



# Fairhaven

# Neighborhood News

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



The little paper  
with a big voice!

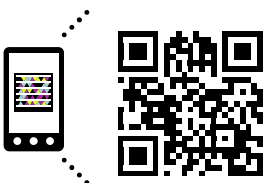
Volume 21, Issue 1 • December 11, 2025

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

## FHS is #1



The Fairhaven High School Blue Devils Football team and coaches pose with the trophy after beating Norwell 28-14 at Gillette Stadium on 12/4/25 to win the Division VI state championship for the second time in three years. See page 18. *Photo by Sam Simoes*



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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.

It's official. We're the bad guys now. So much winning, huh?

Our country, the once-great USA, has been blowing up boats in the Caribbean because the Big Buffoon says they are trafficking in drugs. Well, even if they are, that's not a capital offense. If we're so tough, why don't we go get 'em instead of blowing them out of the water from miles away? But then....it got worse. So much worse.

Two survivors clinging to the debris trying to stay alive, and we fired on them again. A kill order or some such baloney. Either way, it's against international law and any thinking human can see that.

We are officially the bad guys now.

We live on the water around here. We know how fragile life is off the shore. We should be horrified, mortified and outraged that our government fired on people helplessly clinging to flotsam on the water.

We are officially disgusting.

Those of you still supporting him need to reexamine what you think it is to be a decent human being. Because supporting this outrageous behavior is abhorrent.

Meanwhile, the ICE goons are still plucking people off the streets. Or their citizenship swearing in ceremonies. Yeah, citizenship swearing in ceremonies. The people who did everything right, were perfectly legal, and were in the very last step to citizenship got the rug pulled out from under them because of hateful bigotry.

These are not the worst of the worst. They are the best of the best, working hard to get the prize and we pulled it away from them.

And the Big Buffoon? He's strutting around wearing a face peace prize that he's treating like the real thing, like a little kid that got a gold star from the teacher.

It would be funny if not for the fact that we used to be a great country. Now, we're the laughing stock of the world. And quite possibly, the Big Buffoon and his underlings will one day be tried for international crimes.

Back closer to home.

Just before press time, I heard that the Acushnet School Committee voted to negotiate with ORR and not Fairhaven. I have not been able to watch the meeting, it wasn't uploaded in time for me to report on it properly. This is just a heads-up that we will run something next week.

Aaaannndd...next week is our last issue of the year. We will not publish on 12/25 & 1/1, so if you have any listings, get them in ASAP.

We'll be back on 1/8 unless I hit the lottery.

There is a ton of fun stuff in this week's issue, listings, fun news, and how 'bout them football kids, huh?

Anyway, you'll have to thumb through to find it all. 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!*



Publisher Beth David with  
Charlie, aka Evil Dog

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Editor: Beth David

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## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our 12/4/25 issue in the Death Notice for Octavia David made an error in a name, it should have been Marie David.

In our 12/11/25 issue, the headline for Steve Grossman's letter was incorrect. It should have read "Pond got it wrong."

We apologize for any confusion our errors may have caused.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beth David".

# Fairhaven's Olde-Tyme holiday is this weekend

Fairhaven's Olde-Tyme Holiday is this Saturday and features a host of fun activities for all ages to get you into the Christmas spirit (see ad on back cover). The big day starts at 10 a.m. and goes until 5:30 p.m., at a variety of venues in and around Fairhaven Center. Start at the town hall, 40 Center Street.

## Overview

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

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

[www.discoverfairhaven.org/olde-tyme-holiday](https://www.discoverfairhaven.org/olde-tyme-holiday)

## Reindeer Games

Keep the holiday fun rolling! From 2:30–4:30 PM, the Fairhaven Recreation Center is bringing festive fun to the Millicent Library lawn for the little elves while they eagerly await Santa's grand arrival (below).

Plan your whole magical day: [www.discoverfairhaven.org/olde-tyme-holiday](https://www.discoverfairhaven.org/olde-tyme-holiday)

## 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.

## For Little Elves

- **\$10 Pony Rides** 11 a.m.–2 p.m., Town Hall, William Street lawn.
- **Millicent's Magic Mail** 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Millicent Library/Town Hall.
- **Vote for Your Favorite Tree** 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Town Hall.
- **Rec Center Reindeer Games**, 2:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m., Millicent Library lawn (see above.)
- **Santa's Grand Arrival**, 4:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m., Town Hall (see above).

## Tasty Treats

- **Bake Sales**, 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Town Hall, Unitarian Church, First Congregational Church.
- **Santa's Sweet Shop**, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., NE Maritime Institute Integrity Hall, 29 Center Street.
- **Cocktails and Wine**, 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Walnut Street.
- **Truck Treats**, 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Walnut Street.

OLDE TYME: cont'd next page

Christmas Trees  
Wreaths  
Cemetery  
Baskets



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10 a.m. Dec. 14: 'A Holiday Pageant'

Children are welcome at the service!

Visit us for the festive Holiday Marketplace and luncheon, carol sing-along and special music on the church bells Dec. 13!

The Rev. Maria Uitti McCabe

102 Green St., Fairhaven [uufairhaven.org](http://uufairhaven.org) 508-992-7081



## OLDE-TYME: cont'd from previous page

### Festive Feast

- NFIA Holiday Cafe & Boy Scout Sale, 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Town Hall.
- Traveler's Seafood, 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Walnut Street.
- Dough & Basil Pizza, 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Walnut Street
- Soup & Sandwiches, 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m., Unitarian Church Harrop

### Center

### Shop Local

- Vendor Fairs, 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Town Hall, Unitarian Church, First Congregational Church
- Kids Book Giveaway, 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Millicent Library.

### Back in Tyme

- George H. Taber Masonic Lodge

### Building Tours, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

- Christmas Carols, 11 a.m., Unitarian Church Sanctuary
- Fiddlers, 12:30–2:30 p.m., Millicent Library
- Church Bell Concert, 1 p.m., Unitarian Church.
- Tales of an Old Seaport Village Walking Tour, 3–4:30 p.m., Begins on Center Street near Town Hall.

## Free Performances: *Amahl and the Night Visitors*

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

**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](http://www.seaglasstheater.com) or call 508-951-7187 (Seaglass Theater Company) or 508) 385-3543 (Dennis Union Church).

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## AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

### Christmas Lights and Santa

Santa will be at 35 Gellette Road on Sat., 12/13 from 6–9 p.m. & Sat., 12/20, from 5–9 p.m. Take pictures with Santa and the Grinch, and enjoy complimentary refreshments. Please bring a non-perishable, non-expired food item to be donated to the MO LIFE food pantry.

The lights at this private home are lit every night from 5–9 until Jan. 6... and maybe beyond! Enjoy a spectacular display of more than 400,000 lights spread throughout the property. If you need some Christmas Spirit, this is the place to find it.

### 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.

### Free Holiday Stickers

Fairhaven is a community that welcomes and celebrates everyone. Hanukkah and Kwanzaa both take place in December, bringing light, unity and joy to the holiday season. These celebrations remind us of the diverse holiday traditions honored during this special time of the year.

Anyone who wishes to display a symbol of Hanukkah or Kwanzaa in their window can pick one up for free in the Walnut Street Lobby of the Millicent Library, where there is a basket of free symbols.

These have been donated by Fairhaven for All. The mission of Fairhaven for All is to foster a culture of welcome inclusivity, and acceptance for all in Fairhaven while enabling residents to grow, understand and value the power of diversity in communities, civics, business and education.

### Trees in Fairhaven

Trees in Fairhaven will be having a meeting on Mon., 12/15 at 7 PM at the Unitarian Church Parish House at 47 Center st Fairhaven MA.

Anyone interested in the town's tree canopy is invited to attend. Our goal is in making our town better through planting and greening.

### 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.

### 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/>

### Town Surveys

The town of Fairhaven is conducting two surveys.

Please take some time to have your voice count. Visit the town's website at [www.fairhaven-ma.gov](http://www.fairhaven-ma.gov) for more information.

### Hazard Mitigation Plan

Fairhaven is updating its Hazard Mitigation Plan to reduce the risks from flooding, hurricanes, severe storms, and other natural hazards. The plan identifies local vulnerabilities and outlines strategies to protect lives, property, and critical services.

Your input is essential to ensure

the plan reflects community priorities and includes effective, practical solutions.

Complete the Hazard Mitigation Plan survey at <https://tinyurl.com/2wu7em8u>

### Open Space and Recreation Planning

SRPEDD works with towns and other organizations to support the realization of high quality open space and recreation facilities.

Open Space and Recreation areas are some of our most loved, utilized, and iconic community spaces. Maybe it's the local pool where we learned to swim, the wooded trail where we got to know a new tree, or the playground where we spent family time, these places hold a special place in our personal and community fabrics.

Additionally, there is growing appreciation for the value of key specialized open spaces, such as rivers and forests, in combating climate change impacts like extreme heat, flooding, and water quality challenges.

SRPEDD is frequently a lead partner in the development of community Open Space & Recreation Plans, the seven-year documents that communicate local visions and values for improving open space and recreation areas for all residents, users, and ecological functions.

These plans open the door to potential grant funding for project implementation, but are equally important for the community conversations and involvement that SRPEDD helps to facilitate as part of plan development.

Complete the Open Space and Recreation survey at <https://tinyurl.com/4wwarxtm>

### Wellness/Flu Clinics

SEMA (Southeastern MA Public Health Collaborative), serving Acushnet, Fairhaven, and New Bedford, is hosting monthly no-cost public health wellness clinics every third Thursday of the month at the Fairhaven Recreation Center, 227 Huttleston Ave., Fairhaven, from 8:30–10:30 a.m. Next date: 12/18. Walk-ins welcome.

Featuring: health education, car seat safety checks, blood pressure screenings, stop the bleed training,

**HAPPS: cont'd on page 22**

# Oxford School Weathervane restored

By Beth David  
Editor

The Livesey Club held a rededication event on 12/7/25 to show the restored weathervane that used to be on the cupola at the Oxford School. The weathervane now sits proudly atop the cupola of the Livesey Club building, 11 Hopkins Street, not far at all from the old school, which is now the Oxford School Residences.

"The Livesey Club took on the responsibility of restoring the

historic artifact of North Fairhaven which had been a landmark for more than a century," wrote David Darmofal in an email. "The Livesey Club now displays the weathervane proudly for all to enjoyed."

He said the many individuals and business, along with students from New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School, worked to restore the weathervane.

"We urge residents of the town

to stop by and take peak." wrote Mr. Darmofal. "I'm sure many memories will be brought forward when one sees it again atop a cupola in North Fairhaven.



LEFT: Members of the Livesey Club and volunteers gather on 12/7/25 to rededicate the restored Oxford School weathervane, which now sits atop the cupola of the Livesey Club building in Fairhaven. RIGHT: The Oxford School weathervane, newly restored, sits atop the cupola of the Livesey Club building. Submitted photos.



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9am - 4pm

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# Hastings Middle School names top three Patriot's Pen winners

Patriot's Pen is an annual essay contest sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Affairs (VFW). This year's theme was "How are you showing your patriotism and support for our country?" Conducted nationwide, this VFW sponsored youth essay competition gives students an opportunity to write essays expressing their views

on an annual patriotic theme. The contest is open to all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. First place winner advances to the Bristol County District competition. Congratulations to our winners and all who participated. Each year, more than 60,600 students in sixth through eighth grades enter the VFW's Patriot's Pen®

annual youth essay contest for a chance to win their share of nearly \$1 million in state and national awards. Each first place state winner receives a minimum of \$500 at the national level, and the national first place winner wins \$5,000! Learn more at <https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>



Winners of the 2025 Patriot's Pen contest at Elizabeth Hastings Middle School in Fairhaven, pause for a photo with their principal and vice principal, L-R: Mr. Joey Winterhalter (EHMS VP), Anna Chen (2nd Place), Jackson Leite (1st Place), Aria Andrade (3rd Place), Mr. Kyle Alves (EHMS Principal).

*Submitted photo.*



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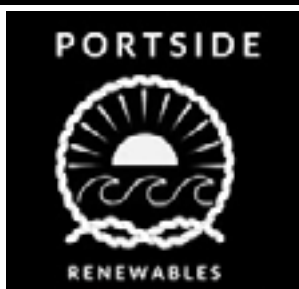
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Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., 7:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.; Wed., 7:30 a.m.–8 p.m.

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

## Supportive Social Day Program

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

## Mall Trips

Reservations accepted for mall trips at beginning the 15th of the prior month. There is a \$6 charge unless otherwise noted. Please bring exact amount. The van leaves the Fairhaven Senior Center promptly at 9: 12/17, Providence Place Mall; 1/7/26: Twin River Casino; 1/14/26, Hyannis Mall/Trader Joe's; 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.

## 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 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.

## Technology for Seniors

Dec. 22, 1:30–3:30 p.m. Please bring your laptop, tablet, iPad or smartphone. MUST call to sign up, 508-979-4029.

**Dec. 22: Digital Confidence for Daily Life.** This program helps you build confidence using your phone, tablet or other everyday device. We start off small — covering essential topics like safety, apps, photos, and communication — and build from there. Each session is simple, supportive, and designed to help you feel more in control.

**Dec. 29: Social Media for Actual Socializing.** Tired of the nonsense and negativity online? This session shows you how to connect meaningfully and introduces hidden gems better suited for genuine interactions. Whether you're tech-savvy or just starting out, you'll learn to use social media to build meaningful connections — your way.

# 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 Kid 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

## 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

## Recipe of the Week

### Holiday 7 Layers Bars

1/2 cup butter  
2 c vanilla wafers, finely crushed  
1 (14-ounce) can sweetened condensed milk  
1 c butterscotch-flavored pieces  
1 (6-ounce) package white baking chocolate, chopped  
1 cup dried fruit pieces  
1 1/3 cups shredded coconut  
1 cup unsalted mixed nuts, coarsely chopped  
Preheat the oven to 350°

Line a 9x13-inch baking pan with foil, with the foil extending over the edges of the pan. This will help with removing the bars from the pan later.

Place the butter in the prepared pan and then place the pan in the oven until the butter melts, for about 5 minutes.

Remove the pan from the oven, leaving the oven on, and then coat the bottom of the pan with the melted butter.

Sprinkle in the crushed vanilla wafers.

Drizzle the condensed milk as evenly as possible over the wafers.

Sprinkle the butterscotch-flavored pieces, white chocolate chunks, fruit bits, coconut, and nuts, in that order, one on top of the other in the pan. Make sure to press down the layers lightly as you add them.

Bake until the edges are lightly browned, for about 25 minutes.

Remove the pan and let cool on a wire rack.

Use the foil to lift the dessert out of the pan and cut it into bars. Serve cool.

From [cookingprofessionally.com](http://cookingprofessionally.com)



## Dear Frankie

### Christmas Guest

Dear Frankie,  
I just got a big lecture from my mom about being friendly and welcoming to Boomer, her boyfriend's dog, who will be staying with us for three nights over Christmas.

She said I should remember the meaning of Christmas is joy and peace.

That's all well and good for her to say, but she doesn't have to spend time or sleep next to Boomer, who stinks, slobbers, and snores. Besides, he's boring, lazy, and never wants to play.

Where's the joy and peace in the holiday for me? If I had my way, I would spend the holiday with my nana, who is in the nursing home. At least it's quiet there, and I would get a lot of snacks from her and her friends.

Should I ask my mom if I can spend the holiday with my nana?

Bert

Dear Bert,

I agree that Boomer doesn't sound like much of a fun guy. Before asking your mother, check the nursing home's overnight rules. Dogs may not be allowed, and the staff could find it a burden to walk and feed you.

Instead, consider asking your dog park friends to invite you for playdates or overnights. If that's not possible, you might feign a mild illness and suggest you avoid Boomer, in case he catches it.

Remember, if none of my suggestions work, it's only for three nights.

Best, Frankie

© 2025 Geneva Woodruff

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

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## Smile Factory graduates Class #3

The Smile Factory Hospital Caring Clown School just graduated their third class of students, just in time to visit all three of our hospitals for the Holiday Season.

The classes are each Tuesday evening for 10 weeks and take place at 88 Hatch Street in New Bedford, from 6:30-8:45. Subjects studied are: Improv, Pocket magic, Storytelling, Puppetry, juggling, and the ways to keep good hygiene in the forefront helping to keep you and those you visit in good health.

Once graduated from The Smile Factory Clown School, Graduates tour and visit staff, visitors, doctors and patients in Charlton Memorial, St. Lukes, and Tobey Hospitals. Once completed they are welcomed into the elite group called "The South-coast Funny Bones."

Our next class begins on 3/17/26. Call or text Elaine Vercellone, Founder/ Educator to hold your spot at: 201-388-0225 or e-mail: thesmilefactoryclowns@gmail.com.

Come have fun with us. You will have experiences that you will keep in your heart forever.



Clown Class graduates pose for their class picture, L-R: Don "Dr. I.B.A.Porter" Flemming, Bridget "Dr. Am. Knee-Ja" Bruce, Madeline "Dr. Dipsy Doodles" Gray, Jeffrey "Dr. Moo" Morin, Emma "Dr. Glitzy Glitters" Bruce, Elaine "Dr. Daisy Spot 'n' Dot" Vercellone. Watch for us at a hospital near you! *Submitted photo.*



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## Worship with us this Christmas Season!

**Sunday, December 21 • 6 PM**

**Ecumenical Longest Night/Blue Christmas Service**

Led by St. Joseph's, Trinity Lutheran and First Congregational Churches. Designed for those experiencing loss of any kind or anyone who is finding it hard to feel joy this Christmas: readings, music, silence, candle lighting.

**Wednesday, December 24 • 6 PM**

**Candlelight Christmas Eve Service**

A service of readings, music and prayer to celebrate Christmas in our candlelit sanctuary. When we leave we will take Christ's joy and love with us into the December night. All are welcome.



## Benoit Square lights up for season



The North Fairhaven Improvement Association held its annual lighting of Benoit Square on Friday, 12/5/25, featuring both Santa and Mrs. Claus, a sing-along, free hot chocolate, and lots of laughs. Fairhaven High School student, Emmalyn Pereira, led the crowd of around 200 singing Christmas carols. Both Miss Apple Peach, Elyza Wagner, and Jr. Miss Apple Peach, Aubrey Souza, helped with handing out song books and candy canes, and otherwise just spreading holiday cheer. Everyone had a chance to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus by the tree in the gazebo. Santa even handed out brand new 2025 pennies to each child. Learn more about the activities sponsored by the NFIA at <https://northfairhavenimprovementassoc.weebly.com> or find them on Facebook, or email [northfairhavenimprovement267@gmail.com](mailto:northfairhavenimprovement267@gmail.com) or visit them at the Old Tyme Holiday event in the town hall banquet room on Sat., 12/13. ABOVE LEFT: Evelyn looks pretty pleased to receive her shiny new penny from Santa's helper, Emmalyn Pereira, after visiting with Santa and Mrs. Claus at the lighting of Benoit Square sponsored by the North Fairhaven Improvement Association on 12/5/25. ABOVE RIGHT: Archie is clearly not quite sure of this whole Santa and Mrs. Claus thing. BELOW LEFT: Paul has the full attention of both Santa and Mrs. Claus as he makes his case for gifts. BELOW RIGHT: Tobias and Teagan make the most of their time with Santa and Mrs. Claus. BOTTOM LEFT: Santa and Mrs. Claus are greeted by children as they arrive. BOTTOM RIGHT: L-R: Members of the Smith family, Daniella, Aiden, Nonna Connie, Matthew, pose for a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus. *Photos by Beth David.*





# Hundreds enjoy Acushnet lighting, visits with Santa

By Beth David  
Editor

The Acushnet Firefighters Association held its annual holiday lighting on Sunday, 12/7/25, at the Fire Station on Russell Street, at Parting Ways. The grounds and big tree are now lit up for all to enjoy, every night through the New Year.

The Ford Middle School Chorus led the crowd of several hundred in singing Christmas Carols until Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived in a fire truck. Everyone got the chance to talk with the big guy and have a picture taken. Everyone was also welcome to free hot chocolate and cookies.

This year, Daisy and Brownie Troop/Acushnet sold Girl Scout cookies.

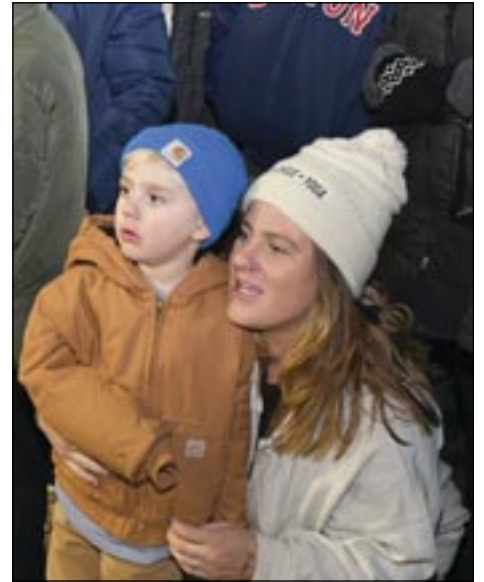
Also new this year, the organization, Christmas Wishes New Bedford

& Surrounding Areas, was on hand. The group is sponsoring 139 families this year, giving gifts to a total of 300 children. They still had some families that needed "adoption" so they had their Christmas tree with information cards for people to take to be able to fill the wishes.

Organizer, Kevin Dean, said it was the eighth year he and his wife, Lori, have run the organization. He said they were involved in another group that stopped operating, so they decided to start their own.

The best part, he said, is that some of the families they helped in the past are now reaching out to help others.

Find them on Facebook to donate: <https://www.facebook.com/christmaswishes17> or email them at [christmaswishes777@gmail.com](mailto:christmaswishes777@gmail.com)



TOP: Wyatt and his mom, Shawna, sing along during the Acushnet lighting at the Fire Station on 12/7/25. ABOVE LEFT: Santa waves to the crowd on his arrival. ABOVE RIGHT: Brooklyn takes advantage of her opportunity to tell Santa what she wants BELOW LEFT: Young Knox is not at all impressed with the whole Santa thing BELOW RIGHT: Hunter gets very expressive making his case to Santa and Mrs. Claus. *Photos by Beth David.*



## From our readers

### The Greatest Story

The Christmas season prompts me to ask this question: "What is the greatest story ever told?"

For me, there are several elements worth considering. First, the greatest story should affect the most people; it should be extremely creative, imaginative, comprehensive, inclusive, universal, and engaging; it must have integrity and completeness; and finally, I would say the greatest story ever told must pack unparalleled power to change its readers for the better.

I do not know about you, but a particular story comes immediately to mind. It is the account of Jesus Christ — the One who supernaturally came to earth as a man to bear witness of the truth.

Of all the books ever written, I am quite certain that few if any boast a main character as unique and impacting as Jesus Christ. This figure was sent as the highest gift of God to save mankind from sin by dying on the Cross. His was a legacy filled with supernatural ability, wisdom in the

fullness of Father God, ultimate authority obtained via humility, love, and victory over all things evil, including death. His life is depicted in an epic novel that was written over 1,500 years through 40 or so hands, consists of 66 books, and stands as the all-time bestseller by many millions of copies.

If there is another tale as affecting... if there is another work as creative, imaginative, comprehensive, inclusive, universal, and engaging... if there is another author as capable of capturing integrity and completeness... if there is another piece of literature that packs such power to restore its reader, then I would be very interested in getting my hands on it.

Friends, the "greatest story ever told" is quite a concept. Only one title is worthy. And while there are many possibilities out there, I am convinced my selection offers an unequaled distinction. The Bible brings to bear this wonderful holiday we call "Christmas."

I mean, just listen to the beauty of the prose in Luke 2:10-11: Then the

angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

How great is that?

Merry Christmas!!

*Steven J. Bouley, Fairhaven*

### HUD Proposal Will Increase Homelessness

The Massachusetts Housing & Shelter Alliance (MHSA) submitted a declaration as part of a lawsuit filed on 12/2/25 by a coalition of nonprofit organizations and local governments against the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

HUD is rolling out a massive policy change to Continuum of Care (CoC) funding that will dramatically cut housing for people with disabilities nationwide. Nearly 4,000 households across Massachusetts are in danger of returning to homelessness.

This is not a budget cut by Congress; it is a reckless policy change by HUD to largely eliminate

LETTERS: cont'd on page 23

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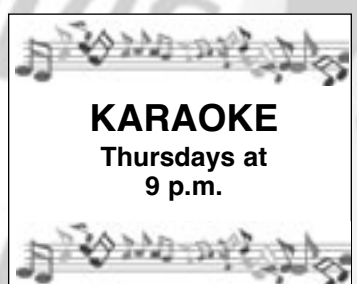
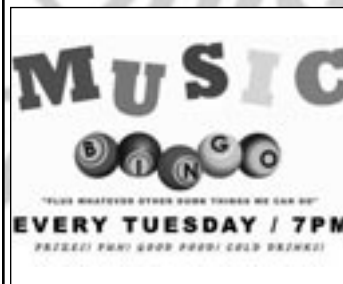


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Tax deductible donations may be sent to Shepherd's Pantry, PO Box 760, Fairhaven, MA 02719. Find them on Facebook

## Upcoming Meetings

### Fairhaven

#### Atlas Tack Working Group

Thurs., 12/18, Town Hall/Remote

#### 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., 6:30 p.m.

#### Cultural Council

Wed., 12/17, Town Hall, 6:30 p.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.

#### 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., 12/30, Town Hall, TBA

## TIDE TABLE

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

	Dec. 2025		HIGH a.m. p.m.	LOW a.m. p.m.
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
		---	---	--- 2307
Wednesday	17	0552	1813	--- 1318
		---	---	--- 2327
Thursday	18	0629	1851	--- 1359
		---	---	--- 2356
Friday	19	0707	1930	--- 1311
Saturday	20	0746	2012	0031 1336
Sunday	21	0828	2055	0113 1411
Monday	22	0910	2138	0200 1447
Tuesday	23	0952	2222	0246 1523*
Wednesday	24	1036	2310	0330 1600*
Thursday	25	1127	---	0414 1642*
Friday	26	0003	1221	0506 1732*
Saturday	27	0057	1315	0612 1833*

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

## WHEN LOCAL NEWS FAILS...

“The foundations of democracy weaken.”  
—Margaret Sullivan, “Ghosting The News”

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Thank you for reading the *Neighb News*.



## FHS beats Norwell to take #1 slot in Division VI



The Fairhaven High School Blue Devils Football team played an exciting game to beat Norwell 28-14 at Gillette Stadium on 12/4/25, winning the Division VI championship for the second time in three years. You can watch the game for free on the Patriots YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UINeUrxw9cU>. Scroll forward to 2:38. Unfortunately the sound is out until about 2:45. The game is also available on the NFHS network, but not for free, at <https://www.nfhsnetwork.com>. ABOVE LEFT: Fairhaven High School Blue Devil, Ian Alexion, runs away from the defense during the championship game at Gillette Stadium on 12/4/25 when the FHS Blue Devils beat Norwell 28-14 to win the Division VI state championship for the second time in three years. ABOVE RIGHT: FHS's Evan Lamontagne hands off to Ian Alexion BELOW LEFT: FHS Blue Devil, Zack Moura (#61) chases the quarterback BELOW RIGHT: The FHS Blue Devils raise the trophy on the field after the win. BOTTOM: Seniors on the FHS team pose with the trophy after the win. *Photos by Sam Simoes.*





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# HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

## AHA! NBFestive

Thurs., 12/11, 3–9 p.m., Downtown New Bedford. AHA!'s holiday event will be one to remember. From an ugly sweater party and festive snacks to live musical performances, crafts, markets and exhibits, AHA!'s NBFestive event has something for everyone. Visit [ahanewbedford.org/next-aha/](http://ahanewbedford.org/next-aha/) for a complete rundown.

## Holiday Pops

Let the Season Shine with Holiday Pops! Sun., 12/14, 3:30 and 7 PM, Bronspegal 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/>

## 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, 12/15 (**NOTE DATE CORRECTION**). 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.

## NB Holiday Stroll

Sat., 12/13, noon to 4 p.m., various venues and outside in Downtown New Bedford. The most magical day of the season returns to Downtown New Bedford. Get ready for a festive stroll through downtown New Bedford — with bright lights, local charm, and a little something for everyone on your list!

Visit <https://downtownnb.org/dnb-holiday-stroll-2025/>

Featuring fire truck rides and a visit from Santa; art, crafts and hands-on activities for kids; special deals and holiday gift ideas for everyone.

Whether you're hunting for the perfect present, a sweet holiday treat, or that one special "this is so you" find, nothing hits the holiday vibe quite like shopping small! This year's Stroll spotlights the local artists, gift-curators, and indie businesses that make our community unique!

dNB Holiday Stroll is brought to you by Downtown New Bedford Inc, with sponsorship support from MA Office of Behavioral Health Promotion & Prevention, Hawthorn Medical Associates, NB Creative and the New Bedford Local Cultural Council.

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

## My Favorite Things

Presented by New Bedford Festival Theatre, Sat., 12/13, 4–5:15 p.m., Steeple Playhouse, 159 William St., NB; 508-993-0772. This show will run for approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes. Perfect for grabbing lunch before or a holiday dinner afterwards! Tickets: \$25, at <https://newbedfordfestivaltheatre.lud.us.com>

Join Producing Artistic Director Liz Bettencourt as she shares all her favorite holiday traditions and songs,

featuring Broadway star and NBFT alum Alex Cruz (Moulin Rouge on Broadway), Olivia Marques (NBFT's Beauty & the Beast), Peter-Henry DaSilva (Potiphar, NBFT's Joseph/Dreamcoat), Molly Dupre (Logainne Schwartzengrubenierre, NBFT's The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee), and more.

The Steeple Playhouse is fully handicapped accessible. Parking is available in two adjacent parking lots (with handicapped spaces), as well as free street parking.

## Spinner Calendars

An annual tradition...Historical Calendars from Spinner. Holiday Special Offer, \$14.00 (regular price \$17.00). Limited Availability

For over 35 years Spinner Publications' Historical Calendars have celebrated two of the region's most important assets—the commercial fishing industry and the rich cultural history of Southeastern New England. At a special price of \$14, these calendars are the perfect gift — functional and gorgeous.

They feature: 13 historical photographs suitable for framing; Detailed, Informative captions; Fishing scenes from Maine to New York Harbor; Thirteen color scenes depicted in historic oil paintings, photographs and engravings—and accompanied by lively captions—tell compelling stories of people, places and events.

In-House SPECIAL! Stop by Spinner office to purchase calendars at 164 William Street, New Bedford MA, receive a Holiday Gift!

Visit [https://spinnerpub.com/calendars\\_home.html](https://spinnerpub.com/calendars_home.html) to buy or Call 508-994-4564, or email [spinner@spinnerpub.com](mailto:spinner@spinnerpub.com)

## Holiday Parking

The City's Holiday Parking Program offers 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. The program also features ticket forgiveness for holiday shoppers and diners.

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



# HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

## Fill the Bus

The Acushnet Police Department's Annual Fill The Bus Toy Drive will be held at the Acushnet Town Hall located at 122 Main Street on Sat., 12/13 from 9AM-1PM!

We were able to fill the bus last year and hope for an even larger outpouring of support this year!!!!

New unwrapped toys, gift cards and gifts for teens accepted.

## Christmas Fair

St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church, 124 Front St., Marion, is thrilled to announce the return of its Annual Christmas Fair on Sun., 12/14, running from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Back by popular demand and expanded for 2025, this year's fair promises to be bigger and better than ever.

With 25 talented local artisans, visitors will discover a unique selection of handcrafted gifts, holiday décor, artwork, jewelry, specialty foods, and one-of-a-kind treasures—perfect for checking off your Christmas shopping list while supporting small, local businesses.

The festive fun doesn't stop there. Guests can enjoy hot breakfast and a delicious homemade lunch, plus an irresistible assortment of baked goods and sweet treats available throughout the day.

And new this year—bring your family and strike a pose with our very special surprise guest who will be visiting the fair for photos!

The event also coincides with the town's beloved Marion Stroll, making St. Gabriel's a perfect stop as you enjoy a full day of holiday cheer in our community.

Join us for a joyful, family-friendly celebration of the season—shop, eat, mingle, and support a wonderful local tradition.

For more information, please contact St. Gabriel's Church Office at 508-748-1507 or [stgabrielmarion@gmail.com](mailto:stgabrielmarion@gmail.com).

## Marion Stroll & Tree Lighting

Join us for the 31st annual Marion Village Christmas Stroll, Sun., 12/14, 3–5:30 p.m. Santa arrives by boat at 3 p.m. at Town Landing.

Enjoy treats from local merchants,

photo opps, rides with Santa, crafts and games, musical performers, and old fashioned holiday spirit!

**Tree Lighting** at 5:30 at the Bandstand.

## 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](http://www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org) or call 508-222-5410

## Ramps for the Holidays

Buzzards Bay Area Habitat for Humanity (BBAHFH) is seeking metal wheelchair ramp donations and support for their Ramp Donation Program.

Ramp recipients have ranged in age from teenagers to those in their nineties. In 2024, BBAHFH formally introduced the Ramp Donation program giving low-income homeowners the accessibility they need to remain safe in their homes. Through ramp donations and purchases, BBAHFH tries to maintain an inventory available that can be loaned out and installed by volunteers when needed by a family, but this can be difficult as ramps are expensive, and the need is great. BBAHFH is grateful for its partners, including the families who have donated ramps to be reused, supporting foundations in the region, and Oakley Home Access for making ramps available on a discounted basis.

When a family no longer requires the ramp, it is picked up by BBAHFH and then loaned to another low-income family in need. The Ramp Donation program helps those with existing accessibility issues, temporary injuries, or those who are checking out of a rehabilitation facility with hopes of returning home.

BBAHFH is running this program throughout Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Rochester, Wareham, and Westport, and ramps are installed at no cost for families. This project is funded in part by grants from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, and the Executive Office of Aging & Independence and Coastline Elderly

Services, the Area Agency on Aging, through Federal Title-III funds.

For more information on BBAHFH's Ramp Donation program, contact [BuzzardsBayAreaHabitat@yahoo.com](mailto:BuzzardsBayAreaHabitat@yahoo.com), or call (508) 758-4517. Tax-deductible donations to support the program may be made at [www.BuzzardsBayHabitat.org](http://www.BuzzardsBayHabitat.org) or by sending a check to BBAHFH, P.O. Box 1584, Mattapoisett, MA 02739, and please note "Ramps for the Holidays."

## Free Christmas Concert

Bridgewater State University's Music Department presents its annual free concert, the Holiday Extravaganza, to commemorate the end of the semester. Close out the year with a grand celebration of the season and student achievement featuring holiday classics and favorites in a jolly jumble of music genres!

The concert plays Fri., 12/12 at 7 p.m. in the Rondileau Student Union Auditorium at 19 Park Ave in Bridgewater. There is no charge for this free concert, but audience members are strongly encouraged to secure tickets beforehand at [www.BSUtix.ocm](http://www.BSUtix.ocm).

Featuring music artists from all over the Commonwealth and genres from around the world, the Holiday Extravaganza has become a popular holiday tradition. Classical and pop singing ensembles, African drumming, musical theater, and more are scheduled to ring in the season in this free event. This evening of seasonal music ends in a magical sing along with over 100 musicians on stage that raises the spirit and warms the heart, ushering in the holidays in a grand finale!

## Food Drive

The Mattapoisett Free Public Library is partnering with the student Community Service Club of Old Rochester Regional High School to collect donations for a local food pantry. For each non-perishable, non-expired item donated, the library will waive \$1.00 in overdue fines

Please visit us at 7 Barstow Street, Visit [www.mattapoisettlibrary.org](http://www.mattapoisettlibrary.org) or call 508-758-4171.

# 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 Town Clerk

The following bylaw changes which were accepted at the Fairhaven Annual Town Meeting which convened on May 3, 2025 have been approved by the Office of the Attorney General, are published herewith in accordance with the current regulations. Claims of invalidity of any of the amendments to the bylaw by reason of any defect in the procedure of the adoption or replacement may only be made within ninety (90) days of this announcement.

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

### ARTICLE 13A: NEW REVOLVING FUND – ROGER A. GRIMSHAW PARK

By majority vote, the Town voted to authorize a "Roger A. Grimshaw Park Revolving Account" under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½ by adding the following paragraphs to §2-6 of the Town Bylaws:

- Roger A. Grimshaw Park Revolving Fund
- (1) Roger A. Grimshaw Park Revolving Fund. There shall be a separate fund called the "Roger A. Grimshaw Park Revolving Fund" authorized for use by the Council on Aging Director.
  - (2) Revenues. The Town Accountant shall establish the Roger A. Grimshaw Park Revolving Fund as a separate account and credit to the fund 15% of all fees received from events located at Roger A. Grimshaw Park received by the Council on Aging in connection with the use of and events held at Roger A. Grimshaw Park.
  - (3) Purposes and expenditures. During each fiscal year, the Council on Aging Director may incur liabilities against and spend monies from the Roger A. Grimshaw Park Revolving Fund for the purpose of funding the upkeep, maintenance, and improvement of Roger A. Grimshaw Park, or act in any other manner related thereto.
  - (4) Fiscal years. The Roger A. Grimshaw Park Revolving Fund shall operate for fiscal years that begin on or after July 1, 2025 and to see if the Town will vote to authorize a total amount that may be expended from the Roger A. Grimshaw Park Revolving Fund for Fiscal Year 2026.

### ARTICLE 13B: REVOLVING FUNDS

By majority vote, the Town voted to authorize or re-authorize the following Revolving Accounts under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½ by adding the following and to amend General Bylaws Section 2-6 terms:

Revolving Fund	Authorized to Spend	Revenue Source	FY26 Limit
Hazardous Materials	Fire Chief	Disposal fees/charges	\$100,000
Sustainability	Sustainability Committee	Fees/charges	\$10,000
Hoppy's Landing	Marine Resources	Fees/charges from users of Hoppy's Landing	\$25,000
Town Hall Auditorium	Town Administrator	Town Hall Auditorium rental fees	\$3,000
Park Utilities	Board of Public Works	User fees	\$2,000
Shellfish Mitigation	Marine Resources	Mitigation fees	\$25,000
Mooring Fees	Marine Resources	Mooring fees	\$4,000
Mattress Recycling	Board of Health/Sanitation	Fees from mattress disposal	\$3,000
Hoarding Remediation	Board of Health	Revenue from textile recovery boxes	\$2,000
Supportive Social Day Program	Council on Aging Director	Receipts from supportive social day program	\$250,000
Roger A. Grimshaw Park (NEW)	Council on Aging Director	Receipts from events at Grimshaw Park	\$5,000

### ARTICLE 17: AMEND BYLAW, CHAPTER 164, SOLID WASTE

By majority vote, the Town voted to amend Bylaws, Chapter 164 Solid Waste by adding to the existing language indicated below in bold/underlined.

#### B. General Prohibition and Regulation.

No retail establishment, retail food establishment, nonprofit and/or Town facility food provider shall transfer merchandise to end consumers in a thin- film single-use plastic bag, and shall only use check- out bags that are:

- a. Reusable checkout bags

i. Reusable checkout bag shall be defined as the following: "A bag that is not made of plastic film and that is made from any other natural or synthetic fabric, including, but not limited to, woven or nonwoven nylon, polypropylene, polyethylene-terephthalate, or Tyvek, shall satisfy all of the following:

- (1) It shall be sewn.
- (2) It shall be capable of carrying 22 pounds over a distance of 175 feet for a minimum of 125 uses.
- (3) It shall have a minimum fabric weight of at least 80 grams per square meter.

### ARTICLE 18: AMEND BYLAW, CHAPTER 50, § 3, MEETING TO ELECT TOWN OFFICIALS

By majority vote, the Town voted to amend Bylaws, Chapter 50 § 3, Meeting to elect Town officials by striking some of the existing language as indicated in strikethrough, or adding language as indicated in bold/underlined below.

The Annual Town Meeting shall be held on the first Monday in April **Saturday in May, unless otherwise specified by the Select Board, at which time all articles in the warrant will be considered, at which time the election of all town officials and town meeting members shall take place, and thereafter said meeting will be adjourned to another day for the consideration of all other articles in the warrant. The Annual town election of officers and town meeting members will be adjourned until the 2nd Tuesday in June.**

Respectfully Submitted, Elisabeth E. Horan, Town Clerk  
FNN: 12/11/25, 12/18/25

## ACUSHNET CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Acushnet Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Meeting Room, located at 122 Main Street, Acushnet, Massachusetts.

### RDA

Public Hearing RDA – James M. Souza, Gammons Road, Map 9 Lots 16 & 19.

A Request for Determination of Applicability was filed by James M. Souza, for property located at Gammons Road, Map 9, Lot 16 & 19. The Applicant proposes to clean up an abandoned farm. The work will consist of removing buildings, structures, vehicles, junk and trash. All materials will be loaded into dumpsters for off-site disposal and the vehicles will be hauled away using a flatbed truck. Upon completion of the cleanup all disturbed areas will be seeded with a native grass mix and the area will be allowed to revegetate. Long term maintenance of the upland area will consist of mowing 4 times a year. The subject area falls within the 100 ft. Buffer Zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland and partially within the 200 ft. Riverfront Area of Tinkham Brook. The applicant will be representing himself.

James Souza, Chair  
FNN, 12/11/25

## 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 ½ 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

## HAPPS: cont'd from page 5

flu vaccines (in-home service available), Narcan/Naloxone training and distribution.

Call 508-991-6199 for more info.

Visit [www.sempublichealth.com](http://www.sempublichealth.com)

### LAST CHANCE FLU CLINIC

We will also be holding a flu clinic on Thurs., 12/18, at the same time at the Rec Ctr., to administer NO-COST

flu vaccines to all community members 18+. Please bring your health insurance card if you have one. High dose flu vaccines available for adults over 65. Call 508-991-6199 for more info.

Visit [www.sempublichealth.com](http://www.sempublichealth.com)

## 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](mailto:ahart@fairhaven-ma.gov)

\*Photos must be taken by the submitter, no screenshots or copy-righted images and should be Fairhaven based

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

## LETTERS: cont'd from page 14

funding that currently keeps people housed, and replace it with short-term services.

The lawsuit challenges HUD's unlawful and unreasonable restrictions that seek to shift funding away from proven solutions to homelessness, threatening to push hundreds of thousands of people onto the street as cold winter months arrive.

The coalition behind the new legal challenge includes the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH), the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), Crossroads Rhode Island, Youth Pride, Inc., as well as the County of Santa Clara, Calif., San Francisco, Calif., King County, Wash., Boston, Mass., Cambridge, Mass., Nashville, Tenn., and Tucson, Ariz.

Democracy Forward represents the coalition of nonprofit organizations in the matter; the National Homelessness Law Center represents NAEH and NLIHC; Public Rights Project represents the cities of Boston, Cambridge, Nashville and Tucson; and Santa Clara County and San Francisco represent themselves. The Lawyers' Committee for Rhode Island, and the ACLU Foundation of RI represent all plaintiffs. Read the full press release from Democracy Forward (<https://democracyforward.org>) at <https://tinyurl.com/4k6nnb5w>

MHSA's declaration focuses on the severe and irreparable harm that HUD's policy change will have on Massachusetts communities. As a statewide organization, we believe it is critical for MHSA to contribute to

this lawsuit to highlight the impact HUD's changes will have on our communities, nonprofit organizations, and most of all on the individuals and families whose housing is now at risk.

The lawsuit follows last week's announcement that Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell and a coalition of 20 other states also filed a lawsuit to challenge HUD's unlawful restrictions on the CoC program.

The stakes are high, and there is a lot of work ahead of us. But what gives me hope are the people coming together nationwide to stand up for what we know works: housing solutions to homelessness.

Thank you for your partnership,  
*Joyce Tavon, Chief Executive Officer*  
MHSA

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# DISCOVER FAIRHAVEN MASSACHUSETTS



ROGERS SCHOOL  
(100 PLEASANT ST)

**1** UNITARIAN  
CHURCH  
& HARROP  
CENTER



WALNUT ST

**3** TOWN  
HALL



**2** MILLICENT  
LIBRARY

WILLIAM ST

**4** FIRST  
CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH



WHALING CITY COLLECTIBLES  
**SANTA'S**

**5** SWEET SHOP  
NORTHEAST MARITIME  
INSTITUTE INTEGRITY HALL



LITTLE VILLAGE CAFE

MAIN ST

SWEET LIZZIE'S  
BAKE SHOP



**6** GEORGE  
H TABER  
MASONIC  
LODGE



CENTER ST



NORTHEAST  
MARITIME  
INSTITUTE  
BRIGANTINE HALL  
(15 CENTER ST)



**1**

**UNITARIAN CHURCH**  
Vendor Fair, Luncheon,  
Tours, Church Bell Concert,  
Kettle Corn & More!

**2**

**MILLICENT LIBRARY**  
Kids Book Giveaway, Fiddlers,  
Letters to Santa, Reindeer Food

**3**

**TOWN HALL**  
Vendor Fair, Luncheon,  
Bake Sale & More!

**4**

**CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
Vendor Fair,  
Second-Hand Shop,  
Chance Auction, Bake Sale

**5**

**SANTA'S SWEET SHOP**  
Santa, Crafts,  
Hot Chocolate Bar  
Dorothy Cox Chocolates

**6**

**GEORGE TABER LODGE**  
Historical Building Tours,  
Holiday Sweets



Chestnuts Roasting  
Over an Open Fire



Vote for Your  
Favorite Tree



Pony Rides  
(11am - 2pm)



Reindeer Games  
(2:30 - 4:30pm)



"Tales of an Old Seaport  
Village" Walking Tour  
(3:00 - 4:30pm)



Santa's Grand Arrival!  
(4:30pm)



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