



# Fairhaven

# Neighborhood News

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



The little paper  
with a big voice!

Volume 15, Issue 26 • June 25, 2020

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

## Fairhaven to mark July 4 with video celebration



The Town of Fairhaven Cable Access department is creating a video celebration for the Fourth of July in place of a parade and other July 4th events. Town officials have been invited to participate, and the video will also include voices from community members. ABOVE: Volunteers, including members of the Fairhaven Lions Club raise the big 30'x50' flag at Fairhaven High School on 6/14/20 as part of a video being created to celebrate July 4 because the parade and other activities were canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions. *Photo courtesy of Kelly Smith, Kelly Smith Photography.*



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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.

Well, this is it. Our last issue before our two-week summer break. So, don't be worried when you don't see a new issue for a bit. We'll be back on 7/16.

Okay, where to start?

The Board of Health continues to be an embarrassment (page 4).

It looks like the men just HAVE to control those women! OMG, she leaves a half hour early to take college classes to better herself STOP THAT, STOP THAT, AAARRGGGGHHHH.

Sorry, boys, but if you're worried she might get smarter than you, relax, that horse already left the barn.

And Mr. Ristuccia wants to have a "hard book" for a log.

Even the state, yes, the slow moving state of Mass. has gone to digital logs, but not Mr. Ristuccia.

GAWD.

He admits he might be antiquated, but, wait... hold on a sec...he also asks for stuff to be emailed to him.

I think I'm in a nightmare. SOMEBODY WAKE ME UP!

Then, to add insult to injury, selectboard member Daniel Freitas jumped in remotely and grilled the health agent and ordered the BOH chairperson around, and made demands, and made explanations, and...oh, did I mention it's not his board?

We have quite the little emperor there, huh?

WAKE ME UP!!!

Break out the popcorn, people.

What really bothers me, though, and should bother all taxpayers, is the bullying of staff. It is very clear that some of these board members are determined to get people fired.

That's just mean. We are talking about people's livelihoods here. There is no reason to push people to the point that they can't do their jobs, then try to get them fired because YOU made their lives miserable.

The administrative assistant for the BOH is no longer allowed to leave a half hour early three days a week to go to college classes?

That, my friends, is a sucky place to work. Just a sucky place, with sucky bosses, and a sucky atmosphere.

So, let's see, we can make the Selectboard five people to dilute some of that power. I say that's target #1. Then, let's see if we can eliminate the BOH completely. Who needs them, really? We need a health department, but there's no reason it requires its own board to supervise it.

What a sh-tshow.

On a happier note, businesses are starting to open up. Good luck to everyone. I hope the customers come back quickly.

I know I am looking forward to eating inside at a restaurant, and maybe sitting at a bar (not yet, not yet), browsing in a store that sells stuff I don't need or want, and...well, you know, you know.

Meanwhile, it's summer! Time to play in the water and do outdoor stuff.

Until 7/16 then...see ya (from a distance)



Beth David, Publisher

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And, thank you for reading the *Neighb News*!

## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

# COVID-19 update: Indoor dining is back...mostly

By Beth David  
Editor

Indoor dining is back at Massachusetts restaurants as of this week, as the second half of the Phase II reopening continues. Nail salons, and some other personal services businesses have also been allowed to open, but all with restrictions.

Restaurants other services, including some retailers have been closed since mid-March to help stop the spread of COVID-19 amid a global pandemic that has taken the lives of nearly half a million people worldwide. In the US, more than 120,000 have died from the virus.

In restaurants, all tables must be six feet apart, there is a maximum of six to a party, and bar seating is still not allowed. Dance floors, pool tables, and other places where people gather in groups need to be removed or closed off.

Face coverings are required for servers and customers, but customers may take them off at the table. No buffets, drink stations or other communal areas can be open.

Menus need to be disposable, and no salt/pepper shakers are allowed on the tables.

Nail salons and other close-contact services may also open, but with restrictions, such as not allowing people to wait inside, and keeping chairs and work stations six feet apart. Workers are required to wear gloves, gowns and safety glasses. Customers must wear face coverings.

Other close contact services that can open, with restrictions, include massage therapy, makeup salons/application services, personal training, tattoo parlors, hair removal and tanning salons.

Retailers are allowed to open dressing rooms, but by appointment only.

All businesses are required to clean high-touch areas regularly.

Offices can also expand from 25% to 50% capacity, but employees are still being encouraged to work from home.

Massachusetts has had 107,439 confirmed cases of COVID-19 as of 6/23/20, and 7,890 deaths, with 4,970

in nursing homes; 782,854 individuals have been tested.

The numbers are going in the right direction, with the number of cases going down and the number of deaths or critically ill numbers also going down. The state has also significantly ramped up testing, including pop-up testing sites last week specifically for people who had attended rallies and protest marches.

The numbers are still holding steady, even with those individuals included.

Governor Baker said on Tuesday that he believed the low rate of transmission was due to the protests being outside, and in Massachusetts many people wore face coverings even at protests.

For more information on COVID-19 in Massachusetts visit <https://www.mass.gov/covid>.

The US has 2,302,288 cases, with 120,333 deaths as of 6/23.

To learn more about COVID-19 in the US, global case numbers, and travel recommendations, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>

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*The dining room will be closed until the ban is lifted.*

# Board of Health orders everyone back to work, but...

By Beth David  
Editor

At another meeting that had some eyebrow-raising moments, the Board of Health met on 6/18/20 and ordered all health department employees to be in the office Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

But then, BOH member Mike Ristuccia added that anyone who is medically compromised would not, of course, be forced to be in the office.

Health Agent Mary Freire-Kellogg explained that the office has been open all along during the pandemic. She said Administrative Assistant Amanda Blais has been in the office every day except for lunch breaks, and she has been leaving at 4 p.m. instead of 4:30 on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday to go to college classes.

Ms. Freire-Kellogg also said that part-time health inspector Dan Shea had been asked to fill in when Ms. Blais could not be there, as requested by Mr. Ristuccia, but Mr. Shea had not responded yet.

"I think the office should reopen with all folks who work in the health area reporting to work all mornings at 8:30 and working normal days, and normal hours," said Mr. Ristuccia. "If there's somebody that's compromised I fully understand that and I support it. So I'm not trying to make somebody do something they don't want to do, if there's anybody that falls in that category."

He said anyone who did have a medical issue needed to have a letter in the office by 10 a.m. the next day.

Joining remotely, Health Agent Mary Freire-Kellogg addressed chairperson Peter DeTerra directly.

"If you open the drawer right where you're sitting you'll find a letter in there from me," said Ms. Freire-Kellogg.

"But you still gotta email me and send it by 10 o'clock tomorrow," said Mr. DeTerra.

"I'm giving it to you right now, but I'm happy to email it you as well," responded Ms. Freire-Kellogg.

In a follow-up phone interview, Ms. Freire-Kellogg said she has been going into the office very day, but very early to avoid people. She said she has a medical condition resulting in a compromised immune system.

She has been available by phone, email and in person when necessary. She has just tried to avoid situations with a lot of people.

The *Neighb News* also discovered that Ms. Blais has not been at work at all for about a week for an unknown reason. Town Administrator Mark Rees confirmed that she

has missed several days of work, but said he could not say why.

The board also discussed the use of Town Counsel by the department, out of town travel for employees, voted for themselves to get keys to the office and everything in it, ordered the creation of a hardcover log book for complaints, and discussed the department's town-issued car and its use. Selectboard member Daniel Freitas joined the meeting remotely to talk about the car and also to speak to the board about the call log, demanding to see six months' worth of call logs.

In another matter, Ms. Freire-Kellogg updated the board on the COVID-19 crisis. She said the town has a total of 280 cases, with six cases being followed.

She also said her department is getting a supply of stickers and signs for local businesses to remind people to wash hands,

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Selectboard member Daniel Freitas joined the meeting remotely to talk about the car and also to speak to the board about the call log, demanding to see six months' worth of call logs.

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use hand sanitizer when touching high touch areas.

The board voted to restrict the use of Town Counsel by the department.

Mr. Ristuccia said that the budgets were "running low" and in an effort to save money, he suggested that no health department member or board member call Town Counsel without going before the board, giving a reason, and getting permission by a vote.

"That'll save a lot of money to the town," said Mr. DeTerra.

The board also voted to ban travel by health department employees.

Mr. Ristuccia said we were in "probably the biggest health crisis in this country in the last 100 years," and so no one should be traveling.

He said any travel plans should be canceled, and all employees should be in town in case the taxpayers need them.

Ms. Freire-Kellogg told the board that all travel for the whole town had already been canceled since March or April.

Mr. Ristuccia responded by saying he wanted to make a motion to cancel travel. He said maybe the town will allow it to come back, "but the Board of Health is saying we are canceling travel for members in the health department."

"For health reasons," chimed in Mr. DeTerra.

"For health reasons," said Mr. Ristuccia, adding, until further notice.

Ms. Freire-Kellogg also noted that some grants the town has already received require some travel.

"You've got to ask permission from the board," said Mr. DeTerra.

"It's already been approved," said Ms. Freire-Kellogg.

"You've got to ask permission from the board," said Mr. DeTerra again. "Thank you."

In another matter, Mr. Ristuccia asked that the department get a hardcover log book that the board members can look at during meetings to find out what kinds of complaints that residents are making to the department. He said he wanted all calls logged in with date, time who took the call, who called in, the purpose of the call and the outcome.

Mr. DeTerra agreed it would be good to "track people."

Mr. Ristuccia said the book should stay in the office except to go to BOH meetings. He said board members will get a "good feel" of what's going on in the community without having to go into the office.

Ms. Freire-Kellogg told the board that the office already keeps a log. She said the state allows for it to be an online log and to be kept on the computer.

"Because books are antiquated, they say," said Ms. Freire-Kellogg.

She also noted that there was an issue with complaints because they were being taken by Mr. DeTerra and not being sent to the health department.

She said she asked if they wanted her to create a form so there would be a standardized procedure for complaints that did not get called into the health department office.

"But I haven't heard back," she said.

"I want to have a hard book," said Mr. Ristuccia. "If you want to keep it in the computer, that's fine, if it's easier for you to do it that way."

He said a "hard book" would be more comfortable for him to look at and understand.

**BOH: cont'd on page 6**

# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## CANCELLATIONS

*Editor's note: Businesses in Massachusetts are being allowed to open in phases. Most large, planned events, however, have been 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 smaller events that are still scheduled.*

## EcoChallenge

This Spring the Fairhaven Sustainability Committee again participated in Earth Day EcoChallenge. The challenge was extended this year to a 30-day environmental and social engagement program. From April 1–April 30, participants selected actions to take that aligned with their individual values and made a 30-day commitment to complete those actions, all the while practicing and reinforcing good habits. For every action that was completed, participants earned points and created impact. All the points contributed to your team's total points, and individual impacts contributed to our collective impact.

TEAM SOUTHCOAST had another successful year with 153 participants earning 17,062 points and coming in number 13 out of 818 teams across the country and number 1 in Massachusetts.

We were very excited to participate all month long and know that many members will continue to practice new actions that were started in this very successful program.

**If you missed the Spring challenge, you can start in July when everyone can participate in the Plastic Free EcoChallenge.** Plastic Free Ecochallenge is a month-long effort for all of us to reduce our single-use plastic consumption in creative and innovative ways while still prioritizing public health and safety during this pandemic.

Look for more information on the town's website or visit <https://plasticfree.ecochallenge.org> to join Team SouthCoast.

## Farmers Market

At the Bright Yellow Farm Stand, 151 Alden Road, Fairhaven (next to National Bleach). Sundays through

10/25, 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Featuring beef, chicken, produce farms, honey, eggs, herbs, jams, organic soaps and bath salts. Accepts senior and WIC Farmers Market Coupons, SNAP.

Please practice social distancing and wear a mask.

Contact: 508-496-9209; [allnaturalbeef@comcast.net](mailto:allnaturalbeef@comcast.net)

## Huttleston Marketplace

Saturdays, through September 12, 2020, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fairhaven Visitors Center Lawn/Fairhaven High School Lawn, 141 Main Street, at Route 6, Fairhaven

An outdoor bazaar featuring vendors selling select hand made arts and crafts, quality antiques and vintage collectibles, upcycled items, fresh farm produce, and locally prepared foods. It is a MDAR certified farmers market, allowing certified farm vendors to accept WIC and Senior FMNP coupons. It is held rain or shine.

COVID-19 precautions, such as social distancing and mask wearing are required.

Visit <https://fairhaventours.com/huttleston-marketplace-weekly/> for vendor information.

For further information, contact the Fairhaven Office of Tourism via email at [FairhavenTours@fairhaven-ma.gov](mailto:FairhavenTours@fairhaven-ma.gov) or by calling 508-979-4085. Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/HuttlestonMkt> and on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HuttlestonMarketplace/>.

## Boating Class Suddenly in Command

The summer of 2020 will present new boating experiences and challenges to the entire family.

Be prepared!

The captain becomes incapacitated or falls overboard; you purchase a new boat and step aboard for the first time. You are Suddenly In Command.

"Suddenly in Command" is a 2-hour online, boating safety primer designed for boaters of all experience levels. This course will help you to be prepared with the basics of how the boat operates, the steps to take in a variety of emergency situations and how to call for help. In this class you

will also learn how to prevent accidents from happening in the first place.

To register visit <http://flotilla65.com/public-education/> and sign up at the bottom of the page.

## Pirates & Privateers

Pirates & Privateers Presentation, **Friday mornings, 10 a.m., through September. Next date: 6/19, Fort Phoenix, south end of Fort St., Fairhaven, MA.** Tour begins at fort flagpole. WEATHER PERMITTING

**For Public Safety, all audience members must wear masks and maintain six feet of separation.**

This fun interactive presentation includes a demonstration firing of a black powder swivel cannon, a demonstration of early medical practices and more.

There is no charge for the Pirates and Privateers presentations, but donations are accepted for the Tourism Gift Account.

You may visit Greybeard & Companie's Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/GreybeardCompanie/>

## Mosquito Control

The Fairhaven Health Department reminds all residents to contact Bristol County Mosquito Control to ensure all properties have been properly sprayed for mosquitos.

Residents can find information at [www.mass.gov/eea/bristolcounty/mosquitocontrol](http://www.mass.gov/eea/bristolcounty/mosquitocontrol) including a tentative spray schedule for which towns are done each day. Also daily, an updated list of street names will be posted for residents to see if their location is on the schedule for the following spray day. All of this information is weather dependent and can change if needed due to mosquito populations or virus detections.

Bristol County Mosquito Control may be reached at (508) 823-5253.

To protect against the threat of EEE:

- Use bug repellent (products with DEET, Permethrin, Picaridin, or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus)
- Wear light-colored clothing and long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outside between dusk and dawn
- Avoid outdoor activity between dusk and dawn

## BOH: cont'd from page 4

"I realize it might be antiquated," said Mr. Ristuccia. "I'm 73 years old and I might be a little antiquated the way I think. But I think that what I want to have is the hard cover book."

The board voted to get a hard cover book for logs.

The board also discussed, but did not vote on, the department's use of a town car. A controversy about the BOH car arose in Selectboard meetings with member Daniel Freitas bringing up the issue several times and complaining about why the car was not being used.

Mr. Ristuccia asked if he was correct that there is a car for the health agent.

Ms. Freire-Kellogg said there is a car and back in February she provided a physician's note and asked for a "reasonable accommodation" because she is unable to drive the car.

Mr. Ristuccia said if the department has the right to a car, he wanted to get one that she needs.

Ms. Freire-Kellogg explained that the car is used by two people, the health agent and the inspector.

"Two people can't drive the same car at one time," she said.

When the inspector used the car and she had an out of town meeting, she would put in for mileage, which is in the budget.

"And what is the reason you can't drive the car," asked Mr. Ristuccia. "That's all I want to know. I want to help."

Ms. Freire-Kellogg said she had a medical condition.

"Is it that the car is too, too, too what, to big?" asked Mr. Ristuccia.

"I'm really uncomfortable speaking, I mean this has happened to me more than once," said Ms. Freire-Kellogg. "Where somebody from the town has asked me to discuss my personal medical conditions in an open meeting. I have no problem discussing it with you in private, but I really don't think this is proper."

"Excuse me. I'm asking a question as to why you can't drive the car that the town wants to give you," said Mr. Ristuccia. "All you have to do is tell me the reason that you don't want to drive it, so that I know."

"it's not that I don't want to," said Ms. Freire-Kellogg. "I can't drive it and I'm more than happy to discuss that with you not in an open town meeting."

"Okay, that's fine," said Mr. Ristuccia and asked for it to be emailed to him.

Ms. Freire-Kellogg said it was a copy there, but she would email it.

Mr. Ristuccia said he wanted to get her a car and sincerely wanted to "resolve this car

situation for you."

Mr. Freitas joined the meeting remotely and said he wanted to address a couple things. He said he spoke with Town Counsel and the day-to-day supervision of the BOH employees was Ms. Freire-Kellogg's responsibility as the supervisor, but the scheduling was the Board of Health.

Mr. Freitas then explained that the reason the BOH car came up at the selectboard meeting was because residents had asked him about it. He said it had fallen into disrepair in the senior center parking lot so he started to look into it.

He also said that he received a complaint that was for the BOH and he emailed it.

The two went back and forth about the car and about the complaints.

Ms. Freire-Kellogg said she was never asked about the car by the Selectboard.

Mr. Freitas kept hammering at her about the complaint he sent and wanted to know if

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"I would ask the chair to be there first thing in the morning to find out if that's been done," said Mr. Freitas.  
"If not, then obviously someone's been breaking the law."

---

it was written down, where it was, and said that if it was not written down then it was a violation of law.

"Did you write it down? I think it's a simple question," asked Mr. Freitas.

Ms. Freire-Kellogg said she moved it to the proper channel to be logged, but she was not sure which complaint he was talking about.

"I would ask the chair to be there first thing in the morning to find out if that's been done," said Mr. Freitas. "If not, then obviously someone's been breaking the law."

At some point Ms. Freire-Kellogg said she responded by email to Mr. Rees, instead of directly to Mr. Freitas, "because you asked me not to contact you," said Ms. Freire-Kellogg.

"I think you know why I asked you not to contact me," said Mr. Freitas.

Mr. Freitas asked that the chairperson find out if the complaint got logged in, adding that he did not accuse anyone of

anything and only wants the truth to be said.

"That's all I'm asking for," said Mr. Freitas.

Ms. Freire-Kellogg agreed and said she also did not accuse anyone of anything. She added that statements were made that "these things are factual" but no one asked her.

"That's not necessarily fair on my part, either," she said, adding that maybe he just got the wrong information and it was a system they needed to work on.

Mr. Freitas fumbled with his words a bit and then said: "I'd like to get the last six months complaint log from the Board of Health. I'd like to see that. Because, again, I didn't appreciate the way it was put as if I'm stirring the pot."

"Who said that," asked Ms. Freire-Kellogg. "Where are you even getting that from?"

Mr. DeTerra interjected and told Ms. Freire-Kellogg to send him the last six months of complaint lots,

Ms. Freire-Kellogg asked if they were going to create a written process for receiving complaints.

"Because there are a lot of complaints that come from other places," she said, including the fire department and building department.

She said it be useful to have a form for them to fill out.

Mr. Freitas chimed in again saying it was not necessary. He said it if is a state law, as stated in the email they all got, and it was brought to their attention, then it should have been done already, although it was unclear exactly what he was referring to.

"If they knew it was the law then they were breaking the law in order not to do it," said Mr. Freitas. "And I'll leave it at that."

In the end the board tabled the car item.

The board also voted to give themselves keys and necessary codes to town hall and the board of health office, including all cabinets.

Mr. Ristuccia said they might need them in case of emergency.

Mr. DeTerra said he had keys to the old office, but when the office got moved, he never got keys.

The board has only two members, as Mike Silvia resigned on 6/16/20.

In other business, the board approved a tobacco permit for Bridge Gas & Convenience, 277 Bridge Street (corner of Route 240). The board also approved a food permit for Traveler's Alehouse, 111 Huttleston Ave., the former site of Cleary's Pub. The new business is hoping to open for take-out, and possibly outdoor dining in July.

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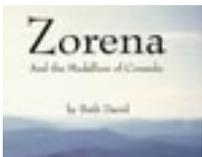


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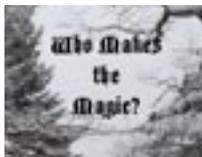
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## CANCELLATIONS

*Editor's note: Businesses in Massachusetts are being allowed to open in phases. Most large, planned events, however, have been 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 smaller events that are still scheduled.*

## Mosquito spraying every Thursday

The New Bedford Health Department, working closely with the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, is again this year conducting an annual monitoring program to track the potential threat from EEE and WNV carrying mosquitoes. Under the program, mosquito traps are put in place to collect pools of mosquitoes and mosquito populations are monitored throughout the summer months.

As part of the mosquito tracking program, the New Bedford Health Department will request that the BCMCP target key areas of the New Bedford for spraying, including public parks and locations that host large public events.

As such, the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project will conduct **targeted ground spraying for mosquitoes early in the morning every Thursday through late September**. In the event of rain or inclement weather, the spraying will occur in the early hours of Friday mornings. The spraying will target areas including **Buttonwood Park, Brooklawn Park, Fort Taber, Hazelwood Park, Riverside Park, Clasky Common Park, Ashley Park, the Poor Farm area, and the downtown area**.

Spraying will take place between 2:00 am and sunrise on Thursday mornings, weather permitting; inclement weather will lead to sprayings on Friday mornings. Residents in the vicinity of the targeted areas may wish to close their windows the evening prior to the spraying.

The same precautionary measures are advised for EEE, WNV, and the Zika virus. These include the following:

### Avoid Mosquito Bites

- *Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours* While mosquitoes are out at all hours of the day, their peak biting times are from dusk to dawn. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities that occur during evening or early morning. Otherwise, take extra care to use repellent and protective clothing, especially if you work or spend a lot of time outdoors.
- *Clothing Can Help Reduce Mosquito Bites*. Although it may be difficult to do when it's hot, wearing long-sleeves, long pants and socks when outdoors will help keep mosquitoes away from your skin.
- *Apply Insect Repellent when you go outdoors*. Use a repellent with DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide), permethrin, picaridin (KBR 3023), IR3535 or oil of lemon eucalyptus [p-methane 3, 8-diol (PMD)] according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30% or less on older children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under three years of age. Permethrin products are intended for use on items such as clothing, shoes, bed nets and camping gear and should not be applied to skin.

### Mosquito-Proof Your Home

- *Drain Standing Water* Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Limit the number of places around your home for mosquitoes to breed by either draining or getting rid of items that hold water. Check rain gutters and drains. Empty any unused flowerpots and wading pools, and change water in birdbaths frequently.
- *Install or Repair Screens* Some mosquitoes like to come indoors. Keep them outside by having tightly-fitting screens on all of your windows and doors.

## Virtual Exhibit

New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks! 2020 Members' Virtual Exhibition, Juried by Dina Dietsch, 7/1- 12/31/2020. **Virtual celebration and cash prizes announced on AHA! Thur, 7/9 at 6 p.m.**

Visit <https://newbedfordart.org>

## No CV Parade

*From the Cape Verdean Recognition Committee.* In light of the growing concerns around COVID-19, we've made the difficult decision of cancelling this year's 48th Cape Verdean Recognition Parade (originally scheduled for 7:15 in New Bedford). This was a tough call to make, but it was necessary to prioritize the health and safety of our participants, vendors and our committee members that plan all year for this day. Thank you for your understanding and support during these uncertain times.

## Virtual AHA!

AHA! has gone virtual. AHA! (Art, History, Architecture) night is a free arts and culture event which takes place the second Thursday of every month in downtown New Bedford.

Visit <https://ahanewbedford.org> to join the **next AHA! Night on July 9**.

## 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).

## Virtual Tours

By Waterfront Historic Area League (WHALE) has an archive of virtual tours of their historical properties. Visit their YouTube channel to watch: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgsvAlndhBOVunXPRHJrJQ> Find them at: <https://www.waterfrontleague.org>

# HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

## CANCELLATIONS

*Editor's note: Businesses in Massachusetts are being allowed to open in phases. Most large, planned events, however, have been 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 smaller events that are still scheduled.*

## Acushnet election this Saturday

This Saturday, 6/27, Acushnet voters will go to the polls to vote for local town officials. The hours for the election are 10-2. There are no contested races in the election.

Selectboard chairperson Roger Cabral is not running for re-election. Former Selectboard member David Wojnar is on the ballot.

## Learn About Juneteenth

Learn all about Juneteenth at <https://www.juneteenth.com/history.htm>

## Buffalo Soldiers

Find out about the work of ranger Shelton Johnson and his rediscovery of the story of the African American soldiers who patrolled the parks of the High Sierra at the turn of the last century.

Shelton tells the story in the dramatic personae of a Buffalo Soldier himself, directly engaging visitors in a way that is immediate and often high

See the video at <https://www.stagesoffreedom.org/forum/youth-teens/untold-story-of-the-buffalo-soldiers>

## Auditions

*Jazz is a Rainbow*, now in its 17th year, is a two-week vocal rehearsal-to-performance program. This year we are going virtual, rehearsing through Zoom and performing live on YouTube. **Rehearsals are Monday July 20-31, 9am-1pm.**

If you know a young female, ages 10-19, who loves to sing & act, and is committed to hard but fun work, please email [StagesofFreedom@aol.com](mailto:StagesofFreedom@aol.com) and provide your name, child's

name, age, experience and cell number.

*Jazz is a Rainbow* is a unique ensemble of talented teens who perform some of America's greatest songs from the Jazz Songbook.

The ensemble spends two weeks each summer rehearsing six hours a day preparing an original show created just for them under the musical direction of internationally acclaimed musicians, Michael Palter and Lynne Jackson, and the artistic direction of Robb Dimmick of Providence, learning songs, developing vocal technique, acting skills and choreography, and the history the songs, their makers and the era. The show and its cast of Black and White youth give us hope in a divided nation.

*Jazz is a Rainbow* is produced by Stages of Freedom and funded by the Providence Shelter for Colored Children, Opera Providence, Rhode Island School of Design, and the Providence Department of Art Culture and Tourism, Providence Parks and Recreation, Mayor Jorge O. Elorza, and Partnership for Providence Parks

Visit <https://www.stagesoffreedom.org/jiar>

## Children's Museum at Home

Boston Children's Museum has lots of ideas on its website to keep kids playing and learning at home, including: Engineering Challenge/Hoop Gliders; DIY Foil Embossing; archive of daily activities. Visit their YouTube channel: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXZMsYS\\_FXCQT4RNPixPGkA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXZMsYS_FXCQT4RNPixPGkA) or their website at <https://www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org/learning-resources>

## Pandemic Victims Service

**Friday, 6/29, at 6:30 pm in the LaSalette Shrine Church and Live-streamed through Facebook**

The past few months have been difficult for our country but especially for those who have lost a friend or loved one during the COVID-19 pandemic. In many cases, social distancing and other safety protocols have prevented many from coming

together in mourning for their loved ones.

On Friday, June 19, 2020, at 6:30 pm, we will be holding a memorial service for all those lost during this pandemic. Please know, this is for ALL lost during the pandemic, not only for those who passed as a direct result of the virus.

While the service will take place in the Shrine Church, it will also be live-cast through our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/nationalshrine.lasalette](http://www.facebook.com/nationalshrine.lasalette)

## Tick Talk

### The Bugs that Bug You

The Mattapoisett Free Public Library has arranged for Blake Dinius from Plymouth County Extension to speak about **ticks and mosquitoes** to residents of our local area towns. This will be a free Zoom presentation that will take place on **Mon., 6/29 from 2-3 pm**. Registration is required for this free presentation. Please email [bdinius@plymouthcountyma.gov](mailto:bdinius@plymouthcountyma.gov)

For as long as people have been alive on this earth, ticks and mosquitoes have existed. More than just annoying, the bite from one of these can pass on germs with life-altering consequences. Most people know something about mosquitoes and ticks such as to wear long sleeves and pants or use DEET. But, what they DON'T know may leave them vulnerable. Understanding mosquito and tick biology holds the key to preventing disease. In this workshop, we will bust myths and discuss both chemical and non-chemical protection methods. With the right knowledge and tools, all vector-borne diseases are preventable.

## Sea Turtle Week

We're celebrating Sea Turtle Week! Rescuing, rehabilitating, and returning sea turtles to the wild requires the coordination of lots of different people and organizations. Read our web story to learn how 13 sea turtles recently made their return to the ocean by traveling over land, air, and sea ([https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/returning-rescued-sea-turtles-wild-land-air-and-sea?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/returning-rescued-sea-turtles-wild-land-air-and-sea?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery))

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

## Recipe of the Week

### Firecracker Grilled Alaska Salmon

8 (4 ounce) salmon fillets  
½ cup peanut oil  
4 tablespoons soy sauce  
4 tablespoons balsamic vinegar  
4 tablespoons green onions,  
chopped  
3 teaspoons brown sugar  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
1 ½ teaspoons ground ginger  
2 teaspoons crushed red pepper  
flakes  
1 teaspoon sesame oil  
½ teaspoon salt

Place salmon filets in a medium, nonporous glass dish. In a separate medium bowl, combine the peanut oil, soy sauce, vinegar, green onions, brown sugar, garlic, ginger, red pepper flakes, sesame oil and salt. Whisk together well, and pour over the fish. Cover and marinate the fish in the refrigerator for 4 to 6 hours.

Prepare an outdoor grill with coals about 5 inches from the grate, and lightly oil the grate.

Grill the fillets 5 inches from coals for 10 minutes per inch of thickness, measured at the thickest part, or until fish just flakes with a fork. Turn over halfway through cooking.

Serve with rice and a simple stir-fry of baby corn, shiitake mushrooms and snow peas.

*From allrecipes.com*

## Westport Industrial Village

*A little history to distract you  
from the present*

*The Bell School Bugle published by  
the Westport Historical Society for the  
Duration of the Social Distancing/  
Self-Isolation/Quarantine*

The Westport Factory Village developed in a thriving manufacturing area formed around the confluence of Lake Noquochoke, the East Branch of the Westport River, and Bread and Cheese Brook.

“One of the most quiet pleasing and successful business villages in the vicinity of Fall River is Westport Factory.

“Many of the employees own their neat little homes and on riding through the village a noticeable feature is the cleanliness of everything and the quietness surrounding the place.

“A neat little chapel has been erected which is occupied half of each Sunday by a Protestant and the other half by a Roman Catholic preacher if they choose to preach and as there is no liquor shop allowed there is no drunkenness unless the victim buys his liquor abroad.”

*(History of Bristol County, Massachusetts: With Biographical Sketches)*

The factory houses that remain in Westport were built in the 1880s, one row along Beeden Road and Beeden Place, and the other near the company's Mill #2 on Forge Road. The houses are primarily duplexes, with a center chimney, two front doors, and small “eyebrow” windows just below the roofline. Two properties on Beeden Road still have the original backyard shed shared by the two families for washing and cooking. The factory owners also lived in the village.

The historical significance of these homes has been documented by Tony

Connors for the Massachusetts Historical Commission .

Here are some highlights:  
**5/7 Beeden Place**



The boarding house - still known as “the big house” to the villagers - is unusual among the typical duplexes, but was very common in factory villages throughout New England.

### **9/11 Beeden Road**

This simple duplex is one of about a dozen houses built for the workers of the Westport Manufacturing Company, manufacturer of cotton products from the 1850s to the 1930s. These duplexes, which made up the village of Westport Factory, were constructed c. 1880. All of the houses had a shed in back which was shared by both families in the duplex for cooking and washing.

### **Union School**

Union School at Westport Factory. The building is no longer there, but the building is similar in style to the Bell School.

### **147 Forge Road**

While the larger cluster of factory houses was on Beeden Road, just south of the main factory, these Forge Road duplexes constituted a smaller group near the company's Mill #2, about 500 meters SW of the main factory.

WESTPORT: cont'd on page 20

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# How to recall elected officials in Fairhaven and Acushnet

By Beth David  
Editor

There is a mechanism to recall elected officials that is spelled out in the bylaws of both Fairhaven and Acushnet. The language is clearly based on state law/guidelines as both towns have similar language.

In Fairhaven the procedure is spelled out in the "Special Acts" section of the town code, Section A502-4.

Any elected official with at least six months left on his or her term may be recalled. No recall petition can be filed against an officer within six months of taking office.

Fifty or more registered voters need to file an affidavit with the Town Clerk with the name of the officer whose recall is being sought and a statement of the grounds upon with the petition is based.

The town clerk will then give petition blanks to the organizers of the recall petition, and they will be required to collect the signatures of 10% of the registered voters in Fairhaven. The town has 11,509 registered voters, so the total number

of certified signatures would be 2,302.

The petitions must be returned to the town clerk within 14 days. The signatures need to be certified as registered voters within seven days.

Once the signatures are certified, the town clerk is required to submit the petition to the Selectboard. Within 48 hours, the Selectboard is required to notify in writing, the person being recalled. If that officer does not resign within five days of notice, the Selectboard is required to order an election to be held no less than 60 days and not more than 90 days after the date the signatures were certified.

The person who is being recalled may run for this his/her position in the recall election.

On the ballot, the first section will contain two questions, one asking if the voter wants to recall the politician, by name; and one against the recall. Below that will be the name of the candidates. If a majority of voters support the recall, then the candidate votes will be counted, and the candidate with the highest number wins.

The incumbent stays in office while

the recall election is being conducted. If he recalled and, for some strange reason, the person who won the recall election "fails to qualify," the recalled officer must still step down and the seat is vacant.

In Acushnet, the process and timeline are the same, but the numbers are different.

Twenty-five or more registered voters may file the affidavit with the town clerk. The clerk will provide petition blanks for them to collect signatures. They must collect the signatures of 10% of the registered voters. Acushnet has 7,564 registered voters, so the recall petition requires 76 voters. As in Fairhaven, the petitions must be returned within 14 days.

To learn more about the recall process in Fairhaven call the town clerk at 508-979-4492, Ext. 3.

In Acushnet call the town clerk at 508-998-0215

The entire Fairhaven town code is available online at <https://ecode360.com/FA1596>

RECALL: con't on page 21



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## Fairhaven to commemorate July 4 with video celebration



Fairhaven had to cancel its July 4th parade and activities at Fort Phoenix due to COVID-19 restrictions, but that will not stop the town from celebrating the Independence Day on July 4. The town is creating a video, with a car parade, the raising of the big flag, interviews with town officials and residents. The video will be released on July 4 and will be available at FairhavenTV.com, and will also run on the local Comcast Cable Channel 95. ABOVE LEFT: A car that is part of the classic/antique car parade sports a nifty COVID-19 mask during the raising of the big 30'x50' flag at Fairhaven High School on 6/14/20 as part of a video being created to celebrate July 4 because the parade and other activities were canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions. ABOVE RIGHT: Classic cars leave Fairhaven High School after the raising of the big flag. BELOW: The big 30'x50' flag flutters in the wind at Fairhaven High School after it was raised 6/14/20 as part of a video being created to celebrate July 4 because the parade and other activities were canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions. *Photos courtesy of Kelly Smith, Kelly Smith Photography.*



# Fairhaven Town Hall opens to public with precautions

By Beth David  
Editor

Fairhaven Town Hall is open to walk-in traffic, although some offices are still by appointment only. New signage at town hall asks visitors to keep to social distancing guidelines, and also point visitors to various offices.

The pride flag for Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer pride hangs in the entrance to town hall, which also has a large sign directing people to offices and announcing that face coverings are required. The sign also says "Business Related Matters Only," and "Must Maintain Social

Distance of 6 Feet Apart." Arrows point to the Town Administrator, Selectboard, Marine Resources, Assessors, Building Department, Town Collector and Town Clerk.

All other departments are by appointment only.

Inside, plexiglass has been installed at all public counters, and hand sanitizers is on counters.

Round signs on the floor direct people to offices and ask that they stay six feet apart.

Town Administrator Mark Rees said people are adhering to the social distance requirement and have been

wearing masks. He said the partitions are "doing their job" and hand sanitizer is also available.

"The custodian, Kevin, has been doing a great job sanitizing," said Mr. Rees.

He said the town is still encouraging people to use online services, phone calls, and the drop boxes whenever possible.

"We are still advocating for people to limit their social interactions," said Mr. Rees, keeping in line with the state's recommendations. "But we are open for people who want to conduct town business."



ABOVE LEFT: Plexiglass on the counter in the Fairhaven Building Department is designed to create a barrier between the public and employees to help stop the spread of COVID-19. ABOVE RIGHT & RIGHT: Signs on the floor at Fairhaven Town Hall direct people to maintain social distancing, and direct people to offices. Photos by Glenn C. Silva.

## From our readers

### It's not the "gay" pride flag

First, I would like to thank Beth David for her incredible work covering what is going on in our town. Being a journalist is not an easy profession as it's a special calling serving the public in holding elected officials, like myself, accountable. It's people like Beth that play important roles in our democracy in making sure we are transparent and most importantly, effectively serving and representing you as that is what our founding fathers and Henry Huttleston Rogers call us to do for our community by the water.

With that being said, I would like to respectfully correct the record and state the flag I presented to the Selectboard on Thursday, June 11th, was the "Pride Flag", not the "gay pride flag", and it represents all LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer) individuals and allies to the cause for full equality. Also, while I am proud of sharing my identity as a gay man to others in order to shed a light for other LGBTQ+ individuals in our community and elsewhere to run for elected positions to make positive changes in our society, I would appreciate not being characterized as "outsspoken" as it may be perceived by residents of our town that I am rude, close-minded, and disrespectful.

Since being sworn into office as a School Committee member, I promised I would represent and listen to ALL residents of our town, even if there comes a point of respectful disagreement to where Fairhaven needs to be for the present and future moments.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to reach out to me on my Facebook page: Kyle Bueno—Fairhaven School Committee or email me at kbueno@fairhavenps.net. I am more than happy to discuss my positions!

*Kyle Bueno, Fairhaven*

*Mr. Bueno is a member of the Fairhaven School Committee*

### Please help with tree

I need your help as a friend and fellow taxpayer of Fairhaven. I have been trying to get two enormous trees surveyed by the town since December 2018. These town owned trees pose significant risk to my home, my family and anything or anyone else in the vicinity should they fail.

One tree directly across the street from our house has lifted and cracked the sidewalk due to its movement 6'

since last October and other ensuing wind events. The tree has gas, water and electric lines under it, and the direction in which it will most likely fail will put the main 3 phase electrical service on what's left of the front of my house.

The other is 80' tall, within 30' of my house and directly over the main power for the town hall. This tree is rotten and hollow in many places as seen by the large rot holes in it.

A level 3 survey takes less than one hour of survey time and less than another hour for a report. I have never asked the trees be removed, just closely scrutinized. The tree warden has a yearly budget of about \$40K.

What do I know about trees? I have owned a small tree farm in New Hampshire for 30 years and my family has been logging for 5 generations. I have read Tree Risk Assessment by the International Society of Arboriculture and it states these trees are a very poor example of urban tree management and are "High Risk".

I have offered to pay for a 3rd party survey. The tree warden refuses to allow this.

The town's selectmen and town administrator have tried to get Mr. Knowles the tree warden to do this survey by written request and meetings with him. Mr. Knowles has said in public "I have not said I won't do it".

But his actions say he won't and in private conversation with me has told me where to go.

Please help me by taking 1.5 minutes of your time and call 508-979-4023, Ext 2. This is the selectmen's office and the town request/tree inquiries go through it. Ask that Mr. Knowles to do this survey now.

NOAA has predicted a bad hurricane season and the tree across the street started moving before it had leaves. I have put 4 years of sweat and tears restoring this beautiful 1832 whaling captain's house to its former glory. I don't want the town to build me a new one which they will be bound to do due to Massachusetts tree law which I have researched.

Please help me and make the call. Town meeting is coming and I now have a voice for you and me. If there is something you have grievance with the town please let me know and I will try my best to help you. Email me at collasius@hotmail.com.

Isn't that how we all do better? By

sticking together.

*Don Collasius, Fairhaven*

### Electric Aggregation

Back in 2016 the Town of Fairhaven, along with 22 other communities, signed onto an Electric Aggregation program aimed to save rate payers in our region on their electric bills by joining forces to purchase electricity in bulk ([https:// masscea.com/](https://masscea.com/)).

To date, the program has saved Fairhaven rate payers alone 9% on their electricity costs, and \$1.5 million. That is money that has stayed in our community to help our local economy.

In the new, 3 year contract that goes into effect in January, there are already provisions that allow for any resident or business to voluntarily purchase either 50% additional or 100% additional renewable energy, above and beyond the 18% minimum standard required by the state.

The Fairhaven Sustainability Committee and a local group called Climate Reality has created a survey to ask if you would like to see the Town of Fairhaven make the default position for every resident and business to be that they will pay for an additional 10% renewable and if you do not want that option, you would need to take action to opt out.

I do not believe we should be putting our community in that position. I am very sensitive to concerns some people on a fixed income may have about even a small increase in their electric bill. I would also be concerned that people not following this issue might not understand why their bill has increased. They might just attribute the increase to standard rate increase, and not realize they have the option to take action to eliminate that charge.

I am particularly concerned about the timing, given we are still reeling from the impact of COVID-19, and its devastating impact on the job market and businesses of all sizes.

Advocates for the change believe the Town should take a leadership position in Renewable Energy. My feeling is that the Town already has done so, by becoming designated as a Green Community, permitting two wind turbines, adopting bylaws that are friendly to solar development, partnering with solar development companies to build arrays atop our capped landfill, public works buildings, Housing Authority buildings, and soon

**LETTERS: cont'd on page 22**



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# Acushnet holds in-person Town Meeting

By Beth David  
Editor

Acushnet held its annual town meeting on Saturday, 6/20/20, in the usual place and in person, but it was definitely not the usual way. The room was set up for social distancing, with chairs six feet apart, and the warrant was stripped down to the bare minimum, devoid of any controversial subjects.

The Selectboard had taken advantage of an emergency order that allowed towns to temporarily lower their TM quorum to 10% of their regular number. In Acushnet's case, the 75 person quorum could go as low as eight. The board lowered it to 10, and 62 people showed up.

The order also required that no controversial articles be included.

Town meeting made quick work of approving the \$30,762,685 operating budget, with \$18,896,191 coming from taxation (property taxes), \$7,502,023 from projected state aid, \$3,447,442 from estimated local receipts (excise taxes, permits, etc.), \$335,727 from free cash, \$519,752 from the EMS account, \$60,000 from water revenue,

\$1,550 from the fund balance reserved from debt premiums.

There was no discussion on the budget, and no opposition. The original amount requested by the departments was \$31,887,365, but the vote carried for the Finance Committee number of \$30,762,685.

Town Meeting also voted to fund the golf course with no discussion and one opposed. At the end of the meeting, however, Tyler Magalhaes asked to be heard, saying he had a question on that article, but did not have the opportunity to speak.

Town Moderator Nicholas Gomes allowed Mr. Magalhaes to speak, but noted that the vote had already been taken and, he said, could not be revoted.

Mr. Magalhaes asked if the golf course lost money because of the \$100,000 taken from the reserve fund.

Selectboard member Kevin Gaspar explained that the golf course was operated to break even.

He said the \$1,365,136 golf center revenue was a projected number.

"That's anticipated revenue," said Mr. Gaspar, adding that they have

always met the target. If it is short, they will appropriate more at town meeting.

He said each year was different. Last year the golf course had a surplus, and the reserve fund had about \$400,000 in it.

"We've been doing pretty well over there since it opened," this year, said Mr. Gaspar.

Town Meeting voted to approve all articles without discussion, except for the floodplain bylaw article, which was withdrawn.

Town Meeting also approved \$160,000 for several capital projects, including \$85,000 from free cash for the school department Wifi upgrade; \$15,000 from the Capital Fund for the school department for roof preventive maintenance; \$35,000 from the Capital Fund for vehicle refurbishments for the fire department; and \$25,000 from free cash for three new vehicle leases.

Town meeting approved the Stormwater Management Bylaw with no discussion and no opposition.

The Floodplain Overlay District

ACUSH: cont'd on page 18



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## ACUSH: cont'd from page 16

article was tabled because the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which had required the town to pass the bylaw, rescinded its decision to require the vote by July.

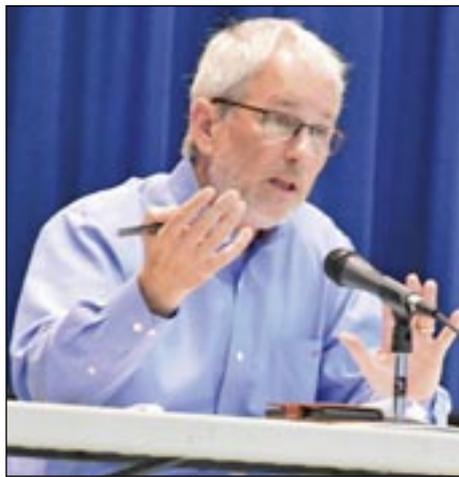
A general article appropriating the funds from the Community Preservation Act into the appropriate categories also passed with no discussion, but did have one or two opposed.

TM appropriated \$9,775 for administrative expenses, 10% (\$19,550) for open space; 10% (\$19,550) for historic preservation; 10% (\$19,550) for affordable housing; and the remaining \$127,075 to the FY 2021 Community Preservation Fund budgeted reserve.

Town Meeting also approved \$80,000 from the Community Preservation fund for the Little Toy Project, a playground located at the school property at 800 Middle Road; and \$2,000 from CP funds for painting and landscaping at the historic fire station at 1130 Main Street.

Town Meeting also voted to fund sewer enterprise fund; the cable access/PEG (Public, Education, Government) fund; voted to accept Chapter 90/road funds from the state;

Other articles passed included paying bills from previous years, and authorizing the various revolving



funds.

The final article was a Resolution of Gratitude to more than 50 people for their “substantial contributions” to the town over the last year.

Selectboard chairperson Roger Cabral, who is not running for re-election, made a point of thanking people for attending. He noted that having a town meeting on a Saturday was an “experiment.”

“The turnout her is amazing,” said Mr. Cabral. “On a Saturday, 82 degrees when the sun is shining in the middle of a pandemic.”

He also explained that they made adjustments to the warrant to keep it

simple, and no controversial subjects, and they lowered the quorum to 10.

He said they did not want anything on the warrant that would force people to attend.

Mr. Cabral also said the budget process was “very, very difficult.”

“We really don’t know what revenue’s going to be here next year,” said Mr. Cabral.

He said they asked all departments to cut 1.5%.

“It doesn’t sound like a lot,” he said, but when they are already operating on a “bare bones” budget, it is hard to do. ●●●



ABOVE: Chairs are spaced six feet apart at the Acushnet annual Town Meeting in the Ford Middle School auditorium on 6/20/20. TOP MIDDLE: Acushnet Selectboard chairperson Roger Cabral addresses Town Meeting. TOP RIGHT: A table with all the COVID-19 essentials, hand sanitizer, masks, gloves, greets voters attending Town Meeting. *Photos by Beth David.*



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<b>1/4 page</b> One week run: \$77.00 4+ weeks: <b>\$52.00/week</b> (\$208/month) Color: \$328/mo.	<b>Classified: \$7/first 3 lines, \$1.00 each additional line 4,640 copies every week</b>

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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"



## THE TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN COMMITTEE VACANCY

The Town of Fairhaven is seeking one Fairhaven Resident to serve on the Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School District School Committee for a term of four years. Letters of interest may be mailed to the Selectmen's Office, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719 by July 2, 2020 or emailed to [msylvia@fairhaven-ma.gov](mailto:msylvia@fairhaven-ma.gov)

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Fairhaven Conservation Commission

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

To Access Meeting Remotely:  
<https://zoom.us/j/95211198467?pwd=U0RHMTZvMGx2L0NDL2tkcGtrRUdEQT09>

or CALL 1-929-205-6099  
Meeting ID: 952 1119 8467

Password: 148917

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:

1. CON 023-147: **210 Sciticut Neck Road** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Casandra Paasche for the installation of an 8-foot by 14-foot shed at the property located at 210 Sciticut Neck Road, Assessors Map 28B, Lots 184, 198-199. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage.
2. CON 023-148: **Frederick Avenue, Map 29A, Lots 168-169** Notice of Intent filed by Steven and Sandra Hermenau for the construction of Frederick Avenue 250 feet west from Sciticut Neck Road and the construction of a single family dwelling with driveway, and sewer and water service at the property located on Frederick Avenue, Assessors Map 29A, Lots 168-169. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage and buffer zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetland.
3. CON 023-149: **Knollmere Beach, 161 Weeden Road** Notice of Intent filed by Raymond Surprenant, Knollmere Beach Association, Inc. for beach

nourishment with maximum 250 cubic yards of clean sand annually at the property located at 161 Weeden Road, Knollmere Beach, Assessors Map 32A, Lots 213 & 214. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, Coastal Beach, and the 100-foot buffer zones to Coastal Dune, Coastal Bank, Rocky Intertidal Shore, and Salt Marsh.

4. CON 023-150: **6 Saltmarsh Road** Notice of Intent filed by Peter Lopes, Trustee of the Luiz Family Nominee Trust for the construction of a new Title 5 septic system for an existing house at the property located at 6 Saltmarsh Road, Assessors Map 43, Lot 3. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage and the 100-foot buffer zones to Coastal Bank and Rocky Intertidal Shore.

Public participation will be via virtual means only: 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, 6/25/20

## Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearings

Tuesday, July 7, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.  
Town Hall Banquet Room, 40 Center Street  
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://zoom.us/j/95691691953?pwd=TDVnYUJZS2RkQkqZES5RV25Lc2U4dz09>  
or call 1-929-205-6099  
Meeting ID: 956 9169 1953  
Password: 343652

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 and June 2, 2020.
2. **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) (continued per applicant's request to July 7, 2020 Meeting, see attached.)

3. **15 Bluepoint Rd. Pompile, John & RoseAnn –** Variance request for 1' on West side and a Variance request for 5' on East Side for Proposed Addition.
4. **28 Holiday Drive. Plotczyk, Carol A.** 198-22 (A): Variance for 14' short of the 30' street setback requirement to Holiday Drive and Sunrise Court (a paper street) for a 1-stall garage addition.
5. **1 Smuggler's Road. Decker, Keith & Kimberly.** 198-22 (A): Variance for 3' over the 20' maximum allowable for an accessory structure (detached garage).
6. **191 Balsam Street. Ristuccia, Daniel & Donna.** 198-18: Variance to allow front setback to 29' instead of a required 30' in a RR district for a proposed family room addition. (Variance is for 1')

Peter DeTerra, Chairman  
FNN: 6/18/20, 6/25/20

## Acushnet Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals is hereby giving notice that a meeting will be held by the Board on Tuesday, July 7th, 2020 at 6:30 P.M. at the Ford Middle School located at 708 Middle Road, Acushnet. The following hearings will be conducted at this meeting.

### PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. **Case #2020.01.21A** A continuation on the case of Garrett Soucy, of 5 Williams Street, Acushnet who is petitioning for a Special Permit to be able to turn renovations or additions of his dwelling into an accessory apartment. This request is being made under the provisions of Section 3.3.1 "B" (1) and Section 3.4 "B": Accessory Apartments.
2. **Case #2020.03.24A** A case of Richard Bonville, of 71 Quaker Lane, Acushnet who is petitioning for a Special Permit to be able to convert a portion of his existing dwelling into an accessory apartment. This request is being made under the provisions of Section 3.3.1 "B" (1) and Section 3.4 "B": Accessory Apartments.
3. **Case #2020.03.24B** A case of Derek Sweet, of 51 Gammons Road, Acushnet who is petitioning for a Variance for the minimum setback requirements for a detached garage. This request is being made under the provisions of Article VIII Section 3.3.1 "E" (3).
4. **Case #2020.03.24C** A case of Jennifer Melo, of 367 Middle Road, Acushnet who is petitioning for a Special Permit to convert a single family dwelling into a two-family dwelling. This request is being made under the provisions of Section 3.3.1 "B" (6).
5. **Case #2020.03.24D** A case of Alfred Lemieux, of 17 Hathaway Road, Acushnet who is petitioning for a Special Permit to be able to maintain his existing welding shop located at his address. A Special Permit was approved on July 19th, 1983 but never filed with the Registry of Deeds so a new Special Permit will need to be granted. The request is being made under the provisions of Section 3.3.1 "B" (13): Light Manufacturing.

\*\*\*Plans are available for Public view in the Town Clerk's office during their normal business hours.\*

FNN, 6/18/20, 6/25/20

## WESTPORT: cont'd from page 10

### Mill #2 251 Forge Road



In 1872, the Westport Manufacturing Company built Mill No. 2 on the site of earlier water-powered mills. It had its own row of employee houses along Forge Road. The brick

smoke stack remains intact as does the turbine. The turbine, housed in the same location as the original waterwheel, is now housed in a 17' x 35' cement shed.

### 3 Beeden Road

This building was built on the granite foundation of the 1880 factory village church. St. George Catholic church served the workers of the factory village around the Westport Manufacturing Company. In 1941, when a new highway (Rt. 177) was built, the factory house next to the church had to be demolished. During the demolition, the church caught fire

and was partially destroyed. A new St. George church was built about a quarter mile north on Highland Avenue. The old church was renovated [year unknown] as a multi-family house

We welcome your contributions to The Bell School Bugle. You can share your own memories or old photos by sending them to [westporthistory@westporthistory.net](mailto:westporthistory@westporthistory.net).

Watch a video to learn more about the Westport Manufacturing Company at <https://vimeo.com/412481267>

Visit the Westport Historical Society at <https://wpthistory.org>

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		HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
<b>June</b>					
<b>2020</b>					
Thursday	25	----	1200	0457*	1710
Friday	26	0020	1257	0543*	1805
Saturday	27	0118	1354	0638*	1915
Sunday	28	0215	1449	0744*	2033
Monday	29	0311	1546	0847	2145
Tuesday	30	0412	1649	0947	2314
<b>July</b>					
<b>2020</b>					
Wednesday	1	0518	1750	1050	----
Thursday	2	0617	1842	0030	1152
Friday	3	0707	1929	0127	1244
Saturday	4	0754	2015	0227	1331
Sunday	5	0842	2103	0324	1421
Monday	6	0931	2150	0401	1511
Tuesday	7	1018	2236	0418	1551
Wednesday	8	1104	2320	0433	1626
Thursday	9	1150	----	0456	1700
Friday	10	0007	1240	0526	1739
Saturday	11	0058	1331	0604	1828
Sunday	12	0149	1420	0652	1935
Monday	13	0238	1508	0750	2041
Tuesday	14	0327	1600	0842	2137
Wednesday	15	0424	1658	0930	2236
Thursday	16	0525	1752	1019	2335

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

**RECALL: cont'd from page 11**

The entire Acushnet town charter is available online at [https://www.acushnet.ma.us/sites/acushnetma/files/uploads/by-law\\_book\\_1-2008.pdf](https://www.acushnet.ma.us/sites/acushnetma/files/uploads/by-law_book_1-2008.pdf)

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HAPPS: cont'd from page 9

## Free REAL ID

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is encouraging all eligible customers to renew their standard Mass. driver's license or Mass. ID card online at [Mass.Gov/RMV](http://Mass.Gov/RMV) any time **between now and August 12, 2020, in order to qualify for a free upgrade to a REAL ID credential in 2021.** This one-time, time limited offer is available to most customers who have an expired or expiring license or ID card dated between June 23, 2018 and August 2021, as customers are eligible to renew up to a year in advance of the expiration date printed on their license or ID, or up to two years after their expiration.

Qualifying customers who complete their renewal online prior to August 12th and wish to upgrade to a REAL ID for free, will have to wait until at least February 2021 to visit an RMV Service Center. At this time, customers will not need a federally-compliant REAL ID for the purposes of boarding domestic flights prior to October 1, 2021 because the federal government delayed the compliance effective date by one-year. The fee for obtaining a standard or REAL ID license is \$50, while the fee for obtaining a standard or REAL ID card is \$25. The typical \$25 upgrade / amendment fee will be waived under these qualifying circumstances.

To learn more visit <https://youtu.be/B3NuHgTwa3Q>

*In-person attendance is restricted 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 channels, and Fairhaven meetings are livestreamed at [FairhavenTV.com](http://FairhavenTV.com)*

## Fairhaven Meetings

**Board of Appeals**

Tues., 7/7, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

**Board of Assessors**

Thurs., 6/25, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

**Board of Health**

Thurs., 6/25, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

**Board of Public Works**

Mon., 6/29, Arsene St., 6 p.m.

**Conservation Commission**

Mon., 7/6, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**Finance Committee**

Wed., 7/1, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**Planning Board**

Tues., 6/23, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**Selectboard**

Mon., 6/29, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Mon., 7/13, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**Town Meeting**

Sat., 7/25, Hastings MS, 9 a.m.

## Acushnet Meetings

**Board of Appeals**

Tue., 7/7, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**Council on Aging**

Wed., 7/8, Sr. Ctr./So. Main St., 10 a.m.

**ELECTION**

Sat., 6/27, Polls Open,

**Planning Commission**

Thurs., 6/18, Ford MS, 7 p.m.

In person attendance allowed for two public hearings, masks required.

**Selectboard**

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

**Town Meeting**

Sat., 6/22, Ford MS, 10 a.m.

## Support Local Journalism!

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And, thank you for reading the  
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## From our readers from page 14

on two elementary schools.

Consider that, in the State of Massachusetts, we already pay among the highest rates for electricity in the country, and our rates are already 75% higher than the national average! (<https://www.eia.gov/state/rankings/#/serie>)

A key contributor to this ranking is that the State of Massachusetts is already a leader in supporting Energy Efficiency Programs, Renewables and other environmentally sensitive initiatives.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts takes a top down approach, with mandated Renewable and clean Energy programs already embedded in our electricity charges and, by doing so, assures everyone in the State is contributing equally. I believe that if advocates feel we should be doing more as a society, they should be advocating at the State (or even Federal) level to ensure everyone is doing their fair share and that whatever mandates are in place are having the greatest impact.

I would like to conclude by explaining that I am a big supporter of Renewable Energy. My wife and I invested in a Solar Photovoltaic system for our own roof back in early 2009. We were among the very first in our area to do so, and we have not had an electric bill since then.

I have also already pledged my support to the advocates of this survey that I would help them with an education and advocacy campaign this year to encourage people to voluntarily sign on to purchase 10%, 50% or even 100% of their electricity as renewable in this next year and to see how that goes as a litmus test.

My interest is in making certain that people make a conscious decision to support this effort, rather than having it be a default position for everyone, even the unknowing.

As an alternative, I would challenge those most in favor of an increase to lead the way voluntarily. If 20% of the people were to increase their own renewable percentage by 50%, that would have the same impact as the 10% across the board increase being proposed. That sort of leadership would likely inspire others to join in with at least 10% and the impact would be far greater than what is being proposed.

In the end, the most important thing is for you to take the survey\* and let

the Town know how you feel. The Town really needs a significant number of people to take the survey so that we know we have reached a good cross-section of the community before any decision is made.

*Bob Espindola, Fairhaven  
Mr. Espindola is a member of the  
Fairhaven Selectboard*

*\*Editor's note: See the ad on the back cover to take the survey, or visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3TCQT&J>*

### Face coverings on bike path?

“Face Covering Required” to use the bike path! What? Whose idea was this?

Normal oxygen levels in air are 21% by volume. Oxygen almost immediately drops to 19.5% by volume inside the mask since exhaled CO<sub>2</sub> displaces oxygen. In the words of a friend — “People were not meant to breath their own exhaust!”

OSHA defines an oxygen deficient atmosphere as “... an oxygen content below 19.5% by volume” and further “all oxygen-deficient atmospheres shall be considered IDLH (immediately dangerous to life or health)” [OSHA 1910.134(d)(2)(iii)].

Face coverings can promote health risks to individuals and when exercising it presents greater risks since exhaled CO<sub>2</sub> increases during exercise. Outdoor activities have been suspended and local gyms shut down due to the virus fears. Now Town government is making it more unsafe to maintain physical and mental health by restricting use of the bike path.

Was this decision data driven? If so, publish the data. And I don't mean “we are following CDC guidelines” or some other rhetoric that translates to “I don't have to be responsible for these decisions.” Provide hard evidence that any of this works instead of eroding individual rights and services we have paid for.

Social distancing and exercising care around others are common sense and may provide a higher level of protection. If someone mandates masks in their own home, that is their right. In stores wearing a mask is mandated but you are not required to wear one if you have a medical condition that prevents it.

Dr. Anthony Fauci admits that masks are not a substantial protection (February 2020). No legislation requires face covering. Everything, at the State or local level is based on a Governor's

order or “guidelines” set forth by people with limited qualifications or knowledge, in my opinion. There is no cohesive story. Increased testing shows more positive cases but deaths and hospitalizations are declining [Ref: Mass.gov COVID-19 Dashboard]. Yet constraints on our individual liberties are getting harsher (i.e. face coverings on the bike path) or not changing.

Fairhaven data are not available online. An April 2020 article in *SouthCoast Today* stated Fairhaven was not publicly reporting virus data. A search of county data to extrapolate town information is needed. That's not working either. These numbers are essential to making INFORMED decisions but cannot be found easily.

As of June 19, Bristol County deaths were 0.07% of all people tested in the state. County cases are 0.99% of cases in the State. I could not find specific town data but my guess is that up to 80% of deaths were in nursing homes or long-term care facilities if the town is following the state and national trends.

Data allows one to assess the quality of local decision making. Deaths ATTRIBUTED to the virus in Fairhaven are actually a mixed bag with no confirmation data. Terminally ill patients with days left to live were listed as virus deaths because they tested positive just before or after death. As the Wuhan virus has progressed, a person dying and testing positive for the virus was listed as a COVID-19 death. They may have actually died from some underlying condition.

Government agencies and individual medical professionals are all over the place on the benefits of a mask. If the CDC, OSHA and others in the alphabet soup can't figure it out, how are average citizens or city and town administrators expected to get it right.

Bottom line — use your head, be responsible, wash your hands long and often and be careful around others.

We need to take back our individual rights and If you think wearing a face covering makes sense to you, do it. If you wish to exercise (i.e. bike ride) and realize a mask cuts down on your oxygen intake and is unsafe, skip the mask.

Personally, I don't expect to be covering my face on the bike path unless circumstances arise where it makes sense.

*Marsby Warters, Fairhaven*



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### Survey of Fairhaven Residents

Sponsored by the Fairhaven Sustainability Committee and Climate Reality Massachusetts Southcoast

This survey is to gauge interest in a 10% increase in the amount of renewable energy Fairhaven purchases.

The survey will remain open through July 20, 2020.

To take the survey online: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3TCQT8J>

#### I. Background

The Town of Fairhaven has joined with 22 other communities to aggregate, or jointly purchase, our electricity, saving money over time (<https://masscea.com/>). The Town has an option to voluntarily and automatically purchase 10% more renewable electricity for 2021 than the 18% the state currently requires, for a total of 28% renewables. The state required amount is increasing at about 2% per year. This Electric Aggregation Contract also automatically gives everyone the following choices:

- Opt up to 50% or 100% renewable electricity.
- Opt down to receive no additional renewable electricity above the state law requirement.
- Opt out of the aggregation program altogether.

#### II. Question

Do you support a change in the Town’s Electric Aggregation Contract that would increase everyone’s renewable electricity purchase by 10% (from the 18% state mandated amount to a total of 28%), unless they choose to opt out?

Please check one: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Don’t know

#### III. Potential Impact

- The average four-bedroom household would increase their electric bill by about \$2 per month, or \$24 per year, based on 7,000 kWh consumption, or usage, per year.
- To learn how the change would impact you, look at your electric bill and multiply your actual annual electricity consumption, or usage (shown in kilowatt hours, or kWh) by \$0.00355.
- A large, refrigerated commercial building - like a typical grocery store - could see their electricity costs increase by approximately \$650 per month or about \$7800 per year.

#### IV. Why support this?

The Fairhaven Sustainability Committee and Climate Reality MA Southcoast together advocate for this 10% increase, which would include everyone unless they choose to opt out. The Sustainability Committee and Climate Reality believe that, as a designated Green Community, Fairhaven should take action to reduce the region’s reliance on brown energy and increase our use of green energy, and that quickly increasing green energy usage can help avert the worst impacts of climate change, leading to:

- Local environmental benefits, such as limiting sea level rise, ocean warming, and storm severity.
- Jobs in the clean energy industry - New Bedford is poised to be the regional leader in offshore wind.

#### V. For more information

You can learn more about the details of the Town’s Electric Aggregation Contract and this change by visiting the Town of Fairhaven website (<https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/conservation-and-sustainability/pages/community-electricity-aggregation>)

#### VI. Demographic Information

Any identifying information will not be shared as part of the results from this survey. It is only to determine that survey respondents reside in Fairhaven and which age demographic they fall in.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:

- 18-29       30-39       40-49       50-64       65+