



# Fairhaven

# Neighborhood News

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



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with a big voice!

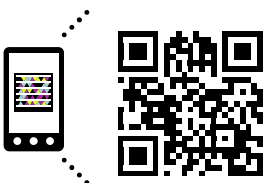
Volume 20, Issue 46 • November 20, 2025

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

## Event highlights services for Veterans



US Army Veteran, Chris "Ace" Azevedo, of the New Bedford Veterans Center, gives a smile for the camera as he staffs the table at the Veterans Support Fair at the Fairhaven Recreation Center on 11/13/25. See page 12 for story Photo by Beth David.



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### First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

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

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

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

# From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —  
A day late and many dollars short.

Lots and lots of happenings for you this week. I thought we'd get a jump on some of the holiday events coming up to give you a little more time to plan. See pages 3, 5, 20, 21, and couple of other spots, too.

The Old Colony vote failed. I got results from four of the five towns, with Acushnet being a resounding "no." See page 4 for that.

Our cover story is about a veterans support event held in Fairhaven. It hooked up veterans with services they might need or might be able to get for free. See page 12 for that.

On page 13, the Fairhaven Sustainability committee has pointed out a few places to experience nature before it gets too cold. I know, I know, these last couple of days have been pretty icy. But it's bound to warm up a bit before winter really hits.

So the Big Buffoon lost his fight against the Epstein files. What a joke. As if those neanderthals give a you-know-what about women and girls. They just think that someone they hate will be in there. And then, that's all the will focus on, no matter what the Big Buffoon did.

You're in a cult. Get help.

Meanwhile, there was not a single arrest from the Chicago-jump-out-of-helicopters nightmare to scare the bejeebers out of people in the middle of the night that. Dozens of people traumatized and not one single arrest. Yeah, not one. Those guys need to go.

Meanwhile, maybe we found a little bit of community and humanity again. Not just protecting our immigrant neighbors (go Chicago!) but helping people who need food. I don't care if they are immigrants or not. We are the richest country in the world. No one should be hungry here. No one. And if you think it's okay to take critical help from people who need it, you're in the cult and you need to get help.

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

Volume 20, Issue 46

Thursday, November 20, 2025

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Editor: Beth David

Published weekly on Thursday by  
Fairhaven Neighborhood News, LLC, at  
166 Dogwood Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719

NeighbNews@comcast.net

www.NeighbNews.com

508-979-5593 • Fax: 508-991-5580

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## Support local journalism

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# Holiday events starting to ramp up

By Beth David  
Editor

Holiday events, from Santa visits to singalongs, to holiday fairs and bazaars, are starting to ramp up for the season. Here are some events coming up soon. But stay tuned, more are scheduled for the weeks again.

ALSO, see the Happenings pages on 5, 20, 21.

## Blue Devil Craft Fair

Fifth Annual Blue Devil Craft Fair. Nov 22, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Fairhaven High School, 12 Huttleston Ave, Fairhaven, MA 02719, USA

All proceeds support the FHS Classes of 2026 & 2027 and FHS PTO.

Join the FHS PTO for a fun-filled craft and vendor fair featuring over 100 local crafters and vendors spread throughout the gym, library, cafeteria, and small cafeteria!

Enjoy delicious food, exciting raffles, and a 50/50 drawing. Plus, Texas Roadhouse will be on-site selling gift cards, with 10% of proceeds benefiting the event.

## Christmas Fair

Annual Christmas Fair, Sat., 11/22,

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 16 Temple Place, Fairhaven. Featuring creations by the Women's Fellowship. Shop a variety of reasonably price gift giving items from handcrafted wooden sleighs, Viking ships, and Christmas decorations to uniquely knitted hats, scarves, socks, bay and adult sweaters of all sizes, microwaveable bowl cozies and more.

Come and enjoy lunch featuring Norwegian open-faced sandwiches and pastries as well as local scallops, chowder, lobster rolls, and fried chicken. ALL are welcome!

## Food & Clothing Drive

On Sat., 11/22, from 12-2pm the community can show support by donating food or warm clothing at Fairhaven High School. Cars may drive up in front of the school and drop off donations.

Donations will be distributed to local food pantries and Gifts to Give. This event is co-sponsored by local democratic committees and Indivisible SouthCoast. People may come to help collect or show support

for this effort, make signs and rally for this important event.

We need more food for SNAP and warm clothing. For more information contact [ann.richard@gmail.com](mailto:ann.richard@gmail.com)

## Open Studios

Hatch Street Studios is proud to present its highly anticipated Fall Open Studios Weekend, taking place Saturday, November 22, and Sunday, November 23, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day, at 88 and 90 Hatch St, New Bedford.

Enjoy live music, delicious food and unique vendors and sponsors. More than 75 artists and makers will open their studio doors, offering an intimate glimpse into the spaces where creativity and craftsmanship thrive. There's truly no better way to celebrate the end of the fall season than by immersing yourself in good art, great company, and the inspiring energy of our artist community.

For more information, please visit <http://www.hatchstreetstudios.com> or contact us via email at [hatchstreetevents@gmail.com](mailto:hatchstreetevents@gmail.com).

EVENTS: cont'd on page 4



**UU Society of Fairhaven  
welcomes all!**

**10 a.m. Nov. 23: "Transgender  
Day of Remembrance"**

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

Open discussion AA meetings  
at 7 p.m. Wednesdays, Parish House

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## EVENTS: cont'd from page 3

### Chamber Series

QUINTESSENTIALS. Nov.22 & 23, 3 PM. Warmth, grace, and joy—experience music at its most perfect.

Born in 1804, Louise Farrenc was a true French Romantic whose works are earning – again – a huge following. Her unique Piano Quintet (1839), utilizing string bass, reflects and complements Schubert's immortal "Trout" Quintet, a work employing the same musical forces. Firebrand American composer Jessie Montgomery proves that less is more with her delightful ode to friendship, Duo for Violin and Cello.

- Sat., 11/22, 3 p.m., St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church, 124 Front Street, Marion
- Sun., 11/23, 3 p.m., St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 351 Elm Street, South Dartmouth

Tickets \$35. Tickets must be purchased in advance and will not be available at the door. Get tickets at <https://tinyurl.com/mr3ycpyb>

### Help Decorate Benoit Square: Volunteers Needed!

It's that time of year again!! The

North Fairhaven Improvement Association will be decorating our wonderful Benoit Square on Saturday, 11/29, at 9:00 a.m., 267 Adams St. (at the merger of Adams and Main Street at Howland Road).

If you have the following, please bring them with you: drill, step ladder, mallet.

Many hands make light work. Please join us.

The official lighting of the square will be on Friday, 12/5.

### Bike Run and Toy Drive

The Acushnet Lions Club and the Rivers' End Cafe, proudly sponsor their annual Toy & Food Drive/Motorcycle Run on Sun., 11/30. \$10 or unwrapped toy donation (no stuffed animals please), and non-perishable food donation gets you in.

Now accepting food and toys at the Rivers End Cafe, 7 Tarkiln Hill Road, Acushnet. Starts at 10 a.m. at the River's End Cafe. Kickstands up at noon for ride to the Shepherd's Pantry in Acushnet. Then back to the Rivers End.

See pages 5, 20, 21 for more happenings.

## Old Colony vote

By Beth David  
Editor

The bid to build a new \$288 million complex failed for Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School (OC) in a vote across all five member communities on 11/18/25.

Acushnet voters sent a resounding "no" 1459 to 479, with 22% of registered voters voting.

Carver, Lakeville, Mattapoisett, and Rochester also voted, with a simple majority of the aggregate vote required for the school to be able to move forward.

In a statement on Facebook, OC acknowledged that the vote failed, thanked supporters and said in the coming months, "We will reflect on the feedback and consider our next steps."

In Carver, just under 5.5% of registered voters turned out, with 284 voting no and 246 voting yes.

In Lakeville, the vote was 478 against and 424 in favor, with 9.2% of voters turnout out.

The ballot question also failed in Rochester, by a vote of 689 to 503.

OC: cont'd on page 17

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# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## Tree Group

Trees in Fairhaven will be having a meeting on Monday November 24 at 6:30 PM at the Unitarian Church Parish House on Center st Fairhaven MA. Anyone interested in the town's tree canopy is invited to attend.

## Leaf Collection

This year's curbside leaf collection will be from November 17th through December 12th. Leaves must be placed at the curb by 7 a.m.

Leaves will be picked up the day after your regular trash day. After a holiday collection will be one day later. Place leaves in boxes, barrels or paper leaf bags.

NO PLASTIC BAGS. DO NOT USE YOUR TRASH OR RECYCLE BIN (ABC CARTS). Limit of 25 per stop. Brush and vines are NOT accepted. Contact the Board of Public Works office, 508-979-4031 for further information.

Visit <https://fairhaven-ma.gov/2025-leaf-collection/>

## Deck the Doors

The Fairhaven Historical Society presents the 2025 Holiday Deck the Door Contest. See ad on back cover for details.

## Young Vendors

CALLING ALL OUR CREATIVE KIDS & YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS! Mark your calendar for December 7, 12-2p 227 Huttleston Ave Fairhaven MA for our Youth Vendor Fair.

Artists-Creatives-Crafters-Bakers-Food-Entertainment-Characters wanted!

Support a fun youth led event with your participation! It is with community support events like this succeed. Let's show our next generation what entrepreneurship and community support look like!

Sign Up Registration at <https://gqr.sh/rHGH> Questions and additional information: Jess Fidalgo [jessfidalgo121313@gmail.com](mailto:jessfidalgo121313@gmail.com)

## Children's Books Wanted

At this year's Old Tyme Holiday, the Friends of the Millicent Library will be helping Santa by giving free books to children 12 and under. If you have children's books that you are no

longer reading, please consider contributing them. We especially need board books and picture books.

Donations may be brought to the circulation desk at the library, or to 19 Judson Drive until Dec. 11.

## Tax Aide Volunteers

Tax season is still months away, but the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program is already busy recruiting volunteers for the 2026 tax season. AARP is the largest of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs in the nation, both IRS-supported initiatives.

Volunteer tax preparers work directly with clients to prepare and file returns. No previous tax experience is required because volunteers receive extensive training, culminating in IRS certification.

Learn more and apply at [aarpfoundation.org/TaxaideVolunteer](http://aarpfoundation.org/TaxaideVolunteer)

## SAVE THE DATES:

### Turkey Trot

Join us on Thanksgiving morning to walk, trot, jog, or run the beautiful streets of Fairhaven! You'll enjoy fresh air, friends, family, exercise, and knowing that your participation is helping support those in need.

Register at <https://www.fairhaventurkeytrot.net>, \$30 until 17:45 a.m. on 11/27.

Proceeds from this event support Shepherd's Pantry Food Pantry. Please bring non-perishable food items. Additional donations made support Shepherd's Pantry.

Race Start: Thurs., 11/27, at 8:00am at Green Street near Cushman Park

Learn more and sign up at <https://www.fairhaventurkeytrot.net>

### Santa Bowl/Register NOW

Join us for the 2nd Annual Fairhaven Acushnet Youth Athletics Santa Bowl! Sat., 12/6, Livesey Park, 15 Glenhaven Avenue, Fairhaven, MA 02719.

Get ready for a day filled with football, fun, and festive cheer, plus special appearances from Santa (and maybe even The Grinch!) Put together your group of 10: name yourselves, dress up like elves, or wear your ugly Christmas sweaters and join us. \$100/team (teams of 10)

We are partnering with the United

Way so please bring non-perishables or an unwrapped, new toy so we can spread holiday cheer in the community!

Register at <https://form.jotform.com/253056857701157>

### FHA Crafters Fair

Join us for the third annual Resident Crafters Holiday Fair at Fairhaven Housing Authority on Sat., 12/6, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at Oxford Terrace Community Room, 275 Main St. Featuring hand made items from our residents, including a baked goods table. Free door prizes, complimentary popcorn, hot chocolate, coffee, tea, apple cider.

Come out and start or finish your Christmas shopping.

### Benoit Square Lighting & Singalong

Join the North Fairhaven Improvement Association for the annual lighting of Benoit Square, on Fri., 12/5, at 6:30 p.m., at the intersection of Main St. and Howland Rd., Fairhaven.

The lights will be turned on for the season and we will sing Christmas carols with Mrs. Claus and Friends. And you can even see Santa! Don't miss this fun kickoff to the holiday season with hot cocoa and Santa's elves.

## Winter Market

At the Fairhaven Recreation Center, 227 Huttleston Ave., Fairhaven, the second Saturday of each month from Nov.-April, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Start date, 11/8. Featuring produce, baked goods, breads, and a rotation of local vendors.

Contact Jessica Fidalgo, [jessfidalgo121313@gmail.com](mailto:jessfidalgo121313@gmail.com) for more information.

## Young Vendors

CALLING ALL OUR CREATIVE KIDS & YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS! Mark your calendar for December 7, 12-2p 227 Huttleston Ave Fairhaven MA for our Youth Vendor Fair.

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Sign Up Registration at <https://gqr.sh/rHGH> Questions and additional information: Jess Fidalgo [jessfidalgo121313@gmail.com](mailto:jessfidalgo121313@gmail.com)

# Marsh Island cleanup week nets 18,000 pounds of debris

*From Operation Clean Sweep  
Published Materials*

The cleanup of Marsh Island in Fairhaven is one for the record books. We have never seen so much ocean debris along one shoreline within the New Bedford/Fairhaven Inner harbor. Or anywhere along the South Coast.

We needed to bring in the best

environmental groups, organizations and some of the best seasoned volunteers we could recruit.

Fortunately, it all came together.

A total 213 very focused volunteers removed more than 27,400 pounds of trash and debris, including 12,390 pounds of trash and 15,057 pounds of wood along the shoreline and on 11

Acres of land around Marsh Island.

The cleanup took place over four days: November 1, 3, 4, 5.

For information on how you can volunteer for future cleanups, visit Operation Clean Sweep at <https://operationcleansweep.net/>, email [russ@smgnewengland.com](mailto:russ@smgnewengland.com), call 508-989-9049, or find them on Facebook.




ABOVE LEFT: Volunteers spot the camera while cleaning up debris on Marsh Island in Fairhaven during a massive cleanup the first week of November, 2025, that netted more than 27,400 pounds of trash and debris. ABOVE RIGHT: Taber Academy students pose for the camera. BELOW LEFT: Harrison moves a monster of a couch off the shore. BELOW RIGHT: Tangled lines and netting are piled up after being pulled off the shore. BOTTOM LEFT: The shore is littered with trash and debris. BOTTOM RIGHT: A volunteer weighs a bag of trash and debris. *Photos courtesy of Operation Clean Sweep.*





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Visit our website at: [http://fairhavenma.virtualtownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA\\_COA/index](http://fairhavenma.virtualtownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA_COA/index)

## Supportive Social Day Program

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

## Mall Trips

Reservations accepted for mall trips at beginning the 15th of the prior month. There is a \$6 charge unless otherwise noted. Please bring exact amount. The van leaves the Fairhaven Senior Center promptly at 9: 11/26, Providence Place Mall; 12/3, Tiverton Casino; 12/10, Tiverton Casino; 12/17, 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.

## 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 you with your out-of-pocket costs. The Fairhaven COA is fully booked. If you are a Fairhaven resident you may call to be placed on a waiting list. Please call the Middleborough COA for assistance with open enrollment, 508-946-2490.

## 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.

**Nov. 24. *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society.*** Romance, Period Drama & War. In the aftermath of World War II, a writer forms an unexpected bond with the residents of Guernsey Island when she decides to write a book about their experiences during the war. Then she learns the secret they are afraid to reveal.

## Walking Group

Walk with friends at the Rec Center gym next door from 12–12:30 p.m., Monday–Friday. FREE. So lace up those sneakers and let's get our steps in together!

## Legal Help

Free 15-minute consultation with Atty. Suzanne Seguin. Call the center for info, 508-979-4029.

South Coastal Counties Legal Services, advocates for older adults, 508-979-7150.

# Fairhaven Recreation Center

Open Mon-Thurs, 6 a.m.–8 p.m.; Fri., 6 a.m.–6 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.–2 p.m.; Closed Sunday • 227 Huttleston Ave, 508-993-9269 <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/recreation-department>

## Winter Brochure is Out

Come by to grab a copy or visit our Facebook page (link above).

## Kool Kids Thanksgiving

Grades K-5 Fairhaven Elementary Schools hold half-days the week of Thanksgiving. While school is out, kids will enjoy an afternoon filled with a variety of activities including active indoor/outdoor games, arts and STEAM activities, team-building challenges and more. Make the most of these two afternoons by joining us at the recreation center! Transportation from the elementary schools to the recreation center is provided.

Fairhaven Recreation Center Recreation Staff Mon + Tue, Nov 24-25, 12:00 PM-4:00 PM Member: \$30 | Non-Member: \$35

## Paint Night

*Go With The Flow Paint Night* Join us for a relaxing and creative evening as we go with the flow! Explore your

artistic side with guidance from Susan Drayton of SOCO Art Labs. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned painter, this class is all about having fun and letting your creativity take shape. Bring a friend, paint, and unwind and let your imagination free! Spaces are limited! Register early to save your spot! Check out Susan's creations at SOCO Art Labs online! Instructor Susan Drayton Fairhaven Recreation Center Thursdays Jan 15 at 6PM – 8PM Cost: \$30 per member \$35 non-member— all supplies included

## KoolKid Christmas

Get ready for a jolly good time at the Kool Kids Christmas Vacation program! Designed for children in kindergarten through 6th grade, each day is packed with festive fun and exciting activities. From active recreation games, team building activities, STEAM challenges, art projects and more, there's some-

thing for everyone. Your child will make new friends and create lasting memories. Remember to pack a lunch, snacks, and a reusable water bottle. Sneakers and comfy, active clothes are a must each day to ensure your child is ready for all the fun! Dec 26, 29, 30 8am-4pm \$30 per day for members, \$35 a day for non members.

## Shop & Drop

Give yourself the gift of time this holiday season! Drop the kids off for an evening of festive fun while you get your last-minute shopping (or relaxing!) done. Saturday, December 20, 2025 4:00 PM – 9:00 PM Fairhaven Recreation Center 227 Huttleston Ave, Fairhaven, MA Ages: 5–12 What's Included: Holiday crafts & games, pizza dinner & snacks Movie on the big screen. Fun with Fairhaven Rec staff in a safe, festive environment! Cost: Members: \$35 Non-Members: \$40 Sibling Discount: \$5 off each additional child

## Recipe of the Week

### Easiest Cornbread with Honey Butter

*For the Honey Butter:*

1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter,  
at room temperature  
2 Tbsp. pure honey  
Kosher salt

*For the Cornbread:*

1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter,  
melted and cooled slightly,  
plus more for pan  
1 cup all-purpose flour, spooned  
and leveled  
1 cup cornmeal  
1 tsp. baking powder  
1/2 tsp. baking soda  
1/2 tsp. kosher salt  
1 cup buttermilk  
2 large eggs  
3 Tbsp. pure honey or sugar

**Make the honey butter:** Stir together butter, honey, and salt in a bowl with a fork until well combined. Cover and refrigerate until firm, at least 30 minutes.

**Make the cornbread:** Preheat oven to 350°F. Butter a 10-inch cast-iron skillet.

Whisk together cornmeal, flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, and salt in a bowl.

Whisk together butter, buttermilk, eggs, and honey in a separate bowl. Add wet ingredients to dry ingredients and stir just until combined. Transfer to prepared pan.

Bake until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, 22 to 25 minutes. Cool in pan 10 minutes. Serve warm with honey butter alongside.

*From countryliving.com*



she agreed to go for a shorter time than usual.

On the way back, my mother became concerned about the sounds she heard coming from the woods and asked, "Could that be an animal following us?"

Just to be funny, I said, "No need to fear; if it is, I will slay the beast," and took off into the woods.

I didn't get very far when a coyote leaped out at me from behind a tree. I was terrified and high-tailed it back to my mom as fast as I could. But so did the coyote, who bit her on the leg before it ran off.

The doctor at the emergency room told my mom that, if the animal isn't available to be tested for rabies, the person injured has to undergo a series of shots in the event the animal was infected.

Every time my mom comes home from getting another shot, she looks

## Dear Frankie

### Respecting the Feelings of Others

*Dear Frankie,*

My mom has to get a series of painful shots because I acted like a jerk. When she said she didn't want to go for a walk in the woods, I pestered her until

miserable. I've apologized, but what good is that? It doesn't make the procedure any less painful.

*Patch*

*Dear Patch,*

Sometimes it takes an unfortunate event to learn a lesson.

You are not responsible for the coyote bite. If the coyote was intent on attacking either you or your mom, there was nothing you could have done to outrun or stop it from doing so.

Where you did err was when you didn't take your mother's concern seriously. She was upset and looked to you to alleviate her fears. Instead of listening to her worries, you turned the situation into a joke.

If you want to make it up to your mom, you first have to decide that you will never make fun of anyone when they are upset or worried. If you can commit to that, tell your mom you have learned your lesson, promise her it will never happen again, and ask for her forgiveness.

I think she will be proud of you for taking responsibility for your actions and for discovering the importance of respecting others' feelings.

*Best, Frankie*

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*Comments and letters can be sent to Frankie at [dearfrankiecolumn@gmail.com](mailto:dearfrankiecolumn@gmail.com). The Fairhaven Neighborhood News publishes the Dear Frankie column. To receive a free online sub-*

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

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# Boys & Girls Club FR features Pemberton; honors Oliveira

*Press Release*

Boys & Girls Club of Greater New Bedford serves up the 27th Annual Steak & Burger Dinner, their popular fundraiser that connects Club members with Club supporters, on Monday, November 24, at 5:30 p.m. at Century House in Acushnet. This year's event will feature keynote speaker/author Steve Pemberton and will honor New Bedford School Committee member Bruce Oliveira. To purchase tickets, from \$50, visit [www.bgcnewbedford.org/steak-burger-dinner](http://www.bgcnewbedford.org/steak-burger-dinner).

The annual Steak & Burger Dinner fundraiser is a unique opportunity for corporate sponsors and community leaders to get acquainted with the Boys & Girls Club members who benefit from their generosity. The event is hosted by past Board member Celeste Paleologos and is generously sponsored by Bank 5, Mechanics Cooperative Bank and Southcoast Health.

Keynote Steve Pemberton is a bestselling author, philanthropist, acclaimed speaker, and a senior level executive for Monster.com, Walgreens Boots Alliance, and Workhuman. His story is about defying seemingly insurmountable odds to become a trail-blazing corporate executive, enlightened diversity leader, visionary youth advocate, and acclaimed speaker.

His best-selling memoir, *A Chance in the World*, recounts his triumphant

life journey and drive to become a man of resilience, determination and vision. Now an upcoming major motion picture, *A Chance in the World* further amplifies Pemberton's highly motivational messages: believe in your dreams, rise above obstacles, create opportunities for others, and most of all, persevere.

This year Bruce Oliveira will receive the esteemed Robert Chadwick Memorial Community Service Award for his contributions

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[It] is a unique opportunity  
for corporate sponsors  
and community leaders to  
get acquainted with the  
Boys & Girls Club members  
who benefit from their  
generosity.

---

to improving the lives of young people and the region. Oliveira has been involved with New Bedford youth for more than 30 years, including several years on the New Bedford School Committee. He has also served as the President of the NBHS Gridiron Club, treasurer of the Friendly Sons of St Patrick, and district treasurer for GNB Regional Vocational Technical High School,

among others. In 2019, while serving as New Bedford School Committee Vice Chair, Oliveira was named to Massachusetts All-State School Committee.

In addition to participating in the heartwarming event that supports youths who need it most, Steak & Burger Dinner attendees can also enter to win great prizes, which include tickets to a Celtics game, a dine-out package worth \$200, sports memorabilia and more, all donated by local businesses and individuals.

For 160 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA.org) has provided a safe place for kids and teens to learn and grow. Clubs offer caring adult mentors, fun and friendship, and high-impact youth development programs on a daily basis during critical non-school hours. Boys & Girls Clubs programming promotes academic success, good character and leadership, and healthy lifestyles.

Over 5,000 Clubs serve over 3.6 million young people through Club membership and community outreach. Clubs are located in cities, towns, public housing and on Native lands throughout the country, and serve military families in BGCA-affiliated Youth Centers on U.S. military installations worldwide. National headquarters are located in Atlanta.

The local club is located at 166 Jenney St., New Bedford, MA 02744. Call 508-992-8011 or visit <https://bgcnewbedford.org> to learn more.

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# Event highlights services for Veterans

By Beth David  
Editor

The Fairhaven Veterans Services Office, Fairhaven Police & Fire Departments, and Bristol County Outreach held a veterans support event on Thursday, 11/13/25, to connect veterans with a variety of services available from local, state, and national organizations.

Participants included: Local Veterans Services Officers; The Veterans Transition House; The Vet Center; The Veterans Association of Bristol County and Veterans Activities Programs; Seven Hills; Stepping Stone Peer-to-Peer; Community Counseling & Southeastern Mass. Public Health Collaborative (blood pressure clinic).

US Navy veteran Ray Landry took home some of the freebies that the

organizations were handing out. He said he thanked the groups that were there for the work they do to help veterans.

"So many people are struggling with addiction," said Mr. Landry. "It's sad, but we've got good people, generous with their knowledge."

Fairhaven Police Department Lt. Kevin Swain said the turnout was steady most of the morning, with a number of veterans getting connected with services.

He said it was nice to see the various agencies coming together to help veterans.

Michael Bouvier told Itzel Chavez of Cornerstone Caregiving about the Fairhaven Police Department's support person, who accompanies them on calls involving mental health or addiction issues. The position,

however, is just part time.

"It's not enough," he said.

Cornerstone provides home care through the Veterans Administration. Ms. Chavez said it is one of the benefits that many veterans do not even know is available.

If you are a veteran and want to learn more about the benefits you have earned by your service, contact your city or town's Veterans Service Officer. Every municipality in Massachusetts is required to have a VSO.

In Fairhaven, contact VSO Mike Jenney at 508-202-4603. The office is located at the Fairhaven Senior Center, 229 Huttleston Ave.

In Acushnet, contact Brad Fish, 508-998-0207. The office is located in town hall, 122 Main Street, and is open 19 hour a week, so call for hours.



ABOVE LEFT: US Marine Corps veteran, Louis Matos, staffs the Disabled American Veterans table at the Veterans Support Fair at the Fairhaven Recreation Center on 11/13/25. ABOVE RIGHT: L-R: Michaela Manzone, of AdCare Treatment Centers, and Jackie Maloney and Danny Martinez, of Steppingstone Peer-2-Peer, pose for the local free sheet. BELOW LEFT: Ashley Correia and Kristy MacMillan of the Southeastern Mass. Public Health Collaborative pose for the local free sheet. BELOW RIGHT: Itzel Chavez, of Cornerstone Caregiving, listens while Michael Bouvier explains the Fairhaven Police Department's Community Outreach Program. *Photos by Beth David.*



# Explore Fairhaven This Fall

By Tim Garcia

## Fairhaven Sustainability Committee

As the Fairhaven Sustainability Committee, we're always looking for ways to help our community connect with the natural beauty that surrounds us. And right now — during these crisp, quiet days leading up to Thanksgiving — is one of the very best times to step outside and truly enjoy what Fairhaven has to offer.

Late fall brings a special kind of charm to our local landscape. Leaves have mostly dropped, the summer overgrowth has thinned, and the cooler air makes outdoor exploring refreshing and comfortable. Before winter arrives and the snow settles in, we encourage residents to take advantage of this seasonal “sweet spot” and experience Fairhaven’s trails in a whole new way.

Many of you already enjoy our popular walking routes, and for good reason. The Phoenix Bike Path remains a community favorite, offering an easy, scenic stretch perfect for walking, jogging, or simply breathing in the crisp fall air. You’ll notice more open views this time of year, along with the last golden touches of autumn color.

The Nasketucket Bay State Reservation also shines in late November. With its sweeping salt marshes, subtle coastal colors, and peaceful wildlife activity, the area

becomes especially accessible as foliage clears. Fewer bugs, firmer paths, and wide-open vistas make this a fantastic destination for families and nature lovers alike.

For those looking to stay closer to the neighborhood, the Leroy Wood School Trail, New Boston Trail, and the Long Road trail provide a friendly, easy-to-navigate option. They’re ideal for families on the long holiday weekend or anyone looking to squeeze in a quick walk before the day gets busy.

But beyond the familiar trails lies one of our favorite parts of fall hiking: the discovery of hidden paths. When the leaves drop and the vines pull back, long-overlooked trails suddenly appear — small pathways between tree lines, forgotten farm roads, and wooded cut-throughs that are nearly invisible in summer. This is the perfect time to find new routes and rediscover parts of Fairhaven that often go unnoticed.

Take a drive or leisurely bike ride



down Sconticut Neck, West Island, Shaw Road, or the wooded areas off Mill Road, and you may spot narrow openings leading into natural pockets of town you’ve never explored. These informal trails offer quiet walks, small wildlife encounters, and a renewed appreciation for the town’s green spaces. We encourage residents to enjoy these areas respectfully — staying aware of private property — and to help us keep them clean and accessible for everyone.

As we head into the Thanksgiving holiday, we invite you to make time for a walk with family, friends, or neighbors. It’s a wonderful way to unwind, reconnect, and appreciate the environment we all share. Protecting Fairhaven’s natural spaces begins with enjoying them — and this season offers the perfect opportunity.

Bundle up, take a stroll, and let the beauty of late fall remind you why sustainability matters right here at home.

## How to Find Them

- The Nasketucket Bay State Reservation is in Mattapoisett, with a parking lot at 94 Brandt Island Rd. But you can access it from the Shaw Farm Trail off the Phoenix Bike Trail in Fairhaven, or the Mattapoisett Rail Trail.
- The Long Road Recreation area is off Long Road, between Adams Street and Alden Road.
- The Little Bay Extension of the bike path connects at Arsene Street and goes to Orchard Street
- The Leroy Wood School is at 60 Sconticut Neck Road
- New Boston Trail has a small gravel parking lot at 325 New Boston Rd., Fairhaven.



TOP: A Fairhaven resident enjoys a walk on a beautiful Fall Saturday on the Little Bay Extension of Fairhaven’s Phoenix Bike Trail. ABOVE: Ducks enjoy their time in the pond at the Long Road Water Basin/Recreation Area in Fairhaven on a recent fall day. *Photos courtesy of Tim Garcia.*



# Whaling Museum opening two new exhibits

## Press Release

The New Bedford Whaling Museum, 18 Johnny Cake Hill, NB, will debut two new exhibitions this December, *Forging Independence/Building a Nation* and *Ahab's Head: American Vengeance*, an installation by Heidi Whitman. These timely projects bridge past and present and prompt consideration of historical events and figures, and our contemporary moment.

"The Whaling Museum creates unique interdisciplinary exhibitions exploring diverse regional stories that remain relevant today," said Naomi Slipp, Douglas and Cynthia Crocker Endowed Chair for the chief curator, and director of museum learning at the New Bedford Whaling Museum. "While each shines a light on the past and our history, they also reflect on contemporary American experience and culture inviting visitors to draw connections between past and present."

**Forging Independence**, opening on December 1, as the 250th anniversary of the United States approaches, the exhibit examines pivotal events in the South Coast region of Mass.

during the American Revolution and afterward, spanning 1760 to 1830. Centered on regional milestones like the Boston Tea Party, Grey's Raid and the defense of Fort Phoenix, the burning of Bedford Village, and the Bombardment of Fairhaven, the exhibit frames each of them within larger narratives of statehood, citizenship, and nation-building.

The exhibition aims to present a more inclusive view of the early American experience; instead of focusing only on the founding fathers, it centers the voices of women, Indigenous people, immigrants, enslaved and free Black residents, and even Loyalists who resisted the idea of independence. The exhibit will become part of the Museum's permanent collection.

**Ahab's Head**, opening on December 13, and on view through May 13, 2026: a contemporary installation by Boston-area artist Heidi Whitman, the exhibit evokes the madness and dread of Captain Ahab from Herman Melville's 1851 epic American novel "Moby-Dick" as a lens on America's obsessions with violence. Whitman

suspends sculptural forms made of rope and fabric above wall-drawn whaling charts, along with weaponry from the Museum's collection and a new soundscape. The installation offers a meditation on violence in the world of "Moby-Dick" and beyond, forging connections with contemporary conversations about violence, obsession, and greed in American society.

"In March 2020, I reread 'Moby-Dick; or, the Whale', one chapter a day. The dread and obsession in this great novel of whaling and the ocean echoed how I felt at that time in the pandemic," said artist Heidi Whitman. "My installation, in referring to 'Moby-Dick', addresses the relentless American obsession with violence. The extraordinary chapter 'The Whiteness of the Whale,' particularly inspired this installation, and I use mapping as a device to describe America's narrative of past and present violence and greed."

The Museum is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit [www.whalingmuseum.org](http://www.whalingmuseum.org).

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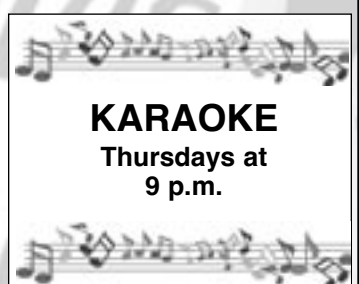


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OC: cont'd from page 4

Turnout percentage was not available.  
The results from Matapoissett were not available by press time.

FRANKIE: cont'd from page 10

scription, readers can email [neighbnews@comcast.net](mailto:neighbnews@comcast.net), request their name be added to the email list or visit [www.neighbnews.com](http://www.neighbnews.com) to read the paper online or to download the latest issue.

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## Upcoming Meetings

### Fairhaven

#### Board of Health

Thurs., 11/20, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

#### Board of Public Works

Mon, 12/1, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

#### Commission on Disability

Thurs., 11/20, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

#### Livable Streets

Thurs., 11/20, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

#### School Committee

Wed., 12/10, FHS Media Lib., 6:30 p.m.

#### Select Board

Mon., 11/24, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Acushnet

#### Conservation Comm.

Mon., 11/24, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

#### School Committee

Thurs., 11/20, Ford MS Library, 6 p.m.

#### Planning Board

Thurs., 11/20, Parting Ways, 6 p.m.

## TIDE TABLE

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

		Nov. 2025		HIGH a.m. p.m.		LOW a.m. p.m.
Thursday	20	0729	1952	0022	1323	
Friday	21	0808	2034	0055	1352	
Saturday	22	0849	2116	0134	1427	
Sunday	23	0931	2159	0218	1504	
Monday	24	1015	2246	0301	1541	
Tuesday	25	1103	2340	0343	1620	
Wednesday	26	1158	---	0429	1707	
Thursday	27	0036	1254	0526	1807	
Friday	28	0128	1346	0641	1911	
Saturday	29	0220	1441	0752	2008	
Sunday	30	0316	1543	0856	2103*	

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

## Support Local Journalism

Donate to the *Neighb News* through a PayPal link on our website: [www.neighbnews.com](http://www.neighbnews.com); or mail check to FNN, 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719.

Thank you for reading the  
*Neighb News*.



# Nemasket Group celebrates 40th with grand re-opening

## Press Release

The Nemasket Group marked a historic milestone on Tuesday, November 4, celebrating its 40th Anniversary alongside the grand re-opening of its newly renovated Day Services and community space. The event brought together local leaders, partners, and community members to honor the organization's legacy and chart its future.

Executive Director Jenny Duval opened the celebration by welcoming guests and highlighting three major achievements: four decades of empowering individuals and families, the unveiling of the revitalized program space, and the launch of a new three-year strategic plan.

"We are deeply grateful to everyone who joined us to celebrate this momentous occasion and for your continued support of our mission to empower individuals and create inclusive communities," Duval said.

The afternoon featured a ribbon-cutting ceremony, guided tours of the renovated facility, and the debut of a historical exhibit titled "History of The Nemasket Group," which chronicles the organization's journey and vision for the future.

Among the speakers was Nicole Cummings, a participant in The Nemasket Group's Day Services Job Paths Program, who delivered one of the most impactful moments of the day. Nicole shared her personal story of growth and inclusion, describing how Nemasket's programs have



The Nemasket Group's Executive Director, Jenny Duval, accompanied by DDS Regional Director Rick O'Meara; New Bedford DDS Area Director, Elizabeth Duffy; The Nemasket Group Board members & President, Jaqueline Einstein; the CEO of One Southcoast Chamber, Mike O'Sullivan; as well as other members of the Chamber; and most importantly, some of the individuals that the organization serves, cut the ribbon at the grand-reopening of its newly renovated space on 11/4/25. *Submitted photo.*

helped her build skills, gain confidence, and feel truly connected to her community. Her heartfelt remarks drew applause and reminded everyone why Nemasket's mission matters. Many attendees later said Nicole's speech was the highlight of the event — a powerful testament to the organization's work and the lives it touches.

Other speakers included Jacqueline Einstein, Board President, who reflected on Nemasket's enduring commitment and exciting new direction, and Rick O'Meara, Regional Director for the Department of Developmental Services, who praised the organization's positive impact across Greater New Bedford and beyond.

Local dignitaries also joined the

celebration, including State Representative Mark Sylvia and Michael O'Sullivan, President & CEO of One SouthCoast Chamber. The Chamber presented Nemasket with a Certificate of Special Recognition, while Rep. Sylvia delivered an official House of Representatives Citation commemorating the anniversary and re-opening.

The Nemasket Group's mission remains steadfast: to empower individuals and families of all abilities to live self-directed lives through innovative services, meaningful opportunities, and inclusive community connections.

As Duval noted, "We're excited for what lies ahead and remain committed to creating inclusive opportunities for all."



LEFT: Nicole Cummings, who is supported through The Nemasket Group's Job Paths Program, gives a heart-warming speech at the grand re-opening of its newly renovated space on 11/4/25. RIGHT: Attendees visit the brand-new "History of The Nemasket Group" wall, an interactive photo collection, featuring a button at the bottom that triggers a brief narration by their own Ross Hooley, who has been with the organization since Day 1 and is the Director of the organization's Building Futures Program. *Submitted photos.*

## Event remembers road traffic victims

On Sunday, 11/6/25, SouthCoast Places for People joined with South Coast Bikeway and community members from Dartmouth, New Bedford, Fairhaven, Acushnet, and Taunton to recognize those we've lost to road traffic. Groups met in all of these towns and then traveled to Pope's Island in New Bedford for a shared ceremony as part of the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims

We honored local victims of road traffic. We mourned with and showed support for their families and loved ones. And we committed to making our roads safer for everyone.

Thank you to State Reps Mark Sylvia and Chris Hendricks for participating and continuing to support the effort to make our roads safer and more human-centered throughout the South Coast.

If you'd like to be a part of this work, you can join the Route 6 Working Group, a group of residents from towns throughout the South Coast working on making Route 6 a safer, more productive corridor.

Whether you live nearby, care

about street safety, or just want to help, we'd love to hear from you.

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/3bkrvfep>

See our website for more about SouthCoast Places for People: <https://www.southcoastplacesforpeople.org/>

Andrew Romano, a Fairhaven Select Board member, also attended the event and posted on social media that he was there to remember several people.

"This is a cause that is close to my heart," wrote Mr. Romano. "In 2015, I lost two close friends, Meghan Sargent and Brooklyn Rodrigues in a Rt 6 accident. Now in 2025 those tragic memories and feelings of loss are higher than ever with the loss of my classmate, Mason Evich, and daughter of my friends, Marin Stackpole."

He added that not much has changed in 10 years.



L-R: State Representative Chris Hendricks; Will Gardner of Places for People; State Rep. Mark Sylvia; Andrew Romano, Fairhaven Select Board member, attend the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims on 11/16/25. Photo courtesy of Andrew Romano.

"If anything, drivers are going faster and distractions are higher than ever," he wrote. "I am grateful for Rep. Mark Sylvia and Rep. Chris Hendricks for their work on bringing this issue to the legislature. I will be sure to advocate anywhere I am able to. Sending love to the families of all the victims."



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# HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

## Nutcracker Tea

Sun., 11/23, 1-3 p.m., at The Country Club of New Bedford, 585 Slocum Rd., No. Dartmouth, by New Bedford Ballet. Email office@newbedfordballet.org or visit www.newbedfordballet.org. Seating is limited, so buy your tickets now. **Last call for ticket purchase is Saturday, November 15.** \$50 for adults and \$35 for children 12 and under. All proceeds support the non-profit New Bedford Ballet Foundation.

Escape to the Land of Sweets this holiday season by attending New Bedford Ballet's inaugural Nutcracker Tea at The Country Club of New Bedford. At this magical event, you will mingle with the Nutcracker dancers while enjoying a variety of sweet and savory treats. Children will create seasonal-themed crafts to take home in our craft room. Enter a raffle to win a Deluxe Class excursion for four on the Cape Cod Railway's Polar Express. Shop for Christmas items in our Holiday Shop, and prepare for New Bedford Ballet's performance of A New England Nutcracker at Keith Middle School on December 13.

## Turkey Shoot

Sun., 11/23, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at New Bedford Revolver and Rifle Club, 246 Bolton St., NB. \$1/lucky target/3 shots. All ages accepted, no license required. Door prices, auction, 50/50 raffle, food, fun prizes. All profits to be donated to local charities.

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

Visit <https://www.nbrrc.com/>. Shooting: 25 targets per relay, prizes awarded to the highest score per relay. So, there are prizes all day long. Children's sized rifles and ammunition supplied.

## Military Talk

Bridgewater State University professor Dr. Paul Robinson will discuss the 80th anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima Japan and, three days later, on Nagasaki Japan, Sun., 11/23, at 2 p.m., at the Fort Taber-Fort Rodman Military Museum and Veterans Memorial, 1000C South Rodney French Blvd., New Bedford.

Three days after the bomb dropped on Nagasaki, Japan surrendered. The destruction was on

a scale the world had never seen before.

The Japanese constitution, drafted during the U.S. occupation, renounces war as a means of settling disputes. Japan hasn't revised that pacifist charter but the space around it has changed. Topics that were politically untouchable a decade ago are now freely debated.

Learn more about this thought-provoking. The program is free and there is ample free parking. Those attending are encouraged to tour the museum after the presentation.

## Holiday Parking

The City's Holiday Parking Program is back in full swing this year, offering two hours of free parking at both the Elm Street Garage and the Zeiterion Garage Downtown, along with two hours of free parking at meters along Acushnet Avenue in the North End.

New Bedford's Holiday Parking Program is designed to encourage shopping, dining, and retail activity in the City's Downtown and North End business districts during the holiday season. Traditionally launched after Thanksgiving, the Program is starting early this year to encourage more people to explore the unique shops and restaurants Downtown and in the North End.

The program also features ticket forgiveness for holiday shoppers and diners. Anyone receiving a parking ticket for an expired meter Downtown can be forgiven by presenting a same-day sales receipt for at least \$20 from a Downtown merchant or restaurant.

Questions regarding the Holiday Parking Program can be directed to the Traffic Commission office at 508-961-3153.

## New Exhibit

The Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum, 396 County St., New Bedford, opens a new exhibition on November 20th America's 250th: Unraveling the Revolutionary Journey of William Rotch, Sr. In commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the exhibition features art from a new historical graphic novel "Quaker, Whaler, Traitor, Spy! The Trials of William Rotch" written by Dr. Sarah

Crabtree and illustrated by Melissa "Sawhand" Philley. The public is invited to an opening reception at The RJD on November 20th from 5pm to 7pm. The artist, Melissa Philley will speak about her work at 5:30pm. This event is free and open to the public.

About the Exhibition: Accused of treason four times by three governments in two revolutionary decades (1775 - 1795), William Rotch, Sr. suffered from the "with-us-or-against-us" political landscape of the late eighteenth century. A Quaker, he opposed wars for independence and empire. Yet he downplayed and even withheld key details from his story. Was William Rotch a Quaker? A whaler? A traitor? A spy? This exhibition invites the viewer to decide which label best describes him. Twenty prints of pages from the book will be on display on the Museum's second floor. The exhibition runs through August 2, 2026.

This exhibition and its related programming has been funded by Eastern National, a non-profit partner of the National Park Service. For more information, contact Lauren Pothier at [lpothier@rjdmuseum.org](mailto:lpothier@rjdmuseum.org) or call the museum at (508) 997-1401.

## SAVE THE DATES:

### Greens Market

The Garden Club of Buzzards Bay invites the community to celebrate the season at its Holiday Greens Market, held on Sat., 12/6, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum Coach House, located at 396 County Street, New Bedford.

Admission: Free; purchases include complimentary museum tour

For more information, visit the Garden Club of Buzzards Bay website: [www.gardenclubbuzzardsbay.org](http://www.gardenclubbuzzardsbay.org)

### Seussical the Musical

Stellar Studios is thrilled to present Seussical the Musical, a family-friendly celebration of imagination at heart, opening December 4th at the Steeple Playhouse, 159 William Street, New Bedford, MA.

Performances will run December 4th - 7th, with evening shows at 6:30 pm and matinees at 1:00 pm. Tickets (\$26-31) are available now at [www.stellarstudiostheater.com](http://www.stellarstudiostheater.com), by calling 401-374-8278, or by emailing [tickets@stellarstudiostheater.com](mailto:tickets@stellarstudiostheater.com)



## HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

### Plymouth Parade

The weekend of festivities has become a beloved holiday occasion as well as an important link to our nation's history and heritage. The celebration of Thanksgiving becomes history-brought-to-life as Pilgrims, Native Americans, Soldiers, Patriots, and Pioneers proudly climb out of the history books and onto the streets of Plymouth

Sat., Nov. 22, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Plymouth Waterfront and Downtown Area, Water Street, Main Street, Court Street, Plymouth, MA 02360

Visit <https://usathanksgiving.com/events/waterfront-activities/>

### La Salette's Lights

La Salette's Christmas Festival of Lights, 11/22/25 to 1/4/26, 5:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M., 47 Park Street, Attleboro, MA 02703

Starting from our Grand Opening on 11/22 all the way through 1/4/26, we will be lighting up the nights with one million sparkling lights, including 137 brand-new displays that will fill your heart with joy.

This year's theme, "Rejoice in Hope."

#### FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS:

- **International Crèche Museum:** The world's fourth-largest collection of nativity scenes. Open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- **Family Fun Activities:** Photos with Santa every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Don't miss the enchanting Ride to Bethlehem, delightful hayrides, and our classic carousel.
- **Live Concerts with Fr. Pat:** Every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

For more details, visit [www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org](http://www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org) or call 508-222-5410

### Nutcracker Tea

Sun., 11/23, 1-3 p.m., at The Country Club of New Bedford, 585 Slocum Rd., No. Dartmouth, by New Bedford Ballet. Email [office@newbedfordballet.org](mailto:office@newbedfordballet.org) or visit [www.newbedfordballet.org](http://www.newbedfordballet.org)

Seating is limited, so buy your tickets now. **Last call for ticket purchase is Sat., 11/15.** \$50 for adults and \$35 for children 12 and under. All proceeds support the non-profit New Bedford Ballet Foundation.

Escape to the Land of Sweets this

holiday season by attending New Bedford Ballet's inaugural Nutcracker Tea at The Country Club of New Bedford. At this magical event, you will mingle with the Nutcracker dancers while enjoying a variety of sweet and savory treats. Children will create seasonal-themed crafts to take home in our craft room. Enter a raffle to win a Deluxe Class excursion for four on the Cape Cod Railway's Polar Express. Shop for Christmas items in our Holiday Shop, and prepare for New Bedford Ballet's performance of A New England Nutcracker at Keith Middle School on December 13.

### ORR Presents

The Old Rochester Regional High School Drama Club will present "Murder Mystery at the Murder Mystery," a comic murder mystery with a storyline that features a play-within-a-play.

The comedic play will be performed at the Old Rochester Regional High School Auditorium, 135 Marion Road, Mattapoisett, at 7 p.m. on Nov. 20-22, as well as 2 p.m. on Nov. 23. General admission is \$12 per ticket, and \$10 for students and senior citizens. Tickets can be purchased by visiting Eventbrite: <https://tinyurl.com/2ty3722p>.

Set at the fictional "Murder Mystery Playhouse," this fast-paced and hilarious whodunit written by playwright Brian D. Taylor follows a troupe of actors rehearsing a delightfully corny production called "Putting A Little Southern On It."

But when the lights go down during a scene and come up on a very real corpse, the performers find themselves caught in a real-life mystery. As police investigators, critics and playwrights descend upon the chaos, the actors must replay the scene again and again — each time with another shocking "victim."

### Author Event

The public is invited to the book launch of Spinner Publications' newest book, *Shipwreck! Horseneck Point Lifesaving Station & South Coast Rescuers* taking place at Partners Village Store, 865 Main Road, Westport MA, Sat., 11/22, from 10am to 1pm. Author, Charles McGrath will discuss the book, sign copies and be available for a Q&A afterwards.

Shipwreck! tells the story of the brave sea rescuers who, at personal peril, risked their lives and heroically ventured out in open boats into treacherous waters and heavy windstorms to save shipwrecked sailors and survivors who were stranded at sea.

For more information, contact Spinner Publications at 508-994-4564, email [spinner@spinnerpub.com](mailto:spinner@spinnerpub.com) and visit [spinnerpub.com](http://spinnerpub.com).

### Small Works Shop

The Marion Art Center, 80 Pleasant St., Marion, announces its annual exhibit, Small Works + Holiday Shop. The show runs Nov. 22 — Dec. 19 with an opening reception scheduled on Sat., 11/22 from 3:00-5:00pm.

The exhibit will feature original works of art all under fourteen inches, plus a curated selection of handmade goods. Shop for yourself or find the perfect gifts for others! All pieces may be removed from the galleries upon purchase for this cash and carry show. Can't decide? We have gift certificates available. Visit [marionartcenter.org/on-exhibit](http://marionartcenter.org/on-exhibit).

### Spiritual Explorers

The Spiritual Explorers next meeting at the Acushnet Council on Aging, 59 1/2 So. Main St., will be on Mon., 11/24, 1:00 p.m. All are welcome to join this group who like to engage in discussing various readings and suggested topics that encourage spiritual insights. For November, discussion will be about Native Americans spiritual beliefs and practices. All who attend are encouraged to briefly share any information they have found on the topic. The meetings begin at 1:00 p.m. in the library room and end at 2:30

### SAVE THE DATES:

#### Library Director Reception

The Mattapoisett Free Public Library is pleased to announce a welcome reception for its new Library Director, Jenny Martin, on Dec. 2, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the library, 7 Barstow St. Light refreshments will be served. The public is invited to meet Ms. Martin, learn about the library's upcoming programs, and celebrate the library's continued commitment to serving the Mattapoisett community.

# 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 Select Board Public Hearings

Notice is hereby given that the Fairhaven Select Board will hold two Public Hearings on Monday, December 1, at the Town Hall, Banquet Room, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA.

- **6:30 p.m.** The purpose of the hearing will be to receive information and public comment on the proposed application for a Farmers Distillery Pouring License Permit. The name of the establishment is Fairhaven Meadows, LLC DBA Nasketucket Bay Vineyard, located at 237 New Boston Road, Fairhaven, MA 02719. Application submitted by: Nicholas Christy/Owner, 6 Terry Lane, East Wareham, MA 02571
- **6:35 p.m.** The purpose of this hearing is to consider an application submitted for a license to operate a CAR DEALER and a CAR REPAIR business at 37 Alden Road, Fairhaven, MA. Applicant is TAG FAIRHAVEN HOLDINGS LLC, dba TASCA HYUNDAI FAIRHAVEN. Robert F Tasca, Jr. President.

*Fairhaven Select Board:*

*Charles Murphy, Andrew Romano, Natalie Mello,  
Andrew Saunders, Keith Silvia  
FNN: 11/20/25*

## INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Town of Fairhaven invites sealed bids for  
Fairhaven Academy Accessibility & Exterior  
Renovations

The bid documents may be obtained electronically online at <https://fairhaven-ma.gov/beacon/> where they are publicly available as of Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at 8:00AM.

General Bids will be opened on December 10, 2025, at 3:00PM p.m. at the Select Board Office, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719. Bids will

immediately be opened publicly and read aloud. Each Bid must be accompanied by a bid security consisting of a BID BOND, CASH, or, CERTIFIED CHECK issued by a responsible bank or trust company in the amount of 5% of the bid price.

Pre-Bid Conference and Site Visit will be held at 10:00AM on December 3, 2025 at Fairhaven Academy, 141 Main Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719. It is imperative that all prospective bidders have a representative in attendance.

A performance bond in an amount equal to 100 percent of the total amount of the contract price with a surety company qualified to do business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will be required for the faithful performance of the contract as well as a labor and materials bond in an amount equal to 100 percent of the total contract price.

All bids for this project are subject to applicable public bidding laws of Massachusetts, including G.L. c.149, § 844A through 44H, as amended.

Attention is directed to the minimum wage rates to be paid as determined by the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development and the weekly payroll record submittal requirements under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 149, -Section 26 through 27D inclusive.

Selection of the contractor will be based upon bidder qualifications, including evidence of past performance in similar projects, and bid price. The contract will be awarded to the bidder deemed by the awarding authority to be the lowest responsible and eligible bidder.

The bidder agrees that its bid shall be good and may not be withdrawn for a period of 30 days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after the opening of the bids.

The Town reserves the right to waive any informalities, to accept or reject, in whole or in part any

or all bids, or take whatever other action may be deemed to be in the best interest of the Town.

*The Town of Fairhaven  
FNN 11/20/25*

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Knollmere Beach Association, Inc., Fairhaven, MA will close its private roads to public traffic on Monday, November 24, 2025.

*Board of Directors  
Knollmere Beach Association, Inc.  
11/20/25*

## Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearings

Tuesday December 2nd, 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=MXp0VWpKTFBkUmluT1pWSctiVzJjCQT09>

or call 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 941 1513

7952 Passcode: 361259

1. REF# ZBA-025-038: 14 Hawthorne Street. Map 22, Lot 217. Applicant and Owner seeks a Special Permit for an in-home office for a construction business. Asking for storage of a dump trailer and pickup truck. Pursuant to Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-23 & 198-33B Regulation Schedule.
2. REF# ZBA-25-039: Applicants seek administrative appeal on permits issued on the Hiller Subdivision Project.

*Patrick Carr, Chair, Fairhaven ZBA  
FNN: 11/13/25, 11/20/25*

## From our readers

### Fairhaven Voters Beware!

What happened at the November 10th Selectboard meeting should outrage every Fairhaven voter who believes in fairness, democracy, and simple decency. (FNN 11/13/25 issue)

The so-called "be kind to our neighbors" team — Mr. Romano and Ms. Mello — showed their true colors. When given the chance to do the right thing, they choose politics over principle and vindictiveness over fairness.

They voted not to reinstate a duly elected Planning Board member, Diane Tomassetti — a woman who holds two master's degrees, is nearing her doctorate, and has years of real estate experience and Architectural Design.

Diane didn't deserve to be attacked or used as a scapegoat. She asked for forgiveness for resigning under duress, and understanding that she wanted to still serve her elected term — and instead was met with arrogance and bias.

At that Selectboard meeting the three individuals who volunteered to join the Planning Board were asked to state our qualifications and do we have experience in site development and reading plans etc.

I found this question ironic because the very people who attacked Diane on the Planning Board were asking this question. Why? Their qualifications per their LinkedIn résumés state: "hairstresser, English Language and food procurement" and they weretreated like planning experts ??? It would be laughable if it weren't so damaging to our town.

Remember, we were told that approving the 40R Smart Growth Districts would bring skyscrapers, chaos, and overcrowded schools. Remember that? It was all fear-mongering and lies. And the same people who spread those lies are still working to silence voices that dare to move Fairhaven forward.

Let's be honest: this small, entrenched group has held Fairhaven back for decades. They oppose smart growth, spread fear about progress, and would rather raise your taxes than welcome new families or new ideas.

Diane was not the problem. She was the scapegoat for the complete failure of our Planning Department — a department that desperately needs new leadership and professionalism.

I believe in this town. I believe in our new Town Administrator and in

Fairhaven's potential. But on that night, our democracy was betrayed by those who claim to protect it.

As I've said: "Fairhaven must never tolerate bullying, intimidation, or division. We must choose community, respect, and integrity."

Sadly, Mr. Romano and Ms. Mello chose none of those.

So, I'm asking you — pay attention. Talk to your neighbors. Watch the meetings. Hold people accountable.

Because what happened to Diane Tommassetti could happen to anyone who dares to stand up for what's right.

Fairhaven deserves better.

And it's up to us — the voters — to make this Town a place where our seniors can afford to live and to provide new opportunities to the next generation of families.

*Rick Trapilo, Fairhaven*

### Charlie Kirk: A man who loved Jesus and our country

Physically, Charlie Kirk is no longer with us, but, however, his legacy and his life's work will carry on. He didn't flinch in the face of danger. He faced it head on. He died a martyr's death. I have no doubt that his wife Erika and his followers will carry on his life's

**LETTERS: cont'd next page**

## LETTERS: cont'd from previous page

work just the same as the true followers of Jesus who commanded his disciples to go and preach the gospel throughout the world did.

Just recently, we celebrated Veterans Day, a day set aside to honor the men and women who courageously stepped forward to defend our country. Many have died or been severely wounded in the defense of our country. In the like manner in the words of President John Kennedy the torch has been passed on to us to carry on this work.

In the preamble to our Constitution the rights of the individual are defined as the right of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are God given rights and they shall not be infringed upon. I believe in the first two paragraphs of the Constitution. The stated purpose of our Constitution was to ensure these rights would be protected.

At no point in history have so many enjoyed the freedoms and many opportunities we have. We have them because of the men and women who fought and died to protect them.

*John Pond, Fairhaven*

### **Hold federal government to same standards as parents**

If a child told me, "My parent stopped feeding me because there is no money," even though the parent stated they had money, they just won't use it for the child's hunger, as a clinical social worker in an emergency department, I would be legally required to file a report of neglect to the Department of Children and Families (DCF). Yet that is what the federal government is doing to more than 337,000 children in Massachusetts who lost access to food when the SNAP (food stamps)

program can no longer provide benefits as a result of the federal government shutdown.

337,000 children. Try to picture that. It's enough hungry children to fill Gillette Stadium more than five times over.

If it were a parent making this decision, we'd call it neglect. When it's our government withholding benefits, what do we call it? DCF defines neglect as "failure by a caregiver, either deliberately or through negligence or inability, to provide a child with minimally adequate food...or to prevent malnutrition."

Our government is committing neglect against our most vulnerable children.

This isn't just about policy; it's about prevention. When families can't feed their children, the harm reverberates across our communities. Families thrive when they have access to resources that support their financial and emotional health. Research shows that when parents can meet their family's basic needs, such as putting food on the table, they are better equipped to provide safe, nurturing environments for their children. When they lack these supports, the stress can become overwhelming, increasing the risk of child abuse and neglect.

Eliminating programs that support families will have negative long-term consequences. These programs aren't just lifelines for parents — they stabilize families and safeguard children. Weakening them doesn't just make it harder for families to get by; it actively puts children at risk.

We know that economic insecurity, including food insecurity, is a root

cause of child abuse and neglect. In fact, we've recently partnered with researchers from Harvard-affiliated programs and the Greater Boston Food Bank on a new study to develop programs that promote healthy eating and reduce food insecurity in order to strengthen families, reduce stress, and prevent child abuse and neglect. Depriving families of food — our most basic need as humans — is not just a skipped meal. It is actively putting children and families at risk. If we truly care about the wellbeing of children, we should be strengthening the systems that support families, not eliminating them.

If you'd call DCF to report a parent who denied food to their children, then today, call your legislator. And then call your friend or cousin in another state and ask them to do the same.

And while you're waiting for Congress to act, do something now:

Donate to your local food bank.

If you employ someone who receives SNAP — your childcare provider, home health aide, ride-share driver, dog walker — consider offering a larger tip, a grocery gift card, or simply ask, "how can I help?"

Preventing neglect starts with ensuring families have what they need to thrive. We can meet this moment together with advocacy, compassion, and action. Preventing child abuse and neglect takes all of us. Let's get moving.

*Jennifer Valenzuela, Executive Director of the Children's Trust, a statewide public-private organization dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect in Massachusetts; she also serves as a clinical social worker in a local Boston emergency department.*

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SEND US A PHOTO OF YOUR DOORWAY  
ALONG WITH YOUR ADDRESS TO OUR  
FACEBOOK PAGE BY MONDAY DECEMBER 8

DOORWAYS WILL BE JUDGED ON CREATIVITY AND FESTIVITY!

OUR JUDGES WILL DRIVE BY AND CHOOSE THE TOP 3  
WINNERS. RESULTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE  
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