



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



The little paper
with a big voice!

Volume 15, Issue 33 • August 27, 2020

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

Car crash sends 10 to hospital



ABOVE: A serious car crash on Howland Road and Sycamore Street in Fairhaven involving a 2012 Mazda and a 2002 Ford Explorer on Sunday, 8/23/20, resulted in injuries to 10 people, including six children aged two to 13. See page 6 for story. Photo from Fairhaven Fire-EMS Facebook page.



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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

Well, I have to start with a correction of sorts. Keith Silvia called to say that I got it wrong in my editorial last week when I told him he could not email another Selectboard member. Because there are only three on the board, that would constitute a quorum and be an Open Meeting Law Violation. At the meeting Mr. Silvia had asked Bob Espindola if he read an email.

When he called, Mr. Silvia said he was responding TO Mr. Espindola's email.

There are a couple of things that they can email to each other about, like requesting or informing each other of agenda items. Mr. Espindola said that is what it was. He said he contacted the chairperson, who told him to email Mr. Silvia.

Sorry about that guys. The correction is not for the article, Mr. Silvia did say what we quoted him as saying, it was just not quite what it seemed like.

Now, onto the Board of Health.

Heaven help us all. What a mess.

The board put the health agent on paid administrative leave (see page 12), even though they did not state a cause for that. If the interim Health Agent was truly hired to be interim, why are you not letting the permanent health agent back in? The other two employees are gone, so you have a newbie all by herself in there, although it appears she has plenty of interference from the board. But, really.

And, the attorney representing all three health department employees (one is "former" employee now), released a report, much to the chagrin of town officials (see page 11). They are not happy that the public is finally finding out a little more of what all the fuss is about. Although, I'm assured (with glee it seems) that I am still quite in the dark about many things.

I suspect, however, that more information will now start to find the light of day.

But honestly, it's just all so exhausting.

It's like a neighbor dispute: There are no winners, you can't get to the bottom of it, everyone thinks they're right, and it's impossible to tell who's telling the truth because they all believe they are telling the truth (well, almost all).

They all need to sit down and stop yelling at each other. And OTHER people need to stay the hell out of it. There are too many people whose agendas do not fit in with making sure that department runs correctly. There are petty little vendettas getting in the way. And there are others listening to the people with the petty little vendettas. Really, Fairhaven, we have to start being a bit more discerning with whom we elect to these offices.

It's disheartening, because the vast majority of the people working in town hall are just trying to do their jobs to the best of their ability.

Stay tuned. This ain't over.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beth David".

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Thursday, August 27, 2020

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Editor: Beth David

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Mary Macedo, Pattie Pacella, Jean Perry, Glenn C. Silva

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NeighbNews@comcast.net

www.NeighbNews.com

508-979-5593 • Fax: 508-991-5580

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

See From the Editor column left

COVID-19 update: New initiative to help businesses

Press Release

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker and Lt. Governor Karyn Polito announced the launch of an effort to encourage residents of the Commonwealth to support their local economies by shopping at local Massachusetts businesses and attractions, safely: in person, online, and using curbside pickup or takeout. The Baker-Polito Administration's "My Local MA" advertising campaign is kicking off this Friday in tandem with the Sales Tax-Free Weekend taking place August 29-30, and was developed as a response to the economic impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on Massachusetts local businesses and communities.

The intent of the campaign is to showcase Massachusetts' vast array of businesses and attractions — from family owned-restaurants to artisan boutiques to museums — that are a critical part of the Commonwealth's economy. From Stockbridge to Provincetown, our local retailers and restaurants are open for business, utilizing safe practices and, in many cases, for online shopping, curbside pickup or takeout and delivery.

The campaign, running through December, will include print, broadcast, billboard and digital ads, along with social media. The website, FindMyLocalMA.com, will feature resources for consumers and more information on the campaign.

Supporting beloved local businesses also means acting responsibly. "Masking up" and practicing social distancing will be emphasized throughout the campaign to protect our quality of life and ensure that businesses can safely serve customers.

The Commonwealth's small business community plays a vital role in the composition of the Massachusetts economy. According to the US Small Business Administration in their 2019 Small Business Profile, small businesses in Massachusetts employ approximately 1.5 million workers, accounting for approximately 45 percent of the Commonwealth's total workforce. Through "My Local MA," residents are encouraged to protect and preserve those elements that make Massachusetts unique.

For information, visit

FindMyLocalMA.com.

This year's Sales-Tax Free Weekend will take place on Saturday, August 29, and Sunday, August 30. Retail items of up to \$2,500, purchased in Massachusetts for personal use on these two days, will be exempt from sales tax. For more information about this year's annual sales tax holiday, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/sales-tax-holiday-frequently-asked-questions>

COVID Numbers

Massachusetts has had 116,770 confirmed COVID cases, with 349 on Tuesday, 8/25, and 8,729 confirmed deaths.

Fairhaven is still in the green (lower risk), and Acushnet is in the white (low). As of 8/19, Fairhaven had a total of 254 cases, with six in the past two weeks. Acushnet had 106 cases total, with less than five in the past two weeks.

To see an interactive map of all municipalities in Mass., visit <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/community-level-covid-19-data-reporting>

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Exp. 9/4, 2020

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Rogers School project dead; causeway jumpers to be fined

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

At its meeting on 8/17, the Fairhaven Selectboard received an update on the situation with the Rogers School building.

Town Administrator Mark Rees reported that after the previous meeting when the Selectboard considered giving the developer one last chance to fulfill its contractual obligations, he met with Selectboard member Keith Silvia and Susan Loo from the Rogers School Building Committee to discuss the proposed mothballing efforts to mitigate further deterioration of the building.

Mr. Rees said \$230,000 of Town Meeting-approved funding is available to shore up the exterior of the building “as they entertain future interest in the building.”

According to Director of Planning & Economic Development Paul Foley during a follow-up, he was informed that the proposed project was no longer moving forward, and commented that he has already heard from a tentatively interested real estate developer.

Also on the agenda, Louis Baptiste of RRR Auto voiced his concern over a complaint he submitted more than eight months ago that was never filed stemming from an appeal to the Zoning Board of Appeals to enforce licensing conditions at Fairhaven Getty that was also never filed.

Mr. Baptiste said the filing fee to appeal was \$309 and months later the check was never cashed and the appeal never heard. His later complaint he filed with former Building Commissioner Wayne Fostin was a complaint about Mr. Fostin. Mr. Baptiste claimed several phone calls and emails to ZBA members and the town administrator went mostly unreturned.

He alleged that Mr. Fostin made the decision not to file the appeal of the license, but that he did not have the right to deny his right to appeal.

Selectboard Chairperson Daniel Freitas said he was just given the suggestion to have Mr. Baptiste meet with him and Mr. Rees to work out a solution.

Mr. Baptiste had accused Mr. Rees

of ignoring him, mentioned Mr. Rees’s salary, and called him “disrespectful.”

Mr. Rees requested that the discussion be terminated that evening because he was unprepared for what he considered a public attack on his performance.

Mr. Freitas confirmed that when Mr. Baptiste recently asked him to inspect Fairhaven Getty for a licensing violation, Mr. Freitas said he went and did witness a violation.

In another matter, discussion arose about a proposed update to the social media policy, and Mr. Freitas asked to wait until the next meeting to take a vote so that town counsel can review it.

Board member Bob Espindola pointed out that the matter was brought up during a prior meeting and tabled until this one so board members could have time to review it

\$230,000 of Town Meeting-approved funding is available to shore up the exterior of the building “as they entertain future interest in the building.”

and take a vote.

The amendment would include a caution to town and elected officials about how material posted on personal social media or private emails can sometimes be construed as them speaking in their official capacity.

“I just want to make sure we’re not putting anything in here that doesn’t belong in here; that we’re not stopping anybody’s First Amendment rights,” said Mr. Freitas. He said the change “doesn’t sound right” to him.

Representatives from the Greater New Bedford Educators Union on behalf of the Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School educators and students presented their “S.O.S. Save Our Shops” campaign to try to keep the Fashion Design and Environmental Science programs from being cut.

They urged the board and any

supporters to contact the GNBRVTHS School Committee to ask them to reconsider.

Also during the meeting, as a result of a Marine Resources Committee discussion, violations of diving, jumping, and swimming off the West Island Causeway bridge will be enforced. An increase in activity at the bridge led to some complaints, which Mr. Espindola brought to Police Chief Michael Meyers.

Police patrols of the area have been increased, and will be followed by the installation of a sign stating the bylaw with a fence on the south side of the bridge similar to the one on the north side. Enforcement will be by verbal and written warning followed by a non-criminal bylaw ticket.

In other business, Building Commissioner Kris White tendered his resignation effective August 21, and will be replaced by an interim building commissioner, James Marot, who currently serves as the Acushnet building commissioner.

An update on the Community Electrical Aggregate led to a heated debate over the opt-out option of a tentative 10% renewable energy increase to Fairhaven residents’ electricity consumption. A survey offered to residents to gauge their willingness to adopt a 10% increase in sourcing renewable

energy in addition to the existing 8% showed that 62.5% of the 128 people who responded were in favor of the increase.

An additional 10% clean energy increase would mean about a \$2-\$3 average increase for a home.

Resident John Methia spoke against the idea and against the need for consumers to opt-out rather than opt-in. He said he would be opting out and suggested that too many residents and business owners in Fairhaven are unaware of the tentative increase and probably rarely inspect their own electric bills.

There was no vote taken that night, and Mr. Freitas suggested increasing awareness by noting the proposed 10% increase in a flyer to be sent out with property tax bills.

The Fall Special Town Meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, October 20.

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

VOTE on 9/1

Tuesday is the Mass. staset primary. See page 10.

Espindola Virtual Office Hour

I have decided to try something new this month and that is to offer a "Virtual Office Hour" next Tuesday, September 1st, starting at 6:30 p.m. I will provide a Zoom meeting link on the Town's Public Meeting Calendar, at the location where my Office Hours are usually posted. <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/calendar-by-event-type/16%2B20%2B17%2B19>

I will take calls from the community and do my best to answer them live.

Anyone who wishes to provide me with a heads up of questions you'd like answered during this Zoom event is welcome to send them to selectmanbobespindola@gmail.com or to the form on the town's website. respindola@fairhaven-ma.gov.

If this goes well (people participate) I will plan to do the same at least occasionally in the future, maybe even every month.

Farmers Markets

Fairhaven Farmers Market 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

Roxann's Farmers Market: Sundays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., 189 Alden Road, Fairhaven.

Water Ban

Effective August 24, 2020. Due to the lack of rain and very dry conditions along with high temperatures the Board of Public Works Commissioners are requesting voluntary outside water use restrictions.

All outside watering should be done between the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Requesting odd/even outside

watering schedule (If your house or business address is an even number then you would do outside watering on even number days. If your house or business address is an odd number then you would do outside watering on odd number days.)

Phase I - A voluntary restriction limits watering to an even/odd basis as follows:

Odd numbered properties can water on odd numbered days.

Even numbered properties can water on even numbered days.

Anyone can water on the 31st

If you have any questions please contact us at 508-979-4032 or Email us at waterdept@fairhaven-ma.gov

Dementia Webinars

Dementia Friendly in the Age of Social Distancing: Learn how to interact effectively with customers, colleagues, friends and family who live with memory loss or dementia.

Upcoming session dates:

Thurs., 8/27 & 9/24, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 2, 10 a.m.

Trainings made possible by Title III Funding through Coastline Elderly Services and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs.

Register online or for more information email mlp@communitynurse.com

Memory Loss Caregiver Support Groups

Wednesday, Sept. 2, 1-2 p.m.

Ongoing sessions:

First Wed. of Month, 1 - 2 p.m.

To register email mlp@communitynurse.com

Both programs are open to the public and free, anyone can register.

Instructor: Carol McAfee LPN, CDP, CADDCT

Cultural Council

If you enjoy the arts and are interested in serving your community, the Fairhaven Cultural Council is seeking new members. New and prospective members who are residents of Fairhaven are invited to apply.

Council members are appointed by the Board of Selectmen and oversee the awarding and distribution of grant monies from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and local funds for projects in the arts and humanities that directly benefit Fairhaven residents.

The council usually meets on

Monday evenings for only three to four formal voting meetings throughout the year, and on an as-needed basis for other council business. Currently, the council meets remotely on Zoom, and will continue to do so until further notice. All parts of the grant application process are accessed on line as well. Members must have access to necessary computer technology and internet access to participate.

Any Fairhaven resident interested in joining the council, contact chairperson Bill Levasseur at wjlevasseur85@gmail.com for more information.

Huttleston Marketplace

Saturdays, through Sept. 12, 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 at FairhavenTours@fairhaven-ma.gov or by calling 508-979-4085; on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/HuttlestonMkt> and on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HuttlestonMarketplace/>.

Pirates & Privateers

Pirates & Privateers Presentation, **Friday mornings, 10 a.m., through September.** 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.

Visit Greybeard & Companie's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/GreybeardCompanie/>

Fairhaven car crash injures 10

Press Release

Lt. Kevin Kobza reports that the Fairhaven Police Department is investigating after a two-vehicle crash led to 10 people being injured, including six children, over the weekend.

At approximately 8:50 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 23, Fairhaven Police responded to the intersection of Howland Road and Sycamore Street for a report of a head-on crash.

Upon arrival, officers located a 2012 Mazda 3 sedan and a 2002 Ford Explorer SUV that had collided. Both

vehicles sustained heavy front-end damage.

The Ford Explorer was being operated by a 44-year-old New Bedford man. The SUV was occupied by eight other passengers, including six children ranging in age from two to 13 years old.

The Mazda was being driven by a 38-year-old Fairhaven man, who was the sole occupant of the vehicle.

All 10 people in the vehicles suffered what are believed to be non-life threatening injuries. Several

ambulances responded to the scene from Fairhaven, Mattapoisett, Acushnet and New Bedford. All injured parties were transported to St. Luke's Hospital in New Bedford.

The initial investigation indicates that the man driving the Mazda eastbound on Howland Road went across the center line and struck the Ford Explorer, that was travelling westbound, head-on.

The cause of the crash remains under active investigation by the Fairhaven Police Department.



A serious car crash on Howland Road and Sycamore Street in Fairhaven involving a 2012 Mazda and a 2002 Ford Explorer on Sunday, 8/23/20, resulted in injuries to 10 people, including six children aged two to 13. Photos from Fairhaven Fire-EMS Facebook page.

Fairhaven Police Arrest Man on Rape and Assault Charges

Press Release

FAIRHAVEN – The Fairhaven Police Department reports that officers arrested a man Friday on multiple charges, including rape.

Adam Furtado, 29, whose last known address was in Fairhaven, was arrested and charged with:

- Domestic Assault and Battery
- Strangulation
- Kidnapping
- Intimidation of a Witness
- Unarmed Robbery
- Aggravated Rape

At 7:30 a.m. Friday, Aug. 21, Fairhaven Police responded to Taber

Street after being notified for a report of an assault. Upon arrival, officers encountered a female victim who indicated that she had been held against her will in a tent in a wooded area on Tin Can Island near Riverside Cemetery.

The female victim also reported being assaulted multiple times over the course of two days and that her attacker, identified as Furtado, allegedly stole her belongings and clothing in order to prevent her from leaving. Fairhaven paramedics responded to the scene and ultimately transported the victim to

an area hospital to be evaluated.

A short time later, Fairhaven Police located Furtado meeting a taxi in Riverside Cemetery. Furtado was allegedly found in possession of some of the victim's belongings and was taken into custody.

The investigation remains ongoing and additional charges may be forthcoming.

Furtado was arraigned on Monday, 8/24/20, in New Bedford District Court and is being held on \$25,000 bail.

These are allegations. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty.

DVDdevelopments



What movie is worth dying for?

After half a year of no

movies shown in indoor theaters around here,

the AMC Dartmouth theater is slated to re-open on August 27. I'll be interested to see how much business the "Mall theater," as we always used to call it, will do on its tentative opening weekend. Not interested enough to go see for myself, but curious nonetheless.

AMC assures us they'll abide by "Safe & Clean™ policies and procedures, designed with you in mind" (whom else would they be designed for?). Take a look at those policies and procedures on the AMC website, and you'll see what has been called "hygiene theater."

By dazzling us with lots of jibber-jabber about "electrostatic disinfectant sprayers" and "HEPA filter vacuums," AMC hopes we forget that sitting in a large box with dozens of strangers, inhaling everyone else's droplets borne by laughter, talking, coughing, or just plain breathing, is just about the last place we should be right now.

I love movies. And I'd love to be able to say "Welcome back, AMC! Hey, everyone, let's go to the movies!" But I have to agree with Spike Lee, who noted that he wouldn't be seeing any

movies in theaters until a COVID-19 vaccine is ready.

People have been getting their public-movie fix by going to drive-ins. In state, the closest one is in Mendon, a little more than an hour away. (A bit closer is the Rustic in North Smithfield, RI.) We used to have a drive-in here, of course. You view the corpse every time you go down Route 6. It closed in September 1982 (fun fact: its final double feature was *An American Werewolf in London* and *Halloween 2*).

Another drive-in cannot be built where the old one was, for various reasons. We also used to have an indoor movie-house, but the Bijou shuttered in 2004. Cinema 140 gave up the ghost in 2000; the theater that helped kill it, Flagship, went toes-up sixteen years later. For movies, AMC remains the only game in — or near — town.

We should remember AMC is a corporation that was already hemorrhaging money before the plague, and has come close to circling the drain during it. They want you back. The blandishments will be sweet and urgent — \$5 concessions, \$5 premium memberships, etc. AMC hopes saving a few bucks will make you forget the tens of thousands of dollars you might be billed by a hospital for weeks in their ICU.

And what movies is AMC counting on to lure you into sick-boxes to risk death or lifelong health issues? Well, there's a Russell Crowe road-rage thriller called *Unhinged*. There's a "tenth anniversary" run of Christopher Nolan's *Inception*, possibly to make up for Nolan's new *Tenet* not being ready for a big-splash opening yet (though AMC may offer

"early access" to it next week, per their website). There's a Marvel movie, *The New Mutants*, that's been warming a shelf for years (it finished filming in 2017). There's the teen romance *Words on Bathroom Walls*. And there's *The Personal History of David Copperfield*, an honest-to-Pete adaptation of Dickens. On Friday and Saturday, AMC Dartmouth will show the original *Rocky*; on Sunday they'll have *Airplane!* (which really shows how lax a PG rating used to be; parents beware!).

That's it. That's what AMC hopes you'll think is worth risking your life. I don't mean to pick on AMC — I'd be roasting Regal if they were the dominant exhibitor in the area. I realize AMC Dartmouth is staffed and operated by real people with real bills to pay and real mouths to feed. I imagine, too, a lot of them aren't looking forward to facing the public again — the customers who are always right even when they're stupid, the anti-maskers and anti-vaxxers, the open mouths wolfing down popcorn and Twizzlers and coughing and burping and murdering.

I respect the AMC workers with boots on the ground, not the fatcats up in corporate who never have to have contact with anyone they don't want to.

Still, having empathy for the ticket-takers and candy-box sweepers who will now number among the "essential workers" doesn't mean we have to oblige AMC, which has gone six whole months without our money and badly needs it again. I love movies, but if this event has proven anything it's that there are options.

**The answer: no movie.*

Protesters in Fairhaven support post office



Protesters gathered in front of the Post Office in Fairhaven on Saturday, 8/22/20, to show support for the United States Postal Service, which has been under lots of controversy lately as Postmaster General Louis DeJoy has been making changes to the postal service in moves that critics say is purposely slowing down the mail before the November elections to sabotage mail-in voting around the country. Glen R. Williams of Fairhaven said he and his wife went to the Post Office with signs after hearing about nationwide protests. He said around 20 people were there and "there was nearly 100% approval from passersby and Post Office patrons. It's an issue that affects us all."

He said there was no organizing on his end. "We were happily surprised to see the others show up," wrote Mr. Williams in an email. "It was pretty impromptu. Very gratifying to see that there is an issue that almost everybody can agree on. The Post Office is very popular!"

Photo courtesy of Glen R. Williams

Music in the Park

Enjoy beautiful music in beautiful outdoor settings as NBSO musicians perform in New Bedford parks!

Thurs., 8/27, 11:00am-noon at Buttonwood Park, Andrew Sorg & Andrew Moreschi, trumpet & trumpet
Fri., 8/28, 10:15am-11:00am at Riverside Park Bonnie Harlow & Jennifer Memoli, cello & violin

Check our website (<https://nbsymphony.org/music-in-the-parks/>) and Facebook for details.

Please remember to follow the CDC guidelines: wear a face cover, wash your hands, keep a safe distance.

Concert

"Bach" to the concert hall for the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra's season opening. Virtual Concert: Sat 9/12, 7:30pm. Yaniv Dinur: Conductor and Piano; Jesse Holstein: Violin. Featuring 24 musicians, 60 minutes, no intermission

PROGRAM: George Walker: Lyric for Strings; Johann Sebastian Bach: Concerto No. 1 in D Minor for piano and strings; Astor Piazzolla: "Winter" and "Spring" from The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires; Rodion Shchedrin: Excerpts from Carmen Suite

Tickets: \$10 per household, available on the Z website (<https://zeiterion.org/nbso-bach/>).

Subscribers who purchased regular concert tickets for September 12 will be contacted about converting tickets to virtual concert access.

This concert will be recorded at the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center and presented through a password-protected webpage. A digital program book will be available to view before the concert airs. Contact Abby at asmith@nbsymphony.org or 508-999-6276 ext 222.

Bicycle Ride

On Saturday, 8/29 8:00 AM-10:00 PM, The New Bedford Starchasers will launch a 100-mile bicycle ride around Buttonwood Park, Rockdale Ave., NB, to collect back-to-school supplies for students in need.

Bring donations of new unopened school supplies to any of the five drop boxes, located around the park. The supplies will be collected by riders throughout the day and distributed to students through

United Way of Greater New Bedford and the New Bedford Public Schools' Family Welcome Center after the event. Can't make it to the event? Pledge your support by visiting the fundraiser page at Operation Backpack School Supply Ride (<https://charity.gofundme.com/en/campaign/operationbackpack>)

Prizes will be awarded to those riders who complete a total of 42 laps through the park, but participants can drop-in and drop-out for any amount of time.

The New Bedford Starchasers are a multi-cultural collective of cyclists, sci-fi nerds, and makers, building spaceships out of bicycles. Hosting a monthly series of community rides, workshops, and other public events, the New Bedford Starchasers strive to be a superhero version of themselves by promoting peace, equity, and justice throughout the galaxy. All events are free, open to the public, and cosmically inclusive. All people-powered and assistive wheels are welcome. Riders are encouraged to implement all safety measures on the ride by wearing a mask, maintaining physical distance, etc.

To learn more about the New Bedford Starchasers please visit www.nbstarchasers.org

Art Exhibit

On view now at New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks! Is the annual Members Exhibition 2020. Juried by Tufts University Art Galleries Director and Chief Curator Dina Dietsch and curated by New Bedford Art Museum's Jamie Uretsky.

Each year New Bedford Art Museum puts out a call to our members inviting them to submit their artworks to be considered for the show, and each year we are thrilled to see what our community has been making.

New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks! is located in the heart of New Bedford's Seaport Cultural District at 608 Pleasant Street. The Museum offers engaging exhibitions and outstanding educational programs for members and visitors of all ages. To see and learn more visit:

You can connect with the New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks! at newbedfordart.org, on Facebook, and on Instagram @nbam_aw.

Cybersecurity Webinar

The New Bedford Economic Development Council (NBEDC) would like to invite entrepreneurs and small business owners to join them in the continuance of their small business development educational series. This FREE webinar, "A Practical Guide to Protecting your Business from Cyber Threats!" will be held on Thurs., 9/17, from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Join John Danahey, to demystify cybersecurity in a relaxed setting where he will answer your concerns regarding this critical topic! In this interactive webinar you will gain insight on: why small and medium sized businesses are at risk, what to watch out for in selecting an Information Technology provider, how to start the journey toward cybersecurity, and how to build a security plan.

To reserve your spot, please register on-line at <http://bit.ly/SEMSBDCTraining>, as soon as possible. Please email Anne Fenton at amfenton@msbdc.umass.edu with questions.

At the Z

Typically in late August, we would announce an exciting new season of performances and events. We'd thrill you with stars like Jay Leno and Bernadette Peters and inspire you with artists from around the world.

But 2020 has proven to be anything but typical.

We are still grappling with lots of unknowns, but we do know we can't gather in numbers that support the expense of a mainstage show or guarantee safety for you, our staff or the artists. To that end, we're not launching a new season and have **postponed all shows through Oct. 31.**

During this time, we ask for your support. Your 100% tax deductible donation to the Resiliency Fund is a direct investment in The Z's future, assuring our mission will move forward during this time of closure. Help ensure that The Z will return with the best artists, with enriching and inclusive programs, and with our community at our heart.

The fastest and most convenient way to donate is through our 100% secure online form: zeiterion.org/donate. Thank you!

PJ Keating Rally

Thurs., 8/27, 4-6 p.m. Acushnet Council on Aging/Senior Center, 59 1/2 So. Main St., Acushnet.

A peaceful rally to protest the violations by PJ Keating in the operation of their quarry/asphalt plant on So. Main Street.

Make sure to wear or bring a mask. Let this be a peaceful rally, no yelling or screaming. Remember, we are good neighbors and are asking them to do so as well.

For more info and updates, find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/4523834144324191/>

Photo Contest

Last week we celebrated World Photography Day by launching WHOI's first annual *Our Ocean in Focus Photography Contest*. We're offering the adult grand prize winner (over 18 years old) the chance to win a \$1500 cash prize, 2-night stay in Woods Hole, MA and a VIP tour of WHOI (when it's safe to do so). Teens ages (13-17 years old) can participate with a chance to win a \$100 Visa gift card and more.

Ten possible winners in a variety of categories for adults and teens.

The submission deadline is September 3rd at 11:59 ET.

For details visit <https://whoi.wishpondpages.com/our-ocean-in-focus-test-2/>

Hammond Castle

Hammond Castle Museum, **History Of Medieval Arms And Armor: The Samurai, Fri.,/28, 4:30-5:30 pm \$20 per ticket.**

John Pettibone, former curator and executive director of Hammond Castle Museum, and Scott Cordiner, curator and creative director, will host a lecture and demonstration in the History of Medieval Arms and Armor. Pettibone spent many years studying the ancient art of armor and examples from the Museum's collection will be on display including: a Japanese samurai pole arm (naginata), an armored sleeve and the shoulder protection from a Japanese Samurai, and a two handed European sword. At the conclusion of the program there will be a question and answer session. Available seating is limited and advance ticket

purchase is required. Tickets may be purchased at: <https://www.hammondcastle.org/events/Hammond-Castle-Museum>, 80 Hesperus Avenue Gloucester, MA 01930 www.hammondcastle.org

Pedal for the Path

On Sun., 9/13, from 9 am to 3 pm South Coast Bikeway Alliance members will be celebrating Bay State Bike Month and the South Coast Bikeway with our third annual PEDAL FOR THE PATH ride by bicycling **from Horseneck Beach State Reservation in Westport, through Dartmouth, New Bedford, Fairhaven and Mattapoisett before returning back to the start. Ride the whole route or select a portion.** Alliance representatives will be located along the route in each community to welcome you and share the news of the bikeway in their city or town.

For more info, visit <http://www.southcoastbikeway.com/pedal-for-the-path.html>

Please register at <https://www.facebook.com/events/846773802519550/> so we know how many to look for.

Coggeshall Farm

Coggeshall Farm Museum reopened to the public in July, featuring a fresh set of faces on the salt marsh farm that recreates life in the late 18th century. New staff and interpreters from Coggeshall's sister museum and operating partner, Old Sturbridge Village, are now regular faces at the farm, along with animals that are calling Coggeshall home in 2020.

Staff and animals alike are all part of an effort to expand and enhance the visitor experience this year, as Old Sturbridge Village brings live interpretation, heritage breed animals and historical demonstrations and programming back to Coggeshall.

Farm Cats: Hobbes, Mac & Shadow Historically, farms of the 18th century were known to have at least one or two barn cats, responsible for keeping the local rodent population in check. At Coggeshall, three attention-loving felines share the role

Heritage-Breed Pigs New to the farm this year, Coggeshall has welcomed six piglets and one adult

pig to the museum, on loan from local farm partner, Gnarly Vines Farms. The pigs, known as "rooters" will use their noses to dig down into the dirt and clear vegetation. They play an important role in the revitalization efforts.

Heritage-Breed Chickens Visitors can find also find six "Dunghill Fowl" chickens at the farm in 2020, on loan from Old Sturbridge Village. Red in color, the chickens are quickly finding a home at the museum and are a major part of the live interpretation and programming being offered.

Coggeshall is open Thursday-Sunday from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and is inviting the public to stop by, meet the staff, see the animals and enjoy historical live interpretation great for all ages. **Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for youth ages 4-17, with up to three kids age 17 and younger admitted FREE into the museum when accompanied by an adult paying full admission, now through Labor Day.** Members of Coggeshall Farm Museum or Old Sturbridge Village can enter the museum for free.

Visitors are asked to follow state guidelines and wear face coverings or masks while at Coggeshall Farm Museum, when interacting with staff and other visitors. For more information visit: <https://www.coggeshallfarm.org/visit/hours-rates-directions/>.

Community Read

Tri-Town and Beyond Community Reads Midpoint Check-in Conversation, Thurs., 8/27, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Now, at the halfway point in the readings, we invite everyone to share their thoughts and questions about the books we've been reading, *How to be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi and *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You* by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi. Feel free to join us even if you have not completed the readings.

This event is free but please RSVP <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tri-town-and-beyond-community-reads-midpoint-check-in-conversation-tickets-117584180449> to get the link

This event will also be televised on ORCTV.

Contact Stacie Charbonneau Hess at (508) 524-5773 or via email Stacie.CharbonneauHess@bristolcc.edu

Recipe of the Week

Greek-Style Pan-Fried Porgy

Salt and pepper

1 pound porgy fillets (with skins)

Olive oil

2 tablespoons minced shallots

2 garlic cloves, minced

1/4-1/2 cup white wine

2 tablespoons lemon juice

2 tbsps fresh oregano, chopped

1 tbsp fresh rosemary, chopped

2 tablespoons butter

Sprinkle fillets with salt and pepper. Heat a few tablespoons of olive oil in a large pan over medium-high heat. Put porgy in skin-side down. Cook 2 minutes, flip, and cook the other side for 2 minutes. Remove from the pan.

Turn heat down to low or medium-low. Add more oil to the pan if necessary. Sauté shallots for 2 minutes. Add garlic and cook for 1 minute. Add white wine, turn up the heat and let the wine reduce by about half. Stir in lemon juice, oregano and rosemary. Take the pan off the heat and swirl in the butter. Taste and adjust the seasoning with salt and pepper. Put the fish back in the pan and spoon some of the sauce over it, or pour the sauce over the fish on a serving dish.

From <https://grabbingthegusto.wordpress.com>

State primary is Tuesday

The state primary is Tuesday, 9/1. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Contested primaries on both the Democratic and Republican sides for US Senator are Joe Kennedy challenging incumbent Edward Markey on the Democratic side; Shiva Ayyadurai and Kevin O'Connor on the Republican side.

Early Voting

In-person Early Voting is still available at the Fairhaven Fire Station Meeting Room from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Thurs. and Friday, 8/27 & 28

All voters are encouraged to bring their own black or blue ink pens, wear masks, and adhere to the social distancing advisory.

Please visit www.fairhaven-ma.gov for additional information or call 508-979-4023 Ext. 105.

In Acushnet, early voting is available at the Parting Ways Building, 130 Main Street, from 8-4 on Thursday, and 8-11:30 a.m. on Friday.

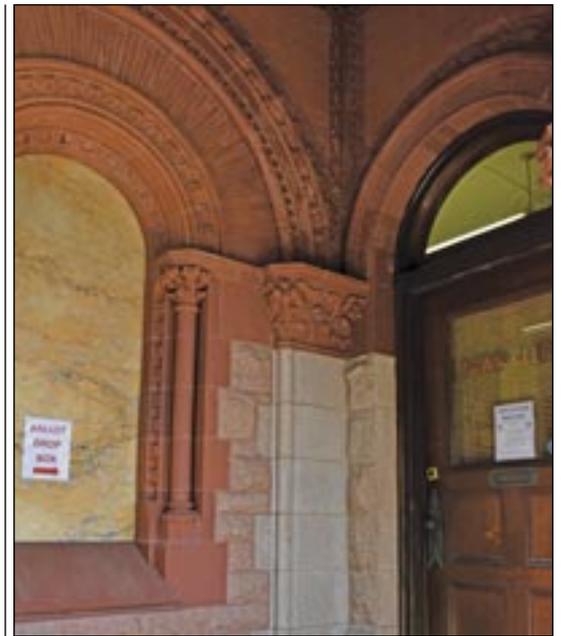
Visit <https://www.acushnet.ma.us/home/news/state-primary-september-1st-early-voting-in-person-schedule> or call the Town Clerk at 508-998-0215.

Call the Acushnet Town Clerk at 508-998-0215 for more information.

Vote by mail/ drop off

The last day to apply in person for an absentee or early ballot is 8/31.

You may mail in your ballot, but it must be received by 9/1, so you may opt to drop it off in person. In Fairhaven, the drop box is



A sign directs people to the new drop box/ slot at the Town Clerk's office in Fairhaven which can be used for election ballots, vital records requests, and other town clerk business. Town Clerk Carolyn Hurley said she chose a design to blend in with the town hall's historic look. Special thanks to the Katz brothers of In-House Custom for installing the slot at no charge. *Photo by Beth David.*

located to the right of the front doors at town hall. A newly installed slot in the outside door to the town clerk's office can be used for ballots.

Track your ballot

After you mail in your ballot, you may track it at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/wheredoivotema/track/trackmyballot.aspx>

For more information

Visit the state elections division at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleidx.htm> for more information, including sample ballots at https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/ele20/state_primary_candidates20.htm



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Report outlines complaints against Board of Health chair

By Beth David
Editor

After the two female employees in the Fairhaven Health Department filed complaints against Board of Health chairperson Peter DeTerra, the town commissioned Clifford & Kenney, LLP to conduct an investigation. The resulting report by Jaime Kenney paints a picture of a hostile work environment created by Mr. DeTerra, who denies nearly all of the accusations in the complaints and has innocent explanations for others.

The report, which is stamped "Confidential report prepared for atty. P. Beauregard," was released to the press by Attorney Philip Beauregard, who represents all three health department employees. In his letter from 8/4/20 that was included with the report, Mr. Beauregard states that he does not consider the report to be confidential.

"There is good reason why this report should be made public," he writes. "As this concerns the public interest and the public trust in the Board of Health."

The report was commissioned after Fairhaven Health Agent Mary Freire-Kellogg and Administrative Assistant Amanda Blais both filed formal complaints

last October (2019) with the town alleging that Mr. DeTerra singled them out because they are women and harassed them by constantly acting as though they were being dishonest.

He allegedly would go to the office and "stare" and "glare" at them, check over their shoulders as they worked, and constantly called the office looking for Ms. Freire-Kellogg, who frequently works in the field. The behavior is described as "creepy" and "unnerving."

On one occasion he went through the drawers on Ms. Blais's desk and removed his signature stamp. Other allegations include threatening behavior such as pounding his fists on the table during meetings and outside of meetings, behavior that was described as "frightening."

In the report, Ms. Kenney outlines 53 incidents that she investigated with interviews and document/video reviews. In most of them, Mr. DeTerra denies the behavior, and in many of those, the investigator deems the complainants as being more credible.

None of the behavior was reported as being done to the male member of the department, Daniel Shea, the part time food inspector.

The allegations against Mr. DeTerra include asking and insisting upon knowing where Ms. Blais was during off hours, because, said Mr. DeTerra, he believed that she was in the town owned vehicle with Mr. Shea. The two have a romantic relationship that is mentioned in the report. Mr. DeTerra accused Ms. Blais of lying about being in the car.

In a follow-up interview, Ms. Blais said that Mr. DeTerra knew about the relationship before hiring Mr. Shea and had no problem with it at the time. She said in the particular incident about the car, she suggested pulling the surveillance footage from the Council on Aging building, but then the matter was dropped and she thought it was over, until it came up again.

The recommendations at the end of the report include that Mr. DeTerra receive training regarding unlawful discrimination and harassment; and that he receive counseling on "professionalism and civility;" that he be banned from the BOH office, and space be made for him in the Board of Appeals office, since he is a member of that board, too.

"This investigator further notes that each witness in the instant investigation

BOH REPORT: cont'd on page 13

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Fairhaven health agent placed on admin leave, no reason given

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

During what was listed on the agenda as a personnel discussion on Health Agent Mary Freire-Kellogg on 8/24, the Fairhaven Board of Health instead voted to place Ms. Freire-Kellogg on paid administrative leave and would not state a specific reason for it when Attorney Philip Beauregard asked for one.

Right away Town Counsel Thomas Crotty was given the floor and said it was his understanding that the intention was to reschedule for a later date in order to give Ms. Freire-Kellogg notice on the substantive matters of what would be discussed. Meanwhile, the board would place her on paid administrative leave until further notice.

Ms. Freire-Kellogg had been out on medical leave with approval from her doctor since 7/16 (see *Neighb News* 7/23/20 issue). A letter from her doctor that was submitted to the board on 8/17 approved her for a return to work on 8/18, but when Ms. Freire-Kellogg returned to her desk that morning she was ordered to leave.

Board of Health member Geoffrey Haworth stated that he thought placing Ms. Freire-Kellogg on paid administrative leave while the board did its “due diligence” and lined up its proverbial ducks before continuing the conversation with her.

“And I agree,” said BOH member Michael Ristuccia.

“Administrative paid leave,” stated Mr. Beauregard. “For what reason?”

Mr. Crotty summarized, saying that the board has its interim health agent, Sarah DuPont, and Ms. Freire-Kellogg who has returned asking to be reinstated to her position.

“We have two health agents,” Mr. Crotty said. “There can’t be two health agents,” so the board needs time to decide where to go.

“I don’t agree with your characterization, Mr. Crotty,” replied Mr. Beauregard, “with all due respect.”

He said there was only one health agent, Ms. Freire-Kellogg, and spoke briefly as to why she was out on medical leave and referenced the recent report of an investigation into harassment allegations against BOH Chairperson Peter DeTerra, which concluded that Mr. DeTerra has engaged in a pattern of “uncivil and highly unprofessional behavior” toward Ms. Freire-Kellogg and

former Assistant to the BOH Amanda Blais.

Mr. Beauregard was interrupted for not staying on topic, but asserted that he was simply addressing the issue that there were “two health agents.”

“There’s not two board agents, there’s one board agent,” he stated.

Mr. Ristuccia interrupted him, but said he would be fine if he continued as long as he remained on topic.

“You have an employee, Mary Kellogg, who is subject to the personnel procedure of the town, which is administered by your town administrator and not the Board of Health, and I think you know that because that was the statute that was passed.”

You don’t put somebody on paid administrative leave unless there’s a need to do it. And I would ask, on what basis is there to penalize her at this point and put her on paid administrative leave?
[Atty. Philip Beauregard]

Mr. Beauregard continued: “... so, whatever procedures [the board] used on the basis that [Ms. Freire-Kellogg] was out on sick leave, that was for a predicted specific period of time,” and she returned within that time, “perfectly capable by medical clearance, even if that were required to come back and resume her duties.”

Mr. Beauregard said that paid administrative leave has a “punitive aspect” to it in and of itself, and said, “You don’t put somebody on paid administrative leave unless there’s a need to do it. And I would ask, on what basis is there to penalize her at this point and put her on paid administrative leave?”

He again referenced the investigation report. “She deserves, at least, an explanation.”

After a silent pause, he asked, “Town counsel is silent?”

“Do you want to debate back and forth?” asked Mr. Crotty.

“No debate right now,” said Mr. DeTerra.

“Not debate,” said Mr. Beauregard. “We want a reason, a statement of fact. Why put [her] on paid administrative leave?”

Mr. Ristuccia said he would like to speak to that, but he did not offer a reason for the paid leave. Instead, he read from a written statement about his encounter with Ms. Freire-Kellogg on 8/17 when she returned to work and he ordered her to leave:

“This is not a surprise to a lot of residents in the town that have been reading the newspapers and paying attention to Facebook that I ... allegedly yelled and screamed at [Ms. Freire-Kellogg] in the office. I say allegedly because prior to going into that office I asked somebody to sit outside that office to make sure that they would be able to compile an outline of exactly what happened in there.”

That somebody was Selectboard member Keith Silvia, who said Mr. Ristuccia he brought with him to witness the interaction. Mr. Ristuccia read aloud a letter he said Mr. Silvia wrote about what he observed that morning.

Mr. Ristuccia read, “What I witnessed were both parties acting in a professional manner showing respect towards each other with a difficult scenario. I did not see or hear either party raising their voices or disrespecting one another.”

Meanwhile during the remote Zoom meeting, Fairhaven resident Andrew Jones submitted a chat comment questioning how Mr. Ristuccia’s comments could be considered as relevant to the discussion.

“I’m dismayed at what I read and heard regarding my meeting with [Ms. Freire-Kellogg],” said Mr. Ristuccia, and said he was not making any accusations of his own. He then added, “I’m very upset about it and I’m seeking legal counsel.”

Mr. Haworth said he was the “most neutral party” involved and that he is trying to keep an open mind about the matter.

Just before the discussion on Ms. Freire-Kellogg, Mr. Haworth interrupted the approval of the minutes of several prior meetings to announce that someone had allegedly accessed the

BOH MTG: cont’d to page 14

School Committee hears safety plan for reopening

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

School administration presented the district's safety protocol methods for the return to school during the Fairhaven School Committee meeting on 8/19 highlighting the critical areas where policy and practice will protect students and staff from COVID-19.

Federal and state guidance on best practices for safety continue to develop on a weekly basis, something Assistant Superintendent of Schools Tara Kohler said would continue as the science advances and data fluctuates. Through working closely with the local Health Department as well as with groups led by experts, Fairhaven schools will remain current as safety standards evolve.

Much of what will be implemented is based on the core public health principles for school reopening developed by the Parabola Project, an initiative established to provide resources to minimize COVID-19 risk while maximizing learning.

Focus is heaviest on masks, social distancing, and small cohort sizes, which

when combined, offer a drastic reduction in risk. In addition, schools have addressed airflow and filtration, surface sanitization, and personal hygiene, with communication protocols and screening measures to form a multi-layered approach to health and safety.

Only two-ply facemasks will be allowed — no gators, bandanas, or reusable masks with only one layer. Schools will have extras on hand, and students are encouraged to have an extra mask with them at all times.

Ms. Kohler said the first screening for symptoms or fever should occur at home before school, adding, "This is the most important [thing] that our community hears tonight: if your child has new symptoms, has a fever of over 100 [degrees], sore throat or sudden loss of taste or smell, they need to stay home."

Ms. Kohler pointed out how some schools in the country had to close during the first week. Keeping cohorts at 25 and learning pods at 11 will make the difference in Fairhaven. At the high school, teachers may likely do the traveling between

classrooms instead of students who might remain in the same room and use that time for socially-distanced mask breaks.

HVAC systems have been inspected and outfitted with upgraded filters, and open windows and fans will be encouraged where appropriate, so students should expect to dress appropriately during the cooler months. Windowless rooms will have new portable air purifiers. Ms. Kohler gave a show-and-tell of some of the products the district has stockpiled, including paper towels, hand sanitizer, disinfectant sprays, all of which will be placed in each room. Schools will also be disinfected via new fine mist foggers at least once a week.

The committee also discussed busing, which will include reduced numbers and carpooling for groups.

The school hours will be the same as they have been for the individual schools, but dismissal will be one hour earlier. The district is also considering having seniors arrive later in the day for an "afternoon shift."

SCHOOLS: cont'd on page 21

BOH REPORT: cont'd from page 11 communicated his/her belief that Mr. DeTerra does not seem to perceive women to be equal to men," reads the report. "This is reflected in Mr. DeTerra's conduct towards the female employees of the Board of Health."

Mr. DeTerra, in a phone interview, said the report was biased, that he did everything that was recommended of him, including the counseling. He denied that he has any bias against women. And he agreed to answer any and all questions.

He defended his behavior, saying he did not stare or glare at anyone when he was in the office. He said he only went to the office to do necessary work, but he has complied and has not been going to the office.

As for the signature stamp, he alleges that the office employees were using it improperly, that it should only be used if he cannot be reached to sign something.

He admitted to pounding his fist in frustration over a litany of slights and abuses he said he suffered when he was not chairperson.

Mr. DeTerra said that the counselor suggested all parties meet together to iron it out, but Town Administrator Mark Rees needed to set that up and never did.

Mr. Rees said that he believed that meeting was supposed to happen but then "COVID 19 blew up."

He said that offer is still on the table.

As for the substance of the allegations, Mr. Rees said he would not comment, and

the report never should have been given to the press. It is a public document, he said, "However under the terms of our anti harassment policy, all this is supposed to be confidential."

Mr. DeTerra echoed the sentiment.

"This was a little internal investigation for us to clear the air and to get it over," said Mr. DeTerra. "But it never got over with because they never did their side. We have to do it all together."

Ms. Freire-Kellogg said that Mr. DeTerra has done a good job of trying to "stifle" everybody in meetings so employees do not get their say. She said Mr. DeTerra abides by the rules for a short time, but then does not.

"It's like being a battered spouse," said Ms. Freire-Kellogg. "He beats the shit out of you and gives you a black eye, then he behaves long enough for the black eye to heal, then he's back at it."

As of now, Ms. Freire-Kellogg is on paid administrative leave, although they gave no reason (see page 12); Ms. Blais has resigned; and Mr. Shea said in a phone interview that he is unsure of his status.

Mr. Shea said he was at Scramblers conducting a follow-up inspection after a complaint was lodged with the state. Ms. Freire-Kellogg had done the initial inspection, and Mr. Shea followed up after she was placed on leave. The owner of Scramblers angrily kicked Mr. Shea out of the restaurant. He was ordered back to the office and asked not to return. He has not

been able to get on the agenda of a BOH meeting to discuss his fate.

"I'm not quitting," said Mr. Shea. "If I leave, it's going to be because they fired me."

He added that he and Ms. Freire-Kellogg both take the "health and safety of Fairhaven very seriously."

So, as of now, the new interim Health Agent, Sarah Dupont, who graduated from college with a Master's in Public Health in May, is the only person working in the department.

Mr. Shea said he worries that COVID-19 tracking and other measures are being neglected because Ms. Dupont is not seasoned or trained to properly handle the situation. Mr. Shea has a Master's in Public Health and his specialty is epidemiology. He is an Associate Professor & Program Coordinator at Cape Cod Community College.

Ms. Blais said she reached out to town officials and got no response or inadequate response; to her union, where she was rebuffed; and finally decided to resign, and hired Mr. Beauregard.

"Peter's problem is he always thinks we're hiding something. I've always been honest with him," said Ms. Blais.

"How can you straighten things out if they don't do nothing. I agreed to everything they said, everything, and they still came after me," said Mr. DeTerra. "I don't know how this escalated to this point. It's a mess."

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Fairhaven Council on Aging

The Fairhaven Council on Aging Senior Center remains closed to the public until further notice. The staff is available to take phone calls and to assist you in any way possible.

Medicare Open Enrollment

SHINE appointments for MEDICARE open enrollment will be available from October 15th to December 7th SHINE APPOINTMENTS ARRANGED BY THE FAIRHAVEN COUNCIL ON AGING ARE FOR FAIRHAVEN SENIORS ONLY. Seniors from surrounding communities can call the Council on Aging in their Town for SHINE information.

If you have a Medicare Prescription Plan or a Medicare Advantage Plan (HMO or PPO), you should receive a notice from your plan by the end of September. This notice outlines changes to be made to your plan for 2021. During this open enrollment period, you will be able to make changes to this plan.

Due to social distancing guidelines set by the state, no appointments for SHINE will be held at the Fairhaven COA, however, SHINE counselors will be working from home in an effort to meet your Medicare informational needs.

All correspondence between the seniors and the SHINE counselor will be done over the phone and email, if possible. Exchange of paperwork can be done through the senior center by calling the senior center from the parking lot. Someone will come out to get, or give, you your paperwork, SHINE feels confident that they will continue to be able to provide their outstanding service to those seeking assistance during this crazy and unprecedented time.

Please call the Fairhaven Council on Aging at 508-979-4029, for an appointment to speak with a SHINE counselor.

BOH MTG: cont'd from page 12

Health Department computer system, tampered with the meeting minutes of 5/28, 6/11, 6/18, 7/9, 7/10, 7/16, and possibly 7/30, and deleted the Microsoft Word versions leaving behind only altered PDF versions of the minutes.

According to Mr. Haworth, the IT Department told him, based on the modified dates of the files, that the files were likely accessed remotely on 8/4 and 8/5 between 8:30 p.m. and 9:41 p.m. He said the person who altered the files would have to have access to the Health Department's Z: drive.

A Z:drive is the storage location on a computer that allows one to save files on one computer and then access them later from a different computer.

While continuing with the discussion about Ms. Freire-Kellogg, Mr. Haworth said he was trying to "keep an open mind and look at this for all aspects," but still has not been able to "get through everything."

"For example, somebody accessed

the minutes,"* said Mr. Haworth. "I don't know if it was Ms. [Freire-Kellogg] ... or [Health Inspector Dan Shea] (currently on paid administrative leave)," although Mr. Haworth said he was not accusing anyone. "But until we find out who did that — and we have situations and, Mr. Beauregard, I don't want to be bringing all this out ... until we get time to properly notify Ms. Kellogg on these accusations, but then we have things like marina permits that haven't been issued this season that should've been done back in May, June.

"So, if you want a reason why we're looking to put everything together before we just start throwing everything on the table, these are things we're looking at," said Mr. Haworth, adding that he was sure Ms. Freire-Kellogg is a great health agent.

"I'm just looking at facts and the facts are there are a few problems right now and until we resolve those problems I don't see it as detrimental for Ms.

Kellogg to remain on paid leave while we put together what's happened with all these other issues," Mr. Haworth said. "I'm just seeing deficiencies within the department," and, he added, he needs more time to decide on how to vote and handle the situation.

"I don't think it's bad for this board to allow Ms. Kellogg to stay paid and on paid leave while all these issues are resolved," he said.

"OK, is that a motion?" asked Mr. DeTerra, which it then became.

"Do I get to speak in reference to [inaudible]?" asked Ms. Freire-Kellogg, present inside the meeting room wearing her face mask.

"No," Mr. DeTerra replied.

"I can't speak to that, only the chair can," Mr. Ristuccia said.

"I just think it's better that we compile everything and we have one big hearing," said Mr. Haworth.

"What's 'compiling' everything?"

BOH MTG: cont'd on page 18



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Acushnet Schools to use hybrid model for reopening

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

The Acushnet School Committee approved the 2020-2021 school reopening plan on August 11 and released the details of a phased-in hybrid-learning model for Acushnet students grades 2-8 while offering four-day on-site learning to pre-school, kindergarten, and grade 1 students and subsets of students with specific needs, such as those receiving special education services.

Grades 2-8 hybrid students will arrive to school two days a week and learn remotely the other three days. All students will receive remote learning on Wednesdays.

Parents and guardians have also have the option to enroll their child as fully remote learners.

On 8/14 parents were asked to respond by 8/18 to a mandatory online survey to state definitively which option they would be selecting for their child and whether they would require school bus transportation. Any requests to transition from fully remote to hybrid would not be considered until the end of the first

semester in January.

The first day of school is slated for Wednesday, 9/16 during "Phase 1" of reopening, and students in all grades will report to school remotely from home. Full-day on-site learning for pre-school and high needs students commences on 9/17 while remote learning continues for all other students. Hybrid students grades 2-8 will be split into two learning cohorts A and B alternating between on-site and remote.

"Phase 2" opens on Monday, 9/21 welcoming kindergarten and grade 5 Cohort A students back to school for half-day morning on-site learning. Students will go home for lunch, and remote learning will resume for the rest of the afternoon.

Cohort B hybrid students will participate remotely 9/21-9/25.

Grade 1 and grades 4 and 6 Cohort A students will attend school on-site for a half-day on 9/22, all students will go remote on Wednesday, and on Thursday grade 2 and 7 Cohort A students will have their first half day of on-site. Friday on-site will be grades 3 and 8 Cohort A students.

The second week of Phase 2 from 9/29-10/2 will follow the same schedule for Cohort B students while Cohort A takes a week of

remote learning, again, with all students receiving remote learning every Wednesday.

Once Phase 3 starts the week of 10/5-10/9, kindergarten and grade 1 students will attend on-site for the full day, and Cohort A grades 2-8 will begin full days of on-site learning twice a week and alternate thereafter with Cohort B students each week.

All students will receive a student orientation and remote learning assignments from 9/16-10/2.

"Of course, we know that under normal circumstances, students would be best served in schools every day, interacting with their peers and engaged in live classroom learning," said Acushnet Schools Superintendent Dr. Paula Bailey in her introduction to the Re-Entry Plan 2020-2021. "While our educators and families worked incredibly hard last spring to implement remote learning, we know that approach presented enormous challenges, did not reach all students, particularly those with the greatest needs, and is not an adequate substitute for in-person interaction with teachers.

"When out of school, our students also lack access to all of the academic, mental, and physical supports that help ensure their social-emotional well-being, particularly in navigating the effects of trauma during these tremendously

ACUSH: cont'd on page 19

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From our readers

Electric option should be opt-in, not opt-out

The Fairhaven Selectboard has been petitioned by a group called The Climate Reality Project Southcoast to allow an automatic increase of 10% to Fairhaven's purchase of renewable energy to be assessed on your monthly electric bill. If Climate Reality is successful with their petition the ratepayer (you) will be required to check a box to "opt-out" of the optional increase.

Initially, we were led to believe that The Climate Reality Project Southcoast was a local group. It isn't. The Climate Reality Project Southcoast is a "chapter" of a nationally-funded group founded by former Vice President Gore in 2005. They are lobbying our Selectboard heavily through surveys crafted partially by them and a scripted petition campaign (see their website or Climate Reality for background).

This national group seems to have garnered the support of Fairhaven's Sustainability Committee and Conservation Commission. It's concerning that the town survey includes this group's logo alongside the Fairhaven Sustainability Committee's official seal.

Climate Reality realizes that during

these trying times most folks clearly have other things on their minds and most likely aren't paying close attention to their monthly electric bills. The concern is this, if you don't notice and select the "opt-out" option you will automatically pay the optional renewable energy increase.

For the average ratepayer, this fee would increase a few dollars a month, to climate change activists a small price to pay to save the planet. To the average Fairhaven resident during these trying times, it's significant. For the elderly person on a fixed income, struggling to pay taxes, who might not notice the "opt-out" box, it could mean not buying the extra gallon of milk that month. For town businesses, the fees could be hundreds of dollars per month. The increase is optional and all that we ask is that the ratepayer simply has the choice to "opt-in" on the bill and not be required to "opt-out" of the increase. It's that simple.

John Methia, Fairhaven

Selectboard and Board of Health members are schoolyard bullies

The members of the Board of Health and the Board of Selectmen are behaving like schoolyard bullies in the middle of a health crisis. The

number of cases in Fairhaven has tripled, from 2 to 6, since the election, yet the Health Department doesn't have enough staff to inspect restaurants, hair salons, retail stores, and other establishments to ensure that rules are being followed. It's time to grow up and get to work.

Beth Luey, Fairhaven

Mayhem and Madness in Fairhaven

This is all terrible, confusing and not at all pleasant to read. Fairhaven has some 15,000+ people. One wonders how much influence the previous Senator still has in town.

For the past 17 years, it seems as though we have been making an attempt to get away from the 'ol boy network' and not be controlled by strings being pulled from afar. Yet, the same ol' same ol' keep showing up going from one committee to another.

The Selectboard needs to be five people, not three, have more representation from its very talented population, and a town administrator who can at least demand civility amongst its elected officials.

Might there be a mission statement published somewhere which explains the Board of Health and what they do to command their salary?

Susan Spooner, Fairhaven

BOH MTG: cont'd from page 14

asked Mr. Beauregard. "Is there a reason? 'Everything' now, you're saying. Marina permits.... She's there. She will answer you."

Mr. Haworth said it would not be fair to put her "on the spot."

"Well, I am her lawyer and I say it's fair," said Mr. Beauregard. "I say it's unfair to be sending her home with pay with no reason. And she is there and she's prepared to answer any question you have about Board of Health business. Why don't you ask her?"

Mr. Haworth ignored the offer, and proceeded to recommend Thursday, 9/10 as the next meeting, during which time Ms. Freire-Kellogg's personnel matter would be continued.

"Will the board state a reason?" Mr. Beauregard tried one last time, which went unanswered.

The board voted 2-1, with Mr. DeTerra abstaining, to place Ms. Freire-Kellogg on paid administrative leave and to reconvene on 9/10, placing Mr. Haworth in charge of handling the matter on

behalf of the board.

Mr. Beauregard asked when the board was going to discuss Mr. Shea, saying that he thought he was supposed to be on the agenda that night as well.

"Mr. Shea is still employed ... and he was told not to do inspections and turn in his keys," said Mr. Beauregard. "And I had asked whether he was terminated."

"He's not on the agenda," said Mr. DeTerra. "If he talks anymore can you mute him please?"

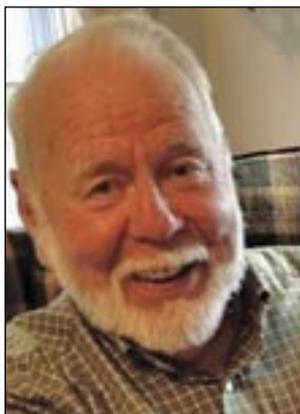
Also during the meeting, Mr. Ristuccia made a motion that he not be paid any stipend for his participation on the Board of Health, saying that he does not want compensation and does not want to be "an employee of the Town of Fairhaven," which the board granted with a vote. However, Mr. Ristuccia mentioned that his decision "was subject to change."

In other news, Ms. DuPont reported that Fairhaven currently has six active COVID-19 cases for a total of 254 cases so far.

Earlier in the meeting Mr. Haworth mentioned that it came to his attention that most of the marinas in town have been operating without a permit this season and had not been inspected. Ms. DuPont said she was able to inspect and issue permits to some of them, but Mr. Haworth said roughly "66%" of the marinas still need permits.

**Editor's note: Amanda Blais contacted the Neighb News explaining that she is not allowed to speak at meetings so she was not able to explain that she has been working from home and using a town-issued laptop to create the minutes and save them on the office drive. She said she has been saving the minutes as PDFs instead of Word documents ever since Mr. DeTerra became chairperson because she was afraid he would alter the minutes, and PDFs are not easily changed. She said she never deleted the Word files, they were never created. Also, the BOH does not customarily use digital files to approve minutes, they use hard copies provided in their packets before each meeting.*

Obituary



Donald B. Mendell

Donald B. Mendell, 93, of Fairhaven, passed away on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at home. He was the husband of

the late Pauline E. (Lewis) Mendell.

Born in New Bedford, son of the late Reginald and Elizabeth (Thomas) Mendell, he had resided in New Bedford before moving to Fairhaven where he lived for many years. He was a graduate of New Bedford High

School, attended Brown University on a music scholarship and received a degree in Pharmacy from New England School of Pharmacy in 1943.

Mr. Mendell was a well-known and respected pharmacist who owned Guy's Pharmacy in Fairhaven. He also owned the consignment shop "Stuff".

Don was a longtime member of the Fairhaven Rotary Club and recipient of the Paul Harris award. He was very active at the Fairhaven Senior Center where he played Santa Clause as well as for the town's holiday festivities. He had a love of music and played the trumpet. He enjoyed fishing and boating with his son. Don loved spending time with his family whom he adored.

He is survived by a daughter, Valerie A. Mendell of Fairhaven; two sons, Donald B. Mendell, Jr. and his wife Susan of Palmyra, Maine, and

Robert L. Mendell and his wife Rita of Fairhaven; 11 grandchildren; 29 great grandchildren; 4 great-great grandchildren and 1 on the way; a son-in-law, Daniel Pallatroni of Rochester; a brother-in-law, Ed Lewis and his wife Jan of Farmington, Maine; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a daughter, Joyce Pallatroni; two sisters, Dr. Eleanor Worsley and Phyllis Wood; and two great grandchildren, Jarryd Leeks and Imani Mattos.

Private services are in the care of Waring-Sullivan Home at Fairlawn, 180 Washington St., Fairhaven. Donations in Don's memory may be made to Smiles Foundation, 2727 Steeles Ave. West, Suite 301, Toronto, Ontario M3J 3G9.

For online tributes, please visit: www.waring-sullivan.com

ACUSH: cont'd from page 16

challenging times," she continued. "Therefore, we believe our families and students deserve more than a fully remote learning plan."

According to Dr. Bailey, a feasibility study of Acushnet Elementary School and Ford Middle School showed that fully reopening for full on-site learning for all students could not be possible due to Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) physical distancing requirements that would require more classrooms than are available and more staff than is fiscally possible.

"...[We] can make significant changes in our school schedules and operating procedures to make a partial return to in-person learning both safe and successful," said Dr. Bailey. "This approach will require strategies to ensure physical distancing, as well as a series of other critical health and safety measures, including wearing face coverings, washing hands frequently, cleaning and sanitizing facilities, screening regularly for symptoms of illness, and staying home from school when sick, among others. Our planning process includes a comprehensive set of strategies and investments to minimize the risk of transmitting the virus."

On-site classes will be smaller socially-distanced groups, and all staff and students will be required to wear

a face mask unless they provide a doctor's note with a medical or disability exemption. Masks can be disposable or reusable; however, they must be made of at least two layers of breathable material, fully cover the mouth and nose, and fit snugly under the chin and along the side of the face secured by ties or ear loops.

Not allowed: neck gaiters, open-chin triangle bandanas, face coverings containing valves, mesh material, or holes of any kind.

The school district will provide a mask to anyone without one.

The school district has adopted a number of safety procedures and policies, including hospital-grade disinfectant spray inside each classroom, which will be disinfected at the end of each day. Common spaces and bathrooms will be disinfected throughout the day, and a new machine that disperses a fine disinfectant fog will be used in each classroom and across the buildings when students are not in the building. The HVAC system has also been upgraded to increase fresh air circulation and when possible, teachers will be encouraged to open windows to further increase airflow.

For students enrolled in the fully remote learning option, each student will be assigned a remote learning teacher who will monitor their

programming and assist them with their assignments, grading, and maintain communication. The remote school day will follow the normal school hours of elementary and middle school, and students will have access to an online learning platform at no tuition cost to the family.

Remote students will be greeted at the start of the school year during an initial Zoom meeting and provide Google Classroom training if required. Students and families will be offered a check-in opportunity each week with the remote learning teacher on Wednesdays.

Ahead of all students' return to the classroom remotely on 9/16, school staff will report on-site starting on 8/31 and will engage in professional development each day.

As a result of anticipated gaps in students' learning after the sudden closure of school back in March, students will participate in re-entry workshops that will assist teachers in determining baseline data to facilitate differentiated teaching that will include appropriate review materials and lessons to address individualized learning.

The re-opening plan and a presentation of the plan is available at website www.acushnetschools.us.



Submission for Fall Special Town Meeting Articles

Please submit Articles* for the October 20, 2020 Fall Special Town Meeting, including Street Acceptance Articles, by September 18, 2020 at 4 p.m.

*All petitions must have 100 valid signatures

Fairhaven Board of Selectmen

Public Hearings/Legal Notices

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Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearings

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ZOOM INFORMATION:
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Meeting ID: 951 7216 5386

Passcode: 092513or Call 1-240-903-4218 (pin#:692724981)

- 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. **Continued** from April 7, 2020, May 5, 2020, June 2, 2020, and July 7, 2020, and August 11, 2020.)
- 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. (continued per applicant's request to September 2, 2020 Meeting.)
- 84 Cottonwood Street.** Petitioner: Steven Rogers. Owners: Hassett, Todd & Juliana. 198-16 Special Permit request to build an accessory building on a lot without a principal use.
- 902 Sconticut Neck Road.** Applicant: Dana Pickup. Owner: Lewis, John. 198-16: Variance request for a 10'8" side setback that requires a 20' side setback in a RR District.
- 3 Spring St.** Petitioner: Jeff & Pam Kuckuk. 198-16: Variance request for 6' roof height, over the maximum height of 35' allowed in a RA District.
- 6 Emerson Ave.** Petitioner: Michael Ristuccia. Owner: Natalie Reis 198-22(3): Variance to allow an accessory structure to be built in the front yard.

Peter DeTerra, Chairman
FNN: 8/20/20, 8/27/20

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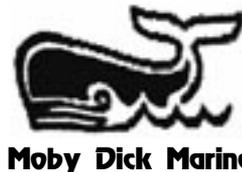
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SCHOOLS: cont'd from page 13

Dr. Baldwin lamented that some courses such as phys-ed, band, and chorus might be canceled due to the risk of transmission during those activities.

Administration also addressed some requests for clarity from the public and explained the difference between "remote" and the virtual aspect of the hybrid model, saying that remote students will be instructed only by the online academy (TECCA). Hybrid students during the virtual week will receive support and guidance from Fairhaven teachers that work closely with the in-person teacher that instructs students in school and builds the curriculum using several online platforms.

He also clarified that the remote TECCA school start date is 9/1, while the hybrid and in-person learning models start 9/15.

We are all grieving the loss of what once was, said Ms. Kohler, but finding the positive in this "global collective trauma" is essential.

"We're all doing the best we can and we need our kids to come in with a positive attitude and feel safe and know that the school that they're going to is doing the best they can to give them the best they can," said Ms. Kohler. "It's a global year that everyone's going to miss stuff. It's

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really hard to recognize that, but it's a fact."

She and Dr. Baldwin emphasized the important role the community plays in making the school year successful.

"The more people behave now, the more likely a return to 'normal' happens," said Ms. Kohler. "I feel we have a really strong plan in line with all the best practices that are out there...."

Fairhaven is currently shaded green, fewer than five cases per 100,000 people, in the state's color-coded metric.

"If you can help us, it takes a village and it's gonna take the entire town to keep us green ... so we can do this for our kids for the entire year," said Dr. Baldwin.

He also cautioned residents against social media rumors and mass hysteria.

"Somebody is going to have symptoms or be deemed to have this," said Dr. Baldwin. "We aren't going to be immune to this and when it happens we just need to react matter-of-fact and following protocols.... We know it's gonna happen."

School Committee Chairperson Brian Munroe insisted on optimism: "If we approach this with a positive tone and basically try to make the best experience out of this big dumpster fire of a year ... I do believe we can make this a memorable year in a positive way ... so, enough with the negative."

Upcoming Meetings

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

Fairhaven

Board of Appeals

Wed., 9/2, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 9/14, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Economic Development

Thurs., 8/27, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Marine Resources Comm.

Thurs., 8/27, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Office Hour: Espindola

Tues., 9/1, Virtual, 6:30

See www.fairhaven-ma.gov for link

School Committee

Wed., 9/2, FHS Library, 6:30 p.m.

Selectboard

Tues., 9/8, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Sustainability Committee

Tues., 9/15, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Acushnet

Board of Health

Thurs., 8/27, Virtual, 6 p.m.

Golf Committee

Thurs., 8/27, Golf Course Tent, 4:30

Selectboard

Thurs., 8/27, Town Hall, 4:30 p.m.

Tues., 9/1, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	Aug 2020	HIGH a.m. p.m.		LOW a.m. p.m.	
Thursday	27	0331	1605	0923	2339
Friday	28	0438	1713	1133	----
Saturday	29	0546	1812	0038	1239
Sunday	30	0638	1859	0128	1330
Monday	31	0722	1941	0217	1419
	Sept 2020	HIGH a.m. p.m.		LOW a.m. p.m.	
Tuesday	1	0802	2021	0301	1501
Wednesday	2	0842	2101	0333	1511
Thursday	3	0923	2141	0320	1508
Friday	4	1002	2220	0320	1534
Saturday	5	1041	2259	0345	1605
Sunday	6	1121	2341	0415	1638
Monday	7	----	1205	0447	1714
Tuesday	8	0029	1256	0523	1756

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

BPW discusses Tree Warden woes; fines

By Mary Macedo

Neighb News Correspondent

At its meeting on Monday 8/17 the Fairhaven Board of Public Works discussed issues with driveway waivers, town trees, and the beautification of Cooke Park

BPW Vice-Chairperson Robert "Hoppy" Hobson announced at the beginning of the meeting that Chairperson Brian Wotton would be absent from. Mr. Hobson chaired the meeting. New board member Marcus Ferro was also absent from the meeting.

The board first met with Jostein and Else Mjølhus about a driveway waiver for their house on Spring Street. BPW Superintendent Vinnie Furtado explained that the Highway Superintendent John Charbonneau went by the property and noticed the newly developed driveway and realized that the contractor did not take out a permit with the town.

Mr. Hobson said that there is a \$300 fine for not taking out a permit.

Mr. Mjølhus said that the contractor was supposed to pull a permit and did not.

Administrative Assistant Becky Vento explained that the contractor that did the driveway was not an approved contractor for the town of Fairhaven.

BPW member Frank Coelho explained that the contractor is not licensed in the town.

Mr. Hobson suggested they charge Mr. Mjølhus the \$300 fine and let Mr. Mjølhus go after the contractor.

Mr. Mjølhus said he would rather just pay the fine than go after the contractor.

BPW member Cameron Durant suggested that they contact the contractor to inform him that he cannot be doing work in the town until he applies to be an approved contractor.

Mr. Coelho noted that at a previous meeting they charged both the contractor and the home owner \$300 each.

Mr. Furtado explained that the fine is not supposed to be more than \$300 total and that they made a mistake by doing that at the previous meeting. He said they could split the \$300 fine between contractor and the homeowner, but the total fine cannot be more than \$300.

Mr. Coelho said the board needs to

be more consistent and charge the same fine for everyone.

Mr. Durant made a motion to charge the homeowner a \$150 fine and the contractor a \$150 fine. Mr. Durant said they should reach out to the contractor as well.

The motion passed with Mr. Coelho voting no.

Mr. Coelho said he did not understand the fine and that the board needs to discuss the fine and charge the same fine every time.

Mr. Hobson said not to argue about it now. He suggested they discuss the fines at a future meeting.

In another matter the board met with Matt Bussiere about a sewer issue at his property on Green Street.

Mr. Bussiere said he went in front of the board at the end of June to discuss his sewer issue which they determined was because of a town

Mr. Coelho said the board needs to be more consistent and charge the same fine for everyone.

tree. He said the BPW got in contact with the tree warden to get the tree taken down, but the tree is still there and it has been almost two months.

Mr. Bussiere said he does not know what to and he feels like the tree warden does not exist. Mr. Bussiere said he came to ask the BPW if they had any pull or if they could help get in contact with the tree warden.

Mr. Hobson said that it is easier to get in contact with the president than the tree warden. Mr. Hobson said the BPW has no authority when it comes to the trees and the tree warden. Mr. Hobson said the tree warden does not report to anyone except himself.

Mr. Furtado said the BPW can only touch trees if they interfere with a BPW project.

Mr. Durant said at the fall town meeting they should petition to have the tree warden be part of the BPW, that way BPW workers can help take trees down.

Mr. Bussiere asked what he can do to get the tree warden to come and do his job.

Mr. Coelho suggested that Mr. Bussiere schedule a meeting with the Selectboard and tell them that he cannot reach the tree warden and neither can the BPW.

In another matter the board met with Pasquale LaMarre about getting an external grease trap waiver.

Mr. LaMarre explained that he owns a Subway and is moving the location to the old D'angelo's building in Fairhaven.

Mr. LaMarre said that the new building already has an internal grease trap, but it is old. He said he would like to replace the old one with a new internal grease trap.

Mr. LaMarre said that he has no use for an external grease trap because Subway does not require any cooking; everything is precooked when it arrives. He said the only grease would be from some of the sauces or toppings.

Mr. Hobson said he was glad to see a restaurant coming to Fairhaven rather than leaving. The board agreed that an external grease trap was not necessary and made a motion to allow Mr. LaMarre to have an internal grease trap only. The motion passed unanimously.

In another matter the board met with Joseph Ingoldsby about the beautification of Cooke Park. Mr. Ingoldsby said that last year they did a restoration of the drainage basin, weeded it, put dirt around the perimeter, and planted spring bulbs.

Mr. Ingoldsby said that it has been hard maintaining the plants because it has been so dry this summer. He said he would like to buy some new plants that do not need much care and that will survive in the dry area.

He said he has put together a wish list and is hoping that the BPW could help financially or help with raising money for the project.

Mr. Coelho suggested running a hose from the nearby pumping station for easy water access.

Mr. Furtado said that the BPW can add an article for the fall town meeting to get a small budget for Cooke Park.

Mr. Hobson said that putting an article in is a great idea and that residents will love it.

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Fri., 8/28: Dave Charnley **Sun., 8/30:** Charnley Duo 5 p

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