



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



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with a big voice!

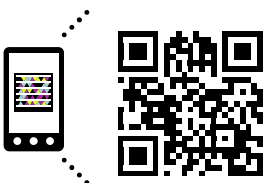
Volume 20, Issue 39 • October 2, 2025

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

Riverside Cemetery turns 175



The Concordia Brass Quartet plays a musical selection while Fairhaven Veteran Services Officer, Mike Jenney, holds the American flag, and smoke from the firing of the small cannon by the Fairhaven Village Militia wafts by in the background during the celebration of the Riverside Cemetery's 175th anniversary on 9/27/25 in Fairhaven. 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.

So, as I write this, it looks like the federal government will be shutting down.

The regime wants to cut, gut, destroy the living daylight out of all the things that make life a little easier for us working shlubs. The opposition is trying to stop the Big Buffoon from killing us all off by denying us access to health care, health insurance, any which way they can. All while giving huge tax breaks to people who do not need it.

Meanwhile, the regime managed to find \$6 billion for Israel, \$20 billion for Argentina (which will simultaneously hurt our US farmers, BTW), tens of billions for Elon Musk (including \$2.9 billion just for SpaceX); and \$10 billion for bazillionaire Jeff Bezos of Amazon fame.

But, Medicare and Medicaid need to get cut. Yup.

They're offering \$50K bonuses to anyone who signs up for ICE. Hey, what can go wrong, there, right?

Meanwhile, the Big Buffoon addressed the generals they dragged in from all over the world for a photo op.

Heaven help us all.

Meanwhile, there are still hundreds of people in foreign, nasty prisons who were put there in our name. It's sickening. Its un-American. And I simply do not understand how anyone can still support this buffoon.

Anyway, closer to home.

Our cover story is pretty interesting stuff. Our own Riverside Cemetery was created by Warren Delano II: yes from THOSE Delanos. Did you not know about our connection to FDR? Ah...you need to go on the tour and learn about ALL the famous people in that cemetery. See a listing on page 5 for the next tour. See page 12 for the story of the celebration of the cemetery's 175th birthday.

This weekend we have two really fun events: The Manjiro Festival, which is held in Fairhaven every other year, and in Japan on alternating years; and the annual Fire Department open house. See page 3 for details on both.

There's other stuff in here, of course. While you're paging through, be sure to notice who our advertisers are so you can tell them you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*.

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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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

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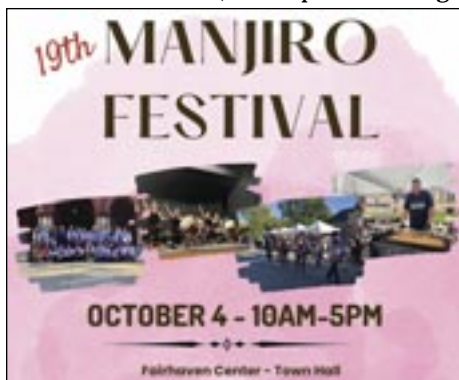
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Manjiro Festival, Fire Open House are this weekend

This weekend will be lots of fun in Fairhaven, with two much anticipated events: The 19th Manjiro Festival, and the Fire Department Open House.

The Manjiro Festival is held every other year in Fairhaven, and in Tosashimizu, Japan on the alternating years. This year, the festival will be held on Saturday, 10/4, from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., in Fairhaven Town Center, 40 Center St., Fairhaven, in front of Town Hall and surrounding streets.

The festival features live Japanese and American musical entertainment, Taiko Drummers, Martial Arts, Food and Craft booths, Multiple Drawings



and Silent Auction, Japanese sale items, and much more!

There will be crafters lining the streets and Japanese and American food; large raffle; silent auction; T-Shirts and Japanese items; Shimizu High School students and Japanese tourists attending to celebrate our Sister City of Tosashimizu.

Manjiro Festival Schedule

10:00-10:30: Classic Flute, Takao Shinzawa, Town Hall Entrance

10:30-11:30: Interlude, Live Music, David Pereira and MaryBeth Soares, Town Hall Entrance

11:30-12:00: Official Opening, Dignitaries, Town Hall Entrance

12:00-1:00: Live Music, Ukulele/Carolyn Wingate, Nick Souza & Gayle Dion, Town Hall Entrance

1:00-2:00: Taiko Drumming, The Mark H Taiko Connection, Town Hall 2nd Floor

2:00-3:00: Ikebana Flower Arranging, Town Hall first floor, rear

2:00-3:00: Martial Arts, Unitarian Church lawn.

3:00-4:00: Taiko Drumming, Mark H Taiko Connection, Town Hall 2nd Floor

4:30-5:00: Closing and Tosa Dance,

Center Street in front of Town Hall.

5:00 Silent Auction/Raffle Closed to Chiming Bells (Winners notified by phone Sunday and pick up Monday evening at 11 Cherry St. Fairhaven)

Fairhaven Fire Department Open House

Join the Fairhaven Fire Department on Sun., 10/5 from 1-3 p.m. for an open house with lots of demonstrations and giveaways, 144 Washington St., Fairhaven, 508-994-1428.

Featuring: vehicle extrication, live fire demo (weather dependent), fire extinguisher demo, free pizza, Sparky the Fire Dog, and more!



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Quality of Life: The Long-Term Community Health of Fairhaven

By Tim Garcia

Fairhaven Sustainability Committee

Fairhaven is approaching a period of unprecedented traffic disruption that will directly affect the daily lives of residents. Two major infrastructure projects — the replacement of the New Bedford-Fairhaven bridge, tentatively scheduled to begin in 2028, and the ongoing I-195/Route 18 Interchange Rehabilitation through 2030 — may overlap for a number of years. The result will be more traffic on our streets, more noise in our neighborhoods, and more strain on our community than many may realize.

Most discussions about these projects focus on detours, congestion, and delays. While those are valid concerns, one issue deserves more attention: noise pollution. Increased traffic means more than inconvenience; it affects health, safety, and property values. If Fairhaven does not take critical action, our residents will bear unnecessary burdens.

Noise pollution is not just an annoyance. The Environmental Protection Agency and the World Health Organization both recognize

chronic traffic noise as a public health issue. Studies show that long-term exposure to roadway noise above 55 decibels — a level easily reached on busy streets — contributes to stress, poor sleep, high blood pressure, and even heart disease. Nighttime noise as low as 40 decibels can disrupt sleep cycles, leading to fatigue, lower productivity, and increased accidents.

The impacts ripple out from there. Property values along high-traffic roads decline — research suggests by as much as 8% compared to quieter neighborhoods. Residents subjected to constant noise are more likely to move, weakening neighborhood stability. Road rage, aggravation, and minor crimes are all more common in noisy, congested environments. Litter increases, walkability decreases, and the sense of community diminishes when people feel their streets are unsafe or unpleasant.

Fairhaven is particularly vulnerable. With I-195 exits closed while under construction, detouring traffic will push through our streets. In a few short years when the bridge project

begins, that pressure will intensify dramatically. Possibly, for at least two to three years, the town could face round-the-clock congestion, truck detours, and road wear at levels not seen before.

The good news is that this problem is preventable — but only if addressed now. Other communities have successfully reduced noise and traffic impacts through proactive planning. Options include noise abatement barriers, tree buffers, and resurfacing roads with “quiet pavement.” Traffic calming measures — such as raised crosswalks, curb extensions, and speed humps — can reduce both speed and noise while improving safety. Stronger enforcement of truck routes, nighttime noise ordinances, and community-based litter control can further protect residents.

What is needed now is for Fairhaven to treat this as more than a transportation issue. It is a quality-of-life issue, a health issue, and an economic issue. By acting early, our town leaders can secure state cooperation, funding, and mitigation

SUSTAIN: cont'd on page 17

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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Costume Swap

Halloween Sustainability Costume Swap. Drop off clean, used Halloween costumes and decorations in the bin at Town Hall, 40 Center St., or at The Millicent Library from now until October 8th, when there will be a free event at the library with a Halloween Swap table.

Costumes should be clean, and non-violent (no gore). Don't limit yourself to just costumes. Jewelry, scarves, crazy hats, anything that can be used for a costume as well as decorations will be accepted.

Drop off Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center St., or The Millicent Library-Mon & Wed -9am-8pm, Tues & Thurs -9am-6pm, Friday 10am-6pm, Sat.9am-3pm.

Contact Ann Richard, with questions: fairhavensustainability@gmail.com

Places for People

Monday, October 6 6:30-8:00 PM
UUSF Auditorium 102 Green Street, Fairhaven, MA, 02719

Fairhaven resident Will Gardner, founder of SouthCoast Places for People (SCPFP), shares how neighbors across the South Coast are taking action to shape the places we live. Learn about SCPFP's current projects. Discover how simple, people-powered activities are building community and resilience. You'll come away with concrete ways to get involved and help create safer, more vibrant streets.

Cultural Council

The Fairhaven Cultural Council is accepting proposals for project that enrich the cultural lives of Fairhaven residents. Successful applicants will receive grant funding to help realize their projects.

Applications are open through 10/16. They are online only and are accessible via the Mass Cultural Council's website at <https://massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/fairhaven/>.

Email Beth Ann Gallagher at: culturalcouncil@fairhaven-ma.gov.

FHS Theatre

The Fairhaven High School Theatre Company is thrilled to announce the production of this year's fall play,

Almost Maine. You will be invited to travel to Almost, Maine — a place that's so far north, it's almost not in the United States. And it's not quite a town, because its residents never got around to getting organized. So it almost doesn't exist. One cold, clear, winter night, as the northern lights hover in the star-filled sky above, the residents find themselves falling in and out of love in unexpected and hilarious ways. Knees are bruised. Hearts are broken. But the bruises heal, and the hearts mend — almost — in this delightful midwinter night's dream.

Almost Maine will be performed at Fairhaven High School on October 23rd and 24th at 7PM, with a matinee on October 25th at 2PM. There will be no Sunday performance. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors and students, and \$10 for FHS students and staff (ID required at the door). Tickets are general admission and can be purchased online at https://gofan.co/app/school/MA22183_1. For more information, please email mrebello@fairhavenps.net.

Pumpkin Party

Our First Ever Pumpkin Party & Costume Swap from the Millicent Library and the Fairhaven Sustainability Committee, Wed., 10/8, 4-6 p.m., 45 Center St., Fairhaven.

Paint a pumpkin, pick out a costume!

This event is BYOP (bring your own pumpkin). Great for all ages! We will supply the carving materials.

Register for any/all of these events by visiting our website: millicentlibrary.org/events-calendar

Walking Tour

Riverside Cemetery Walking Tour, Sun., 10/5, 1 p.m., 274 Main Street, Fairhaven, MA. FREE. The North Fairhaven Improvement Association is sponsoring a free walking tour of the historic Riverside Cemetery on Sunday, October 5, at 1:00 p.m.

Created in 1850 by Warren Delano II, the grandfather of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Riverside is one of the most beautiful rural-style cemeteries in Massachusetts. The cemetery is celebrating its 175th anniversary this year. The tour, guided by former Fairhaven Director of Tourism Chris Richard, visits the

final resting places of some of the town's most prominent people. You'll also see lovely examples of early tombstone art as you walk along the beautifully landscaped paths.

Tour includes walking on uneven ground. Wear comfortable shoes. Note: Parking is allowed on the roads inside the cemetery, however two or three car lengths must be left open directly inside the gate. There are no public restrooms in the cemetery. There is no need to sign up in advance.

Light-A-Light

The Fairhaven High School Alumni Association annual Light-A-Light Campaign is on!

Our beautiful Colorado Blue Spruce Tree on the west lawn of the high school will be lit in early November with one bulb for every \$10 donation being represented by a light on the tree.

To make a donation, you can mail a check made out to "FHS Alumni" to: FHS Alumni, P.O. Box 6, Fairhaven, MA 02719. Donations can also be made electronically using either Venmo: @FHS-AlumniAssociation or Zelle using: FHSAlumni12@gmail.com
Visit <https://fairhavenalumni.org/news/>

SAVE THE DATES:

Gold Buying Event

Sat., 10/11, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., 10/12, 9 a.m.-noon. Top prices for "Unwanted Gold & Silver Jewelry" in any condition, Silver Flatware, Tea Sets, Coins & more!! Find out what your items are worth and sell, if you want to. See ad on back cover.

Bake Sale

St. Joseph Church, 74 Spring St., Fairhaven, side entrance. Sat., 10/12, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sun., 10/13, 7 a.m. to noon Sales & Donations are welcome before & after all Masses. We also have, great books for sale.

All Inclusive Fair

The Fairhaven Commission on Disability and Fairhaven Belonging Committee are hosting an all abilities vendor fair Fall For All at the Fairhaven Recreation Center and Council on Aging, 10/12, 10am-3pm.

The fair will feature unified sports activities, live demonstrations and local town organizations.

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Food Truck Fest

Food Truck Festivals of America is bringing the ultimate food truck and craft beverage experience to New Bedford for the 9th time! Join us on Sat., 10/4, from noon to 5 p.m. at Fort Tabor, 1000 S. Rodney French Blvd.

Prepare your taste buds for some of the area's hottest food trucks, serving up mouthwatering fan favorites like Portuguese and American culinary fusion, loaded Fries and Tater Tots with all the toppings, sizzling BBQ, bold Indian food, and creamy Hard & Soft serve ice cream.

Featuring more than 20 food trucks; nine breweries; local artisans selling handmade goods and delicious packaged food; DJ all day. Visit <https://www.foodtruckfestivalsofamerica.com/>

Pumpkin Parade

On Thurs., 10/9, from 4pm to 7pm, the grounds of the Rotch-Jones-Duff House, 396 County St., NB, will become overrun with a bustling display of Jack-O-Lanterns. At 5:30pm, Cool Banana Wig will perform, bringing kids up to play a variety of unique homemade instruments built by the band. Refreshments will be served. Inside the mansion, children can participate in a scavenger hunt with prizes. FREE. The suggested donation is \$5 for individuals and \$10 for families. This event is also part of AHA night.

The RJD is looking for pumpkin carvers for this event! Interested carvers who want their pumpkin masterpieces a part of the display should email Lauren Pothier at lpothier@rjdmuseum.org. Carvers are asked to provide their own pumpkin and deliver finished pieces to the Museum by noon on 10/9.

Shine On FR

Fri., 10/17, 6 p.m., Merrill's on the Waterfront, 36 Homer's Wharf, New Bedford.

Featuring Dueling Pianos by Felix and Fingers

- Multi-room event with varied activities including photo booth, wine pull, silent auction, sweet treat bar
- For guests 21+
- General admission \$85 includes 1 drink ticket, satisfying appetizers,

dessert and entertainment

- At Merrill's on the Waterfront, offering a variety of indoor and outdoor spaces overlooking the New Bedford waterfront
- Parking on site with additional parking across the street at Fairfield Inn

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE: Every sponsorship gift offsets the cost of the event to ensure more funds go directly to patient care

Ticket available now! Visit: communitynurse.com/shineon

Museum Tour

There are two more chances in 2025 to enjoy a one-hour tour of the Rotch-Jones-Duff House, 396 County St., NB. Free with the price of admission, guests will receive a guided tour of the 1834 Greek revival mansion from one of the museum's docents. The museum holds a mix of exhibits and period rooms, chronicling 150 years of New Bedford history. The two special tour dates are on Saturday, October 4th and Saturday, November 1st, both at 2pm.

The RJD has many free and reduced-price options for admissions. Visit rjdmuseum.org or call 508-997-1401.

Science Cafe

Tues., 10/7, from 6-8 p.m., The Last Round Bar & Grille, 908 Purchase St., New Bedford. Open to everyone. Free, save for the beer!

Our guest, Robert Hellström, Ph.D., Professor of Geography at Bridgewater State University, will discuss "Micro-Climates; How Climate Change is Influencing Local Weather."

Micro-climates are very localized climates impacted by landscapes. In our own region, think of less predictable wind patterns over Buzzards Bay or more frequent coastal flooding. Understanding micro-climates and how they impact our resources, Rob feels, is more important than understanding climate change itself, because such knowledge can help a community be at-the-ready for weather anomalies and remain resilient.

Over the years, Rob, equipped with instruments, has gained evidence of significant micro-climates. His snow stakes and soil temperature probes at Harvard Forest gave proof of warming

and decreased snowfall. His weather stations in the Peruvian Andes show climate changing more rapidly at higher elevations. He's currently helping students at New Bedford's Youth Opportunities Unlimited to install a weather station. Turning youth into citizen scientists can excite local action, he believes.

Free parking in rear of building.

Art Grants

New Bedford Creative has officially opened applications for its 2026 grant cycle, inviting residents to turn bold ideas into reality.

The two signature programs, Art is Everywhere! and Wicked Cool Places, provide opportunities for artists, entrepreneurs, community groups, and organizations to shape the city's cultural future. Both initiatives are designed to strengthen New Bedford's identity while empowering residents to enliven neighborhoods, inspire growth, and foster community pride.

New Bedford Creative is looking forward to receiving a wide range of new proposals through its online application portal at NewBedfordCreative.org, each offering fresh contributions to the city's ongoing evolution into one of the nation's most vibrant creative destinations. The deadline to apply is Monday, November 10, 2025, by 11:59pm.

Applications must be submitted through New Bedford Creative's online portal by 11:59pm on Nov. 10. For details and to apply, visit www.newbedfordcreative.org.

AHA! Night

This October, get groovy and creative during AHA! Night: Tunes, Treats, & Creative Streets on Thursday, October 9th!

Monster Moves: A Costume Dance Party in the Streets! Pull out a costume from Halloweens gone by and hit the streets! For this month's AHA! Moment, New Moon Dance Party is turning Carter's parking lot into a downtown dance floor under the October sky! Additional activities include scavenger hunt at the Whaling Museum; Halloween themed crafts; Jack-o-Lantern display, and more.

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

HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

Touch a Truck

On October 4th the Old Colony RVTHS PTO will hold its annual Fall Family Festival & Touch a Truck at 476 North Ave in Rochester from 11:00 to 3:00. There will be music by DJ Zavey Entertainment!

We will also have the Carabiners Climbing Tower, giant inflatables, the National Guard inflatable obstacle course, laser tag, henna & character artists, reiki & tarot card readings, food trucks, vendors, raffle baskets, bake sale table + more!! New this year..... cooking demonstrations with professional chefs!! Bring the whole family for a wonderful multi-community event!

Auditions

The Marion Art Center is auditioning actors for the holiday play, *Greetings!*, written by Tom Dudzickand directed by Jennifer Palmer. The auditions will be held at the MAC's Anne Braitmayer Webb Theater located at 80 Pleasant St., Marion, MA on Saturday, October 4th from 12 noon - 2:00 pm and on Sunday, October 5th from 2-4 pm in the MAC's upstairs gallery.

There are five performance dates for this special show - December 5, 6, 12, 13 and 14th, with evening performances starting at 7:30 pm and the Sunday matinee curtain at 2 pm.

The show features Andy, his sweet Catholic mother, sour Catholic father and an intellectually disabled younger brother, Mickey. When Andy brings his Jewish atheist fiancé to meet his family on Christmas Eve, his worst fears about family blow-ups are realized. But when Mickey, whose entire vocabulary has been limited to "oh boy" and "wow" suddenly spouts the word "Greetings!" the entire family's belief system is turned upside down. For it seems an ancient, wise and witty spirit who is set upon healing the family's wounds has borrowed Mickey's body!

More information is available at www.marionartcenter.org/auditions

Annual Meeting & Turnip Talk

Westport Historical Society Annual Meeting, Westport's Macomber Turnip: Fact, Fiction, and Future.

Wed., 10/8, 5 p.m., Westport Grange, 931 Main Road, Westport MA

Please join us for our annual meeting and program!

The annual meeting will include the presentation of the annual history award to Blair Walker in recognition of her many creative exhibitions highlighting the lives of Westport women through the centuries, and for ensuring the ongoing care and interpretation of the historical society's collection of clothing in all its forms, from bloomers to wedding gowns!

The short business meeting will be followed by a program examining the origin and local lore of Westport's very own heirloom vegetable, the Macomber Turnip. Join seed saver Bill Braun and other local farmers to explore the origins of the turnip. Who were some of the local turnip seed keepers and growers? What is the best way to cook the Macomber turnip? Can the Macomber turnip grow beyond the borders of Westport? Is there truth to the farming tradition "wait 'til they've been hit by three frosts to get the best flavor." Bring along your favorite turnip recipes and any turnip stories! Suggested donation \$5.

Co-sponsored by the Westport Historical Society and the Westport Grange. Westport Historical Society, 508-636-6011, westporthistory@westporthistory.net; www.wpthistory.org

Rowers Wanted

Onset Rowing Challenge, Sat., 10/25, Onset Beach, Onset Ave., Onset, MA. Reg. 9:30-10:30 a.m.; briefing at 11 a.m.; race starts at 11:30 a.m.

Calling all kayaks, canoes, row boats, dories, gigs and whaleboats. This is a 3-mile row that will take you out to the far side of Wickets Island, past Onset Island and returning following the channel.

The cost is \$40/person if received on or before 10/4, and \$45 if received after 10/4.

Lunch and a free gift provided.

Visit www.buzzardsbayrowing.org

SAVE THE DATES: Howl-o-ween Pet Parade

Salem has gone to the dogs (and cats and lizards and bunnies), and we

couldn't be happier about it!

Salem Main Streets is pleased to present the annual Howl-o-ween Pet Parade! The 2025 pet parade will return to Derby Wharf on Sat., 10/11, at 11 am, with the usual fun, costumes, and contest with prizes. NEW this year - parade will be lead by the winner of Salem's very first Dog Mayor race!

We ask all parade participants to register online in advance if possible (registration to go live in September). We request a small donation of \$5 for Salem residents and \$10 for non-residents. All proceeds go directly to Salem Main Streets in support of special community programs (like this one!) all year round.

Visit <https://www.salemmainstreets.org/events/howl-o-ween-pet-parade>

No Kings Day

Join the Mattapoisett Democratic Town Committee for a joyful protest as we stand up for democracy, equality, and the will of the people!

Sat., 10/18, Noon-3 p.m. Start: Corners of North St & Route 6, Mattapoisett.

Program Schedule: 12:00 PM, Protest kicks off with music and community spirit; 1:30 PM, March to Shipyard Park; 1:45 PM, Speaking program begins at Shipyard Park; 3:00 PM, Program concludes

Featured Speakers: Bryan Winter - Iraqi War Veteran & MA 50501 Veteran Representative; Andy Pollock - President, South Coast LGBTQ+ Network

Bring your signs, your friends, and your voices! Let's raise them together for democracy — with music, joy, and determination.

Visit <https://mattdems.org/>

Marine Corps 250

Celebrate 250 years of Marine Corps history, Thurs., 11/6, 5:30 p.m., Freetown VFW, 89 Middleboro Road., Freetown. Casual dress.

Buffet dinner, cash bar, cake-cutting ceremony. The event is open to Marines and FMC Personnel only. Please do not bring any family or friends.

Hosted by New Bedford Marine Corps League Detachment #1399.

Must RSVP by 10/27, to Ron at 774-930-0539, or Tom at 508-817-6955.



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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: 10/8, Providence Place Mall; 10/15, Wrentham Village; 10/22, Hyannis Mall, Trader Joe's; 10/29, Warwick 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.

Medicare Open Enrollment

Medicare Open Enrollment is your chance to review your coverage for 2026. You can review changes to your current plan options for 2026 and learn if you qualify for programs to help with your out-of-pocket costs.

Call the Fairhaven Council on Aging at 508-979-4029 to schedule a SHINE appointment for your free, confidential and unbiased assistance with your Medicare options.

Movie Mondays

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. All shows at 12:15.

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.

Oct. 6. *The Thursday Murder Club.* Whodunit, Comedy, Crime, Mystery, Thriller. Four irresponsible retirees spend their time solving cold case murders for fun, but their casual sleuthing takes a thrilling turn when they find themselves with a real whodunit on their hands.

Oct. 20. *The Witches.* Dark Fantasy, Folk Horror, Comedy, Family, Mystical. A young boy stumbles onto a witch convention and must stop them, even after has been turned into a mouse.

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>

SpookyFest

Get Ready for a Spook-tacular Time! Join us for SpookyFest, a howling good time filled with: Pumpkin Carving Contest: Bring your spookiest creation to be judged for prizes! Refreshments: Enjoy some wickedly delicious treats! Halloween Games: Test your skills and have a blast! Spooky Crafts: Get creative and make some ghostly goodies! Glow-in-the-Dark Fun: Shine bright in the dark with our glow-tastic activities! Don't miss out on the spookiest fun in town! Mark your calendars for SpookyFest and get ready for a night of thrills and chills! All ages welcome. **This is a free event!! Oct 17th 6pm-8pm**

Family Bingo Night

We're excited to announce Fairhaven Recreation's upcoming Free Family Bingo Night! Join us for an evening of fun, pizza, punch, and exciting prizes on November 6th, from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM. We kindly ask that you bring a canned item for

donation to the Good Shepherd's Pantry, if possible. Please register online, in person, or by phone to secure your spot. We look forward to seeing you there!

Cardio Mix

Tuesdays: Tabata Tuesday** We will exercise for 20 seconds, rest for 10 seconds, and repeat this pattern in a four-minute block before changing exercises. * **Thursdays: Lift and Stretch** The first half of the class will focus on lifting weights, followed by a stretching segment in the second half. Please bring weights, a mat, and a bottle of water to each class. No class Oct 14th

Ages: 16–adult Cost: \$55 Member/\$80 Non Member Start Date: Sept 30th End Date: Dec 12th Day: Tues. & Thurs. Instructor: Julie Baiardi Time: 6:45–7:45PM

Tumble Time

TUMBLE TIME PRE-K FREE PLAY All ages Fairhaven Recreation Center Tue, Beginning Sep 9, 10:30 AM–12:00 PM Free! No registration or member-

ship required. Come Join us for a time of pre-k family free play! We will place mats, tunnels, playhouses, rockers, trikes, stilts and more out in the gym for families with little ones to enjoy. There is no instructional time, just free play. This program will not run during school vacation weeks.

Home Alone

This course is perfect for children who spend short periods alone at home. It equips them with essential accident prevention and first aid skills, as well as techniques for safely answering doors and telephones, and fire prevention strategies. Engaging and interactive, the class uses a mix of discussion, video presentations, and role-playing to ensure a fun and educational experience. Designed for children ages 8–11, this program will give them the confidence and knowledge to stay safe. Participants are encouraged to bring a snack. Instructor: Beth Oleson. Oct 6th 5:30–7:30pm Members \$40. Non-members \$45.

Recipe of the Week

Pumpkin Whoopie Pies

Cookie Dough:

2 cups packed brown sugar
1 cup vegetable oil
1 1/2 c solid pack pumpkin puree
2 large eggs
3 cups all-purpose flour
1 1/2 tbsps ground cinnamon
1/2 tablespoon ground ginger
1/2 tablespoon ground cloves
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Whoopie Pie Filling:

1 egg white
2 tablespoons milk
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 c confectioners' sugar, divided
3/4 cup shortening

Preheat oven to 350°

To make the cookie dough:
Combine brown sugar and oil in a bowl. Mix in pumpkin and eggs, beating well.

Add flour, cinnamon, ginger, cloves, salt, baking powder, baking soda, and vanilla together into a separate bowl. Fold dry ingredients into wet ingredients and mix to combine.

Drop dough by heaping teaspoons onto the prepared baking sheets.

Bake in the preheated oven for 10 to 12 minutes. Let cookies cool while you make the filling.

To make the whoopie pie filling:
Beat egg white in a bowl and mix in milk, vanilla, then 1 cup confectioners' sugar. Mix well then beat in shortening and remaining 1 cup confectioners' sugar. Beat until light and fluffy.

Assemble once cookies are cool. Make sandwiches from two cookies filled with whoopie pie filling.



shelter. Before the shelter allowed potential adoptive families to visit her, they required the family to sign a statement stating that they had reviewed the dog's bio and picture.

Ava said that the first three families that came to meet her decided not to adopt her. One family said they wanted a non-allergenic dog with hair. Ava has fur. Another family wanted a small dog. Ava weighs 55 pounds. The third family wanted a low-energy dog. Ava is still a puppy.

She wondered if these humans knew how to read and understood what it felt like for her to be rejected. She said, if she were Queen of the dog kingdom, dogs would also review a family's application to decide if they were the kind of family they thought might be worthy of them.

Dexter

Dear Dexter,
In a fair world,

Dear Frankie

The Choice

Dear Frankie,
Ava, a new dog at the park, trotted over and introduced herself. She told us she had been adopted from a foster home. The foster family she had lived with

both the dog and the family would have a choice. Humans, however, don't score high on social justice for their own kind, let alone for dogs.

I keep thinking about you getting your hopes up before meeting each of these families, only to be told they didn't want you. No dog should have to suffer rejection over and over again like this.

In defense of the shelters, they do try to match a dog with an adoptive family. For example, if a dog is not child-friendly or dog-friendly, they wouldn't place it with a family that has small children or one that already has dogs. They also wouldn't put a large, energetic puppy with someone who was confined to a wheelchair.

Regarding the human's ability to read, the average adult in America reads at a fifth-grade level. Fifth graders are ten years old. So, if the dog's bio had big words and long, complicated sentences, the adoptive family might not understand what they had read.

Another possibility is that the

FRANKIE: cont'd on page 17



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Letters to page 18

GOP Meeting Was Respectful

After reading Mr. Grossman's letter and your published reaction to it, I accepted the Fairhaven GOP invitation to their Sept. 16 meeting. It was nothing if not respectful! It did start with a prayer and Pledge of Allegiance, and if anyone were to find it objectionable, they needn't have accepted the invitation.

They did take objection to Mr. Grossman's comments, particularly as he had taken advantage of their hospitality, eaten their food, and left right afterwards. Frankly, I too found it offensive behavior.

Several candidates offered their platforms, and I would have liked to question them, but given how roiled the waters had become, it risked being interpreted as two meetings in a row crashed by disrupters. A pity and missed opportunity as I would have liked to ask one of the candidates who specifically stated he was running on "Charlie Kirk's platform" if: a) He fully understood it, and b) Whether he could tell me where, as a non-Christian, I would fit

in given that Kirk's platform espouses a Christian Nation. It might have led to a meaningful exchange, but it didn't happen. The moment wasn't right then and more's the pity.

Ernie Nounou, Fairhaven & New York

What's in a Name?

My wife and I belong to our town-sponsored fitness center. Several years ago, there was a friendly older gentleman named Ray who also attended. If he was there when we went, he'd always be smiling from ear to ear; and when he wasn't exercising on one of the pieces of equipment, he'd be greeting someone by their first name. We're convinced that if there was a "mayoral election" at the gym back then, Ray would have received all the votes.

In my earlier years in business, there were two very successful people whom I was privileged to know and at some point, informally interviewed about the secret to their success. One was Sue Wong, who owned a Chinese Restaurant called the Cathay Temple. The other was Manny Gomes, who owned Manny's Gas and Service Station. Both told me

the same thing. It was not about what seemed most obvious — the best Chinese food or the highest-octane gasoline — it was about a working relationship with people and purposefully calling them by name.

These examples serve as evidence of the influence and success in "bothering" to know someone by name. A book by Franklin Graham, entitled, *The Name*, brings this concept and process to the greatest focus. The name he talks about in his book is Jesus Christ — the one name that is a lightning rod because it represents the division of life between good and evil, God and Satan, light and darkness, righteousness and sin, and heaven and hell.

Isn't it amazing how so many people these days are quick to dismiss, defame, or take the name of Jesus Christ in vain? Sadly, it borders on the politically correct thing to do. Before we join those ranks and the eternal consequences associated with such foolishness, we need to know what God's word says. The Bible says there is no other name for

LETTERS: cont'd on page 18



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Riverside Cemetery turns turns 175

By Beth David
Editor

Approximately 60 people showed up to celebrate the 175th anniversary of Riverside Cemetery in Fairhaven on Saturday, 9/27/25. The garden-style cemetery was created by Warren Delano II during the height of prosperity and growth in New Bedford and Fairhaven. Featured speaker was his direct descendent, Frederic Grant, who is a trustee of the Cemetery.

Mr. Grant ran through the history of the cemetery, paying special attention to the three generations of Reids who were superintendents for a combined 94 years.

He shared memories of the different Reids he knew, and shared a bit about his famous family.

But, first, he extolled the beauty of Riverside, and Nasketucket Cemetery, which is also part of the organization.

He said the beauty of the grounds is not accidental, and includes variations in landscape, trees, shrubbery, walls, styles of monuments and structures.

"All of this was designed, some elements planned as early as 1850, but the great part of the triumph we know and enjoy was conceived and executed in gradual steps since then," said Mr. Grant, adding a few words about the "joyful spirit of three generations of the Reid family."

He also noted the tomb architects, and landscape architects.

"We experience fruits of the vision and the hard work of so many who loved this site before we were born," said Mr. Grant.

He took the crowd through the years, starting with the horse and buggy days, the addition of land, the "receiving tomb" where bodies were held in winter until the ground thawed, the greenhouse that added revenue, and so much more.

Mr. Grant recounted Norman Reid telling of his memories of the hurricane of 1938 and the damage it did to the cemetery. All the trees had to be cleared by hand and hauled away by horses.

He also recounted stories of Hay Reid and Peter Reid.

"Riverside owes so much of its appearance and its soul to these three faithful Reids. We honor and miss them all," said Mr. Grant.

He also recounted the process for building the crematorium, which was "no simple matter for an institution with scant funds."

He segued into a memory of the Delano Homestead and mused about why Fairhaven does not celebrate more President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, "...a President whose soul came out of this earth. The everyman aspect of FDR, a critical part of his personality, is a legitimate child of the Town of Fairhaven. Not patrician Dutchess County."

He then got back to the business of the cemetery, noting that the



mortgage was paid off early because the crematorium was a success. They had a mortgage burning party.

The crematorium's success, he said, is helping the "horse and buggy institution we all love to gradually modernize."

"Our commitment to continuing to provide caring individual service to community members without regard to faith or background at hours of greatest need is steadfast," said Mr. Grant. "Here modernization is not an end in itself but rather is in service to the trust vested in us by generations of lot holders and their families."

Mr. Grant said Riverside and Nasketucket are still "modest

RIVERSIDE: cont'd next page



TOP: Frederic Grant, Jr., great, great, great grandson of Warren Delano, whose son, Warren Delano II, created Riverside Cemetery, speaks to the crowd during the celebration of the Riverside Cemetery's 175th anniversary on 9/27/25 in Fairhaven. LEFT: The Fairhaven Village Militia stands at the ready, while Fairhaven Veteran Services Officer, Mike Jenney, holds the American flag, and The Concordia Brass Quartet plays a musical selection during the celebration. RIGHT: Cathy Melanson, Trustee Chair of the Anniversary Committee, speaks to the crowd. *Photos by Beth David.*

RIVERSIDE: cont'd from previous page

institutions” that watch every penny.

“We are grateful for the support we receive, in cash or in kind,” he said and named off more people to thank.

“A few of so many names, a partial recent and inadequate listing. So many great friends, so many great caring families,” he said.

He closed by noting that the cemeteries have been important parts of many families’ lives since 1850.

“It has been a very important part of the lives and memories of my father’s mother’s family, who were immediately involved in helping others start this cherished institution,” said Mr. Grant. “It has been a great honor to have held the position of President, and to continue as Chair of the Board of Trustees, as the first member of my family to have held those posts since my great great grandfather Warren I accepted those positions when Riverside was founded 175 years ago in 1850.”

Cathy Melanson, the chairperson of the 175th committee, said “it was a journey” to get to the completion of the program.

She said Riverside is more than just a cemetery. It is a place of beauty, a place of peace.

“We love Riverside,” she said.

Mark Jeffrey, President RiverSide Cemetery & Crematorium, welcomed the crowd and thanked the late Peter Reid, the last of the three generations of Reids who served as superin-

tendents for a combined 94 years.

Mr. Jeffrey said the loss of Peter Reid, who died this year, was “significant,” but his legacy will live on through the work he did at the cemetery.

Mr. Jeffrey thanked a number of people, saying they are an “amazing group of workers and friends.”

He also formally announced the creation of two new funds to help maintain the cemetery: the Beautification Fund, and the gravestone Restoration Fund.

He announced his family made a \$10,000 donation to the restoration fund. He said his mother was “so touched” by the idea of the fund that will restore and maintain gravestones.

In closing, he said, “Life is not a dress rehearsal. If you love someone, tell them so.”

How will you be remembered, he said, when the curtain comes down?

“Life is not a dress rehearsal,” he repeated. “It is our one and only performance.”

After the program, Ms. Melanson invited everyone to join the tour of the cemetery.

“There’s a lot of history here, and you’re going to learn about it,” she said.

Buddy Gibson was there joining Tracy Travers, a trustee of the cemetery and a member of the 175th committee. Mr. Gibson said his wife is buried at Riverside.



“It’s a beautiful, beautiful place here,” said Mr. Gibson.

Other speakers included The Rev. Paul Wheeler, who gave the invocation; Select Board Chairperson, Charles Murphy, who presented a proclamation from the board; State Representative Mark Sylvia, who presented a proclamation from the Mass. House of Representatives; and Fr. Maiki Kamauoha, sscc, who gave the benediction.

The program also included: several musical selections by The Concordia Brass Quartet; the Fairhaven Village Militia, which fired the small cannon; and presentation of colors by armed forces color guard and Fairhaven Veterans Services Officer, Mike Jenney.

Refreshments and snacks included cookies and birthday cake.



TOP: Emcee Mark Jeffrey, President Riverside Cemetery & Crematorium, addresses the crowd during the celebration of the Riverside Cemetery’s 175th anniversary on 9/27/25 in Fairhaven. ABOVE LEFT: L-R: Fairhaven Select Board Chairperson, Charles Murphy; State Representative, Mark Sylvia; and Riverside Cemetery Superintendent, Cody Gibney; listen to the speechmaking. ABOVE RIGHT: State Representative, Mark Sylvia, speaks to the crowd. *Photos by Beth David.*

Fairhaven holds annual town auction



The Town of Fairhaven held its annual town auction on 9/20/25, selling surplus property from a variety of town departments. Fairhaven Public Works Department Garage Foreperson, John Gagliardi, was the Auctioneer. The town made \$1,492.00 on property ranging from office supplies, office equipment and furniture, to bicycles. ABOVE LEFT: Young Thomas David eyes the photographer while checking out the bicycles available at the Fairhaven annual town auction on 9/20/25. RIGHT: Outboard motors are lined up, ready to be bid on, at the Fairhaven annual town auction on 9/20/25. *Photos courtesy of Anthony David.*

NFIA Marketplace wraps up Season 1

From NFIA Marketplace Substack Column by Chris Richard, Market Manager

September 27, 2025, on a beautiful Saturday, we wrapped up our first season of the North Fairhaven Open Air Market.

Thank you to the 175+ different vendors who participated throughout the summer. Thank you to all the customers who visited and shopped. Thank you to the BPW for letting the North Fairhaven Improvement Association use the space at Livesey Park. Thanks to Josh Crabb, Manny Souza, and the park department crews for keeping the grounds looking good. Thanks to the

Fairhaven Health Department for the food permitting. Thanks to Anne Morton Smith for bringing tables and chairs each week. Thanks to the North Fairhaven neighbors who welcomed this new event.

We look forward to seeing you again on Saturday, May 23, 2026, when we open our second season. Stay tuned.

Subscribe to North Fairhaven Open Air Market at <https://northfairhavenmarket.substack.com> or email NorthFairhavenMarket@gmail.com for free

to receive new posts and support my work.



The North Fairhaven Improvement Association's Open Air Market wrapped up its inaugural season on 9/27/25. *Photo courtesy of Chris Richard.*





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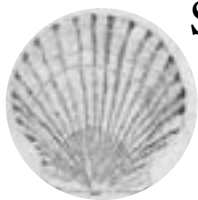


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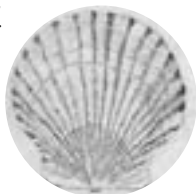
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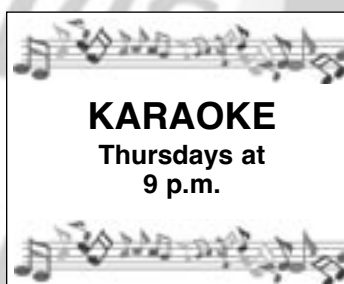
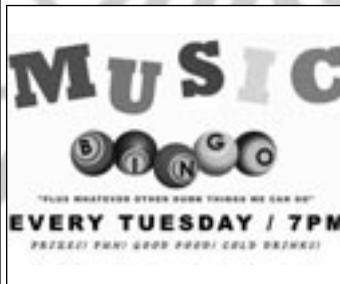


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SUSTAIN: cont'd from page 4

measures before these projects really make an impact.

Fairhaven is a community that values its neighborhoods, its history, and its livability. If we take steps today, we can ensure that residents are not forced to endure years of unnecessary hardship tomorrow.

To hear more about this, join the Fairhaven Sustainability Committee during our monthly committee meetings. Have your voice heard with your concerns, ideas, and solutions.

Find meeting dates on the town's website: <https://fairhaven-ma.gov> or call the Town Clerk's office, 508-979-4023, Ext. 3

FRANKIE: cont'd from page 10

families are so excited when a shelter approves them to see a dog, they sign without having read the paperwork or gloss over it.

Best, Frankie

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

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YARD/GARAGE SALES

YARD SALE Saturday, October 4th, 9 to 3, 182 Cottonwood Street, West Island. Furniture, tools, clothes, military items and stuff.

GREEN: cont'd from page 19

to hose down the plantings, providing an essential sub-in for Lantern watering stalwart Brian Messier. Jenney also recognized Kenny's Garden Center for answering the call by sending a gold mine of much-needed mulch.

The Green Lanterns say this is just the beginning. With energy, goodwill, and a growing list of ideas, the group plans to take on more projects around town — always with the same blend of hard work and community pride.

For now, Veterans Memorial Park stands as a living testament: not only to the service of veterans, but also to what can happen when Fairhaven neighbors come together with a shared purpose.

Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Board of Appeals

Tues., 10/7, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Board of Health

Wed., 10/8, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

Board of Public Works

Mon., 10/6, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

Commission on Disability

Thurs., 10/9, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Conservation Commission

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

Finance Committee

Thurs., 10/2, Arsene St., 6:30 p.m.

Historical Commission

Tues., 10/7, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Marine Resources Comm

Thurs., 10/2, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Planning Board

Tues., 10/14, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 10/15, FHS Media Lib., 6:30 p.m.

Select Board

Tues., 10/14, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Acushnet

Board of Appeals

Tues., 10/21, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Planning Board

Thurs., 10/2, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Selectboard

Tues., 10/7, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

(Special) Town Meeting

Mon., 10/27, Ford MS, 7 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	Oct. 2025		HIGH a.m. p.m.		LOW a.m. p.m.
Thursday	2	0433	1701	0944	2232
Friday	3	0533	1756	1052	2326
Saturday	4	0621	1842	1152	---
Sunday	5	0703	1923	0010	1241
Monday	6	0744	2006	0052*	1327*
Tuesday	7	0828	2052	0135*	1417*
Wednesday	8	0915	2141	0222*	1509*
Thursday	9	1005	2231	0312*	1558*
Friday	10	1057	2324	0400*	1644*
Saturday	11	1152	---	0446*	1731
Sunday	12	0023	1254	0535	1832
Monday	13	0129	1359	0639	2058
Tuesday	14	0232	1459	0849	2227

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

Public Hearings/Legal Notices

NOTE: All legal notices are available on the Neighb News website, www.NeighbNews.com, under the "Legal Notices" tab on the top of the main page. Legal ads are also available at <http://masspublicnotices.org>, search under "Fairhaven Neighborhood News"

Acushnet Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearings

The Zoning Board of Appeals is hereby giving notice that a meeting will be held by the Board on Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at 6:30 PM. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room located at 122 Main Street, Acushnet, MA 02743.

• **Case #2025.06.17B (Continued)** A case of Three Kings Marine, LLC for property located on 42 South

Main Street, Map 15, Lot 271 & Sivigny Street, Map 15, Lot 270. The Petitioner is appealing a letter from the Building Commissioner to Cease and Desist all activity on the premise.

• **Case #2025.09.16C (Continued)** A case of Sheryl Casmira for property located at Tobey Street, Map 2, Lot 35.47. On 05/30/2007, Lot 47 was reduced to a non-buildable lot due to wetlands. A variance is required pursuant to 3.3.1.E.(1), minimum lot area and upland requirements. The Applicant is looking to change lot 47 to buildable.

• **Case #2025.10.21A** A case of Leo E. Cusson for

property located at 249 Hathaway Road, Map 12, Lot 15E-1. The Petitioner seeks a variance proposing to demolish the garage which has existed since at least 1971 to construct a 2 bedroom house on a lot which is greater in size than most of the developed properties in the surrounding neighborhoods.

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

FNN, 10/2/25, 10/9/25

LETTERS: cont'd from page 11

us to rely upon to be saved, that we should pray to the Heavenly Father in the name of Jesus, and one day every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.

So, what's in a name? If we're referring to the real Jesus Christ, the anointed One and Son of the living God, then it is the name that profoundly transcends earthly elections or business success. It's the name that simply means everything!

Steven J. Bouley, Fairhaven

Freedom vs. Socialism and Marxists

The fundamental difference between our form of government, which is a republic Democracy, and Socialism or Marxism and Communism is democracy. The rights of the individual as defined in the Constitution as the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are God given rights and the responsibility of the government is to

ensure they are protected. Where in Socialism and Communism, the individual is totally subservient to the state and has no rights. In reality a few individuals seize control and there is no freedom.

The way these Marxists operate is to lie, promise and deceive the people that if they are in power you will have utopia on earth. State run grocery stores will ensure everyone can get enough food, but they will control who and how much. Everyone gets free or subsidized housing. They'll say where you can live. In other words, they'll have complete control over your life.

Presently, many of our universities have professors and teachers who embrace this philosophy and indoctrinate their students with this philosophy. We are not perfect. Our treatment of the Indians was shameful at times. We had slavery. I don't think enough can be said about how costly it was to abolish slavery. Over 600,000 soldiers died in the Civil

War to abolish it.

As I said, we are not perfect. However, at no point in history have so many people enjoyed so much freedom and opportunity. No other government has adopted the concept that individual rights are paramount.

Consider the Bill of Rights, like the first amendment which guarantees the freedom of speech, press, religion and the right to peacefully petition the government, the right to bear arms and others as enshrined in our Bill of Rights. These rights were secured by the men and women who fought and died for them, starting with the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, World War I, WWII and up until today.

My biggest concern for today is that far too many people have lost sight of this. They have become too materialistic and self-centered. Other concerns such as homes, cars, vacations, sports, you name it, have replaced God, family and Country.

John Pond, Fairhaven

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Green Lanterns finish the job at Veterans Park

Press Release

On Saturday, September 6, a burst of community spirit brought new life to Fairhaven's Veterans Memorial Park. In just about two hours, 15 volunteers weeded, replanted, and mulched six of the park's garden beds, leaving the grounds refreshed and ready to welcome visitors.

The project was the latest initiative of the Green Lanterns, a newly formed gardening group created by a mix of Fairhaven newcomers and longtime residents who share a simple mission: celebrate the town's coastal beauty, honor its rich history and citizens, and roll up their sleeves to get things done.

"It's so nice to be part of a group of like-minded people who just want to help beautify the town, dive in and tackle the areas that need it without delay," said Lantern Lauren Grant, pausing during the morning's work to admire the revitalized beds.

The Green Lanterns partnered with the Town of Fairhaven's Office of Veterans Service for the project, ensuring that the gardens surrounding the memorials reflect the

care and respect owed to those they honor.

"It was a combined effort between the Green Lanterns and the Veterans Office, and I have to say it looks beautiful. We thank the Green Lanterns team for their excellent work," said Michael Jenney, Veterans Service Officer.

The group hauled mulch, trimmed overgrown plantings, and tucked in new flowers, working side by side with local citizens, town officials, and even a student volunteer from the Northeast Maritime Institute.

Beyond the fresh soil and blossoms, the day carried a sense of camaraderie. Neighbors who had never met before found themselves digging side by side, swapping stories about what drew them to Fairhaven



The group of Green Lanterns volunteers from the September 6, 2025, work day, pose for a photo at Fairhaven's Veterans Memorial Park on Route 6. *Submitted photo.*

and what makes them proud to call it home.

Other town supporters gifted plants from their own gardens — including Mario Isidoro and Michael Hevey, with offerings of ornamental grasses and irises. David Darmofal and the North Fairhaven Improvement Association donated funds for additional blooms, and Bruce Gratz rolled in with a mobile watering setup

GREEN: cont'd on page 17



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