



Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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



The little paper
with a big voice!

Volume 20, Issue 48 • December 4, 2025

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

Fairhaven beats Dartmouth on Thanksgiving



.Fairhaven's Josh Vieira gets up and knocks down the pass from Dartmouth QB Aidan Gendron during the traditional Thanksgiving Day football game at Dartmouth Memorial Stadium on 11/27/25., when Fairhaven won 21-14. See story on page 12. Photo by Sam Simoes

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."



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From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

Well, my mother went to heaven and I immediately descended into tech support hell. First one thing, then another. Go figure.

Thank you to everyone who sent condolences

after hearing about the death of my mother. I am very appreciative of the people who showed up at the wake or the funeral.

Mom's obituary is on page 6. And, of course, I added a few pics. Yes, that's Evil Dog with her. He was not evil to her. Ever.

Whatever, dog, whatever.

It was very nice of the Select Board to mention my mother's death and have a moment of silence for her, along with Gail Isaksen. They are both in good company.

We have a little Select Board coverage for you this week. See page 4 or that. It was a short meeting and the day of my mother's funeral, so....

The town of Fairhaven launched a new emergency boat. See page 18 for that.

Our cover story is always fun, but, no doubt it's way more fun when we win, huh? Sam Simoes did a great job capturing the fun moments. See page 12 for some of his great photos of our kids. Who are, by the way, headed to Gillette again. See page 12 for the story on the game, and a short reminder of the championship info. We ran a longer piece on it last week. But you might still have time to watch it.

The biggest story this week, though, is all the little itty bitty listings for Holiday Happenings. They are spread throughout the paper, so you have to look.

While you're doing that, 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!



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Publisher Beth David with Charlie, aka Evil Dog

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Thursday, December 4, 2025

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Editor: Beth David

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Tree lightings this weekend kick off holiday events

Acushnet, Fairhaven and New Bedford will be in full holiday mode thus weekend with the annual tree lightings kicking off the season. See more events on pages 5, 20, 21, 23.

Acushnet

Join us for the 2025 Acushnet tree lighting on Sun., 12/7, at 6 p.m., at Fire Station 1, 24 Russell St., Acushnet, at Parting Ways.

Walk through our Christmas display. Gift donations/giving tree. Limited edition Fire/EMS holiday shirt sale. Featuring Santa & Mrs. Claus, sing-along, and cookies & cocoa.

We have partnered with "Christmas Wishes" to support needy families. Consider bringing a new, unwrapped toy to donate!

Fairhaven

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.

New Bedford

The traditional City celebrations kick off a season of fun events in New Bedford, which include AHA! NBFestive on Dec. 11, and the Downtown New Bedford Holiday Stroll on Dec. 13. Expect festive music, live performances and hot chocolate, as well as pop-ups and other unique shopping experiences around the City this season.

The City's marketing and tourism department, Explore New Bedford, has a holiday season website, explorenewbedford.org/nb-festive, that has a full list of holiday happenings around the City. Check it often for event updates.

Downtown Tree Lighting & Parade

Sat., 12/6, 5-6 p.m., Downtown New Bedford, Pleasant Street in front of Main Library. Join Mayor Jon Mitchell for the annual celebration. At 5 p.m., a parade will march from North

Second and William streets to the library steps for the tree lighting.

The parade will feature the New Bedford High School marching band and color guard, Santa and Mrs. Claus, and surprise guests.

The City's tree was donated by the Brayton family, and the ornaments were made by students from the William H. Taylor Elementary School. This year's parade has a Dr. Suess theme. The Grinch and Cindy-Lou Who will lead Taylor students in the parade to the library. Remarks at the library by Mayor Mitchell will be followed by a sing-along, which will feature classic holiday songs and some new hits. Song books will be provided.

Clasky Common Park Tree Lighting

Sun., 12/7, 5 p.m., Clasky Common Park, County and Pope Streets. Remarks by Mayor Mitchell. Guest appearances by Santa and Mrs. Claus. The New Bedford High School marching band will perform and hot cocoa will be served.

cont'd to page 20



UU Society of Fairhaven welcomes all!

10 a.m. Dec. 7: 'Deck the Halls'

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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Fairhaven SB approves car dealership; makes appointments

By Beth David
Editor

In a quick meeting on 12/1/25, the Fairhaven Select Board approved a Hyundai dealership and made several appointments to different committees.

The former site of the Alden/GMC dealership on Alden Road will get a new life soon. The board approved Tasca Hyundai Fairhaven to operate at the site.

The dealership will sell new and used cars, and will also repair vehicles at the site.

David Tasca, Jr., speaking for his uncle, Robert Tasca, said he plans to renovate the building to Hyundai specification, and "really bring that property back to life."

He also said a dealership of that size would typically have 30-40 employees.

The building has been empty for about five years, since the Mazda dealership moved out of the building into a new space on Bridge Street.

The board also approved an additional "pour license" for Nasketucket Bay Vineyard.

Owner Nicolas Christy told the board that they have been distilling their wine into brandy. They are allowed to sell by the bottle, but need a pouring permit to do so on site for tastings or by the glass.

He said the brandy needs to age, so he expects they will have some for sale in the spring.

The board also appointed new members to three committees.

The board voted to appoint Molly Turner and Caroline Martinez to the Dog Park Study Committee, which had three openings.

SB member Andrew Romano, the board's liaison to the committee, said it did not yet have enough members to have a meeting. He said he had spoken to both applicants.

The board also voted for a two additions to the Historical Commission.

Brian Messier said that Fairhaven has the most interesting historic buildings in the state. He said it was important for the town to keep them in a state where they will last for hundreds of more years. He noted that he was a firefighter/paramedic in town for more than 30 years.

Doug Brady, in his pitch to get appointed, noted that the board could also appoint an Associate member.

Mr. Brady told the board about his experience with the Rogers School and the Oxford School bell.

He noted that he saved the town more than \$16k by doing the work as a volunteer to get the Rogers School on the National Register of Historic Places.

He also said he does not have Facebook so they do not have to worry about him on social media.

Mr. Romano expressed concern about appointing an associate member because it had not been publicized.

In the end the board voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Brady to a regular seat on the HC.

They also voted to make Mr. Messier an associate member, with Mr. Romano voting "no." He said he had no problem voting for Mr. Messier, but felt it should wait until the next meeting.

The board also appointed Wendy Drumm to the Sustainability Committee, a committee she has served on.

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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Toy Drive

Join the Fairhaven Police Department at Walmart in Fairhaven, on Sat., 12/6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., for our annual toy drive. Fairhaven Police Department employees will be there to collect your new, unwrapped presents for those in need this holiday season.

Every year this has been a HUGE success due to the generosity of the public. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE consider donating again this year!!!

Youth Vendor Fair

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!

There's still time to sign up for spot, To register, visit <https://gqr.sh/rHgH> Questions and additional information: Jess Fidalgo jessfidalgo121313@gmail.com

Deck the Doors

The Fairhaven Historical Society presents the 2025 Holiday Deck the Door Contest. Find them on Facebook to enter by 12/8.

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.

Santa Bowl

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

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>

Lighting of Benoit Square

Fri., 12/6, 6:30 p.m. See page 3 .

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.

Wreaths Across Fairhaven

The Fairhaven Veterans Service Office will be placing wreaths on the graves of veterans on Sat., 12/13 (rain date 12/14).

Volunteers are welcome and are asked to meet at Riverside Cemetery, 274 Main St., at 10:00.

We are also taking donations for the wreaths which can be dropped off at the senior center or mailed to the Veterans office at 229 Huttleston Ave., Fairhaven, MA 02719. Any questions please call Mike or Jane at 508-202-4603.

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/>

Photo Contest

The Fairhaven Select Board Office is calling for submissions for the 2025 Annual Town Report cover photo*

Maximum of two photos per person. Deadline: Wed., 1/7/26 Submit via email to ahart@fairhaven-ma.gov

**Photos must be taken by the submitter, no screenshots or copyrighted images and should be Fairhaven based*

Visit <https://fairhaven-ma.gov/2025-annual-report-photo-submissions/>

Food Drive

Marsh Island, located at the site of a former quarry and, later, filled in with dredged sand from the harbor, came to be known by locals as "Tin Can Island" for its reputation as a party spot and for the litter that accumulated there.

After a massive cleanup two weeks ago, in which tons of trash were collected—from plastics to Styrofoam to cans of assorted metals—the Buzzards Bay Coalition wishes to attract some tin cans back to the site in a different way.

The BBC will be collecting all non-perishable food items—not just tin cans—from those visiting Marsh Island through December. Tubs will be located near the trailhead and items will be picked up frequently. Items will be donated to the First Congregational Church in Fairhaven, which has an emergency food pantry.

Business After Hours

The Fairhaven Economic Development Committee invites business owners on 12/11 at 5:30 PM for an engaging evening of networking, learning, and collaboration with local business owners and community leaders! This session, hosted by Tropical Smoothie Cafe (15 Sarah's Wy), features State Representative Mark Sylvia, who will share insights about his role and answer your

HAPPS: cont'd on page 23

Obituary: Octavia David

Octavia David

Octavia (Peters) David, 95, loving wife of 41 years to the late Thomas David of New Bedford, died with family by her side on 11/24/25 at

Alden Court Nursing Care and Rehabilitation Center after a long period of declining health.

She graduated from New Bedford High School in 1949, and then from Kinyon-Campbell Business School. She used those skills to work at Arlan's, Aerovox, and then to run Cyclone Cleaning with her husband for many years.

Whether it was teaching her grandchildren to climb trees, cooking stuffed grape leaves (hundreds) for the neighborhood kids, or just saying "yes" to the nieces and nephews who wanted to use the pool, Octavia lived her life with vibrancy, exuberance, and love.

When she moved to the home she lovingly named "Misty Acres," she was able to embrace her love of animals, having dogs, cats, horses, chickens and a host of strays (and not only the four-legged kind) under her care.

She had an uncanny knack with people, a well-known family trait, which she used mercilessly to charm angry people, such as airport officials who were tasked with chasing the David horses off the runway and then chastising the owners. Inevitably, they would end up laughing and joking over (spiked?) coffee at her

legendary kitchen table.

Octavia did not recognize Christmas as a "season." She played Christmas music all year long, especially in July. But Christmas truly was in a competition with Halloween for her favorite holiday, convincing many of her nieces and nephews that she was literally a true witch.

And Christmas music was not the only mood-setting device in her famously welcoming kitchen. There was a crackling fire, the smell of coffee brewing, and the soothing



years, she enjoyed her seaside escape in Fairhaven, aka "The Cottage," a place nearly as magical as Misty Acres, but blessed with ocean breezes and cooling tides.

With a 95-year legacy of love, laughter, charity, and faith in God, she will be remembered for her generosity, graciousness, and vibrancy. Everything in moderation, she would say, while gently pushing her young confidants to explore, learn, live, but always remember to come back home.

She leaves behind her children, Elizabeth David of Fairhaven, Catherine Thomas and her husband Matthew of New Bedford, Anthony David and his wife Marcelle of Dartmouth, and Marie David and her husband George Borges of Rochester; grandchildren, Victoria, Samuel, and David Thomas, and Thomas David; her sisters, Mary Ann Chomak of Dartmouth, and Norma Thomas of Fairhaven; and many nieces and nephews.

She was the daughter of the late George and Kaffa (Dumat) Peters of New Bedford. She was predeceased by her daughter, Christine David of Fairhaven; and her sisters, Rose Peters, RSM (aka Sr. Mary Assunta) of Cumberland, RI; Cecelia Attallah of Fairhaven, Freda Thomas, Ann Abraham, Emily Alves, Mary Barckett, Theresa Coury, and Louise Dupre, all of New Bedford.

The family would like to thank Alden Court and the many staff members who provided compassionate care to Octavia.

A funeral mass and interment were held on 12/1/25. Arrangements were by Fairhaven Funeral Home, 117 Main Street, Fairhaven.



words of all the famous crooners wafting through the air, as she twirled around dancing to the tunes of her day.

And summertime at Misty Acres created its own mystique with family parties for the ages, fireworks at the Fourth of July, clamboils, barbecues, and fresh vegetables from the garden. Those fabulous memory-making events inevitably ended with nothing more precious than settling in under the shade of the grape arbor (aka areesheee) with coffee, arak, cigars and stories that often could be true.

In her later



Boy Scouts help decorate Benoit Square



Boy Scout Troop 52 helped out the North Fairhaven Improvement Association on 11/29/25, decorating Benoit Square in Fairhaven for the Holiday season. The square is at the intersection of Main Street and Howland Road. The lights will be turned on for the season on Friday, 12/5, at 6:30 p.m. Mrs. Claus and friends will sing Christmas songs with the crowd, and Santa will visit. Free hot chocolate will help keep people warm. All are invited to attend this free event. ABOVE: Volunteers, including Scouts from Troop 52 in Fairhaven, pose for a photo after setting up Christmas decorations at Benoit Square on 11/29/25 in preparation for the lighting ceremony on 12/5/25. TOP RIGHT: Scouts from Troop 52 in Fairhaven help set up Christmas decorations. BOTTOM RIGHT: Scouts from Troop 52 enjoy some well-earned chow after helping to set up Christmas decorations. *Photos courtesy of Troop 52.*

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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: 12/10, Hyannis Mall, Trader Joe's; 12/17, Providence Place Mall; 1/7/26, Twin River Casino; 1/21, Providence Place.

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.

Dec 1. The Christmas Chronicles. Comedy. The story of sister and brother, Kate and Teddy Pierce, whose Christmas Eve plan to catch Santa Claus on camera turns into an unexpected journey that most kids could only dream about.

Dec 8. Snowed Inn Christmas. Comedy, Romance, Drama. Two rival journalists get stuck together at an inn during the holidays.

Dec 15. A Castle for Christmas. Comedy, Romance, Drama. Two escape a scandal, a bestselling author journeys to Scotland, where she falls in love with a castle — and faces off with the grumpy duke who owns it.

Dec 22. Best. Christmas. Ever. Comedy & Romance. Friendships are put to the ultimate test over a boastful holiday newsletter.

Dec 29 While You Were Sleeping. Comedy, Romance, Drama. A hopelessly romantic Chicago Transit Authority ticket booth operator is mistaken for the fiancée of a comatose patient.

Toys for Tots

A Toys for Tots bin will be available at the COA. Please drop off NEW and UNWRAPPED gifts.

If you have any questions, call Jane or Mike at the Fairhaven Veterans Services Office, 508-979-4603.

Holiday Party & Music Bingo

Fri., 12/12, 12:30 p.m. \$2 per person. Annual Holiday Party AND Music Bingo! Light refreshments will be provided. Please sign up & pay by 12/9.

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).

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 something 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

Gingersnap Popcorn Snack Mix

The taste of a ginger cookie with the whole grain goodness of popcorn. What's not to love?

2 quarts popped popcorn
Butter flavored cooking spray
1/3 cup granulated sugar substitute
2 teaspoons ground ginger
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground nutmeg
1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black or white pepper

Preheat oven to 325 degrees Fahrenheit.

Spread popcorn on baking sheet and spray lightly with the cooking spray.

Combine remaining ingredients in a small bowl and sprinkle evenly over popcorn.

Spray again with cooking spray and toss to coat evenly.

Bake 7 minutes and serve warm.
From popcorn.org

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Dear Frankie

National Dog Day

Dear Frankie,

The upcoming holiday season has me thinking about how much people spend on holidays from Halloween to New Year's Day. In 2024, they spent 994.1



billion on holiday shopping — including gifts, travel, and entertainment. In 2025, they spent 34 billion dollars on Mother's Day and 24 billion on Father's Day.

It does make me wonder why more was spent on mothers than on fathers. But I'll leave that for another time. Yet how many Americans celebrate National Dog Day or know when it is celebrated? It's August 26, if anyone is interested.

When I looked up how much Americans spend on that holiday, I found no information available.

American dog owners say their dogs are family members and like their children. So why don't they spend big bucks on us on our holiday?

Jake

Dear Jake,

If American dog owners really see their dogs as family, they should show it by celebrating National Dog Day.

Maybe they just haven't thought about it much before, but now that they know the date, there's no reason not to honor their dogs like they do the rest of the family.

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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From our readers

Something Smells Here

Please excuse my ignorance. I don't really follow town politics all that much. However, recently my attention was drawn to a very well written letter about the now infamous Hiller/Timothy Development. Kudos to the 28 authors/signees.

The facts, as I know them, are very compelling. We have a development originally rejected by the Planning Board. The developer sues the town and every court throws it out. Denied again. The developer then re-applies, but now under a different name (an LLC), thus gaining sufficient anonymity and cover. Apparently, this developer doesn't hear "no" very often.

So, now the new app just sits in a pile. And.... sits. And.... sits some more. No one is the wiser. Then thru some archaic state law if it sits for 155 days and goes unnoticed the app automatically gets approved. Why is this insane bylaw even on the books in the first place?

At this point "constructive approval" kicks in due to inaction. It's obvious most Planning Board members were not even aware of this re-application. However, there are a couple of town officials on the inside that knew something and looked the other way. They mysteriously remained silent. Why so shy? Is it off base to ask.... are they friends of the developer? Are they secretly on the land deed? Did they get paid off? Something just isn't right here.

Right now it's all conjecture and hyperbole. So, let's investigate it. If this is, in fact, a corrupt development the two insiders and the developer himself should be brought up on charges. The Planning Board was left in the dark and the abutters did not get to voice their concerns prior to the start of this project and get a chance to block it.

Investigate and follow the money. It'll shock you what you might find. Let's unearth or "excavate" the details. Ironic isn't it? The developer owns "Fairhaven Excavation". You can't make this stuff up.

I'm all in favor of progress. But, if this turns out to be riddled with corruption then this development is all ill gotten gains. That's not progress. That's regress.

I'm not quite sure what smells worse? The waste water treatment plant near this development.... or the

development itself?

Robert Costa, Fairhaven

A Message from Old Colony

*To the Residents and Members of the
Old Colony School Community*

On behalf of the Old Colony District School Committee, I want to extend our sincere appreciation to everyone who participated in the recent vote regarding our school building project. As you know, the proposal did not pass. While this outcome is not what we had hoped for, we recognize the importance of continuing to work collaboratively as we determine our next steps.

Over the coming months, the Old Colony School Committee, along with the school administration, will be seeking input from town officials to develop a path forward. Although the election outcome presents challenges, it also provides an opportunity for deeper dialogue. We will prioritize areas needing immediate attention while most importantly continuing to provide a quality academic and vocational education for our students. Maintaining a building that is a safe learning environment for our students, teachers, and staff will be at the forefront of our decision-making process. We understand this will be a difficult task, but we will remain steadfast.

The school district and school administration remain committed to transparency in its fiscal planning and will not deviate from that philosophy. We will keep families, staff, and community members informed of our progress. The Old Colony school community is strong, resilient, and dedicated. We remain optimistic in what we can achieve together, even in these difficult moments. Thank you for your ongoing support, your engagement, and your commitment to our students and your children.

*Nancy A. Souza, Chair, Old Colony
Regional Vocational Technical School
District Committee*

ORR Thanks State For Funding

I am writing to express my sincere thanks to the state legislators who have supported much-needed improvements to the Old Rochester Regional School District's athletic facilities.

In 2020, I worked with then Repre-

sentative William Strauss to advocate for an earmark dedicated to improving our athletic fields. That funding, awarded at the end of the legislative session, is now making possible long-awaited upgrades that will benefit our student-athletes and the broader community for years to come. I am grateful for Bill's partnership and commitment to this project.

I would also like to extend my thanks to Representative Mark Sylvia and Senator Michael Rodrigues, with whom I recently worked to advocate for additional support for our district. Their efforts during the 2025 legislative session resulted in a \$30,000 grant for important safety and equipment upgrades in the ORR gymnasium. These improvements will directly benefit the students who use this space every day.

I write this letter not on behalf of the School Committee, but as a member of the committee and as a constituent who cares deeply about our schools and the opportunities we provide to our students. I am grateful for the collaboration from our state legislators and remain committed to advocating for the resources our district needs to thrive.

*Frances-Feliz Kearns, Mattapoisett,
ORR School Committee*

Please Stop Publishing That Stuff

*re: Betty Ussach letter
(11/13/25 issue)*

The First Amendment gives us the right of free speech. I would argue that the Amendment also asks us to be organized and rational in delivering the speech. That discourse needs organization and quality of thought.

When Letters To The Editor are misguided, vituperative in their language and misleading to the public, then, it can be argued that they are ideological and require a counterpoint.

Let's stop with the Epstein files, already. You have not read them; you do no know what they contain, so anything that is said about them is pure speculation, such as tying the President to them, and that includes other truly outrageously misleading statements that are misdirected and nonsense. Those comments are disloyal at best, anti-American at

LETTERS: cont'd on page 14

Fairhaven beats Dartmouth in Thanksgiving Day matchup

By Beth David

Editor

The Fairhaven High School Blue Devils beat the Dartmouth Indians 21-14 in the traditional Thanksgiving Day football matchup, played in Dartmouth this year.

The Blue Devils scored early on, but the game was not decided until the end of the last quarter. The game was tied for much of the game, but the touchdown by Ian Alexion clinched it for Fairhaven 2:07 remaining.

Fairhaven will play Norwell in the Mass. Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) Division VII state championships on Thursday, 12/4/25 at 7:45 p.m. See page 5 for more details or visit <https://tinyurl.com/2vustysb>



TOP: Fairhaven's Jackson Ponte tries to intercept a pass heading to Dartmouth's Brady Beauparlard, who manages to come down with the ball on the one yard line in the last 20 seconds of the first half of the traditional Thanksgiving Day football game at Dartmouth Memorial Stadium on 11/27/25, when Fairhaven won 21-14. ABOVE LEFT: Grant Darmofal meets Dartmouth's Ethan Davis but it was not enough to stop him from earning the first down. ABOVE RIGHT: Fairhaven's Dean Joseph (#54) comes around the end into the backfield helping to stop Dartmouth's Michael Hauk from making a big play. BELOW LEFT: Fairhaven's Grant Darmofal leaves a large wake as he runs for the first down. BELOW RIGHT: Fairhaven's Ian Alexion outruns everyone on his way to the end zone for the game winning score. Photos by Sam Simoes.



Acushnet Lions hold annual toy/food drive and bike run



The Acushnet Lions Club held their annual food and toy drive and bike run on Sunday, 11/30/25. About 30 bikers braved the cold weather to pony up \$20 and gather at River's End Cafe where a truck from Adams and Adams awaited. Motorcycle riders, Lions, and other volunteers helped load the truck with the help of 2025 Miss Apple Peach, Elyza Wagner, and Jr. Miss Apple Peach, Aubrey Souza. Food and toys went to the Shepherd's Pantry in Acushnet where they will be distributed. If you'd like to donate to the pantry, mail check or money order to Shepherd's Pantry, Long Plain Methodist Church, 1215 Main St., Acushnet, MA 02743; 508-763-9289. Or find them on Facebook. ABOVE LEFT: A man walks past motorcycles in front of River's End Cafe with donations to the Acushnet Lions annual food and toy drive and bike run on Sunday, 11/30/25, with donations going to the Shepherd's Food Pantry in Acushnet. ABOVE RIGHT: Miss Apple Peach, Elyza Wagner (LEFT), and Jr. Miss Apple Peach, Aubrey Souza, help pack the truck. BELOW LEFT: Motorcycles are lined up in front of River's End Cafe. BELOW RIGHT: Bob Brown gives a smile to the camera as he and other volunteers unload the truck at the Shepherd's Pantry. BOTTOM: Volunteers pose in front of the truck after unloading donations. *Submitted photos.*



LETTERS: cont'd from page 11

most. Please stop publishing this woman's rants.

Bernard P. Giroux, So. Dartmouth

Grossman Got It Wrong

John Pond (Nov. 20) says Charlie Kirk loved America. But how can a Christian nationalist love America, the leading nation of our scientific-industrial-capitalist, Western civilization?

Kirk's America is a mystical ideal in an unfocused mind, transcending the world, transcending the individual. Kirk's America is a collector of sacrifices, not a nation for man's life in the world. Kirk's America is just God or Jesus with a different name. It's not the concretely real, 1776 America with its historically unique morality of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. And the historically unique politics of individual rights to defend that morality.

Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness was not Christian morality for 1800 years of the glorification of bloody sacrifice. Individual rights was not Christian politics for 1800 years of

faith and force. Christianity spread by the sword. Nothing has changed. We are returning to the Dark Ages, 500AD to 900AD, after Rome fell and before man regained the pride to focus his mind again and live in the world.

Crucifixion is not a celebration of man's life. It's the suffering end of man's life. Jesus didn't call for an individual rights rebellion against Rome. He said, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." Sheep don't rebel. Sheep get shorn. And become mutton.

Americans need a second Revolution, an intellectual and moral revolution to justify 1776. We need to regain the respect for man's independent, reasoning, focused mind that created this nation.

Our Leftist schools have deliberately, consciously and systematically disintegrated the American mind.

As the Rolling Stones sang, "Shattered!" It's vastly more destructive than Leftist politics and transexuality. They call it anti-ideological Pragmatism or Post-

modernism. It's nihilism, destruction for the sake of destruction, with no shining ideal in the future. It's not even communism, which is an ideal.

Students mindlessly memorize a chaos of meaningless facts without values, without intellectual unity, without principles, without certainty, without guidance for their lives outside of school. Education is mind-training for teaching young people how to use their minds like adults. Common sense is for children who passively accept what their minds chance to provide. Educated adults actively take conscious control of their minds. They connect facts into a unity to guide long-range action. They are not at the mercy of their emotions, like Trump.

Stephen Grossman, Fairhaven

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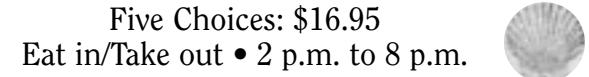
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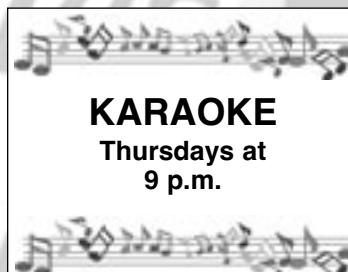
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Fairhaven

Board of Appeals

Thurs., 12/18, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Board of Health

Wed., 12/17, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

Board of Public Works

Mon, 12/15, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

Community Preservation

Wed., 12/10, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Conservation Comm

Mon., 12/8, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Council on Aging

Tues., 12/9, Sr. Ctr., 9 a.m.

Economic Development

Business After Hours business mixer
Thurs., 12/11, Town Hall, 5:30 p.m.

Planning Board

Tues., 12/16, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

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

Select Board

Mon., 12/15, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Sustainability Comm

Tues., 12/16, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Acushnet

Board of Appeals

Mon., 12/16, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Selectboard

Mon., 12/16, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

Mon., 12/30, Town Hall, TBA

TIDE TABLE

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

Dec. 2025	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.
Thursday	4 0646	1912	---	1248*
Friday	5 0736	2004	0039*	1347*
Saturday	6 0829	2059	0136*	1443*
Sunday	7 0922	2152	0234*	1528*
Monday	8 1014	2247	0325*	1609*
Tuesday	9 1109	2346	0413	1654
Wednesday	10 ---	1207	0506	1757
Thursday	11 0044	1303	0737	1953
Friday	12 0137	1356	0858	2055
Saturday	13 0229	1450	1007	2159
Sunday	14 0325	1550	1104	2250
Monday	15 0423	1648	1151	2320
Tuesday	16 0511	1734	---	1235
Wednesday	17 0552	1813	---	2307

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

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

Fairhven launches new emergency boat

By Jonathan Comey

Neighb News Correspondent

When responding to a marine emergency, teamwork is of the highest importance.

So it was fitting that it took some top-notch teamwork between departments, administrations and towns to bring the shiny new Marine 34 fire boat to the Fairhaven fleet.

"This is an historic moment for our community and our department," Fairhaven Fire Chief Todd Correia said to kick off a Nov. 14 event launching the boat into the waters off of Pease Park. "Marine 34 is a vessel designed with marine firefighting abilities, hazardous material response and emergency medical response to not only the town of Fairhaven but Buzzards Bay as a whole."

The need for a fire boat had been identified under the administrations of Chiefs David Crowley and Tim Francis, but prohibitive expense kept the addition at bay.

"Due to the limitations of budget, our dream never came true," Correia said.

But several harbor incidents in recent years brought urgency to the matter, and the town turned to the Bristol County Commissioners office to help out with access to federal harbor protection funds.

After getting the Fairhaven select board's approval, the request for funds was submitted - and declined. But the town didn't give up, reaching out to Bristol County commissioner John Saunders to plead their case.

"There were some misunderstandings," Saunders said, but after more discussion the funding was approved.

"I've been on the waterfront my whole life, sixty years, and this couldn't be needed any more," Saunders said. "Especially the last 4-5 years, we've had some major accidents on the waterfront, and it's a joint effort between New Bedford and Fairhaven to conquer these tasks."

"I think we helped this town and several other towns in our community to take on projects that don't have to be supported by the backs of the taxpayers. It's just a great cause to put money toward to help save lives."

As a large flag dangling from the ladder of a Fairhaven fire truck flew overhead, and the new fire boat gleamed in the background, Chief Correia thanked Saunders - "our champion" - along with members of his staff, acting deputy fire chief Josh Benoit and harbormaster Timothy Cox.

Benoit led the group designing the vessel from the ground up, a process that Correia says took "months and years to develop."

Excitement grew as the team worked with Alabama-based manufacturing company Silver Ships to produce the aluminum workboat. The team traveled to Alabama to do



Fairhaven Town Administrator, Keith Hickey, smashes a champagne bottle against the hull to christen the new Marine 34 Fire Boat at a ceremony on Monday, 11/24/25, at the Pease Park boat ramp. BELOW LEFT: Fairhaven Fire Chief, Todd Correia, speaks to the crowd. BELOW RIGHT: The boat sits on a trailer ready to be launched. *Photos courtesy of David Fauteux.*

sea trials and testing, all leading up to the launch.

"This represents a major step forward to protect lives, property and the environment," Benoit said, noting that the shipbuilding team relied on human operators, not machines.

Marine 34 has 1500-gallon-per-minute fire pump, thermal imaging and side-scan sonar to tackle all manner of water emergency. It's equipped with a patient treatment bench, storage area for medical gear and abilities advanced life support.

"Josh spent countless hours of his own time researching products, electronics, power sources and navigation for this vessel," Correia said. "His contribution to this project relieved me of a lot of pressures."

The harbormaster department will

BOAT: cont'd next page



BOAT: cont'd from previous page

be the main operator of the boat, enabling fire and emergency medical teams to focus on their respective duties.

Harbormaster Tim Cox said "we are one small town in Buzzards Bay, but there only a few places where people keep boats in the water and this town is one of them. I think this boat is going to fit in very well and be able to help a lot of people."

"This is a true partnership," Correia said. "We'll be doing joint training sessions, and we look

forward to working together."

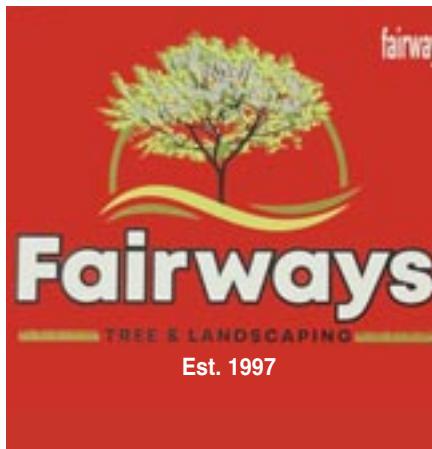
With the remarks finished, fire department chaplain, Lt. Robert Langevin, delivered a blessing - "we pray that this vessel will return safely to the harbor and its docking at every venture."

Town Administrator Keith Hickey christened Marine 34 with the smash of a champagne bottle.

Then, gleaming in the sun with bursts of red and silver, it was lowered into the water to a round of applause from the gathered - the first dip into the Fairhaven waterfront of what will be many to come.



Fairhaven's new Marine 34 Fire Boat gets launched for the first time after a ceremony on Monday, 11/24/25, at the Pease Park boat ramp. Photo courtesy of David Fauteux.



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HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Tree Lighting/Sing Along/Parade

See page 3

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

Seussical

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, by calling 401-374-8278, or by emailing tickets@stellarstudiostheater.com

Holiday Pops

Let the Season Shine with Holiday Pops! Sun., 12/14, 3:30 and 7 PM, Bronspeigal Auditorium, New Bedford High School, by the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra.

Round up the crew—kids, grandparents, friends who feel like family—and come kick off the season with our Holiday Pops concerts! It's an all-out celebration filled with jingle-worthy music, belly laughs, and feel-good moments you'll want to bottle up.

The hall will be decked, the vibe will be merry, and the music? Pure holiday magic. Yaniv and our NBSO musicians will be joined by local favorites The Showstoppers and members of the Southeastern Massachusetts Youth Orchestra for a show that'll have everyone smiling.

The 3:30 PM performance is a breezy, one-hour concert—perfect for little ones (and early bedtimes). The 7:00 PM show runs a bit longer for

those who want to soak up every sparkling note. Both performances are delightfully direct—no intermission, just nonstop joy. Wrap yourself in music, joy, and holiday magic!

Tickets at <https://tinyurl.com/3xwbpced>.

Visit <https://nbsymphony.org/>

Holiday Concert

Greater New Bedford Choral Society's Holiday Concert on Sunday, December 7th at 3:00 pm, Grace Episcopal Church, 133 School St., New Bedford. Tickets: \$20

Visit our website at <https://www.gnbcs.org/> for more information or follow us on Facebook.

Toy Drive

27th annual Toy Drive, a partnership between United Way of Greater New Bedford and the New Bedford Firefighters Union. Donations accepted until Monday, 12/5. Accepting new, unwrapped toys and gift cards. Every toy you donate will go to a child in need, making their holidays a little brighter. All donations will be distributed, with the assistance of United Way, to organizations that serve local youth. Please do not contact the New Bedford Fire Department to request toys.

Drop off at any NB Fire Station or at partners throughout Greater New Bedford.

Visit <https://unitedwayofgnb.org/toy-drive> for full listing and a link to our Amazon list. Call United Way of GNB at 508-994-9625.

FREE Baby Class

Safe Start Baby Safety Class, Wed., 12/10, 5:30-7:30 p.m., New Bedford Health Department, 1213 Purchase St., New Bedford. To sign up call 508-991-6199. Free class for caregivers who are expecting, or have a baby up to one year old. Learn about sleep safety, infant CPR, infant choking, car seat safety.

Christmas Market

Sun., 12/7, 2-7 p.m., Madeira Feast Grounds, 50 Madeira Ave., New Bedford. Join us for a European-style Christmas market at the Madeira Feast grounds in New Bedford! Tons of vendors selling unique gifts

and treasures

Delicious foods to warm your heart and belly. Fun children's activities to make the season merry. Special treat for the little ones! The first 100 kids will receive a special gift from Mr. and Mrs. Claus!

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.

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.

Digital Exhibit

"Hauling Back" A Generational Fishing Family Project, presented by the New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center, 38 Bethel St., NB.

Hauling Back presents the stories of multigenerational fishing families and businesses in New Bedford and along the South Coast. This is an ongoing project led by photographer Phil Mello and videographer Mark Starr. The upcoming mini exhibit features the Nanfelt family, owners of Kyler Seafood and Kyler's Catch Seafood Market in New Bedford.

Visit <https://fishingheritagecenter.org/hauling-back/>

Materials related to the Hauling Back project – including exhibit panels, family oral history interviews, and additional photos – are also available to peruse for free on FHC's online collections database and will be periodically updated as the project continues into the new year.

Find it at <https://tinyurl.com/48anxbry>

HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

Christmas Fair

The Church of the Good Shepherd will be holding its annual Christmas Fair in their Parish Hall on Saturday, December 6 from 9 am to 2 pm at 74 High Street, Wareham. Favorites will include crafts, gift baskets, jewelry and scarves, raffles, gently used Christmas decor, spice table, and baked goods. All items for sale are either handmade, home-baked or recycled by Good Shepherd parishioners! Please join us for this festive holiday tradition at the Good Shepherd, a "Good" & Green" Church. For more information, please call 508-295-2840.

Toy Drive

Annual Fill the Bus toy drive by Acushnet Police Department, Sat., 12/6, at Acushnet Town Hall, 122 Main St., from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in cooperation with Tremblay Bus Company and Safe Zones. We were able to fill the bus last year and hope for an even larger outpouring of support this year!!!! Accepting new, unwrapped toys. for all ages.

Flu Clinic

Flu vaccine clinic, Fri., 12/5, 9 a.m.-noon, Acushnet Council on Aging/Senior Center, 59 1/2 So. Main St., Acushnet, for adults 18+ from, Acushnet, Fairhaven and New Bedford. Standard dose, and high dose available for adults 65+.

This is a no-cost clinic, but please bring your health insurance card if you have one.

It's not too late to get vaccinated against the flu! By SEMA Public Health

At Acushnet Library

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

Author Event

The Acushnet Public Library welcomes Spinner Publications & Gay Gillespie on Saturday, December 6, at 1 pm for a talk and signing event for Spinner's newest book SHIPWRECK! Horseneck Point Lifesaving Station & South Coast Rescuers. Shipwreck! received funding support from the Westport Cultural Council Community Grants, the Helen E. Ellis Charitable

Trust, the Bank of America, the Westport Community Gift Fund, and the Buzzards Bay Coalition.

Holiday Jewelry Sale

Come shop the Friends of the Acushnet Public Library's holiday jewelry sale on Saturday, December 6, 9:30am - 12pm, in the Community Room. We'll have a large selection of new and gently-worn jewelry in a range of styles for all the jewelry lovers on your holiday gift list, with prices starting at just \$1. Shop early for best selection (limited supply of jewelry gift bags and boxes will be available). Also for sale will be our popular Blind Date Books (\$10 each or 2 for \$15). Beautifully wrapped, these high-quality pre-loved hardcover books include a note hinting at the story inside, and make fun and unique gifts. Cash only. The library is located at 232 Middle Rd., Acushnet.

Jewelry Sale FR

The Friends of the Mattapoisett Library are holding the popular Annual Jewelry & Accessory Sale on December 4, 5 & 6 in the library at 7 Barstow Street in Mattapoisett.

New and gently used jewelry of all types, as well as fashion accessories will be sold at very reasonable prices! Do some holiday shopping or just treat yourself! Be sure to check out and place a bid on items in the Silent Auction, which includes some of the very nicest items donated for this year's sale! The Silent Auction was a new addition in 2024 and helped bring in a record amount to be used for library programs and activities.

Friends of the Mattapoisett Library preview sale will be held Thurs. 12/4 5:30pm - 7:30 pm. The general public sale held Fri. 12/5 4:30-7:30pm and Sat. 12/6 10:00am-2:00pm.

Movie

Monday, December 8, at 2 pm Movie Matinee. This month's feature is *Freakier Friday*, rated PG-13.

Greens Sale

The sixth Annual Mattapoisett Woman's Club Holiday Greens Sale will be held on Saturday, December 6th at the "What the Taco" porch & parking lot on route 6 in Mattapoisett, from 9am until 1pm, or until items are sold out. In past years, all items have sold out in a couple of hours or less,

so plan to shop early!

This year's sale will once again feature elegant, one-of-a-kind designs in the form of decorated fresh wreaths, swags, centerpieces, and 2025 Christmas ornaments, all beautifully handcrafted by the talented women of the Mattapoisett Woman's Club! Bundled evergreens and holly branches will also be available for purchase. Cash, checks and credit cards will be accepted.

In case of inclement weather, the rain date will be December 7th. Proceeds from the Holiday Greens Sale and all our fundraisers directly support the Mattapoisett Woman's Club's Scholarship Fund and other charitable community endeavors.

Nantucket Stroll

The island's world-renowned signature event lovingly dubbed "Stroll" takes place the weekend of December 5th to December 7th, featuring the eagerly anticipated arrival of Santa via his nautical "sleigh" on Saturday. A host of holiday activities, including strolling carolers in Victorian garb, the Magical Talking Tree, craft shows, a European-style Christmas Marketplace and more guarantee fun for the entire family.

Visit <https://www.nantucketchamber.org/nantucket-noel/>

Christmas Fair

The Church of the Good Shepherd will be holding its annual Christmas Fair in their Parish Hall on Saturday, December 6 from 9 am to 2 pm at 74 High Street, Wareham. Favorites will include crafts, gift baskets, jewelry and scarves, raffles, gently used Christmas decor, spice table, and baked goods. All items for sale are either handmade, home-baked or recycled by Good Shepherd parishioners! Please join us for this festive holiday tradition at the Good Shepherd, a "Good" & Green" Church. For more information, please call 508-295-2840.

La Salette's Lights

La Salette's Christmas Festival of Lights, until 1/4/26, 5:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M., 47 Park Street, Attleboro, MA. Visit www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org or call 508-222-5410

Public Hearings/Legal Notices

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

TOWN OF ACUSHNET

The Acushnet Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing at its meeting on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council on Aging Community Room located at 59 1/2 South Main Street Acushnet. This hearing is on the petition Job # 4A0ZY3T from VERIZON NEW ENGLAND INC. and NSTAR ELECTRIC COMPANY D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY.

Keene Road: Relocate one (1) JO mid-span pole, 75/6, nine (9) feet from its original location on the North side of Keene Road. The relocated pole will be installed in-line with approximately one hundred and sixty-two (162) feet West of existing pole 75/6.5; and approximately one hundred seventy-one (171) feet East of existing pole 75/5.

The installation is being requested by Eversource to support a customer's request for the development of a new construction project on Keene Road; and to provide for the distribution of intelligence and telecommunications and the transmission of high and low voltage electric current.

Plans are available for public view in the Board of Selectmen's Office, 122 Main St, Acushnet during regular business hours.

Board of Selectmen

David Wojnar, Chairman
Kevin Gaspar, Sr., Member
Robert Hinckley, Member
FNN, 12/4/25, 12/11/25

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 Wednesday, December 16, 2025 at 6:30 PM. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room located at 122 Main Street, Acushnet, MA 02743.

Case #2025.11.19C – (Continued) A case of Paul Nosworthy for property located at 36 Hathaway Road, Map 14, Lot 2. The Petitioner seeks a Variance to construct a new 30' X 28' barn. The proposed barn

fails to meet the required 15-foot sideline setback pursuant to Sec 3.3.1E (3) (c).

Case #2025.06.17B – (Continued) A case of Three Kings Marine, LLC for property located at 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 #2025.12.16A A case of Christian Gwozdz-Silveira for property located at 47 Pershing Avenue, Map 24, Lot 273. The Petitioner seeks a Variance to construct an addition for an accessory dwelling unit. The proposed addition fails to meet the required 15-foot setback pursuant to Sec 3.3.1E (3) (c).

Case #2025.12.16B A case of Dale & Tracey Duval for property located at 134 Keene Road, Map 4, Lot 25. The Petitioner seeks a Variance to construct a 2nd Garage to be 25 X 25. The proposed Addition fails to meet the Minimum Frontage of 150 ft. per Sec 3.3.1 (c).

Case #2025.12.16C A case of Jeffrey Sylvia for property located at 248 Perry Hill Road, Map 8, Lot 39A. The Petitioner seeks a Variance to construct a 24 X 28 Garage. The proposed Garage fails to meet the required sideline setback of 15 ft. pursuant to Sec 3.3.1E (3) (a).

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

FNN, 11/27/25, 12/4/25

Fairhaven Community Preservation Committee

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 6:00 pm Town Hall, 40 Center Street Fairhaven, Massachusetts

To access remotely Log onto:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82229650648?pwd=ODJ0ZnRhdm15MHPyamIJN3M1VnRaZz09>
or call 1-929-205-6099 - Meeting ID: 822 2965 0648 - Passcode: 895918

Live on fairhaventv.com and Fairhaven TV
Channel 18

REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS FOR CPA FUNDING

The Fairhaven Community Preservation Committee

will conduct Public Hearings to review (18) applications for FY27 CPA funds that the CPC is reviewing for eligibility and whether to recommend to the Annual Town Meeting in 2026. The following applications will be reviewed on Wednesday, December 10, 2025.

Historic Preservation

1. Fairhaven Historic Commission:Historic Property Survey Plan for Town of Fairhaven (\$9,999)
2. Riverside Cemetery Monument Restoration Project- (\$5,800)
3. Fairhaven Improvement Association:Millicent Library Sidewalk Lighting Project (\$25,000)
4. Fairhaven Protecting Society: 1937 Maxim Fire Truck Restoration (\$95,000) (\$395,000)
5. Fairhaven Public Schools: FHS Exterior Masonry, Roofing and Flashing Preservation: (\$140,000)
6. Town of Fairhaven: Air Conditioner for Town Hall auditorium (\$700,000)
7. Town of Fairhaven: Town Hall West Retained Wall Project (\$320,000)
8. Town of Fairhaven: Town Hall Repair of 4 Wooden Doors and 4 Front Pillars Town Hall (\$25,000)
9. Town of Fairhaven: Masonry Repair of Academy Building Foundation (\$45,000)
10. Millicent Library Restoration & Preservation Project (\$25,000)

Open Space and Recreation

11. Sustainability Committee: Macomber Pimental Park Native Plant Garden (\$3,505)
12. Pickleball and Tennis Assoc: Livesey Park, Tennis, Basketball Pickleball Resurfacing (\$120,000)
13. BPW: Big Belly Trash Compactor (\$30,000)
14. BPW: West Island Town Beach Permanent Bathrooms (\$348,900)

Housing

15. Fairhaven Housing Authority-Oxford Terrace Window Replacement- (\$100,000)

Copies of the Applications and Plans may be viewed at the Office of Planning & Economic Development in Town Hall, located at 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA, and on the Town's CPC website: <https://fairhaven-ma.gov/community-preservation-committee/>

Ann Richard Chair,

Community Preservation Committee

FNN: 11/27/25, 12/4/25

Old Tyme Holiday Village

See ad on back cover

Dec 13, 2025, 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM,
Fairhaven Center, 40 Center St,
Fairhaven.

Step into a winter wonderland at Olde-Tyme Holiday, a festive celebration in the heart of Fairhaven's historic district! On Saturday, December 13th, 2025, the streets will come alive with holiday cheer as local

shops, churches, and community spaces open their doors for a day of shopping, sweet treats, live entertainment, and seasonal fun.

Enjoy a variety of activities, from artisan markets and delicious food vendors to holiday music and family-friendly entertainment. Participating locations include Fairhaven Town Hall, the Millicent Library, First Congregational Church, Unitarian

Church, and the Northeast Maritime Institute, and the George Taber Masonic Lodge.

Stay tuned for the full lineup of festivities—and get ready to make magical holiday memories in Fairhaven!

Visit the full event page
<https://www.discoverfairhaven.org/ol-de-tyme-holiday>.

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HAPPS: cont'd from page 5

questions. Don't miss this chance to connect and engage with our community!

Whether you're a business owner, entrepreneur, or simply interested in Fairhaven's economic growth, this is a fantastic opportunity to connect and collaborate. We look forward to seeing you there!

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/>

SAVE THE DATE:

Santa's Grand Arrival

Celebrate the magical finale of the 27th Annual Olde-Tyme Holiday Village! Kick off with the tree lighting and the announcement of the best-decorated tree, voted on by the public throughout the day. Then join in caroling and sing-alongs as Santa makes a grand arrival on a fire truck, spreading holiday cheer for children and families alike.

Afterwards, step inside the warm, festive Town Hall to enjoy professional photos with Santa, along with cookies, cocoa, and seasonal

treats—the perfect cozy ending to a magical day.

Sat., 12/13, 4:30-5:30 p.m., 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA

Presented with holiday cheer by the Fairhaven Improvement Association, Discover Fairhaven, & Fairhaven TV.

Free Performance

On December 13 at 1:00 PM and 4:00PM and December 14 at 3:00PM, Seaglass Theater Company and the Dennis Union Church will present *Amahl and the Night Visitors* at two historic Massachusetts churches.

Amahl and the Night Visitors

Sat., 12/13, at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. at Dennis Union Church, 713 Main Street Dennis, MA 02638

Sun., 12/14, at 3 p.m., Unitarian Memorial Church, 102 Green Street Fairhaven, MA 02719

Featuring Isabella Abbrescia, Ryan Lustgarten, Anthony Pilcher, Paul Soper, Patrice Tiedemann; Margaret Bossi, Chorus Master; David McCarty, Stage Director and Choreographer; Dr. Matthew Larson, Music director and pianist.

A poor shepherd boy. Three kings. One miraculous night.

Experience the warmth and wonder of the season with *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, Gian Carlo Menotti's beloved one-act opera, performed by an exceptional cast under the direction of David McCarty, with conductor and pianist Dr. Matthew Larson and chorus master Margaret Bossi.

Join us for this heartwarming story of a poor shepherd boy whose life is changed forever when three kings,

following a star, stop at his humble home on their journey to Bethlehem.

"*Amahl and the Night Visitors* has been on the Seaglass "TO-DO" list for many years, and when Maggie Bossi (Dennis Union Church Director of Music) asked to collaborate on it—we jumped at the chance. I am thrilled that we were able to bring so many talented people together to bring this opera to life," says STC Artistic Director Patrice Tiedemann.

The performances are free, and all are welcome.

Reservations are recommended for the Fairhaven performance, and can be made on Eventbrite: <https://amahlfairhaven.eventbrite.com>

For more information, please visit www.seaglasstheater.com or call 508-951-7187 (Seaglass Theater Company) or 508) 385-3543 (Dennis Union Church).

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

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TASTY TREATS

BAKE SALES
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Town Hall, Unitarian Church,
First Congregational Church

SANTA'S SWEET SHOP
11AM-2PM
NEMI Integrity Hall
(29 Center St)

COCKTAILS & WINE
10AM-5PM
Walnut Street

TRUCK TREATS
10AM-5:30PM
Walnut Street

SHOP LOCAL

VENDOR FAIRS
10AM-3PM
Town Hall, Unitarian Church,
First Congregational Church

KIDS BOOK GIVEAWAY
10AM-3PM
Millicent Library

FESTIVE FEAST

NFIA HOLIDAY CAFE
& BOY SCOUT SALE
10AM-3PM
Town Hall

TRAVELER'S SEAFOOD
Walnut Street
10:00AM-5:30PM

DOUGH & BASIL PIZZA
Walnut Street
10:00AM-5:30PM

SOUP & SANDWICHES
Unitarian Church Harrop Center
11:30AM-2PM

FOR LITTLE ELVES

\$10 PONY RIDES
11AM-2PM
Town Hall William St Lawn

MILICENT'S MAGIC MAIL
10AM-3PM
Millicent Library / Town Hall

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE TREE

10AM-3PM
Town Hall

REC CENTER REINDEER GAMES

2:30PM-4:30PM
Millicent Library Lawn

SANTA'S GRAND ARRIVAL!

4:30PM-5:30PM
Town Hall

BACK IN TYME

GEORGE H TABER MASONIC
LODGE BUILDING TOURS
10AM-3PM

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

11AM
Unitarian Church Santuary

FIDDLERS

12:30PM-2:30PM
Millicent Library

CHURCH BELL CONCERT

1PM
Unitarian Church

TALES OF AN OLD SEAPORT VILLAGE WALKING TOUR

3PM-4:30PM
Begins on Center Street

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New Bedford
First Floor - Suite S1-36

St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church
124 Front St. Marion

CHRISTMAS Craft Fair

Sunday, December 14th
9am - 4pm

Support Local Artisans
Gifts * Food * Music