



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



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with a big voice!

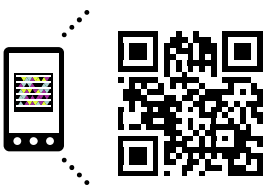
Volume 21, Issue 25 • June 11, 2026

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

Override fails in Fhvn, new faces on 2 boards



Voters in Fairhaven soundly rejected a Proposition 2 1/2 override at the election on Tuesday, 6/9/26, with about 24% of registered voters casting ballots. Voters also picked two new Select Board members, and two new Planning Board members. See page 12 for story. ABOVE: Supporters of Jennifer Cardoza (third from left) for Planning Board, and Rick Trapilo for Select Board hold signs outside the Recreation Center, where all precincts voted on 6/9/26, when both candidates won. Photo by Beth David.



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First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

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

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

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

From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

The voters have spoken (well, some of them anyway) and the override attempt failed (see page 12). A couple of new faces are in, and a few familiar faces are in new roles.

We had about a 24% turnout in Fairhaven and everyone says that's great. I just looked back and the last override that failed in 2023 had a 16.6% turnout. So, I guess it's all relative. But still, 24% is good? Heavy sigh... we are pathetic.

The summer events are starting to kick in. Acushnet had its annual fishing derby (see page 13). That's a fun event. Always free when the Lions do it. That's the best.

Fairhaven also had a Select Board meeting (see page 3). It was Charlie Murphy's last meeting. I'm going to miss him. He could take a shot and let it roll off is back and not whine and cry get his little panties all in a bunch like some of these new people. He could take a joke, he could recognize a joke. And, more importantly (to me anyway), he understood what the First Amendment really is about, hint: It's not only for the stuff you want to hear.

Have fun with less responsibility, Old Man. I'm sure we'll be seeing you around doing the fun stuff.

There's a bunch of other stuff in here, of course. You'll have to thumb through to find it all. While you're at it, be sure to notice who our advertisers are so you can tell them you saw their ads in the Neighb News.

Yeah, no Big Buffoon this week. It's too late. Gotta get this baby to bed, so no time to chronicle the misdeeds of the biggest baby in the country (wah, wah, wah, she was mean to me, I'm going to smash her little microphone and go home, and it RAINED, too, at the SAME TIME. So...so unfair)

Until next week then, see ya,

*Glory to Ukraine!
Glory to the Heroes!*



Publisher Beth David...
VROOM VROOM!

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Editor: Beth David

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our story on the election last week, we made a mistake on which races had candidate statements in the FNN. There were no Board of Health statements this year. We apologize for any confusion our error may have caused.

Select Board votes to rename Union Wharf for Biff MacLean

By Beth David
Editor

At its meeting on Monday, 6/8/26, the Fairhaven Select Board voted to change the name of Union Wharf in honor of former state senator William "Biff" MacLean, a lifelong Fairhaven resident who died last February at the age of 91.

Only one member of the public, Eleanor Chew, spoke about it, addressing the issue during the public comment period, stating that she was not comfortable with the name change. She said it should be someone with a "stellar reputation, with no major slips."

She also said that it may be confusing to boaters who use the wharf, and wondered why the vote was happening now instead of after the election, which was happening the next day.

Although the issue was on the agenda, no board members addressed Ms. Chew's concerns about Mr. MacLeans character.

Mr. MacLean left a complicated legacy. After serving in the Mass. state legislature for decades, he pled

guilty to two conflict-of-interest charges, paid a \$500,000 fine and lost his state pension.

He never stopped advocating for Fairhaven behind the scenes, and continued to help individuals using the vast network of contacts he had acquired during his political years.

Mr. Saunders told the board that the request was personal for him. He said Mr. MacLean was very important to him and saw something in him.

Mr. Saunders said that the way he got help, though, was not unique.

"He helped a tremendous amount of people in Fairhaven," said Mr. Saunders, adding he did not do it for personal gain.

Mr. Saunders said when he got out of college, he worked for Mr. MacLean. One of the things he did was introduce a bill to allow unused campaign funds to be donated to a nonprofit. Before that bill was passed, the funds went to the state.

SB member Andrew Romano asked Harbormaster, Tim Cox, if there would be any logistical issues with renaming the wharf.

Mr. Cox said there were no issues

with a name change. He also said that as someone who grew up in Fairhaven, as Mr. Saunders did, he also knew of many people that Mr. MacLean helped.

"He helped people that you wouldn't even know he helped," said Mr. Cox.

The board voted unanimously to rename Union Wharf after Mr. MacLean.

In another matter, the board voted to remove the voluntary covenant on the G. Bourne Knowles property, which restricts building on the site to 50 condominiums. The covenant was placed on the property in 2006 to restrict a proposed development from being able to expand from its original proposal. The Planning Board will also have to approve the change.

The meeting was the last regular meeting for Chairperson Charlie Murphy, who has served in town government in a variety of capacities for 26 years. He did not seek re-election this year.

In a statement to residents and town employees and officials, Mr.

SELECT: cont'd next page

PAM
Kuechler
SELECT BOARD

Thank you Fairhaven for putting your trust in me as your new Select Board Member!!

Thank you for sharing your ideas, your hopes and wishes for the coming years. For casting your vote and playing an important role in the future of our town. And especially to those who supported me along the way, I am truly humbled and grateful!

Paid for by The Committee to Elect Pam Kuechler

SELECT: cont'd from previous page

Murphy thanked the many people he has worked with over the years.

He named each department and many individuals, heaping praise on them and the work they have done over the years.

He especially thanked his family members by name, including his wife, Carrie, saying, "I signed up for this, she did not. She has had to put up

with the social media, the political highs and lows and the banter, the emails late at night, the going to people's homes at 3 a.m. to listen to the wind turbines, the missing family events due to town emergencies."

He said she is the person to thank along with his children and grandchildren.

Mr. Murphy also took the

opportunity to remember his mother, Kathleen Kobza Murphy, who was born at home in Fairhaven.

"She always instilled in me to make Fairhaven a top priority," said Mr. Murphy. "I will Mom and will do all I can to make it the best it can be."

Mr. Murphy said he will donate the remaining money in his campaign fund to the Fairhaven Animal Shelter.

Wellness in the Park celebrates 15 years

Wellness in The Park is scheduled FREE TO THE PUBLIC this summer for 10 weeks of Yoga and Qigong classes in Cushman Park, Green Street Fairhaven MA. The classes are taking place Tuesdays and Fridays 8:30am from June 16 to August 21, 2026. This summer marks the 15th consecutive year of FREE yoga, fitness and wellness classes on the south coast of Massachusetts – that's a total of 300 classes to boost your wellbeing, raise your spirit and join in caring community!

TUESDAYS: Yoga in the Park begins June 16 with certified yoga instructor

David Trauterman. Yoga in the Park is a wonderful yoga series suitable for everyone, whether you're just starting out or have been practicing for a while. It's a warm and welcoming space where beginners can learn basic stretching and mindfulness techniques, while experienced yogis can focus on cultivating compassion for their bodies. Join us to relax, learn, and connect outdoors!

FRIDAYS: Qigong in the Park, begins June 19 with Cristina Corrieri, a Qigong, yoga, meditation, and mindfulness instructor. Qigong (pronounced chee-gong) involves

gentle movements that enhance and cultivate your energy, promoting overall health and well-being.

YOGA IN CUSHMAN PARK will be guided by certified yoga instructor David Trauterman. David's teaching style is peaceful, heartfelt, and joyful. He lovingly incorporates Ananda and Hatha Yoga, enriching his classes with positive affirmations, extended posture holds, meditation, breathwork, and chanting. This approach creates a vibrant, uplifting wellness journey suitable for everyone, no matter their level.

CONT'D ON PAGE 5



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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

QIGONG IN CUSHMAN PARK
instructor Cristina Corrieri rediscovered a passion for mindful movement while struggling with health issues in her early 30s. Her daily Qigong practice reconnected her with her body and guided her toward restoring balance and well-being. This journey inspired her to become certified to teach both Qigong and Yoga, helping others rediscover their inner peace and healing through gentle, mindful movement practices.

Attendees to the classes should bring a mat and water for Yoga and Qigong. Classes take place weather permitting — cancellations will be posted on the Wellness in Cushman Park Facebook page: www.facebook.com/WellnessInCushmanPark

Wellness in Cushman Park is presented FREE to the public thanks to the generous support of our community sponsorship team

For more information about Wellness in Cushman Park call 508-287-2482 or email sgrace@encorent.com or jeff@sanghanewbedford.com. or find them on Facebook

No Kings Rally

Please join us and let your voice be heard. Rise Up! Sing Out! Fairhaven Rally! Sun., 6/14, from 2-4pm in front of Fairhaven High School, along Route 6 and Main Street.

Peaceful Protest, No Kings Rally. For more information contact fairhavendems@gmail.com

St. Jos Thrift sale

“Let’s Make A Deal” Thrift Sale, June 13 (8-3) and June 14 (8-12), St. Joseph’s Church Spring St., Fairhaven Damien Hall

Small Furniture, Household and Children’s, Items, Jewelry and Lots More!! Great Items at Low Prices. To benefit Sacred Hearts Vocations

Repub. Comm.

The Fairhaven Republican Town Committee will be meeting on Tues June 16th at 6pm at the Fairhaven Senior Center, 227 Huttleston Ave (rt.6). We hold our monthly meeting on the third Tuesday of each month promptly starting at 6pm. Massachusetts and especially Bristol County are lined up for a significant political realignment. There are a

historic record number of Republican candidates for office. Would you like to get involved finding out who these candidates are, and what offices are they running for? Many Mass. tax paying citizens are not pleased with our current elected representation. The only remedy is civic awareness and participation. We urge you to get involved, participate, and attend and you will be greatly rewarded and informed. All are welcome. Please contact us at fairhavenrtc@gmail.com, on Facebook at Fairhaven Republican Town Committee or call Chairman Bob McConnell at 508-863-041

Porch/Door Contest

Hosted by the Fairhaven Improvement Association and Fairhaven Historical Society, this community decorating contest encourages residents and businesses to celebrate America’s 250th anniversary through patriotic porch and door displays throughout Fairhaven.

Three awards will be presented for outstanding residential displays.

Businesses are encouraged to participate as part of the community celebration, but are not eligible for prize awards.

Judging will take place on Monday, June 29.

Winners will be announced Friday, July 3 on the Fairhaven Improvement Association and Fairhaven Historical Society Facebook pages.

Enter at <https://tinyurl.com/nhe6xhpz> or email fairhavenhomecoming@gmail.com for link.

Open Air Market

Every Saturday through Sept. except 6/27 & 7/4. At Livesey Park, corner Glenhaven and Parker. Featuring local vendors. The Open Air Market does not accept vendors of brand name, commercially made direct sales products.

To learn more, email market manager Myles, NorthFairhavenMarket@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATES:

All-Abilities Fishing Derby

Join us for a fun, inclusive All-Abilities Fishing Derby on Friday, June 19th, from 12:00–3:00 PM at Hoppy’s Landing in Fairhaven, MA. This event is open to all ages and abilities, designed to be welcoming,

supportive, and enjoyable for everyone — whether you’re a seasoned angler or trying fishing for the first time. Participants are encouraged to bring their own fishing poles if available. A limited number of poles will be available to borrow on a first-come, first-served basis. Come enjoy a great afternoon by the water with family, friends, and the community! This event is free!

Fr. Day Road Race

Fairhaven Father’s Day 5K Road Race, Sun., 6/21, Hastings Middle School, 30 School St., Fairhaven, 9 a.m. \$25 for adults (\$30 after June 1); \$10 children under 13 and adults 70+ (plus processing fees). No race day entry. Registration closes on Sat., 6/20, at 8 p.m.

USATF sanctioned course. All miles marked, numerous water stops.

Age groups: top three male and females in age groups; top father/daughter and father/son teams.

Cash prizes top three male and female,

Learn more, register at <https://www.fairhavenroadrace.org>

WIIA Breakfast

Join the West Island Improvement Association for a buffet breakfast on Sun., 6/21, from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., WI Community Center, 41 Causeway Rd., West Island, Fairhaven. Includes scrambled eggs, pancakes, fruit, cereal, coffee and juice. \$10/adults, \$5/children under 12. Tickets at door. Accessible.

Next Dates: 7/5, 8/2, 9/6

FHS Tours

Fairhaven High School Alumni President Bob Foster '66 has been leading guided tours through the 1906 building since 2009. Normally six tours are offered from late June to mid-July. The tours are FREE and start in the Rotunda of the main entrance on the Huttleston Ave side of the building and last between 90 - 120 minutes. Admission is free and we ask that you arrive 10-15 minutes before the start time. The 2026 tours will be conducted on the following dates:

Sat	June 27, 2026	10:00 am
Sat	June 27, 2026	12:00 pm
Wed	July 01, 2026	10:00 am
Thur	July 09, 2026	10:00 am
Wed	July 15, 2026	10:00 am
Tue	July 21, 2026	10:00 am



Thank you to all my fellow select board members over the years, dept heads, business owners, citizens and committee members and a special thank you to my family and friends who have supported me through all these years. I'm not going anywhere. I'm committed to my community and keeping Fairhaven strong.

Sincerely,

Charlie Murphy

PAID FOR BY CHARLES K. MURPHY, SR.

GNBVT holds commencement ceremony

Press Release

Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School proudly celebrated the Class of 2026 during its graduation ceremony, honoring the accomplishments, perseverance, and future promise of its graduating seniors.

The ceremony brought together students, families, faculty, staff, district leaders, and community members to recognize the graduates as they completed their high school journey and prepared to enter the workforce, military service, post-secondary education, apprenticeships, and other career pathways.

The Class of 2026 represents the mission of Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech: preparing students with the academic knowledge, technical skills, professionalism, and confidence needed to succeed in a changing world. Throughout their time at GNB Voc-Tech, students balanced rigorous academics with hands-on vocational training, industry experiences, extra-curricular involvement, and service to the school community.

"This graduating class has shown

determination, resilience, and growth," said Superintendent-Director Michael Watson. "They leave Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech with more than a diploma. They leave with skills, purpose, and a foundation that will serve them in college, careers, the military, and life."

The school also recognized the Class of 2026 Top 10 students: James Edminster, Mikayla Staples, Lucas Bulhoes, Jack Maciel, Sydney Raposo, Brooklynn Costa, Casey Pinheiro, Shelbie Ruffley, Daevin Hwang, and William Guillotte. These students earned distinction for their outstanding academic performance, leadership, and commitment to excellence.

The graduation ceremony served as a celebration not only of student achievement, but also of the families, educators, teachers, c o u n s e l o r s ,

coaches, mentors, and community partners who helped support the graduates along the way.

As members of the Class of 2026 move forward, they carry with them the values of hard work, responsibility, innovation, and service that define the Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech experience.

A livestream recording of the ceremony is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EPkGbyk6G7I>



Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School serves students from New Bedford, Dartmouth, and Fairhaven.



2026 Graduates of Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School spell out "VT" on the football field. Commencement was held on 5/29/26. Submitted photo.

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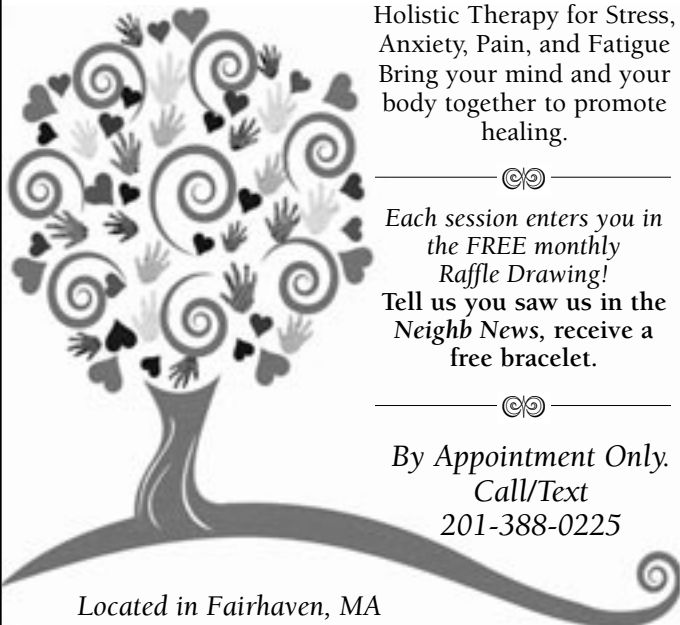
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Visit our website at: http://fairhavenma.virtualtownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA_COA/index

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: 6/17, Garden City, Cranston; 6/24, Hyannis Mall & Trader Joe's; 7/1, First Light Casino (Bring a lunch)

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.

Cutting the Cable

June 15, 1:30–3:30 p.m. Empowering Older Adults with Technology, call to sign up, 508-979-4029.

Tired of paying so much for cable TV from Verizon, Comcast, or RCN, which have dozens (or hundreds) of channels you don't watch? This practical workshop will show you how to save money while still getting to

watch what you need.

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.

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.

June 15, 12:15 p.m. People We Meet on Vacation. Romantic Comedy. Poppy wants to explore the world and Alex

prefers to stay home with a good book, but somehow they are the very best of friends. They live far apart, but for a decade they have spent one week of summer vacation together.

June 22, 12:15 p.m. Pollyanna. Comedy, Drama, and Family. A young girl comes to an embittered town and confronts its attitude with her determination to see the best in life.

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.

Legal Help

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

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

Fairhaven Recreation Center

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

All-Abilities Fishing Derby

Join us for a fun, inclusive All-Abilities Fishing Derby on Friday, June 19th, from 12:00–3:00 PM at Hoppy's Landing in Fairhaven, MA. This event is open to all ages and abilities, designed to be welcoming, supportive, and enjoyable for everyone — whether you're a seasoned angler or trying fishing for the first time. Participants are encouraged to bring their own fishing poles if available. A limited number of poles will be available to borrow on a first-come, first-served basis. Come enjoy a great afternoon by the water with family, friends, and the community! This event is free!

Qigong Class

Fairhaven Rec ages 16+ Wednesday, 5 PM–6 PM: Join us for a calming

and restorative Qigong class led by experienced instructor Robin Fielding. Qigong is a gentle mind-body practice that combines slow, flowing movements, focused breathing, and mindful awareness to promote relaxation, balance, and overall well-being. This class is suitable for all fitness levels and abilities. Participants will be guided through easy-to-follow movements designed to reduce stress, improve flexibility, support circulation, and cultivate inner calm. No prior experience is necessary. Instructor: Robin Fielding. Come as you are, wear comfortable clothing, and enjoy an hour dedicated to movement, breath, and mindfulness. You can register for this class without payment. The \$10 will be

paid directly to the instructor

Outdoor Movie

Willy Wonka Movie Under the Stars Join us for a magical outdoor movie night under the stars as we celebrate the 55th anniversary showing of *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*! Bring your blankets and lawn chairs and enjoy a fun-filled evening with family and friends at Fairhaven Recreation. The movie begins at 7:00 PM on August 28, 2026, and admission is just \$10 per family. Popcorn and a sweet treat will be provided, making this a deliciously fun night you will not want to miss. Register your family today!! In case of bad weather, the movie will be shown in the gym

Fairhaven Recreation Center/Back field Aug. 28, 7pm-9pm \$10 per family

Recipe of the Week

Stuffed Butternut Squash

- 2 Tbsp. olive oil
- 2 medium butternut squash, halved and seeded
- Kosher salt and black pepper
- 1 lb. spicy breakfast sausage
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 small red onion, diced fine
- 6 oz. cremini mushrooms, trimmed and chopped
- 2 Tbsp. chopped fresh sage
- 1 cup chiffonade kale (from 3 to 4 large leaves)
- 1 (8.5-oz.) bag microwavable brown rice
- 1 c grated gruyere (about 4 oz.)
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 1/4 cup freshly grated parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 400°F. Line a rimmed sheet pan with parchment paper.

Oil and season the squash with a generous pinch of salt and pepper. Place the squash cut side-down on the prepared sheet pan. Pierce the outside of the skin with a sharp paring knife several times. Roast until the squash is tender, 40 to 45 minutes.

Meanwhile, brown the sausage in a large skillet over medium high heat, crumbling it as it cooks, 5 to 6 minutes. Remove to a bowl. Add the garlic, onion, mushrooms, and sage to the skillet. Cook, stirring, until the mushrooms have released their moisture and the onions have softened, 5 to 6 minutes. Add the kale and brown rice, season with a generous pinch of salt and pepper, and stir well to heat through. Transfer the mixture to the bowl with the sausage. Add the gruyere and 2 tbs of the parsley. Stir to combine.

Remove the squash from the oven. Using a spoon, scrape some of the flesh from the neck of the squash, creating a small trench, adding the removed flesh to the bottom of the well where the seeds had been. Divide the filling mixture between the squash, filling up the seed well and the neck. Return the squash to the oven and bake until the cheese is fully melted and the filling is hot throughout, 10 to 12 minutes.

Serve hot, topped with the parmesan and remaining parsley.

From thepioneerwoman.com



Dear Frankie

Why Can't I be Interested in What Other Girls Like?

Dear Frankie has expanded to videos. Find her on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok. Search for dearfrankie dogtodogadvice.

Dear Frankie,

Most of what my girlfriends talk about or want to do is of little interest. I go to the mall to look at new leashes and coats, but I couldn't care less. I listen to stories about the cute Lab who is new to the dog park, but my mind wanders off. When I'm asked what I think, I'm lost for words.

When I talk to my girlfriends about my science project on worms, or how our doggy day care baseball team is doing, or who will make the most home runs, their eyes glaze over.

Why can't I be interested in the things my friends like? Sometimes I wonder if there is something wrong with me.

River

Dear River,

Your parents probably named you River because they recognized that, like a river, you like to run free.

If all female dogs liked the same things, every dog park conversation would sound exactly alike — and what a boring world that would be.

Some dogs love fashion, some love baseball, some love science, and some love all three.

Good friends don't have to be interested in the same things all the time. They just need to be interested in each other.

So stop worrying about being different. The world already has plenty of dogs trying to fit in. What it needs are a few more dogs brave enough to be themselves.

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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HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Palmer Isl. Cleanup

Sat., 6/13, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., meet at the bottom of Gifford St., New Bedford. Wear closed-toed shoes. Gloves, pickers and bags provided.

Six-acre Palmers Island, located on the Acushnet River on the west side of the entrance to New Bedford Harbor, has been the scene of great heroism and tragedy. The lighthouse was once considered one of New England's most picturesque.

Palmers Island is now home to a local park, and offers beach access in need of some TLC: Trash & Litter Control.

Many volunteers are needed to make Palmer's Island the picturesque island nature intended it to be.

Learn more about Operation Clean Sweep's upcoming cleanups at <https://operationcleansweep.net/cleanups-operation-clean-sweep/>

Ice Cream Socials

One free ice cream per child, courtesy of the New Bedford Police Department. We're excited to announce the return of our annual Ice Cream Socials! Join us as we visit neighborhoods throughout the city of New Bedford to meet residents, connect with families, and kick off the summer season. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sat., 6/13

Westlawn Park, 11 a.m.-noon; Parkdale, 12:15-1:15 p.m.; Shawmut Village, 1:30-2:30 p.m.; Temple Landing, 2:45-3:45 p.m.

Sat., 6/20

Satellite Village, 11 a.m.-noon; Dottin Place, 12:15-1:15 p.m.; Nashmont, 1:30-2:30 p.m.; Riverside Park (297 Belleville Ave.), 2:45-3:45 p.m.

Fri., 6/26

Ruth Street, 5-6:30 p.m.

Sun., 6/28

Blue Meadows, 11 a.m.-noon; Brickenwood, 12:15-1:15 p.m.; Presidential Heights, 1:30-2:30 p.m.; Monte Park (211 Acushnet Ave.) & Bay Village, 3-5 p.m.

Douglass Readathon

Join us for a powerful multilingual reading of Frederick Douglass' iconic speech, *What to the Slave is Your Fourth of July?* Presented in Wôpanâak (indigenous Wampanoag language),

Portuguese, Cape Verdean Creole and English. Thurs., 6/18, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Bristol Community College, 800 Purchase St., New Bedford.

This free public event reflects the cultural richness of New Bedford today while calling us to consider the speech's enduring message of justice, equity, and freedom. Opening the event will be UMass Dartmouth Associate Dean/Director of the Frederick Douglass Unity House, Dr. Moise Saint Louis.

Refreshments will be provided by Café Arpeggio. This event is free but registration is encouraged at Bristolcc.edu/FrederickDouglass

Kids Boat Week

The Massachusetts Marine Trades Association (MMTA) is happy to announce that "Massachusetts KIDS Boating & Fishing week" will take place from June 6 to 14, 2026. This important effort encourages and promotes youth boating and fishing events around the state. This will be the eighth year the MMTA has promoted events and timeframes.

New Bedford Launch Rides - June 13, & 14 - 10AM to 4PM - Pope's Island Marina

For more information please visit: www.masskidsboatingday.org

10th Anniversary

Looking Back & Looking Forward 2026 marks the Fishing Heritage Center's 10th anniversary and we need your help to celebrate! You are cordially invited to our 10th anniversary birthday bash happening this Thursday, June 11, during the June AHA! Night. Join us from 5pm until 8pm for a fun-filled night with activities happening inside the Center, 38 Bethel St., NB, and outside in FHC's parking lot, including live music featuring Sharks Come Cruisin, fisherpoetry performed by Moe Bowstern, cake, and more. View a full schedule on our website: <https://fishingheritagecenter.org/>

AHA! Pride

The next AHA! Night is AHA! Pride on Thursday, June 11th! Join us for the annual block party as Pride Month takes center stage. There will also be live music, contradance, crafts and more happening across downtown New Bedford for this

special night. For schedule visit <https://ahanewbedford.org/next-aha/>

Thank you to YMCA Southcoast for sponsoring this month's AHA! Night.

Buzzards Bay Swim

Once a year, the New Bedford Harbor shipping channel closes so that hundreds of swimmers can cross the harbor in this one-of-a-kind scenic point-to-point open water swim. Registration has opened for the 33rd annual Buzzards Bay Swim, which will take place on Saturday, June 20, beginning at Cisco Brewers Kitchen and Bar in New Bedford, go across New Bedford Harbor, and finish at Fort Phoenix in Fairhaven.

Swimmers of all ages and abilities join us to navigate the 1.2-mile open water swim. At the thrilling finish, swimmers are greeted with a rollicking beach party, complete with cheering fans, a live steel drum band, pancakes cooked to order, gourmet coffee, and local beer!

Swimmers need to raise \$300 for the Buzzards Bay Coalition (\$150 for youth). Learn more at Visit <https://www.savebuzzardsbay.org>

SAVE THE DATES:

Hetty Green

Hetty Green invites financial experts, neighbors, friends and enemies to speak with and listen to her Tea and Talk at the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, 33 William Street, at 2:pm on Sunday, June 28. All programs offered at the NBWHP welcome the public and offer free admission.

Dr. Irene Duprey-Gutierrez, 30 year volunteer at the National Park, will discuss why Mrs. Green has been called the "witch" of Wall Street and followed with a Q and A.

Hetty was an early financial investor, especially for a woman, in the 1900s of a wild period in history. She, born and raised in Bedford Village (New Bedford), was the richest American woman.

Hetty began buying Civil War bonds which most others avoided but gained pay at 5 percent. Then she expanded with real estate, railroads and gold mines. When she died in 1916, her son and daughter inherited her \$100,000,000 to \$200,000,000 inheritance (today equal \$3,055,229,357 -\$6,110,458,715).

Fairhaven rejects override, votes in new faces

By Beth David
Editor

Fairhaven voters soundly rejected a Proposition 2 1/2 override attempt at the annual town election on 6/9/26. Unofficial results were announced by Town Clerk, Elisabeth Horan, after polls closed during the town's traditional post election event held in the town hall banquet room, when candidates were given a chance to address voters one last time.

Voters also ousted an incumbent Planning Board member, and welcomed a couple of new faces. Voters faced three ballot questions.

Ms. Horan said 3308 voters cast ballots (plus hand counts*) for a 24% turnout.*

Question #1 would have removed police and fire from Civil Service. Both unions voted to revoke Civil Service as part of contract negotiations and it passed at the annual Town Meeting in 2023. To be enacted, a town-wide vote is required.

Voters opted to keep the two departments in Civil Service 1911 to 1273.* (1)

Question 2 would have allowed the town to assess \$649K over the Proposition 2 1/2 limit for FY27. It was soundly rejected, 1882 to 1399. (1)

Question 3 passed, 1826 to 1223, to adopt the town charter as passed at Town Meeting last year. (1)

The Select Board will have two new faces, although both are not new to town politics.

Pam Kuechler, who served on the School Committee for many years,

was top vote-getter in the SB race with 1757 votes. Right behind her was Rick Trapilo, who lost his bid for SB last year, but has stayed active in town politics on a variety of issues. He received 1725 votes.

Miles Grant, who is currently serving on the Planning Board (no relation to Kevin Grant), came in third with 1544.

The SB had two open seats, as Charlie Murphy and Keith Silvia opted not to run for re-election.

Throughout the campaign, Mr. Trapilo was vocal about not supporting the override attempt, while Ms. Kuechler and Miles Grant both supported it.



JENNIFER CARDOZA

led the winners and wished outgoing SB members, Charlie Murphy and Keith Silvia, "the best."

Miles Grant still serves on the Planning Board. His term expires in 2028.

"Democracy won for the town of Fairhaven today," said Mr. Trapilo, and noted the great turnout on a sunny day.

"We have some incredible challenges facing our community and town, as we just saw the override did not pass," said Mr. Trapilo, adding the town is now looking at a \$3 million deficit.

He said he looked forward to getting to work on day one with the board and town officials "to try to resolve that issue."

"I feel thrilled," Mr. Trapilo told the *Neighb News* after. "We worked hard. We met a lot of wonderful people."

He said he heard from people that the town needs to live within its budget.

"He's the best man for the job," said Rick's wife, Margaret Trapilo,



RICK TRAPILO

Miles Grant told voters he had a "great time knocking on everybody's doors."

He thanked everyone who voted, held signs, volunteered; he congratu-

ELECT: cont'd on page 22



Candidates and supporters wait in the Fairhaven town hall Banquet Room for the results of the election on 6/9/26, L-R: Stasia Powers; Pam Kuechler (newly elected Select Board member); Miles Grant (Select Board candidate); Rick Trapilo (newly elected Select Board member); Margaret Trapilo. Photo by Beth David.



MONA PHILLIPS

Fishing derby lots of fun for kids (of all ages)

By Beth David
Editor

More than 20 children participated in the Acushnet Lions Club annual fishing derby at the Lake Street recreation area in Acushnet on Saturday, 6/6/26. Kids won trophies for largest fish and most fish caught. The event has been held for more than 35 years

Adults, however, did not let the lack of prizes for them get in the way of some friendly competition. Ernie and Billy had their own contest going on, measuring their fish by how many widths of the boards on the dock they were. They kept trading places, with Ernie's fish finally measuring more than three boards.

"He just saved himself twenty bucks," said Billy.

Meanwhile, the kids were catching all kinds of fish. Russel St. Pierre won the prize for biggest fish with a 2.5 pound, 18-inch long bass.

Aria Lenz took the prize for most fish caught, with 11; her brother Ethan, had second most with 10; and Brice Sylvia caught eight to get third place.

"Every kid caught a fish," said Acushnet Lion, Joe Costa.

Raffle prizes included fishing poles, tackle boxes, and gift certificates for ice cream.

Children had to have their own poles and tackle, the Lions supplied the bait. Mr. Costa, said bait was donated by John's Bait & Tackle, Gary's Best donated 100 hot dogs, Dee's Dogs donated the chips, and Acushnet Creamery donated gift certificates for on kiddie cone. Raffle prizes were also donated or bought by the Lions. The event was completely free for participants.

Mr. Costa gave a quick rundown of safety measures (be careful casting near the road) and encouraged participants to patronize the businesses that donated. He noted that the new barriers along the road made things a bit safer.

The Lake Street recreation area is at 104 Lake Street, Acushnet, and offers hiking trails, fishing, a small ramp for launching small boats, a picnic area, and parking. The water is part of the New Bedford Reservoir system, and the city and town have



reached an agreement allowing Acushnet to work on weed remediation. The pond is not safe for swimming, and the fish should not be eaten. It is still, however, a tranquil, easy to reach area to teach small children to fish.

The parking lot is not paved but is well maintained. Restroom is a portable toilet.



TOP: Aria Lenz holds up a perch she caught during the Acushnet Lions Club annual fishing derby at the Lake Street Recreation Area on 6/6/26. ABOVE LEFT: Kaylee Nephew holds up a Black Crappie she caught, while her brother, Conner, shows his support LEFT: Colton Hughes hangs onto his raffle prize as he picks the next raffle ticket ABOVE Joe Costa poses with the winners, L-R Mr. Costa; Russel St. Pierre, biggest fish; Ethan Lenz, second most fish caught; Aria Lenz, most fish caught; Brice Sylvia, third most fish caught. Photos by Beth David.

Fairhaven High School new principal announced

Press Release

Fairhaven Public School District is pleased to announce Joshua W. Hibbard as the school's next principal. The district received feedback from staff, students, and community members who expressed the desire to find an instructional leader who would continue the school's focus on supporting "All kids; All the time" while enhancing our career pathways.

Mr. Hibbard's career in education has spanned twenty-eight years, with one year in the State of Florida and the remainder in the State of Connecticut. Over that time, he has been a high school Spanish teacher, international student tour supervisor, curriculum and instructional leader, department chairperson, beginning teacher mentor, instructional coach, dean, supervisor and evaluator, community engagement coordinator, and NEASC Accreditation Team member and chairperson. In addition to this school-based experience, Mr. Hibbard has been a youth athletic board member and has coached athletic teams at all levels from youth through

high school varsity. He has been recognized as a Teacher and Coach of the Year.

Mr. Hibbard completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Connecticut, from which he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and a Latin American Studies Certificate. His graduate studies were first completed at Sacred Heart University, from which he holds his Master of Arts in Teaching (Education) degree. Lastly, Mr. Hibbard completed his Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in Advanced Educational Leadership at the University of New England. He is certified as a school administrator in both the State of Connecticut and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He has extensive training in MTSS and has previously served as a Social and Emotional Learning Instructional Coach. He is bilingual (Spanish).

He classifies his leadership style as student-centered, restorative leadership. As such, Mr. Hibbard believes that all those working in education, in all that they do, should ask themselves, is this decision being



made or action being taken in the best interests of children? As a restorative leader, Mr. Hibbard sets high expectations, while offering high levels of support.

Mr. Hibbard was drawn to the principalship at Fairhaven High School due to the school's unique history, obvious community pride, and strong foundation of academic, co-curricular, and extracurricular programming. He is enthusiastic

FHS: cont'd on page 17

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FHS: cont'd from page 14

about working with students, staff, families, alumni, and community members to celebrate the school's great history, while pushing creative thinking, experiential learning, and innovation further forward.

Mr. Hibbard is honored to become the principal of FHS. He is joined in this new journey in Fairhaven by his wife, Nancy, and their three sons and daughter. They all look forward to being a part of the Fairhaven community.

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Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Belonging Committee

Wed., 6/17, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Board of Health

Wed., 6/17, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

Board of Public Works

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

Commission on Disability

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

Conservation Comm

Mon., 6/15, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Cultural Council

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

Economic Development

Thurs., 6/11, Town Hall, 5:30 p.m.

Livable Streets

Thurs., 6/18, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Marine Resources

Thurs., 6/18, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Planning Board

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

School Committee

Wed., 6/24, FHS Library, 6:30 p.m.

Select Board

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

Acushnet

Board of Appeals

Thurs., 6/18, Police Station, 6:30 p.m.

SPECIAL ELECTION

Old Colony Building Vote

Sat., 6/20, Acushnet Elem., 10-6

TOWN MEETING

NOTE DATE CHANGE

Mon., 6/29, Ford MS, 7 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	June 2026	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Friday	12	0607	1833	1118*	---
Saturday	13	0657	1921	0022	1215*
Sunday	14	0746	2010	0116*	1308*
Monday	15	0838	2103	0214*	1406*
Tuesday	16	0933	2157	0316*	1509*
Wednesday	17	1028	2250	0407*	1607*
Thursday	18	1122	2343	0450*	1656
Friday	19	---	1218	0532*	1748
Saturday	20	0039	1316	0622	1908
Sunday	21	0136	1411	0739	2115
Monday	22	0230	1502	0858	2228

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

Fairhaven Baseball defeats Danvers 15-3

By Caden Lisa

Neighb News Correspondent

The #6 Fairhaven Blue Devils hosted the #22 Danvers Falcons on 6/4/26 in the MIAA Division 3 round of 16 at the Joe Jason Senior Champions Field at Pope Park in Acushnet.

Fairhaven opened the tournament with a low-scoring win against #27 Taconic. Ryan Pires pitched a complete-game shutout leading the Blue Devils to the 1-0 win.

Prior to matching up against Fairhaven, Danvers won at home in the preliminary round against #43 Holyoke and on the road against #11 Swampscott in the round of 32.

The Falcons were fortunate to start the game with two runs in the first inning. Cracks appeared in Danvers' armor slowly, then all at once. Down two early, Fairhaven racked 11 runs in

the face of adversity to build a nine-run cushion after three innings of play.

The Blue Devils brought the hammer down once more in the fourth inning, recording four runs. The game was knotted up after five innings of play. Fairhaven combined for a no-hitter with 15 unanswered runs on 11 hits.

The Blue Devils lost to the #3 Middleborough Sachems the following Sunday, 0-1. Despite a close effort, Fairhaven fell in the round of 8.



For more high school sports photography around the SouthCoast, follow [cadens.camera.content](https://www.instagram.com/cadens.camera.content) on instagram.



TOP: Fairhaven Blue Devil, Jackson Williams, gets celebrated by his teammates in the dugout on 6/4/26 when Fairhaven beat Danvers 15-3 at home. ABOVE LEFT: Fairhaven Blue Devil, Kyle Soares, swings for the fences ABOVE RIGHT: Fairhaven Blue Devil, Jean Rodriguez, takes a ball inside BELOW LEFT: Fairhaven Blue Devil, Jackson Williams, stares down the pitcher before laying down his bat BELOW RIGHT: Fairhaven Blue Devil, Nick Lajoie, smiles after running home. *Photos by Caden Lisa.*



Fairhaven Pickleball Association hosts opening day

More than 70 people attended the Fairhaven Pickleball Association's opening day on 5/31/26 at Livesey Park. The day included food, door prizes, music, awarding of scholarships, pickleball clinics, and lots more fun stuff.



For more information on Fairhaven Pickleball Association go to <https://www.fairhavenpickleball.com> or email us at fairhavenpickleball@gmail.com.

RIGHT: Members of the Fairhaven Pickleball Association pose for a photo during the Fairhaven Pickleball Association's Opening Day on 5/31/26 at Livesey Park. *Submitted photo.*


Colonial Club awards scholarships

On 6/3/26, the Fairhaven Colonial Club awarded four \$1,000 scholarships to these graduating seniors at an awards dinner at the Century House in Acushnet:

- Elaine Monroe, Bridgewater State University;
- Braley Boucher, Western New England University;
- Margaret Martin, Franciscan University of Steubenville;
- Harrison Zheng, Georgetown University.

Congratulations and much success in the future!

RIGHT: Two of four Colonial Club scholarship recipients, Elaine Monroe and Braley Boucher, pause for a photo with the Scholarship Committee during the award ceremony at the Century House in Acushnet on 6/3/26. *Submitted photo.*

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Public Hearings/Legal Notices

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

Acushnet Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearings

The Zoning Board of Appeals is hereby giving notice that a meeting will be held by the Board on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 6:30 PM in the Police Station Conference Room, 64 Middle Road, Acushnet MA 02743.

• **Case # 2026.03.24C** A Case of Noah Drew Gomes for property located at 0 Lambert Street, Map 18, Lot 121. The Applicant seeks a Special Permit pursuant to Sec. 3.3.1E (1) (7), to build a Single-Family Dwelling located on this non-conforming lot with a non-conforming pre-existing garage.

• **Case # 2026.06.18A** A Case of Nathan J. & Karissa E. Deree for property located at 224 Perry Hill Road, Map 8, Lot 35A. The Applicant seeks a Variance because the existing development and pork chop shape of the lot limit the practical options for the placement of the garage. A Variance is required Pursuant to Sec 3.3, C.9. (c), (3) for a proposed Garage which requires a 75 foot side line setback for a retreat lot and the proposed setback is 40.7 ft.

• **Case # 2026.06.18B** A Case of Jason LaBelle for property located at 1 Granite Drive, Map 1, Lot's 8 & 9. The Applicant seeks a Special Permit to demolish two (2) sheds and two (2) single family homes and to reconstruct two (2) single family homes. One dwelling will meet all required setbacks and the second dwelling fails to meet the street setback of 25 ft.

(proposed 15 ft.). Pursuant to Sec. 3.3.1E (8) b. ***Plans are available for public view in the Town Clerk's office, 130 Main St., Acushnet, during their normal business hours***

FNN, 6/4/26, 6/11/26

TOWN OF ACUSHNET

There will be an Annual Town Meeting held on Monday, June 29, 2026, at 7:00 P.M. at the Ford Middle School in the Auditorium, 708 Middle Road, Acushnet, MA 02743.

Kevin Gaspar, Sr., Chairman
Robert Hinckley
Ryan Rezendes
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
FNN, 6/11/26, 6/18/26

From our readers

Time to Speak Up

In religious circles, there is an unusual silence regarding a doctrine that is critical to each one of us. This odd quiet can be traced to a fear of being wrong, ridiculed, regarded as weird, lazy, politically incorrect or even cowardly. Whatever the case, it is time to look beyond our fears to consider the deepest intent of God's heart. John 3:3 sheds very important light on this.

If we read, we learn that the prominent religious leader Nicodemus sought Jesus for a secret meeting by night. In it, Nicodemus asked this upstart how one might enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

Jesus replied, "You must be born again."

After some confusion on Nicodemus' part, the Lord clarified His point by

clearly explaining that all must be born of earthly parents as well as from above in a heartfelt spiritual sense.

The Bible says that Jesus Christ purposefully died for us and His blood sacrifice redeemed us from our fallen and sinful nature. It also says that because of Christ's unconditional sacrifice and resurrection, we are entitled to everlasting life with Him in the Kingdom of Heaven. To do so, according to Jesus, we must be "born again."

Id Chambers describes the New Testament example of the Christian experience as a personal, passionate devotion to the Person of Jesus Christ. Unfortunately, such intimacy is rarely touched today. Followers now often reduce the Lord Jesus to a figurehead of a religion — a mere example. Obviously, He is that, but He

is infinitely more. He is salvation itself; He is the gospel of God that Nicodemus sought then and the same gospel that we must now accept and believe to be true.

With eternity at stake, remaining silent or choosing to spin in religious circles bears no fruit. Real relationship with God comes to us in receiving His Spirit and truth into our heart. Open and honest testimony that we, like Nicodemus, know Jesus Christ on a personal basis must be heard loudly, clearly, kindly, and directly. Isn't it amazing that we can live and move and have our being as God's children and ambassadors? Let us boldly declare that the Kingdom of Heaven is our destined home and the Master's key is in our being "BORN AGAIN!"

Steven J Bouley, Fairhaven

A Moment for Civil Discourse

By Melissa Batchilder
Fairhaven for All

As the school year ends and newly elected officials prepare to step into their roles, Fairhaven finds itself in a moment that asks something important of us.

These transitions — in our classrooms, our government, and our neighborhoods — remind us that community is built through relationships: across generations, across differences, and across the welcome we extend to newcomers who now call this place home.

With new voices entering public office and important decisions ahead, we have an opportunity to model what healthy civic life looks like. That means:

Listening with curiosity

Speaking with respect
Disagreeing without dehumanizing
Remembering that our neighbors are not our opponents



Civil discourse isn't a luxury. It's the foundation of a functioning town. When we practice it, we make Fairhaven safer, kinder, and more welcoming for everyone — especially for families raising children who are

watching how adults behave.

Where We Go From Here

Research shows that communities with strong social ties and diverse perspectives are more resilient, more innovative, and better at solving shared problems. Unity isn't about sameness — it's about choosing connection over conflict.

So as we head into summer, let's choose the path that strengthens us:

Decency.

Respect.

A Fairhaven where every resident — long timer or newcomer — feels they belong.

Join us the first Monday of each month at 6pm at the Millicent Public Library. For more information email FairhavenforAll@gmail.com

HAPPENINGS OTHER LATITUDES

Old Colony revote

The Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School district has voted to hold another vote on the building project in all the towns on Sat., 6/20, from 10-6.

The district is holding a series of virtual town halls to inform residents of the project. Remaining dates are

• June 18, 7 p.m.

Register at tinyurl.com/OCBUIDINGPROJECT.

Learn more at oldcolonybuildingproject.com

Our Town

Our Town, the Thornton Wilder play, is opening at the Marion Art Center on June 12th, 2026. Directed by Pippa Asker, the play is an exploration of everyday life, love and loss in the fictional New England town of Grover's Corners.

Told through the eyes of the omniscient Stage Manager, the play follows the daily routines of two neighboring families—the Gibbses and the Webbs—as their children, George and Emily, grow up, fall in love and confront the passage of time. With minimal scenery and a focus on language and imagination, *Our Town* invites audiences to notice the beauty in ordinary moments—shared meals, childhood friendships, and small-town rituals—and to reflect on what it truly means to be alive. Simple in form but profound in impact, the play remains one of the most beloved works in American theater.

The show runs on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays June 12 through June 28th at the MAC's Anne Braitmayer Webb Theater at 80 Pleasant St. Marion, MA. Friday and Saturday curtain is at 7:00 pm and Sunday matinee is at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$23 for MAC members and \$28 for nonmembers and can be purchased at marionartcenter.org/events.

Ramps Needed

Buzzards Bay Area Habitat for Humanity (BBAHFH) is seeking metal wheelchair ramp donations for Ramp Donation Program. Ramp recipients have ranged in age from 17 to 95 years old.

Through ramp donations and purchases, BBAHFH has built an inventory that can be loaned out and

installed by volunteers when needed by a family. BBAHFH is running this program throughout Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Rochester, Wareham, and Westport.

BBAHFH is currently looking for ramps to help additional families, as well as low-income applicants in need of a ramp. We are a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization; ramp donations are tax deductible per IRS code. In addition to tax deductions, donors benefit from the removal of unwanted ramps and can feel good about helping another in need.

For more information on donating or requesting ramps, email Christine Lacourse at BuzzardsBayAreaHabitat@yahoo.com, or call (508) 758-4517.

Volunteers Needed

The Westport Historical Society will host the House Tour on Sunday July 26, 2026 – a self-guided look at five spectacular private homes located throughout the idyllic SouthCoast town.

The House Tour will be the Historical Society's biggest fundraiser of the year, and volunteers are an integral part of that!

Volunteers will receive one free ticket to the House Tour (and an invitation to our volunteer appreciation gathering later this year).

Volunteers "house sit" for a 2 1/2 hour shift. We have two shifts: 11 AM - 1:30 PM and 1:30 - 4 PM.

If you would like to volunteer, please sign up at <https://wpthistory.org/our-events/house-tour/house-tour-volunteers/>

SAVE THE DATES:

Duck Race

The Acushnet Lions Club will sponsor its annual Duck Race on Sat., 6/20, at the Acushnet River ending at River's End Park, 194 River Road, at 3 p.m. Proceeds go to Lions Club charities.

Tickets to adopt your duck are \$10 each. See any Acushnet Lions Club member or call Joe Costa, 774-849-2028. First place, \$1000; 2nd place, \$500; 3rd place, \$200.

Comedy Fundraiser

SE Mass. Vets celebrate Independence, Sat., 7/18, Knights of Columbus, 57 Fairhaven Rd.,

Mattapoisett. Doors open at 6 p.m., dinner served at 7 p.m. Show to follow. Tickets: \$60, includes dinner by On the Go Catering, cash bar, raffles, 50/50 drawing, silent/live auctions. PG-13 18+

Sponsors: Dr. D.E. Burt, Disabled American Veterans Chapter #7, New Bedford; American Legion Post 265 Acushnet; Thomas E. Tuttle VFW Post 7239, Acushnet.

For tickets, to donate or sponsor, please visit www.funny4funds.com/events. For more information, please contact Bill Comeau, 508-315-7139.

At Mattapoisett Lib.

The following events are being held at the Mattapoisett Free Public Library, 7 Barstow St., 508-758-4171. Accessible. All programs are free and open to the public.

Looking for a craft community? Weaving Wednesdays will start on June 17th at 4 PM, and all fiber artists are welcome. The Sewing & Maker club will meet on June 20th at 10am- just bring your own projects & supplies, excluding messy crafts. Find more information on our website.

Join local massage therapist, Steven McIntyre, for an educational workshop on connective tissue, also known as your fascia, on Saturday, June 20th at 2 PM. Learn what fascia is, how it works, how it can hinder your movement and cause pain or tension, and how to keep it healthy.

Celebrate America's 250th year with a Quill & Ink Program taught by Martha Washington, portrayed by Sandy Spector, on June 23rd at 2pm. Learn about the history of quill & ink writing, and then try it for yourself. Please register on our website to reserve a spot. Continue celebrating America's 250th with Abigail Adams, portrayed by Audrey Stuck-Girard, for a living history program about the Adams family during the revolution. This event will be at the library on June 24th at 5:30 PM, and no registration is required.

Professional calligrapher, Debby Reelitz, will host a hands-on program, "Calligraphy that inspired a nation: learn to write like America's founders," on June 30th at 6:30 PM. Learn about calligraphy, and then try it for yourself. Register on our website to reserve your spot.

ELECT: cont'd from page 12

adding she was “very proud.”

She admitted that time he will be away from home on town business is something she will not like.

“But its for a good cause,” she said.

Ms. Kuechler took her turn at the podium and thanked the voters first. She thank her family and her team for making it happen.

She said she was humbled and excited to get started.

“We have a lot ahead of us. It’s going to be quite a year,” said Ms. Kuechler, adding there are a lot of difficult decisions to be made and she is ready to be part of that to “make sure we do the best we can to move Fairhaven forward.”

Ms. Kuechler also thanked Mr. Murphy and Mr. Silvia for their service.

One thing about campaigning, she said: “No matter how many times you’ve done it, you meet new people, you learn new things about the town.”

Ms. Kuechler said also had good things to say about her fellow candidates, tell Miles his enthusiasm was “something to see,” and telling him not to let the loss stop him.

“It’s been an honor to get to know you,” she said. “And Rick, I look forward to serving with you.”

Planning Board had two separate races, both contested. One was for two full term seats, and three candidates ran: incumbent Kevin Grant (1713 votes), incumbent Sharon Simmons (1223), newcomer, Mona Phillips (1326); with Ms. Simmons getting edged out.

Kevin Grant thanked his family and everyone who ran. He said he looked forward to the next term.

Ms. Phillips said she was honored and humbled. She said thank-you for all the help “I got from all of you pretty



much, and I’m looking forward to turning a page and moving forward.”

Ms. Simmons did not attend.

PB also had an unexpired term to fill, with Jennifer Cardoza (1630) and Andrew Panek (1133) vying for that seat.

Mr. Panek told voters it was an “exciting, energizing process.”

“What an experience,” he said to Ms. Cardoza, adding he was most excited about getting to know how the town works a little bit more.

He said he will see how he can “plug” himself in and support the town, and he is “excited for what lies ahead.”

Mr. Panek told the *Neighb News* he met a lot of people and “built great relationships.”

He said he will look for the next opportunity and keep bettering



himself.

“I hope I can be an asset,” said Mr. Panek.

Ms. Cardoza did not try to hide her excitement at winning when she had her turn at the podium.

“I’m so excited,” she said. “I’m just excited to get to work.”

She said was a great day, standing outside, the weather was good, and the town has been “so energized.”

“This is the change,” she said. “This is going to be so great and I’m excited to get to work and work hard for Fairhaven.”

“I’m on cloud nine,” she told the *Neighb News* after. “It was a lot of work, a lot of long nights but it was worth it.”

Although she did not knock on doors because she said it was just not something she felt comfortable doing, she did have plenty of signs out, and she worked social media extensively.



She also took advantage of all the free air time offered by FairhavenTV.

Donna McKenna, who ran unopposed for a seat on the School Committee, a seat she has held in the past, thanked the voters for getting out on a beautiful day.

“And thanks for all the votes,” she said. “And again, thank you to everybody who actually ran. Because to put yourself out there is huge.”

Mr. Murphy, chairing his last SB meeting, closed by saying that elections can bring strong opinions, spirited debate and disappointment.

“That is the nature of democracy,” he said. “But regardless of how any of us voted, we all share a common interest in the success of our town and the well being of our neighbors.”

Mr. Murphy said the town’s challenges and opportunities belong to everyone and will require “cooperation, respect and a willingness to listen even when we disagree.”

“Let us move forward with humility in victory and grace in defeat, and renewed commitment to serving the entire community,” said Mr. Murphy.

The event is available on FairhavenTV.com

(1) Fixes numbers from previous versions.

**All numbers are unofficial and will change slightly when the hand counts are added in. The results should be certified in a few days. The total number of hand counts do not add up to enough votes to change the result of any single race. Hand counts are ballots that are isolated by the voting machine because of a problem with the way the ballot was marked, or because it includes a write-in.*

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