



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



The little paper
with a big voice!

Volume 17, Issue 2 • January 6, 2022

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

The Plunge is BACK!



The annual Fort Phoenix Polar Plunge was back with a splash this year, after cancelling last year due to COVID. Organizers said at least 100 people took the plunge on a balmy 54-degree morning. ABOVE: Plungers head back to the beach after plunging into the 42.8 degree water during the annual Fort Phoenix Polar Plunge on 1/1/22. See page 12 for story. *Photo by Beth David.*

First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

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

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

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



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From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

We're baaack! Did you miss us?

I hope you all had wonderful holidays.

We have some catching up in this issue a couple of meetings doubled up to tell you what happened while we were gone.

We also have a story on Dennis Duval stepping down from the Library Trustees after 50 years (see page 6). That's quite a run!

Our cover story is one of my favorites (see page 12). Very happy they were able to do it this year. New Year's Day was nice and warm, but that water temperature was still way too cold for my liking. Brrr

Nice shirts, though.

The election is still kind of low key. If everyone returns their papers (if, of course), there will only be one contested race as it stands now, the Selectboard (see page 11).

We even have some happenings for you (pages 5, 8, 9), although they are pretty sparse. This time of year does tend to slow down, of course, anyway. We're always scouting out good cover shots this time of year.

Here's to spring!

And, no, don't worry, I'm not ignoring the Bijou thing forever. I just didn't get around to calling people until it was too close to deadline. We'll get to that next week, I hope.

So...c'mon people, someone run for office. We love a race over here.

And, while you're in a giving mood awash in your holiday glow, please consider a donation to your favorite free sheet.

Local newspapers are struggling financially, and this one is no exception. We rely on our readers and our advertisers to keep us going.

So, be sure to notice who our advertisers are so you can tell them you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*. Until next week then...



Beth David, Publisher

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Mary Chasse, Glenn C. Silva

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Selectboard discusses RFP for Rogers School, sets tax rate

By Beth David
Editor

At its meeting on 12/9/21, the Fairhaven Select Board voted to set the tax rate, keeping the same shift as last year. The shift is the difference between the residential and commercial rates. The FY22 tax rates are \$10.22 per \$1,000 for residential; \$20.39 for commercial properties. Last year's rates were 11.29 and 22.53.

The lower tax rate, however, does not mean that property owners will see a reduction in their tax bill. Property values have increase. Most properties should see only a modest increase.

The average single family home value for FY2021 was \$319,583 x \$11.29/1000 = \$3,608.09. The average single family home for FY2022 is \$366,206 x \$10.22/1000 = \$3,742.63.

The town started splitting the tax rate to charge more for commercial properties in 1990. If the town adopted a single rate, it would be \$11.65 per \$1,000 (of value) making the average tax bill for residences \$4,266.30.

The board also held a meeting on 12/20/21 when it discussed the Request for Proposals for the Rogers School property. The board held off on voting on the RFP, citing changes that Town Counsel Thomas Crotty had suggested that same day.

Members of the Rogers School Re-use Committee pressed the board to make a decision that night.

Chairperson Susan Loo told the board they have been working on it for a long time and the committee feels it has come up with the right document.

She said she had not seen Mr. Crotty's changes, but she had spoken with him.

She said he told her it was "just a matter of a few words here and there and then it was ready to go."

Town Planner and Economic Development Director Paul Foley said there were a few things to add, including language about it being an historic site.

Mr. Foley said Mass. Development personnel had toured the building, and although the town did not get the grant, Mass. Development said the building was in better shape than they anticipated.

Mr Foley and board members discussed some details of the RFP,

including language about an easement, and the need for zoning changes if the project includes residences.

Select Board Chairperson Bob Espindola clarified that the RFP in question was for selling the building, not leasing it.

Mr. Foley said the town can put out a second RFP for leasing the building.

Mr. Espindola said the committee should not put two RFPs out at the same time. He said they should get through one first, then decide on one for leasing the building.

He said he was not comfortable voting that night. He wanted a clean copy with the changes clearly marked so they know what they are voting on.

SB member Stasia Powers agreed, saying she would like time to review it. Although she did not want to put it off any longer than necessary, she said she wanted to do her "due diligence."

The committee members still

"We are the ones responsible for making the decision," said Mr. Espindola, noting that town counsel only advises the board

pressed for a decision that night.

Mr. Espindola reiterated his stance, saying he reviewed what was in the packet, but "now we have something new," that they did not have a chance to review.

"I'm not trying to rush you," said Ms. Loo, but, she added, if Town Counsel said "it's good to go, I don't see why."

"We are the ones responsible for making the decision," said Mr. Espindola, noting that town counsel only advises the board. "I can tell you that I have not agreed with every single thing he's recommended."

It is a "pretty high batting average," he said, but "I can't say I agree with all."

"It's a board of three," noted Mr. Espindola and then called on his fellow board members to comment.

Keith Silvia was joining remotely and did have some connection issues.

Ms. Powers said she wanted a "clean document."

"I would like to see exactly what we're going to submit," said Ms. Powers, even if it does not have the changes.

Mr. Espindola said the "ideal" would be to have both: a clean document, and a document that showed the changes.

He said they could have a special meeting if the January 10 meeting was too far away for the committee.

Mr. Silvia said he had no problem with a special meeting.

"And it would be good to have a clean copy," he said.

The board voted unanimously to get new documents with the changes recommended by Town Counsel and the changes noted.

The board also discussed appointing a Select Board representative to the Belonging Committee. Mr. Espindola said he spoke with the BC chairperson Leon Correy, member Jessica Fidalgo, and former member John Hinds, whose cryptic resignation letter about problems with the committee being inclusive disturbed SB members.

Mr. Espindola said he watched the two meetings the committee had, and he reached out to the people involved, as promised at the last SB meeting.

After speaking with all three BC members, he said it appeared to him they just got off "on the wrong foot."

He said not all committee members have an understanding of what the committee is.

Mr. Espindola said the committee could do more education on the fundamentals of what the group is supposed to do. He said at the second meeting they acknowledge that.

"Thank you for doing that, and clarifying where the challenges were," said Ms. Powers, adding that whenever a new committee is formed, it brings a new group of people together who do not know each other.

Mr. Espindola asked if he had done what Mr. Silvia had hoped for.

"Yes, you covered it," said Mr. Silvia, adding "God bless you," with a chuckle.

Mr. Espindola said he also noticed that the school department, police department and fire department are all supposed to have representatives on the committee. The board voted unanimously to make Mr. Espindola the SB representative on the BC.

BPW discusses FY 23 budgets

By Mary Chasse

Neighb News Correspondent

At its meeting on Monday 12/27 the Fairhaven Board of Public Works discussed the budgets for FY23.

BPW Superintendent Vinnie Furtado explained to the board that there was not much on the agenda for that night, so he wanted to go over the budgets even though the superintendents of each department were not present. Mr. Furtado said they will meet with the superintendents about the budgets possibly at the next meeting.

Vice-Chairperson Robert "Hoppy" Hobson said the board would just be reviewing budgets and will be ready to ask questions at the next meeting.

Mr. Furtado first explained some items the BPW office will need to include in the budget. including supplies, a new printer and office phone.

He said all four departments, Water, Sewer, Highway, and Park, will all need new contracts this summer. They will need to budget for raises.

Board member Cameron Durant

asked if any money will be budgeted in the Park Department for updating some playgrounds in town.

Mr. Furtado said they budgeted a \$1000 increase.

Mr. Durant said that was not enough money to replace playground equipment. He said it sounded like enough money just to maintain the equipment. He asked if Mr. Furtado could try to ask for more, and also suggested asking for another full time Park Department employee.

Mr. Furtado said all he could do was ask.

Mr. Furtado told the board that the Highway Department is budgeting for a few building items, such as fixing AC/heat.

He said for the Water Department they are budgeting for more water testing and sanitation.

For the five-year Capital Plan Mr. Furtado said he is asking for \$21,000 for new air conditioning and heating systems. He is also asking for beach maps to meet the accessibility requirements at the beaches and an overlay for the bike path.

Mr. Furtado said they are also asking for money for the sewer nitrogen upgrade, as well as for a betterment project on Sunset Beach Road. As usual they are asking for \$425,000 for roadwork.

Board member Steven Riley suggested the board ask for more money for roadwork. He explained that fixing the roads this year is going to cost more with prices on materials and gas going up significantly. He said the percentage that materials have increased is the percentage more they should ask for. Based on that, he said the board should ask for at least \$475,000.

Mr. Furtado said he will ask.

In another matter Mr. Furtado announced that the BPW now has their own Facebook Page, where they can post BPW updates.

Mr. Furtado also announced that January 1, the recycling center is open for a half day every Wednesday and is open the second and fourth Saturday of the month.

See page 22 for coverage of the 12/13 meeting.

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Saturday, Jan. 8, 2022

11 a.m. to 8 p.m.*

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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Boating Class

The US Coast Guard Auxiliary's Flotilla 65 will be starting its 14-week Boating Skills & Seamanship Course on Monday, January 31, 2022 from 7-9 pm through May 2, 2022 at 80 Middle Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719

This 14-week comprehensive course is designed for both the experienced and the novice boater.

It is a perfect introduction to recreational boating's fundamentals, such as: choosing, equipping, trailering and handling a small to midsize boat; rules of the road; how to: read a chart and chart plotter; make a May Day call; handle on-water emergencies; tie ropes/lines; and understand weather.

The \$45 fee includes the textbook, workbook, and all course materials.

To register, please go to <http://flotilla65.com/public-education-class>.

If you have any questions, please contact MaryBeth Soares, Flotilla Staff Officer-Public Education at 508-493-5531 or via email: mbssoares11@verizon.net

Snow Park Ban

Fairhaven Snow Parking Ban. No vehicles shall be permitted to remain on the hydrant side of all streets in Fairhaven from December 1 to March 31 from midnight to 8:00 am and also during the time of any snowfall or snow removal operations. On streets with no hydrants, NO vehicles shall be permitted to remain either on the east side of streets running north and south or on the north side of streets running east and west.

The BPW is authorized to remove, or cause to be removed, to some convenient place, including a public garage, any vehicle interfering with the work of removing or plowing snow or ice from any way, and the cost of such removal with all storage charges resulting there from shall be paid by the owner of such vehicle.

The Fairhaven Police Department will strictly enforce this Parking Ban. Violators will be towed and/or ticketed. By Order of: FAIRHAVEN BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Oxford Res. Apps

Applications are now available to enter the lottery for affordable senior housing units at the Oxford School Residences, scheduled to open in the

spring of 2022. Apartments at the old Oxford School, 347 Main St., Fairhaven, include on-site parking, on-site management, 24-hour emergency maintenance. Monthly rents are \$889 for one bedroom, \$1057, 2 BR. Rents are based on income.

Applicants will be chosen by lottery on 2/10/22. All applicants must meet the community's Resident Selection Plan criteria.

For more information or to receive an application, call 781-915-3-71; TDD call 7-1-1; email, oxfordschool@hallkeen.com

Applications are available at: Millicent Library, 45 Center St.; Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Sr.; Fairhaven Housing Authority, 275 Main St.; Fairhaven Senior Ctr., 229 Huttleston Ave.; online, www.hallkeen.com/oxfordschool

Applications will be taken until Jan. 31, 2022. Mail completed applications to Oxford School, c/o HallKeen Management, 1400 Providence Highway, Ste. 1000, Norwood, MA 02062.

Quit Tobacco

Take the First Step toward a Nicotine-Free Life for the New Year

Make a resolution for a healthier life for you and your family.

If you want to quit smoking, vaping or using other tobacco products, don't give up. Many say quitting is the hardest thing they've done. Help is available, so take the first step now!

1-800-QUIT NOW (1-800-784-8669), the Massachusetts Quitline for tobacco/nicotine is available for FREE coaching 24 hours each day, seven days a week to support you through quitting. No lectures. No judgments. You can connect with the Quitline online, too, at mass.gov/quitting.

For more information, visit mass.gov/quitting, or call Colleen Kennedy-Mello at 774.634.3955. Make the holidays and New Year the start of your quit journey.

Alerts sign up

Some people did not get notified of the boil water order. To sign up to receive alerts on your landline, cell phone and/or by email, visit the Fairhaven Fire Department's web page, www.fairhavenfire.org and click on "Fairhaven Emergency Alert" and follow the prompts. Or call the Fire Department at 508-004-1428, or call

the Fairhaven Senior Center and ask for Anne Silvia, 508-979-4029.

Christmas Tree PU

The Town of Fairhaven Christmas Tree Pickup is January 11 - 14, 2022, one day after your regular rubbish day.

Please place trees curbside by 7:00 a.m. on day of pick up and be sure to remove all ornaments and tinsel. Also, please DO NOT place tree in plastic bag.

Missed trees may be dropped off at the gate at the Recycle Center located at 5 Arsene Street in town.

Call the BPW with questions at 508-979-4030.

Volunteer Vacancies

Get involved, join a committee and make a difference.

The volunteer boards and committees in Fairhaven are vital to the running of our town. They provide a rich source of knowledge and expertise, expand the town's ability to research issues and best practices, and enhance the communication between residents and town staff and elected officials.

If you are interested in serving on a Town Board or Committee please email your letter of interest to Selectboard@Fairhaven-MA.gov. Letters may be mailed to the Selectmen's Office, 40 Center Street.

Boards or Committees with current vacancies are:

Agricultural Commission, Two Full Members/ One Associate Member; Bikeway Committee, Two Full Members; Cable Advisory Committee One Full Member; Commission on Disability; Conservation Commission, Two Non-Voting Members; Council on Aging Board of Directors, One Associate Member; Cultural Council, Two Members; Economic Development Committee, Two Non-Voting Alternate Members; Finance Committee, Precints 2, 3, 5 and 6, apply to clerk@fairhaven-ma.gov; Lagoa Friendship Pact Committee, Two At-Large Members, One Member of the Buisness Community; Millicent Library Trustees, One Full Member; Sustainability Committee, One Full Member, Five Alternate Members; Zoning Board of Appeals, One Associate Member.

Dennis Duval steps down after 50 years as library trustee

Press Release

Dennis Duval stepped down December 8 after serving 50 years on the Millicent Library Board of Trustees. He was honored for his service at the December 21 meeting of the board.

Mr. Duval was applauded by his fellow board members for his five decades as a dedicated volunteer, including serving as board president. He also was recognized for his contributions in proclamations from the Massachusetts House of Representatives and the Fairhaven Select Board.

During the celebration, board Treasurer Bob Kenworthy gave a “This is Your Life”-style presentation going back to Duval’s childhood living above the family business, Duval’s Pharmacy, a Benoit Square landmark for decades.

Mr. Kenworthy reviewed the honoree’s education at Fairhaven High School and Georgetown University’s Walsh School of Foreign Service, his attendance in the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps at Fort Mead, Maryland, his career as a history teacher in Fairhaven schools and as a guidance counselor at a Rhode Island high school, his contributions as a volunteer in Fairhaven elementary schools, and his devotion to his family.



The Millicent Library Board of Trustees during Dennis Duval’s first year on the board, 1972. Mr. Duval just stepped down after 50 years as a trustee. Seated L-R: Walter Silveira, Mary Silveira, Alice Torres, Florence Carpenter, Pearl Wilbor; Standing L-R: George Bunnell, Marian Lewin, Everett Allen, Earl Dias, Rita Steele, Dennis Duval, James P. Honohan. *Submitted photo.*

Not overlooked was Mr. Duval’s admiration for President Dwight Eisenhower and his fervent support of the Red Sox.

Mr. Duval said he was gratified “to have served with so many wonderful people on the board” and “with three excellent library directors” — Rita Steele, Carolyn Longworth, and Kyle

DeCicco-Carey.

“I know the library is in very good hands,” Mr. Duval said. “After 50 years, I’ve reached my goal, and now it’s time for someone new, with fresh ideas, to take my seat. It’s been a very enriching experience to have served as a trustee.”



LEFT L-R: Millicent Library Board of Trustees President Joanna McQuillan Weeks, former trustee Dennis Duval, Board Vice President Bruce Bendiksen, Board Treasurer Bob Kenworthy, pose for a photo on December 21, 2021, after celebrating Mr. Duval’s 50 years as a trustee. He is holding a photo of the board in 1972, when he was first appointed, and a photo of his favorite US President, Dwight Eisenhower. RIGHT: L-R: Millicent Library Board of Trustees treasurer Bob Kenworthy presents outgoing trustee Dennis Duval with a proclamation by the Fairhaven Select Board while board president Joanna McQuillan Weeks looks on at a celebration of Mr. Duval’s 50 years as a trustee on December 21, 2021. *Submitted photos.*

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You can reach us at (508) 992-7300.

You can also text message us at (603) 493-2512 or stmarysfairhaven@comcast.net



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Moby-Dick Marathon

The 2022 Moby-Dick Marathon will be entirely virtual, but with all the same marathon fun and buzz! Jan. 7-9

One of the world's best known readings of Herman Melville's iconic American novel *Moby-Dick* takes place every January at the New Bedford Whaling Museum.

The *Moby-Dick* Marathon draws readers and enthusiasts from around the globe to the Museum's campus and to the reading online. This year's marathon will be entirely virtual, but that won't stop literary aficionados, school children, and everyone in between from traveling back in time to accompany narrator Ishmael on the epic hunt for the elusive white whale.

The Whaling Museum has marked the anniversary of Melville's 1841 departure from the Port of New Bedford and Fairhaven aboard the whaleship, *Acushnet*, with this mid-winter tradition since 1997. Melville would later pen *Moby-Dick*, publishing the famous novel in 1851.

Moby-Dick Marathon weekend features the main 25-hour read-a-thon on Saturday and Sunday, with fun Melville-inspired activities, opportunities to chat with scholars from the Melville Society Cultural Project (MSCP), a Melville-inspired trivia game, and more.

The Moby-Dick Marathon will be streamed online and shown non-stop in the Whaling Museum's theater.

Visit <https://www.whalingmuseum.org/program/moby-dick-marathon-2022/> for schedule.

YTI Comedy

Your Theatre serves up a cure for the pandemic blues in their production of Paul Slade Smith's *The Outsider*. Directed by Eric R. Paradis, it's a timely, hilarious comedy that skewers politics and celebrates democracy.

Ned Newley doesn't want to be governor. He's terrified of public speaking and his poll numbers are impressively bad. But political consultant Arthur Vance sees things differently. He believes Ned could be a winner, if the public is convinced that the worst possible candidate to run for office is, in fact, the one that they want.

The Outsider runs two weekends

only: Fridays and Saturdays, January 14-15 and 21-22 at 7:30 p.m.; and Saturdays and Sundays, January 15-16 and 22-23 at 2:30 p.m. Performances are at Your Theatre, 136 Rivet St. (County St. entrance) in New Bedford. Free parking in the St. Martin's Church lot, next to the church hall (theatre) on the south side of the church. Tickets are General Admission \$18; Seniors and Students \$15. All seats are reserved; call 508-993-0772 or email boxoffice@yourtheatre.org.

Your Theatre is grateful for the generous support of HarborOne Bank, sponsor of its production of *The Outsider*, and Bank 5, sponsor of the theatre's current 75th season.

For the safety of all who attend Your Theatre performances, all cast, crew, and volunteers will follow YTI's mask and vaccine protocols. All patrons over the age of 12 years old will be required to show proof of vaccination or negative COVID test result (within 72 hours). Additionally, patrons must wear a mask for the entire performance. Details on current protocols are available at <https://yourtheatre.org>.

Christmas Tree PU

New Bedford Christmas tree collection: ABC Disposal will pick up real Christmas trees from January 10 to January 14. During this week only, residents may place trees at the curb by 7 a.m. the weekday after trash and recycling collection. Please note, if your trash is usually collected on Friday, Christmas trees will only be collected along your route on Monday, January 10th. If your trash is usually collected on Mondays, Christmas trees will only be collected along your route on Tuesday, January 11th and so on. This is the only week for curbside pickup of real Christmas trees. Please remove all ornaments, stands, lights, and tinsel. Do not place trees in plastic bags. Property owners may be issued a violation notice if trees are placed at the curb any other time or without decorations removed.

Christmas tree drop-off: Christmas trees can be brought to:

- E Rodney French Blvd., beach parking lot, between Hudson Street & Seymour Street, ends 1/14/22
- Brooklawn Park, near Pony League Field, enter at Irvington Street, ends 1/14/22

- Recycling Center, 1103 Shawmut Avenue, open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, noon to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Vax Clinics

The Andrea McCoy Recreation Center on Hillman Street will be a key hub for local COVID-19 vaccinations as 2022 begins, with clinics on Mondays and Saturdays through January (excepting the Jan. 17 holiday). Check vaxnb.com for updated schedules of local COVID-19 vaccination and testing locations.

Free, walk-up clinics offer CDC-approved booster shots, in addition to first- and second-dose vaccines and, at most locations, pediatric vaccines. Please bring your vaccination card when getting a booster.

Upcoming vaccine locations in New Bedford include:

- Friday, 1/7: PAACA (360 Coggeshall St.) – 1-5 p.m., Pfizer, Moderna, boosters, w/ pediatric vaccines for children 5 – 11 years old
- Saturday, 1/8: Andrea McCoy Recreation Center (181 Hillman St.) – 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Pfizer, Moderna, boosters, pediatric vaccines for children 5 – 11 years old
- Monday, 1/10: Andrea McCoy Recreation Center (181 Hillman St.) – 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., Pfizer, Moderna, boosters, pediatric vaccines for children 5 – 11 years old

Vaccination levels in the region remain low, and daily case rates remain high. Getting vaccinated for COVID-19 is not only about protecting yourself – it's also about protecting your family, friends, and community. City leaders and health officials are urging unvaccinated residents to get their first shot and begin vaccination as soon as possible, to have a safe and healthy start to 2022.

COVID Testing

Walk-in COVID tests are available at the following sites:

- Friday, 1/7: Former Fire Station 11 (754 Brock Ave.) – 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Sunday, 1/9: Project Beacon at New Bedford Regional Airport (1569 Airport Road) – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Monday, 1/10: Project Beacon at New Bedford Regional Airport (1569 Airport Road) 8-4
- Monday, 1/10: Former Fire Station 11 (754 Brock Ave.) 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Until Help Arrives

Free training on Tues., 1/18, 7-9 p.m., at Acushnet Council On Aging/Senior Center, 59 1/2 So. Main St., Acushnet. Join the Mass. Emergency Management Agency and the Acushnet Office of Emergency Management for free training on five key actions to take until help arrives.

Email Ed Caron, Emergency Management Deputy Director, at ecaron@acushnetema.com to reserve your spot.

A Westport Farmer Goes Whaling

2 PM Saturday January 15, 2022
(presented via Zoom)

Join us for a conversation about the adventures of Frederick Allen during his whaling voyage.

In March 1838, Westport farmer Frederick Allen purchased a sea chest and boarded the Westport whaling brig Mexico. With "an uneasy mind", "a bottle of elderberry syrup and 2 fine sweet cakes" he set sail on a year-long voyage bound for the Bahamas, the Azores, the Canaries, and to the Caribbean. His daily journal entries capture his experiences chasing whales and boiling blubber. His time was also spent waiting in vain for letters from his family, enduring storms, discovering exotic destinations, scrimshanding, gamming with other Westport whaling vessels, and "fluting, fiddling and dancing."

This conversation will include whaling historian Judy Lund, antiquarian Richard Donnelly, maritime historian Michael Dyer, and local historian Maury May.

Frederick Allen's journal is available at <https://wpthistory.org/explore-2/journal-of-frederick-allen/>

Pre-register to attend at <https://wpthistory.org/events/a-westport-farmer-goes-whaling/>

Westport Historical Society, 508-636-6011, www.wpthistory.org
westporthistory.net

Auditions

The Marion Art Center has announced open auditions for all roles in the upcoming production of *The Puzzle with the Piazza*, written by Mark Dunn and directed by Pippa Asker. Due to current MAC policies and for everyone's safety, only fully

vaccinated actors will be considered for roles. Auditions are scheduled on Saturday, January 8 from 10am-12pm and Sunday, January 9 from 2-4pm at the Marion Art Center, 80 Pleasant Street in Marion, MA. Performance dates are in March. Anyone entering the Marion Art Center must wear a mask. Please send any questions to the director at pasker@comcast.net.

Director Pippa Asker will be casting four females and one male. Roles include: Althea Witlin, woman in her seventies; Leif Morrell, young man, thirties; Connie Morrell (Leif's wife), thirties; Mattie Pleshette, young woman, neighbor, in her twenties/thirties; and Ina Gluck, Althea's sister, early to mid-seventies.

Show Synopsis: *The Puzzle with the Piazza*, a new full-length comedy-drama by Mark Dunn, author of *Belles*, *Five Tellers Dancing in the Rain*, and *The Glitter Girls*, tells the story of septuagenarian Althea Witlin, who has one jigsaw puzzle among her large collection that she's never worked. It contains 3,000 pieces and she has less than a day to finish it, because poor health has forced her to move in with her younger sister... without her puzzles. *The Puzzle with the Piazza* is a gentle, bittersweet comedy/drama about the fragility of family ties and the often much stronger bonds of friendship that lattice the final years of our lives.

Fish Council

The Commonwealth of Mass, is seeking qualified individuals for nomination to open seats on the New England Fishery Management Council. Candidates, by reason of their occupational or other experience, scientific expertise, or training, must be knowledgeable and experienced in ways related to fishery resources of New England. Qualified female and minority candidates are encouraged to apply.

The two seats which are open for nomination are at-large seats held by:

- Dr. Michael Sissenwine (terming out after 9 years); and
- Mr. Rick Bellavance (2nd Term).

Members are ineligible for reappointment after their 3rd term.

Qualified individuals interested in being considered for nomination by the Governor to the Council should contact Julia Kaplan (Julia.Kaplan@mass.gov). Nomination application

kits will be made available upon request and are due to DMF by the end of the day on Friday, February 4, 2022. As part of the application process, the Commonwealth will conduct an initial background check and a review panel will evaluate applicants' relevant fisheries expertise.

The New England Fishery Management Council is one of eight regional councils that manage our nation's marine fisheries seaward of state territorial waters. Responsibilities include the development of fishery management plans that are submitted to the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Secretary of Commerce for approval and implementation. A Council appointment is for a 3-year term during which members are expected to engage in approximately five (5) Council meeting weeks as well as serve on several fishery management plan specific committees that meet throughout the year. Nominees must be willing and able, barring unforeseen circumstances, to make the commitment to fully participate in Council business and related activities for the duration of the term. For further information on the Council and the Council process, please visit www.nefmc.org.

Art Exhibit

Mattapoisett Free Public Library, 7 Barstow St., 2021/2022 Artist Series: John Middleton: Found Objects Transformed. Exhibition: December 15, 2021 - January 14, 2022.

After receiving a PhD in English in the midwest (writing his dissertation on Moby-Dick), Mattapoisett resident John Middleton was an assistant professor of English in Georgia. He then had a career in sales and marketing. When he retired from business, he earned an MFA in artisanry from UMass Dartmouth.

Middleton began collecting lost or discarded objects he found from local waters. Time, tides, wind, storms, marine organisms, and the sun transformed these found objects, rendering them strange and beautiful. Middleton's purpose is to bring these found objects together in sculpted works of art that call attention to the dignity, beauty, and uniqueness of their transformations as well as to their stories.

Recipe of the Week

Three Corn Casserole

- 8 1/8 tablespoons butter, softened and divided into 1/2 cup (8 tablespoons) and 1/8 tablespoon
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 egg
- 1 (16-ounce) can whole-kernel corn, drained
- 1 (16-ounce) can cream-style corn, undrained
- 4 1/2 ounces corn muffin mix
- 1 cup cheddar cheese, grated

Preheat oven to 375°

Using the 1/8 tablespoon of butter, grease a two-quart casserole dish.

In a large bowl, mix the 1/2 cup butter, sour cream, and egg. Stir in the kernel corn, cream-style corn, and corn muffin mix.

Spoon the mixture into the greased casserole dish. Bake for about 45 minutes.

Remove the casserole from the oven and add the cheese, stirring well. Return the casserole to the oven.

Bake until the dish is slightly puffed, bubbly, and browned at the edges, about 15 minutes.

Remove from the oven and serve hot!



Dear Frankie

Displaced During the Holidays

Dear Frankie,
My family loves the Christmas holidays. The day after Thanksgiving, they turn on the Christmas carols, get out the ornaments and decorate the

tree.

Every year they put the tree next to the big glass door that faces the patio. This is the best and sunniest place in the house. I know because that's where my bed is for the rest of the year.

So you might ask, "What happens to your bed during the holidays?"

My mom puts it in the back bedroom because she says it doesn't "go" with the Christmas decorations.

When I protest, she says it's only there for a month. Well, a month may not seem like much time for her, but it is for me.

Don't you think personal comfort for a supposedly beloved family pet should be more important than a perfectly decorated house? Do I sound like Scrooge?

Buck

Dear Buck,

No, you don't sound like Scrooge.

It's tough to be moved from your spot, primarily to accommodate a tree.

I told you canines long ago that humans have some funny ideas and beliefs.

For starters, what's with bringing a dead or fake tree into the house? Sure, it looks pretty when it's all decorated and lit up, but so does a dog bed with a soft plaid blanket and a bow.

Tradition is tradition, no getting around it. Maybe this is a case for reframing. How about focusing on having the best spot in the house for eleven months rather than being displaced for a month?

As they say, it's not what happens to you that matters but what you think happened that matters.

I'm sure your mom knows you are miffed. Let's hope she tries to make amends by getting you a great Christmas present.

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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Race for Select Board is still at four for three seats

As of press time, no additional candidates had taken out papers for Fairhaven Select Board since our last update. Four candidates have taken out papers to run for SB in the 4/4/22 election, and one has returned them. This election will have three seats on the ballot, as it is the election that will expand the board from three to five members.

So far Leon Correy, Cameron Durant, Charles Murphy Sr., and incumbent Stasia Powers have taken out papers for Select Board. Only Mr. Murphy has returned them.

Peter DeTerra has taken out papers and returned them with the required signatures for this seat on the Board of Health.

School Committee incumbents Kyle Bueno and Erik Andersen have both taken out papers for their seats. Cathleen Marchessault has also taken out papers to run for one of the two seats. Only Mr. Bueno has returned his papers.

Incumbent Barbara Acksen has taken out papers for her seat as a Commissioner of Trust Funds; acting town clerk Linda Fredette has taken out papers for her seat; and Gary F. Souza has taken out papers for Housing Authority.

On the Board of Public Works, only the unexpired term held by Steven Riley is up for election. He indicated to the Select Board when he was appointed that it was unlikely he would run for the seat in 2022. Ronnie Medina has taken out papers for that seat.

Nomination papers for all offices in Fairhaven in the 4/4/22 election are now available. Next year, three seats will be on the ballot for the Select Board. The seat now held by Stasia Powers will be up for re-election as scheduled, and two new seats will also be on the ballot. The person with the most votes will serve three years, the second place person will serve two years, the third place person will serve one year before needing to run again. After this year, all seats will be three year terms. Town Meeting voted in 2021 to increase the number of seats on the SB to five, from three, and the Mass. state legislature voted to enact the change.

The Annual Town Election will be held on Monday, April 4, 2022. Polls will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Deadline to register to vote is 3/15/22.

You may register to vote any day from 8:30 a.m.–4:30p.m. Monday–Friday. Mail-in Voter Registration Forms are available at the Town Clerk's Office, the Millicent Library and State and Federal offices.

- **Friday, January 24, 2022, 5 p.m.:** Last day and hour for Town Meeting Member incumbents to file written request for re-election with the Town Clerk
- **Thursday, February 10, 2022, 5 p.m.:** Last day and hour for requesting nomination papers
- **Monday, February 14, 2022, 5 p.m.:** Last day and hour for filing all nomination papers with the Registrar of Voters (Town Clerk's Office)
- **Wednesday, March 2, 2022, 5 p.m.:** Last day and hour to withdraw nomination papers
- **Tuesday, March 15, 2022, 8 p.m.:** Last day to register voters for the Town Election. The Town Clerk's Office will be open from 8:30 a.m.–8 p.m. this day
- **Monday, March 28, 2022** Warrant must be posted

Where do I vote?

The Town of Fairhaven Precinct Boundary Map can be found at (<https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif3131/f/uploads/fairhaven2010.pdf>). This map will be updated with the 2020 Census Re-precincting information as soon as we receive the final approved information from the State.

- Precinct one: Town Hall, 40 Center St.
- Precincts two and three: Elizabeth Hastings Middle School, 30 School St.
- Precinct four: Fire Station Meeting Room, 146 Washington St.
- Precincts five and six, Recreation Center, 227 Huttleston Ave.

2022 Town Election Seats

- Town Clerk, 3 Years, One seat, Linda Fredette, incumbent
- Select Board: 3 Years, One seat, Stasia A. Powers incumbent
2 Years, One, Vacant (New)
1 Year, One, Vacant (New)
- School Committee 3 Years, Two, Kyle Bueno and Erik Andersen incumbents
- Board of Health, 3 Years, One, Peter DeTerra incumbent
- Commissioner of Trust Funds, 3

Years, One, Barbara Acksen incumbent

1 Year (unexpired term), One, Vacant

- Board of Public Works, 3 Years, One, G. Steven Riley incumbent
- Planning Board, 4 Years, Two, Geoffrey Haworth II and John Farrell incumbents
- Housing Authority, 5 Years, One, Marc Scanlon incumbent

How to run

Nomination papers are available now at the Town Clerk's Office located inside Town Hall at 40 Center Street, Fairhaven. Nomination papers for town-wide office election require 50 certified signatures. Completed nomination papers with signatures must be submitted to the Town Clerk's office no later than Monday, February 14, 2022 at 5:00PM.

How do I get on the ballot as a Town Meeting Member?

Nomination papers are available as now at the Town Clerk's Office located inside Town Hall at 40 Center Street, Fairhaven. Nomination papers for Town Meeting require 10 certified signatures from your precinct only. Town Meeting Members who seek re-election should file a written request with the Town Clerk no later than Friday, January 24, 2022 at 5PM.

Completed nomination papers with signatures must be submitted to the Town Clerk's office no later than Monday, February 14, 2022 at 5:00PM.

For information on registering to vote, visit <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/town-clerk/pages/voter-resources> or call the Town Clerk at (508) 979-4023 ext. 3

For more information on Fairhaven's local election, visit <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/town-clerk/pages/election-resources> or call the Town Clerk at 508-979-4023 ext. 3

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Fort Phoenix Polar Plunge returns with a splash

By Beth David
Editor

The annual Fort Phoenix Polar Plunge was back with a splash this year, after cancelling last year due to COVID. Organizers said at least 100 people took the plunge on a balmy 54-degree morning in memory of domestic violence victims. This year's theme was the circus and plungers were encouraged to dress the part.

The plunge is free, but participants are asked to register. Proceeds from the sale of shirts go to the Fairhaven Scholars for Dollars program.

A group of family and friends from Taunton and other parts joined the crowd this weekend, dressed in tutus, with one in flag trunks.

Diane, Kim, Mike, Lina, and , said they travel to difference plunges. And the were wearing shirts that said: "When all else fails, join the circus."

So, naturally...

Rick Racine said it was his 10th

time plunging, although not consecutively.

"It's the perfect thing to start the new year," said Mr. Racine, 59, adding that it makes him feel more "youthful," and it was good to see all the people out.

"People just need to be together," said his wife Michelle.

David Macomber of Westport said he has plunged for three years.

"It's refreshing. It starts the new year. It opens up the system," said Mr. Macomber. "Out with the old, in with the new."

Emily and Brian Sheridan also took the plunge. He does it every year. She was a first timer.

"I lost a bet," said Ms. Sheridan, but then said she liked it. "It's invigorating. And, actually not as cold as you think it's going to be."

"It's a tradition," said Mr. Sheridan, who's been plunging for five years. "It's the start of a brand new year."

"This was so much fun," said Evelyn Bouley. "I don't have a word



The registration circus bear lets everyone know they're supposed to register for the annual Polar Plunge on 1/1/22 at Fort Phoenix in Fairhaven. Photo by Beth David.

for it: invigorating, vibrant."

"It was good," said Ellen Crete, who plunged with her daughter Kate, who said she broker her own record by staying in the water for three minutes.

Ellen said she did it for "bragging rights."

"A sense of accomplishment," said Kate. "And a collection of shirts."



ABOVE LEFT: L-R: Diane, Kim, Mike, Lina, and Nevaeh are all dressed up and ready to hit the water for the annual Polar Plunge at Fort Phoenix in Fairhaven on 1/1/22. ABOVE RIGHT: Brian and Emily Sheridan pose for the local free sheet after plunging into the 42.8 degree water. BELOW LEFT: L-R: Ellen and Kate Crete get dressed after plunging. BELOW MIDDLE: Rick Racine gives a big smile to the Neighb News after plunging. BELOW RIGHT: Evelyn Bouley strikes a pose after her plunge. Photos by Beth David.



West Islanders hold first Polar Plunge

West Island residents decided to hold their own polar plunge on 1/1/22 at the Causeway Road beach. A small, but hardy group of residents jumped in the water at around noon to greet the new year. TOP: West Island residents hold their own polar plunge on 1/1/22, with a small but hardy group taking to the water on a relatively mild day of about 50 degrees, with water temperatures at 42.8. BOTTOM: The group poses for a photo after plunging.

Photos by Beth David.



EHMS Toys 4 Tots



The National Junior Honor Society at Elizabeth Hastings Middle School in Fairhaven conducted a toy drive for the Toys for Tots program run by the United States Marine Corps. The students collected 74 toys.

LEFT: Mrs. Lisa Cadima, NJHS Advisor, and Retired United States Marine Corps Sgt. Kenneth Jandreau pose with the toys collected by the students.

Submitted photo.

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[https://www.fairhaven-
ma.gov/recreation-department](https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/recreation-department)**

Home Alone Safety Class

This course is designed to encourage children to be more independent. Topics covered will be basic first aid, door and telephone protocol, accident prevention, first aid for choking and safety measures.

Pizza will also be provided. pace is limited...sign up soon. Ages: 9-11 Date: January 24 Instructor: Beth Oleson Time: 6 PM-7:45PM Cost \$55 members / \$65 non-members

Babysitting Class

This is a comprehensive 3 hour course for 11-14 year olds. Topics will include first aid, choke saving techniques, mealtime, bedtime, diapering, discipline, contracts and ethics. Pizza will be provided.

Ages: 11-14 Date: Feb. 7 Instructor: Beth Oleson Time: 6-8:15PM Cost: \$55 members/\$65 non-members

Sunrise Gentle Yoga Stretch

A combination of postures coordinated with the breath, performed at a gentle pace which allows time to be present in each pose. With a soft approach, Gentle Yoga focuses on stress reduction, breath work, stretching, strengthening and balance. All levels are welcome.

Ages: 16-Adult Start Date: Mondays, February 21st to April 4th. Instructor: Julie Fostin Time: 6:15-7:15 AM Cost: \$30 Members/\$50 Non Members

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http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA_COA/index

Fairhaven Council on Aging

Weather Cancellations

If we have any amount of snow accumulation, there will be no shopping that day and activities may be canceled. Call the Senior Center 508-979-4029 to confirm. So please stock up on non-perishable food items.

Computer Lessons

Kraig Perry from the Fairhaven Technology Department is holding computer lessons for Fairhaven and Acushnet Seniors, 60 years old and older.

The classes are given by skill level and include computer safety, internet browsers, the cloud, email/gmail, Google, word processing and smart-phones. Sign up for the classes must be done in person at the senior center to be sure you are signing up for the

appropriate skill level being offered. An entire list of classes, dates and skill levels can be found in the Fairhaven COA newsletter or pick up a copy at the senior center.

Financial Help

Financial Help might be available if: you are a woman over 70 years old, live in Fairhaven, live alone, have unpaid bills due to low income. Call the Senior Center, 508-979-4029 if you meet these criteria and ask for Lucille. All information is confidential.

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Acushnet discusses ARPA plan, promotes for Treasurer position

By Mary Chasse

Neighb News Correspondent

At its meeting on Monday 12/14 the Selectboard met with the Fire Chief about the plan for the new assessment center, and with a consulting firm about plans on how to use the town's ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) money.

The board first announced two resignations. Chairperson David Desroches read the resignation letter from Building Inspector Jim Marot, who said his last day will be 1/21, and he will be taking a new position as Director of Inspectional Services in Mattapoisett. Mr. Marot said in his letter that he has loved working for the town and working with the Selectboard and that they have accomplished so much in the last 15 years.

Mr. Desroches said that whoever fills Mr. Marot's position has huge shoes to fill and said it has been a pleasure to work with Mr. Marot.

Board members Kevin Gaspar and David Wojnar agreed and thanked Mr. Marot for his service to the town.

Mr. Desroches informed the board of another resignation from Tom DaCosta, the Deputy Inspector of Wires effective 12/31/21. The board thanked Mr. DaCosta for his time serving the town.

In another matter the board met with Fire Chief Kevin Gallagher about the plan for the assessment center and approval to post the job for Fire Chief.

Mr. Gallagher reminded the board that he would be retiring in September and that the plan for the assessment center is to help promote a person in the department with a seamless transition when he retires.

Mr. Gallagher explained that in

about 90 days the written exam for the positions of Fire Captain and Fire Chief will begin at the assessment center.

The results from the written exam and scenario test will help determine the rankings of the candidates.

Mr. Gallagher said that ideally they would like to choose a candidate for the Fire Chief position by March or April that way the person can work alongside Mr. Gallagher, so that he will be able to mentor him or her. He said he would like to have a few months working with and focusing solely on mentoring the new Fire Chief to ensure a smooth transition.

Mr. Gallagher told the board that there are two candidates who are qualified and interested in the positions. To get the process started he needed the board's approval to post the Fire Chief position.

The board voted unanimously to approve the job posting.

In another matter the board met with consulting company Capital Strategic Solutions about having their help to decide what to do with the town's ARPA funds.

Jennifer Thompson from Capital Strategic Solutions (CSS) presented a slideshow on ways the company could help the town.

Ms. Thompson explained that they would help the town figure out what town projects are eligible to be done using ARPA funds.

Ms. Thompson said that the ARPA funds were given to local communities to help with recovery from Covid. She explained that eligible projects are public health projects, projects to help small businesses, households or nonprofits that had a negative impact from Covid, projects for essential works, or investment projects for

sewer, water or broadband infrastructure.

The next steps would be for the Selectboard to have a list of some projects they would like to do and the company can help determine if they are eligible and which would benefit the town the most.

Mr. Gaspar asked how the company can ensure that they are not taking on too many towns. Mr. Gaspar said he does not want Acushnet to get lost in the mix of towns the company is working for.

Ms. Thompson said that as of right now the company is at 50%-60% capacity of the workload they can accept. She said the company would never take on more than they could handle.

Mr. Desroches said he would like to meet with the Finance Committee to hear their thoughts on what they would like to do with the ARPA funds before making any decisions.

He said he appreciated hearing from CSS and that the board will need some time to decide on how to proceed and that the board will let the company know soon if they would like to enlist their help.

At their meeting on 12/30, the board voted to hire CSS and sign the contract.

At that meeting the board also decided to promote Assistant Treasurer/Collector Jennifer Benfeito.

"We had a number of candidates apply for the position of treasurer/collector," said Mr. Desroches. "The board has decided to promote from within."

The board also tabled a number of items on the 12/30 agenda. Their next meeting is on 1/6, with a short agenda that includes discussing appointment of an interim town administrator.



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From our readers

Local Groups Help Shepherd's Pantry

This letter of thanks goes out to all who participated in this year's annual Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning.

First and foremost, we thank both the Greater New Bedford Track Club (GNBTC) and Union Running from Fairhaven, for planning and coordinating this yearly run that helps out the Shepherd's Pantry, located in Acushnet.

This year, Eric Tavares, the GNBTC President, asked me if it would be OK to donate some of the proceeds to SMEC, the Transitional Service Program that's located on Bridge Street. This is where all the runners congregate on the morning of the race making it a perfect place to meet. I said, "Absolutely. A great idea."

Second of all, a thank you to the over 575 folks who paid the entrance fee that totaled over \$16,808, making this year a great success. And thanks to all of the generous sponsors and friends who realize the importance of the Shepherd's Pantry and SMEC's mission in helping out the area's

needs.

Also on the morning of the race, over 2,000 lbs. of non-perishables were donated and delivered to the pantry that morning.

I need to mention as well, on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, the annual motorcycle ride, sponsored by the Acushnet Lion's Club and River's End Cafe, delivered money, toys and non-perishable food to the pantry to be later handed out by our dedicated and loving volunteers.

Also, a big thank you, once again, to the *Fairhaven Neighborhood News* Newspaper Editor, Beth David, who took the time and energy to be on site, took pictures and wrote about it.

And Finally, the Millicent Library and the Stop & Shop Supermarket, both located in Fairhaven, and the Acushnet Library, will continue to accept non-perishable food year round that will eventually go to the pantry for distribution.

If you want to make a contribution to the pantry, please send it to P.O. Box 760, Fairhaven, MA 02719. Together we can make a difference in people's lives.

Happy Holidays and God bless.

*Gerry Payette, Director/
Shepherd's Pantry*

"Thank you" to All Our Volunteers

Greetings to all.

It's that time when folks send each other heartfelt messages during Christmas, Hanukkah, or any other traditional celebrations that people celebrate this time of year.

All the dedicated volunteers at the Shepherd's Pantry know about the importance of helping the area's needy. What is accomplished year round cannot be over stated. Even though some of the numbers of the less fortunate have dropped this past year, we are still making an impact for those who come looking for help. And this help cannot be without the constant, loving volunteerism by all of you.

God has asked us only two things: To love God and our neighbors. Helping out at the pantry in any capacity that you can promotes that request from God. To see first hand

LETTERS: cont'd on page 21



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Fire Department responds to diesel spill from SSA vessel

Press Release

The Fairhaven Fire Department and Fairhaven Harbormaster Division responded to WJA properties, located at 4 Water Street for a report of a diesel spill in the harbor from an unknown source on 12/16/21.

An Engine, the Oil Spill Response Trailer, and the Deputy Chief were dispatched.

On arrival, the Fire Department found an estimated 50 gallons of diesel fuel that was accumulating along WJA properties piers. The

employees of WJA Properties proactively started to deploy their own boom and pads to help absorb the spill.

The investigation revealed that the Marine Vessel Governor, operated by the Massachusetts Steamship Authority located at 14 Main Street, had a valve open on an emergency generator fuel storage tank that led to the spill.

The Fairhaven Fire Department deployed an additional 600 feet of absorbent pads and 90 feet of absorbent boom, and several bags of

Speedy Dry to help contain the spill and leak.

Fire Department resources remained on scene for approximately 90 minutes until relieved by Frank Corp which was hired to clean up the spill.

Assisting on scene was the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the United States Coast Guard pollution control division to help with the investigation and oversee the cleanup.



LEFT: Fairhaven Fire Department personnel work to contain a diesel spill on 12/16/21 at WJA Properties on Water Street; the source was traced to a Steamship Authority vessel. RIGHT: Absorbent pads are deployed to contain the spill. Photos submitted by the Fairhaven Fire Department.

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Air monitors installed in PJK neighborhood



The Town of Acushnet has installed air monitors at locations near the PJ Keating neighborhood. Neighbors have been complaining about dust and other particles in the air that they say comes from the quarry and asphalt operation on South Main Street. An air monitor was installed at the Acushnet Council On Aging/Senior Center on South Main Street on 12/28/21. According to neighbors, one was installed at the end of Lawson Avenue, and one is at 46 Laura Keene Avenue. They will remain for about two weeks, and will be moved to other locations. ABOVE: Air monitors are installed at the Acushnet Council on Aging/Senior Center, 59 1/2 South Main Street, on 12/28/21, to determine if the operations at PJ Keating Company are sending harmful particles onto neighboring properties. *Photo courtesy of Heather Sylvia Chew.*



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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"

Fairhaven Planning Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 6:30 pm
Banquet Room, Town Hall, 40 Center Street
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Notice is hereby given that the Fairhaven Planning Board will conduct a Public Hearing at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday January 25, 2022, in Fairhaven on SP 2021-04: Nye Lubricant Expansion. The Planning Board Meeting and public hearing will be conducted remotely for the public and will be televised on Fairhaven TV Channel 18 and fairhaventv.com. To Join the Meeting from home Log on to: <https://zoom.us/j/93163358101?pwd=NXg5WnUxZ3lLK3drSVBmM2JPTXE0QT09> or Telephone 1-929-205-6099;

Meeting ID: 931 6335 8101; Password: 740257

The purpose of the hearing will be to receive information and public comment on the following Special Permit application: SP 2021-04 – Nye Lubricant Expansion. The applicant, Nye Lubricants Inc., represented by Apex Companies LLC (Engineers), is requesting approval through the Special Permit public hearing review process for a proposal to construct a 60,000 sf addition to the existing easterly industrial manufacturing building (Building 3 - 33,690 sf) at 12-16 Rio Way (Map 19 Lot 242 - 10.28 acres) off of Howland Road.

A copy of the application is on file for public review at the Planning Board Office, Town Hall by appointment and on the Town website. To schedule an appointment to review the application call the Planning Department at (508) 979-4023, Ext. 123 or go to: <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/planning-board/pages/current-permits-being-reviewed-special-permits-definitive-subdivisions>

John Farrell Jr., Chairman of the Planning Board
FNN: 1/6/22, 1/13/22



Submission of Town Meeting Articles

Pursuant to Chapter 50, Section 2 of the Town of Fairhaven By-Laws, all citizen petition articles for the May 7, 2022 annual town meeting, including street acceptance articles, must be submitted in writing with the signatures of not less than 10 voters to the Select Board, Fairhaven Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA by February 7, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

Petitions can be found on the town webpage at <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/select-board/pages/licenses-permits-and-petitions>

Fairhaven Board of Selectmen



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— Margaret Sullivan, “Ghosting The News”

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LETTERS: cont'd from page 17

what is accomplished every week to help keep our doors open is inspiring. Please accept my thanks and gratitude in the name of all who come seeking help, that what you do is appreciated.

Happy Holidays and God bless.
*Gerry Payette Director/
Shepherd's Pantry*

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Upcoming Meetings

Fairhaven

Board of Appeals

Tues., 1/4, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Board of Public Works

Mon., 1/10, Arsene St., 6:15 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 1/10, Remote, 6:30

Contributory Retirement

Wed., 1/5, 2 p.m.

Espindola Office Hour

Tues., 1/4, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 1/12, Media Ctr., 6:30 p.m.

Select Board

Mon. 1/10, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Acushnet

Board of Assessors

Wed., 12/29, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

School Committee

Thurs., 1/6, Ford Middle Sch., 3:30 p.

Selectboard

Thurs., 1/6, Town Hall, 9 a.m.

Tues., 1/11, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

US Army Corps of Engineers, Cape Cod
Canal/Piney Point/Wing's Neck

Jan. 2022		HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	6	1033	2307	0350*	1622*
Friday	7	1127	----	0435*	1703*
Saturday	8	0002	1222	0533	1758
Sunday	9	0057	1315	0757	1914
Monday	10	0147	1406	0915	2011
Tuesday	11	0239	1502	1025	2102
Wednesday	12	0337	1605	1121	2256
Thursday	13	0436	1701	----	1208
		----	----	----	2303
Friday	14	0524	1746	----	1253
		----	----	----	2308
Saturday	15	0605	1826	----	1338
		----	----	----	2337
Sunday	16	0643	1905	----	1414
Monday	17	0721	1945	0011	1319
Tuesday	18	0802	2027	0051	1347
Wednesday	19	0843	2109	0135	1421*
Thursday	20	0923	2150	0221*	1456*

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

BPW promotes sewer department employee

By Mary Chasse

Neighb News Correspondent

At its meeting on Monday 12/13 the Fairhaven Board of Public Works promoted a Sewer Department employee, and also discussed a few items on the Superintendent's report.

BPW Superintendent Vinnie Furtado introduced sewer department employee Seth Arruda, who was hired a few months ago.

Mr. Furtado said when they hired Mr. Arruda he had no licenses, but since then has acquired his Grade 2 license. Mr. Furtado said he would like to promote Mr. Arruda to Sewer System Maintenance Craftsman now that he has his licensure.

Board member Steven Riley congratulated Mr. Arruda on his new licensure, and said it is great that Mr. Arruda took the initiative on his own, Mr. Riley told Mr. Arruda to keep adding licenses because you never know when positions may open up.

Mr. Arruda said he was already scheduled to take the test for his Grade 3 license.

Board member Cameron Durant also congratulated Mr. Arruda and said it is first up on his way to

superintendent.

BPW Vice-Chairperson Robert "Hoppy" Hobson said he is happy to see young people like Mr. Arruda working for the town, as well as town residents working for the town.

"You're going to do a great job," Mr. Hobson said.

BPW Chairperson Brian Wotton congratulated Mr. Arruda and told him to keep up the good work, and that he was excited to promote him.

The board voted unanimously to promote Mr. Arruda.

In another matter the board discussed some items on the Superintendent's report.

Mr. Durant asked for updates on the Safe Routes to School project.

Mr. Furtado said there is two million dollars in funding from the state to create ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) approved sidewalks, as well as safe bike routes.

He said they are waiting on 25% of the design to move forward, as well as bringing the topic up at Town Meeting.

The project is expected to go out to bid in October of 2022 with hopes to start work on the project the end of

2023 or beginning of 2024.

The board also discussed two projects that are asking for funding from the CPC (Community Preservation Committee). One project requests \$240,000 to add six pickleball courts to Livesey Park. The other is from the BMX Track Committee asking for \$150,000 to pave the BMX track at Macomber Park.

Mr. Furtado said he spoke with Finance Director/Interim Town Administrator Wendy Graves and got permission to use \$2,000 of excess money from the engineering fund to help the BMX owners come up with a complete design of the new track they would like to build.

Mr. Furtado said nothing was decided at the last CPC meeting for those two projects.

In another matter Mr. Durant informed the board that he sent an email to State Representative William Straus asking for updates from the DEP regarding using the landfill for the new recycling center, as well as updates for money for the sewer projects and maintenance and upkeep of Fort Phoenix. He will update the board when he hears back.

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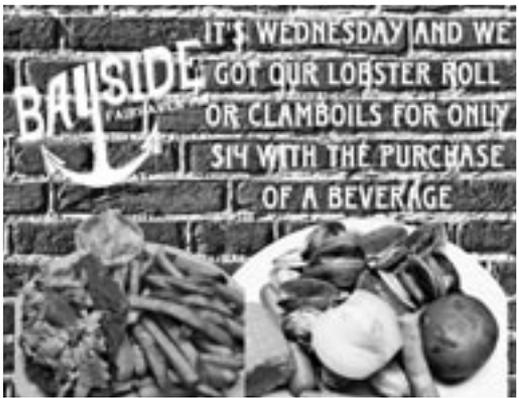
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