



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



The little paper
with a big voice!

Volume 13, Issue 9 • March 1, 2018

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

Busy bee!



Crocuses bloom on an unseasonably warm Wednesday, 2/27, allowing this bee to do what bees do in a yard at the corner of Green and Spring Streets in Fairhaven. February of this year will go on record as one of the warmest ever recorded. See page 12 for more photos..
Photo by Glenn C. Silva.



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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.

Okay, where do I begin?
This is one of those editorials I should've written months ago. I started it, and then deleted it. Note to self: DO NOT DELETE, DO NOT DELETE.

Alas, I'll start over.
The whole thing started with the Carter trial, and because we won an award for the pool photo Glenn took (see page 13), this whole mess came up again.

The deal is this: Only one still camera and one video camera were allowed in the courtroom. That's kind of standard in Mass. although judges do have discretion.

The regulations are spelled out in Supreme Judicial Court Rule 119. Reporters with registered news outlets can use their gadgets in the courtroom, photographers are "pool" photographers and are supposed to share the photographs. Rule 119 says if there are multiple requests, then the news outlets are supposed to work it out among themselves. Sounds easy, right?

Wrong.
I have had this little paper for 13 years. I have covered a few court cases, but they are very time consuming, so I don't do a lot. I have asked for pool photos from other publications quite a few times over the years and I have gotten them without question. Only once in past years have I had trouble. And that was a weird misunderstanding, which is a whole story in itself.

So, on day one of the Carter trial I emailed the Boston Herald and got the photos. God bless 'em, I can email them at 9:30 and by 9:35 I have the pics.

On day two, I emailed the Boston Globe for the pool photo and they refused, saying the "pool was established" before the trial and "You cannot ask for photos when you did not show interest to be part of the rotation."

Say what?
Well, there's a whole lot of detail I'm going to leave out because the back and forth and the foolishness are not the point here.

I texted Glenn Silva and said, "You wanna help me stick to the big guys?"

Without even knowing what it was about, he said "sure."
(Do I know who to ask or what?)

So I asked the Globe how to get in the pool, and they suddenly had all kinds of requirements which were really pretty normal stuff, like no-flash only (geesh, I know that). It was very condescending. I told them I use professional photographers all the time and had one in mind. But, they wanted us to have a "blimp," which muffles the camera sound in the courtroom. That, we did not have, and ordering one would take a few days. I spoke to a woman who I shall not name. After a big long conversation, it became clear she just did not want our little paper to take part in this big, important trial.

She said, well, if we don't have the equipment, then we tried and so they will give us the photos (out of the goodness of their hearts) because it's not our fault we couldn't meet the requirements, or some such foolishness. I don't know what was really going on, but I said that was fine. I just wanted the photos. An hour later, a man from the Globe called and asked if we could be pool photographer the next day.

Honest, I'm not kidding.
They said we could use their blimp (that's another horror story).

All-righty then.
So the *Neighb News* joined the pool and we got closing arguments day. The Associated Press jumped into the pool,



Beth David, Publisher

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Well, this one is embarrassing. In our story last week on the election in Fairhaven, we made a mistake on a name. Lindsay Gordon is not running for re-election to her seat on the Board of Health in Fairhaven, not that guy from South Carolina. I guess I had national politics on my mind. We apologize for any confusion our error may have caused

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too, and that made everybody happy.

Glenn's photos from that first day were great. By then, we had the court officers (who are beyond wonderful at Taunton Juvenile Court...love you guys!!!), rooting for us; the national press people all felt my stress and kept cheering us on; and the regional guys....well, nah, the regional guys are different, but I digress.

The other news outlets were delighted that I had no qualms sharing the photos, indeed I felt it was my obligation. Yes, my obligation.

So, this is my point in all of this.

Maybe I'm still naive. Maybe I just want to be naive.

But, when did it become all about the byline or owning the photo? When did it change from informing our readers to making sure that the Globe photo stayed with the Globe?

I know newspapers are under a lot of financial stress, we are too. But our purpose is supposed to be to tell people what is happening around them. Our purpose is supposed to be to show them the things they cannot get out and see themselves.

What brought us to the point that the likes of a Boston Globe feels the need to short-change a paper that is run by one person working out of a 7x8-foot room?

I'm not happy to call out my colleagues, which is why I deleted the editorial all those months ago.

But the universe decided it needed to come up again, so, here we are. Because if we can't criticize ourselves, we have no business criticizing anyone else.

Our second day to be pool was verdict day. I was ready to have a heart attack. Glenn was thrilled. The Globe and Herald...not so much.

Just a couple of minutes after we got settled inside the courtroom, the Globe AND the Herald photographers showed up: They just wanted to make sure we were okay.

Yeah, right.

I am of the opinion that if we had not already been situated inside the courtroom, one of those photographers would've jumped into our space in two seconds flat.

There's way more to this story, and I might flesh it out in a blog, because some of it is pretty funny.

But for now, I just wanted to give you the context to ask: When did it stop being about informing our readers?

Because, I never did get those June 6 photos from the Globe. She said we joined the pool on June 7.

Way to go, Globe. Way to go. Until next week then...see ya,

Town Clerk Survey online for those who missed forum

The Town Clerk Study Committee held a community forum on Monday, 2/26 in the town hall auditorium.

Residents were allowed to voice their views on whether or not the town clerk position should remain an elected post, or change to an

appointed position.

The committee will make a recommendation to the Selectboard for an article on the Town Meeting warrant in May.

For those who were not able to go to the forum, a survey is available

online for you to make your opinion know. Visit the town's website for the link: <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/home/news/town-clerk-study-committee-survey> or call the Selectboard office at 508-979-4023, Ext. 2.

Round Cove closed to digging

Round Cove in Fairhaven, which is the cove near Bella Vista Island, has been closed due to low water-quality tests this month. The state Division of Marine Fisheries regularly tests the water in area coves to make sure they are safe for harvesting fish and shellfish. DMF closed the cove on 2/26, from Cherrystone Road north to Bella Vista Island.

Fairhaven Harbormaster Timothy Cox said the cove now has to test clean for a whole year before it can be opened. He also said, however, that he plans to transplant contaminated quahogs in May anyway, so it would have been closed then anyway.

The bigger problem, he said, is why the cove is not testing well. He said he believes the reason is that the owner of Bella Vista Island, Anwar Faisal, has not maintained the depth

under his private causeway by dredging as had been done with the previous owner.

Mr. Cox said he is working with the Mass. Department of Environmental Protection to find out what recourse the town has to force the owner to fix the problem.

Mr. Faisal has made no secret of his dislike of people digging for quahogs along the island, and has often threatened people to leave the water near his island. The practice, however, is protected by state law. A homeowner cannot remove someone who is fishing, fowling or navigating, even from a private beach if that person is in the water.

"It is the horrible point that we have to deal with it again," said Mr. Cox. "He hasn't addressed anything. The bridge is more filled in than ever."

Free Political PR for Local Candidates

The *Neighb News* will give all candidates for townwide public office in Fairhaven and Acushnet a chance to get their message out. You may submit an article of approximately 500 words, with a picture, and we will publish at no charge before the April 2 election.

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

DEADLINE: Friday, 3/9.

Send by email (preferred) at NeighbNews@comcast.net, or by fax, 508-991-5580, or mail to 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719. Please put text in the body of the email.

Call 508-979-593 or email with questions.



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Selectboard approves beer & wine for Job Lot; OKs Getty Sta.

By Beth David
Editor

The Fairhaven Selectboard took no further action against Fairhaven Getty at its meeting on Monday, 2/25. Selectboard member Daniel Freitas was absent from the meeting.

Board chairperson Bob Espindola and member Charles Murphy both said they were satisfied with the progress that the gas station had made in the last two weeks. The board had given owner Hatem El Rifai seven days to remove vehicles, and unblock the fire lane to come into compliance with his license to operate a gas station, repair station, and used car lot.

At first, though, Town Administrator Mark Rees said that he had received additional complaints about the property, specifically that there was a line of cars waiting for the inspection bay. The board also received complaints contending that employees were parking on the street.

But, Mr. Rees said, "There has been significant improvements," compared to the last meeting.

He said hopefully, Mr. El Rifai will "continue to be responsive" when there are complaints.

Mr. Espindola noted that progress had been made, but not all conditions were met. He also noted that there was a cost associated with repeatedly sending an inspector to the same property. He said he believed the town had a bylaw in place to recoup that cost.

Mr. Rees said he would research that bylaw.

Attorney Robert Perry, representing Mr. El Rifai, said there was a problem with three abandoned cars: cars owned by customers who simply left their cars there instead of paying for repairs. Mr. Perry said that removing abandoned vehicles was more complicated and takes more time than cars owned by the business.

He said part of the problem is simply that the business is very busy. "He does wonderful work at a reasonable price, so people flock to him," said Mr. Perry, adding that he goes there himself.

He noted that the whole rear of the

property near the building had been cleared, and showed the board pictures. He said Mr. El Rifai had the proper number of cars on the lot, no more. Mr. El Rifai had asked for a 30 day extension to have time to secure a lot in Westport, said Mr. Perry.

Mr. Espindola noted that Mr. El Rifai's usual excuse was that he had cars going overseas. Mr. Espindola told Mr. Perry that his client should take that into consideration, and that the number of cars allowed did not change because of where they would be sold.

Mr. Espindola did note, however, that the board would not penalize the business because cars were waiting to be inspected.

Mr. Perry and Mr. El Rifai told the board that they did not believe any employees were parking on the street, that they believed it was the neighbors parking there. Some cars have blocked the fire lane access.

Mr. El Rifai insisted that his employees were not parking there. He suggested that the town prohibit parking along the street by his

SELECT: cont'd on page 22

Candidates Night

Fairhaven Cable Access announces the annual Government Access Candidates' Night will take place on Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at the Fairhaven Senior Center, 229 Huttleston Avenue, at 7:00 p.m.

Candidates have been notified. The event will be moderated by members of the local press.

The program will run on Fairhaven Government Access station Channel 18, and will be available online through a link on the town's website.

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AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Candidates Night

Fairhaven Cable Access will host the annual Government Access Candidates' Night on Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at the Fairhaven Senior Center, 229 Huttleston Avenue, at 7:00 p.m. The event will be moderated by members of the local press.

The program will run on Fairhaven Government Access station Channel 18, and will be available online through a link on the town's website.

Preschool Program

Fairhaven Pubic Schools is now accepting applications for its integrated Preschool Programs located at: East Fairhaven and LeRoy L Wood Elementary Schools

Applications and additional information can be found on the District's website at <http://www.fairhavenps.org>, or call 508-979-4000 Extension 117.

Volleyball at Rec Ctr

Join town employees for volleyball at the Fairhaven Recreation Center, 227 Huttleston Ave. (near Stop & Shop), on **Sundays from 6:30-8 p.m.** Sponsored by YOUR Fairhaven Wellness Committee. For more info, call Phil at 508-993-6978.

Blood Drive

The LCpl Matthew R. Rodriguez Memorial Foundation, in celebration of Matthew's 24th birthday, is holding their 4th Annual Memorial Blood Drive on **Fri., 3/2, from 1:00-6:00 p.m., in the Ballroom of the Seaport Inn & Marina,, 110 Middle St, Fairhaven.**

Appointments are **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!!** To make an appointment, please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit: redcrossblood.org and enter: **LCPLMATTHEW** to schedule your appointment.

While walk-ins are welcome, please know that individuals with appointments will given priority. Save yourself extra wait time and schedule an appointment.

Rotary Fund-raiser

Fairhaven Rotary Fundraiser, Fish & Chips Dinner, **Fri., 3/2, 4:30-8 p.m., at Bayside Lounge, 125 Sconticut Neck Rd, Fairhaven, \$10 per ticket**
Cash Bar & Take out available.

Tickets will be sold at door or by calling Heidi at 508.971.1699

Literacy Night

Whaling good time. St. Joseph School, 100 Spring St., Fairhaven will be hosting their annual Children's Literacy Night on **Thurs., 3/8, from 5-7 p.m.** Bring your friends and family to this free ocean themed event. There will be several activities your family can participate in, such as interactive whale face painting, photo booth and so much more.

Foxwoods Trip

The Fairhaven Village Militia is once again running a bus trip in March to Foxwoods Resort Casino as a fundraiser **on Sat., 3/10.** The bus will leave the east side of the Staples parking lot in Fairhaven promptly at 9:00 a.m. and will travel straight through to the casino. Return time is 5:00 p.m. **Tickets for the trip are \$30 each and include a voucher for the buffet and \$10 gambling credit.** (Only adults are eligible for the vouchers.) The militia will hold some raffles on the bus during the trip.

Tickets can be purchased at Mike & Wayne's, 163 Huttleston Ave., Fairhaven, or by calling Ellie, 508-441-7566 or emailing madeinu@aol.com.

The Fairhaven Village Militia uses the funds raised by this trip to support its programs during the year, including its two historical encampments at Fort Phoenix, participation in the Memorial Day and Veterans Day parades and the Fourth of July Ceremony, among other things.

Calling ALL Seniors

Third Annual Rotary Senior Talent Showcase. Come show off your talent...we'd love to have you!

Sunday, April 29th 2-4:00pm at Fairhaven Town Hall

Please call Melissa for an application, 508-330-4837. All **TALENTED SENIORS** welcome

West Island 5K

Registration is open for the 2018 West Island 5K and Kids Mile! This year you have the option of getting a race shirt or West Island 5K beach towel! **Come out and join us on Sun., 4/29! Visit westisland5k.org** for more information and to register.

No Irish Need

Apply

Join us on Thurs., 3/15, at 4 p.m. for a special presentation at the Fairhaven Senior Center, 229 Huttleston Ave.

In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, Chris Daley, local historian, author and lecturer, will present "No Irish Need Apply," a 90 minute slide lecture which examines the many facets of the early Irish experience in Boston.

The presentation begins in 1718 with the first arrival of Scottish-Irish immigrants, Pope's Day, the burning of the Ursuline Convent in 1834 in Charlestown, the Broad Street Riot in 1837 and the "Great Potato Famine,"

Discussion will also include Irish political leaders including Patrick Collins, Hugh O'Brien, Martin Lomasney, Patrick Kennedy and the "old Rascal King James Michael Curley."

Come early and enjoy refreshments with an Irish flair! Please call the Fairhaven Senior Center to reserve your seat at 508-979-4029. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Fairhaven Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass. Cultural Council, a state agency.

OLOA Portuguese Dinner

Portuguese Dinner, Sat., 3/10, 5-8 p.m., at Our Lady of Angels Hall, 7 Jesse Street, Fairhaven, MA

Our Lady of Angels club in North Fairhaven is holding its annual Portuguese dinner. Dinner choices are half a chicken with Portuguese style rice, roasted potatoes, vegetable, Portuguese pop, and red peppers if you wish, or Bifanas (marinated Portuguese style pork steaks) with Portuguese style rice, roasted potatoes, vegetable, Portuguese pop, etc. The price is **\$12.00 per person.** Drinks are very reasonably priced. Sponsored by Our Lady of Angels Catholic Association. For tickets, call Joe Mello at 508-733-4608.

SAVE THE DATE FALPT Annual Meeting

The Fairhaven-Acushnet Land Preservation Trust, 2018 Annual

HAPP: cont'd on page 21

Tugboat sinks in 160 feet of water in Maine after collision

USCG Press Release

BOSTON — The Coast Guard is investigating the cause of a tug collision that occurred about three miles south of Kennebunk, Maine, early Thursday, 2/22, and monitoring the site where one of the stricken vessels sank.

One of the two crewmen aboard the 40-foot tugboat Helen Louise alerted Coast Guard watchstanders Wednesday, 2/21, that their vessel collided with the 80-foot tugboat Capt Mackintire while they had it in tow. The Capt Mackintire had no crew aboard.

A response boat crew from Coast Guard Station Portsmouth Harbor, in New Hampshire, and the 87-foot Coast Guard Cutter Reef Shark, homeported in Boston, deployed to assist.

Once on scene, the Station Portsmouth Harbor boat crew confirmed there were no injuries to the two-man tug crew. The Coast Guard then escorted the tug Helen Louise, with the two people aboard, into Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where it safely moored.

The Coast Guard Cutter Reef Shark established a tow with the tugboat Capt Mackintire, with intentions to bring the boat into Portland, Maine.

While in transit to Portland early Thursday, the Capt Mackintire began taking on water, forcing the crew to cut the towline where it sunk in about 160 feet of water.

The Coast Guard is working with federal, state, and local authorities to evaluate pollution potential and respond to reports of sheening in the area where the tug sank.

As of Monday, 2/26, the Coast Guard was overseeing a site assessment of the sunken tug Capt Mackintire Monday in the Gulf of Maine approximately three miles south of Kennebunkport, Maine.



The 80-foot tugboat Capt Mackintire is in tow off Portland, Maine, Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2018. The tugboat later sank about three miles south of Kennebunk, Maine, in about 158 feet of water. The Coast Guard is working with federal, state, and local authorities to evaluate pollution potential and respond to reports of sheening in the area. U.S. Coast Guard photo.

A commercial marine services company was scheduled to dive on the Capt Mackintire beginning Tuesday to

evaluate the structural integrity of the sunken tug and to evaluate for potential pollution.

The Coast Guard planned to establish a safety zone at the site of the dive operation, and issue a special marine information broadcast to alert mariners of the operation.

The vessel is currently in about 160 feet of water.

The Coast Guard, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and other federal, state and local agencies continue to coordinate daily aerial, water, and shoreline assessments.

The public should report any signs of pollution to the Coast Guard Command Center at (207) 767-0303.

An investigation into the cause of the sinking is ongoing. •••

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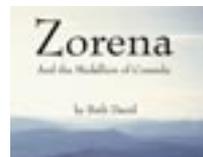
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Hundreds rally in New Bedford to support unions

Press Release

Over 500 Massachusetts working people, community leaders and elected officials rallied on Monday, 2/25, at New Bedford City Hall, joining the nationwide Working People's Day of Action to demand more union jobs in America and to defend the freedom to join together in strong unions. They were protesting the billionaire-funded effort to use the Supreme Court to further rig the system against working people.

The event today, one of ten in Massachusetts and over 300 nationwide, coincided with the first day of oral arguments in the Supreme Court case, *Janus vs. AFSCME*,* a lawsuit driven by anti-worker CEOs and billionaires to divide working people and limit their power in numbers.

Speakers addressing the crowd included workers who deliver our essential public services, including a fifth grade teacher, a social worker, a graphics specialist, a school custodian and a public defender.

"I have more freedom to speak my mind as a union educator and I am not scared to voice my opinions especially when it comes to addressing matters that get in the way of the learning of my students," said Laura Guimond, fifth grade teacher and Fall River Educators Association member.

The Working People's Day of Action also coincided with the fiftieth anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr. joining striking sanitation workers in Tennessee as they fought for the freedom to join together in a union



ABOVE: Hundreds of people gather in front of New Bedford City Hall for the "Working People's Day of Action" in support of unions on Monday, 2/26, the same day that the Supreme Court heard a case on whether or not public-sector non-union employees could be forced to pay union dues. BELOW LEFT: Emike Momodu, President UMass Dartmouth NAACP, addresss the crowd in front of New Bedford City Hall. BELOW RIGHT: State Representative Antonio "Tony" Cabral signs a pledge to the US Supreme Court, with New Bedford mayor Jon Mitchell looking on. *Submitted photos.*

for dignity and respect on the job.

"We don't have a voice in our workplace... We know how important it is to stand up for the freedom to join a union," said James Vita, public defender working to organize a union.

"Unions care for our communities by supporting the working people who make all of this possible," affirmed Anabel Santiago from the Coalition for Social Justice.

At the rally, participants called on the Supreme Court to uphold the freedom to form strong unions and asked that it be protected as a sacred

American right. Protesters signed a declaration saying, "...we ask that the Justices remember that an attack on democracy in the workplace is an attack on the democratic bedrock of the United States of America..."

Senator Paul Feeney, Representative Tony Cabral and Massachusetts AFL-CIO president, Steven A. Tolman reminded us that unions strengthen our communities and with the respect and dignity provided by a union, public sector workers can deliver high quality services that the public depends on.

"My union card got me into the middle class," Senator Paul Feeney declared to a cheering crowd.

"We need good union jobs. Good union jobs build strong communities. And that's what we are doing in Southeastern Mass," rallied Steven A. Tolman, President of the Massachusetts AFL-CIO.

"There can be no doubt that unions are needed today more than ever," said LaSella Hall of the NAACP.

**Editor's note: The case will decide if public-sector employees who do not belong to unions must still pay union fees. Opponents say the mandatory fees may force employees to pay for speech they do not support. Supporters say eliminating the fees will weaken unions.*



HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Fish safety training

Fishing Partnership Support Services announced that Vineyard Wind will be sponsoring upcoming safety trainings in New Bedford and on Martha's Vineyard to provide mariners with the knowledge and skills needed to cope with and survive accidents at sea.

Because of Vineyard Wind's support, the trainings are being offered at no cost on March 8th and March 9th in New Bedford and on March 22nd and March 23rd on Martha's Vineyard.

The New Bedford Safety Training Course on March 8th and March 9th will take place between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at 706 South Rodney French Boulevard. The Martha's Vineyard courses on March 22nd and March 23rd will take place between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. at 20 Edy's Island Way in Chilmark. For more info, please visit www.fishingpartnership.org.

Parking Study

In a joint effort between New Bedford's Traffic Commission and Harbor Development Commission, the City is undertaking an assessment of the parking needs of an extended downtown area and portion of the waterfront. The study is being undertaken by Stantec Consulting Services, and is jointly funded by MassDevelopment and the City.

Stantec will review and analyze existing parking conditions including parking inventory, utilization, policies, management, regulations, and pricing, and analyze the parking supply and demand compared to existing land uses. Community input and public participation are essential in determining the needs of the community.

Community outreach is beginning with an online parking survey, where public input on personal parking habits is being sought: how and where motorists use City parking facilities, and ways in which the City might improve parking are among its chief elements. **The survey will be available to the public through 3/6** and is available at: www.newbedford-ma.gov/ParkingSurvey

The City and Stantec will also be holding **two public workshops on Tuesday, 3/6**. The first is from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and will consist of a

roving tent downtown between Purchase Street (north of Union Street) and Custom House Square. The second workshop is from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the conference room of UMass Dartmouth's Star Store campus, 715 Purchase St.

Contact City of New Bedford's Department of Planning, Housing & Community Development at (508) 979-1488 or visit the City's website at www.newbedford-ma.gov.

Free Jazz Concert

Pilgrim United Church of Christ 635 Purchase St. N.B. in sanctuary Jazz Band Concert by Global Learning Charter Public School, directed by Don Richards, **Thurs., 3/8, 7 p.m. FREE. All Welcome**

Unusual Catches

The New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center, **38 Bethel St., NB, will host Unusual Catches Day on Sat., 3/3, from 1-4 p.m. Free. Accessible.**

Every fisherman has experienced catching a strange object in their net or dredge. Active and retired fishermen are invited to bring their treasures from the deep to Unusual Catches Day. Maritime archeologists will be at the Center to examine the treasures and provide more information about each piece. This event will provide an opportunity for the fishermen and the public to learn more about these artifacts.

For more info, contact the New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center at: programs@fishingheritagecenter.org or call (508) 993-8894.

Patrons of the Arts

Hosted by New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks! Join us for this **FREE event on Fri., 3/2, from 6-8 p.m. at the New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks!, 608 Pleasant St., NB**. The 2018 honorees are Mass. State Senator Mark C. Montigny, Mass. Rep. Antonio F.D. Cabral, and Your Theatre, Inc.

For more information, visit <http://newbedfordart.org>

Mini Grant Orientation

Do you have an idea for a project that will improve your neighborhood, school or community? For the 23rd

year, United Way of Greater New Bedford's Community Building Mini-Grants Program is offering grants of up to \$2,500 to support all-volunteer groups looking to build a stronger community. Groups with budgets of \$40,000 or less located in Greater New Bedford (Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Freetown, New Bedford, Marion, Mattapoisett, Rochester, or Wareham) are eligible to apply.

Volunteer groups are encouraged to attend an orientation session to learn more about the Mini-Grants Program and application process. **Orientation sessions will be held on Tues., 3/6, from 10-11:30 a.m. or 5-6:30 p.m. at the New Bedford Free Public Library, 613 Pleasant St., 3rd Floor, New Bedford.**

Registration is required for the sessions. To register please call 508-994-9625 ext. 219 or email liveunited@unitedwayofgnb.org.

Applications are available at unitedwayofgnb.communityforce.com and will only be accepted electronically. Grants must be submitted by April 13, 2018.

Visit unitedwayofgnb.org to learn more about the Mini-Grants Program.

Grants Available

Two funds at the Community Foundation of SE Mass. are currently accepting proposals for funding, but time is running short to apply.

The Huidekoper Fund will grant a total of \$4,000 to local organizations for programs focused on athletic activity and fitness for youth and **applications are due March 2**.

Finally, **The John Lipsky-George Whittaker Fund is accepting proposals until March 31**. The Lipsky-Whittaker Fund believes strongly in making strategic investments for the well-being of the greater New Bedford GLBT community and in combating HIV and AIDS through prevention and education. Grants from the Lipsky-Whittaker Fund typically range from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

All currently available funding opportunities at the Community Foundation are available on its website, cfsema.org, and interested applicants should contact the Foundation's grant and scholarship associate, Holly Stickles, with questions at 508-996-8253 ext. 202 or hstickles@cfsema.org.

HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

Family Nature Walk

Join the Buzzards Bay Coalition for a family-friendly nature adventure during **Saturday at The Sawmill on Mar. 3 at 11:00 a.m.** You'll use your five senses of sight, sound, smell, touch and even taste as your guide to explore The Sawmill (32 Mill Rd., Acushnet) and experience nature like never before!

To learn more and register for this free family program, visit <http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/events/saturday-at-the-sawmill-exploring-nature-with-your-senses-mar-03-2018/> or contact the Buzzards Bay Coalition at (508) 999-6363 ext. 219.

In addition to the family-friendly walk, The Sawmill's Hawes Family Learning Center will be open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., when you can explore the learning center and speak with Coalition educators about the park and its restoration.

This program is part of Discover Buzzards Bay, a resource to find unique and exciting ways to explore the outdoors, get some exercise and connect with nature. Use Discover Buzzards Bay to get outside and discover woods, wetlands and waterways from Fall River to Falmouth. To learn more, visit savebuzzardsbay.org/discover. Discover Buzzards Bay is sponsored by Southcoast Health.

This program is also sponsored in part by a grant from the New Bedford Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

MOLIFE Gala

MOLIFE Inc. presents our Formal Gala Event on **Fri., 4/6, at White's of Westport from 6pm-Midnight.** Join us for a fun night with a Buffet Dinner and Dancing. There will be a silent auction, our Gift Card Wall and a wine toss! **Tickets are \$50.**

Join us for our VIP Event and meet Miss Massachusetts Jillian Zucco! Open bar and appetizers will be served. (VIP Event is a limited ticket Event). **Tickets for both VIP and Gala Events are \$100.**

Proceeds to benefit Scholarships to High School Seniors in the Greater New Bedford Area, and to the consumers of MOLIFE Inc.

For tickets and information visit our website www.molifeinc.com or contact our office at 508-992-5978.

Author Event

The Acushnet Public Library Welcomes *Chappaquiddick Tragedy-Kennedy's Second Passenger Revealed* author Donald Nelson.

Join us for an author talk on Mon., 3/5, at 6 pm. This free event will take place in the Library Community Room at 232 Middle RD, Acushnet, MA 02743.

Research scientist and author Donald Nelson will visit the Acushnet Public Library and speak about his book *Chappaquiddick Tragedy-Kennedy's Second Passenger Revealed*. Mr. Nelson explored all the original records of the infamous 1969 Chappaquiddick accident to determine whether an alternate account of the happening was supported by forensic evidence. His "Aha!" moment came when he understood confirming inquest testimony of one witness — never understood by previous investigators!

This is his account of the tragedy.

Books will be available for purchase and signing.

Career Fair for Seniors

At Acushnet Council on Aging, 59 1/2 So. Main St., Acushnet; 508-998-0280, on Mon., 3/15, from 1-3 p.m.

If you are unemployed and actively looking, seeking a new career direction, or just exploring your options; grab your resumes and join us at the Acushnet Senior Community Center! Free, open to the public.

Some of the vendors joining us will be: Edaville Family Theme Park, Coastline, HomeInstead Senior Care, LifeStream, Places to Go Transportation, ABLE Associates, Dignity Memorial, Community Nurse Home Care

Bruins PJ Drive

The Acushnet Public Library has teamed up with the Boston Bruins to participate in their annual pajama drive to benefit DCF Kids and Cradles to Crayons. The PJ Drive's goal is to collect 15,000 pairs of new pajamas for children and teens in need.

The Boston Bruins PJ Drive runs **through March 15.** The library will

be collecting new pairs of pajamas for babies, children and teens. Drop off pajamas during normal library hours. For more information visit acupl.org.

Participating libraries will compete with other organizations for special Bruins prizes including a street hockey clinic with Bruins Mascot Blades and autographed Bruins items.

Food Security Forum

The second annual food security forum will be conducted at **UMass Dartmouth's Claire T. Carney Library, Grand Reading Room on Wed., 3/28, between 5 to 8 p.m. Register now.**

Kathryn Brodowski, MD, MPH, from the Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB) has created partnerships between GBFB, local hospitals and community health centers to connect those in need with healthy food and other critical resources, bridging the gap between hunger and health. The forum will examine the innovations for food security on the Southcoast, which has become an economic imperative. There will be panel discussions with local experts from Coastline Elderly Services, the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, Southcoast Health, Community Nurse Home Care, and the Greater New Bedford Community Health Center.

The event is sponsored by Coastline, the 4C Collaborative, the Greater Boston Food Bank, Vibra Hospital, UMass Dartmouth, SEMAP, Southeastern Massachusetts Food Security Network and Tufts Health Plan Foundation. The forum will provide the opportunity to network with local health professionals, food security organizations and food producers.

Please register at <http://bit.ly/foodsecurityforum>

SAVE THE DATE

Rummage sale!

Clothes, shoes, accessories, toys, bikes, household items, linens, knick-knacks, holiday & much more. Check out the "Boutique" in the conference room for new & special items. **Friday, March 16, 1-7 p.m. & Saturday, March 17, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.** St. Julie Billiard Church Hall, 494 Slocum Rd., Dartmouth, MA.

Come find hidden treasures!

Recipe of the Week

Minty Green Popcorn Clusters

12 cups unsalted, unbuttered popped popcorn
4 cups mini marshmallows
2 tbsp butter or light olive oil
1/2 tsp salt
1 tbsp green food coloring
1/4 tsp peppermint extract
1 cup green candy-coated chocolate candies (like M&Ms)
Place popcorn in large mixing bowl.

In saucepan set over medium heat, melt marshmallows, butter and salt, stirring occasionally until smooth. Remove from heat; stir in food coloring and peppermint extract.

Immediately toss marshmallow mixture with popcorn. Let cool for 2 to 3 minutes or until cool enough to handle. Toss with chocolate candies.

Shape three tablespoonfuls of popcorn mixture into small cluster; repeat with remaining mixture to make about 32 clusters. Place on waxed paper-lined baking sheet. Let cool completely.

The Popcorn Board, popcorn.org

To share a recipe with your neighbors

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From our readers

Mass murder will continue

Columbine High School 4-20-1999, Sandy Hook 12-12-2012 and just recently Parkland Fla. That's a span of 19 years and the mass murdering of our school kids continues with NO resolve and no game plan to stop these atrocious, inhumane acts.

This will continue. The lawmakers in Washington say what they will do to stop this directly after the tragedy occurs but nothing ever gets done.

Two commercial airplanes were hijacked on 9-11-2001 and flew directly into the World Trade Building in NYC. A third plane crashed into the Pentagon. Both attacks left thousands dead. It was a crime against humanity that was of epic proportions.

Directly after the attack, there was action by the Federal Government that totally changed the transportation system in the world.

Anyone who travels knows the security check you must go through to get on a plane.

I'll give you a personal experience that is phenomenal. In January of 2002 I had open heart surgery in Boston to repair an aortic aneurism. I also at that time had my aortic valve replaced with a stainless steel St. Jude Valve. It was major surgery that took 9 hours but through the marvels of medicine today, I am still here.

In the early part of the healing process, any time I would travel, I would go through the metal detector. An alarm would go off.

I was pulled aside and had to be further screened via metal detecting wand. I told them what surgery I had but I had to present ID of my valve operation. The ID has the date of the operation and the part number of the valve. TSA is, and was, very thorough.

Last year on our winter vacation,

my wife SueAnn brought back a bag of white sand. The sand was removed by TSA and chemically tested to make sure it was safe.

The TSA [Transportation Security Administration] was founded because of the 911 attack. Air travel today is safe.

The first school shooting occurred in 1999 and there has been no action by the federal government to stop these murders lots of talk but no action.

Any action taken was done on a local level.

After Columbine, the Town of Fairhaven created a new law enforcement position called a School Resource Officer. That person was assigned to FHS for security reasons and was a Fairhaven Police officer.

Fairhaven was pro-active in this area and continues to be.

So...onto the big question, why has nothing been done on a national level to stop these murders?? There are many solutions being tossed around. One thought is having random teachers in the school with concealed weapons in case something went down.

In my years at FHS as a student, I have a hard time visualizing Mabel Knipe, Peggy Howland or Iona Kunz having a gun in their top drawer.

My solution?...gun control...gun control.... and elect lawmakers that have the guts and courage to strictly enforce gun control.

Steve Bender FHS Class of 1966.

PS ..watching the news this week where Sen Mark Rubio [R] fielded questions from concerned citizens, a very emotional parent of a daughter shot in Parkland Fla. grilled Rubio and told his story. His daughter was shot in the back SEVEN TIMES by the assailant. As he was telling what happened, he broke into an emotional state. As I watched him tell what happened, I did too

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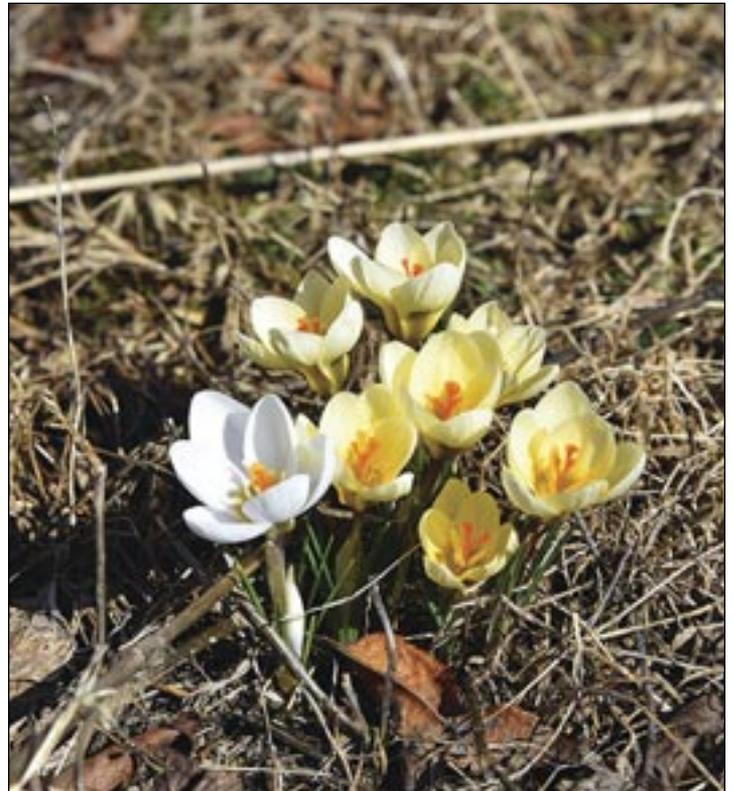
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Spring is on the way, with a bump or two in the road



Despite a forecast that is calling for a powerful nor'easter that could bring snow this week, the crocuses are popping up from the ground as record-breaking warm weather has defined February. After January's record-breaking cold snaps, February of this year will go on record as one of the warmest ever recorded. Daylight Savings Time starts in two weeks, with the clocks set to be changed at 2 a.m. on Sunday, 3/11. When the clocks get pushed ahead one hour for DST, daylight will last until later in the afternoon. TOP & ABOVE: Crocuses bloom on an unseasonably warm Wednesday, 2/27, allowing this bee to do what bees do in a yard at the corner of Green and Spring Streets in Fairhaven. *Photos by Glenn C. Silva.*

Neighb News's Glenn C. Silva wins award for Carter photo

By Beth David
Editor

The *Neighb News* won an award at the New England Better Newspaper Competition banquet this weekend. Organized and judged by the New England Newspaper and Press Association, the banquet was held on Saturday, 2/24, at the Renaissance Boston Waterfront Hotel. NENPA represents more than 450 daily, weekly and specialty newspapers in New England, and judged 3,000 entries for this year's awards.

This year is the first time the *Neighb News* submitted an entry into the awards and the first photojournalism award for photographer Glenn C. Silva.

Mr. Silva won the first place award for a courtroom photograph of Michelle Carter on the day she was found guilty of manslaughter in the suicide death of Conrad Roy III.

The *Neighb News* was pool photographer that day in court, so the photo went out to the Associated Press and has been seen by millions of people around the world.

With only one camera allowed in the courtroom, it is unusual for a small weekly paper to be pool photographer in such a high profile case. And the *Neighb News* had to fight for its spot in the line-up.

In the end, we had two days as pool photographer in the trial, including the verdict day.

The photo shows Ms. Carter crying after being found guilty, flanked by her two attorneys.

"Excellent emotion!" commented the judges when choosing the photo.

The category was "General News Photo" for weekly newspapers with circulation less than 6,000.

Second place in our category went to Alyssa Stone, Old Colony Memorial, Plymouth, Mass.; third place went to David Sokol, Melrose

Free Press, Melrose, Mass.

Other local papers also fared well at the awards banquet. Southcoast Media Group, which includes the Standard-Times and the Hathaway Weeklies, won 38 awards.

this is the first time the *Neighb News* has submitted anything to the competition. As editor, I must admit, it was lots of fun. This year, we will definitely submit more.

As for Mr. Silva, he has been riding the high from the minute we muscled our way into the pool line-up.

His photos and our timely delivery to the pool on the days of the court appearances proved that the littlest of weeklies can, indeed, do the job.

"I'm extremely pleased with the recognition of my work by others in my field. I knew when I was capturing these images that I was recording history. I had no idea I'd get an award for the photo," said Mr. Silva. "When I first heard I had placed in the top 3 of my category and would be going to the event in Boston to see where I finished I was excited. When they listed the three nominees on the big screen and called my name as the winner I was all smiles. I had to just look and see my name on the screen and go 'I did it!' To me, it was like winning an Emmy or an Oscar."



Flanked by her lawyers, Joseph Cataldo (LEFT) and Cory Madera (RIGHT), Michelle Carter cries after being found Guilty of involuntary manslaughter in the suicide of Conrad Roy III in Taunton Juvenile Court on June 16, 2017. Photo by Glenn C. Silva/Fairhaven Neighborhood News. The photo won first place in the General News Photo category for weeklies under 6,000 circulation at the New England Newspaper Better Newspaper Competition awards banquet on 2/24/18.

Peter Pereira won Photographer of the Year for the ninth time in 14 years, and four first place awards. The ST's Aimee Chiavaroli won the 2017 Rookie of the Year award.

The Standard-Times also won first place for Front Page, which featured Mr. Silva's photo.

And that just tickles us pink.

Although we have been publishing for 13 years,



L-R: *Neighb News* editor Beth David and photographer Glenn C. Silva get a kick out of posing next to the Standard-Times award-winning Front Page, which features Mr. Silva's award-winning photo of Michelle Carter after she was found guilty. *Neighb News* photo. Special thanks to Mark Murphy for taking the photo.

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Next Level Volleyball Clinics

Coach Jacob Girard has designed the next level volleyball clinic for young athletes who want to take their volleyball game to the next level. Coach Girard has volleyball coaching experience in New England's professional Women's Volleyball team, division three NCAA Collegiate volleyball, and Junior Olympic club volleyball. The next level volleyball clinics are drill and workout based to focus on improving the skills used to play volleyball. Days: Wednesdays Time: 6:15-7:45 PM Cost: \$60 Members \$75 Non-Members Starts: March 7th Ends: April 25th Ages: 13-17 Years old

15th annual Flashlight Egg Hunt

Join us for the 15th annual Flashlight Egg Hunt! Children will search for their eggs on the Recreation Center grounds, take pictures with the Easter Bunny and receive a special treat. Don't forget to bring your flashlight! **NO LATE REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED. NO WALK-INS NIGHT OF THE EVENT.** Friday, March 23rd, Time 7:30pm Cost \$5 per child Ages 10 and under **Deadline to register is Tuesday, March 20th. Rain or Shine**

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: March 12 Instructor: Beth Oleson Time: 5:30PM- 8PM Cost: \$50 Members \$55. Non members

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Mall Trips

3/7: New Newport Grand, Middletown Xmas shop
3/14: Warwick Mall
3/21: Emerald Square Mall

Entertainment: 12:30-2:30 p.m.

3/7 D&D • 3/8 Ray J • 3/14 D&D

Special Activities

No Irish Need Apply

Thurs., 3/15 at 4:00 p.m. In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, Chris Daley, local historian, author and lecturer, will present "No Irish Need Apply," a 90- minute slide lecture which examines the many facets of the early Irish experience in Boston. Come early. Refreshments, with an Irish flair, will be served. Please call the Senior Center to reserve your seat, 508-979-4029

Legal Clinic

Attorney Suzanne Sequin is regularly available for a free private 15 minute consultation with seniors. Call Senior Center to make an appointment at 508-979-4029.

Free Food

Do You Qualify For Free Food From The Greater Boston Food Banks?

Fairhaven seniors, 60 and older and qualify financially, may be able to receive free non perishable groceries once a month. To see if you qualify and for more information, call the Fairhaven Senior Center at 508-979-4029 and ask for Anne Silvia.

Bereavement Educational Support Group

Pathways through Grief will be held on Mondays for six weeks, March

19th through April 23th from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the Fairhaven Senior Center. This educational Program will help adult participants to gain skills to cope with challenges of grieving.

If interested in attending, please contact Bereavement Coordinator John Rider at 508-324-1900 extension 104. This program will be offered at no cost and will be limited to no more than 12 participants.

Easter Dinner

Fairhaven Seniors are invited to join us for Easter Dinner on Easter Sunday April 1st at the Fairhaven Senior Center from 11:30-1:00 p.m. Menu will include baked ham, cheese potatoes, glazed carrots and rolls. Assorted pies will be donated by Our Lady's Haven. Transportation can be provided. Please call the Fairhaven Senior Center at 508-979-4029 to reserve your seat.

IT Lessons

The Fairhaven IT Department will be holding classes for seniors interested in learning how to use an iPad, Smartphone, Chromebook, Tablet, Laptop and Facebook. Learn to be a smart shopper on the internet or learn to organize your phone videos and pictures. FREE. Call 408-979-4025

Ongoing Programs

Call 508-979-4029 for days and times

A/G Consumer Mediator; Bingo; Board Meeting/monthly; Bridge; Caregiver Support & Education Group; Chair Yoga, Computer Training; Fit Quest; Friends of Elderly/monthly meeting; Grocery Shopping; LGBT Supper Club; Line Dancing; Live Band; Medical Transportation; Nutrition Program/ meal served; Osteoporosis class; Outreach Coordinator; PACE Fuel Assistance; Pitch; Reassurance Program; Shopping; Singles Senior Supper Club; Supportive Senior Social Day Program; Tai Chi; Tap 'N' Time, Walking Clubs, Zumba.

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Police issue scam alert

Submitted by Sgt. Kevin Kobza
Fairhaven Police Public
Information Officer

I personally received a call from someone who identified themselves as working for the American Officers' Association doing a fund raiser.

Yeah! boy did they pick the wrong number to try to pull this one off!

The number that came up on the

display was 781-613-1095 out of Dedham. This is a scam and I want people to be warned NOT to donate to this organization. They claim to be a 527 organization. I think they meant to say 501c3, but who knows.

I attempted to call the number from a secure line at the station and got through to no one. I got an answering machine with a female's

voice, speaking with a foreign accent.

Please warn the public NOT to donate to them.

If they ever have questions about law enforcement organizations conducting legitimate fund raisers, please have them confirm with their local police departments.

Fairhaven residents can call us at 508-997-7421.

Buzzards Bay Swim set for June 30

Press Release

Twenty-five years ago, a visionary group of local residents had a big idea: to swim 1.2 miles across outer New Bedford Harbor to raise awareness and funds for clean water in Buzzards Bay. That year, 17 swimmers raised \$2,000 at the very first Buzzards Bay Swim, hosted by the Buzzards Bay Coalition.

Pembroke resident and New Bedford native Dan Vasconcellos was one of those first swimmers. Back then, he remembers, the water in the outer harbor wasn't as clear as it is today. "You might have been able to see your hand in front of you. Now, the conditions are unbelievable."

Since that first Buzzards Bay Swim in 1994, the event has grown to attract more than 300 swimmers from communities across New England and beyond to the shores of New Bedford and Fairhaven each June. This year, you can be part of the Swim's storied history by signing up for the 25th Buzzards Bay Swim on Saturday, June 30 at www.savebuzzardsbay.org/swim.

Last year, swimmers raised \$135,000 for clean water in Buzzards Bay. For the 25th anniversary Swim, the bar is set higher than ever: swimmers will work to raise \$150,000, which will earn the Coalition a \$50,000 matching grant from the Fish

Family Foundation. All funds raised support the Coalition's work to restore and protect the Bay from threats such as nitrogen pollution, oil spills and disappearing forests, streams and wetlands.

The Swim is an exciting outdoor experience that welcomes swimmers of all abilities and fitness levels ages 11 and up. Swimmers complete a scenic 1.2-mile point-to-point open-water course from New Bedford's South End, past the iconic Butler Flats Lighthouse and New Bedford Hurricane Barrier. First-time and beginner swimmers can swim with a personal kayak or paddleboard escort for safety.



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Did You Know...

The Friends of the Millicent Library Are Having a First-Ever Limerick Contest!

Here's a challenge to make your head spin:

Write a limerick that makes us all grin.

Come up with a rhyme

Get it in right on time

And you'll have a good chance to win!

Enter as often as you like — all ages are welcome.

Deadline: March 29

Prizes will be awarded April 14



Entry form, rules and helpful hints available at:

The Millicent Library
45 Center St., Fairhaven
friendsofmillicentlibrary@gmail.com
www.millicentlibrary.org

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Acushnet puts new ambulance in service



Posted on Facebook on 2/23 by the Acushnet Fire/EMS: In January, 2017, we placed into service Rescue #1 which replaced an ambulance purchased in 2006. Today we place into service Rescue #2 which replaces an ambulance purchased in 2001. Two new ambulances in two years is a very big deal for which we are very, very thankful to the people of Acushnet. *Photos from Acushnet Fire/EMS Facebook page*



February 21, 2018: STATEMENT FROM FIRE CHIEF KEVIN GALLAGHER: "I am very pleased to report that the Town of Acushnet is in the process of purchasing a ladder truck from the Town of Lexington. This 100' E-One Cyclone (pre-piped) was built in 2000 and has been meticulously maintained by the Lexington Fire Department. Acushnet has never had a ladder truck before. This important piece of apparatus will provide a much safer working platform for our firefighters. Safety first! "On behalf of all the men and women of the department I want to thank the Acushnet Board of Selectmen for authorizing the \$40,000 payment. These tax dollars will be reimbursed by revenue collected from insurance companies for EMS transports thus reducing the burden to the taxpayer. We expect to take delivery of 'Acushnet Ladder 1' very soon. We will then train, train and train some more." *Photo from Acushnet Fire/EMS Facebook page*

Elections in Acushnet as ho-hum as it gets

By Beth David
Editor

Acushnet's elections are as ho-hum as it gets this year, with not a single contested race on the ballot, and one seat with no candidate at all.

Commissioner of Trust Funds has one three-year term up for grabs, with no one running for that seat.

All other races are uncontested: incumbent Kevin Gaspar for Select-board; incumbent Matthew Lopes for Board of Assessors; incumbent David Davignon for Board of Health; Craig

Sumner for a full three-year term on the School Committee; Jennifer Downing, the current School Committee appointee, to finish the remainder of an unexpired term ending 4/1/19; incumbent Bryan Deschamps for Planning Commissioner; incumbent Paul Fortin for Cemetery Board; Incumbent Diane Ferreira for Library Trustee and Jennifer Alves, for Library Trustee (two seats up for election); incumbent Chad Leclair for Park Commissioner; also for Park

Commissioner, Michael Matton to fill an expiring term on ending 4/6/20; and for moderator, Nicholas A. Gomes, to fill the remainder of an expiring term ending 4/6/20, a seat he holds now as an appointee.

The election will be held on Monday, 4/2/18. Last day to register to vote is Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at 8:00 PM

For more information, including how to conduct a write-in campaign, contact the Acushnet Town Clerk's office at 508-998-0200.



Who Makes the Magic?

A Nikommo Island Tale
With Bedtime Version
By Beth David

Available for Nook; and for Kindle and other ebook formats on Amazon.com **Only \$1.49**

For 10-year-old Mark Waters, nothing could be worse than no toys under the Christmas tree, until he learns from the Little People of Nikommo Island that there's more to Christmas than bicycles and board games. An aging theatrical neighbor, a snooty know-it-all cousin and some island lore make this little tale a great addition to your annual Christmas must-reads. Suitable for all ages. (9600 words; bedtime version, 2570 words). Visit www.Zorena.com for link to buy.

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Support the *Neighb News*. Any small amount will help. Just clip the coupon and send it with check or money order to *Fairhaven Neighborhood News*, 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719. Ask for a bumper sticker that says "I Support the *Neighb News*." And thank you for reading *the little paper with a big voice*.

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Fhvn Superintendent to community: We must work together

Fairhaven Superintendent of Schools Robert N. Baldwin posted this letter on the School Department website in response to the school shooting in Parkland, FL.

February 25, 2018

Dear Fairhaven School Community,

The unthinkable continues to happen, and as a result, everyone's sense of security becomes uncertain. In today's world, no community is immune to the ills of society, and there is no 100% promise that can be made that all tragedies can be prevented. With that sense of reality in mind, I do want to assure our school community that we have procedures in place to keep our schools safe. Our schools continue to work hard at refining our building emergency preparedness plans. These plans have been developed in coordination with our local police and fire departments and their extensive training and guidance have been at the forefront of our plans. Please be assured that preparedness for emergencies has been and continues to be a top priority in your schools. While no system is flawless, a continuous review of our procedures against the most up to date strategies for dealing with emergencies is continually ongoing to ensure the safety of our schools.

We are fortunate to have a very strong relationship between the School Department, Police Department, and Fire Department in our town. We continue to work closely with them to review existing safety protocols to determine what, if any, additional resources are needed to enhance the security of our school buildings. We also know that mental health and safety go hand in hand and

that it is essential to have these services in our schools. As a district, we have made the commitment to support the mental health needs of our student population by having school psychologists, guidance and school adjustment counselors, Licensed Clinical Social workers, and Board Certified Behavioral Analysts on staff to aid in both identifying concerns and supporting students.

While I do lead the district, there are no actions that I can take that can replace getting to know your school's principal, secretarial staff, custodial

We also know that
mental health and safety
go hand in hand and
that it is essential
to have these services
in our schools.

staff, nurse, and teachers. Ultimately, being safer and feeling safer is about relationships. Relationships of regard and respect foster a safer school culture. The sharing and passing on of information to the proper authority is the key to prevention. These conversations and relationships that are built at the local level will promote a safer school environment. Collectively, we are all the eyes, the ears, and the voice that if we see something and/or hear something, we must pass it on.

Our close and seamless relationship with the Fairhaven Police Department

aids us as we work together to track down and investigate any potential threats to our kids. Students have come to realize more and more that they play an integral role in ensuring the safety of our schools and have gotten very good about reporting any disturbing statements or threats made by their peers online or in person. This is essential and every report is investigated.

Unfortunately, situational awareness is now an essential life skill as events in the recent past have proven that dangers are not confined to our schools. We will continue to train our faculty and staff so that should the unthinkable occur, we will be as prepared as possible. We will continue to communicate with staff and students so that they are prepared to respond, but not so that they live in fear.

As parents it can be difficult to speak with children about tragedies such as these. This link from the American Psychological Association provides useful and practical help: <http://www.apa.org/topics/violence/school-shooting.aspx>. It is important to emphasize that although there are dangerous people in the world we cannot let fear define and control us.

We must work together to make our schools and community a safer place. Nothing is more important than the safety of our students and we will take all the necessary precautions to ensure the schools remain a secure environment to learn and grow.

Don't take any day for granted. Hug your children a little tighter and be vigilant with us to make our schools and community safer.

*Sincerely yours,
Dr. Robert Baldwin
Superintendent of Schools*



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Public Hearings/ Legal Notices

NOTE: All legal notices are available on the Neighbor News website, www.NeighborNews.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 Zoning Board of Appeals

The Fairhaven Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 6:00 PM in the Town Hall to consider the following petition(s):

NEW PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- Petitioner: Richard Tavares, RE: 33 Charity Steven's Lane, Plot 40, Lot 15C, Book 12085 and Page 52. 198-16: Special Permit required to have an in-law apartment in an RR District.
- Paul & Karen Goodhue, RE: 1 Hidden Drive, Plot 39, Lot 27, Book 3300 and Page 247. 198-16: Special Permit required for an in-law apartment in an RR District.
- Petitioner: Scott Carvalho, RE: 54 Oliver Street, Plot 37B, Lot 044, Book 11608 and Page 186. 198-18: Short 4' of required 10' side yard; 198-22 A: 20' over max of 700 sq. ft. for an accessory building.

RESCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- Petitioner: Patrick J. Carr, RE: 86 Middle Street, Plot 11, Lot 6E-7, Book 4268 and Page 127. 198-19: Special Permit required for fence above 6'.

Peter DeTerra, Chairman
2/22/18, 3/1/18

Fairhaven Public Schools Annual Budget Hearing on the FY'19 Budget

Fairhaven High School
Bernard F. Roderick Library
12 Huttleston Ave
Wednesday, March 7, 2018
6:30 p.m.

Fairhaven Conservation Commission

The Fairhaven Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on March 12, 2018 at 6:30 P.M. In the Fairhaven Town Hall, Purpose is for the Request for Determination of the following matters as required by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 131 Section 40 as amended.

NEW PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- Request for Determination Applicant Kevin Ribeiro Location 70 Oliver Street Plot 37B Lot 50 Purpose construct a retaining wall within the 100' buffer zone to BVV.
- Request for Determination Applicant Leroy L. Wood School Location 60 Sconticut Neck Road Plot 28 Lot 24B Purpose construct trails through the woodlands wetland areas behind school.

Jay Simmons, Chairman
3/1/18

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HAPPS: cont'd from page 5

Members Meeting, will be held on Mon., 3/19, at 6:30 p.m., Millicent Library, 45 Center St., Fairhaven, in the downstairs auditorium. Use Walnut Street entrance. Accessible.

Boating Safety Course

Need Your Boating Education Certificate? The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 65 is proud to offer *About Boating Safely*. This boat safety course is designed to be an introductory course to meet the boating education needs of recreational boaters.

This course will satisfy state requirements for mandatory boater education needed to obtain a boat license or safety certification.

Many boat insurance companies will offer discounts on boating insurance to boaters who successfully complete *About Boating Safely*.

This course includes a wide variety of information: General information about boats and maintenance; information on preparing for safe and enjoyable outings; Navigation rules and aids to navigation; Guidelines for operating your boat or Personal Watercraft (PWC); What to do in case of boating emergencies; State-specific laws and regulations you must follow

When: **Sat., 3/31, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: Course materials \$45.00**

Where: U.S.C.G. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 65, 80 Middle Street, Fairhaven. Register online at <http://a0130605.uscgaux.info/publiced.html>

Fairhaven Meetings

Board of Appeals

Tues., 3/6/18, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 3/12, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Economic Dev. Comm.

Thurs., 3/1, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Finance Committee

Thurs., 3/1, Arsene St., 7 p.m.

Thurs., 3/8, Arsene St., 7 p.m.

Thurs., 3/15, Arsene St., 7 p.m.

Planning Board

Tues., 3/13 Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 3/7, FHS Library, 6:30 p.m.

BUDGET HEARING

Selectboard

Mon., 3/12, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Acushnet Meetings

Agricultural Commission

Thurs., 2/22, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Board of Health

Tues,m 3/6, Parting Ways, 6 p.m.s

Planning Commission

Thurs., 3/1, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Public Safety Comm

Wed., 3/14, Town Hall, 10 a.m.

School Committee

Thurs., 3/1, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

Mon., 3/5, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

Superintendent Interviews

Selectbord

Tues., 3/6, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

Tues., 3/13, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

School buudget meeting with

FinCom, School Comm, town accountant

TIDE TABLE

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

	March 2018	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	1	0708	1934	0041*	1329*
Friday	2	0757	2022	0141*	1414*
Saturday	3	0845	2110	0232*	1449*
Sunday	4	0931	2155	0309*	1518*
Monday	5	1016	2242	0341*	1547*
Tuesday	6	1104	2331	0412*	1619*
Wednesday	7	1155	----	0449	1655
Thursday	8	0024	1249	0536	1743
Friday	9	0117	1341	0647	1847
Saturday	10	0209	1436	1008	1952
Sunday	11	0406	1639	----	1206

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

SELECT: cont'd from page 4

business, saying it would be “better for everybody.”

He said his competitor across the street is always looking for ways to complain and sometimes the complaints are just not true. He also said that other businesses are violating rules of their businesses, but only he is being single out.

Mr. Rees suggested that the board contact the police department about prohibiting parking near the fire lane.

The neighbors should not be blocking the fire lane, said Mr. Espindola.

Mr. El Rifai said he was willing to put up a chain at his own expense, but Mr. Espindola said the fire and police departments should decide.

Mr. Espindola also said it did not matter who was complaining, and noted that Mr. El Rifai's business was way over the number of cars he should have had, by 77%.

“You have to stay on top of this,” said Mr. Espindola, adding that it was more than the competition that was complaining it was the neighbors.

Either way, “If you follow the rules,” he said, there is no problem.

“We don't want to keep bringing you in,” said Mr. Rees.

Mr. El Rifai said he just wanted to focus on his business and not be stressed during the day worrying about complaints and inspectors. And again mentioned other businesses that are not following the rules, in his estimation.

Mr. Rees said it was not about other places. If the town gets a complaint about him or other places, he said, the town will “take appropriate action.”

“If you have a specific concern, call it in,” said Mr. Espindola.

The board told Mr. El Rifai that they would take no action against his license, but that the town would continue to conduct “periodic inspections” of the business.

In another matter, the board held a public hearing and voted to allow Ocean State Job Lot to sell beer and wine at its store on Berdon Way. The measure will still have to be approved by the legislature.

Store manager Heather Santos, and Attorney Lisa Adelman told the board that the company sells beer and wine at six other stores. Job Lot owns and operates 129 stores in New England, New York and New Jersey, with 50

being in Massachusetts.

The store will have a separate area for alcohol sales, will not allow minors to work in that area or ring up alcohol sales, and will make sure all employees are TIPS certified.

The store will only sell private label, specialty niche brands.

Hours for selling alcohol will be the same as store hours except on Sundays, when alcohol sales cannot begin until 10 a.m. by law.

Mr. Murphy said he was supportive of the move and that he was “really happy you are in our community.”

Steven Benoit, a Fairhaven resident and Job Lot employee, told the board that he overheard Ms. Santos saying she would be at the meeting, so he went to show support. He noted that he was not asked to go by the company.

...the board supported the creation of a gift account to start the Bobby Bruso Scholarship Fund. Mr. Bruso, 55, died this month.

Mr. Benoit told the board that he was impressed with the “quality people” that the organization hires.

“I don't understand it, for a business that does not pay that well,” he said, adding that most of his co-workers show good judgement.

The company, he said, has “been a good citizen of this town, and are “very professional.”

The board approved the request.

In other business, the board supported the creation of a gift account to start the Bobby Bruso Scholarship Fund. Mr. Bruso, 55, died this month after about two months in the hospital.

He worked as the town's Cable Access director for Community Access/Government Access cable TV. The position had been vacant for a long time and Mr. Bruso upgraded equipment, introduced livestreaming, and revamped the way on-demand meetings are accessed online.

“In his short time here, he had a

pretty significant impact,” said Mr. Espindola.

“His memory, his name will be announced at every graduation, so his memory, his legacy, will remain in Fairhaven,” said Mr. Murphy.

The board did not vote to fund the scholarship, but to set up the account so the public can fund it. The board did not discuss who would administer the account.

The board also voted to have Mr. Rees draft a letter of support for the latest recommendation for rail service from the Southcoast to Boston. The Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (DSEIR) recommends a route through Middleborough from New Bedford and Fall River that uses existing tracks. It falls short of the “full build” plan that the region hopes to get eventually. The new plan is being sold as a stop-gap measure to provide some rail service to the region until the full build option can be constructed.

One of the board's strategic goals, identified last fall, was to promote rail service to Boston, noted Mr. Murphy.

Mr. Espindola said it was a “Catch 22,” though, because if the new plan goes through, it might further delay the better full build option,

“It's not as ideal as a direct route,” said Mr. Espindola, “but...”

In other business:

- The board tabled until its next meeting a request to appoint Gary Lavalette to the Rogers School Study Committee so Mr. Rees can research the creation of the committee to find out how many members it was originally supposed to have.
- Appointed newly appointed water superintendent Jeff Furtado as the town's representative on the Mattapoisett River Valley Water District Commission. The appointment is a joint decision by the Board of Public Works and the Selectboard. The BPW had already recommended Mr. Furtado for the position.
- Accepted the town report with some minor word changes.
- Went over operating budget numbers and the Capital Improvement plan for FY19, but held off on voting until the next meeting.
- Approved the Town Meeting warrant with minor changes. ●●●

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ENTERTAINMENT:

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