



# Fairhaven

# Neighborhood News

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



The little paper  
with a big voice!

Volume 15, Issue 15 • April 9, 2020

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

## Palms delivered with social distancing



Wearing a protective mask, Father David Lupo, SSCC, sprays a disinfectant on palms that he and parishioners of St. Mary's Church in Fairhaven would soon pass out on Palm Sunday, 4/5/20, using a drive-through system to maintain the six-foot social distancing protocol recommended during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Photo by Glenn C. Silva.*

### 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.

Another week has gone by during this crazy pandemic time. Unfortunately, Fairhaven has seen two residents die from COVID-19 this week.

The stay-at-home compliance around here is spotty at best. Yes, there's less traffic, and fewer people out. You can see that because so many businesses are closed. But when you do actually end up in a grocery store or pharmacy, it is amazing how many people are there.

Sciticut Neck Road looks pretty much the same as always. It's five miles long, has lots of houses all along the way, so I guess that shouldn't be a surprise. And, yes, I do realize that I had to be out and about just to notice these things. But, I work from home, and I have been seriously limiting my trips out, so I'm not contributing to that traffic the way I used to. News gathering, however, is an essential service, so I am out, and so is Glenn. He's taking pictures, documenting this time in our lives with his camera, while I document it with words.

It saddens me a great deal that we lost two people to this virus. It saddens me even more that it is inevitable that we will lose more.

And, here's a hint for people who are trying so desperately to believe that A) they won't get the virus, or if that fails, then B) they will be okay anyway.

You can get it. No matter who you are, no matter how old, no matter how healthy, and there is no guarantee on how well you will survive it. It's a beast of a virus.

And, please, please stop asking if the person who died was elderly, or had an underlying condition. Please just stop trying to find a reason why it could not be you. It could be you. When we say the virus is especially dangerous to older people and people with underlying conditions, we're not saying that so those of you who are young and strong and healthy can dismiss those "other" people as disposable. The point is to alert the people who are at risk to be extra careful; to alert the people who love them to look out for them; to make sure the last years of their lives are not stolen by a virus that does not discriminate.

Stay safe, stay away. Keep your kisses and hugs to yourself, or at least until you disinfect. Just do it. Stay home as much as you can. Go to the grocery store, the pharmacy, for a walk. But stay away from other people as you do it.

Just do it, for your sake and the sake of our community, our neighbors, ourselves.

Until next week then...see ya,



Beth David, Publisher

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

# COVID-19 (Coronavirus) update: Two die in Fairhaven

By Beth David  
Editor

Fairhaven has suffered its first official COVID-19 deaths this week. In a press release on Sunday, 4/4, Fairhaven Health Agent Mary Freire-Kellogg said the town was notified by the Massachusetts Department of Health on Sunday.

“Both residents were elderly and had advanced medical conditions,” wrote Ms. Freire-Kellogg. “The Town would like to offer condolences to the families of these Fairhaven citizens.”

According to the state’s website, two additional deaths were recorded, a man and a woman, both in their 70s, in Bristol County on April 5.

The press release also states that the town has been notified of a total of 15 positive cases of COVID-19.

According to the town’s website, seven are active cases that are being followed by the public health nurse.

“Our Public Health Nurse is in contact with these individuals and is following all procedures recommended by DPH and Centers for Disease Control (CDC),” reads the press release.

The town will not release any identifiable information on residents who have tested positive.

Ms. Freire-Kellogg also encourages residents to continue taking precautions, such as “proper hand-washing, cleaning and sanitizing their homes, cars, shopping carts and any other touchpoints where COVID-19 could be contracted or spread.”

She also asked residents to practice social distancing of six feet between people and no group gatherings of more than 10 people.

“It’s important to connect with isolated people or seniors who are alone, as well as seek help if you find you are anxious or in a crisis situation,” wrote Ms. Freire-Kellogg in the press release, adding that resources have been posted to the webpage.

For daily updates on cases in Fairhaven, visit <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/coronavirus>

For information from the state, visit <https://www.mass.gov/covid19>

As of press time, Massachusetts had 15,202 confirmed cases of COVID-19; and 81,344 individuals have been tested.

Nationally, the US had 374,329 cases, and 12,064 deaths by press time (per [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)). New York state remains the hardest hit, with 5,563 deaths; New Jersey is second with 1,232 deaths (per New York Times). Massachusetts has had 356 COVID-19 deaths (per [mass.gov](http://mass.gov)).

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker announced on Tuesday that the state would send \$800 million to buoy the healthcare system, with \$400 million going directly to hospitals, and the rest going to nursing homes and other healthcare providers.

Gov. Baker said that other revenue streams had dried up for healthcare institutions as they were forced to stop all elective surgeries and other procedures to concentrate on gearing up for COVID-19 patients.

The state has also launched a program to allow for rapid on-site testing of residents in long-term care facilities.

Families of residents in long term care facilities and rest homes have not been able to visit their loved ones in weeks. The state has set up a

COVID: cont'd on page 14



## Free pick-up and drop-off service

Amid ongoing concern about COVID-19 (coronavirus), we want to communicate our business continuity plans to ensure that our employees and customers can conduct business in a safe and effective manner.

A&A Auto will continue to be open throughout the COVID-19 situation until we have announced otherwise. Our staff have guidelines they have to follow, such as using gloves to handle your vehicles in our service department, and sanitizing the vehicles on our lot that are for sale, pre and post test drives. We are monitoring our staff and sanitizing our establishment consistently for your health and safety.

We would also like to offer FREE PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF SERVICE for our local area, for the peace-

of-mind of our loyal customers. This service is for anything and everything you need for your vehicle, including oil changes and inspection stickers. Nothing is too big or too small.

We realize that some customers are in need of auto services, and we also understand that we need to be responsible as a community in order to fight this unfortunate situation that we are facing regarding COVID-19.

So please give Alex a call at 508-509-2292 for any service you need, and we will pick up your vehicle, service it, and return it to you, without you having to leave the safety of your home. It is our privilege to serve you, and we wish the best of health to you and your families.



**HOURS: Mon.–Fri., 8 a.m.–7 p.m. • Sat., 8 a.m.–2 p.m.  
196 Huttleston Ave. • Fairhaven, MA • 508-509-2292**

# BPW talks road repair and piping plovers

By Mary Macedo

## Neighb News Correspondent

At its 3/25 meeting the Fairhaven Board of Public Works discussed a variety of issues, including the annual debate about piping plovers, and the annual struggle against the numbers for road repair (see 4/2/20 issue for more from the 3/25 meeting).

The board conceded that there are lots of potholes throughout town.

"Tis the season," said chairperson Brian Wotton, adding that he understood roads need to get fixed soon because this is the time of year where more traffic starts on West Island.

"Good thing you got those stop signs there," said Robert "Hoppy" Hobson. "Thanks to you."

"Other people like to take credit for that," Mr. Wotton said.

Board member Cameron Durant said he agreed and that he was taken aback when someone else took credit for the stop signs on West Island.

"Just so everyone does know, this board and this board only got those stop signs on West Island," Mr. Wotton said.

It took four years, multiple traffic

studies, engineer reports and favors to get those signs there, he said.

"Not one other person in town, despite what you may have heard at a debate meeting, did anything to do with those stop signs," Mr. Wotton said. "The credit goes to this board for the continuing pushing of Mr. Furtado to get that done. Mr. Furtado is 100% solely responsible for those stop signs on West Island, no other person in town should ever open their mouth and take responsibility for that and shame on you for doing that."

In another matter the board discussed the endangered Piping Plovers. Mr. Furtado explained that the board needed to approve the money to be spent to close off an area of beach for the nesting birds.

Mr. Hobson asked why the BPW is responsible for paying. Board member Frank Coelho also questioned it.

Mr. Furtado explained that it is mandated by the state that the town fund the protection of the species because they are endangered.

Mr. Coelho asked why the state did not pay for it.

Mr. Furtado explained that for the past three years the BPW has had to pay for it because the nests are on town property. The state only pays if the birds nest on state property.

Mr. Coelho and Mr. Hobson both said that they did not think the town should be paying.

Mr. Hobson said he had not seen the birds or nests on the town property, so how can they be sure that the birds have not moved.

Mr. Durant suggested that the board monitor the nests and if they move from town property to contact the state immediately so the town would not have to pay.

The board voted 3-2 to approve the money to protect the Piping Plovers, with Mr. Hobson and Mr. Coelho voting "no."

Mr. Wotton said the only reason he voted yes was because it is mandated by the state.

"If the state wants it, it should come out of their pocket," Mr. Wotton said.

The board also discussed an issue with political signs on public ways.

Before the discussion started

BPW: cont'd on page 20

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# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## CANCELLATIONS

*Editor's note: All non-essential businesses in Massachusetts have been closed until May 4, and all gatherings are also canceled. People are allowed to shop for necessities, such as groceries or medications, can get take-out at restaurants, and go to the bank and other essential services.*

*We will use our Happenings pages to give people ways to pass the time while they are hunkered down at home, and to inform you of events that are scheduled for later in the spring and in the summer.*

## Classmates sought

The Class of 1970 of Fairhaven High School is having their 50th Reunion on Saturday, September 12th at Century House in Acushnet. The following members are still missing: Selma Blair, Marc Blum, Gary Cournoyer, Claire Ford, William Faulkner, Beverly Luz, Lynn Davies Roderick, Debra Chausse Silvia, Donna Sowa-Ashworth, Diane Mayo Zosiak and Diane Perrault Hurley.

If you know an address would you please email to: [sdbkg2554@yahoo.com](mailto:sdbkg2554@yahoo.com) or call 774-202-4558. Thank you and hope to see you there!

## Teddy Bear Hunt

Residents of Fairhaven have started to participate in the Teddy Bear hunt. They have placed Teddy Bears in their windows and strategic places in their yards. Parents trying to find ways to get the kids out of the house, but still maintain social distancing, will especially enjoy this fun and harmless pastime. Local home owners are encouraged to join the fun by displaying a Teddy Bear in the window. See page 7 for some streets.

## No Sunrise Service

With great reluctance and with an abundance of caution 81st Annual Easter Ecumenical Sunrise Service at Ft. Phoenix has been canceled, potentially to be rescheduled.

Easter Sunrise Service at Fort Phoenix has been a shared experience for Christians for 80 years. We gather in the night as one body sharing one faith, only seeing our diversity as the light dawns. Hundreds of people have come out every year from dozens of churches.

Whether it be raining, snowing or clear, warm or very cold, it never deterred the faithful.

However, though wars, weather and recessions could not stop the gathering, this year of COVID-19 does. With government and medical officials pleading with us as a nation, state and community not to gather in groups larger than 10, we will not be there this weekend. We may plan for a great gathering when all this has passed and we can gather again and celebrate our own physical resurrection from the fear and isolation of our time spent sheltered and away from family and friends.

Though we may not be gathering in person this weekend we can be in the spirit. In Christ's own words, "I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one, as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. (John 17:21).

Remember our faith and hope is in Christ for the very reason we celebrate Easter, it's Resurrection Day and we serve a living Christ!

God Bless you all and may you experience a wonderful Easter service, but even more so a wondrous encounter with God!

*Rev. David A. Lima, Executive Minister, Inter-Church Council of Greater New Bedford*

## Elastics Needed

Cathy Melanson, formerly of Emma Jean's Bakery, and her family have been making masks for healthcare professionals at Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston. Ms. Melanson said she could always use some elastic, 14" and 1/8", any color. Cotton material is also appreciated. Just drop off (no contact necessary) in the milk box outside the black gate near the driveway at 110 Adams St., Fairhaven (see story on page 6).

## Community Garden

Have you ever wanted to try gardening but didn't know where to start? Perhaps you're interested in saving money by growing your own organic vegetables? Maybe your yard is too small or too shady for a garden? Or maybe, you just want to be part of a "growing green" community?

If you've answered yes to any of these questions, you're in luck. The

Fairhaven Community Garden has garden beds available at three locations in town: East Fairhaven Elementary School, Hastings Middle School and Wood Elementary School. The annual fee is \$10 per 4x8 foot bed. All gardeners agree to use organic practices only.

If you are interested or have a question, visit our website at [fairhavencommunitygarden.org](http://fairhavencommunitygarden.org) where you'll find more information and the gardening application, or you can email the site coordinator at [sitecoordinator@fairhavencommunitygarden.org](mailto:sitecoordinator@fairhavencommunitygarden.org).

## Amazon Kids Free

Amazon is offering lots of free content suitable for children during the COVID-19 pandemic. Visit [https://www.amazon.com/gp/video/storefront/ref=atv\\_hm\\_hom\\_1\\_c\\_ZWYNDQ\\_fMH151\\_1\\_1?contentId=freeforall&rchId=freeforall](https://www.amazon.com/gp/video/storefront/ref=atv_hm_hom_1_c_ZWYNDQ_fMH151_1_1?contentId=freeforall&rchId=freeforall)

## Autism Patch FR

The Fairhaven Police Union New England Police Benevolent Association will be selling custom patches in honor of Autism Awareness Month throughout April.

Patches will be available for purchase over the next few weeks and money raised through the sales will be donated to a local Autism program, which will be determined later this month. Some Fairhaven Police officers will wear the patch on their uniforms during this time as well to help spread awareness about autism and autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Those interested in purchasing a patch should send a self-addressed, stamped envelope along with a **check or money order made payable to the NE Police Benevolent Association.**

**Patches cost \$10** and can be purchased by mailing a check to: Fairhaven Police Union, Autism Awareness Patch, 1 Bryant Lane, Fairhaven, MA 02719

Due to social distancing efforts, residents will not be able to purchase the patches directly from the police department or with cash. The Fairhaven Police Department is limiting public access to the police station as a precaution against the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

HAPPS: cont'd on page 21

# Melanson family makes masks for HC workers

By Beth David  
Editor

Many people are answering the call to help each other during the COVID-19 pandemic. Cathy Melanson, formerly of Emma Jean's Bakery, took to Facebook to thank her various family members for the variety of ways they are contributing to help the community get through this difficult time. From making masks for healthcare workers, to helping each other out with childcare, to continuing to work in their various fields that provide food and medical care to people, the Melanson clan is doing their part.

"During this time of uncertainty, I am proud of my family for being helpers to our community in its time of need," wrote Ms. Melanson on Facebook. "My daughter asked me to sew her and her coworkers some cloth masks as their PPE supplies continue to decline and this was least I could do to help."

Her daughter Sammie works at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Ms. Melanson said, and is caring for patients who have COVID-19. Ms. Melanson said her daughter asked to keep the masks coming, and so she is continuing to make them.

"We could always use elastics, 1/4"



or 1/8" any color," wrote Ms. Melanson in an email (see listing on page 5 for how to donate).

Ms. Melanson also named her grandchildren in her post, one graduating from high school, one graduating from college, and hoped that they might actually have

graduation and senior prom, although that seems increasingly unlikely as the days go by.

"If we all work together, hopefully we can get back to a bit more normalcy," wrote Ms. Melanson.



TOP: Workers on the overnight shift in the Emergency Department at Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston pose for a picture, keeping Boston Strong, Brigham Strong, and wearing masks made and donated by Cathy Melanson and family of Fairhaven. Ms. Melanson's daughter Sammie works in the department and asked her mother to help out by making masks as supplies were running low at B&W. LEFT, L-R: Kellie (back row), Sammie, Kam, Jenna. Sammie is Cathy's daughter. *Photos submitted.* ABOVE: Some of the colorful masks made by Cathy Melanson and her family. *Photo courtesy of Cathy Melanson.* For a fun two-minute video, "CoronaSeuss," created by the B&W Emergency Department staff, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=a4ABC0mtGxc&app=desktop>

# Take the kids on a Teddy Bear Hunt



Residents on John Street, Teal Circle, Paul Street, and Timothy Street (across from the Wood School) have answered the call in a BIG WAY to help parents who are taking their kids out on a Teddy Bear Hunt. It's been a fun thing for parents to take their kids out for a ride, or a walk in the neighborhood and look for Teddy Bears in windows, on fences, or other places in people's yards. Other neighborhoods are also participating. We have it on good authority that you can spot at least one on Judson Drive (off Gellette Road in East Fairhaven), Brae Road (near Wood School) and Reservation Road (off Scoticut Neck Road), and Dogwood Street (on West Island). Also keep an eye out for penguins and monkeys, and...well, who knows what else? Happy hunting, everyone! *Photos courtesy of Erica Gaudreau, John Street neighborhood.*

## Custom Auto Sales & Service

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As we all persevere through these difficult days and are conscientiously making an effort to halt the spread of this virus that has shaken our lives to the core, let us view this time of isolation as an opportunity to keep ourselves and our loved ones safe. Let us try to assist those who have been financially affected if possible and keep those who have been physically affected in our thoughts and prayers. I believe that we will come through this stronger with a greater appreciation for what we have taken for granted in the past.

You have the choice to vote by absentee ballot rather than voting at the polls on May 18th. For information on how to apply for an absentee ballot, call the Town Clerk at 508-979-4023 ext. #3 or visit <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleabsentee/absidx.htm>.

**Please vote for Keith Silvia for  
Fairhaven Selectman on 5/18  
Have a safe and happy Easter!**

Paid for by Keith Silvia

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## CANCELLATIONS

*Editor's note: All non-essential businesses in Massachusetts have been closed (see page 3), and all gatherings are also canceled. People are allowed to shop for necessities, such as groceries or at the pharmacy, can get take-out at restaurants, and go to the bank and other essential services.*

*We will use our Happenings pages to give people ways to pass the time while they are hunkered down at home, and to inform you of events that are scheduled for later in the spring and in the summer.*

## NBPS free lunches

Ne Bedford Public Schools Food Services is providing "Grab and Go" meals during district closure and until further notice. Pre-packed school breakfasts and lunches will be available FREE to all students k12 in the city of New Bedford.

Students 18 years and younger may take one (1) lunch and one (1) breakfast for the next day. Meals will be available 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at the following serving locations:

Alfred J. Gomes Elementary School, Campbell Elementary School, Carney Academy Elementary School, Hayden-McFadden Elementary School, Keith Middle School, Lincoln Elementary School, Roosevelt Middle School. All meals must be taken and consumed onsite. Acushnet students may also use this service.

## For Artists

The New Bedford Art Museum wants to know what you are creating. As a Museum it is important to us to archive the artworks created by our community members in this moment of crisis. What are you making while practicing social distancing? How can you express how your feelings, actions, and beliefs are being affected by COVID-19.

Snap a photo of your work, post it on Instagram, and tag us @nbam\_aw — help us create an online archive of our community's reactions to COVID-19. There may be a Museum exhibition in your future...

Find us at [https://www.instagram.com/nbam\\_aw/](https://www.instagram.com/nbam_aw/)

## Resources for Artists

COVID-19 is hitting artists and

musicians as independent workers hard. NBAM is gathering resources to support artists in our community. List updated weekly.

Visit: <https://newbedfordart.org/artist-resource-list/>

New Bedford Art Museum is located in downtown New Bedford at 608 Pleasant Street. Visit <https://newbedfordart.org>

## Virtual Exhibit

New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks! is proud to launch our virtual exhibition of the 2020 Teen Artist Internship Program Exhibition! Swing by our website to celebrate our TAIP Artists.

Visit [newbedfordart.org/taip](https://newbedfordart.org/taip) on April 9, to view the exhibition, Steppin' Out 2020, and learn more about the artists.

## Whaling Museum From Home

The New Bedford Whaling Museum has released an expanded website to give people a way to "Museum from Home." The new section on the Museum's website is complete with trivia activities, virtual tours, and behind-the-scenes talks with expert staff. The content includes something for everyone, including parents looking for fun and educational activities to do with their children, teachers in search of content for their virtual classrooms, and aficionados looking to quench their art and history thirst. The Museum has also released exclusive activities on its social media channels to complement the online content. Go to [www.whalingmuseum.org/Museum-from-home](http://www.whalingmuseum.org/Museum-from-home).

"We know now, more than ever, that a Museum is not limited to or defined by its physical campus," said Amanda McMullen, President and CEO. "We have metaphorically broken down our walls to bring you content and activities you can explore from the home that will inspire learning, creativity, and contemplation."

For the safety of visitors, volunteers, and staff, the New Bedford Whaling Museum closed to the public on March 13, 2020 amid the public health concerns related to the coronavirus. The museum will reopen

as soon as it is safe to do so and under the guidance of Federal and State agencies. Essential staff, including the security and facilities team, continues to be on site daily to ensure the safety of the campus and Collection.

## Zeiterion Classes

We recognize the extraordinary connection the arts bring to us during difficult times. And although we can't be together at our beloved Zeiterion during this brief intermission in live programming, we are happy to offer you fun arts education activities and streaming entertainment to enjoy at home. You are the heart and soul of The Z, and we can't wait to see you again soon!

### Creative Virtual Classroom

These virtual classes are part of The Z's commitment to upholding its mission, especially in these challenging times. Join us on any device, and pay what you can! Visit <https://zeiterion.org/classes/> Cost: All classes are pay what you can. Email Rosemary Gill at [rgill@zeiterion.org](mailto:rgill@zeiterion.org) for more information.

- **4/9, 6-7 p.m. Escape Through Poetry** Poetry has always been there for us during times of crisis and solitude. Join in for this virtual poetry workshop as we explore the poetry of connection – to nature, to our homes, and to each other. Enroll by 4:30 p.m. on 4/9.
- **4/15, 6-7 p.m. Virtual Bachata Dance class.** Bachata is a style of dance that originated in the Dominican Republic and is danced widely all over the world but not identically, let's learn the basics.
- **4/16, 23, 30, 7-8 p.m. Virtual Intro to Theatre for Social Justice** A three-week introduction to theater of the oppressed, as designed by Augusto Boal. This workshop offers participants an opportunity to re-imagine their communities, social interactions and power in a situation that has left many feeling powerless. Through Boal games, warm ups and physical theatrical action, workshop participants will work individually and with their peers to set up physical scenarios that mirror what they, their communities and possibly the world are currently experiencing. .

## CANCELLATIONS

*Editor's note: All non-essential businesses in Massachusetts have been closed at least May 4 (see page 3), and all gatherings are also canceled. People are allowed to shop for necessities, such as groceries or at the pharmacy, can get take-out at restaurants, and go to the bank and other essential services.*

*We will use our Happenings pages to give people ways to pass the time while they are hunkered down at home, and to inform you of events that are scheduled for later in the spring and in the summer.*

## COVID Diary

How can we at the Westport Historical Society help you through these worrying and uncertain times? During the last few weeks we have all experienced the rapid shuttering of our personal lives, our professional lives and community life.

Although our staff are observing the stay-at-home advisory, we do not believe that this is a time to close down our activities but rather to step up to the challenge and do whatever we can to support our members, local businesses, and schools.

It has become clear that we need to re-assess the viability of some of our regular public offerings. Many new and exciting ideas are being generated with a focus on activities that allow for social distancing.

We welcome your suggestions or requests for activities during this time.

*Jenny O'Neill, Executive Director,  
Westport Historical Society.*

To begin with we offer the following projects to you:

### Westport Covid-19 Community Diary

Can you describe how your personal situation has changed since the Covid-19 crisis hit our world? Do you remember the day when you realized everything was different?

What is happening in Westport that is giving you hope for our future? What is making you feel positive?

The Covid-19 pandemic must be chronicled from a local and personal perspective. Today we launch our *Westport Covid-19 Community Diary* in an effort to create a primary source for the future. This is a momentous

time as we witness history in the making. Our goal is to capture the many details from a local and personal perspective. We ask that some of you volunteer to document your own experiences through journal keeping, photography, art, poetry, or by saving newspaper clippings or any local coronavirus-related literature.

Visit <http://wpthistory.org/westport-covid-19-community-diary/> to complete short survey.

Join our facebook group: "Westport Covid-19 Community Diary."

### Coming soon

A little history to distract you from the present! Calling all writers and local historians!

We will help you overcome your sense of isolation by keeping you connected to our local history via alternative means. Look out for a special e-newsletter, **The Bell School Bugle**, designed to distract you from the worries of the present. If you have stories, memories, or interesting old photos that you would like to share in this e-newsletter, please contact us at [westporthistory@westporthistory.net](mailto:westporthistory@westporthistory.net)

### Coming soon to a forest near you!

We will provide you with an outdoor experience to look forward to — one which we hope can take place even under strict social distancing regulations.

Were there wolves in Westport? Why are there stone walls in the woods? How did early settlers make use of trees? **The Handy House Heritage Trail** will provide an interpretive experience for visitors, exploring the history of our forests and landscape. We are testing different modes of interpretation such as signage, a brochure and smartphone technology and YOUR feedback will be key. We'll let you know when the trail is ready.

## Food Pantry is Open

The Shepherd's Pantry is still open to help those who need to get food. We want to assure our regular families, and new families alike, that we are taking every precaution to make sure our handling of the food is safe and sanitary. The safety of our volunteers and for all who depend on the pantry is paramount.

Every volunteer wears a mask and

gloves; we make sure are clients stand no less than six feet apart in the parking lot and only two clients are permitted in the building at any one time. We are also organized to make your trip quick and efficient.

If you have any questions, please call the pantry from Wednesday to Friday, 508-863-9389 to confirm hours of operation. The pantry is open from 9–11 a.m. on Saturdays, at Long Plain United Methodist Church, 1215 Main St., Acushnet.

## Women's Suffrage Teach-In

From the Brandeis University Women's Studies Research Center, [wsrc@brandeis.edu](mailto:wsrc@brandeis.edu)

It took 72 years for us to win the right to vote. Attendees at the January 2020 Suffrage Teach-In at Brandeis learned about the mobilization from 1848 at Seneca Falls to 1920, and passage of the 19th Amendment.

Visit <https://ensemble.brandeis.edu/hapi/v1/contents/permalinks/Qw9k8F5C/view>

### Book suggestions

WSRC Librarian Abby Rosenberg recommends excellent books and movies to enjoy while practicing social distancing from the comfort of your own home! Both are available as audiobooks.

- *"Lucy Stone: An Unapologetic Life" by Sally G. McMillen.* Lucy Stone. The first woman from Massachusetts to earn a degree, a pivotal leader in the fight for both abolition and gender equality, her achievements marked the beginning of the women's rights movement and helped to lay the groundwork for the eventual winning of women's suffrage. "I believe that the influence of women will save the country before every other power," Lucy Stone
- *"Why They Marched; Untold Stories of the Women Who Fought for the Right to Vote" by Susan Ware* Looking beyond the national leadership of the suffrage movement, an acclaimed historian gives voice to the thousands of women from different backgrounds, races, and religions whose local passion and protest resounded throughout the land.

# Recipe of the Week

## Debdoozie's Blue Ribbon Chili

- 2 pounds ground beef
- 1/2 onion, chopped
- 1 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic salt
- 2 1/2 cups tomato sauce
- 1 (8 ounce) jar salsa
- 4 tablespoons chili seasoning mix
- 1 (15 oz) can light red kidney beans
- 1 (15 oz) can dark red kidney beans

In a large saucepan over medium heat, combine the ground beef and the onion and saute for 10 minutes or until meat is browned and onion is tender. Drain grease, if desired.

Add ground black pepper, garlic salt, tomato sauce, salsa, chili seasoning mix and kidney beans. Mix well, reduce heat to low and simmer for at least an hour.

Serve with sliced jalapeno chile peppers and crackers or cornbread.

*From allrecipes.com*

# Fort Phoenix Reservation expanded

*Press Release*

The Buzzards Bay Coalition, working with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), has preserved woodlands on the northern border of the Fort Phoenix State Reservation in Fairhaven, one of the Bay's most popular waterfront parks.

The newly preserved woodlands that border the state reservation have long been used by the community as an extension of the state reservation. Trails that run through the woodlands, from Doane Street to the state reservation, are heavily used by local residents. However, before the purchase, the woods were owned by the utility company Eversource, and they might have been developed into house lots.

Recognizing the public importance of this property, the Coalition has worked for more than a decade to negotiate the addition of these lands to the state park.

Fort Phoenix State Reservation contains a beloved beach and park. It also serves as the finish location for the Coalition's annual Buzzards Bay

Swim. (The 27th swim is scheduled for June 27, 2020.)

"The woods at Fort Phoenix hold a special place in my heart and it is extremely gratifying to see them permanently protected," said Mark Rasmussen, President of the Coalition. "My third grade teacher at nearby Rogers School would take us on walks as a class to these woods to explore the vernal pools and trees. It's one of the many places where I fell in love with nature and the lands surrounding the Bay.

"Now future generations will continue to have similar experiences at Fort Phoenix — not just on the beach, but in these neighborhood woods," Rasmussen said.

The land acquisition is the result of an ongoing partnership between the Coalition and the state, said Allen Decker, the Coalition's Director of Land Protection. "We are grateful to our partners in the Department of Conservation and Recreation for their support and for their patience in seeing this effort through to a successful conclusion," Decker said.

**FORT: cont'd on page 21**

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## To share a recipe with your neighbors

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fax to 508-991-5580; email to [neighbnews@comcast.net](mailto:neighbnews@comcast.net)  
(Email preferred)



## Pre-order your Easter Goodies

In an effort to prepare for the upcoming holiday we would like to offer a preorder for chocolate bunnies. This will allow us to supply our freshly made products to everyone. We know that we are a tradition for most local families and we hope this year is no different. We understand the importance of social distancing at this time and encourage

you to use our website or call ahead to our Fairhaven location to place an order to minimize time in the store.

We will continue to adhere to strict cleaning procedures and adjust as new information is received. Your continued support of our 92 year old local business means everything to us. Stay safe, wash your hands, and eat chocolate

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www.stantcu.com • 508-996-5492



My name is **Mike Ristuccia** and I am a candidate for the Board of Health. As a means of introduction for those who do not know me, I am a long time resident in this Town, possess an innate desire to help others through Public Administration and am sincerely concerned about the financial future of this Town. I served the Town as a Board of Public Works Commissioner for a period of six years and was elected as Chairman for more than half of my tenure.

If elected, I plan to use the skills I learned while on the BPW to ensure that our residents are well served by the Board of Health both operationally and fiscally.

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**Fairhaven Neighborhood News**

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# No Palm Sunday service, but palms still delivered



On Palm Sunday, 4/5/20, Fr. David Lupo, SSCC and parishioners of St. Mary's Church in Fairhaven handed out palms and rosary beads, while maintaining social distancing protocols recommended during the COVID-19 pandemic. Churches have not held their traditional masses in person during the emergency measures that have stopped all gatherings of more than 10 people. Many churches are holding masses and inviting parishioners to participate using various electronic means, such as conference calls and meeting software like Zoom. Holy Week services will also have to be experienced remotely, as the restrictions are ordered to stay in place in Massachusetts until at least May 4. ABOVE LEFT: Wearing a protective mask, Father David Lupo, SSCC, and a parishioner hand out palms through a car window on Palm Sunday, 4/5/20, using a drive-through system to maintain the six-foot social distancing protocol recommended during the COVID-19 pandemic. ABOVE RIGHT: Fr. David passes palms through a car window. BELOW LEFT: Cars line up to receive palms and rosary beads. BELOW RIGHT: Sharon McGraw waves palms to direct traffic while Fr. David hands out palms. BOTTOM LEFT: Fr. David sprays palms with a disinfectant. BOTTOM RIGHT: Fr. David passes a palm through a car window, and also has rosary beads on hand. *Photos by Glenn C. Silva.*



# Animal Control Officer helps seniors feed their pets

Posted on 3/31 on the Fairhaven Animal Shelter's Facebook page  
Meet Sandra! We dropped the items on the porch and knocked to let her know the food was there and she came and wouldn't let us leave until we met her dog.  
This is her 17-year old Chihuahua! She was so appreciative and we were so thankful that we were able to do this for her.

The social distancing guidelines were met, we just couldn't avoid capturing this beautiful moment and Sandra's gorgeous smile and sharing it with everyone.

Any Fairhaven senior resident that

needs pet food please email us at [aco@fairhaven-ma.gov](mailto:aco@fairhaven-ma.gov) or call us at 508-970-4028 and please tell us what you need, what animal(s) you have and your address and we will deliver it, knock on the door so you know it's there and leave.

No contact necessary. We don't want any of our senior citizens leaving their homes, we want them to remain healthy and safe.



Sandra and her chihuahua show their thanks after Fairhaven's Animal Control Officer delivered pet food so she would not have to leave her house. Photo courtesy of Fairhaven Animal Control.

# Recognizing World Autism Awareness Day remotely



Faculty, staff, family, and furry friends from Elizabeth Hastings Middle School in Fairhaven show their support for World Autism Awareness Day on 4/2/20 while working from home. To learn more, visit <https://www.autismspeaks.org/world-autism-awareness-day>. Photos submitted.

## Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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## Support local businesses during this crisis

You can help local businesses get through this crisis: Get take-out or delivery from your favorite restaurant or bar; leave a tip as you would if you were eating in the dining room.; ask if there's anything you can do. We are all in this together. We want our favorite spots to be there when this is all over, for them, for their employees, for our community, for ourselves.

# Fairhaven Recreation Center

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

**The Fairhaven Recreation  
Center is closed due to the  
threat of Covid-19  
(coronavirus).**

**Please check the town of  
Fairhaven website: [https://  
www.fairhaven-ma.gov](https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov) for  
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**COVID: cont'd from page 3**

Nursing Home Resource Line to connect family members with information and resources. The line will provide a central contact if they have questions or concerns about the care their loved is receiving. The line is staffed from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., seven days a week. Call 671-660-5399.

The state has also set up a rapid testing site in Lowell, in partnership with CVS. The site will be able to test 1,000 people a day and they will receive results on-site within minutes, at no charge to them. Patients will need to pre-register online at <https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing>.

Not everyone will qualify for testing. The site is for high-risk patients, such as healthcare workers. There is a series of questions on the website to screen patients.

Residents may also call 211 with questions. To receive text-alert updates, text "COVIDMA" to 888-777.

To see video of the governor's

# Fairhaven Senior Center

508-979-4029 • 229 Huttleston Ave  
Supportive Senior Day Care Program, 9-3 • 508-993-9455  
Respite Care: one day, half-a-day. Regular rates apply.

Visit our website at:

[http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA\\_COA/index](http://fairhavenma.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA_COA/index)

## Fairhaven Council on Aging Closure

The Fairhaven Council on Aging Senior Center is closed until further notice. The Supportive Social Day Program, all trip and activities have been cancelled.

The COA has staff at the senior center available to take your phone calls.

Limited transportation is available from 8:30-10:30 for shopping, banking and pharmacy. Transportation is also available

for morning appointments to South Coast on Mill Rd.

Meals on Wheels deliveries will continue as usual. If you are in need of a meal, please call the senior center, 508-979-4029.

### Senior Shopping Hours

*Walmart:* Tuesdays 6 a.m.-7 a.m.

*Market Basket:* Tues., Wed.,

Thurs., 5:30 a.m.-7 a.m.

*Stop and Shop:* Every Day

6:00 a.m.-7:30 a.m.

### Easter Dinner: Delivery Only

The Easter Dinner at the COA has been canceled, however, we will be delivering an Easter dinner to FAIRHAVEN SENIORS 60 years old or older. We have a limited number of meals so please call the Fairhaven Senior center to request a dinner at 508-979-4029. If no one answers, please leave your name, address and phone number on the answering machine.

### Pet Food Available

If any senior is having trouble getting pet food, call the Fairhaven Animal Shelter at 508-979-4028. Animal Control Officer Terry Cripps will deliver pet food to you.

updates, visit <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC14cQXPbUXcziy41Jfsuqwg>

Closer to home, the town has lit up the town hall with a blue light to honor healthcare workers and first responders.

In a statement, Selectboard Chairperson Charles K. Murphy, Sr., wrote: "As the Town faces the COVID-19 pandemic on a local level, we wanted to acknowledge our first responders who are on the frontlines risking their well-being for our community."

"We want our first responders — Fire and EMS and Police — and all healthcare professionals working in our community — to know that the Town of Fairhaven stands with you and thanks you for your heroism," he wrote. "I ask other residents to consider showing their appreciation using items they have on hand — red/blue lights, handmade signs in their windows, chalk messages — to let our first responders know how much they are appreciated."

In the past week, Massachusetts and other states have tightened restrictions on gatherings to encourage people to stay home except for essential errands, such as the grocery store and pharmacy.

Parking lots at Fort Phoenix State Reservation have been closed, basketball hoops and volleyball nets have been removed around the state.

The message that is loud and clear from authorities is: STAY HOME.

The state has not yet seen its peak number of cases, and officials are worried that the hospital system will be overwhelmed if too many people get sick and require intensive care, especially ventilators, at the same time.

The state has increased ICU beds and step-down beds to try to meet the need, but if the virus spreads too quickly, even the overflow beds will be quickly overwhelmed. If people stay home, the virus will not spread as quickly and the system can meet the need.



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# Acushnet: Message from Fire Chief Gallagher

By Acushnet Fire Chief Kevin Gallagher. Posted on the Acushnet Fire & EMS Department Facebook page Friday, April 3, 2020

I know that I'm not alone in trying to figure this week out! There has been an air of anxiety hanging over all of us made worse by the weather, the unending news and a sense that, as Winston Churchill once said, "This is the beginning of the beginning." Patience is often running low while stress is running high.

Acushnet learned this week that four residents have contracted the Covid-19 virus. In a small town that hurts, as these folks are our extended family members. Collectively, we pray for them and hope their road to a full recovery is quick and complete. Their worry and concern is ours.

As a town entity we are prepared. [Personal] Protective Equipment is available to our first responders. Facilities and equipment are getting disinfected and disinfected again.

Your essential employees are on the job providing services while taking precautions. Buildings may be closed

decorated with hearts and rainbows. Neighbors are checking in with neighbors. Businesses and individuals have donated N95 masks. Many people are making homemade masks that are provided to our staffs. Residents are sending food to Police and Fire stations. Puzzles are being shared by neighbors. Acushnet is being kind, thoughtful and caring.

We chose to live and work here. We stay because this is our community. We care because we are — despite our wonderful differences — truly all the same.

Acushnet is nervous, on edge and antsy. We should be. We also know that every storm runs out of rain, that when this is behind us we will resume life in this fantastic little town a little more humble, a little kinder and a little more thankful for everything we have.

Please stay safe.

*With respect and appreciation,*  
Kevin

---

We also know that every storm runs out of rain, that when this is behind us we will resume life in this fantastic little town a little more humble, a little kinder and a little more thankful for everything we have.

---

[Fire Chief Kevin Gallagher]

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and hours reduced but the ball has not been dropped. We are all thankful that these folks continue to daily work on our behalf, as a community.

Windows and mailboxes are being

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# The Music Will Not Be Muted, Part 2

By Bryon Knight

## Special to the Neighb News

Last week I corresponded with seven local and regional musicians, and I shared their views on the impact that COVID-19 has had on them during this quarantine. This week I'll tell you how these seven performers are coping with the virus, the lack of work and...quarantine.

As a group, musicians are a pretty resilient bunch. Maybe it's because we have a built-in outlet for our emotions. I've been with these folks on a daily basis, all of my life, and I've found that most in the musical world are kinder and more empathetic toward their fellow humans.



Dave Charnley

It's apparent that music industry veteran, Dave Charnley, cares deeply for his fellow humans: "For the most local musicians, playing gigs is a way to make a little extra money. I really sympathize with workers at the clubs and restaurants. This is their livelihood. Try to support places that supported you by buying takeout food from them," said Dave. "I really miss the social interaction with all my friends in the clubs. I'm spending my time playing golf, when the weather is good... Getting my fishing gear together... Yard work... Taking a break from guitar for a while... and... avoiding people." But when it comes to missing the music, Dave quoted Reggae "Wailer," Peter Tosh: "You'll never miss your water 'till your well runs dry".

Johnny Barnes and the NightCrawlers have performed throughout New England and beyond. When asked about what he and his band are doing until the next performance, Barnes was... pragmatic: "I wish we could rehearse, but the NightCrawlers have a 30-song list to practice at home and hope



Johnny Barnes

everyone remains safe and does their part to stop the spread of this super-virus." I have, recently, spotted him peering into my closed shop... longingly...



Giuliana Amaral

Ever the optimist, 18 year old Lead singer and bassist for a Led Zeppelin tribute group called "Band Inc.," is quite positive. Like many her age, Giuliana has turned to technology: "A big shout out to all the musicians who have been doing live streams on social media. I have a lot of friends who have been doing those and I always make sure to watch them and to share on my social media and to thank them for doing so. They have helped us in these tough times with their great music. I, myself, have done the same doing either acoustic or piano videos."

Carolyn (Cal) Wingate has taught for over 30 years in public schools and she teaches music to youngsters as well. Cal has taken her lead from the On-Line classes that she produces for her middle school students: "I started a boot camp morning video that goes out to our students with light exercises, jokes and words of encouragement while keeping things real..." Cal started her Musical contributions a few weekends ago: "...I sent out a song on Ukulele and some reflective thoughts on this whole situation. The feedback from these videos has been incredible and (they) will continue." Cal added: "This has been a time for increased playing of my own music... The world has stepped up to share (and) People have been so generous with their music, time and spirit."



Carolyn "Cal" Wingate

Another performer who's taking this opportunity to do some musical "wood-shedding" is Susan Sylvia. She usually entertains at 6-8 live shows

per month but, due to the quarantine, she's looking to add to her performances: "While we wait for this current crisis to pass, we are both learning new songs for our next practice and we are planning to perform a few tunes sometime over the next week on Facebook. If it goes well then we are hoping to do that regularly until clubs and bars reopen!" Susan continued: "I am also in a full band called Carfax Abbey (with Allen Thomas, Brian Rapoza, Tim McKenna, Mike Murphy and Wayne Farias). We just came out of a 20-year retirement and May 2 is to be our second gig since we reunited in 2019. We will be performing at Oriental Pearl with Whiskey Affliction. We hope!"



Susan Sylvia

I caught one of James Gagne's live performances last Friday night and it is apparent that he has had music in his soul since he was born...and he's not shy about sharing: "I am hoping to do more live Facebook concerts as people really like that and maybe I can raise some money for some causes by doing so as well."



James Gagne



Kenny Motta

Of course, not everybody is using this time to play. There are those of us who look inward to better our craft and for those of us who are technically inclined, better our tools as well. Veteran musician and fellow guitar technician, Kenny Motta, is putting his skills to good use: "Everyone I've talked to is just riding this thing out and hoping that the venues that support local

**MUSIC: cont'd next page**

## MUSIC: cont'd from previous page

music will make it.” Kenny explained: “As for me, I’m just taking guitars apart and putting them back together with some experimental ‘Mods’ in search of that perfect tone!”

In many ways, this is a great time to be a music lover. There are so many artists, both national and local, who are producing some wonderful work and putting it out on-line for all to enjoy.

On the national scene, artists are streaming for free or for insanely small fees...just to keep their crew and ancillary workers afloat. But just because you’re rich and famous doesn’t mean that you get a pass during all of this. The “stars” are doing it from their homes or from empty venues and streaming their music directly to you.

There are Broadway shows available for free on-line, Performances to empty music venues and the “bedroom” concerts can provide a glimpse into the lives of many of your favorite entertainers.

As Giuliana Amaral remarked: “One good thing about having to be home

with all of this is that I got to see a lot of talented people with the live streams on social media that probably wouldn’t be otherwise.”

James Gagne was quoted: “I love

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Music is a binding force. It connects each of us in a basic way. This is why we react, physically, to music

---

that people turn to art in times like these, however art is the only thing that keeps us human when humanity itself is at stake.”

I encourage you to check out these links, on-line, to hear some great music from these talented folks:

- Johnny Barnes : [www.johnnybarns.com](http://www.johnnybarns.com)

- com
- James Gagne: [www.shipyardwreckmusic.com](http://www.shipyardwreckmusic.com)
- Cal Wingate, on Facebook: Carolyn Wingate
- Susan Sylvia, on Facebook: SomthinElseDuo
- Kenny Motta, on Facebook: Kenny Motta
- David Charnley, on Facebook: David Charnley
- Giuliana Amaral, on Youtube: Giuliana Amaral

Music is a binding force. It connects each of us in a basic way. This is why we react, physically, to music: we tap a foot, we snap our fingers, we bob our heads and sway our bodies... instinctively... to the rhythm. It’s in our DNA! Each human on the planet has some kind of relationship with music.

Whether it’s making it or listening to it... I encourage you all to seek out YOUR relationship with music. Let it calm you... Let it stir your emotions... Let it be a release... Let it help you get through all of... this because... The music will NOT be muted.

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## Acushnet: Meet Andrew Corrigan

*From Acushnet Fire & EMS  
Department Facebook Page*

### THIS IS US

On February 3, the Acushnet Fire Department started a new feature on its Facebook page to introduce each of their members to the public. This week we meet Andrew Corrigan.

Andrew Corrigan is no stranger to this town. He has lived in Acushnet since he was three years old, joined our department as a Call Firefighter in 2011 and for the last three and one-half years was employed as the Facilities Director for the Acushnet Public Schools.

Andrew is a 2009 graduate of Old Colony and has worked alongside his father, Doug, at Corrigan Electric for years. After completing the Massachusetts Call Firefighter Recruit Program, Andrew rose quickly through the ranks due to his commitment, dedication and leadership qualities.

In 2017 he was promoted to the rank of Call Captain, and earlier this year he was promoted to the position of Fulltime Firefighter!

In addition, the Town made the investment in training Andrew as an EMT and he has served in that role admirably, demonstrating true interest in emergency medical care

If all that doesn’t keep him busy, Andrew and Ashley, his wife of the last 19 months, have just built a new home in town. It doesn’t look like he’s going anywhere soon, for which we are grateful.

Acushnet, this is Andrew Corrigan.



Andrew Corrigan started with the Acushnet Fire Department as a call firefighter, and is now a full time firefighter paramedic. Photo from the Acushnet Fire & EMS Facebook page.

## BPW: cont'd from page 4

board member Keith Silvia recused himself and left the room because he is running for Selectboard and has signs throughout town.

Mr. Furtado said he received an email from the building commissioner who has received complaints. Mr. Furtado explained that if you tell a resident to take down a political sign then you would have to tell realtors to take down for-sale signs and open house signs, etc.

Mr. Wotton said he can understand someone complaining about a sign blocking the view of drivers, or a sign on an intersecting corner on town land, but the board cannot just remove political signs for no reason.

Mr. Furtado said that they cannot just target political signs. He said his recommendation is to just let the complaints go.

Mr. Wotton said that the BPW already has too much to do; they do not have time to go around town checking signs. He suggested that they contact the resident who placed the signs and tell them to make sure their signs are not on intersecting corners on town grass and to make sure they are not blocking the view of cars.

Mr. Durant asked Mr. Furtado if he has ever had to move signs before.

Mr. Furtado said never.

Mr. Durant said that he believes this is definitely a political thing.

Mr. Coelho said he agreed with Mr. Wotton that the BPW has too much to do and to just give the resident a call.

Mr. Wotton said that the BPW cannot be prejudiced against political signs. He said residents can call the BPW if a sign is blocking visibility or if it is in on a corner.

"This is so low on the totem pole," Mr. Wotton said.

The board tabled the issue, 4-0, with Mr. Silvia not voting.

The board also discussed an accident on West Island that damaged a pole. Mr. Furtado told the board that the pole was fixed by a private contractor.

Mr. Coelho said some time ago six poles were fixed by town employees, not due to an accident, and the six poles were fixed much faster than the one pole. He asked why the town employees did not fix the pole so it could have gotten done faster.

Mr. Furtado explained that it took a long time for the pole to get fixed

because the person who hit the pole had to wait for his car insurance to pay the claim, etc. The pole was fixed by a private contractor and was paid for by the insurance of the man who got into the accident.

Mr. Furtado said it was a better utilization of taxpayers' money for the driver's insurance to pay for it. He said town employees have other work to do.

Mr. Wotton agreed, saying it is not the town's responsibility to pay, it is the responsibility of the person who hit the pole.

"You don't get the point," Mr. Hobson said, explaining that the insurance pays for these stupid

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"I'm done," Mr. Hobson said.

"You don't understand it,"

Mr. Furtado said.

"Someone please come in on this," said Mr. Wotton referring to the public watching on Zoom. "I would love some outside comment."

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things and then the insurance is more expensive.

Mr. Wotton said it is not the town's insurance, and agreed that it would have been done faster if the town had done it, but reiterated that it was not the town's responsibility.

Mr. Hobson said he understood that, but the more claims that go into the insurance the more his own insurance goes up.

"It's not your insurance," Mr. Wotton said.

"I'm done," Mr. Hobson said.

"You don't understand it," Mr. Furtado said.

"Someone please come in on this." said Mr. Wotton referring to the public watching on Zoom. "I would love some outside comment."

Mr. Silvia asked if the town could have fixed the pole and charged the driver's insurance.

Mr. Wotton said they could not because the town is not a contractor and the insurance cannot hire the town to fix something.

Mr. Furtado said that using the town employees would have been a mis-utilization of town resources.

Mr. Coelho said that the more claims that are put into insurance the more the insurance goes up for everyone.

Mr. Hobson said he wanted to see the bill for the work done on the pole.

Mr. Furtado said he did not have the bill because the town did not pay for it.

Mr. Coelho said that it took three months for the private company to fix the pole.

Mr. Furtado said that he could not control how long it took. He said shame on the insurance and the private company for taking so long.

Mr. Wotton said he understood that it would have only taken the town employees a day to fix, but it would have cost the town time and resources. The way it was done, it cost the town nothing.

In another matter Mr. Furtado said that he met with the Finance Committee and they approved all of the BPW's Town Meeting articles except the money for the road work. He said that the FinCom members wanted to see the roads themselves.

Mr. Furtado said that he put up a stink at the meeting, that the BPW picks the roads and the Finance Committee just gives the money.

"Let them know this board is asking for a dollar amount, not what roads they want," said Mr. Wotton, adding that it is not the Finance Committee's job to give comments on roads; their job is to allocate money.

"Stick to your job," Mr. Wotton said "And we'll stick to ours."

Mr. Wotton explained that the BPW had an open meeting about roadwork and not one person from the Finance Committee attended. He said they had the opportunity to speak, and now the time is closed.

He said the BPW just needs the dollar amount and has no interest in their comments at this time.

"I like that," Mr. Hobson said.

"I'm tired of the bologna around here," Mr. Wotton added.

In another matter Mr. Furtado informed that board that all Fairhaven playgrounds have been closed due to COVID-19 and the town was just following suit with neighboring communities that have closed their playgrounds. ●●●

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### FORT: cont'd from page 10

In addition to the property bordering Fort Phoenix, the purchase facilitated by the Coalition also will protect a five-acre salt marsh situated along the westerly edge of Boy's Creek. The property, which the Coalition will protect and manage, is part of one of the largest remaining marshes on Fairhaven's coast that was privately owned. The marsh harbors a diverse array of plants and animals that are critical to the health of the bay. Its preservation also enhances the town's resiliency to the increasing pace of sea level rise.

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### HAPPS: cont'd from page 5

## Renew LTC by mail

In light of recent times, the Fairhaven Police Department is requesting that any license to carry applications and renewals be sent via mail. We typically take drop ins but we are limiting walk-ins at this time.

If you are a renewal, please send your renewal application and check or money order written to the Town of Fairhaven to: Attention LTC, 1 Bryant Lane Fairhaven MA, 02719. If you are a new applicant please also include your safety course certificate. Thank you for your cooperation and patience!

## Fishing is OPEN

The Mass. Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) has become aware of rumors and a fabricated Facebook post, appearing to come from DMF, that state commercial and recreational fishing have been closed due to the Covid-19 public emergency. This is not true! Commercial and recreational fishing remain open in Massachusetts.

Visit DMF's verified Facebook page or website at <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/dmf> for accurate information.

Please maintain a safe distance from other people fishing and maintain other guidelines of the pandemic.

Check out our new blog for the latest updates: <https://www.fairhavenneighborhoodnews.com/category/blog/>

## ALL IN PERSON MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELED

We are continuing to list government meetings here because both towns are moving to remote meetings. The public will be invited to dial in to participate, with the information on how to do that included on the agenda. Please check the town's website or call the appropriate office to find out how you can join in.

## Fairhaven Meetings

### Board of Appeals

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

### Board of Public Works

Mon., 4/13, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

### Conservation Commission

Mon., 4/13, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### ELECTION

The town election has been postponed from 4/6 to 5/18

### Finance Committee

Thurs., 3/26, Arsene St., 7 p.m.

Thurs., 4/2, Arsene St., 7 p.m.

### Planning Board

Tues., 4/14, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Selectboard

Mon., 4/13, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Sustainability Comm

Tues., 4/15, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

### Town Meeting

Town Meeting has been postponed to June 20.

## Acushnet Meetings

### Planning Board

Thurs., 4/30, Parting Ways, 6:30 p.m.s

### Selectboard

Tues., 4/21, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

## TIDE TABLE

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

	April 2020	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.
Thursday	9	0942	2206	0318*	1522*
Friday	10	1032	2256	0406*	1608*
Saturday	11	1123	2348	0448*	1649*
Sunday	12	----	1217	0530*	1732*
Monday	13	0045	1317	0622	1823
Tuesday	14	0145	1416	0859	1956
Wednesday	15	0242	1513	1021	2241
Thursday	16	0339	1615	1127	2349
Friday	17	0443	1719	----	1219

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

## From our readers

### HARC opposes placement of CAD cells

HARC has provided the Fairhaven Board of Selectmen (FHBOS) with extensive and specific information with respect to the misleading and unprofessional presentations the EPA has provided for the PCB Dumps they are now constructing in the Fairhaven Harbor.

In the EPA's published reports and presentations prepared under the supervision of Project Manager David Lederer, the EPA has falsely asserted the Fairhaven area closest to the Dump development to be the unpopulated "Marsh Island" Area, not Fairhaven's "Oxford Village."

Above see illustration from the EPA presentation, and link below to actual

satellite photo of the area being dredged by the EPA, which clearly shows the ongoing dredging adjacent to Oxford Village, not next to Marsh Island as represented by the EPA. The EPA identifies this project and the power point presentation as being created under the responsibility of the Project Manager, David Lederer.

The EPA and its Project Manager were well aware that Marsh Island was uninhabited, while Oxford Village was a community of historic value carrying a significant population and real estate property of high value. Mislabeling the location of the PCB Dump could not have been caused by his "mistake."

The obfuscation of the Dump location is indicative of the project manager and the EPA's unprofessional dealings with Fairhaven and its residents. In order to solve the PCB



Disposal Problem caused by a 71% owned, multi-decade subsidiary of Japan's Kyocera Corporation, the truth about the Dumps is being deliberately distorted.

How can a multiple level organization such as the EPA, which is responsible for this \$366 million project, the funds for which came after lengthy legal proceedings, pass these representations off as "mistakes?" They are fraudulent misrepresentations.

The FHBOS needs to provide a response as soon as possible with respect to the steps that they plan to take to deal with the misrepresentations to which EPA has already admitted.

See map at <https://maps.google.com/maps?t=h&ll=41.6508603,-70.9161476&spn=0.0035253,0.0062907&output=classic&dg=ntvb>

## Hendricks & Montigny write of concerns over PJK

*From Rep. Christopher Hendricks*

Residents and local Acushnet officials have long been concerned about the impact of the P.J. Keating Quarry and Asphalt Plant facility. But the recent relocation of the asphalt production area and application for site modification has spurred State officials to encourage the MA Department of Environmental Protection to step in and better protect residents.

"This facility has had a detrimental effect on residents in Acushnet and neighboring communities for a long time," said Representative Christopher Hendricks (D-11th Bristol). "The changes proposed will make things even worse."

Senator Mark Montigny (D-2nd Bristol and Plymouth) joined Rep. Hendricks in sending a letter to Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Martin Suuberg to express their serious concerns about the P.J. Keating facility located at 72 Main Street, Acushnet.

"We have asked that MA DEP revise the monitoring plan for the plant," noted Sen. Montigny. "It's important that the impact on air quality be closely watched."

The letter further highlights concerns that existing air and noise monitoring is not being conducted routinely.

P.J. Keating produces asphalt for many state-contracted roadway improvements. They are headquartered in Lunenburg, MA and operate six plants within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Town of Acushnet Board of Selectmen will be considering a Land Use License to permit the proposed change of operation.

"Regardless of the Board's decision, the Department of Environmental Protection has an obligation to properly oversee this facility," added Rep. Hendricks. "Sen. Montigny and I will do all we can to encourage them to protect our residents."

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# We are still here for you

We are still here for you, just not up close and personal, as we are all used to.

And even though the deadline is extended to July 15th, we know many of you prefer to file taxes earlier. In order to keep everyone safe (so that we can stay open to provide our services), we are only taking mailed in or dropped off taxes starting April 16th.

Meanwhile, we are happy to answer any questions you have. Office hours are now Mon., Tues., Fri. & Sat., 9 to 4.

*Be Well and SEA You Soon!*



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