



# Fairhaven

# Neighborhood News

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



The little paper  
with a big voice!

Volume 15, Issue 21 • May 21, 2020

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

## Beaches to re-open soon, but with restrictions



The parking lot at Fort Phoenix State Reservation in Fairhaven is closed on Tuesday, 5/19/20, due to COVID-19 restrictions, but beaches will be reopened on 5/25, with some restrictions to maintain social distancing to prevent the spread of the virus. See page 3 for more on the reopening of businesses and activities in Massachusetts. 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.



Beth David, Publisher

WOO HOO! Pet groomers and hair cutters open next week. I won't have to cut the Evil Dog's nails after all. I was starting to get kind of proud of my pandemic hair, though. On the other hand, it was getting awfully hot out there. Feels like I have a winter hat on.

Next week...SUMMER CUT!

Meanwhile, I have included a picture of me AND Charlie for posterity. Thank you to my neighbor who took the pic and who usually likes to stay anonymous, so...she shall remain nameless.

The beaches are going to open next week, too. The parking lot at Fort Phoenix won't look like the picture on our cover for long. Even in the winter there are usually a few cars in the lot. People just watch the water and the birds and the boats. We'll get back to that soon.

See page 3 for info on what is opening and when. There's a ton of information, with lots of details on the state's website. I provided links, and tried to hit the highlights. But, really, folks, it's all just common sense. Try not to get too close to each other: if you can't avoid it, wear your mask. If you have some sort of moral dilemma about the stupid mask, fine...don't wear it. Just stay the hell away from everyone else okay?

If you have a medical issue wearing the mask, then please do not put yourself at risk. Just note that some stores will not let you in.

I have heard from some readers that they are disappointed in some town employees who are not wearing masks when they probably should be. Town employees, especially those in positions of authority really ought to be setting a good example. I'm not going to get too specific. You know who you are. Please, just remember the kids are watching. Our example is so much more important than our words. And, again, if you are a contrarian who won't let no stinkin' commie-democrat-RINO make a sheeple out of you...then, please, just be yourself. It's your right as an American to only think of yourself and think anyone not like you is expendable, as exemplified by the buffoon in the White House...alas.

Until next week then... see ya (from a distance),

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# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our COVID-19 update last week, we made a mistake in the number of confirmed Mass. deaths caused by the virus. The correct number is 5,141 as of Tuesday, 5/12/20. We apologize for any confusion our error may have caused.

# COVID-19 update: some Mass. businesses, beaches to reopen

By Beth David  
Editor

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker announced on Monday, 5/18, that certain businesses will be allowed to reopen, but with guidelines in place to maintain social distancing and other measures to curb the spread of COVID-19.

Most businesses, including restaurants, have been closed since March 24. Under Phase 1 of the reopening plan, restaurants are still not able to open, except for take-out, and neither are gyms, nail salons, or day spas.

Construction, manufacturing, lab and office spaces, hair salons, pet groomers, car washes, and retail establishments are allowed to open with a variety of restrictions.

In all cases, wearing masks, and practicing social distancing are required. Gatherings of more than 10 people are still not allowed.

For industry specific guidelines, including workplace protocols, sample posters, and a checklist visit <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/reopening-massachusetts>

Starting on 5/25, hair salons, barbershops and pet groomers may open. Patrons will need to make appointments and wait outside until they are allowed to go in and be serviced immediately.

The idea is to make sure people are not congregating in a waiting area. Patrons will be required to wear masks, and hair stylists will also be required to wear masks and gloves.

Pet groomers are required to keep customers outside, with pet drop-off outside.

All businesses are required to conduct regular cleaning and disinfecting and to keep cleaning logs.

Places of worship are also allowed to open, but are limited to 40% of the building's maximum level. Members who are not part of the same household must be seated at least six feet apart.

On May 25, beaches, parks, and most other outdoor activities will be allowed to resume with restrictions. Beaches will be restricted to the number of people who can maintain at least 12 feet of distance between towel/blanket areas. Visitors will

be required to wear masks when they cannot stay six feet away from other beachgoers. Masks are not required while swimming. Anyone with a medical condition preventing them from wearing a mask is not required to wear one.

For beach-specific guidelines, visit <https://www.mass.gov/doc/beaches-guidance-for-managers-5-18-20/download>

Charter boats will be able to resume work on 5/25 with limitations, such as no more than 10 people, including crew, aboard any single vessel. Passengers and crew must wear face coverings.

Campgrounds, zoos, and drive-in theaters are also allowed to open with occupancy limitations and other restrictions.

For a list of businesses allowed to open on 5/18 & 5/25 and general guidelines and other information, visit <https://www.mass.gov/doc/reopening-massachusetts-may-18-2020/download>

For the new "Safer-at-Home-Advisory," visit <https://www.mass.gov/news/safer-at-home-advisory>

## CONGRATULATE FAIRHAVEN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING SENIORS

The community is invited to join in the fun of giving the class of 2020 a special send-off into the world. They will not have a traditional graduation ceremony due to COVID-19 restrictions, so the school is sponsoring a special issue of the *Neighb News* on 6/4/20.

The public is invited to purchase ads at a special rate to congratulate seniors.

**1/8 page: \$31 B&W, \$46 Color**

**1/4 page: \$52 B&W, \$82 Color**

**1/2 page: \$105 B&W, \$155 Color**

**Listings page: \$10**

**DEADLINE: 5/23/20**

Please contact Beth David at the *Neighb News*:  
508-979-5593 • [NeighbNews@comcast.net](mailto:NeighbNews@comcast.net) (preferred)

Fax: 508-991-5580

166 Dogwood Street • Fairhaven, MA 02719

# Fairhaven BPW stops group shifts for workers

By Mary Macedo

## Neighborhoods Correspondent

At its meeting on Wednesday, 5/13 the Fairhaven Board of Public Works discussed town employees returning to a regular work schedule, possible budget cuts, and the recycling center hours. The board also discussed an upcoming town meeting article for the new automatic water meter reading system, as well as the Finance Committee's role in picking town roads to be fixed. At the start of the meeting board member Frank Coelho announced that would be taping it.

The board met with BPW employee Victor Oliveira via Zoom. Public Works Superintendent Vinnie Furtado explained that Mr. Oliveira was asking to carry over a day and half of his vacation time to next year due to the COVID-19 schedule disruptions. Mr. Oliveira's yearly work anniversary is coming up and he will lose any vacation time he has not used if the board does not approve the carryover.

Mr. Oliveira explained that normally he would use that day and half of vacation time for Easter, but due to COVID-19 he did not use it. He said his work anniversary is next week and he did not want to lose his vacation time.

The board members all agreed that there was no problem with the request, and voted unanimously to approve it.

In another matter Mr. Furtado

addressed other challenges due to COVID-19. He told the board that other boards and committees have decided to designate one member of each board or committee to sign bills during the pandemic restrictions. He said the board has not had any issues with the current way they have been signing bills, but he just wanted to bring it up as an option.

Board member Robert "Hoppy" Hobson said that he thought the whole board should see the bills. Chairperson Brian Wotton agreed and said that as long as there is no issue they should just keep it the way it is.

In another matter Mr. Furtado announced that some town employees will be going back to working their regular schedule starting Monday 5/18. He said all employees will be wearing masks and trying to social distance while working.

During the last few weeks, some departments had been working in groups, with one group home on alternating weeks. That way, if one crew got sick and had to quarantine, the other group would be able to work.

The board specifically spoke about the Highway Department returning to work on 5/18. Mr. Wotton asked if the employees would be wearing masks while working outside if they are able to be six feet away from each other.

Mr. Furtado said that he thought

the governor said that you must wear a mask in public.

Mr. Wotton said that the governor said you must wear a mask in public if you cannot be socially distant.

Mr. Furtado said the employees will do whatever the governor's orders are.

Mr. Wotton said if they are six feet apart outside then no mask will be necessary but if they are inside a building they should be wearing masks.

Mr. Furtado said that they will be keeping the same employees in the same trucks every day, as well as providing masks, hand sanitizer, and sanitizing wipes. He said he was not sure how they will integrate the staff together and gather them all on Monday in the safest way.

Mr. Coelho suggested gathering them all outside. He explained that the Police Department gathered outside for a graduation ceremony and everyone stood six feet apart.

Mr. Wotton suggested having all employees start at 8 a.m. and then have Group A meet first and have Group B go sanitize their trucks and then have the groups switch. Mr. Wotton said that way the groups avoid contact with each other.

Mr. Furtado said that they will also be staggering punch-out times etc.

Mr. Coelho asked if there will be temperature checks for employees.

BPW: cont'd on page 22

Summer is Right Around the Corner. Are you ready?



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# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## CANCELLATIONS

*Editor's note: Most businesses in Massachusetts are still closed, and all large gatherings have been 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.*

## Memorial Day Video Ceremony

The parade has been cancelled, but the town of Fairhaven and Memorial Day Parade committee have teamed up to conduct a ceremony on video for the public to see. Activities include placing the flags on the graves of veterans; remarks by Vietnam Veteran and committee member George Brownell; Selectboard member Charles K. Murphy reading General Logan's Order which created Memorial Day; the reading of the honor roll and the Gettysburg Address.

The special will run on Channel 18 continuously on Memorial Day, Monday, 5/25, and will be available on demand at FairhavenTV.com and on Fairhaven TV's Facebook page.

## Virtual Graduation

Virtual graduation event begins on **Sat., 6/6, at noon.** Join the party throughout the afternoon. Commencement speakers: President Barack Obama, Michelle Obama, BTS, Lada Gaga, Sec. Robert M. Gates, Sundar Pichai, Sec. Condoleezza Rice, Malala Yousafzai; with special appearances by ASAPSciences, Alicia Keys, Chloe x Halle, Kelly Rowland, Kerry Washington, The Try Guys, Zendaya, Mr. Kate, Dude Perfect, Jackie Aina, Zane Hijazi.

Find "Dear Class of 2020 Commencement Address," Sat., 6/6, at 3 p.m., at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rpxTjcouaeQ>

## Film: "Sounder"

Watch the classic Black film from 1927, "Sounder", free online at <https://www.stagesoffreedom.org/forum/youth-teens/watch-the-classic->

black-film-sounder

The oldest son of a loving and strong family of black sharecroppers comes of age in the Depression-era South after his father is imprisoned for stealing food. Starring Cicely Tyson, Paul Winfield, Kevin Hooks.

## Business Grants

The Town of Fairhaven is looking to see how many small businesses may be eligible for the CDBG-CV Microenterprise Assistance grant of up to \$10,000 per business to qualifying Microenterprises adversely impacted by COVID-19.

Microenterprise is defined as a commercial enterprise that has 5 or fewer employees, 1 or more of whom owns the enterprise. In order for a Microenterprise to be eligible it must be a for-profit entity; have a physical establishment in the town; provide goods or services to multiple customers; currently in operation and established prior to 1/1/2019; and be in good standing with the state and town. They must also be current on all taxes through 3/1/2020 and have active and valid state licenses/registrations, if applicable; and not a party to litigation involving the state or municipality and be able to document a loss of income equal to or greater than requested assistance due to COVID-19. Some small businesses are not eligible. Excluded business types are: real estate rentals/sales; businesses owned by persons under age 18; franchises or chains; liquor stores; weapons/firearms dealers; lobbyists; or cannabis-related businesses.

CDBG-CV grantees must prevent the duplication of benefits, which means grant funds may not be used to pay costs if another source of financial assistance is available to pay that cost. This must be certified through the application from the business and through quarterly progress reports to DHCD. Funds may be used for working capital to cover business costs, such as rent, staffing, and utilities but may not be used for major equipment purchases, real property, construction activities, business expansion, or lobbying.

To learn more, contact Paul Foley, Director of Planning & Economic Development, [pfoley@fairhaven-ma.gov](mailto:pfoley@fairhaven-ma.gov) (508) 979-4082 EXT. 122

## Indoor Container Gardens with Kids

Visit <https://www.thespruce.com/container-garden-projects-kids-will-love-847955> to find seven Fun Container Garden Projects Kids Will Love, including growing celery in a dish; garlic greens in a can; grow a vine from a sweet potato; grow an eggshell garden.

## Internet Survey

The Town of Fairhaven is conducting a Feasibility Study to improve Internet & Cable Service to residents and businesses.

If interested complete an easy-to-do- Comcast Invoice Upload to help the Broadband Study Committee.

Please upload your most recent bill from your Internet service provider on the town's website. Feel free to redact your name and account number on the bill but we need to be able to see the address to confirm the bill is for a Fairhaven property. Town staff will then redact any personal information you have not already redacted, including your address, before submitting your bill.

Visit <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov> and click on the link under "News and Notices."

## 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).

= Change is in your hands =



My name is Keith Silvia and I am running for Selectman on June 8th because I am dedicated to taking responsibility and making the changes necessary to get this Town back on track. My opponent has countered the statements I have made about our taxes going up. He claims the tax rate has not gone up. Technically he is correct in that the tax rate did not increase, however, the assessments of our properties have increased significantly which has raised our real estate taxes significantly. This is just a sugar coated game, but, in the end, we have had to reach deeper in our pockets to pay our real estate taxes...so did our taxes go up? Seems to me, and the many, many people who have contacted me with their concerns, that they did.

While we are talking about sugar coated games, now the Town Administrator, in his ploy to create a new position of an assistant for himself, has decided to reclassify the Human Resource Director's position to include her duties as his assistant. Whether he creates a new position of an assistant or reclassifies an existing position to include an assistant, it's still going to be an increase in the Human Resource Director's salary and thus an increase cost to the taxpayers. My opponent has yet to form an

opinion on this matter. I would like to know where he stands because I know, for sure, my vote would be a "NO".

And now the Town Administrator is asking department heads to decrease their FY21 budgets by 5, 10 and 20% in the event state and federal monies don't come through related to recent events regarding Covid-19. These budget cuts will inevitably take services away from the taxpayers who are already struggling to pay increased taxes. Does it seem fair to take from the taxpayers but continue to spend unnecessarily? Again, we haven't heard where my opponent stands on this matter either.

I respectfully ask for your vote on June 8th so I may represent the taxpayers and contribute in the process of taking our Town back.

CHANGE IS IN YOUR HANDS.

Keith Silvia

*If you are concerned about voting in person due to COVID-19, there is still time to apply for an absentee ballot. Contact the Town Clerk at 508-979-4023 ext. #3 or visit <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleabsentee/absidx.htm>.*

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PAID FOR BY KEITH SILVIA

# Acushnet Fire Department uses donation for safety lights

From Acushnet Fire Department  
Facebook Post, 5/19/20

Back in January we received a donation from longtime Acushnet resident Frances Gwozdz in memory

of her late husband Edwin, a veteran of the Korean War.

We told Mrs. Gwozdz that the funds would be used to improve the safety of our firefighters and,

at the same time, honor her husband.

Last night we turned on for the first time "climbing lights" which illuminate the rungs of Ladder One making nighttime climbing much safer.

There is also no better way to honor a true patriot than the colors we selected.



Acushnet's Ladder One lights up for the first time on 5/18/20 with new "climbing lights" in red, white and blue, the results of a donation by Frances Gwozdz in honor of her husband Edwin, a Korean War veteran. Photo from the Acushnet Fire and EMS Department Facebook page.





*We are open! Call it in, we'll take it out to you.*

You can still enjoy all your Dorothy Cox's favorites. Just call it in and we will take it your car; or you can get it delivered through [gotchew.co](http://gotchew.co). Offering kits for fun at home, including: chocolate pretzel kit, peeps kit, bag of butterflies, flowers.



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## ELECTION DAY

# JUNE 8th, 2020

**POLLS OPEN AT 10 A.M.**  
**POLLS CLOSE AT 8 P.M.**

*OUR ELECTION DAY IS COMING...  
WILL YOU BE PREPARED?*

In person voting will take place on Monday, June 8th, 2020. There will be protocols in place to protect the safety of the voters and the election workers. If you plan to vote in person please adhere to Governor Baker's mandate that residents must wear masks in public areas. Social distancing measures will be in place and we ask that everyone follow the rules. We also ask that you bring your own blue or black pen.

Registered voters have the option to vote by absentee ballot. A signed absentee ballot application is required. Absentee voting information can be found on the Town Clerk's page of the town's website: [fairhaven-ma.gov/townclerk](http://fairhaven-ma.gov/townclerk).

Also, if you are a registered voter and would like to be a poll worker, please call the Town Clerk's office at 508-979-4023, Ext. 3, with any questions.

## CANCELLATIONS

*Editor's note: Most businesses in Massachusetts are still closed, and all large gatherings are also canceled.*

*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.*

## Polished Look NOT for Sale

Brenda Gomes, owner of The Polished Look Salon & Day Spa, at 865 Ashley Blvd in the North End of New Bedford, will be reopening for services as soon as possible when the Governor of Massachusetts allows salons to begin operating after this forced closure due to the COVID virus.

In addition to the financial difficulties inflicted by this extended closure, another adverse situation is threatening the business, through no fault of its own. The adjoining property that is the former location of the Potting Bench is being sold. That business moved to Fairhaven. Now, posted on that property are large for sale signs surrounding the building where the Polished Look Salon continues salon services. This makes it seem like the Polished Look is closing. Many customers and strangers have questioned if the Polished Look is for sale — **and we emphatically confirm that it is NOT for sale, nor is it closing.**

Brenda Gomes, and her staff of nine, who provide nail and hair services, look forward to welcoming back their regular clients, and invite anyone looking for a great salon to contact them to make appointments so that they can enjoy the services of a team of professionals that have provided excellent services to this community for over 36 years. The salon specializes in bridal showers and wedding parties, and girls' night out celebrations.

## Women's Ctr Still Providing Services

**Are you an individual impacted by domestic violence or sexual assault?**

During this incredibly difficult time, we want to assure victims of sexual and domestic violence that

The Women's Center is still providing support, care and services. We recognize that times of community crisis can be especially difficult for survivors of intimate partner violence. All services are free and confidential.

Current services for survivor and victims include:

- The Women's Center's rape crisis and domestic violence hotline is operating 24/7.
- Intake and one-on-one counseling, advocacy, referrals, and support services are available by phone in English, Spanish and Portuguese 9:30 am- 4:30 pm.
- Medical advocacy/hospital response is being offered via phone to all hospitals in our area.
- Our shelters are open, but currently full. We have some limited hotel room placements available for emergencies. Accessible through our hotline.
- Police, court and legal advocacy & assistance with orders of protection are provided by phone.

Our door on the street may temporarily not be open, in keeping with the Governor's orders, but we are still here to help.

**All services are accessible 24/7 through our hotline: 508 999-6636.**

## Self Guided Art Tours

Reimagining urban spaces is second nature to New Bedford artists. Throughout the city, you'll find public areas that have been either activated or redefined thanks to the creative impulses of artists.

This coming summer, as we all reimagine what time spent outdoors means without public events due to the Covid-19 crisis, this wealth of art has now been collected into **three self-guided Public Art Walking Tours by New Bedford Creative**, which can still be enjoyed as a community while practicing social distancing.

Patricia Thomas, Co-chair of New Bedford Creative Consortium's Public Art Squad and Artistic Director of culture\*park says, "With these designated Walking Tours, New Bedford is right alongside other great cities where artists, art and community matter!

"Being able to visit works of art outside, and in person now, is an extra special gift. I hope folks will get

out and walk to see the murals, statues and other outside art that may have been hiding in plain sight."

The Self-Guided Tours are available to residents and visitors alike as either downloadable PDFs or via a specially created Google map. You can find links to both on NewBedfordCreative.org's cultural district page and the tours page on DestinationNewBedford.org.

There, you'll find the Self-Guided Public Arts Tours arranged into three distinct districts in New Bedford: The Seaport Cultural District - Downtown; The Seaport Cultural District - Waterfront; and Love The Ave in the North End centered along Acushnet Avenue.

In all, over 50 works of art ranging from murals to sculpture are represented on the tours.

Share your revelations with all of us by taking pictures and sharing to social media with the hashtag #NBCreative. The tours and the wonder this artwork generates can create a new community experience all its own as we collectively redefine our city together moving forward.

To download the map, visit [http://destinationnewbedford.org/wp-content/uploads/New-Bedford-Self-Guided-Public-Art-Tours\\_v2.pdf](http://destinationnewbedford.org/wp-content/uploads/New-Bedford-Self-Guided-Public-Art-Tours_v2.pdf)

For more information on New Bedford Creative Consortium, visit [newbedfordcreative.org](http://newbedfordcreative.org)

## Free Masks for NB Residents

Mayor Jon Mitchell announced that the City of New Bedford has launched MaskNB, an initiative in partnership with the Southeastern Massachusetts chapter of the American Red Cross and Joseph Abboud Manufacturing Corporation, to continue to promote the widespread use of masks to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by offering a mask to any City resident who wants one at no cost, at a series of drive-through distribution events in late May and June.

Under the MaskNB distribution plan, interested residents in each of the City's six Wards will have an opportunity to obtain free cloth face masks at New Bedford High School, 230 Hathaway Boulevard, on the following assigned dates and times:

**CONT'D NEXT PAGE**

## HAPPENINGS/STILL OVERTOWN

- Ward 1: Sat., 5/30, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
- Ward 2: Sun., 5/31, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
- Ward 3: Sat., 6/6, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
- Ward 4: Sun., 6/7 – 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
- Ward 5: Sat., 6/13 – 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
- Ward 6: Sun., 6/14 – 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

The dates are listed at [www.masknb.com](http://www.masknb.com). Additional dates may be announced based on supplies.

### Donate Convalescent Plasma

Southcoast Health enrolled in the Convalescent Plasma Expanded Access program through the Mayo Clinic and the American Red Cross. We are now encouraging patients who

have fully recovered from COVID-19 to donate plasma through the American Red Cross to help current COVID-19 patients.

There is evidence that people who have fully recovered from COVID-19 have antibodies in their plasma that can attack the virus. This convalescent plasma is being evaluated as a treatment for patients with serious or immediately life-threatening COVID-19 infections, or those judged by a healthcare provider to be at high risk of progression to severe or life-threatening disease.

You may qualify to donate plasma for coronavirus patients if you meet

specific convalescent plasma and regular blood donation eligibility requirements.

If you're fully recovered from a new coronavirus infection and meet the above criteria, please fill out the Donor Eligibility Form (<https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/dlp/plasma-donations-from-recovered-covid-19-patients.html#donorform>). A Red Cross representative will follow up with prospective candidates to confirm eligibility.

Visit [Southcoast.org/covid19](http://Southcoast.org/covid19) for more information about our response to this public health crisis.

## HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

### CANCELLATIONS

*Editor's note: Many businesses in Massachusetts are still closed, and all large gatherings have been 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.*

### Watershed Ride Reg Discount

The Buzzards Bay Watershed Ride provides one of the most scenic coastal cycling courses in all of New England, and it returns for its 14th year on **Sunday, Oct. 4**. Cyclists of all ages and abilities can sign up now to bike 35, 75 or 100 miles at the Buzzards Bay Watershed Ride by visiting [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/ride](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/ride). **Participants who sign up before Monday, June 1 will save \$10 on the registration, too.**

The Watershed Ride is a fun community event that supports a great cause: clean water in Buzzards Bay. More than 300 cyclists participate in the ride each year, pedaling through 11 coastal communities and passing more than 3,300 acres of conservation land protected by the Buzzards Bay Coalition and other conservation organizations.

Starting in Little Compton, R.I., the 100-mile route travels past coastal farms and villages, picking up the 75-mile riders at Horseneck Beach State Reservation in Westport and the 35-mile riders at idyllic East Over Farm in Rochester. All three route options finish together at a waterfront celebration in Woods Hole on Cape Cod, complete with cheering supporters, a hot dinner, beer and wine bar, live music and complimentary massages.

Each rider raises a minimum of \$300, and prizes go to riders and teams that raise the highest totals.

To register visit [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/ride](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/ride).

### Falcon Webcam

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is pleased to announce, that in partnership with MassWildlife, a wildlife monitoring camera has been installed on the Gillis Bridge in Newburyport to monitor peregrine falcons nesting on the Newburyport side of the bridge. The Gillis Bridge nesting box, built by MassWildlife, was installed by MassDOT in 2017. This year, a camera was installed to take photographs of the box every 15 minutes during daylight hours. Images can be viewed at [www.senserasystems.com/public/project/gillisbridgeperegrine](http://www.senserasystems.com/public/project/gillisbridgeperegrine) camera.

Members of the public can also view the falcon box from the Clipper City Rail Trail under the south side of the bridge; binoculars are recommended. Three falcon eggs were laid and it's believed that at least one egg

hatched earlier this month as an adult falcon was recorded feeding a presumed chick in the nest box. MassDOT will provide more updates on the falcons as they continue into the nesting season.

MassDOT and MassWildlife monitor nine other falcon nesting box locations statewide: Braga Bridge in Fall River, the Tobin Bridge in Chelsea, the Mass. Turnpike Bridge over the Connecticut River in Chicopee, Calvin Coolidge Bridge in Northampton, the French King Bridge in Erving and Gill, Chelsea Street Bridge in Chelsea, Muller Bridge in Holyoke, Basiliere Bridge in Haverhill, and the I-91 Deerfield River Bridge in Deerfield.

The nest program also benefits transportation infrastructure, as it is well known by engineers, (and birders), that bridges are a favorite roosting habitat for pigeons. The birds' guano accumulates on bridge surfaces, increasing oxidation rates of steel, creating rust, resulting in increased maintenance needs. Fortunately, peregrine falcons excel at hunting pigeons. State biologists and engineers have seen reduced pigeon populations at bridges with nesting falcons. Nest boxes protect vulnerable eggs and chicks from the elements and MassWildlife biologists have observed an increase in falcon chick numbers occupying the bridge nest boxes.

Follow this link to learn more about the recovery of the peregrine falcon and other species in Massachusetts: [www.mass.gov/service-details/rare-species-success-stories](http://www.mass.gov/service-details/rare-species-success-stories).

# Recipe of the Week

## Traditional Mexican Guacamole

- 2 avocados, peeled and pitted
- 1 cup chopped tomatoes
- ¼ cup chopped onion
- ¼ cup chopped cilantro
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and minced (optional)
- salt and ground black pepper to taste

Mash avocados in a bowl until creamy.

Mix tomatoes, onion, cilantro, lemon juice, and jalapeno pepper into mashed avocado until well combined; season with salt and black pepper.

### To share a recipe with your neighbors

Mail to 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719; fax to 508-991-5580; email to [neighnews@comcast.net](mailto:neighnews@comcast.net) (Email preferred)

# Voc-tech students win statewide award

## Press Release

Greater New Bedford Voc Tech seniors Jack Ostiguy and Kerstin Trahan in the Engineering Technology program were recognized at the state level vocational awards. Jack Ostiguy was selected for the Massachusetts Vocational Association's (MVA) and the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrations' (MAVA) annual outstanding student award.

Both the Academic Excellence and the Trade Excellence award was given to him in his freshman year. Jack has also received high honors for all four years of his high school experience. He held the position of class president for the 2018-2019 school year and is currently Vice President of Community Service for National Honor Society.

At SkillsUSA, a career and technical student organization, Jack represented GNB Voc-Tech in the Robotic Automation competition. Being a proud Scout of Troop 24 New Bedford, he is currently preparing his qualifications for Eagle Scout rank.

Kerstin Trahan was selected for MVA's Non-Traditional Student Award. Kerstin is a SkillsUSA national champion, and a future United States Naval Aviator. As a senior, Kerstin displays her

dedication through her participation in various AP and Honors classes as well as membership with GNBVT's National Honor Society. Not only is she involved heavily in her academic courses, but she also has a passion for her career technical area, Engineering Technology. One of her favorite things about Engineering is it allows her to showcase her ability to design new and unique prototypes that can function. For Kerstin, seeing her designs come to life has to be one of her most rewarding experiences at Voc-Tech.

One of her personal goals for life after high school is to enlist in the US Navy in order to work on the electrical components for naval aircrafts. Once finishing her service, Kerstin aspires to attend Massachusetts Institute of Technology and eventually obtain a Master's degree in Aerospace Engineering. After her schooling is completed, her main career goal is to be able to work at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) creating rockets.

Congratulations to Jack and Kerstin on receiving these prestigious awards.

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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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# Acushnet: Two fire dept. members test positive for COVID-19

By Beth David  
Editor

In what he described as a “gut punch,” Acushnet Fire Chief Kevin Gallagher announced on Facebook on 5/15/20, that two members of the department tested positive for COVID-19.

In a post titled “A Message From a Very Humbled Chief,” Mr. Gallagher said that 62 Acushnet residents tested positive so far for COVID-19.

“Each day the state notifies the Town Nurse who notifies the Town Health Agent who notifies the Police and Fire Chiefs,” wrote the chief. “A good day only has a few names on the report. A great day has no new names. There haven’t been a lot of great days lately. Each day, it seems, brings new numbers.”

Chief Gallagher said the department goes through “great lengths” to protect the privacy of people who are on the list.

“For them and their families this crisis went from something they read about to something they were quickly forced to deal with. The stress and fear must be unimaginable,” he wrote. “We know of this first hand as our Fire & EMS family has been living this crisis in real-time.

“Recently, two of our members tested positive for Covid-19. The news was a gut punch for them, their families, friends and co-workers. Their immediate families went into quarantine, their department family, with whom they had direct contact, went for testing. The good news is that their infection was isolated, their symptoms were minor and they have been cleared to return to work (following stringent protocols).

“Their story is being played out far and wide. Unknown exposure, no signs or symptoms during the period of being highly contagious, concerns leading to testing, positive results then

lockdown. And during quarantine, way too much time to sit and worry about their present and their future. During many telephone conversations they kept their spirits high but we could detect that ever present stress.”

The chief wrote that he received permission to share the update. He said he hopes the story “highlights the need to stay vigilant,” and to stay focused on social distancing, hand hygiene and mask wearing.

“Our friends turned out to be one of the lucky ones,” he wrote. “We can only hope and pray that our other 60 friends will be so lucky.”

Chief Gallagher also said they are being “diligent about protecting privacy,” and hopes the message will be used to motivate people to double down on precautions. He acknowledged that Acushnet is a small town, but said the focus should now be on who has the virus, but on “how to not become Acushnet’s next number.”

## Visit 2500 museums virtually

By Beth David  
Editor

Several articles have been floating around with virtual tours of museums around the world. Google Arts & Culture has collected 2500 museums (<https://artsandculture.google.com/partner?hl=en>) that you can visit virtually during your pandemic downtime. Since our Day Tripping series has been curtailed due to the COVID-19 restrictions, we decided to sample a few of the possibilities, and start with some local favorites.



### New Bedford Whaling Museum

<https://www.whalingmuseum.org>

The New Bedford Whaling Museum has launched “Museum from Home” (<https://www.whalingmuseum.org/museum-from-home/>), with this message: “If you are looking for things to do with your children, resources to

keep students engaged, ways to spend your time learning about something new, or just taking a moment to enjoy our Collection from the comfort of your own home, please explore our links below.”

Possibilities include links to the “Lecture Gallery,” which leads to current and past lectures on a variety of subjects. Learn about Dutch Maritime Painting; photojournalism by Peter Pereira; Women in Public Arts; The World of William Bradford, a Fairhaven artist, by several different lecturers; the New Bedford glass museum; and many, many more.

Parents will also find science activities for kids, 15-second science videos; science-themed hands-on activities; a virtual field trip inside the whaling museum; collections “show and tell,” a behind the scenes look at exhibits.

Remember the hoopla about the grand panorama that was restored and took up a whole wall at the Kilburn Mill? You can see a digital version of it through a link on the Museum from Home website.

Also see “Portraits of a City,” an online exhibit of old photos from the Standard-Times collection, from the early 20th century (that’s like...1901).



### New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center

<https://fishingheritagecenter.org>

The New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center has an extensive collection of digital exhibits.

The “At Sea” exhibit includes groundfishing, scalloping, safety at sea, and audio of interviews of fishing industry professionals, including descriptions of fishing, a few fish stories, and storm stories.

The “On Shore” exhibit includes lots of fun information about shoreside workers, such as suppliers, fish buyers, processors, lumpers, welders, and more.

Audio includes stories from the Working Waterfront Festivals and the old fish auctions from the Wharfinger Building on Pier 3.

A history of the fishing industry in New Bedford includes a handy timeline from around 1900 to the 2010s.

**MUSEUMS: cont’d next page**

## MUSEUMS: cont'd from previous page

The site also includes recent links to the Dock-u-Mentary series, including "Big Dreams from Karmoy to Hawaii: The Kaare Ness Story."



### New Bedford Art Museum/ Artworks

<https://newbedfordart.org>

The New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks has created a virtual gallery that includes the new exhibit Teen Artist Internship Program (TAIP), with art from 16 teen artists.

The "Steppin' Out" family guide includes activities for children.

The museum's digital resources page invites visitors to explore their YouTube Channel, virtual exhibits, and to get creative with "Museum Dog and friends." You can find art lessons and activities for children;

Other current exhibits include "She Persisted," Women artists of New Bedford, 1900-2019; and "Excavation: Layers of Meaning," which "digs into the layers of artworks made by ten Massachusetts artists."



### Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society

<http://www.whitfield-manjiro.org/>

Learn the story of Manjiro Nakahama, a Japanese boy of 14 who was stranded on a desert island, was picked up by Fairhaven Whaling Captain William Whitfield, and brought back to Fairhaven.

Manjiro was the first Japanese person to live and be educated in the US. He eventually became instrumental in opening up Japan to the west and earned a last name. You can learn his story on the WMFS website and download a brochure for a self-guided tour of the Manjiro Trail.



### Boston Children's Museum

<https://www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org>

The Boston Children's Museum has a treasure trove of activities, webinars, videos, storytime, and resources available for free on its website under the "Activities Archive." You can sign up for a daily activities email for an activity you can work on with children, articles, and podcasts about play and learning at home during this time of social distancing.

The archive includes a video on how coins are made, what happens to paper after we recycle it, do-it-yourself activities, webinars for middle school students, music and dance videos, and special guest storytime.

Don't be afraid to scroll past the first page, there are hundreds of possibilities on this delightful site.



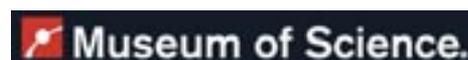
### Museum of Fine Arts "Boston"

<https://www.mfa.org>

The Museum of Fine Arts Boston has a variety of online events to enjoy from home, including music performances, distance learning classes, chats, talks and more. Click on "online events" on the home page to access.

Online exhibits are available on the Google Arts & Culture website at <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/museum-of-fine-arts-boston> and include hundreds of images of the collections.

A free selection of videos includes curator talks, conversations with artists, and virtual tours.



### Boston Museum of Science

<https://www.mos.org>

Enjoy the Boston Museum of Science's MOSatHome: Our building may be closed. But science never stops. And neither does the Museum of Science! Here's a collection of STEM resources designed to bring the Museum — to you!

Content includes Daily Live Stream by museum educators with fun, presentations for the entire family; "STEM Beyond School" with tips on how to support STEM at home, webinars.

Virtual exhibits (<https://www.mos.org/mos-at-home/virtual-exhibits>) include "The Science Behind Pixar," about movie animation; "Mystery Skulls," identifying what animal skulls belong to; "Bird Flight Patterns," learn to observe and recognize birds by their flight patterns; a digital coloring page, where you can download a page to color on paper, or color using digital tools online (*wicked cool!*).



### New England Aquarium

<https://www.neaq.org>

The New England Aquarium offers great variety in its virtual experience including animal webcams; presentations like a Blue Parrotfish Exam, a video on "mouthbrooding" (the fish holds the eggs in its mouth until they are ready to hatch). Animal cams include the Giant Ocean Tank, with a guide on when dive times are.

In archived episodes of "Fast Friday Facebook" you can learn about sharks, lanfish, sea jellies, dwarf seahorses and more.

This should get you started. Next time, we'll go to some more exotic locales, and then maybe we'll go to libraries and historical societies, some local, some not-so-local. They all have lots of interesting stuff on their websites.

## From our readers

### Pond responds to Denkel

In response to Christianne Denkel's letter (5/7/20), I welcome this opportunity to set the record straight.

Let's start with the account of Trump's bankruptcies. This may well be true. On the other hand, many of his business enterprisees are quite successful: golf courses, hotels and office buildings. They provide many jobs.

On the subject of bankruptcy, consider the financial crisis of 2008. This was brought about by all the unsecured mortgages promoted by unscrupulous bankers and politicians. One was Congressman Barney Frank. He had oversight of the federal lending institutions. When questioned about this six months prior to the collapse, he said everything was fine.

The government had to shell out millions and billions to shore up these banks.

Under Obama's administration we had the lowest post recession recovery ever recorded. Our businesses were choked with excessive regulations, overtaxed. We had a

staggering trade imbalance with China, the trade agreements with Europe were unfair. Our trade agreement with Mexico and Canada put us at a great disadvantage.

This all changed under Trump's administration. He tore up the old agreements and renegotiated new ones protecting us.

He's the only president who has confronted China by imposing trade tariffs. He has negotiated new trade agreements with China that deal with this imbalance.

Prior to this coronavirus outbreak, we had record low unemployment, 7+ million new jobs, 560,000\* new manufacturing jobs, thousands of new businesses, many major new manufacturing plants being built.

Contrast this to Obama who, when asked about the loss of these manufacturing jobs, said what do you want me to do, wave a magic wand and bring them back?

In short, under Trump's administration the economy was booming. If you wanted a job, it was there.

*John Pond, Fairhaven*

*\*This number is disputed.*

### Keep audio-only telehealth services

We made a great decision. Now we need to adopt it. On March 10, 2020, in a response to the Commonwealth's COVID-19 outbreak, Governor Baker used his executive order to expand TeleHealth services to include audio-only-telephonic treatment. As allowed in other states, I put forward to preserve the audio-only as a permanent viable billable telemedicine service option for behavioral healthcare here in Massachusetts.

The 2018 National Survey on Drug Use and Health recorded 57.8 million Americans in the United States have a mental health and/or substance misuse disorder, and over 68,683 calls per month came into the National Help Line. Access to priority preventative, behavioral health, and substance treatment is critical for both individuals and their families.

Despite traditional Telehealth (audio with video) being available, it is ultimately, our most vulnerable populations who don't have access to

LETTERS: cont'd to page 21



### 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.

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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.

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# Acushnet Selectboard still discussing rollover vacation days

By Pattie Pacella

## Neighb News Correspondent

The Acushnet Selectboard met via Zoom on Tuesday, 5/12/20, and their first item was the vacation rollover discussion.

Chairperson Roger Cabral stated that Town Administrator Julie Hebert had sent them a detailed document that reviewed vacations specific to the employees, anything from a total of 4.9 weeks to the low of zero vacation weeks left at this time.

"I can't imagine COVID has had to do with some of these vacations not being used," Mr. Cabral said. "I'm sensitive to the COVID fact but I can't blame COVID one hundred percent for unused vacation."

Administrative Assistant Lisa Leonard was not on the call. Mr. Cabral said he was certainly sensitive to her situation as they have requested that she keep the Selectboard's office open through the COVID crisis and that they have asked her to "go above and beyond."

Mr. Cabral said he is inclined to move forward with "no more than a week can be rolled over."

Board member Kevin Gaspar stated that he had read and reread the information provided by Ms. Hebert and he could not understand how they have allowed some of the accumulation totals. He said it looked like some people had more vacation than they were supposed to be given according to their contracts. He used an example of "one of the kids, who it says has 3.2 weeks of vacation left on the books, but you don't get three weeks until after five years, and he hasn't been here that long."

Mr. Gaspar stated he had a few conversations with staff who told him that it was past practice with Town Administrator Brian Noble to allow rollovers of all vacation unused. Mr. Gaspar stated there was an "exorbitant amount of rollover time," and he was not in favor of having it all roll over.

Ms. Hebert brought to the board's attention that some of the numbers on the report were inaccurate and it was a little difficult to read, when they went to the new payroll system. However, she assured them that the bottom-line list of "available hours" is most certainly accurate.

Ms. Hebert also stated that as far as she knew, Mr. Noble granted a one-

week rollover, except with the Collector/Treasurer, and that was two weeks.

Mr. Cabral proposed that they allow no more than one-week rollover vacation week, and any other vacation time would have to be used by June 30, 2020.

"So it's business as usual," said board member David Desroches. "Use your vacation, carry over one week."

He said that is how the contracts read, and it should continue like that. He also asked Ms. Hebert if anyone had submitted a request for more than a week rollover.

Mr. Gaspar stated he would be in favor of a one-week rollover.

Mr. Cabral said he agreed as well, but he would like the Selectboard to keep an open mind to situations that

---

[Board member Kevin Gaspar] said it looked like some people had more vacation than they were supposed to be given according to their contracts.

---

might arise under an "exception rule."

Mr. Gaspar disagreed: "Once the vote is done it should be a done deal."

He added that they have already received a few emails from employees asking them to reconsider the rule and "quite frankly the Police Chief's last few sentences in his email are disturbing," he said, "but I won't go there."

There was a discrepancy in the emails the three Selectboard members received.

Mr. Gaspar stated there was an email that came in the day of the meeting with a "list" of people who had requested more than the one-week rollover. Mr. Desroches and Mr. Cabral were not sure they received that email.

After a few minutes, Mr. Cabral noted that he just noticed the email and after a quick look said the list was too long and ask that the Board

consider reviewing it at their next meeting.

Mr. Desroches and Mr. Gaspar wanted to move forward with the discussion that already took place and they voted to allow the one-week rollover only.

Ms. Hebert then requested they do a separate review for the Fire Department as their contract does not say anything about a rollover and since the COVID crisis the Fire Chief has frozen vacation time for department employees. The Selectboard agreed to discuss it at their next meeting.

In other business, the Selectboard began reviewing the articles for Town Meeting and the FY21 budgets. Mr. Cabral stated there were quite a few new by-law changes that were set to be heard at the Town Meeting and he was having a hard time understanding all of them. He requested that the persons responsible for writing the by-laws be asked to be present at their next meeting.

Mr. Gaspar was more disturbed with the stormwater by-law changes and the feasibility needed to hold Public Hearings before Town Meeting to discuss by-law changes.

He stated that they must determine if the by-laws are potentially "controversial" and if they are, then they would require a full or close to full quorum at Town Meeting.

"And I certainly believe they are controversial," Mr. Gaspar said.

"Who determines if they are controversial?" asked Mr. Cabral.

"We do," Mr. Gaspar said.

The Selectboard continued to discuss the different articles. The Community Preservation Committee, is requesting \$80,000 for a school playground; the Selectboard were in favor of that article.

The CPC had also submitted an article for a "Pollinated Garden" for \$5,000, which prompted some discussion.

"Absolutely not," Mr. Gaspar said. "I am not for it. And I've heard a little about this article and that we're killing bees and they don't have anywhere to go. Not for it."

Mr. Desroches agreed that he was "okay striking this."

Mr. Cabral wanted someone to attend a meeting to discuss the project with the board, however with

**ACUSH SELECT: cont'd on page 20**



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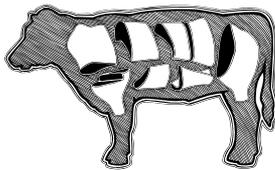
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# Public Hearings/ Legal Notices

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

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS Fairhaven Planning Board

Notice is hereby given that the Fairhaven Planning Board will conduct Public Hearings at **6:30 P.M. on Tuesday May 26, 2020**, in the Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA and online via Zoom. **To access remotely Log onto:**

<https://zoom.us/j/98942564043?pwd=Ty9DZTVjMUkrMUROcTzVmc9HZU9HUT09>

or call 1-929-205-6099, Meeting ID: 989 4256 4043 - Password: 082099.

The purpose of the hearing will be to receive information and public comment on a *Text Amendment* to the Fairhaven Code, proposed by the Planning Board that would allow Special Permits to be valid for up to three years. Currently Special Permits are limited by Section 198-8.B to "... lapse if substantial use thereof or construction has not begun within two years, except for good cause". The proposal would allow the Planning Board the ability to limit the validity of the Special Permit to if "...construction has not begun within two years, or, at the Planning Boards discretion, up to three years, except for good cause." The flexibility to allow Special Permits up to three years would also affect and use the same language in Sections: 198.29.1.D(3) for Communication Services; 198.29.3.E(17) for Sexually Oriented Businesses; 198-29.5.G(3) and 198-29.5.M(3) for Wind Energy Facilities; and 198.29.6.I(3) for Solar Photovoltaic Energy Facilities (SPEF).

A copy of the application is on file for public review at the Planning Board Office, Town Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and all information is accessible at the Planning Board webpage. To schedule an appointment to review the application call the Planning Department at (508) 979-4082, Ext. 9.

The purpose of the hearing will be to receive information and public comment on the updating of the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) to maintain currency with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This requires amendments to the Zoning Bylaw Chapter 198, Section 28, to replace five (5) existing map panels (25005C0391F, 25005C0392F, 25005C0394F, 25005C0411F, 25005C0413F) dated July 7, 2009) with five (5) new map panels (25005C0391H, 25005C0392G, 25005C0394H, 25005C0411G, 25005C0413G) dated July 8, 2020). The date of the Bristol County Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report needs to be changed to July 8, 2020 and some required language from the NFIP model bylaw must be added. The location is town wide.

A copy of the application is on file for public review at the Planning Board Office, Town Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and all information is accessible at the Planning Board webpage: <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/planning-board/webforms/national-flood-insurance-maps-new-nfip-fairhaven-map-panels-and-bylaw>

To schedule an appointment to review the application call the Planning Department at (508) 979-4082, Ext. 9.

John Farrell, Chairman, Fairhaven Planning Board  
FNN: 5/14/20, 5/21/20

## Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearings

Tuesday, June 2, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.  
Town Hall Banquet Room, 40 Center Street  
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92732873856?pwd=RWD6K1pnZ1pnK1c4SWJPNEVRSmdoQT09>  
or call 1-929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 927 3287 3856 Password: 493020

- 1. Administrative Appeal by Fairhaven Shipyard – re: 7 Union Street.** Seeking reversal of zoning determination by the Town of Fairhaven Building Commissioner dated February 20, 2020. (Application attached) – Continued from April 7, 2020 and May 5, 2020.
- 2. 905 Scoticut Neck Road, Robert S Davis.** Variance request of 12.5' short of 30' front setback, 12.0' short of 30' in rear setback in a RA Zone to demolish and

reconstruct a single-family dwelling. 198-21(3) Restoration – No conforming structure damaged by fire, storm or other causes to the extent of 75% of its replacement value shall be repaired or rebuilt except in conformity with this chapter, within 2 years.

- 3. 16 Wilbur's Point Drive. 198-18:** Variance for 15' short of the front setback, 28' short of the rear setback, 8.5' short of the side back, 5'5" short of the southerly side setback. 198-18: Variance for 2.5' above the maximum 35' height requirement for new single family home.
- 198-21(d):** Variance to demolish and rebuild the house within 2 years.
- 4. Administrative Appeal by A1 Crane – re: 86-88 Middle Street.** Administrative Appeal from a letter dated April 7, 2020 from the Building Commissioner stating that the operation on the site is in violation of the Mixed Use zoning regulations. (see attached-Exhibit 3)
- 5. 34 Davis Street. Viveiros, Kevin. 198-22:** Variance request for 2' short on Northeast Side of 10' required for installation of an above ground pool

Peter DeTerra, Chairman  
FNN: 5/14/20, 5/21/20

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Fairhaven Planning Board

NOTICE OF CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING  
Tuesday, June 2, 2020, at 7:00 pm  
Banquet Room, Town Hall, 40 Center Street  
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Notice is hereby given that the Fairhaven Planning Board will conduct a Continued Public Hearing at 7:00 P.M. on **Tuesday June 2, 2020**, in the Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA. The originally scheduled continued public hearing on March 24, 2020 could not take place as the Planning Board Meeting was cancelled due to the Coronavirus situation. **The Planning Board Meeting will be conducted remotely for the public. To Join the Meeting from home, Log on to:**

<https://zoom.us/j/97214180369?pwd=OVBMQkVmVUZieGYzV2JBMVJzVWcwQT09>  
or Telephone 1-929-205-6099;  
Meeting ID: 972 1418 0369; Password: 307844

The purpose of the hearing will be to receive information and public comment on the following *Special Permit* application: 1) **2019-15: Bridge Street Mazda.** The applicant, Carapace LLC, is requesting approval through the Special Permit review process to construct an approximately 14,000 square foot commercial building for an auto dealership with **fifty-four (54) parking spaces** and associated infrastructure, stormwater control and landscaping. The location is 250 Bridge Street, Map 36, Lot 15.

A copy of the application is on file for public review at the Planning Board Office, Town Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. To schedule an appointment to review the application call the Planning Department at (508) 979-4082, Ext. 9. Much of the file can be viewed at the Planning Board webpage on Current Projects Under Review: <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/planning-board/pages/current-permits-being-reviewed-special-permits-definitive-subdivisions>

John Farrell, Chairman, Fairhaven Planning Board  
FNN: 5/21/20, 5/28/20

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Fairhaven Conservation Commission

Monday, June 1, 2020 at 6:30pm  
Town Hall, 40 Center Street  
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

To Access Meeting Remotely:  
<https://zoom.us/j/96492622108?pwd=Sk9BWThPOTJYOWM5N1MxblIzeHhIz09>

or CALL 1-929-205-6099  
Meeting ID: 964 9262 2108

Password: 027184

The Fairhaven Conservation Commission will hold the following **Public Hearings** pursuant to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. c. 131, s. 40) and the Code of the Town of Fairhaven Chapter 192, Wetlands:

- CON 023-141: **42 Camel Street** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by William and Deborah Farrell for the replacement of an existing porch and footings at the property located at 42 Camel Street, Assessors Map 29, Lot 58. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage and buffer zone to Salt Marsh.
- CON 023-142: **70 Reservation Road** Notice of Intent filed by Jeffrey Lee for the repair of a seawall at the property located at 70 Reservation Road, Assessors Map 29B, Lot 7. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, on Coastal Bank, and in buffer zone to Coastal Beach and Coastal Dune
- CON 023-143: **21 Cove Street** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Joseph and Patricia Marshall for the replacement and enlargement of the existing deck at the property located at 21 Cove Street, Assessors Map 28B, Lot 55. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage and buffer zone to Coastal Dune.

Public participation will be via virtual means only: Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Fairhaven Conservation Commission will be conducted via remote participation. The public may participate in this meeting via remote participation. Information regarding remote meeting access, listed above, will also be provided on the Conservation Agenda posted on the Town's website at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Copies of the applications listed in this hearing notice may be viewed electronically at: <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/conservation-commission/pages/current-filings>

Jay Simmons, Chair  
Fairhaven Conservation Commission  
Fairhaven Neighborhood News, 5/21/20

## ACUSH SELECT: cont'd from page 16

Mr. Desroches and Mr. Gaspar in favor of wanting to strike the article he went with the majority.

The Selectboard quickly reviewed the FY21 budgets and determined that \$1.1 million dollars was going to be cut from the FY21 budget and that even with the budget reductions that came in from the different departments, they were still looking at a \$365,000 deficit.

"It's unfortunate," Mr. Gaspar said. "But we have to still cut monies."

The Selectboard agreed to continue to review the budgets at their next meeting. They will also be discussing how to safely open Town Hall and departments when the Governor states it is okay to do so.

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### LETTERS: cont'd from page 14

modernized resources and go untreated. Lack of treatment inevitably leads to a larger use of crisis, urgent care, and emergency services. The National Health Interview Survey of 2013 & 2014 listed "seriousness of the medical problem, doctor's office or clinic was not open, and lack of access to other providers" as predominant reasons for patients accessing emergency room services.

COVID-19 has brought an opportunity to Massachusetts. Under the executive order, we are reaching more people and giving healthcare workers more options. This is our chance to fill a gap in care, serve all members of the Commonwealth, and decrease emergency service costs. We can't go backwards.

I urge everyone to reach out to your representatives to support preserving the audio only Telehealth option here in Massachusetts. Together, we can all make an impact.

*Christyn Guillotte, Fairhaven*

*The writer is pursuing a master's in social work at Boston University.*

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## TIDE TABLE

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

	May 2020	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	21	0753	2010	0122	1301
Friday	22	0832	2048	0148	1336
Saturday	23	0913	2130	0225	1416
Sunday	24	0956	2213	0306	1502
Monday	25	1040	2257	0348	1548
Tuesday	26	1127	2346	0429*	1632
Wednesday	27	----	1220	0511*	1720
Thursday	28	0042	1319	0600	1816
Friday	29	0140	1416	0701	1930
Saturday	30	0237	1511	0810	2045
Sunday	31	0334	1611	0911	2156

\*= Predicted minus tides from -0.1 ft. to -1.0 ft

\*\*Predicted minus tides from -1.1 ft to -2.0 ft or more

## ALL IN PERSON MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELED

*No in-person attendance is allowed by the public during the COVID-19 crisis.*

*The information on how to join remotely is listed on the agendas. Most meetings also run live on the government access channel, and Fairhaven meetings are livestreamed at FairhavenTV.com*

## Fairhaven Meetings

### Board of Appeals

Tues., 6/2, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

### Board of Assessors

Thurs., 5/28, Town Hall, 4:30 p.m.

### Board of Health

Thurs., 5/28, Town Hall, 3 p.m.

### Board of Public Works

Tues., 5/26, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

### ELECTION

The town election has been postponed to 6/8

### Finance Committee

Thurs., 5/21, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

### Planning Board

Tues., 5/26, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### School Committee

Wed., 6/3, 6:30 p.m.

### Selectboard

Thurs., 5/28, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### Town Meeting

TM has been postponed to June 27.

## Acushnet Meetings

### ELECTION

The town election has been postponed to 6/27

### Housing Authority

Wed., 5/27, Nate Gomes Ctr., 9 a.m.

### PJ Keating Meeting

Tues., 5/26, Ford MS, 6 p.m.

### Selectboard

Tues., 5/26, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

### Town Meeting

TM has been postponed to June 22.

There is a cult of ignorance in the United States, and there has always been. The strain of anti-intellectualism has been a constant thread winding its way through our political and cultural life, nurtured by the false notion that democracy means that my ignorance is just as good as your knowledge.

*Isaac Asimov*

## BPW: cont'd from page 4

Mr. Furtado explained that they are prepared for that, and have bought the thermometer. If the Board of Health tells them they need to check temperatures they will. He also said that it has been two months since all the employees have worked and they want to get back to work safely.

In another matter Mr. Furtado asked if the board wanted to discuss the recycling center hours now that town employees would be working full time.

Mr. Wotton asked Mr. Hobson if he wanted to discuss the recycling center,

Mr. Hobson said that they can wait until the next meeting and just keep the hours they way they are for now.

Mr. Wotton said he thought Mr. Hobson would want to open the recycling center more days now. He said he did not want to pass up the discussion if Mr. Hobson wanted to open the recycling center more days.

Mr. Hobson explained that opening the recycling center for the summer hours changes it to be open five days a week, but the recycling center would only be open until noon. Residents like the recycling center's current schedule with three days a week open until 3 p.m., he said.

The board will discuss it at the next meeting.

Mr. Furtado also told the board that he would be asking for more money for the new automatic water meter reading system at the next town meeting.

They originally were going to get a drive-by meter reading system and already have the \$1.5 million for it, but prices have recently gone down for the system. Mr. Furtado said that instead they want to go with a better automatic reading system and replace all meters instead which will cost no more than \$3.3 million total.

Mr. Furtado said the town's current meters have slowed down and are not reading accurately. The new system would save the town money in the long run.

Mr. Coelho said that just replacing the meters will save the town \$137,000, and the new system would pay for itself in a few years.

During the conversation the board received a call via Zoom from resident Karen Vilandry. She asked if the new water meters would be smart meters. She said smart meters can

emit radiation which can be harmful to people. If the town is getting smart meters, she asked if will they put protective cages around them to prevent radiation exposure.

Mr. Furtado said that first he needs to get approved for the money to get the new system. If he is able to get the money then they will go to bidding to get the equipment which is when they would discuss what type of meters they would be getting.

Mr. Hobson said they would be getting the same system as New Bedford which makes it approved and safe.

Mr. Furtado said that they will talk to other communities and make sure because they do not want to make anyone sick. He said he was glad Ms. Vilandry brought it up because it is information they can use. Board member Keith Silvia said that during the bidding process they can require

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Mr. Wotton said that they should find alternative things to cut. He said he will not cut services or summer help under his watch, and he thinks the board will back him up.

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that the package include the cage.

Mr. Wotton thanked Ms. Vilandry for calling in and making the board aware of an important issue.

Mr. Furtado said he will bring his proposal for more money to town meeting. He told the board that the town will be trying to conduct a virtual town meeting on June 27th and they might be limiting the number of articles. He said he hoped that he can get the article on the June TM warrant, but it might get pushed to the fall.

Mr. Wotton asked how they will be doing the town meeting virtually.

Mr. Furtado said he is not sure and he is worried that 200 people are going to be talking over one another.

The board voted unanimously to accept the article.

Mr. Furtado also asked the board to talk about road work again and his

meeting with the Finance Committee..

At the previous BPW meeting Mr. Furtado explained to the board that the FinCom wanted to look at the roads before approving money for the roadwork, and the board questioned that the FinCom wanted to do that.

Mr. Furtado said, that he meant no disrespect to the Finance Committee, but he just thought it was odd. He noted that a lot goes into selecting roads, such as resident petitions, engineering studies, and the payment management study.

Mr. Silvia said that the Finance Committee said that they just like to see where the roads are.

In another matter Mr. Furtado said that the Town Administrator, Mark Rees has told all town departments to come up with a list of items that could possibly be cut from the budget in case they do not have enough money due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Mr. Furtado said that with the pandemic going on maybe they can afford to cut some summer help.

Mr. Silvia, Mr. Coelho, and Mr. Wotton all said that Mr. Rees should stop creating job positions instead of cutting from departments.

Mr. Wotton said the town needs to stop throwing money around. He said they just gave a 5% salary raise to some employees but now they want a 5% cut. He said he does not want to cut services such as employees cutting grass, lifeguards, bug spraying, and parking attendants.

Mr. Silvia said that residents are still paying taxes and the town is going to take away services.

Mr. Wotton said that they should find alternative things to cut. He said he will not cut services or summer help under his watch, and he thinks the board will back him up.

Mr. Furtado said they will discuss the cuts more at the next meeting.

In another matter Mr. Hobson said he has received a few calls from residents saying that there are signs saying that they are not able to park their cars or get out of their cars at the Seaview boat ramp.

Harbormaster Timothy Cox called in via Zoom and said that residents are allowed to park at the boat ramps and they can get out and walk around as long as they are socially distant.

Mr. Cox said the signs on the boat ramp just give information about being safe and socially distant. ●●●



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Town of Fairhaven  
Community Resilience Building



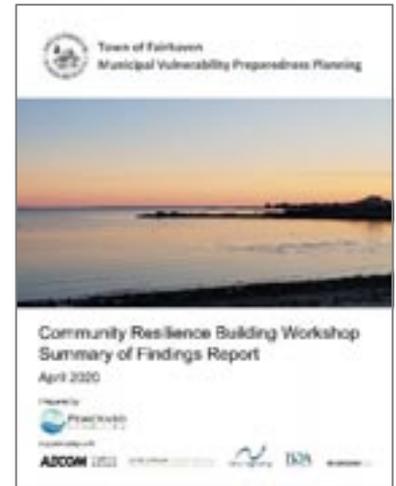
## CLIMATE CHANGE PREPAREDNESS & ADAPTATION WEBINAR, REPORT, AND SURVEY AVAILABLE THROUGH MAY 31, 2020

Fairhaven is among many towns on the front lines of climate change. With nearly 30 miles of shoreline, our community is particularly vulnerable to sea level rise, increased flooding, and more severe storms. Increasing temperatures, extended heat waves, and changing precipitation patterns will bring additional impacts and challenges to Fairhaven.

Last year, the Town of Fairhaven received a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Planning Grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to begin addressing climate change impacts on Fairhaven's infrastructure, residents, and environment. The completion of this process will result in Fairhaven's certification as an MVP Community and provide access to additional state funding for climate preparedness and adaptation.

As part of its ongoing MVP planning process, the Town of Fairhaven is now seeking community input on the *Summary of Findings* resulting from a Community Resilience Building Workshop held in January 2020. This participatory, stakeholder-driven workshop included the identification and prioritization of specific community actions for Fairhaven to pursue in reducing risk and building resilience to climate change.

This web-based engagement effort includes a [summary webinar presentation](#), a copy of the [final report](#), and an [online survey](#) to record your comments and feedback.



### Watch the webinar at:

<https://bit.ly/MVPWebinar>

### Review the report at:

<https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/mvp-program>

### Take the survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/fairhaven-mvp>

If you have questions or difficulty in accessing these materials, please contact Whitney McClees, Town of Fairhaven Conservation Agent and Sustainability Coordinator, at [wmcclees@fairhaven-ma.gov](mailto:wmcclees@fairhaven-ma.gov) or (508) 979-4023, ext. 128.