two things to worry about in this life — If you are healthy or sick.

If you are healthy, it's all good.

If you are sick, you've got two things to worry about — If you get better, or if you get worse.

If you get better, it's all good.

If you get worse, there's two things you've got to worry about — If you're going to live, or if you're going to die.

If you are going to live, it's all good.

If you're going to die, there's two things you've got to worry about — If you are going to heaven, or if you're

going to hell.

If you're going to heaven, it's all good.

If you're going to hell, there's two things you've got to worry about — If you'll be "original or crispy".

After your laugh, please consider the ultimate consequences involved. Some things are way beyond funny. This creative and compelling message truly qualifies!

Steven J. Bouley, Fairhaven

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# Fairhaven SB chooses Town Administrator from 4 candidates

By Beth David  
Editor

The Fairhaven Select Board interviewed four finalists for the Town Administrator position at a meeting on 7/7/25: James Ryan, Lisa Green, Keith Hickey, and Joe Powers. Rick White of Groux-White Consulting advised the board to make a choice and an alternate, that way if contract negotiations fell through, they would be able to offer the position to the alternate without delay. The board chose Mr. Hickey as their first choice, and Ms. Green as their alternate.

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

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.

The board asked the same 10 questions of each candidate.

All five SB members had Mr. Hickey as their first or second choice, with four members choosing him first. Four members had Ms. Green as their second choice or tied for second.

The board voted unanimously to offer Mr. Hickey the position. They voted 4-1 for Ms. Green to be the

alternate, with SB member Natalie Green voting "no."

SB member Andrew Romano said he used a ranking system that fellow board member Natalie Mello had given him.

"I was very impressed with all four so I loved having this...kind of unbiased ranking system to go by," said Mr. Romano, adding they were all only about two points apart.

He said he chose Mr. Hickey because he showed a "very large array of skills and adaptability."

SB Chairperson Charles Murphy said he was looking for a person who was "very clear on the budget process," clear on communications. So he came up with Mr. Powers as his first choice, with Mr. Hickey and Ms. Green a tie for second.

SB member Andrew Saunders said his choices were Mr. Hickey and Mr. Ryan and left it at that. SB member Keith Silvia simply said he agreed with Mr. Romano.

Ms. Mello said Mr Hickey was her first choice, with Mr. Powers second.

She said Mr. Hickey stood out because his experience is "very impressive," adding, "And he just seemed to hit all of the things I was looking for."

After it seemed that Mr. Hickey was the one for sure, Mr. Romano said he was more apt to make a motion for Ms.



Keith Hickey answers a question while being interviewed by the Fairhaven Select Board on 7/7/25 for the position of Town Administrator, and was chosen from a pool of four finalists. Photo by Beth David.

Green because he felt she showed more flexibility and had more "out of the box statements."

Ms. Mello, however, said she did not think Ms. Green showed flexibility and made her pitch for Mr. Powers.

In the end, Mr. Romano made the motion for Ms. Green to be the alternate; then the second vote was for Mr. Hickey.

The meeting is available at FairhavenTV.com

The board also voted to authorize Mr. Murphy and Mr. Saunders to negotiate contract details with Mr. Hickey.

## Three serious car crashes, two fatal, on Route 6

### Fairhaven Teen Killed in Car Crash

Marin Stackpole, a 17-year-old Fairhaven resident, was killed in a car crash on Route 6 just blocks from her home at about 9:30 p.m. on 7/5/25. She was about to enter her senior year at Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech. She worked at Cisco and Nick's Pizza.

The crash involved three vehicles, including her Nissan Sentra. She was the only person in the vehicle and was pronounced dead at the scene.

Family friends set up a GoFundMe page with a goal of \$50,000. At press time it had reached \$76,543.

Two pickup trucks were also involved in the crash. There were no other serious injuries.

According to the GoFundMe page, Ms. Stackpole had driven to Fort Phoenix earlier that evening to take photos "against the backdrop of the sun setting over Buzzards Bay."

She is described as a "free spirit; loving, beautiful, and unique in her style."

"Marin always brought a special light and joy to her family that was beautiful to see and be around," reads the GoFundMe page.

Authorities have not released a cause of the crash.

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/2tt8ua4x>

### New Bedford Man Killed in Crash on Bridge

Bristol County District Attorney Thomas M. Quinn, III announced that a fatal motor vehicle crash occurred on 7/2/2025, on the New Bedford/Fairhaven Bridge. At approximately 11:00 am New Bedford Police and EMS received a 911 call regarding a serious motor vehicle crash on the bridge.

Upon arrival, police located a 2015 Chevy Silverado which was occupied by a 26-year-old male who was

transported by EMS for minor injuries. The Silverado had a moderate amount of damage to the front end and came to a rest in the right lane of travel facing eastbound.

The second vehicle involved was determined to be a 2001 Mazda Miata which was observed to have catastrophic damage to the front of end of the vehicle. The Miata was located on the eastbound side of the highway facing west as it lost control while crossing the bridge and struck the Silverado.

The operator of the Miata was identified as 41-year-old Gregory Crook McGuire of New Bedford. He was transported to St. Luke's Hospital where he was pronounced deceased a short time later. Massachusetts State Police assigned to the Bristol County District Attorney's Office also responded to the scene. This matter is

**CRASH: cont'd on page 17**





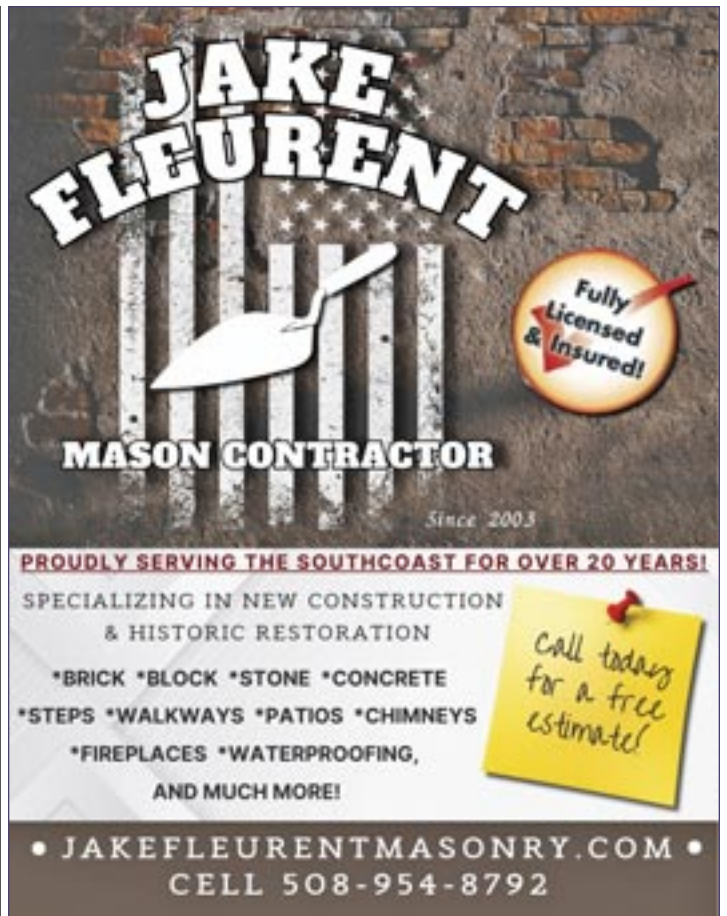
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