



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



The little paper
with a big voice!

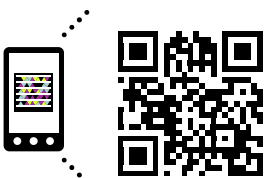
Volume 21, Issue 41 • October 15, 2026

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

Fire Open House entertains and educates



Firefighters approach the fully engulfed building during a demonstration at the Fairhaven Fire Department's Open House on 10/10/26. See page 12 for story. Photo by Beth David.



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First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

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

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

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

From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

I'm not sure what makes me laugh more: the fact that the Susan Collins campaign spent \$25K in Portland, OR, instead of Portland, ME, or the fact that someone in Oregon took the money!

That's what happens when you don't use local people, Susan Collins.

The buffoonery is spreading. Heaven help us all if these idiots are not handed their walking papers in....19 days. 19. These aging bones are very happy that time marches on. Of course, we'll still be stuck with the biggest buffoon, but, maybe a Congress with a spine can blunt the rest of his blows.

We can help them find that spine.

There's another No Kings day of action this Saturday. See page 5 for details on a march that starts in Fairhaven and ends in New Bedford.

We have some meeting coverage for you on page 13. The Fairhaven Select Board has adopted an AI policy....and other stuff, too.

Our cover story (page 12) is always a fun one, right? Who doesn't like some (controlled) flames and free pizza? Oh, and ripping apart a car is also lots of fun.

That very night, though, there was some UNcontrolled fire that destroyed a home and killed two pets. A GoFundMe has been set up for the family.

I wasn't able to get there, but a new budding photographer...he's a young'un...sent in a couple of great photos. So be sure to say hey to young Mason Simoes if you see him around town.

There's other stuff in here, of course. Thumb through to find it all, and while you do that, be sure to notice who our advertisers are so you can tell them you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*.

And, one more thing. Get your Halloween yard on the list. Yeah, it's that time.

Until next week... see ya,

Glory to Ukraine!
Glory to the Heroes!



Publisher Beth David...
VROOM VROOM!

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

Volume 21, Issue 41

Thursday, October 15, 2026

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Editor: Beth David

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

NeighbNews@comcast.net

www.NeighbNews.com

508-979-5593 • Fax: 508-991-5580

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Calling all Halloween Yards

Want to share your Halloween expertise with your neighbors? Send pictures of your yard to the *Neighb News* and we'll share them with our readers in our 10/22 issue. Email: NeighbNews@comcast.net; USPS: 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719. **Deadline 10/16.**



Fairhaven Historical Commission to hold Community Forum

Press Release

Residents, property owners, business owners, and community members are invited to attend a public forum to learn about the Town of Fairhaven's Historic Property Survey Plan Project and provide input on historic preservation efforts through the community.

The forum will be held on October 20, 2026 at 6pm in the Town Hall, 40 Center Street. The goal of the Historic Property Survey Plan Project is to identify those residential and commercial buildings and sites important to the history of Fairhaven and that warrant further research.

While Fairhaven has an outstanding collection of historic buildings, little is known about many of the properties such as construction dates, previous owners, the residents that lived there, their occupations and the interesting stories that connect these buildings to the town's social, economic, and cultural history.

The last effort to identify, research and document historic properties in Fairhaven was in the 1970s. That effort, led by volunteers, helped

identify many buildings in Fairhaven. Now, 50+ years later, the Fairhaven Historical Commission (FHC) recognizes that this information is greatly in need of updating. Additionally, other neighborhoods of Fairhaven deserve further research and documentation for their historic buildings and sites.

By completing a historic property survey plan, the FHC will be better positioned to prioritize efforts to research dozens of properties over the next few years. A similar effort was recently undertaken by the town of Mattapoisett with their historic property survey plan completed in 2023.

During the presentation, the survey plan project consultant and the FHC will discuss Fairhaven's rich architectural heritage and explain how a survey plan can help guide preservation planning, community development, and future grant opportunities.

Attendees will be encouraged to ask questions, share their knowledge of local historic resources and provide feedback that will help

inform project recommendations.

The Historic Property Survey Plan Project, funded through the Community Preservation Committee, is being undertaken through a partnership between the town and the consultant, Skelly Preservation Services. The project will conclude with recommendations for future research priorities and strategies for documenting significant historic resources throughout the community.

"Fairhaven's historic buildings, landscapes, and neighborhoods are extraordinary," said Rick Martin, chair of the FHC. "This forum offers residents an opportunity to help shape the future of preservation planning and ensure that the stories and places that define Fairhaven are recognized and documented."

The forum is free and open to the public.

For more information about the Historic Property Survey Plan Project, please contact: Rick Martin, Chairperson, Fairhaven Historical Commission, 817-689-9944, historicalcommission@fairhaven-ma.gov



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Sen. Montigny with his son on Southcoast Rail, a project he led from initiation to completion

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Early Voting
Oct. 17 to 30
★
Election Day
Nov. 3rd

★ **Paid for by the Committee to Elect Mark C. Montigny** ★

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SCAN TO EXPLORE

We are the Fernandes Family! We are on a mission to relieve our neighbors of common furniture frustrations that overwhelm all families at one time or another.

Acquiring furniture built to last shouldn't be a burden that creates a dilemma. Pay premium prices and even go into debt—or settle for overpriced, poor-quality pieces.

Finding a new home for heirloom-quality furniture shouldn't force us to make an uncomfortable choice. Either waste it, or experience inconvenience and safety risks on popular online marketplaces.

"They don't make things the way they used to" isn't an opinion; it's become the American way. So what's happened to the craftsmanship that Americans once built their families around?

Engineered materials like MDF initially made low-cost furniture accessible. But today's market is dominated by rising prices and plummeting quality. While new heirloom wooden furniture is still available, the cost is unreasonable.

This shift reveals a hard truth: we've traded quality and community for the trap of convenience, settling for disposable goods over lasting, revivable value.

High-quality furniture isn't produced—it's crafted. What makes well-crafted wooden furniture so valuable is that it withstands decades of wear and tear, stands strong, and can always be brought back to life.

We believe that problems are opportunities in disguise. One neighbor is cornered into overpaying for furniture built to break or paying premium prices for new

heirloom-quality pieces. Another owns furniture that has outlasted their ability to appreciate it.

FernandesFamilyFurniture.com offers a better alternative that enables neighbors to conveniently solve each other's problems and ignites a long-overdue sense of community.

By merging traditional craftsmanship with modern convenience, we offer an accessible, easy, and transparent local platform. It enables neighbors to relieve each other's furniture frustrations.

FernandesFamilyFurniture.com is your local online consignment shop that functions as a community-driven marketplace. Discover local heirloom pieces or list your own at FernandesFamilyFurniture.com.



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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Bike Path Ribbon Cutting

Phoenix Bike Trail Ribbon Cutting, Sat., 10/17, 11 a.m., Main and South Streets, Fairhaven. Special guest, State Rep. Mark Sylvia. Celebrate the resurfacing and other improvements recently completed. Refreshments. All are welcome. Sponsored by the Fairhaven Economic Development Committee and the Fairhaven Board of Public Works.

No Kings

March for the Vote

Join the millions of people nationwide for a No Kings day of action.

In Fairhaven, marchers will start at Town Hall and go over the bridge to NB. Participants have four options to join us

Option 1: Meet at Town Hall at noon, 40 Center St., Fairhaven. Help kick off voting and do the whole march.

Option 2: Join the march at Rt. 6 and Middle St. in Fairhaven, a bit after 12 noon.

Option 3: Park at the park on Pope's Island just before the Bridge and join the march there or stay and cheer marchers as they go by.

Option 4: Meet marchers at the end of the route on MacArthur Drive on the Northern edge of the State Pier in New Bedford at Rasmus Tonnessen Park for the stand-out.

Dress in layers, comfortable footwear, and bring water. Bring friends and family. Bring signs, flags, and positive energy.

Visit <https://www.nokings.org/> to find other events near you.

For more information, please email mrebelo@fairhavenps.net.

Fairhaven Parks Workshop

Wed., 10/21, Fairhaven Town Hall Auditorium, 40 Center St., 6-8 p.m. with SRPEDD.

The Town of Fairhaven has been working with SRPEDD and BETA Group to assess the community's existing parks and is looking for your input to help shape their future.

The workshop will include a brief presentation open discussion interactive activities. Residents can share opinions on Fairhaven's parks: what

they value, what could be improved, and what they would like to see in the future.

If you have questions or comments, please email BPW@Fairhaven-ma.gov

Free Movie

Celebrate Halloween early South Coast Cinemaniacs style! Join us for the classic horror film THE 7TH VICTIM (1943). An innocent boarding school student, Mary (Kim Hunter) discovers her only living relative is missing. She travels to New York City to search for her sister Jacqueline (Jean Brooks). Who will find her first, Mary or the satanic cult also searching for Jacqueline? A moody and spooky production by horrormeister Val Lewton!

The program starts on Monday, October 19 at 5:30 PM at the Millicent Library on 45 Center St., Fairhaven. All are welcome, and the event is free! Use the Walnut St. entrance to access the auditorium.

South Coast Cinemaniacs meets the second Monday of the month, excluding holidays, to watch and discuss classic movies. For more information, email club president Beth Ann Gallagher at: southcoastcinemaniacs@gmail.com

Fhvn Repubs

The Fairhaven Republican Town Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, October 20th at 6pm. We meet at the beautiful Fairhaven Senior Center 227 Huttleston Ave (rt.6) every third Tuesday of the month.

This will be our last meeting prior to the November 3rd general election. Mail in ballots have been sent, pre-election early voting will begin this coming Saturday October 17th through Friday October 30th. We will discuss candidates appearing on the ballot as well as the 9 ballot questions.

We have a spokesperson scheduled to speak on the proposed referendum petition to repeal the new chapter 188 laws, as well as important information on offshore wind, climate change and governmental funding.

Our committee is accepting applications for committee membership and we also welcome any person wishing to attend our meetings. Meet new friends, greet neighbors, get involved in your community, you will

be greatly informed and rewarded. Call Bob McConnell @ 508-863-0416, email fairhavenrtc@gmail.com or our Facebook page Fairhaven Republican Town Committee

Author Event

Millicent Library will welcome acclaimed art theft investigator and author Anthony Amore for an evening exploring one of the most fascinating stories in the world of art crime on Thurs., 10/22, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Fairhaven Town Hall Auditorium, 40 Center Street.

Amore, Director of Security at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, will discuss his latest book, *The Rembrandt Heist*, a gripping investigation into the theft of one of the world's most famous paintings and the shadowy world of art crime.

Following the presentation, audience members will have an opportunity to ask questions and have books signed.

Admission is free and donations are welcome. Advance registration is requested. Register at millicentlibrary.org/events-calendar.

Get Tickets NOW!

FHS Drama

Calling all Drama Club Alums! The Fairhaven High School Theatre Company is thrilled to announce their upcoming celebration, *Through the Years*. Join us for a fundraiser cabaret featuring songs from your past favorite FHS musicals including *Annie*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Beauty & the Beast*, and more.

Hosted by Drama Club Alums Andrew Romano and Alyssa Botelho, you won't want to miss this trip down memory lane. The funds raised from this performance will go directly towards "feeding the plant" at their spring musical, *Little Shop of Horrors*.

Through the Years will be performed at Fairhaven High School on November 7th at 7PM and November 8th at 2PM. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for children/seniors, and \$10 for FHS students and staff. FHS Alums also get the \$10 discount for this show! Seating is general admission. Tickets can be purchased online at https://gofan.co/app/school/MA22183_1 or at the door an hour before each performance.

HAPPS: cont'd on page 23



Northeast Maritime Institute Presents:

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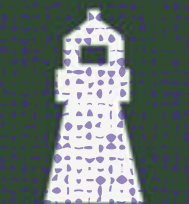
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Fire in Fairhaven displaces 3, kills two pets

By Beth David
Editor

A fire at 216 Main Street in Fairhaven displaced three occupants and killed a dog and a cat; one dog was rescued by firefighters.

According to a press release from the Fairhaven Fire Department, the call came in at 6:59 p.m. for a structure fire. When crews arrived, heavy fire was showing from the side of the house on the first floor and smoke was showing from all floors. The fire started on the first floor.

In an interview with local TV station, Channel 10 (turnto10.com), Fairhaven Fire Chief, Todd Correia, said the way the house was built contributed to the quick spread of the fire upward. He said the "balloon frame construction" made it easy for

the fire to go from the first floor right up to the attic. The construction has no barriers to stop the fire once it gets into the walls.

It took crews about an hour to get the fire under control. Crews from Mattapoisett, Acushnet, and New Bedford also responded to the scene.

The house is owned by Phillip Picard, who lives there with his two daughters, 13, and 8.

Mr. Picard's niece, Jayda Picard, has set up a GoFundMe page, saying they lost everything: <https://tinyurl.com/bddb22sk>

"He is also carrying this tragedy while trying to stay strong for his two young daughters, who have been deeply affected by everything that happened. Right now, Phill needs support to get through this incredibly difficult time and begin rebuilding life after the fire," she writes on the fundraising page.

"This fundraiser will help Phill with the essentials needed to move forward, including food, a place to live, clothes, and the many everyday necessities that come with restarting from nothing," she wrote, adding it could happen to anyone, and that he uncle is always there to take care of people when they need help.

"Now it is Phill's turn to be surrounded by that same care and kindness," she wrote. "Please consider supporting Phill Picard in any way you can, and thank you for helping Phill and his daughters take the first steps toward rebuilding after this terrible loss."

On Facebook, Ms. Picard also said she would accept donations of clothes and other necessities. Call her at 508-961-9336

You can also find Jayda on Facebook to get updates.

As of press time, the GoFundMe account had received \$28,931 towards a goal of \$35,000



LEFT: Firefighters battle a blaze at 216 Main Street in Fairhaven that reached from the first floor to the attic, destroying the house, on the evening of 10/10/26. RIGHT: A firefighter can be seen in the window of the second floor as the fire burns outside. Photos courtesy of Mason Simoes.

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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

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

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: 10/21, Providence Place Mall; 10/28, Warwick Mall; 11/4, Twin River Casino; 11/18, Hyannis Mall & Trader Joe's; 11/25, Providence Place Mall.

Join Us for Lunch

We serve lunch every weekday at 11:30 a.m. To schedule a lunch, call the day before by 10 a.m. Voluntary donation of \$3 (Please note price chance). To let us know you want to join us, and to arrange for a ride, call 508-979-4029.

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.

Empowering Older Adults with Technology

1:30–3:30 Must bring your own device. Must call to sign up, 508-979-4029.

Oct. 19: Tips & Tricks for your smartphones and tablets.

Oct. 26: Catch the Fraudster

Nov. 2: Protecting your privacy

Nov. 16: Safe online shopping for the holidays.

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.

Oct. 19, *Something Wicked This Way Comes* Mystery/Thriller. In a small American town, a diabolical circus and its demonic proprietor prey on the townsfolk. Dark's Pandemonium Carnival arrives in Green Town.

Oct. 26, *The Birds* Psychological Horror. A wealthy San Francisco socialite pursues a potential boyfriend to a small Northern California town that slowly takes a turn for the bizarre when birds of all kinds suddenly begin to attack people.

Medicare Open Enrollment

Medicare Open Enrollment runs from 10/15–12/7. To review/switch plans, meet with a SHINE Counselor at the Sr. Center. Call 508-979-4023 to make an appointment.

Pre-Order Your Cookbook!

Own a piece of your community's recipes from yesterday and today for tomorrow's table. See Jocelyn at the COA, \$15. **Last day to pre-order your cookbook will be 11/4.**

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>

SPOOKFEST: HOUSE OF HOLLOWS

Join us for a night of Halloween fun for the whole community! October 23rd 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM @Fairhaven Recreation Center This is a FREE event and OPEN TO EVERYONE!! Enjoy: Costume Contest, Arts & Crafts, Treat and Special Guest Judges. Plenty of Halloween fun for all ages Come dressed in your favorite costume and get ready for an evening of spooky fun at the House of Hollows! Don't forget our Pumpkin decorating contest happening that night also! Carved, decorated—whatever you wish. FREE ADMISSION — EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

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, November 19th, 5:30 PM –7:00 PM. Members: \$30 Non-Members: \$35 All materials are provided; just bring your imagination and get ready to create! Spots are limited, so grab yours now!

PINT-SIZED PICASSOS

Ages 3-5 Recreation Staff, Fairhaven Recreation Center Session B: Mon, Oct 19-Nov 9 (4 sessions) 10:00-10:45 AM Members: \$40 | Non-Members: \$50.

Join us for this messy pre-k art program and watch your little artists bloom as they paint, draw, and sculpt their way to becoming

creative and confident young individuals. Let the colors of imagination flourish in this enriching art adventure!

Youth Basketball Clinics

Grades K-5 Coach Donald Joseph +Recreation Staff Fairhaven Recreation Center Sat, Dec 6-Jan 17 (7 sessions), 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Member: FREE Non-Member: \$50.00

Join this exciting recreational clinic, led by Coach Donald Joseph, Fairhaven High School Varsity Basketball Coach! This clinic focuses on teaching the essential fundamentals of basketball. Each week, participants will engage in skill-building exercises and drills, providing a supportive environment to develop their basketball skills and enhance their love for the game. Don't miss the opportunity to learn from an expert and take your skills to the next level!

Recipe of the Week

Scallop Puffs

3 tbsps unsalted butter
1 lb. scallops, chopped
2 tps finely minced lemon zest
3 cloves minced garlic
2 tbsps chopped fresh dill
2 cups grated Swiss cheese
1 1/2 cps Hellman's mayonnaise
Fresh ground pepper to taste
12 doz. 1" bread rounds or
squares lightly toasted
Sweet Hungarian paprika

Melt butter in medium skillet over medium-high heat. Add scallops, lemon zest and garlic. Cook, stirring constantly, until scallops are just barely cooked through, 2-3 minutes. Add dill and cook 30 seconds longer.

Let cool to room temperature. Add Swiss cheese, mayonnaise and pepper to scallop mixture and stir to combine well.

Refrigerate in covered bowl until ready to use.

Place toasted bread rounds or squares on baking sheet, 1/2 inch apart. Top each with scallop mixture, sprinkle lightly with paprika. Broil 2-3 minutes until puffy and golden. Makes 12 dozen.

*By Marilyn Sullivan,
from "Recipes from Land and
Sea," published by the Ladies
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When I told Fanny, a mutual friend of ours, Fanny said, "I've never seen her steal anything."

Why wasn't Fanny concerned and take what I was telling her seriously, Frankie?

June

Dear June

If fanny took what you said seriously, she might have to do something about it, like confront Roxy and risk their friendship. By denying it she doesn't have to do anything.

Fanny's response shows that she

Dear Frankie

Shoplifting

Dear Frankie,
What do you do when you discover your friend is a shoplifter?

Last week I saw my friend Roxy put a toy and an expensive collar in her backpack at the pet store.

cares more about being Roxy's friend and less about her being a shoplifter, which is a serious crime.

Discovering unpleasant truths about one close friend is bad enough, but two? That's an emotional whammy.

I'm sorry, June.

Best, Frankie

There's more Dear Frankie to enjoy! Watch Frankie and Rufus bring this week's column to life in a fun new video. Visit Dear Frankie on Facebook to watch the episode and follow along for more video advice and laughs: <https://tinyurl.com/32hrruen>

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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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Wrong-Way Motorcyclist hit on Braga

Bristol County DA Press Release

Bristol County District Attorney Thomas M. Quinn, III announced a motorcyclist driving in the wrong direction who fled on foot was struck on the Braga Bridge on 10/10/26

Prior to 12:30 PM Massachusetts State Police were on Route 195 East of the Braga Bridge assisting with a disabled vehicle in the right breakdown lane on the crest of the bridge. Traffic approaching the crest was slowed and operating in two lanes of travel.

At approximately 12:38 PM, a 32-year-old male from Westerly, RI, was operating a Yamaha Sportbike motorcycle on Route 195 East on the Braga Bridge at a high rate of speed driving in between lanes. The motorcycle operator then turned the motorcycle around, while on the bridge, and began driving west in the eastbound

lane, driving into oncoming traffic on the bridge. The motorcycle then struck a Massachusetts State Police cruiser that was in traffic on the bridge and a second vehicle, both in the eastbound lane.

The motorcycle operator then disembarked from the motorcycle and ran into the westbound lanes of traffic on the Braga Bridge. Once the motorcycle operator entered Route 195 West on foot, he was struck by a motor vehicle and suffered significant injuries.

He has been transported to Rhode Island Hospital for treatment. The investigation into this matter is active and ongoing by the Massachusetts State Police Detective Unit assigned to the Bristol County District Attorney's Office. No further information is available at this time.

Voting is how we participate in a civic society — be it for president, be it for a municipal election. It's the way we teach our children — in school elections — how to be citizens, and the importance of their voice.

Loretta Lynch

Calling all Halloween Yards



Want to share your Halloween expertise with your neighbors? Send pictures of your yard to the *Neighb News* and we'll share them with our readers

in our annual Halloween Trail issue on 10/22. Or call us at 508-979-5593 and we'll try to swing by and take a picture. Email: to NeighbNews@comcast.net; USPS: 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719. **Deadline: Friday, 10/16.**

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Fire Open House entertains and educates

By Beth David
Editor

The Fairhaven Fire Department hosted the town to an open house on Saturday, 10/10/26, featuring demonstrations, free stuff, and tips on fire safety. The public could get up close to fire trucks, an ambulance, and other firefighting equipment. Firefighters were on hand to answer questions, and kids could crawl through the smoke house to experience how hard it is to see in a dark, smoke-filled house.

Firefighters demonstrated using the “Jaws of Life” and other tools used to cut up and break up a car to get someone out. They also set a small building on fire to show how fast fire can spread and to demonstrate putting it out.

Young Asher sat in the driver’s seat of a Carry All police vehicle.

“It’s easy,” he said as he turned wheel.

Firefighter/Paramedic, Troy

DeCouto, explained each step of what firefighters were doing as they broke up a car to get a person out. They used special “Jaws of Life” type tools to cut through metal and spread metal apart to break through.

After rescuing their “victim,” the continued to use the tools to cut under the windshield, and peel it back to make the car a convertible, as Mr. DeCouto said.

He said people sometimes ask which cars are easier to break apart, old ones or new ones.

Old ones, for sure, he said.

Kai, Parker, and Hudson watched the demonstration sitting on the ground.

“It was awesome,” said Kai.

They all liked it when the roof popped off.

“And the doors,” said Hudson.

“And breaking the glass.”

Twin brothers, Noah and Cole, from Rochester, said, they too, liked it

when the roof popped off the car.

During the building fire, Mr. DeCouto explained that fire grows quickly and people should get out of a building immediately if it is on fire.

“Smoke detectors save lives,” said Mr. DeCouto, and reminded everyone to change batteries on November 1.

He explained that the little building they were burning only had wood in it, but a house or garage would have all kinds of material in it, including plastic.

Inside, Fire Chief Todd Correia dished out the pizza, and people could wander around the station and talk to firefighters. Freebies included coloring and activity books with lots of tips on fire safety. Other freebies included fire hats, colored pencils, and stickers.

The event was part of National Fire Safety Week, which was 10/4 to 10/10. Learn more at <https://www.nfpa.org/events/fire-prevention-week>



ABOVE LEFT: Firefighters peel back the roof of a car during the Fairhaven Fire Department’s Open House on 10/10/26. ABOVE RIGHT: Firefighters hose down the hot spots after putting out the fire in a little building built for the demonstration. BELOW LEFT: Asher tries his hand at the steering wheel of the Police Department’s Carry All vehicle. BELOW RIGHT L-R: Hudson and Madison spy the camera as they reach an opening in the smoke house. Photos by Beth David.



Fairhaven Select Board okays AI policy, closes STM warrant

By Beth David
Editor

At its meeting on 10/13/26, the Fairhaven Select Board approved a policy on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), and closed the warrant for the Special Town Meeting (STM) scheduled for 11/17.

At a previous meeting, the board had discussed an AI draft policy created by SB member Natalie Mello, who then discovered that the town's Information Technology Director, Steve Rosa, had already created a draft policy that was more comprehensive.

The policy establishes security requirements and acceptable-use rules for staff. It clarifies which tools are approved by the town, which is based on security to keep sensitive data private.

The policy includes five Core Principles. 1: Human Accountability. The employee is responsible for the output, "The AI wrote it" is never a defense. 2: Tool selection is decided by the sensitivity of the data not the convenience of the tool. 3: No AI system makes the final determination affecting a resident. 4: Transparency is the default. Residents are entitled to know when AI shaped something that affects them. 5: Assume anything entered into a public AI service is disclosed, the same way anyone can read a postcard.

Mr. Rosa told the board that the policy puts in safety guard rails for security. Employees have to vet the answers they get from AI, he said, because it is not always accurate.

Software used by employees has to be the vetted by the departments.

He also said the policy needs to be a "living document," because of how often technology changes.

The board also noted that the School Department has its own AI policy. Board members and Town Administrator, Keith Hickey, acknowledged that the School policy is very school and education specific.

SB member, Rick Trapilo, also noted that the Board of Public Works is an autonomous body.

Ms. Mello suggested that the board add, as a preamble, the introduction from her draft policy with some changes, including to exclude school department employees because they have their own policy to follow.

In the end, the board voted to adopt the policy with the changes,

pending review by the Board of Public Works and town counsel.

Both draft policies are available in the meeting packets on the Select Board page on the town website. Ms. Mello's is available in the 9/28/26 meeting packet, and Mr. Rosa's is in the 10/13/26 packet.

The board also voted to close the warrant for the STM. Mr. Hickey told the board that there are nine warrant articles, eight from the town, and one citizens petition.

Most of the articles are spending articles. One will allow the BPW to lease space on the water tower on

The policy establishes security requirements and acceptable-use rules for staff. It clarifies which tools are approved by the town, which is based on security to keep sensitive data private.

Sconticut Neck Road for an antenna for cell service. Another will allow the Conservation Commission to hold the Conservation Restriction on 117 acres on Weeden Road/DeNormandie Farm West.

Article 9 was submitted by citizens petition and will prohibit the town's use of Flock Cameras and other similar surveillance systems.

The Special Bylaw Review Committee also submitted an article to make a variety of changes to several bylaws.

Mr. Hickey also told the board that Town Accounting/Assistant TA, Anne Carreiro, is retiring next summer. Mr. Hickey said he would like to hire someone to start about a month before Ms. Carreiro leaves, so there would be a few weeks of overlap for a transition period. Article 5 in the STM warrant allocates \$30,348 from unexpended funds for union contracts to use for the transition.

Mr. Hickey also the board that

other retirements are coming for some long term, respected, knowledgeable employees in the next couple of years.

In another matter, the board heard from Fairhaven Historical Society member, Beth Luey, asking the board to allow the organization to use the Academy building's two empty rooms for meetings and exhibits.

The society runs a museum on the second floor of the building. The first floor has a preserved 1800's classroom. There are also two empty rooms on the first floor, where the Office of Tourism was once located.

The town owns the building, which was a school in the 1800s. The Historical Commission, which is a town government committee with members appointed by the SB, is responsible for the building, the same way it is responsible for other town historic structures.

The Historical Society is a private 501c3 nonprofit organization that runs a museum of Fairhaven history on the second floor of the Academy Building. The Society also organizes a variety of events, including author appearances, holiday house decorating contest, and scholarships to graduating high school seniors.

Ms. Luey, who is a member of both the Commission and the Society, told the board that the society would like to hold their meetings there, and have exhibits on the first floor.

In her letter making the request, she said that the Commission can also use the space to meet with the consultant who is conducting the survey (see page 3), and store research materials.

She noted that the 1798 building has seen some neglect since the Office of Tourism left, including a leak in the roof that went undetected.

Ms. Mello, who is the board's liaison to the Commission, and has also been a member of the Society in the past said she had owned an 1730 house. She said the worst thing they can do is leave an old house empty, "because things happen."

Eleanor Chew, a member of the Commission, said she was speaking for herself only, and she was concerned about the details. She said the Commission pays the bills on the building. Although they had talked

SELECT: cont'd on page 17

From our readers

Sylvia Remarkably Responsive

Two years ago, I wrote to support Mark Sylvia's campaign for State Representative. Today, having seen him serve our community in the State House, my endorsement of his re-election is stronger than ever.

When Mark ran, he promised to be an accessible, community-minded leader, and he has delivered on that promise every day. Whenever I have reached out with concerns, Mark has been remarkably responsive, attentive, and focused on solutions. He brought the same diplomacy, grace, and professionalism he demonstrated as our town moderator straight to Beacon Hill, representing all residents of the 10th Bristol District regardless of political affiliation.

As a longtime school librarian and advocate for intellectual freedom, I am especially grateful for his co-sponsorship of Massachusetts' anti-book banning legislation, which became law this summer. At a time when divisive politics threaten access to information, Representative Sylvia stood up to defend our fundamental freedoms, protect our libraries, and safeguard the educational resources our community relies on.

Mark Sylvia has proven that he has vision, integrity, and effectiveness. I urge my neighbors across the 10th Bristol District to cast their vote to keep Mark Sylvia working for us on election day.

Laura Gardner, Fairhaven

Miles Grant Supports Sylvia for State Representative

I would like to take the time to endorse Mark Sylvia for re-election as our State Representative in the 10th

Bristol District.

I came to know Mark through his role as Moderator for our Town Meetings, and later by crossing paths at various town functions. I have found him to be thoughtful, direct, and genuinely interested in what our town needs, and that has not changed since he took his seat on Beacon Hill.

Mark's experience as Fairhaven's Town Moderator and as Town Manager in Plymouth, combined with his years as Commissioner of Energy Resources and Undersecretary of Energy, gives him an understanding of both municipal and state government that few legislators bring with them. Much of what we take up on the Planning Board, from housing and zoning reform to how we pay for the services residents depend on, is shaped by decisions made at the State House. It matters a great deal to have a representative who knows how those decisions land in a town like ours.

Mark understands there is no easy solution or quick fix to the cost of living, the housing crisis, or balancing our working waterfront with the growth of offshore wind. Still, he has shown he is willing to bring people to the table and have those difficult conversations. As Moderator he made sure every voice at Town Meeting was heard, and that is exactly the kind of representation our district deserves.

Mark has served us well in his first term, and I believe he is more than deserving of my support and your vote on November 3rd.

Kevin Grant, Fairhaven

These views are my own and in no way are meant to represent the views of the Planning Board on which I serve.

League of Women Voters SC on Ballot Questions 4 & 9

The League of Women Voters SouthCoast urges voters to vote YES on Ballot Questions 4 and 9 to strengthen our democracy and protect our communities.

YES on Question 4:

Make voting more accessible.

Question 4 will allow eligible voters to register on Election Day, ending the arbitrary 10-day registration deadline. It will also give registered voters who encounter a problem at the polls the opportunity to resolve it and cast a ballot that counts. Nearly half the states already offer Election Day registration. It's time for Massachusetts to join them.

YES on Question 9:

Keep Massachusetts safer.

Question 9 will uphold the firearms safety law the Massachusetts Legislature passed in 2024. That law bans ghost guns, prohibits devices that convert semiautomatic firearms into machine guns, modernizes red flag laws, and strengthens violence prevention programs. A YES vote will preserve these critical protections and help keep our communities safe.

Make your voice heard. Protect our communities.

Eileen J. Marum, Chair, League of Women Voters SouthCoast

The darkest places in hell are reserved for those who maintain their neutrality in times of moral crisis.

Unknown (Sometimes attributed to Dante Alighieri, The Divine Comedy, aka Dante's Inferno)

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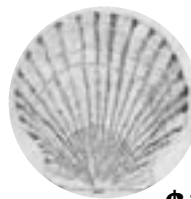


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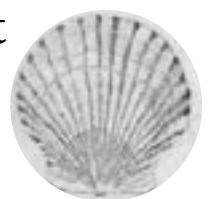
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Fairhaven Budget Working Group will look at all departments

By Ken Blanchard, Chair of the Fairhaven Budget Working Group*

The Budget Working Group is made up of concerned Fairhaven residents/taxpayers who have volunteered something that is increasingly difficult to find, personal time. I don't believe any one of us would be here if we did not genuinely care about the financial future of our town and the preservation of the services our residents depend on.

The voters have spoken clearly on two recent occasions, there is no appetite for Proposition 2 1/2 overrides. To me, that sends a clear and important message; before asking taxpayers for more money, we have an obligation to determine whether we are operating as efficiently and as fiscally responsible as possible with the money they have already entrusted to the town.

I believe that is the fundamental reason the Budget Working Group exists.

Our responsibility is not to criticize department heads, employees, boards or committees. We are not here to question anyone's professionalism,

leadership or commitment. Quite the opposite. We want to work collaboratively with the people who know the operations best.

Our approach is simple: **Understand the operation. Understand the costs. Identify the facts. Examine alternatives. Determine whether there are opportunities to save money within the governing laws and regulations, without sacrificing the quality, reliability or safety of essential services.**

If the facts demonstrate that an alternative does not make financial or operational sense, then we will say so and move on.

However, if the facts demonstrate that there is an opportunity to reduce costs, improve efficiency, transfer operational risks or provide taxpayers with better long-term value, then that opportunity will be presented to the appropriate authority for their consideration.

The wastewater treatment plant deserves particular attention because Fairhaven is making a major long-term investment in a new facility. That makes this an important decision

point.

The question before us is not: **Is the BPW operating the wastewater treatment plant properly?**

The question is: **Is there a more fiscally responsible and operationally effective way for Fairhaven to operate and maintain this major new town asset?**

We are not here to advocate that outsourcing is necessarily the answer. We are here to determine whether it is an option that deserves a serious fact-based evaluation.

That distinction is important.

We will apply the same process and principles to every municipal service we consider.

We will present our findings on each matter to the board or committee that has the authority and the fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers to make those decisions. I am confident in their ability and know they will make the correct decision either way.

**This opinion is mine alone and not that of the FBWG.*



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SELECT: cont'd from page 13
about the possibility of a new arrangement, they did not talk about any details. She said they had no problem with Ms. Luey speaking to the Town Administrator, but she did not give permission for an agreement to be made.

The board voted to table the item until the next meeting to give the Commission time to discuss it at their next meeting.

The board also voted to allow the production company for 47 Brand Apparel to film and possibly block off Reservation Road from traffic later this month to record commercials.

Raymond Forbes told the board that they have several private locations in mind, including a residence on Reservation Road.

He said they "fell in love with Jake's Diner."

They will also be shooting at the Seaport Inn, possibly other locations.

The company will work with the police department and BPW and pay any associated costs.

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VOTE: cont'd from page 18
State Primary Elections; Q4: Election Day Registration; Q5: State Revenue Limit & Rebate; Q6: Natural Resource Conservation Fund; Q7: Single Family Homes; Q8: Prohibit Retail Sale of Adult Recreational Use Marijuana; Q9: Firearms Regulation

The Mass. Democratic Party, Republican Party, and some advocacy groups have issued voting guides for the ballot questions.

Mass. Dems: No on 3, 5, 8; yes on all the others. Visit <https://www.massdems.org/>

Mass. Repubs: Yes on 1 and 5; no stance on 2 and 8; no on all the others. Visit <https://massgop.com/massachusetts-incumbent-democrats-wont-debate-2/>

League of Women Voters: Yes on 1, 4, 7, 9; no position on 2, 3, 6, 8; no on 5. Visit <https://lwvma.org/ballot-questions-2026/>

Progressive Massachusetts: No on 3, 5, 8; no position on 6; yes on all the others. Visit <https://www.progressive-mass.com/2026-ballot-questions/>

Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Board of Public Works
Mon., 10/19, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

Budget Working Group
Tues., 10/20, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Cultural Council
Thurs., 10/22, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Economic Development
Thurs., 10/15, Town Hall, 5:30 p.m.

Historical Comm Forum
Tues., 10/20, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Historic Property Survey Plan
See page 3 for details

Livable Streets
Thurs., 10/15, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Marine Resources
Thurs., 10/22, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Parks Workshop
Wed., 10/21, Town Hall, 6 p.m.
With SRPEDD to discuss public parks and uses

School Committee
Wed., 11/18, FHS Media Ctr., 6:30

Select Board
Thurs., 10/15, Town Hall 2 p.m.

Interview Legal Firms
Mon., 10/26, Select Board., 6 p.m.

Sustainability Comm
Tues., 10/20, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Acushnet

Selectboard
Wed., 10/28, Town Hall, 4:30 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

		Oct. 2026		HIGH a.m. p.m.	LOW a.m. p.m.
Thursday	15	1139	---	0423	1659
Friday	16	0007	1231	0459	1737
Saturday	17	0104	1328	0540	1828
Sunday	18	0201	1423	0637	1942
Monday	19	0254	1516	0757	2052
Tuesday	20	0349	1613	0908	2145
Wednesday	21	0448	1712	1012	2236
Thursday	22	0541	1803	1114	2322
Friday	23	0625	1845	---	1201
Saturday	24	0704	1924	0003	1242
Sunday	25	0743	2005	0042	1324*
Monday	26	0825	2049	0123*	1410*
Tuesday	27	0911	2138	0210*	1501*

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

Early voting starts Saturday

By Beth David
Editor

Early Voting starts on Saturday, 10/17, for the 11/3/26 state election.

Mail-in and absentee voting is already underway. The deadline to apply for mail-in voting is Tuesday, October 27, at 5 pm.

Contact your town clerk/elections office (see below for each municipality) for information on how to request a mail-in or absentee ballot.

Acushnet Early Voting Schedule

Early voting for the 11/3/26 state election takes place from Oct. 17 through Oct. 30. All Early Voting takes place at Parting Ways Building, 130 Main St., Acushnet, at the Town Clerk's Office: Monday through Friday during regular business hours, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and until 7 p.m. on Tuesdays; and on Saturdays, 10/17 and 10/24, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Election day voting, 11/3/26, takes place for all precincts at Acushnet Elementary School, 800 Middle Road, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Contact the Town Clerk for more details, 508-998-0215.

Fairhaven Early Voting Schedule

In-person Early Voting will be available in the Banquet Room at the Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Street.

Early Voting for the 11/3/26 state election will be available in the Banquet Room at the Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Monday through Friday during regular Town Hall business hours: Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., and until 6 p.m. on Mondays; on Fridays, 10/23 and 10/30, from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; and on Saturdays, 10/17 and 10/24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

On election day, 11/3/26, all precincts vote at the Fairhaven Recreation Center, 227 Huttleston Ave., from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Contact the Town Clerk for more details, 508-979-4023.

New Bedford Early Voting Schedule

Early voting will be held Downtown on the third floor of the New Bedford Main Public Library at 613 Pleasant Street from 8 am to 4 pm October 17 through October 30. The last day to register to vote is Sat., 10/24.

Any New Bedford resident who is uncertain about their voting status, designated polling location, has changed their address since the last election, or has questions regarding mail-in, absentee, or early voting should contact the New Bedford Board of Elections Commission at 508- 979-1420.

Local groups offer guidance on Ballot Questions

Massachusetts voters are facing nine questions on the ballot. See our story in our 9/24/26 issue for details on each question.

For the online guide to each ballot question, visit <https://ma.omni ballot.us/sites/25/vg/app/vig/voter-guide/info> on the Secretary of State's website. Information includes everything that is in the red book that was mailed to all voters in the Commonwealth: summaries, arguments, legislative reports, and full text of the laws. Visit VoteInMA.com for other election information.

Question 1: Expanding the Public Records Law; Q2: Collective Bargaining for CPCS Employees; Q3:

VOTE: cont'd on page 17

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HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Pork Roast Dinner

Harvest pork roast dinner for all! Sat., 10/17, 5 p.m., First Congregational Church at Lunds Corner, 2195 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford. All welcome. Featuring dinner and raffle.

Tickets \$15 adult, 4 for \$50, children under 5 free

Harvest Craft Fair

Bring your family and friends to the 2026 Harvest Craft Fair sponsored by the Whaling City Catholic Collaborative and held indoors at the Holy Name Parish Center, 121 Mt. Pleasant Street in New Bedford on Saturday, October 17 from 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, October 18 from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

In addition to 28 Crafter's tables, the Fair will feature Basket Raffles, a Harvest Auction, the Women's Guild's Used Jewelry table, a huge 50/50 Raffle with separate Raffle Trees for Scratch Tickets and Gift Cards and a Silent Auction.

The Famous Holy Name Women's Guild Kitchen will be open with many favorites, including French Meat pie, Linguica, Caçõila and Chow Mein sandwiches, sea food and clam chowders, clam cakes and fries and of other tasty snacks. The Bake Sale tables and the Kandy Corner will feature lots and lots of home-made pies, cakes, pastry and candies.

Back this year will be a Children's Activity area with games and fun sponsored by the Parish's Youth Group and Scout Troop 24 will be taking pre-orders for their hand-made Christmas Wreaths.

Admission is the donation of one non-perishable item for our Food Pantry and the Craft Fair will be open rain or shine.

Dock-u-Mentary

Join Fishing Heritage Center and New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park for our first free Dock-u-mentary film screening of the fall 2026 season!

On Fri., 10/16, at 7:00pm, we will be screening the 2020 documentary film *The Jump*. In 1970, off the shore of Martha's Vineyard, Lithuanian radio operator Simas Kudirka jumped from a Soviet ship onto a US Coast Guard vessel in a desperate bid for freedom. Denied asylum by the American crew,

Simas was sentenced to a Soviet labor camp for treason, sparking an international outcry. His dramatic case set off a chaotic series of events, leading to one of the biggest muddles during the Cold War. The screening will take place at the National Park's auditorium at 33 William Street in downtown New Bedford. Doors open at 6:30pm.

Sunfish Volunteers

Our sailing community is gearing up for an exciting 2027 season on the water, and we are looking for additional passionate members to join our "Sunfish Racing Committee".

Whether you are an experienced racer, a casual sailor, or someone who loves being involved on the race management side, this is the opportunity for you.

Why Join the Committee?

- **Be Part of the Action:** Help organize local fleet races, training days, and regattas.
- **Support the Fleet:** Ensure safe, organized, and competitive racing for sailors of all skill levels.
- **Build Camaraderie:** Work closely with other enthusiasts and share your love for the iconic Sunfish.

What We Need Help With

- **On-the-Water Operations:** Managing start lines, setting courses, and finishing races from the committee boat.
- **Shore Operations:** Handling registration, scorekeeping, and event coordination.
- **Mentorship:** Welcoming new racers and helping expand our local fleet.

No race committee experience is required — we are happy to provide guidance and show you the ropes!

You are cordially invited to our first get together meeting on Thurs., 10/15, at 6:30 p.m., Low Tide Yacht Club, located in Fort Taber Park, 1000C S. Rodney French Blvd., New Bedford, MA. Refreshments will be served*

Please contact Joe Pacheco at: josephpacheco46@yahoo.com

NB Economic Dev. Council

Please join us for our annual meeting on Thursday, 10/29, from 4–7 p.m. at the New Bedford Whaling Museum's Cooke Memorial Theater,

18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford. Featured speaker, Amanda McMullen, President & CEO of the Whaling Museum. Light refreshments and networking. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

RSVP: <https://tinyurl.com/4zj47s39>

The Attic is Open

The Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum, 396 County St., New Bedford, will be presenting a new way to explore the museum by opening up the attic and cupola to visitors.

On Sat., 10/17 and Sat., 11/14/14 from 1pm - 3pm, visitors will be able to explore the attic of the RJD and trek up to the cupola, which provides a 360 degree view of New Bedford.

Guests can drop in anytime during the 1pm to 3pm timeframe to experience the special attic excursion. Featuring a new exhibition that details the lives of domestic staff from the Jones era, visitors will learn about the space which was once home to the people who ran the house and enjoy one of the best views of New Bedford. The cupola of the mansion, added during the Jones occupancy, gave residents a direct view of the port of New Bedford. Now, this view can be seen by the general public in this behind-the-scenes look at the RJD attic.

Tickets can be purchased at the door and are \$5 on top of regular admission. Museum admission for adults is \$8, seniors and students are \$6, and children under the age of 17 are free. As always, members of the museum get into the museum for free.

Visit <https://rjdmuseum.org>

Artist Estate Planning

Another installation of our Salon Series, Artists Estates, how to protect the work, your rights, and the future with estate planning.

Understanding artist-specific estate planning concerns relating to both physical artwork and intellectual property. Wed., 10/21, 6–7:30 p.m., at The Launch at Moby Dick Brewing Co., 16 S. Water St., New Bedford.

This is a FREE event, just reserve your spot at <https://tinyurl.com/yys3mhka>

Visit The Southcoast Artists Index at <https://theartistsindex.com>

HAPPS OT: cont'd on page 20

HAPPS OT: cont'd from page 19

Silent Movie with...

Experience Cecil B. DeMille's Epic Silent Film *The Ten Commandments* with Live Organ Accompaniment by Peter Krasinski.

Who doesn't love a great epic movie with incredible music!

Step into the drama, spectacle, and grandeur of a cinematic masterpiece brought vividly to life through the power of live organ music.

On Sun., 11/1, at 5 pm, Music at Saint Anthony's invites audiences to experience Cecil B. DeMille's monumental black-and-white silent film *The Ten Commandments* in the magnificent setting of St. Anthony of Padua Church in New Bedford's North End, 1359 Acushnet Ave.

Acclaimed organist, Peter Krasinski, is the musical genius who will perform a live accompaniment on St. Anthony's historic Casavant pipe organ, adding intensity, color, and imagination to one of silent cinema's most unforgettable epics. Krasinski is well known in the New England states and beyond for his enthusiastic and engaging personality and performances.

Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased online through <https://www.musicatsaintanthony.org/current-events.html>. Seating will also be available at the door, but early purchase is encouraged for this special one-day event.

Food Truck Fest

New Bedford Food Truck & Craft Beer Festival, Sat., 10/31, noon to 5 p.m., Fort Taber, 1000 S. Rodney French Blvd., NB. Tickets: \$10 at door; \$5 pre-sale. Visit <https://www.foodtruckfestivalsfamerica.com/newbedford2> or find them on Facebook

Food Truck Festivals of America is bringing the ultimate Halloween Food Truck & Craft Beverage Festival to New Bedford—and it's going to be frightfully delicious!

Get ready for a hauntingly good day filled with incredible food, refreshing drinks, and Halloween fun for the whole family! Featuring dozens of craft beers, festive music, artisan vendors, and more.

Dress to impress (and maybe win cash)! Best costume gets \$500!

SAVE THE DATES

Lebanese Christmas Bazaar

It's time for the annual Lebanese Holiday/Christmas Bazaar by Our Lady of Purgatory Maronite Catholic Church, featuring delicious Lebanese food & tasty desserts, craft tables, money and basket raffles, silent auctions & our caravan of values.

Join us at our community center, 4254 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford, on Sat., 11/14 from 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; and Sun., 11/15, from 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

For more information contact us at officeolop@gmail.com or (508) 996-8934. See you there!

Author Event

On Wed., 11/18, from 6–8:30pm, Spinner will host Nathaniel Philbrick, author of *In the Heart of the Sea* and *Mayflower* at the Steeple Playhouse, 159 William Street, New Bedford, MA.

Philbrick will introduce his newest book, *The Rush: California Gold, the Civil War, and the Making of the Modern World*. The Author-Talk begins with an informal meet-and-greet, featuring beverages and hors d'oeuvres, followed by Philbrick's presentation, and concludes with an audience Q&A. Davoll's General Store

will provide copies of the book for purchase and signing at the event.

Tickets to the Spinner Author Talk event are \$40 and are available through PayPal (<https://tinyurl.com/4un2ny35>) or by calling the Spinner office (508-994-4564).

Women, Power, Democracy

Your Voice Belongs in this Conversation

On Thursday, October 15, join Women's Fund SouthCoast at The Zeiterion in New Bedford for Women, Power & the Future of Democracy—an evening featuring Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell and Loretta J. Ross, a powerful panel conversation, and young women sharing their vision for the future.

We want cost to be one less barrier to participating. Alongside standard admission (\$85 pp), we're offering:

\$25 Student Tickets. Use code STUDENTVOICES at checkout.

\$10 "Seat at the Table" Community Tickets

For anyone for whom the general admission price is a barrier. Use code SEATATTHETABLE at checkout.

Tickets at: <https://womensfundsouthcoast.org/women-power-and-the-future-of-democracy/>

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Want to share your Halloween expertise with your neighbors? Send pictures of your yard to the *Neighb News* and we'll share them with our readers in our 10/22 issue. Email: NeighbNews@comcast.net; USPS: 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719. **Deadline 10/16.**



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Republican Candidates Night

For the first time, the Republican Town and City Committees of Marion, Mattapoisett, Rochester, Fairhaven, Acushnet, New Bedford, Dartmouth and Westport are joining together to host a Southcoast Meet the Candidates Night on Thurs., 10/22

The event will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 57 Fairhaven Road (Route 6), Mattapoisett. Light snacks will be served at 6:00 PM, and the program will begin at 6:30 PM.

EVERY voter is welcome! Voters of all political affiliations are invited to meet Republican candidates seeking federal, state and county office ahead of the November 3 election.

Candidates expected to attend include:

- Shawn Oliver — Lieutenant Governor
- Elizabeth Dionne — State Treasurer
- Tyler Macallister — U.S. House, 9th Congressional District
- Boomer Amaral — State Senate, 1st Bristol and Plymouth District
- Robert McConnell — State Senate, 2nd Bristol and Plymouth District
- Justin Thurber — State House, 5th Bristol District
- Jesse St. Gelais — State House, 8th Bristol District
- Chester Tam — State House, 9th Bristol District
- Brendalee Smith — State House, 10th Bristol District
- Anthony O'Brien — Plymouth County Commissioner

The eight participating committees invite Southcoast residents to attend and meet the candidates.

Pawtoberfest

Sun., 10/18, Noon-5 p.m., Diamond In The RUFF, 211 Middle Road, Acushnet, MA.

Featuring 30+ Amazing Local Vendors, Delicious Food Trucks, DJ & Music, Dog Costume Contest, Shopping, Fun & So Much More!

At Acushnet Library

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

- FREE MOVIE Monday, October 19 @

2 pm - Movie Matinee - You, Me & Tuscany, rated PG-13, 1 hr. 45 min.

- Monday, October 19, 2026, 6 - 7:30 pm - Knitting & Crocheting Group

At Mattapoisett Lib.

The following events are being held at the Mattapoisett Free Public Library, 7 Barstow St., 508-758-4171. Accessible. Register at online at www.mattapoisettlibrary.org,

- Adult Craft Workshop on October 17th at 1pm. During this session, we will be painting miniature pumpkins to take home. Get creative and create a piece of decor that works for you, or to give as a gift to someone else! Please register to reserve your spot.
- FREE OUTDOOR MOVIE Sunset Cinema Movie Showing on the MFPL Lawn on October 21st at 6pm. We will be showing "Scooby Doo" (2002). Bring a blanket, chairs to lounge on, and some snacks, to fully enjoy the movie experience! This event is designed for community members of all ages, no registration required.
- Author Talk with Katie Bernet on October 24th at 2pm! Katie Bernet is the New York Times and international bestselling author of "Beth Is Dead," which was the inaugural selection for Reese Witherspoon's Sunnie Reads Book Club and has been translated into more than a dozen languages. Adults & teens will enjoy this mystery-thriller! Copies available at the library for checkout. Registration optional.
- We're throwing a **Halloween Party!** It starts at 10:30 am on Saturday the 17th with storyteller Rona Leventhal! After the show, take part in some spooky crafts and check out everyone's costume! This program is supported in part by a grant from the Mattapoisett Local Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.
- On Thursday, October 22nd, at 3:30 pm, we're offering a fun seasonal craft for kids ages 10 and up. Create a Halloween Miniature Garden with tiny gravestones, skulls, spooky trees, and figurines like witches or ghosts! Supplies are limited; registration is required.
- Kids Graphic Novel Book Club will

be reading Dracula's Brunch Club by Brian Gonsar. Copies will be available at the children's desk. Contact faguiar@sailsinc.org with any questions. Registration is optional. Perfect for ages 9 and up. The club will be meeting on Friday, October 23rd at 3:30 pm.

Bible Study

Adult Bible Study, Food Outreach, and Outdoor Prayer in Mattapoisett

The Lamb of God Christian Church of Mattapoisett will be presenting the following events in October:

- Sunday Church Services every Sunday@6:00 P.M. American Legion Hall, 3 Depot Street
- Adult Bible Study held at the Mattapoisett Free Public Library, in the lower meeting room, October 21 @6:30 P.M.
- Free Food Outreach, October 25 @3:00-5:00 P.M. American Legion Hall, 3 Depot Street.
- Outdoor Prayer Outreach, Sundays 4:00-6:00 P.M. @Mattapoisett Rail Trail and Ned's Point (Weather permitting).

For more information call (508) 998-6990, or E-Mail: pastor@lambogodma.org

Fall Rail Ride

Get tickets now!

Looking for a unique way to enjoy fall? The Fall Rail Ride is a one-day-only trip on Saturday, November 7. Choose between a guided bike ride or a car-free afternoon in Newburyport.

The MBTA's 2nd annual Fall Rail Ride will take place on Sun., 11/7. Departing from North Station and operating express to Newburyport, this "Rails & Trails" train will connect riders with a guided autumnal bicycle tour along scenic municipal bike trails or offer passengers a car-free afternoon to enjoy all that Newburyport has to offer.

Tickets go on sale Monday, October 19 at 11 AM and are available exclusively on the mTicket app. Each \$20 ticket includes round-trip travel on the event train and is valid for unlimited Commuter Rail travel all weekend long.

More information is available at <https://www.mbta.com/destinations/fall-rail-ride>

HAPPS OL: cont'd on page 22

Public Hearings/Legal Notices

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

TOWN OF ACUSHNET PUBLIC HEARING

The Acushnet Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing at its meeting on Wednesday, October 28, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. at the meeting room in Town Hall, located at 122 Main St., Acushnet, MA. This hearing is on the petition of NSTAR ELECTRIC COMPANY D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY a company incorporated for the transmission of electricity for lighting, heating or power, that it desires to construct a line for such transmission, together with overhead wires, across the public way or ways hereinafter specified.

Mendall Road,

At a location approximately 750 feet south easterly of its intersection with Garrison Ln.

*Board of Selectmen
Kevin Gaspar, Sr., Chairman
Robert Hinckley, Member
Ryan Rezendes, Member
FNN, 10/15/26, 10/22/26*

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Fairhaven Conservation Commission

Monday, October 26, 2026 at 6:00pm
Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Street
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Notice is hereby given that the Fairhaven Conservation Commission will conduct a Public Hearing pursuant to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. c. 131, § 40) and the Code of the Town of Fairhaven Chapter 192, Wetlands Bylaw. The meeting will be located at Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA.

In-person attendance is permitted for the public and will be televised live on Fairhaven TV Channel 97 and fairhaventv.com. To join the meeting remotely Log on to the following:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86953155076?pwd=VFdUQkhzdVYrNzJlQktlVj9XSzZ09>

Meeting ID: 869 5315 5076 Passcode: 633695

Or call: 1-929-205-6099

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. Links to the applications located on the Town Website under current filings.

a. **CON 023-597, SE 023-XXX: 1 Calumet Street, Map 29B, Lot 582-584 & 629-630** Notice of Intent filed by Wheeler Living Trust Project: Proposed work includes the repair of areas of shoreline erosion caused by coastal storm events. Work to be performed partially on a Coastal Bank, within the 100 ft. Buffer Zone of a Coastal Beach and within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage Flood Zone YE (EL 20).

b. **CON 023-596, 4 Ruth Street, Map 43, Lot 140-142** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Robert Bates which proposes the following: replacement of the existing vinyl fence on the south side of the property with a masonry wall positioned perpendicular to the water.

*Brandon J. Estrella, Chair,
Fairhaven Conservation Commission
FNN: 10/15/26*

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WATERWAYS REGULATION PROGRAM

Notice of License Application pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 91 Application Number 26-WW01-0118-APP
Applicant: James L. & Renee P. Novakoff
Project Location: 10 Oxford Street, Acushnet River, Fairhaven, Bristol County

Notification Date: October 15, 2026

Public Comment Deadline: November 14, 2026

Public notice is hereby given of the Chapter 91 License application by James L. & Renee P. Novakoff to construction and maintain a pier, gangway, float, and float piles, and to maintain an existing stone rip-rap seawall, within the Acushnet River, Fairhaven, Bristol County. The proposed project has preliminarily been determined to be a Water-Dependent Use.

The Department will consider all written comments on this application received by November 14, 2026 (Public Comments Deadline). Failure of any aggrieved person or group of ten (10) citizens or more to submit written comments to the Waterways Regulation Program by the Public Comments Deadline will result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing in

accordance with 310 CMR 9.13(4)(c). The group of citizens must include at least five (5) citizens who are residents of the municipality in which the proposed project is located. A public hearing may be held at the request of the Municipal Official.

Project plans and documents for the application are on file for public viewing electronically at: <https://eeonline.eea.state.ma.us/EEA/PublicApp/> (enter 26-WW01-0118-APP in the Search Page in the field for Record ID). If you need assistance, please contact Christine.Koczera@mass.gov or if you do not have access to email, please leave a voicemail at (617) 292-5929 and you will be contacted with information on alternative options.

It is recommended that documents and correspondence be filed electronically with the email address specified above when possible. Alternatively, comments may be mailed to MassDEP Waterways Regulation Program c/o Christine Koczera at 20 Riverside Drive, Lakeville, MA 02347.

The Department provides language access interpreter/translation services to limited English proficient individuals free of charge. If you need an interpreter for any documents and/or to participate in a public hearing, translation services can be found at the following link: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massdep-language-translation-assistance>.

FNN 10/15/26

Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing

Wednesday November 4th, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Town Hall Banquet Room, 40 Center Street

Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Public Hearings 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

1. REF# ZBA-026-024: 29 Charity Stevens Lane, Map 40, Lot 15A, Book 14496, Page 317. Applicant/Owner: Shelly Anne Moniz Declaration of Trust, seeks a Variance from Zoning By-Law 198-22 A (1) to construct a 792 sq. ft. addition to existing 954 sq. ft. Garage.

Patrick Carr, Chair, Fairhaven ZBA

FNN: 10/15/26, 10/22/26

HAPPS OL: cont'd from page 21

Halloween at the Handy House

10:00AM -2:00PM, Sat., 10/24, at The Handy House, 202 Hix Bridge Road, Westport

Magical and spooky family fun! Come in costume!

Make a wand, create your own potion, and save the Handy House from the evil witch! Rain or shine.

Suggested donation \$5 per family.

SAVE THE DATES: Craft Fair

Fourth Annual Craft Fair, Sat. & Sun., 11/7 & 11/8, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Bishop Stang High School Cafeteria, 500 Slocum Rd, Dartmouth, MA 02747.

Uniquely Handmade Creative Crafts, Vendors, Raffles, Food, Bake Sale. Raffle Ticket Sales Close 1:00 PM Sunday. Winners announced at 2:00

PM. Proceeds To Benefit St. Julie's Ladies Guild

Acushnet Veterans Parade

You are invited to attend, the Acushnet Veterans Day Parade which will be held on Sat., 11/7.

The parade will assemble at 9:30 a.m. at Town Hall and kick off at 10:00 a.m., head down Main Street to Veterans Park where we will hold a short ceremony.

We will have refreshments after the ceremony at the Acushnet American Legion, 71 Hope Street. In case of inclement weather the ceremony will be held at the American Legion at 11am.

Halloween Parade

The Marion Art Center's annual Halloween Parade returns on Saturday, October 31st. Our witches and warlocks have been brewing up plans for their parade around town. Costumed characters of all ages are

invited to join in for this fun family event!

Participants should meet in front of the Marion Music Hall (we'll line up on Cottage Street) at 4:00pm. Join the parade of witches and princesses, goblins and ghouls, wild animals, and spooky spirits. The parade route will head south on Front Street, up Main Street, north onto Spring Street and back down Cottage to the Music Hall, where the witches of the MAC will hand out candy to all.

Don't forget to pop by the Music Hall at the end of the parade route for your treat bags, made with love by the good witches of the MAC! Goodie bags are available for those with allergies or food sensitivity – just ask for a Teal Pumpkin goodie bag.

The MAC will be accepting candy donations from now through October 30. More information can be found at marionartcenter.org/events.

HAPPS: cont'd from page 5

10-24 Nosferatu

Experience "Nosferatu," the 1922 silent film, with live organ accompaniment by Tim Evans, music director of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Fairhaven, at 7 p.m. Oct. 24.

"Nosferatu" is an adaptation of Bram Stoker's 1897 novel, "Dracula." Script cards provide the dialogue. An accomplished theater organist, Evans will play improvisations on his original themes to interpret the action on the screen.

Admission is \$20, and doors open at 6:30. The 90-minute program is recommended for viewers 12 and older. A reception with light refreshments will follow.

Purchase tickets online using this link: tinyurl.com/nosferatu-uusf

The Unitarian Memorial Church at 102 Green St. is accessible to the handicapped via a ramp off the Center Street driveway, where there is reserved parking. For more information about the church, call 508-992-7081 or visit uufairhaven.org.

10th Anniv Gala

Get Tickets NOW!

Against All Odds — a 10th Anniversary Gala, Sun., 11/15, at 3 p.m., Unitarian Memorial Church 102 Green Street Fairhaven, MA

Raise a glass with us as Seaglass Theater Company celebrates 10 years of performances with a gala concert on November 15th. A star-studded array of artists return to perform selections from Seaglass Theater's rich musical history.

Join us after the concert for a festive reception with nibbles and sips!

Tickets: \$30 + \$3.85 online fee at <https://seaglassgala.eventbrite.com>

Visit www.seaglasstheater.com or call 508-951-7187

Run to Remember

The Annual LCpl Matthew Rodriguez 5K Run to Remember will be held on Sun., 10/25, at Fort Phoenix State Reservation, 100 Green St., Fairhaven, MA 02719, at 9 a.m. Register at TeamSmilingWarrior.org.

Pre-Registration fee (ends 10/23): Runners & Walkers, \$30; Active Military, \$25. Same-day registration +\$5.

For more info, call 774-306-6372, or email lauren@thesmilingwarrior.org.

Benefits The LCpl Matthew R.

Rodriguez Memorial Foundation which was created in memory of LCpl Rodriguez, 19, a Fairhaven resident who was killed in Afghanistan on 12/11/13.

Vendors Wanted

North Fairhaven Open Air Markets FIRST FALL FEST on 10/24 from noon to 5!! We are so excited.

If you would like to be a vendor, please email us ASAP at NorthFairhavenMarket@gmail.com. Space is limited, so act fast!!!!

SAVE THE DATES:

Fall Fest & Horribles Parade

Bring the whole family and celebrate fall with us at the North Fairhaven Open Air Market Fall Fest at Livesey Park in Fairhaven, corner of Glenhaven and Parker, on Sat., 10/24, noon to 5 p.m.

Enjoy pumpkin painting, a bounce house, local vendors, music, delicious food, costumes, and plenty of family fun. Free to attend. Costumes are encouraged! Bring the kids, invite your family and friends, and join us for a fun fall day together! We'll end the celebration with the Halloween Horribles Costume Parade at 5 PM!

Haunted Town Hall

Join us for Fairhaven TV's 9th Annual Haunted Halloween Party!

A FREE event for kids of all ages, our Open House and Halloween Party has quickly become Fairhaven's most anticipated spooky event of the year, and we are thrilled to offer it up once again in 2026!

Friday, 10/30, 5–8 p.m., at Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center St., with pre-event block party 4–5 p.m.

Featuring Spooky TV Studio, big screen movies, magic show, trick or treat tables, all ages costume contest, arts & crafts room.

For updates, find us on Facebook or visit <https://www.fairhaventv.com/hauntedhalloweenparty>

Spookfest: House of Hollows

A night of Halloween fun for the whole community! 10/23 6–8 p.m. at Fairhaven Recreation Center. See page 9 for details

Maritime Day

Northeast Maritime Institute presents Fairhaven Maritime Day, a maritime community day, Sat., 10/24,

11 a.m. to 3 p.m., 15 Center St., Fairhaven center. Join us for a day of hands-on activities, campus tours, food, games, live music and more! Everyone is welcome. Featuring food truck (food available for purchase); music by Putnam Murdock, noon–2 p.m.; games, fun for all ages; open house, learn about our college program.

Visit nmi.edu/blog

Veterans Day Parade

The Fairhaven Office of Veterans Services will hold a Veterans Day Parade on 11/11. Parade participants will assemble at Benoit Square at 8:30 AM and begin marching at 9:00 AM south on Main Street to Fairhaven High School. There will be a program at the High School with speakers and the Big Flag will be raised to honor our Veterans. After the ceremony the public is invited to a gathering at the senior center, 229 Huttleston Ave., hosted by the VFW Women's Auxiliary. In the event of inclement weather, a ceremony will be held at the Fairhaven Senior Center at 10 a.m.

The public is encouraged to line the route and attend the ceremony at the high school to show support for those who have served in the military.

If you are a veteran or the loved one of a veteran, the Fairhaven Senior Center invites you to ride in the van in the parade. We will board the van at 8 a.m. Please call 508-979-4029 to save your seat.

Veterans Luncheon

All Veterans, spouses of Veterans, and immediate family of Veterans are welcome to join us for lunch at the Fairhaven Council on Aging/Senior Center, 229 Huttleston Ave., Fairhaven, on Tues., 11/10/26, at 11:30 a.m. in recognition of their service.

Please call to sign up BY NOV. 6, at NOON, 508-979-4029.

Holiday Fair

Shop local crafts, gifts, treats, and holiday décor. Celebrate the season with neighbors makers, and merry finds at the West Island Improvement Association Holiday Fair on Sun., 11/8, from 11 a.m.–2 p.m., 41 Causeway Rd., Fairhaven. Featuring festive shopping, local vendors, holiday cheer.

Contact Claudia Pompella, pompcj@gmail.com

RE-ELECT MARK SYLVIA

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
BY NOVEMBER 3RD

Working together to make
life better for the people
of the 10th Bristol District

He secured \$1.3
million in local
funding his first term

**and he's just
getting started!**

