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# Fixing a 'crown jewel'



**Jeff Shelkey of Pomroy Associates demonstrates opening one of the 25 newly installed, historically accurate reproduction sash windows at the historic town hall in Sandwich. Each window is about 11 feet tall, weighs 400 pounds and uses traditional weight and pulley systems.** PHOTOS BY MERRILY CASSIDY/CAPE COD TIMES

## Cape Cod town restored a nearly 200-year-old landmark

**Rachael Devaney**
Cape Cod Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

SANDWICH — There was a time when opening one window at the historic town hall took the strength of two people, according to Jeff Shelkey of Pomroy Associates.

Now, after the installation of 25 new windows designed to be historically accurate reproductions, it only takes the tips of two fingers, Shelkey said, as he demonstrated the feat.

"All of these windows are about 11 feet tall and are 400 pounds each," he said. "They now have enough counterweight to them that you can lift the window and push it down. It's quiet. It's airtight."

Shelkey's team oversaw much of the most recent historic renovation to the 1834 town hall building, which is also known to many as the town's "crown jewel." A celebration of the completed renovation at 130 Main St. was held Nov. 12.

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**Residents joined Sandwich officials and project managers to celebrate the completion of the restorations made to the historic town hall. The restorations included new exterior paint to match the original colors, new historically accurate windows and other updates. The town hall was built in 1834.**

## How much did MA candidates spend on midterms?

**Margie Cullen**
USA TODAY NETWORK

Republican Mike Minogue spent nearly $19 million on his campaign to become the next Massachusetts governor – but he still lost.

At about $18.8 million, he spent over $10 million more than Gov. Maura Healey, according to campaign spending numbers released by the Massachusetts Office of Campaign and Political Finance Nov. 16, who spent about $8.6 million. (Unenrolled candidate Andrea James spent much less than both at $41,862.)

But he was one of just a couple of candidates who lost despite spending more than their opponent.

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## Neighbors Fund kicks off 2026 holiday campaign

**Linda Murphy**
Cape Cod Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Cape Cod Times Neighbors Fund is kicking off its 2026 holiday campaign at a time when many in our community face the decision to buy food or pay for heat.

Now in its 90th year, the Neighbors Fund, formerly known as the Needy Fund, has a legacy of helping those in need with temporary emergency expenses such as heating, rent, utilities, childcare, unexpected car repairs, certain types of medical bills and food.

The fundraising goal for this year's holiday campaign is $1.6 million.

"We are entering what we call the 'eat or heat' season, when seniors and

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