



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



The little paper
with a big voice!

Volume 21, Issue 17 • April 16, 2026

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

Troop 52 welcomes new Eagle Scout



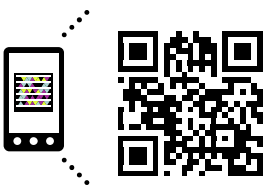
The newest Eagle Scout of Fairhaven Troop 52, Patrick Fleming, recites the Eagle Oath during his Eagle Court of Honor on 4/9/26 at St. Mary's Parish Center in Fairhaven while his mother, Heather, and father, Timothy, listen, with Scoutmaster, Bob Dorgan, at the podium. See page 12 for story. *Photo by Beth David.*

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.



Publisher Beth David...
VROOM VROOM!

Show me your budget and I'll show you your values. I don't remember the first time I heard that. But I liked it. I thought it was profound. I still think it is. Let's start with the Big Buffoon and his \$1.5 trillion (TRILLION) proposed budget for the Department of Defense, aka, the Department of War, which is so much more accurate under this moron.

Then he depicts himself as Jesus. Right, yeah, Jesus is so well known for waging war. Now he says he was a doctor, not Jesus. This guy seriously needs a real cognitive test, like, really...you don't difference, or you think WE don't?

Meanwhile people are still getting plucked off the streets and sent to overcrowded, nasty detention centers, or to countries they have no ties to.

Hungarians are showing us the way. The Big Buffoon loves Viktor Orban who destroyed his democratic country with rampant corruption and suppression of votes. He destroyed the free press, his cronies bought them all up (sound familiar?). But, the people said they had enough. The came out in such huge numbers even Orban had to accept the results.

Showing up. Showing up to vote. Everyone needs to show up.

Closer to home. We have budget stuff (page 11); a proposed 40B development (page 13); a new Eagle Scout in town (page 12), and bunch of other fun stuff.

No one has signed up for the free child care during Town Meeting. If you're thinking you'll just drop; the kids off, you might want to rethink that strategy. Let the Rec Center know you'll be going by. See page 9 for details on the program.

There's other stuff in here, of course. While you're looking for it, 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!

Support local journalism

No one does local like a local newspaper. And it does not get more local than the *Neighb News*. Any small amount will help. Just clip the coupon and send check or money order to *Fairhaven Neighborhood News*, 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719. Ask for a bumper sticker that says "I Support the *Neighb News*." And thank you for reading *the little paper with a big voice*.

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Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Earth Day Events

From EarthDay.org

Earth Day was born on April 22, 1970 — a date deliberately chosen to fall between Spring Break and Final Exams, maximizing student participation in what began as a national environmental teach-in. That single day drew 20 million Americans into the streets and sparked the modern environmental movement. Today, Denis Hayes serves as Board Chair Emeritus of EARTHDAY.ORG, the non-profit organization that grew out of that very first Earth Day and now mobilizes one billion people in 193 countries every year.

Our Power, Our Planet is Earth Day 2026's theme reflecting a fundamental truth: environmental progress doesn't depend on any single administration or election. It's sustained by daily actions of communities, educators, workers, and families protecting where they live and work.

Visit <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2026/> to learn more.

Earth Day Weekend/ Fairhaven

Fairhaven Conservation Commission invites the public to Cushman

Park Bandstand on Sat., 4/18, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to celebrate Earth Day.

A day to appreciate, protect, and commit to a greener future and a healthier community.

Come and join us for learning, fun, and take a spin on the new conservation prize wheel.

Contact: conservation@fairhaven-ma.gov

Vernal Pools Workshop/ Fairhaven

Celebration & Vernal Pool Field Identification Workshop, Wed., 4/22, 10 a.m., Fairhaven Town Hall auditorium (2nd floor), 40 Center St., Fairhaven.

Join us for a fun and informative talk about the importance of our community's wetlands and vernal pool systems and the creatures that call them home.

Followed by a light walk on the Little Bay section of the Fairhaven bike path for field and species identification with Carlos Fragata and Fairhaven's Conservation Agent, Kelly Camara.

Also learn about a chance to get

cont'd on page 6

Free Political PR

The *Neighb News* will give all candidates for townwide public office in Fairhaven and Acushnet a chance to get their message out. You may submit a candidate statement of approximately 500 words (MAX), with a picture, and we will publish at no charge before the election.

Please contact the *Neighb News* as soon as possible so we can plan for space allocation in the issues leading up to the election.

DEADLINE: Friday, 4/30, for Fairhaven (6/9 election); Friday, 4/17, for Acushnet (4/28 election)

Send by email to NeighbNews@comcast.net. Call 508-979-5593 or email with questions.

The *Neighb News* will also publish candidate events that are completely free and have no fund-raising component to them. Submit up to 100 words.

Fund-raising events can be promoted with paid ads. Visit our website at www.neighbnews.com for rates, or email for rate card.

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6 PM to 8 PM

TEENS &
ADULTS

Facilitated by Friends member, Sarah Kiepper, a compliance officer, and doctoral student.

SEE DETAILS &
REGISTER



Participants are invited to bring their own writing to work on, access provided poetry/prose prompts, & collaborate in group poetry/prose writing activities. Visit the Millicent Library's calendar to see all the event details.

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Earth Day Events

See page 3

Author Forum

Join us for an engaging book talk featuring Dr. Winston Langley, author of *Abolishing War*, in conversation with Dr. Deborah Winslow Nutter.

Sunday, April 19, 2026 at 4:00 pm–5:30 pm, UU Auditorium, 102 Green St, Fairhaven 02719. Free Admission. To register, visit <https://kalangaraindia.org/eventabolish-war/>

Fairhaven GOP

The Fairhaven Republican Town Committee will be meeting at our new location at the Fairhaven Senior Center 227 Huttleston Ave (rt.6), on Tuesday, April 21st.

We hold our Monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of the Month promptly starting at 6pm. We are accepting applications to join our growing membership. We will discuss the GOP April 25th Convention plans and instructions as well as discussing current candidates and holding a gubernatorial candidate straw-poll. This year's Saturday May 2nd annual Town meeting and the upcoming town elections will also be discussed. Please contact us at fairhavenrtc@gmail.com or contact chair Bob McConnell, 508-863-0416

Blessing of Bicycles

Sun., 4/26, from 2–4 p.m., Fairhaven Fairhaven Unitarian Universalist Church, 102 Green St., Fairhaven, MA 02719. Free.

Four local organizations are joining forces to host the first annual Blessing of the Bicycles, a free, family-friendly community bike event.

Presented by Fairhaven UU Church, Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Y.O.U.), Fairhaven Livable Streets, and SouthCoast Places for People, the event will offer free, walk-up bike repair assistance and hands-on skill-building for riders of all ages — no appointment necessary.

Attendees can watch live demonstrations of two essential maintenance skills — how to lube a chain and how to fix a flat tire — and then have time for bike maintenance with guidance from volunteer mechanics on hand.

Information on how to donate used

bikes to Youth Opportunities Unlimited's Community Bike Shop in New Bedford will also be available at the event.

The Blessing of the Bicycles is free, open to the public, and welcoming to all ages and skill levels. Light repairs will be performed on a walk-up basis. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own bike. E-bikes will not be accepted for repair at this event.

This program is funded in part by a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council

Fairhaven Dems

Then ext meeting of The Fairhaven Democratic Town Committee will be on Wed., 4/29, at The Millicent Library, in the Auditorium at 6pm. Everyone welcome to attend. 45 Center St., Fairhaven.

For more info contact Fhvndems@gmail.com.

Solidarity SITE CHANGE

Show solidarity every night in the streets to stop ICE and to STOP the war in Iran. Visibilities will be held around the region in different municipalities each night until we remove the regime and abolish ICE.

In Fairhaven, join us every Thurs. at 6 p.m., at the corner of Rte. 6 and Main Street, west side, in the park across from Fairhaven High School.

Bring signs, friends, family, and neighbors. Play music, create art, read poetry, and chant.

If everyone shows up when they can, there will be people in the streets every night.

Cherry Blossom Fest

You're Invited to Ohanami! Join us for a day of culture, community, and celebration at the Cherry Blossom Festival hosted by the Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society! Sunday, May 3, 10am–3pm, Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship House, 11 Cherry Street, Fairhaven

Enjoy a variety of experiences for all ages: Ikebana (Japanese flower arranging); Kamishibai (paper theater); Folk music; Taiko drumming performance; Martial arts demonstration; Origami & Japanese name writing; Open house at Captain Whitfield's home

Optional Japanese Bento Box lunch (\$20) Includes lunch, drink & dessert. Must be reserved in advance Visit <https://tinyurl.com/46rzw3cm>

FREE admission

Bring your family, invite a friend, and come celebrate the beauty of spring and Japanese culture together. The Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society.

Volunteers Needed

The Fairhaven Veterans Services Office will be placing the flags at the cemeteries on May 16th at 9:00 am with a rain date of the 17th same time.

We welcome all volunteers, we will meet at Riverside cemetery for 9:00. Any questions, call Jane or Mike at the Veteran office 508-02-4603.

TM Warrant online

Fairhaven's annual Town Meeting warrant is on the town's website on the town moderator's page: <https://fairhaven-ma.gov/town-moderator/>

Annual Town Meeting is on Saturday, 5/2.

SAVE THE DATES:

West Island 5K

Sun., 4/26, West Island 5K. Kids Mile starts at 10 a.m.; 5K starts at 11, 41 Causeway Road, Fairhaven, MA. Prizes in age and gender categories. Register at <https://westisland5k.org>. Kids Mile: \$5; 5K, \$25 before 4/15, \$30 after.

Nemasket Group 5K

Looking to get moving for a great cause? It is that time of year again for our Annual 5K Walk/Run! The event will be held on Saturday, May 2nd, at Fort Phoenix State Reservation in Fairhaven, MA. Registration/Check in 8 a.m. Steps off at 9.

Linked here is the link to sign up today!: <https://givebutter.com/02Crjv>

We hope you can join us for a day filled with fun, great energy, and prizes for our winners! See you there.

There will be gift card prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd males and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd females, along with prizes for the largest team and biggest fundraiser. Your registration fee also includes a T-shirt.

Call or email Olivia if you have any questions: 508-999-4436 or oliviapimental@nemasketgroup.org

HAPPS: cont'd on page 19

HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

cont'd from page 3

involved with a great new community opportunity to keep safe the creatures that call vernal pools home.

Contact conservation@fairhaven-ma.gov

Neighborhood Cleanup/ New Bedford

Join Operation Clean Sweep for a neighborhood cleanup on Sat., 4/18, 9 a.m. Meet in the public parking lot behind Cotali Mar Resaurante, 1178 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford.

Free t-shirts to all participants. Tools and gloves will be provided. Coffee and donuts for breakfast. Pizza lunch! mlf you have an OCS shirt from a past cleanup, feel free to wear your vintage tee — totally optional, and it won't affect getting a new shirt after the logo and name reveal.

9:00 a.m. - Sign in, pick up tools and gloves, grab some coffee and donuts, and get assigned an area to clean.

11:30 a.m. Return to headquarters, clean your hands, grab some pizza, and get ready for the Big Name Reveal.

Our Semi Finalists have been invited and will be waiting to see if their Whaletastic name wins the Grand Prize and an amazing prize basket (plus bragging rights!).

Thanks to BASK for sponsoring the coffee and donuts and thanks to Domino's for providing pizza!

Pre-registering at operationclean sweep.net helps us plan our event. Walk-ins welcome

Military Talk

"Losing A Limb to Save the Body: Global Conflict During the War for American Independence" will be the topic of a discussion to be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 19 at the Fort Taber-Fort Rodman Military Museum and Veterans Memorial, 1000C South Rodney French Blvd., New Bedford.

The talk is the latest in a series of museum speakers whose presentations keep history alive.

The speaker will be Andrew Thomas Zwilling, Ph.D., associate professor at the United States Naval War College, College of Distance Education.

He will discuss how the American War of Independence became a global conflict that stretched and threatened British power from North America to the Caribbean, Europe, Africa and India.

This lecture explores how revenge, coalition warfare and maritime strategy threatened the entire British Empire, reshaped Britain's strategy and ultimately determined the war's outcome.

The program is free to the public. Parking is also free. Visitors are welcome to tour the museum after the presentation.

Taste of Italy

Our Lady of Purgatory Church's A Taste of Italy, Saturday, April 18, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM; Donation: \$18.00, at OLOP Parish Center, 4254 Acushnet Avenue New Bedford, MA 02745

Please join us for an Italian Dinner and music bingo. Featuring: Eggplant Parmigiana, Chicken Marsala, Baked Sausage Ziti, Fettuccini Alfredo, Ratatouille, Salad, Garlic Bread, Desserts, Coffee

For More Info - Please call (508) 996-8934

Bingo Night

Join us for Bingo Night with Jordan Paiva, Sun., 4/26, at 4 p.m., at Holy Name of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Center, 121 Mt. Pleasant St., New Bedford. \$25/booklet per person; \$10 extra card. No prize under \$50! Also featuring 50/50 raffle; special scratch ticket, bring your \$5 scratch ticket and \$5 to play. The kitchen will be open: burgers, hot dogs, chicken tenders, fries, snacks, beverages. Invite your family and friends to support out Whaling City Catholic Community.

We are accepting gift cards and cash for prizes, contact Kathi at 508-728-8214.

WHALE's Spring Fling!

WHALE invites you to celebrate spring at the historic Steeple Playhouse! April 22, \$35, Steeple Playhouse, 159 William St., New Bedford, 5:00 - 7:30 PM For tickets visit <https://waterfrontleague.org>

Spring Fling is WHALE's joyful welcome to spring—a relaxed cocktail party that celebrates community, place, and preservation. Hosted inside the historic Steeple Playhouse, the event invites people to gather where history lives, breathe in a new season, and reconnect with

one another after winter.

This is not a formal gala.

It's not a sit-down dinner.

It's a come-as-you-are, lighthearted evening designed to feel warm, social, and genuinely fun—while still grounded in WHALE's mission to protect and celebrate New Bedford's historic places.

Spring Fling reflects what WHALE is all about: bringing people together around the places that shape our city's identity, stories, and future.

No speeches that drag.No pressure.Just a joyful evening rooted in place and people.

SAVE THE DATE

Plant Sale

The Garden Club of Buzzards Bay (GCB) Plant Sale! The GCB's popular plant sale is back with even more offerings this year – top quality annuals, unusual perennials, spectacular succulents, a selection of native plants, beautiful hanging planters, delicious herbs, fabulous tomato plants, heirloom dahlia tubers, rare plants, and planters.

Sat., 5/2, 9 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on the grounds of The Rotch-Jones-Duff House and Garden Museum, 396 County Street, New Bedford

NBSO at RJD

The Rotch-Jones-Duff House, 396 County St., New Bedford, is welcoming musicians from the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra for a concert on Tuesday, April 28 at 7pm.

This date is rescheduled from the previously canceled February date. Guests will enjoy classical favorites in the historic RJD parlors. Admission is \$15 and can be purchased at the door. Capacity is limited, so come early for your choice of seating.

Visit rjdmuseum.org

Free April Vaca

New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center (FHC) and New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park (NPS) are partnering to offer free vacation programming for students and their families during the April Vacation Week, Tuesday, April 21 through Friday, April 24, from 10:00am until 4:00pm.

Visit <https://fishingheritagecenter.org/programs/vacation-programs/>.

Bird Club

The Wonderful World of Warblers!
Wednesday, April 22 at 6:00pm at the
Mattapoissett Free Public Library, 7
Barstow St.

Discover the wonderful world of warblers. Warblers are among the most beautiful birds, but also challenging to identify. We'll explore the fascinating world of these tiny migrants, from their amazing colors to their complex songs, behaviors, and habitats.

Learn practical tips for identifying warblers in the field, including how to recognize key visual field marks, understand habitat preferences, and distinguish similar-looking species. We'll also dive into the art of birding by ear, helping you decode their songs.

Go to <https://www.nbcbirdclub.com> to see all upcoming bird walks. All events are free and open to the public. Please register for a bird walk by emailing (jmbarrett426@gmail.com) or calling (774-207-8515) Justin Barrett.

Old Dartmouth's Revolution Story

In Our Own Words: Old Dartmouth's Revolutionary Story, 2 PM Saturday
April 18, Westport Public Library, 408
Old County Road, Westport MA

"All politics is local" including the American Revolution! What was the experience of the Westport/Dartmouth community during the Revolutionary War?

A recent project to transcribe the town meeting records from the Revolutionary War-era has revealed a unique story of ordinary citizens responding to challenges of war – forming committees to tackle price control, proposing amendments to the draft Constitution, boycotting tea and navigating suspicions of "Those People called Quakers." Local historians will present perspectives on the revolutionary story of Westport/Dartmouth. Town records can be accessed at www.wpthistory.org. Suggested donation \$5.

Acushnet Election

Acushnet's election will be held on Tuesday, 4/28/26. Nomination papers are now available. The last day to register as a voter is Friday, 4/17.

The polls will open at 10 a.m. and

close at 2 p.m. on Election Day. All precincts vote at the Acushnet Elementary School, 800 Middle Road.

For more information on how to run for office, contact the Town Clerk, 508-998-0215.

Earth Day FFR

Acushnet Grange is holding a Tree Sale in memory of Carl St Don, a 70 year member who passed away in November 2025. Join us for an Earth Day Tree Sale event dedicated to preserving our planet and creating a greener future for generations to come at the Acushnet Grange Hall, 1121, Main Street, from 12pm to 2pm, Sat. May 2

Featuring Cahaan trees 10-18" \$10 each and Norway Spruce 9-15" \$8 each. The trees are bare root seedling packaged in burlap bags with planting instructions.

Preorders preferred there is a limited quantity of each. To reserve your trees contact Joshua at 774-901-0594 or email cunhajm@live.com and mention fundraiser.

Girl Scout STEM Fest

Sat., 5/2, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Camp Cedar Hill, 265 Beaver Street, Waltham, MA

STEM Fest is the premier STEM event of the year at Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts. This event is open to ALL Girl Scout levels with activities and experiments created for different ages. The event fee includes a collectible fun patch and STEM-themed giveaways. Check back regularly for an updated list of partners and activities!

Girl Scouts of Eastern Mass.s will host its annual STEM Fest, a hands-on science, technology, engineering, and math event for Girl Scouts of all ages. Participants can explore interactive challenges led by local STEM partners, meet professionals in the field, and choose their own activities throughout the day.

Activities are designed for a range of age levels, from Daisies through Ambassadors (grades K-12), with opportunities to experiment, build, and discover new interests in STEM. The event includes a collectible patch and themed giveaways.

Adult supervision is required for younger participants; older Girl Scouts may attend as a drop-off

event. Financial assistance is available for eligible participants.

Cost: Registration required; fee includes patch and materials. \$40

More info: gsema.org/stemfest

A Cappella Group

The Harvard Krokodiloes, Harvard University's oldest a cappella singing group, will bring their signature blend of musical excellence and humor to the SouthCoast with a special performance at the Old Rochester Regional High School Auditorium on Saturday, April 25th from 7:00–8:00 PM. Old Rochester Regional High School Auditorium, Fundraiser for the Old Rochester Ambassadors

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students. Tickets can be purchased at the door, but please reserve them through this link: <https://tinyurl.com/kroksorr>

This special event will also highlight a hometown connection: Eddie Gonet, a Fairhaven native and Old Rochester Regional High School alumnus, is a current member of the Harvard Krokodiloes. His return to the ORR stage marks a full-circle moment, showcasing his journey from local student to performer in one of Harvard's most celebrated musical groups.

The performance will serve as a fundraiser for the Old Rochester Ambassadors, a student organization dedicated to fostering leadership, community engagement, and citizenship among ORRHS students

Founded in 1946, the Harvard Krokodiloes are renowned for their energetic performances, rich harmonies, and international tours spanning over 20 countries every summer. Their visit to Old Rochester promises an evening of entertainment for all ages, featuring a mix of classic hits, contemporary favorites, and comedic flair.

On his travels to over thirty-five countries, Gonet stated he is "blessed to have spoken with and learned from people of all walks of life and cultures through performances and experiences." Despite all of his travels, he says, "there's no place like home, performing for my favorite audience of friends, family, and the incredible Southcoast Community." After graduating from Harvard, Gonet will travel on one last world tour before attending Georgetown Law

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Fairhaven Senior Center/Council on Aging

508-979-4029 • 229 Huttleston Ave • Fairhaven

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

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: 4/22, Wrentham Village Outlets; 4/29, Hyannis Mall & Trader Joe's; 5/6, Plainridge Casino; 5/13, Mashpee Commons; 5/20, Wrentham Village Outlets;a.

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.

April 27. *The Boss*. Comedy. A titan of industry is sent to prison after she's caught insider trading. When she

emerges ready to rebrand herself as America's latest sweetheart, not everyone she screwed over is so quick to forgive and forget.

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.

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.

Age Friendly Mobility Plan

April 28, 12:30 p.m. The Age-Friendly Mobility — Southeast Mass Plan will identify needs, priorities, and recommendations for future SRPEDD technical assistance work relating to improvements in older adult mobility across the Southeastern Mass's 27 communities. SRPEDD staff will be on site to hear about your transportation and mobility concerns.

Wellness Clinic & Blood Pressure Check

With Fairhaven Community Nurse. Every Wed., from 11:15 a.m.–1:15 p.m.

Walking Group

Walk with friends at the Rec Center gym next door from 12–12:30 p.m., Monday–Friday. FREE. Classic hits from the 50's, 60's, 70's. It's the perfect way to stay active, lift your spirits, and connect with others during the chill months ahead.

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>

Kool Kids April Vacation

Embark on a thrilling school vacation program tailored for grades K-7, packed with an array of activities! Dive into active games, team sports, captivating art projects, exhilarating science challenges, brain-teasing, team building and much more. Our program is designed to ignite creativity, teamwork and exploration while ensuring each child has a blast in a dynamic and inclusive setting. Please ensure children wear comfortable clothing and sneakers. They should also bring a water bottle, a snack, and lunch each day 8am-4pm April 21-24 No program April 20th

Town Meeting Kool Kids Day

A fun filled day program tailored for grades K-7, packed with an array of activities! Dive into active games, team sports, captivating art projects, exhilarating science challenges, brain-teasing, team building and much more. Our program is designed to

ignite creativity, teamwork and exploration while ensuring each child has a blast in a dynamic and inclusive setting. Please ensure children wear comfortable clothing and sneakers. They should also bring a water bottle, a snack, and lunch for the day. Starts 1 hour before town meeting and ends 30 minutes after Town meeting concludes. Free for current Town Meeting members. \$35.00 for non-voting Town meeting attendees.

SketchyGOichie DRAW!

Get ready to level up your creativity at SketchyGOichie DRAW! — a high-energy digital art workshop where kids can turn their ideas into awesome artwork using iPads and digital drawing tools! From drawing and rendering to color design, this workshop is packed with creative fun and hands-on learning. Perfect for kids who love art, technology, and making something amazing! Wednesday, June 10 5:00 PM – 6:30

PM. All materials are provided—just bring your imagination and get ready to create! Spots are limited, so grab yours before they're gone! Members: \$30 | Non-Members: \$35

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, letting your imagination run 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 Thursday May 21 at 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. Cost: \$30 per member \$35 non-member— all supplies included

Recipe of the Week

Stuffed Crescent Rolls

- 2 (8-ounce) cans crescent roll dough
- 2 (10.5-ounce) cans cream of chicken soup
- 1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 3 tablespoons Italian dressing mix
- 2-3 cups chicken, cooked and shredded
- 2-3 green onions, optional, chopped

Preheat the oven to 375°.

Add the cream of chicken soup and the cream cheese together in a medium pot over medium heat.

Add the dressing mix and stir to combine.

Turn the heat to low.

Transfer most of the mixture (about 4/5) to a large bowl, reserving the rest in the pan to use as gravy.

Add the chicken and green onions to the large bowl and mix until well combined.

Separate the crescent roll dough along the serrated edges and place the individual triangles on a cookie sheet.

Scoop a spoonful of the chicken mixture onto each of the crescent dough triangles.

Roll the dough up, tucking them as necessary to ensure the chicken mixture doesn't leak out.

Bake until golden brown and puffed, for about 9-12 minutes.

Serve warm and topped with the remaining gravy.



Dear Frankie

Travel Troubles

Dear Frankie,
My mom and

I took the new train to Boston for our yearly trip to the zoo and lunch at my favorite place, the Bark Café.

But things didn't go as planned.

At the station, we had to scan a black box on a sign to park, but my mom didn't know how, and there was no one to help.

After trying a few times and swearing, she said, "The heck with it, I'll pay the fine."

On the train, she kept asking why there wasn't a parking ticket machine.

When we got to Boston, we found a cab outside the station, but after the zoo, there were no cabs around. Someone told her to use Uber, but she didn't know what that was, so we started walking back to the station, hoping to find a cab, but we never did.

It took us two hours to get back, and we had to skip lunch, which was really disappointing.

My mom was upset and said she'd never take the train again.

Riley

Dear Riley,

I'm really sorry your special day didn't go as planned. It's tough when you're not sure how to use your phone for things like parking or getting a ride.

Now that your mom knows she needs to scan a parking sign and use Uber to get a ride in Boston, maybe someone can show her how to do both.

Scanning means taking a photo with your phone's camera, and Uber is an app you use to request a ride. Once she gets the hang of it, it will open up all sorts of possibilities for travel by train to exciting cities like New York, Chicago, Washington, DC, you name it.

Best, Frankie

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

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Town takes budget message on the road

By Beth David
Editor

Fairhaven Town Administrator, Keith Hickey, and Assistant Town Administrator of Finance, Town Accountant, Anne Carreiro, continued to take their message about the budget situation directly to the public with a meeting at the West Island Improvement Association Community House on 4/8/26. The two have been meeting with organizations and citizen groups to explain the budget shortfall and the proposal for a \$760K Proposition 2 1/2 override.

Prop 2 1/2 is a state law that limits the amount municipalities can raise on the tax levy (property taxes) to 2 1/2 percent of the previous year's valuation. The town also raises revenues with local receipts (permits, fees, excise taxes), and receives state aid.

The state has not finalized its budget yet. Estimates look like Fairhaven will get just under \$14 million in state aid with most of it (\$10 million) going to the schools. Only \$2.8 million is in unrestricted state aid meaning the town can use it for any budget item.

After all the calculating, the town came up about \$1.5 million short. After months of trimming and recalculating, the town still needed \$760,149 to keep most services. Even if the override passes, there will be no lifeguards at the beach, and the highway department will lose on position.

Without the override, the highway department will lose two positions, the school department will just barely be over Net School Spending (NSS), which is the amount the state requires the town to spend on schools; the tourism office will be

completely eliminated; the animal shelter will be closed, and the Animal Control Officer will be part time. The fire and police departments will also lose \$25K each in overtime.

If the override passes, all those items will be reinstated and the schools will also receive \$481,376 to bring NSS to \$500K over the state mandated amount

First, the override has to pass at the annual Town Meeting on 5/2, then it needs to pass at the annual town election on 6/9.

Approximately 40 people attended on West Island. Most questions revolved around the changes to the town beach, especially the loss of lifeguards; and the loss of the animal shelter.

Mr. Hickey began by saying there was a "curveball" by the Board of Public Works, that was considering an increase in the trash fee from \$100 to \$200 annually. The change would raise an additional \$600K. The trash fee is set by a simple vote of the BPW. Some residents argued that because it is a BPW vote, it can also be rescinded, whereas a Prop 1 1/2 override is here to stay.

At that meeting, though, the BPW had not voted. At its meeting on 4/13, the board discussed the change, but also did not vote to change the fee.

West Island residents voiced concerns about not having lifeguards



Fairhaven Town Administrator, Keith Hickey, speaks to a group of residents at the West Island Improvement Association Community Hall on 4/8/26 to discuss the budget shortfall. Photo by Beth David.

at the beach. Mr. Hickey said both budgets eliminate the lifeguards. At first, he said, he had also eliminated the parking lot attendants. They have been reinstated, though, because they bring in about \$40K in revenue, and cost about \$20K.

The trailer with the toilets, however, will no longer be at the beach, and beach fees will be going up, too.

Mr. Hickey said it costs too much to transport the trailer because of minimum hours requirements by the union. The town beach will have portable toilets that will stay there and be cleaned daily.

Residents were also concerned about the animal shelter and the cutback in hours for the ACO.

Mr. Hickey said that a group of volunteers is creating a nonprofit to run the shelter. He said he will recommend to the Select Board that the town lease the shelter to the new nonprofit for \$1/year. The ACO will still be part time.

WIIA: cont'd on page 17

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Troop 52 holds Eagle Court of Honor

By Beth David
Editor

For the first time in seven or eight years, Scout Troop 52 of Fairhaven held an Eagle Court to welcome new Eagle Scout, Patrick Fleming to the rather exclusive club. Approximately 6% of Scouts receive the Eagle Badge.

Members of Troop 52, Pack 52, relatives and friends gathered in the hall at St. Mary's Church to formally acknowledge and celebrate Mr. Fleming's achievement.

The requirements for attaining the Eagle Badge are vigorous.

"Perhaps an even more difficult and more important requirement for the Eagle Badge of rank is the personal character of the Scout," read Assistant Scoutmaster Kevin Barreiros at the Eagle Court of Honor on 4/9/26, officially recognizing and celebrating Mr. Fleming's achievement.

Scoutmaster, Bob Dorgan, read several letters from officials in the Narragansett Council.

Select Board Vice Chairperson, Andrew Romano, read and presented a proclamation from the board.

State Rep. Mark Sylvia, who is also Mr. Fleming's neighbor, presented him with a citation from the Mass. House of Representatives, and a flag that flew over the state house for a day in Mr. Fleming's honor.

Mr. Sylvia said as a friend and neighbor and someone who knows Mr. Fleming well, "I'm very proud of

you and I know this is a great achievement. Thank you for all you've done and being who you are."

When it was his turn to speak, Mr. Fleming thanked all those who helped him along the way, including his parents and Mr. Dorgan.

"I look forward to my new role as Assistant Scoutmaster," said Mr. Fleming.

Mr. Dorgan called him a "marked man," now that he is an Eagle and much will be expected of him.

One message reiterated for Mr. Fleming was: Once an Eagle, always an Eagle; and the designation will open doors in the future.

Patrick's father, Timothy, is also an Eagle, so at least they had an idea what they were getting into. Mom, Heather, said she played more of a supportive role and let her husband lead the charge on the myriad of projects and tasks needed to earn each badge along the way.

For his Eagle Project, Patrick replaced the ceiling tiles in the hall where they meet.

Mr. Fleming attends Bishop Stang High School and will graduate this year. He will continue his education in Mechanical Engineering. And, he said,



he will stay involved with this troop as an Assistant Scoutmaster.

Cub Scouts from Pack 52 attended the Court of Honor and Scouts from Troop 52 presented the colors and recited the Scout Oath.

The troop boasts more than a dozen Eagle Scouts and has several more close to earning the badge.

Troop 52 and Pack 52 meet Thursday nights at 6 p.m. at St. Mary's Parish in Fairhaven, 440 Main St. They are actively looking for new members. Find them on Facebook for more information.

Learn more about scouting at <https://www.scouting.org>; learn more about Eagle Scouts at <https://www.eaglescout.org/>



TOP: The newest Eagle Scout of Fairhaven Troop 52, Patrick Fleming, can't help but smile as his mother, Heather, pins his Eagle Badge on him during his Eagle Court of Honor on 4/9/26 at St. Mary's Parish Center in Fairhaven. ABOVE LEFT: Patrick shakes hands with his father, Timothy, while mom, Heather, looks on after Patrick attached the Eagle Scout Dad Pin on his father. ABOVE RIGHT: Fairhaven Select Board Vice Chairperson, Andrew Romano, hands a proclamation Patrick while mom and dad, applaud. Photos by Beth David.

Fairhaven Select Board hears presentation on “friendly” 40B

By Beth David
Editor

At its meeting on 4/13/26, the Fairhaven Select Board heard a proposal for a “friendly” 40B project.

Chapter 40B is the statute that allows developers of residential units to skirt most local zoning bylaws if at least 20% of the units are affordable, meaning the rents are based on income. The law was created to increase affordable housing in municipalities that have less than 10% of their housing stock as affordable. With a friendly 40B, the developer works with the town to create a development that town officials support.

The proposed project would create 224 units on 12.29 acres at the former G. Bourne Knowles property on Route 6. The developer met with town officials, including Town Administrator, Keith Hickey, to develop a plan that the Select Board and other boards would support. If the project goes forward, the 224 units with 25% designated as affordable, would put the town over the 10% threshold.

Ricardo Raposo, Raposo Legacy Development, is the developer. He has a Purchase & Sale agreement with Knowles and is set to close on the property within a few days. The development team also includes: Richard Rheume, Prime Engineering; Dan Herchenroether, Architect; Traffic Engineer, Jeffrey Dirk, Vanasse & Associates; 40B consultant, Lynne D. Sweet.

Mr. Hickey told the board that the developer took some comments by department heads and incorporated them into the plans, such as increasing the units to 224 so the town would reach the affordable housing threshold.

Meeting that threshold means a developer cannot bring a 40B project to the town “in a less than friendly

Appeals, which issues the permit.

The whole process will take about two years. Ms. Sweet said as soon as the ZBA issues the permit, the “safe harbor” kicks in and the town is considered at the threshold for meeting the 10%.

The project includes three or four buildings. The majority of the 224 units would be two bedrooms. On site amenities include a fitness center, business center, dog run, tot lot, acres of open space for passive recreation. The site is also adjacent to the bike path. The front building will be three stories. The rear buildings will have drive under parking. The site will have 372 parking spaces, with room to add more.

The state requires 10% of the apartments to be three bedrooms. Mr. Hickey said the School Superintendent said the school system has enough capacity to accept more students. Public Works said the water and sewer system can

If the project goes forward, the 224 units with 25% designated as affordable, would put the town over the 10% threshold for affordable housing protecting the town from unwanted 40B proposals.

manner,” he said.

Ms. Sweet explained the 40B process to the board, and said they were looking for the town’s support in general for the project. Then the developer would put together the paperwork and ask the board to send a letter of support for the project to help it move along with the state. The project must get approved by the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC)

The project would also have to go the Fairhaven Zoning Board of

handle influx.

There will be more calls for service simply due to having more people, but the fire and police departments do not anticipate the need to hire more personnel.

The site is across the street from Lifestyles Plaza and the Mariner Soccer fields. Board members expressed concern about traffic flow.

Ms. Sweet said on the west end of the property, the entrance is right turn in only and right turn out only.

SELECT: cont'd to page 18

Acushnet Complete Streets draft includes 33 projects

The town of Acushnet held an outreach event for the Acushnet Complete Streets Prioritization Plan back in January. The consultants have now developed a draft plan including approximately 30 different projects including sidewalk installation, crosswalk enhancements, bike amenities, traffic calming measures, and intersection improvements, among others.

The public is invited to attend a Public Open House on Wed. 4/26, 6–7:30 p.m. in the Police Station Conference Room, 64 Middle Road, and provide feedback on the proposed projects and their prioritization. They have also launched an

online project viewer and survey, where community members can explore the projects and share input on their rankings. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/AcushnetCSPP>.

These projects were identified via previous plans and studies, a needs assessment, and most importantly, feedback from the public. They received over 100 comments as to where residents would like to see improvement made.

What is a Complete Street?

Complete Streets are about designing and maintaining roads that are safe and comfortable for everyone — whether you’re walking,

biking, driving, using a mobility device, or taking the bus.

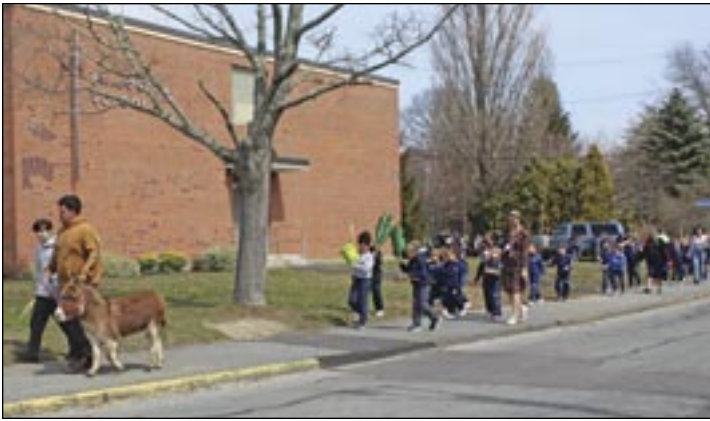
The website, <https://tinyurl.com/AcushnetCSPP> is your one-stop shop for all things Complete Streets in Acushnet. You’ll find: Project updates and timelines, public meeting notices and materials, background data and analysis, opportunities to share feedback and help shape improvements, and eventually host the plan itself!

Contacts:

Nicole Rogers, Senior Project Manager, Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. nrogers@gpinet.com, 978-570-2985

Town of Acushnet, Victoria Alfaro, Town Planner, 508.998.0200 x4261, VALfaro@acushnet.ma.us

St. Joseph School students celebrate Holy Week



The students at St. Joseph School in Fairhaven began Holy Week celebrating the Triduum (Holy Thursday through Easter). It began with a triumphant entrance into "Jerusalem" with a donkey leading the way! The students walked down the sidewalks surrounding the school waving palm branches and shouting "Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David!" ABOVE: A donkey leads the way as students of St. Joseph School in Fairhaven celebrate the Triduum. *Submitted photos.*

FHS students create Manjiro display for Civics project

Students at Fairhaven High School had a list of topics for their civics project. Students Lyla Brun, Alena Bendiksen, Rory Bradshaw, and Brianna Correy, chose the story of Manjiro Nakahama after visiting the Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship House and Museum in Fairhaven.

"Their research focused on the historical rescue of Manjiro by Captain Whitfield in the mid-1800s including a tour of Capt. Whitfield's home and speaking with members of the Whitfield Manjiro Friendship Society," wrote Debra Hanson Almeida, Educational Coordinator/Whitfield-Manjiro Museum. "This initiative was particularly inspired by the recent visit of students from Shimizu High School last Fall, further strengthening the Fairhaven-Tosashimizu Sister City ties."

The display is in the foyer of FHS and will remain for an extended period, making it accessible for public viewing during tours of the high school.

"A notable element of their exhibit is a cascade of beautifully crafted origami cranes, symbolizing peace and friendship," wrote Ms. Almeida.

RIGHT, L-R: Fairhaven High School students, Lyla Brun, Alena Bendiksen, Rory Bradshaw, and Brianna Correy, pose in front of their Civics project in the foyer of the high school, an historic display on Manjiro Nakahama and Captain William Whitfield. *Submitted photo.*



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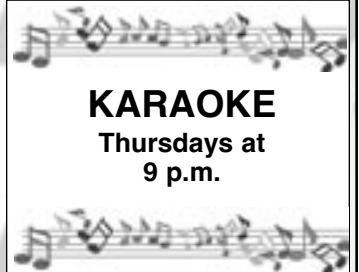
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TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS Special Motor Equipment Operator & Heavy Motor Equipment Operator The Town of Fairhaven is seeking a full-time Special Motor Equipment Operator and a full-time Heavy Motor Equipment Operator for the Highway Department. A detailed job description can be found at www.Fairhaven-MA.gov under "Employment Opportunities". Submit resume and cover letter to Fairhaven Board of Public Works, 5 Arsene Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719. These positions will be available until filled.

Hiring Part-Time Sales Associate
Village Fine Wine & Spirits in Mattapoisett seeking part time sales associates for cashier and light stocking duties. Retail or hospitality experience preferred but not required. Wine and spirits knowledge is a plus. Nights and Weekends 10-15 hours. Competitive wage based on experience. Contact Jason at 781-706-6914 or email villagefws@gmail.com for more details

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TED SILVA
PRIVATE INVESTIGATION
TEL: 508-965-6072.

Looking for minor repair of fiberglass hulls on 2 kayaks at my home in Fairhaven. Contact is jerold.ellner@rutgers.edu

HAPPY SPRING! Beautiful 15-week old French Bulldog puppies born to a loving local family ready for sale with first shots, priced reasonably. Call Raquelle, 774-526-8824 for photos an info.

I'm looking for a few good dogs whose owners would like daycare (\$25-\$30), boarding (\$42-\$45), or night-time care (\$30-\$35) at my cozy Fairhaven home and yard. Join the PAC! Call/text 508-525-6272. www.PACdogs.com

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FOR SALE Lots of vinyl records, CDs, lots of memorabilia. Beatles, Elvis. You name it, I've got it. Call 989-326-3091, ask for Ron.

WIIA: cont'd from page 11

Funding for the shelter runs out on 6/30 at the end of the fiscal year, but the gift account has more than \$70K that can be used to fund operations until the nonprofit can start raising its own funds.

The town's website has a tax calculator on the budge page. Residents can simply enter the assessed value of their homes and the calculator will estimate the taxes on that house with no override and with an override. There is no longer any need to download the form. Visit <https://fairhaven-ma.gov/fy2027-budget-information/>

The average home in Fairhaven is assessed at about \$450K. Next year's taxes are estimated to increase by \$144 (\$12/month) with no override. If the override passes, the taxes would increase an additional \$85.50 to \$229.50, for an additional \$7.13/month.

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Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Board of Health

Wed., 4/22, Town Hill, 5 p.m.

Commision on Disability

Thurs., 4/9, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Conservation Comm

Mon., 4/27, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Cultural Council

Wed., 4/22, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Economic Development

Thurs., 4/16, Town Hall, 5:30 p.m.

Finance Committee

Thurs., 4/23, Arsene St., 6:30 p.m.

Open Space & Rec Plan

Thurs., 4/23, Town Hall, 11:30 a.m.

School Committee

Wed., 5/20, FHS Library, 6:30 p.m.

Select Board

Mon., 4/15, Town Hall, 5:30 p.m.

Mon., 4/27, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Sustainability Comm

Tues., 4/21, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

TOWN MEETING

Sat., 5/2, Hastings MS, 9 a.m.

Tree Removal Hearing

Thurs., 4/16, Arsene St., 5 p.m.

Acushnet

ELECTION

Tues., 4/28, Elementary Sch, 10-2
NOTE TIME CHANGE

Planning Board

Thurs. 4/16, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Select Board

Tues., 4/28, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	April 2026	HIGH a.m. p.m.	LOW a.m. p.m.	
Thursday	16	0744 2004	0103* 1306*	
Friday	17	0828 2050	0149* 1351*	
Saturday	18	0915 2139	0240* 1441*	
Sunday	19	1006 2230	0332* 1532*	
Monday	20	1057 2323	0419* 1621*	
Tuesday	21	1153 ---	0505* 1709*	
Wednesday	22	0021 1256	0556 1804	
Thursday	23	0125 1400	0712 1930	
Friday	24	0226 1500	0917 2147	
Saturday	25	0326 1602	1042 2322	
Sunday	26	0430 1708	1145 ---	

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

Public Hearings/Legal Notices

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

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The 2026 Annual Meeting of the Proprietors of the Riverside Cemetery Corporation will be held starting at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 25, 2026 in the Crematorium Office, One River Avenue, Fairhaven. The meeting's business will include presentations of annual reports and the election of Trustees.

Riverside Cemetery Corporation, Mark R. Jeffrey, President; Sharon M. Dorian, Clerk & Treasurer

Town of Acushnet Invitation to Bid

The Town of Acushnet, Department of Public Works, Highway Division invites sealed bids for Curbside collection of Solid Waste & Recyclables Single Stream.

Specifications and information for bidders may be obtained by email to jvelazquez@acushnet.ma.us or at the Board of Selectmen's Office 122 Main St., Acushnet, MA 02743 on or after April 15, 2026.

All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope to the Acushnet Board of Selectmen's office, 122 Main Street, Acushnet MA 02743. Bids to be received until 10:00 AM May 8, 2026 at which time they will be opened and read aloud.

The Town of Acushnet reserves the right to waive any informalities in or to reject any and all Proposals if it deems to be in the public interest to do so.

FNN: 4/16/26

Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearings

Tuesday May 5th, at 6:00 p.m.

Town Hall Banquet Room, 40 Center Street Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Public Hearing In-Person at Town Hall or via Zoom. Join the Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/94115137952?pwd=MXp0VWpKTFBEUmluT1pWSctiVzJCQT09> or call 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 941 1513 7952 Passcode: 361259

- REF# ZBA-026-008: 431 Sconticut Neck Rd, Map 29, Lot 18. Applicant and Owner Brian Reis seeks variance of size requirements. Pursuant to Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-22 A-1 and possible height requirement. Pursuant to Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-22 A-2.
- REF# ZBA-026-009: 279 Mill Rd. Map 39, Lot 027B, Book 2436, Page 211. Applicant and Owner Peter Deterra seeks variance for minimum footage 140 feet proposed is 81.64 Pursuant to Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-18.
- REF# ZBA-026-010: 1 Parker Street, Map 221A, Lot

195, Book 15232, Page 171. Applicant Carrie Scott seeks a Special Permit to authorize housing chickens on property in a Single Residence (RA) district not to exceed 10 chickens, not to include roosters, for the coop to be at least 20 feet from any dwelling and at least 10 feet from the property line, and for the applicant to submit an operations and maintenance plan for manure, food and water to the Board of Health, pursuant to the Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-16, Use Regulation Schedule and Chapter 405, Animals.

- REF# ZBA-026-011: 1 Crow Island, Map 44, Lot 1, Book 15071, Page 274. Applicant and Owners Bruce Kennedy and Kathryn Barnett seeks a variance for proposed 1008 sq foot shed with proposed height of 29 feet. Max size is 700sq feet and max height is 20 feet. Pursuant to Fairhaven Zoning Bylaw 198-22-A-1 and A-2.

Patrick Carr, Chair, Fairhaven ZBA
FNN: 4/16/26, 4/23/26

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Fairhaven

Conservation Commission

Monday, April 27, 2026 at 6:00pm
Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Street
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the public body as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be at 40 Center Street, and it is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of the public. MGL, Ch. 30A, § 20(f) requires anyone that intends to record any portions of a public meeting, either by audio or video, or both, to notify the Chair at the beginning of the meeting.

Anyone wishing to access the meeting via remote means may do so in the following manner:
Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86953155076?pwd=VFdUQkhzdVYrNzJlQktlVl9XSzppZz09>
Meeting ID: 869 5315 5076

Passcode: 633695

Or call: 1-929-205-6099

In-person attendance is permitted for the public at Town Hall at 40 Center Street

The Fairhaven Conservation Commission will hold the following Public Hearings pursuant to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. c. 131, s. 40) and the Code of the Town of Fairhaven Chapter 192, Wetlands:

- CON 023-563: 76 Balsam Street, Map 43C, Lot 002 Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Matthew Brodo to construct new 7' x 16' porch. Parcel falls within Buffer Zone to Coastal Beach, Coastal Dune; work to take place within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, FEMA Flood Zone, VE (EI.20).

- CON 023-564: 266 Sconticut Neck Road, Map 29A, Lot 95 Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Mark & Amy Knox to remove approximately 1,800 S.F. of brush and invasive vines (Bittersweet) in order to do minor grading and install a FEMA compliant fence. Parcel falls within Barrier Beach, Salt Marsh; work to take place within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, FEMA Flood Zone, VE (EI.16).

- CON 023-565: 0 Monondach Avenue, Map 42A, Lots 327 & 328 Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Samer Alamrat to request temporary recreational campsite with removable RV, gravel parking area, small removable deck, and minimal site improvements, including removal of vegetation and plantings. Parcel & work to take place within Barrier Beach & Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, FEMA Flood Zone, VE (EI.23).

- CON 023-566: 1 Calumet Road, Map 29A, Lots 630, 629, 584, 583, 54, 55, 156, 157 Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Geoffrey Wheeler to construct FEMA compliant 4' perimeter fence. Work to take place within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, FEMA Flood Zone, VE (EI.20).

- CON 023-567: 0 Fisherman's Road, Map 43A, Lot 189 Notice of Intent filed by Matthew Pike to construct single-family home & subsurface sewage disposal system with associated grading. Work to take place within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, FEMA Flood Zone, AE (EI.18).

- CON 023-568: Alden Road, Map 28, Lots 22B & 22D Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Cornguy Realty Trust to cut and remove trees and stumps for the purpose of future development. Work to take place within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to the approved Bordering Vegetated Wetland line (wetland line approved under Order of Resource Area Delineation SE 023-1482).

The agenda will be posted on the Town's website at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Copies of the applications and site plans may be viewed at the Conservation Office in Town Hall, located at 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA and links to the applications are on the Town Website under current filings.

Brandon J. Estrella, Chair
Fairhaven Conservation Commission
FNN: 4/16/26

SELECT: cont'd from page 13

The east side will use the existing Peirce's Point road for left and right turns.

The process will include a public hearing with the ZBA.

The board did not take a vote, but generally gave positive feedback on the proposal, citing the need for housing and the need to protect the town from hostile 40B development. Ms. Sweet will put together the paperwork necessary to file the Project Eligibility Letter with the state and submit it to the Select Board to sign.

The presentation is available on the town's website in the public packet for the 14/13/26 meeting.

In another matter, the board voted to increase membership fees at the Recreation Center by \$10 in each category.

Rec Center Director, Bernadette Barreira, told the board that when she met with the Finance Committee during the budget process, they said the fees were not high enough.

Ms Barreira said she was hesitant to raise the rates, but looked back and found they have not been raised since 2019. The new rates will generate \$5,990 more in revenue.

She said they want to keep the rate reasonable so more people can enjoy the center, which has a lot of different programs.

She also reminded the public that the Rec Center will be running Kool Kids during Town Meeting. The program will be free that day for TM members, and \$35 for Fairhaven residents who want to attend but are not voting members.

In another matter, the board decided to continue the meeting until Wednesday, 4/15, instead of adjourning.

Mr. Hickey said the Board of Public Works was meeting at the same time and they were going to discuss the trash fee. Some residents had suggested that the BPW raise the trash fee from \$100 to \$200 or even \$300 to close the budget deficit. The town is proposing a \$760K Proposition 2 1/2 override (see related story on page 11). An increase of \$100 would raise \$600K. That would change the numbers for the budget being submitted to Town Meeting on 5/2.

The BPW, however, did not vote on the measure at its meeting.

How cool is that? Baby, dad and granddad have something special in common

Three generations sharing the same birthday. That must be kind of rare, right? According to the census, it's a 1 in 130,000 chance.

Right here in New Bedford, we have a new one. Shania Dos Santos Duarte gave birth to Liliana, 9 lbs., 3 oz., on 4/5/26, the same birthday as her father, Michael, and his father, Shawn.

Happy Birthday to all of you!
Now that's a happy Easter!



RIGHT Proud grandfather, Shawn Duarte, holds his new granddaughter, Liliana, while proud dad, Michael Duarte, also basks in the glory after Shania Dos Santos Duarte gave birth to Liliana, 9 lbs, 3 oz., on 4/5/26, the same birthday as her father and grandfather. *Submitted photo.*

HAPPS: cont'd from page 5

Marsh Island Talk

Marsh Island: Restoring the Ecosystems of Buzzards Bay, Tues., 5/5, 6:30-7:30 p.m., UU Auditorium, located across from the library at 102 Green St., Fairhaven, <https://millicentlibrary.org>

To register, sign up on our website: <https://tinyurl.com/2f2knr3e>

Join us for an informative conversation with Sara N. da Silva Quintal, Senior Restoration Ecologist with Buzzards Bay Coalition and Laura Ludwig, Program Director of

the Marine Debris & Plastics Program for the Center for Coastal Studies in Provincetown. They'll discuss the clean up and restoration of Fairhaven's Marsh Island. We'll review the progress of the project thus far, ongoing restoration and all of our role in keeping debris out of marine habitats. The Marsh Island Restoration is New Bedford Harbor's largest natural restoration project

National Day of Prayer

The National Day of Prayer is more than a date; it's a moment for our nation to pause, unite, and turn toward God.

In 2026, we honor its 75th year alongside America's 250th.

Please join us Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 12:00 noon in front of the Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Centr St., and be part of this powerful time of prayer for our Nation and its leaders.

New Boater Law

A new law in Massachusetts will bega 4/1 requiring all motorboat operators to complete a boating safety course. The law will be implemented in two phases:

Visit [https:// www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-boating-law-summary](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-boating-law-summary) or email boatsafetycourse@mass.gov

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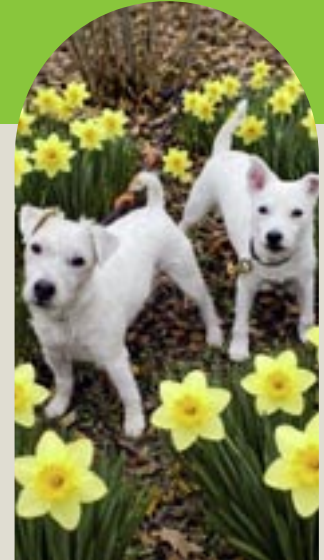
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