



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



The little paper
with a big voice!

Volume 16, Issue 5 • January 28, 2021

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

Acushnet rolls out mobile COVID-19 testing



L-R: Acushnet Fire Chief Kevin Gallagher, Deputy Director of Acushnet Emergency Management Edward Caron, EMT Courtney Rittenhouse, Acushnet COA Director Heather Sylvia, EMT Heather Francois-Vaughan pose with the new mobile testing trailer Acushnet acquired to conduct COVID-19 testing and, eventually, vaccinations. The unit was originally destined for the University of Rhode Island and still bears the markings of that destination. See page 12 for story. *Photo by Jean Perry*



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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, here's a good one. We both believe we are right and, well, that can't be right...right?

Keith Silvia and I had a long discussion this weekend. He insists he was not in the room of Selectboard meetings while he was a candidate after COVID restrictions were imposed. I insist that he told me he was in the room, and I've chided him in this space because of it.

When I asked why we would talk about Zooming a meeting when that word had not entered the general lexicon until after COVID, he just insisted that he never went to meetings after the restrictions. We had a frank discussion and it was refreshing. The board did meet remotely for a few meetings. I still maintain there was no reason to have that discussion when I asked him how he could get into the room when we could not unless it was after COVID.

The minutes do not note who was in the room. And we do not see him on recordings. However the camera does not show the whole room. More than once I was taken by surprise when in the middle of a meeting they addressed someone who was there who I had not realized was in the room because I was watching on TV or via Zoom.

How can Keith and I have such different memories of such a consequential discussion?

I suspect it's a timing issue. I believe that Keith is being sincere when he says he stopped going once COVID hit. But how does that explain our conversation? He did not deny the whole conversation happened, he just said he never went after things got shut down. I don't understand to this minute why we would be discussing Zoom and how he went to a meeting in person instead of via Zoom if it wasn't after COVID. I had barely heard of Zoom before COVID and I had never used it.

I still believe I am right. He still believes he is right. I guess, we've agreed to a truce.

That does not change the fact that we should be in the room NOW.

If the board is meeting in person then the press should be there. That does not change because we disagree about



Beth David, Publisher

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

Volume 16, Issue 5

Thursday, January 28, 2021

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Published weekly on Thursday by

Fairhaven Neighborhood News, LLC, at

166 Dogwood Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

COVID-19 update: Gov. lifts some restrictions, mass testing sites open

By Beth David
Editor

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker lifted the stay-at-home order, which required people to stay at home from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m., except for essential travel, such as work. Businesses are now allowed to stay open past 9:30 p.m.

The state's COVID 19 numbers are still high, but are going down. There were 2,215 confirmed cases on 1/25, bringing the total to 481,517 total in the state. There were an estimated 85,395 currently active cases as of 1/25. There were also 1,951 patients hospitalized with COVID-19, 431 in ICU and 278 intubated. There were 41 confirmed deaths on 1/25, bringing the total to 13,930 in Mass.; and there was one new probable death, bringing the probably death total to 290.

Visit <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting> for more information.

The state has also opened up more mass testing sites, pharmacy locations, and local sites. By mid-February, the state will have 165

vaccination sites.

The state has also expanded the list of those who can get vaccinated. Starting on February 1, individuals 75 or older can get vaccinated, as part of Phase Two of the distribution plan.

Individuals 65 and older and individuals with 2 or more comorbidities will now be the second priority group. Those individuals will be eligible to get the vaccine next, but the exact date depends on the number of doses the state gets from the federal government.

To find out if you are eligible, visit [mass.gov/covidvaccine](https://www.mass.gov/covidvaccine) to find your phase and priority group. If you are eligible, visit <https://www.mass.gov/covidvaccinemap> to find a vaccine clinic/location.

You must make the appointment online and fill out the attestation form. There is no phone number available for making appointments.

Fairhaven had 1453 total cases, 334 in the last 14 days, positivity rate of 10.36%. Acushnet had 913 cases, 245 in the last 14 days, and a positivity rate of 13.32%.

LETTER: cont'd from previous page

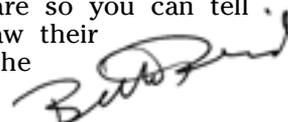
a conversation we had months ago. And if the board meets remotely and has a special Zoom connection where they can see more than other attendees then we should be privy to that.

Locking out the press is a disservice to the voters. It's based on petty grievances with our coverage, not COVID protocols. It has not been ordered by the governor, nor is it the opinion of Town Counsel (see 1/7/21 issue); on the contrary, the press is an essential service by order of the governor. This has gone on too long. It's time to stop being petty. If you are there we should be there.

What are you hiding? What's going on when the cameras get shut off, I wonder?

We have a new feature this week: Dear Frankie. It's a fun little diversion, I hope. Frankie is a rescue who gives advice to other dogs. She welcomes your questions, too. So please see page 10 for details.

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Oxford School building project asks for “substantial” change

Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

The Oxford School housing project developer wants to make a “substantial” change to the design of the proposed new construction, Building Commissioner Chris Carmichael told the Fairhaven Selectboard on 1/25. But before that proposed change is even considered, the Selectboard wants an explanation first.

Within just weeks ahead of breaking ground, Mr. Carmichael said he hesitated to issue any building permits because the original approved roof design had been changed from a hip roof with dormers to a less-costly flat roof. Furthermore, the developer, SCG Development Partners, LLC, AKA “Stratford Group,” has proposed reducing the number of units from 63 to 53.

“So, I saw that as a substantial change, and I wanted to advise both boards [Selectboard and ZBA] of that prior to me issuing any building permits,” Mr. Carmichael said.

“Obviously, this would be a better time for them to make the changes before they start to build,” said Selectboard Chairperson Daniel Freitas. “But is this something that is normally done in your business where you see this, or is this something that is a game-changer?”

“Some might consider this a game-changer because of the roof design in the back,” said Mr. Carmichael, which is a style similar to the roof of the current rear building. “But what they presented to the town to sell it is significantly different and, yes, it’s something that I see a lot. But it’s not in my purview to comment and issue those permits.”

Mr. Freitas said Stratford Group would have to come before the Selectboard to explain the changes and the impact on the town. However, Mr. Carmichael said Stratford Group had hoped to secure all permits within the next couple of weeks due to financing requirements. “So, if this is something you can talk about now,” Mr. Carmichael suggested.

“If this is something that’s going to cause them not to be able to get the permitting or cause — they’re the ones who made the changes,” said Mr. Freitas. “I don’t think we should —

but we’d be willing to figure out what’s going on, and if the board wants to meet one night specifically for this...” He asked Mr. Carmichael to explain the difference in the roof designs.

“It’s just the cost of doing a gable end with a hip is a lot more costly,” said Mr. Carmichael. “A flat roof is just a square box and you put a piece of rubber on it.”

It also costs a lot less, he said.

“Also, the aesthetics from the outside of the building is also completely different. What they’re proposing is what there is now.... What they originally presented to the town looked significantly different,” said Mr. Carmichael.

“I liked the hip roof better,” said Selectboard member Keith Silvia. “It

Also, the aesthetics from the outside of the building is also completely different. What they’re proposing is what there is now.... What they originally presented to the town looked significantly different [Fairhaven Building Commissioner, Chris Carmichael]

will just tie-in to the old building, and I think in that area it would make them happy.”

Selectboard member Bob Espindola said he had no problem reducing the number of units, but he wondered how that would not be a detriment to the developer.

“I think they owe us an explanation,” he said; furthermore, they should put it in writing before the board even agrees to hold a meeting.

“They should identify what the cost savings were,” and he also pointed out that Stratford Group received CPC funds and state grants based on a particular set of drawings and wondered if the developer had the latitude to change the design now.

Mr. Carmichael said he attempted

to reach out to Stratford Group last week ahead of the Monday Selectboard meeting but was not sure why the developer did not appear remotely for the meeting via Zoom.

When Town Meeting approved the project in June 2016, the developer described the originally proposed roof design as a “varied roofline” that “creates visual interest of the new façade.” The new construction’s design with its dormers was boasted as keeping with the “character-defining features of the historic building.”

Also in the meeting, Mr. Espindola asked Mr. Freitas about the status of the search for the next town administrator, asking him whether the Selectboard’s interviews with the finalists would take place during a regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting or during a special meeting. Mr. Freitas nominated himself as his representative on the Screening Committee for the Town Administrator, and sits on that advisory board as well as the Selectboard, which will hire the new TA.

Mr. Freitas told him it would be a separate meeting of just the three Selectboard members with the hiring consultant, Bernie Lynch, and the interviews would be held “executive session style.”

He told Mr. Espindola, “Bernie is going to handle it,” and that Mr. Lynch was going to reach out to the Selectboard members to schedule the day.

In a follow-up phone call, Mr. Lynch confirmed that the process must legally occur during open session. The board’s interviews with the finalists, he said, would be done “in accordance with the law.”

In another matter, the board asked Tree Warden G. Bourne Knowles to attend the meeting to explain why some members have received a significant number of complaints about delayed tree work requests and unanswered phone calls.

According to Mr. Knowles, he does respond to phone calls, just not always within 24 hours. He said the pandemic had affected his staff throughout the year, and at times only one employee was available.

“I can’t send just one guy out,” he said.

SELECT: cont’d on page 17

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Student Art Contest

The Bow Seat 2021 Ocean Awareness Contest invites students ages 11-18 to create visual art, writing, films, music, or multimedia that explores their connection to water and the need to protect this vital resource. In addition to the general awards of up to \$1,500, Bow Seat will be granting South Coast, Cape & Island Awards to recognize eligible Contest participants from the South Coast of Massachusetts, Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, or Nantucket. Winners will each receive a \$250 cash prize.

Join our global community of 18,000+ young people who are using their creative voices to speak up for our blue planet! The deadline to participate in the Contest is June 14, 2021. For more information about the Contest and South Coast, Cape & Island Awards eligibility, visit www.bowseat.org/contest.

Youth Baseball Reg.

Fairhaven Acushnet Youth Baseball registration is open. Players signing up for the Majors please keep in mind we are moving to a 50/70 format. This means in summary the mound will be 50 ft and bases 70 ft along with a few additional rule changes.

Also if you are interested in coaching please make note of this in the comments section of the registration process.

Please visit <https://www.fayb.org>

Snow Park Ban

No vehicles shall be permitted to remain on the hydrant side of all streets in Fairhaven from December 1st to March 31st from midnight to 8:00 a.m. and also at the time of any snowfall or snow removal operations. On streets with no hydrants, NO vehicles shall be permitted to remain either on the east* side of streets running north and south or on the north side of streets running east and west. Violators will be towed and/or ticketed.

COVID Testing

The Fairhaven Fire/EMS department, in cooperation with the Fairhaven Board of Health, will be offering a FREE Covid Test Clinic **EVERY SATURDAY** for Fairhaven residents

and town employees until further notice. Next Date: **Sat., 1/30, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Fairhaven Recreation Center, 227 Huttleston Ave. WALK-IN ONLY, NO appointments.** Visit <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/fire-department-ems-ema/news/free-covid-19-testing-fairhaven> to get the form and fill it out ahead of time to expedite your visit.

Please contact the Health Department with questions at boh@fairhaven-ma.gov or 508-979-4023 ext. 125.

Scholarships Available

The SouthCoast Community Foundation, one of the largest aggregators of scholarships in the Southeastern Massachusetts region, opened its 2021 application process and will be **accepting applications until March 1st**. Approximately 60 scholarship funds will collectively award more than \$500K to eligible high school seniors and current college students. This disbursement represents more than a 35% increase over the past two years and includes four inaugural, endowed funds:

- George E. Keeler Scholarship Fund – Honors the founder of Tech-Etch, Inc. and is for Plymouth and Bristol County seniors to pursue an undergraduate engineering degree and career in manufacturing.
- John A. Conway MD Scholarship Fund – STEM-focused for Wareham and Old Rochester High School seniors.
- Leo R. and Muriel A. Lanoette Fund – Electrical engineering, computer science, or nursing focused

for existing UMass Dartmouth students.

- Van Sloun Foundation Scholarship Fund – Single year scholarship for Westport or Dartmouth High School seniors.

“The pandemic has made things particularly hard for our youth to pursue an education, so scholarship season is even more important this year,” commented John Vasconcellos, President of the SouthCoast Community Foundation. “Giving deserving students the ability to further their education and enabling scholarship funders the ability to help those students realize their dreams. It’s a win-win. And each year, we see this effort grow. We are now in the very fortunate position of managing almost 60 scholarship funds, leveraging our unique position to collectively invest those funds so that we can distribute more every year. It is one of the many reasons both donors and funders turn to a Community Foundation to entrust their scholarship endowment.”

The SouthCoast Community Foundation will manage the application

CONT'D on page 8

BITS O' HISTORY BY CHRIS RICHARD



In 1900, the National Bank of Fairhaven had been at the southwest corner of Main and Center streets for many years. It had been founded in 1831 and was originally located on the first floor in the smaller brick building just next door to the west. In the old building, the Fairhaven Institution for Savings was on the second floor. In 1877, the National Bank bought the larger corner location and the Savings Bank took ownership of the old place. A house stood at the Middle Street end of the block.

In the 1940s the Savings Bank tore down the 1830s bank and the house to build the brick building that still stands.

In 1959, the National Bank built a new building on Route 6. The building at Main and Center was torn down to expand the parking area. This whole location is now owned by the North-east Maritime Institute.

Car crash sends one to RI Hospital



At approximately 2:30 p.m. on Monday, 1/25/21, Engine 3 and Medic 1 from Fairhaven Fire Department responded to a motor vehicle crash on Route 195 westbound in the area of mile marker 28. Two vehicles were involved, one with minor damage and the second with heavy damage from rolling over, and eventually caught fire. Engine 3 extinguished the fire. The driver of that vehicle was treated and transported to Rhode Island Hospital in stable condition. Mattapoisett Fire Department responded mutual aid to assist with the motor vehicle crash and clean up. ABOVE: Fairhaven Firefighters extinguish a truck fire after a crash on 1/25/21 on Route 195 west in Fairhaven. Submitted photos from Fairhaven Fire Department.

LBGTQ Winter Film Fest goes digital

Press Release

While COVID-19 still impacts us in 2021, the New Bedford LBGTQ Winter Film Series still lives on! Thanks to funding and support provided by Mass Humanities, the Film Series will run digitally this year. Fans are suggested to watch the films prior, which are available on most streaming services and platforms. There are several DVD copies of each film located at the New Bedford Free Public Library — all you need is a SAILS library card and a quick phone call!

The series kicks off with a discussion about the HBO biopic about legendary blues singer Bessie Smith on Sunday, January 31 at 3 PM. Speakers present will talk about the Harlem Renaissance, blues in general, and the impact of Black LBGTQ+ people in the arts. To join the events, follow the New Bedford LBGTQ Winter Film Series on social media for appropriate links and passcodes.

“With COVID-19, we had to look at how we can restructure our format,” said Dan Everton, Co-Chair, “That is why we are happy to continue our programming online, in addition to a new, exciting way to make an impact on the community.”

New this year, the New Bedford LBGTQ Winter Film Series has the wonderful opportunity to give back to

the community of artists, filmmakers, and LBGTQ people in our community. The Film Series will launch a Mini-Grant in March aimed to help burgeoning and student filmmakers in the LBGTQ+ community make a short film. In addition to a small stipend, recipients will have the opportunity to show their short films in October 2021 during LBGTQ+ History Month. Be sure to keep tabs on the Film Series for more details.

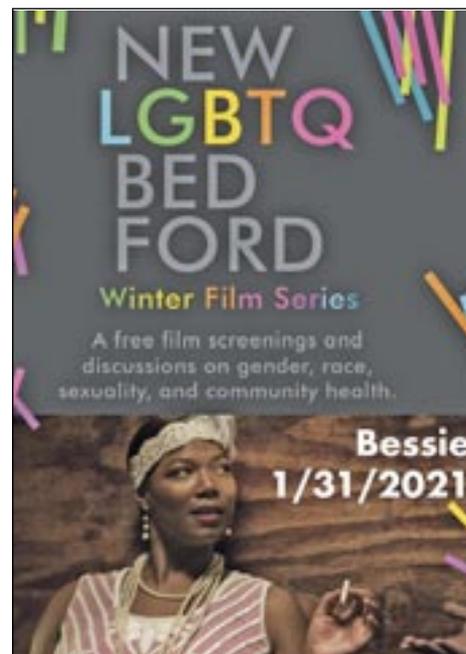
The full series includes: *Bessie* on January 31, 2021; *Love, Simon* on February 14; *Brother to Brother* on February 28; and *Tucked* on March 14.

All films are to be watched on their own, and the Zoom event will be a discussion with guest panelists. Mark your calendar now so you don't miss out!

To keep up to date, we invite you to follow us on Facebook at @NBLBGTQWinterFilmSeries (<https://www.facebook.com/nblgbtqfilmseries>), on Instagram at @nblgbtqfilmseries or at www.sclgbtqnetwork.org.

The New Bedford LBGTQ Winter Film Series is a collaboration of community partners that includes: Greater New Bedford Community Health Center, Health Imperatives, New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks!, New Bedford Whaling Museum, New Bedford Free Public Library, New

Bedford Historical Society, Queer Arts Council of New Bedford, New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, South Coast LBGTQ Network, The Women's Center, UMass Dartmouth Center for Women, Gender & Sexuality, and YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts. We are united by our desire to foster understanding of LBGTQ culture and create networking opportunities and support for LBGTQ residents.



February is Black History Month

From <https://africanamericanhistorymonth.gov>

The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity to achieve full citizenship in American society.

As a Harvard-trained historian, Carter G. Woodson, like W. E. B. Du Bois before him, believed that truth could not be denied and that reason would prevail over prejudice. His hopes to raise awareness of African American's contributions to civilization was realized when he and the organization he founded, the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), conceived and announced Negro History Week in 1925. The event was first celebrated during a week in February 1926 that encompassed the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The response was overwhelming: Black history clubs sprang up; teachers demanded materials to instruct their pupils; and progressive whites, not simply white scholars and philanthropists, stepped forward to endorse the effort.

By the time of Woodson's death in 1950, Negro History Week had become a central part of African American life and substantial progress had been made in bringing more Americans to appreciate the celebration. At mid-century, mayors of cities nationwide issued proclamations noting Negro History Week. The Black Awakening of the 1960s dramatically expanded the conscious-

ness of African Americans about the importance of black history, and the Civil Rights movement focused Americans of all color on the subject of the contributions of African Americans to our history and culture.

The celebration was expanded to a month in 1976, the nation's bicentennial. President Gerald R. Ford urged Americans to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history." That year, fifty years after the first celebration, the association held the first African American History Month. By this time, the entire nation had come to recognize the importance of Black history in the drama of the American story. Since then each American president has issued African American History Month proclamations. And the association — now the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) — continues to promote the study of Black history all year.

(Excerpt from an essay by Daryl Michael Scott, Howard University, for the Association for the Study of African American Life and History)

Rosa Parks: In Her Own Words

Visit <https://www.loc.gov/exhibitions/rosa-parks-in-her-own-words/about-this-exhibition/>

This Library of Congress exhibition is the first major exhibition to showcase the Rosa Parks Collection, which came to the Library in 2014. The collection includes thousands of pages of Parks' personal correspondence, letters from presidents, her writings from the time of the Montgomery Bus Boycott and

about 2,500 photographs, as well as her Presidential Medal of Freedom and Congressional Gold Medal.

Visit the collection at <https://www.loc.gov/collections/rosa-parks-papers/about-this-collection/>

More Links

Executive and Legislative Documents

The Law Library of Congress has compiled guides to commemorative observations, including a comprehensive inventory of the Public Laws, Presidential Proclamations and congressional resolutions related to African American History Month (<https://www.loc.gov/law/help/commemorative-observations/african-american.php>).

Other Dedicated Web Sites

Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture: <https://nmaahc.si.edu>

Smithsonian Education – Black History Month: https://learninglab.si.edu/search?st=black+history&st_op=and&item_type=collections&s=relevance

National Park Service – African American Heritage: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/africanamericanheritage/index.htm/index.htm>

National Archives – African American History Portal: <https://www.archives.gov/news/topics/african-american-history>

National Endowment for the Humanities – African American History and Culture: <https://edsitement.neh.gov/teachers-guides/african-american-history-and-culture-united-states>

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum – Black History Month: <https://www.ushmm.org/information/exhibitions/online-exhibitions/special-focus/black-history-month>

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HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

CONT'D from page 5

process and ultimately facilitate the award announcements and distribution later this spring. Among the resources it will provide applicants is the uAspire Financial Aid Help Desk. The Foundation was one of the first to use this innovative and new online tool. It assists students and their families in navigating the financial aid process, such as completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form, locating affordable college options, and paying tuition, room, and board.

The Foundation is a public, grant-making nonprofit serving those residing throughout Southeastern Massachusetts who share a common goal of improving the quality of life through philanthropy. Since 1995, the Community Foundation has distributed over \$39 million from more than 200 funds to humanitarian, educational, and cultural organizations in the region. To learn more about the Community Foundation, visit www.southcoastcf.org.

Harbor Cleanup

The EPA held a meeting on 1/13/20 with an update on the cleanup of New Bedford Harbor. The meeting is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xNCaUdu3UvE>

To learn more about the project, visit <https://www.epa.gov/newbedford-harbor>

NB COVID testing

Free daily testing for all Mass. residents is available at the Whale's Tooth Parking Lot, 532 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford, every day (appointment is required), 10 a.m.–4 p.m.; call 401-654-4679 with questions; for other sites in NB, visit <https://www.newbedford-ma.gov/health-department/covid-19-resources-2/>

Call For Artists & Performers

#NBfestive Winter Places
Call for Artists and Performers,
deadline February 5

The City of New Bedford, in partnership with Destination New Bedford, New Bedford Creative, and UMass Dartmouth CVPA, will launch #NBfestive on AHA! Night February 11.

For six weeks, every Thursday through Saturday (weather permitting), residents and visitors will be encouraged to “warm up, chill out, shop small and eat local,” with outdoor activities in Wings Court and Custom House Square, and performances broadcast from the Star Store. Funded by Bristol County Savings Bank, Southeastern MA Visitors Bureau, and the Barr Foundation.

If you are an artist or performer interested in participating, please email Margo Saulnier at artsnewbedford@gmail.com.

Call for Art 2021 Seaport Art Walk deadline April 5

New Bedford's annual Seaport Art Walk was founded in 2013 by artist Jessica Bregoli, and was the city's first large format outdoor public art installation. Each summer, sculpture and murals are strategically placed along New Bedford's working waterfront and Seaport Cultural District.

This year's theme — “Tides and Time” — welcomes artists to submit proposals reflecting or commenting on our ever-changing climate, whether that be the ocean, environment, economy, politics, social justice, etc. Artists may receive up to \$2,000 in funding per sculpture. Visit <http://newbedfordcreative.org/seaport-art-walk/> to apply.

PPP Webinar

“Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)” Hear about the new program!

Webinar: The U.S. Small Business Administration, One SouthCoast Chamber of Commerce, and the MA Small Business Development Center invite entrepreneurs and small business owners to attend this small business development virtual experience. This FREE “Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)” session will be held on **Fri., 1/29 from 1–2:30 p.m.**

Please join Ili Spahiu, Lead Lender Relations Specialist with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Mr. Spahiu will discuss the criteria and requirements for the new round of the PPP as well as the forgiveness process for PPP loans awarded in 2020. He will also provide updates about the SBA's EDIL program.

There will be a Q & A session at the end of the virtual experience.

Registration is required at <http://bit.ly/PPP1-29-21>.

Science Cafe

Tues., 2/2, 7 p.m. Please join us for a VIRTUAL New Bedford Science Café!

Our guest, Jennifer Francis, Senior Scientist at the Woodwell Climate Research Center, will discuss “Arctic Meltdown: Why it matters to all of us.” Global warming, sea-level rise, tropical storms, and extreme weather events are all connected to the rapidly melting and warming Arctic. Jennifer, who specializes in atmospheric science, will discuss recent research that is throwing light on Arctic-connected momentous changes that will profoundly affect us all.

Register in advance: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_RwxN8KXsRqWFRmQ3MA9Q4g

After registering, you will receive information about joining our Zoom event.

This Zoom presentation is made possible through a partnership with New Bedford Whaling Museum.

Visit nbsciencecafe.com, or on Facebook: New Bedford Science Cafe

Beach Cleanup

Join Science Cafe and other volunteers for a trash clean-up on **Palmer Island on Saturday Jan. 30th, from 12:45 to 4:45 pm.** Bring gloves; bags will be provided. Park at end of Gifford Street (off Rt 18) in parking lot & walk out to island. You'll be helping to clean up a lovely New Bedford island of harbor debris and make it shine. Please wear masks and social-distance. Hope to see you there!

Art Exhibit

We are proud to present *Fluid States: New England Wax/New England Waters*. Themed around the fluidity seen in both wax and water in all forms, this exhibition explores the ecological richness and fragility of New England. Featuring fifteen artists affiliated with New England Wax, this show highlights the versatility of the encaustic medium, including 2-D, 3-D, and mixed media.

Open now through 3/14. Visit <https://newbedfordart.org/on-view/> for ticket information.

HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

Ladies of the Lens

Cape Ann Museum presents Ladies of the Lens: Martha Hale Harvey and Eleanor Parke Custis, 27 Pleasant St., Gloucester, www.capeannmuseum.org

Focusing on photography in the Museum's collection offers the opportunity to look more closely at two women artists who explored that medium while working on Cape Ann. Although their lives overlapped in time, the rapid pace of technological developments in photography meant that Martha Hale Harvey (1863-1949) and Eleanor Parke Custis (1897-1983) each excelled in markedly different pictorial processes

During the time that Martha Hale Harvey worked, the primary process for taking photographic images entailed exposing gelatin coated glass plate negatives to create albumen silver prints. From an artistic perspective, photographers at this time were beginning to explore the aesthetics of the medium rather than focusing on the capabilities of the scientific process, and Harvey joined in with the emerging taste for more naturalistic images in which the picture itself was viewed as a legitimate form of artistic expression. View more of her work at <https://www.capeannmuseum.org/collections/artists/martha-hale-harvey/>

When Eleanor Parke Custis was given a Kodak Brownie camera at age twelve, photographic equipment had evolved into a relatively small hand-held unit that was preloaded with flexible film. Custis experimented with developing her own prints and enlargements, often utilizing the "Flou-Net" (Soft-Sharp) enlarging diffuser patented in 1931 by Leonard Misonne to soften an image's focus

and create halos along shadow edges. Custis received considerable acclaim for her photographs during her lifetime and was elected an Associate of the Photographic Society of America in 1937. View more of her work at <https://www.capeannmuseum.org/collections/artists/eleanor-parke-custis/>

Acushnet COVID testing

We are very pleased to announce a regular schedule of Covid testing beginning this week:

- Fridays (beginning 1/29) from 10 a.m.–noon in the parking lot behind the Council on Aging (59 South Main Street) using our trailer (see page 12)
- Saturdays (beginning 1/30) from 9 a.m.–noon at the elementary school gym

This schedule will be used through the end of February and may be delayed or cancelled due to possible snow/weather conditions. We will post updates during the week on our Facebook page/Acushnet Fire & EMS.

"It is our hope that a regular schedule of testing will accommodate the needs of the community. We are committed to testing anyone and everyone in Acushnet so we can get ahead of this virus," said Fire Chief Kevin Gallagher

Volunteers

Buzzards Bay Area Habitat for Humanity needs lunch and coffee break volunteers for our Mattapoisett Home Build. Our volunteers are almost done with the Mattapoisett home. They will be working each Saturday through the end of February to finish.

Coffee Break: 9:00/9:30

Lunch Break: 12:00/12:30

Please email if you or your group will be available to volunteer for a time slot for any Saturday through the end of February.

If you are unable to come out to the build, please consider supporting a local restaurant and Habitat, by donating a gift card to supply coffee break or lunch. All volunteers will be required to bring and wear a face covering/ mask of some kind, and of course, if you are not feeling well, we ask you to please stay home.

Email Christine Lacourse at BuzzardsBayAreaHabitat@yahoo.com or call 508.758.4517

Snow Park Ban/ Acushnet

By vote of Town Meeting, parking is restricted as follows: in water district, parking allowed opposite side of hydrants, out of water district, parking allowed north side of street running east and west; and, parking allowed on west side of streets running north and south.

Violators subject to being towed away at owner's expense. (Authority, Article 17, March 11, 1970 Annual Town Meeting, which adopted Chapter 40, Section 22D of the General Laws.) Parking restriction is from November 25, 2020 to April 15, 2021. *Acushnet Selectboard: Kevin Gaspar, Sr., David Desroches, David E. Wojnar*

MLK Videos

Listen to Our 2020 MLK Concert, Let Freedom Roll, Produced with The First Baptist Church in America and Wilson Consulting, LLC: <https://vimeo.com/399947978/bd821cde57>

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Recipe of the Week

Hot Spinach and Crab Dip

2 tablespoons unsalted butter
 1 small onion, finely chopped
 1 clove garlic, finely chopped
 Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
 8 ounces cream cheese
 1 teaspoon Worcestershire
 1/2 teaspoon dry mustard
 1/2 teaspoon paprika
 1/8 teaspoon cayenne
 1 pound frozen chopped spinach, thawed and squeezed very dry
 8 ounces lump crabmeat, picked through for bits of shell
 1/2 cup shredded Monterey Jack
 3 tablespoons grated Parmesan
 2 tbsps panko breadcrumbs
 Crackers, for serving
 Preheat the oven to 425 °

Melt the butter in a med. pot over med. heat. Add the onion and garlic, season with salt and pepper and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened, about 6 mins. Add the cream cheese, Worcestershire, dry mustard, paprika and cayenne, and stir until melted. Add the spinach and crabmeat, and stir until warm and bubbling. Stir in the cheeses and season with salt and pepper.

Transfer the dip to a small baking dish and top with the panko. Place the baking dish on a baking sheet and bake until bubbling and golden, about 15 minutes.

Serve hot with crackers.

From foodnetwork.com

To share a recipe with your neighbors

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

Dear Frankie



Meet Frankie

Frankie is an eight-year-old schnauzer poodle and a rescue. She is a certified emotional support animal for a single retired educator. Together they have traveled

and visited places far and wide. Over the years they have encountered and befriended many dogs and owners, from all walks of life.

Frankie thought it would be a waste not to share the lessons of life that she has learned from her many adventures as well as from other dogs. She created Dear Frankie as an advice column for dogs who would like a canine perspective, on their questions and issues of concern.

She also welcomes the advice of other dogs to the letters she has responded to in her column.

Frankie can be contacted at dearfrankiecolumn@gmail.com, and welcomes your submissions.

Dear Frankie,

I am an eight week old puppy. Yesterday I was told I was going to be adopted by a couple with no children. I don't want to leave my Mom and siblings, but my Mom told me I have no choice. I'm really scared about living with humans and don't know what to expect. Can you tell me what it will be like?

Thanks, Buster

Dear Buster,

I perfectly understand your anxiety

about going to a human home. It's unfortunate that no one explained to you that all puppies eventually have to leave their litter and live with humans. If they are really lucky, they get adopted by a family who wants a puppy and wants to love and care for them for their whole life. In the canine world, getting adopted by a couple without children is like winning the dog lottery.

So here are a few tips for living with humans. For starters, I know this is going to crack you up. They think they are your parents. Now even a dumb Bassett Hound knows they are not your parents. But here's the thing, let them, and use it to your full advantage. Parenting you see, is the most competitive sport in America. So, they need you to make them look good.

After you settle in, they are going to teach you a few "commands". I know they are not in the military and you are not a war pup, but that's what they call them. As time goes on you will find that humans say and do a lot of strange things. Don't give them much thought, most won't impact your life.

The first command they probably will teach you will be to sit. Whatever you do, don't sit unless they give you a cookie. Later, when they ask you to sit, pretend you don't understand what they are asking you to do and see if they will give you two cookies. It worked for me because I live with a single Mom and she will do anything to make herself look good as a parent.

In sum Buster, I think you are in good hands and will live a great life. If you have any other questions, feel free to get in touch.

Best, Frankie

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DaCunha's

Dispatches

News from high school in the age of COVID

By Elizabeth DaCunha



Special to the Neighb News

Thinking back to quarantine, many of our daily social activities had to be modified.

For example, your annual birthday party may have become a drive-by celebration, or get-togethers with friends turned into daily Zoom calls.

Whatever regular activities you looked forward to were quickly changed because of COVID, and the same applies to us high-schoolers: Prom, sports, pep rallies, you name it.

Gone.

I feel like I'm not even in high-school because there isn't really anything to look forward to...and I'm not the only one.

Students all across the world must feel like they're missing out on what makes these four years so special.

Focusing in on the students of this town, I wanted to give these kids the opportunity to share what they miss most, and how they are able to get through the anxiety of this pandemic.

Jayce Duarte explained how losing football this past fall has hurt him in more than one way.

"Losing football really hurt me because it's my outlet for all stress... and losing the bond I had with all of my teammates made it even harder to reconnect."

His new way of coping with stress and sustaining friendships is through

video games.

"It allows me to bond with my friends, just like before the pandemic," he wrote. "We sit there and talk for hours, and make sure that everyone is doing okay and not feeling down."

Sophomore Samantha Cormier feels overwhelmed, having to constantly adjust and accommodate to the boundaries that the pandemic provides.

She continued to explain, "Now, I just go on walks with my friends outdoors. I have started exploring nature more with my friends... a bike ride or a walk to the beach is a perfect way for us to hang out nowadays."

People all across the world, including myself and the students of Fairhaven, are so thankful for technology. It has allowed us to communicate virtually, learn remotely, and find entertainment...

Since most activities that can be done in person are constricted to the outdoors only, the pandemic has encouraged us to spend more time and appreciate nature.

With that being said, we've had to improvise, creating fun and finding things to look forward to in spite of COVID and all the restrictions surrounding the pandemic.

Ninth grader Coby Yin shared how Project 351, a community service project he dedicated much of his time and effort towards, has been put on hold because of COVID.

"Instead, I give back to the commu-

nity by donating through Big Brother Big Sister and through local toy and food drives," because, he said, he feels that, "now, more than ever, we need to reconnect and unite our communities!"

Laura Hubert also shared how her social life has been affected, stating, "I don't see a lot of people that I hung out with last year, and have been keeping my circle small considering the restrictions. Nowadays, I talk to them over the phone or through social media."

Although it's frustrating to feel like we're missing out on many high school experiences like making new friends, going to sports games, or dancing at homecoming, it's refreshing to hear that students are making the most of COVID times and finding new ways to stay connected with friends.

A fully remote student explained, "I can't interact with my peers as much as I used to, so I spend a lot more time online, usually playing games with my friends."

Similarly, freshman Emma Gomes said, "I can't see some of my friends as often as I would like to due to the pandemic. My friends and I Facetime each other almost every day."

Most kids, including myself, can say the same.

People all across the world, including myself and the students of Fairhaven, are so thankful for technology. It has allowed us to communicate virtually, learn remotely, and find entertainment when very little of it is available outside of the computer screen.

To conclude this week of Dispatches, I encourage you to continue making the most of our circumstances like our Fairhaven students have. Get outside, enjoy nature, check in on loved ones, and reach out to friends you haven't talked to in a while.

These times are difficult for so many of us — let's be sure to take care of ourselves and one another.



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Acushnet takes COVID testing on the road

Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

Friday, 1/22, was opening day for Acushnet's brand new portable COVID-19 testing trailer to supplement the town's community-wide free COVID-19 testing operation.

The testing trailer was the thing Acushnet didn't know it needed until an evening in November when Acushnet Fire Chief Kevin Gallagher, staff, and volunteers tuned in to a Providence-based TV channel airing the interview on COVID-19 testing in Acushnet filmed earlier that day.

"Right after that was a story on how the University of Rhode Island finished this trailer and was forced to return it," Chief Gallagher told the *Neighb News*. "So, before they even got to the weather segment of the news, I was already sending out emails on how we could acquire the trailer for Acushnet."

The quick thinking helped Acushnet beat out a slew of other suitors with the same idea — the rapid retrieval of a ready-to-go medical station on wheels equipped with electricity, heat, and a ventilation system — but just weren't fast enough in their follow-up. The Acushnet Selectboard authorized the release of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds to purchase the trailer and the generator to run it,

costing about \$30,000 total.

When Acushnet started community COVID-19 testing in September, the weather was mild enough for staff and volunteers to provide the service outside in the parking lot between the schools. As the cold encroached, testing clinics moved indoors to the elementary school gym where an average of 300 nostrils a day undergo an initiation of sorts, the new rite of pandemic passage.

This new trailer, although able to provide a continuous flow of testing with its two exam rooms while keeping the swabbers and the swabbed warm and dry, can't serve all the hundreds of people that need a test on any given day. Still, as a mobile unit, the trailer can be dispatched all over town for the various so-called "pop-up" free COVID-19 test clinics the Acushnet Fire & EMS Department will announce on social media as it did for Friday's pop-up mobile test clinic at the COA.



Anyone in Acushnet with or without symptoms can stop by a mobile pop-up and receive a PCR nasal swab test free of charge, and no appointment is necessary. Test results are available online within 24-36 hours.

"Acushnet's (COVID-19 case) numbers continue to be high," said Chief Gallagher. "We believe the more asymptomatic people we get tested, the better the community will be at slowing the spread."

The trailer is still covered in URI graphics, but Chief Gallagher said it will eventually receive an external makeover. The trailer will also serve as a mobile vaccination unit once vaccines are available to the general public.



TOP: Acushnet Council on Aging Director Heather Sylvia (left) and EMT Heather Francois-Vaughan perform intake on a resident before Ms. Francois-Vaughan administers the COVID-19 test in the town's new testing trailer at the Council on Aging Senior Center on Friday, 1/22/21. ABOVE LEFT & RIGHT: Acushnet's new COVID-19 testing trailer still bears the markings of the University of Rhode Island, the original destination for the unit which has two exam rooms, and a generator to provide electric, heat and air ventilation. Photo by Jean Perry.

New Fire Department brass sworn in at Selectboard meeting

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

Fairhaven Town Clerk Carolyn Hurley swore in Deputy Fire Chief Joy Nichols and Lieutenant Josh Benoit during an official ceremony on 1/25/21 attended by the board, members of the Fire Department, and family members during the

Selectboard meeting.

Ms. Nichols is the first woman appointed to a rank as high as deputy chief in Fairhaven. She joined the department in 2005 and was promoted to lieutenant in 2015. She holds a master's degree in emergency service management and lives in Acushnet.

Mr. Benoit joined the department full-time in 2008 and since then has been "an excellent role model for new employees coming in," said Acting Fire Chief Todd Correia, who praised Mr. Benoit for his positive demeanor and dedication. He lives in Fairhaven.



LEFT: Acting Fire Chief Todd Correia (FAR LEFT) says a few words about Josh Benoit (LEFT) and Joy Nichols (RIGHT) who are just about to be sworn in as lieutenant and deputy chief respectively during the Fairhaven Selectboard meeting on Monday, 1/25/21. RIGHT: Fairhaven Town Clerk Carolyn Hurley swears in Mr. Benoit and Ms. Nichols. Submitted photos courtesy of Tim Cox.

Fairhaven Election update

By Beth David
Editor

Fairhaven's annual election is slated for April 5, 2021 (COVID permitting) and nomination papers are available until February 10. Candidates for townwide office need to take out nomination papers and collect 50 signatures of registered voters, and return the papers by 2/12.

Up for re-election this year is Bob Espindola for Selectboard. As of Monday, 1/25, he had not taken out nomination papers. Leon Correy and Lisa Plante have pulled papers for that seat. Ms. Plante returned hers on 12/7/20, Mr. Correy has not returned his.

School Committee has two seats up. Incumbents Donna McKenna and Colin Veitch have taken out papers, but neither has returned them. Cathleen Marchessault has also taken out papers for School Committee, and has not returned them.

The Board of Public Works also has two seats up for election, with incumbents Robert "Hoppy" Hobson and Marcus Ferro on the ballot. Both men have taken out papers; Mr. Hobson has returned his.

The Board of Health has one vacant seat up for election. The seat

is currently held by Geoffrey Haworth who was appointed to fill the vacancy when Michael Silvia quit abruptly last year. Mr. Haworth has publicly announced that he does not intend to run for the seat. Kevin Gallagher has pulled papers and returned them. Barbara Acksen has also pulled papers for the seat, but she had not returned them by 1/25.

On the Planning Board, Cathy Melanson and Jay Malaspino are up for re-election. Ms. Melanson has pulled papers, Mr. Malspino has not.

Planning Board also has one seat with a unexpired term due to a vacancy. Jessica Fidalgo, who has been appointed to fill that position, has pulled papers to run, but has not returned them yet.

Housing Authority has one slot up for re-election, and will also have one unexpired term on the ballot. Both slots were filled by appointment in December due to vacancies. Ronnie Manzone has taken out papers for her seat; and Marc Scanlon has taken out and returned papers for his seat.

Town Moderator Mark Sylvia is also up for re-election. He has taken out papers for his seat, but has not returned them.

Tree Warden G. Bourne Knowles is also up for re-election, but has not taken out papers for his seat. Don Carlos Callasius has taken out and returned papers for that seat.

After papers are returned, candidates have until March 3 to withdraw.

All signatures must be certified by the clerk's office, so candidates are advised to collect more than 50 to be sure they have enough.

Voters have until Tuesday, 3/16, to register to vote in the town election. The clerk's office will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. that day.

Town Meeting members need 10 certified signatures from their precinct. Current TM members need to file a written request to be on the ballot by February 10 at 5 p.m. Precinct one has seven vacancies; precinct two has 22 vacancies; precinct three has 12 vacancies; precinct four has 13 vacancies; precinct five has no vacancies; precinct six has nine vacancies.

For more information on how to run for office in Fairhaven, contact the Town Clerk's office at 508-979-4023, Ext. 3. Visit <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/town-clerk/pages/annual-town-election-2021>

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- Members must wear masks upon entering and exiting building
- Members must sanitize equipment after use
- Members must adhere to social distancing guidelines
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http://fairhavenma.virtualtownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA_COA/index

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.

Transportation

The COA van will run Monday through Friday beginning at 8:00 a.m. for in town shopping and errands as well as daily trips to Market Basket. All passengers will have their temperature taken before entering the van and must wear a mask while on the van. The van will be thoroughly sanitized after each use. Volunteer Medical transportation has not yet been resumed.

The Dental Hygienist

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NMLS # 422864

Acushnet Selectboard postpones hearing on Tony's Serv. Station

By Pattie Pacella

Neighb News Correspondent

The Acushnet Selectboard held a public hearing on January 19, 2021 to review the request of Delta Realty, of 280 Ayer Road, Harvard, MA, which has applied for a fuel storage license of 35,000 gallons at 158-166 Main Street, Acushnet, MA, the site of the former Tony's Service Station at the corner of Wing Road at Parting Ways.

The application for this license is for the storage of (2) underground fuel storage tanks; (1) 20,000-gallon gasoline and (1) 15,000-gallon compartmentalized: 6K premium gasoline/9K diesel fuel.

Selectboard Chairperson Kevin Gaspar stated that Town Counsel had informed the board that the abutters were not notified for the hearing, the board could not hear from the petitioner. Mr. Gaspar stated the review is still in process with the Planning Board and they have the applicant on their agenda in the upcoming week. The public hearing for this applicant through the Selectboard has been continued until February 23, 2021 at 6:00p.m.

In other business, Town Administrator Julie Hebert reviewed the Remote Action Plan that has been in place for Town employees since December 10, 2020. Ms. Hebert stated that the remote action plan has been working well with one employee in any department in the building at one time, while others are working remotely.

She stated that Town Hall is still closed to the public, however there

are different avenues for people to either make an appointment, pay a bill, or correspond with town employees.

Ms. Hebert also stated that the CARES act grants have paid for all employees to receive a town laptop so they can work remotely. With the spike of COVID still lingering, she said she would like to see the Selectboard continue the remote action plan for at least another two weeks and then review it.

Mr. Gaspar stated it was unfortunate that COVID was still spiking in the area, and at some point they need

Ms. Hebert also stated that the CARES act grants have paid for all employees to receive a town laptop so they can work remotely.

to get back to be opened to the public and moving forward. However, he said he was fine with the remote action plan for another two weeks.

Board member David Wojnar said he agreed. He noted that coming up were the tax bills and as long as the Treasurer/Collector's office had a good hold on how people could be paying, he was okay with the Remote Action Plan staying in place and reviewing it in another few weeks.

Board member David Desrochers also support the Remote Action Plan staying in place.

"Productivity is a concern, but it sounds like we are being productive at Town Hall with this plan in place," he said.

Mr. Gaspar said that he did not think the holiday surge of COVID cases would still be here, but he hoped for the best.

Finally, Ms. Hebert gave a shout out to the Acushnet Library, led by Director, Dina Braiseur who has done a great job engaging Acushnet residents with reading.

Ms. Hebert stated there is a "Snowed-In Challenge" that can be found on the Acushnet Library's website for all ages to participate in.

"As of January 1, 2021, there have been 10,593 minutes of reading that has been logged," Ms. Hebert said. "The library is doing a great job to engage Acushnet residents to read for all ages. I just want to give them a shout out."

Mr. Gaspar said he frequently drives by the library and is amazed to see all the cars parked there, and people are definitely utilizing the library. He asked how Council on Aging director Heather Sylvia is doing with her program and if she needed anything.

Ms. Hebert stated that Ms. Sylvia was still offering some programs with the seniors under the pavilion that building commissioner Jim Marot built. Ms. Hebert advised that seniors can contact the Council on Aging on different programs available.

Acushnet man sentenced on child pornography charges

US Attorney Press Release

A former New Bedford police officer was sentenced on 1/25/21 in federal court in Boston for possessing and distributing child pornography.

Paul Hodson, 44, of Acushnet, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Patti B. Saris to six years in prison and five years of supervised release. In December 2019, Hodson pleaded guilty to one count of distribution of child pornography and one count of possession of child pornography.

Following an investigation into the use of peer-to-peer file sharing networks for the trade of child pornography, a search was executed at Hodson's home. Hodson was

interviewed on scene and admitted to using peer-to-peer file sharing software to trade child pornography. Hundreds of child pornography files were recovered from Hodson's computer including at least one file that was distributed to undercover law enforcement in the course of the investigation.

United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling and William S. Walker, Acting Special Agent in Charge of Homeland Security Investigations in Boston, made the announcement on 1/25. Valuable assistance was provided by the Massachusetts State Police and the Acushnet Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney Anne Paruti, Lelling's Project Safe Childhood Coordinator and Deputy Chief of the

Major Crimes Unit, prosecuted the case.

The case is brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In 2006, the Department of Justice created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the DOJ's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children, as well as identify and rescue victims.

For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

SELECT: cont'd from page 4

Mr. Knowles defended himself saying that emergency tree work takes precedence above pruning requests, which he perceives as what upsets most people.

Mr. Silvia said that one week he received three calls from three areas of town complaining that their requests went unanswered. He said retired Town Administrator Mark Rees even said he could not get in touch with Mr. Knowles.

"People are asking, and it's not getting done," said Mr. Silvia. "We need to find out why."

Mr. Knowles said there are 123 pruning requests on his waiting list. He said his part-time staff had been affected by COVID-19 and also that the \$14 an hour they get paid isn't enough to gain "continuity" from his employees that make more in the private sector. He said he asked the public works superintendent about a higher pay rate of \$18 an hour but was told it would affect the DPW budget.

"That's affected me," said Mr. Knowles. "Again [\$14 an hour], at 20 hours a week — to keep these under those parameters of the town, it's affecting me. Am I happy about it? No. I'm behind; I know I'm behind."

Mr. Freitas asked Interim Town Administrator Wendy Graves to set up a meeting with Mr. Knowles and Mr. Silvia to strategize on how to address the pay rate.

Mr. Espindola asked the tree warden what record-keeping system he uses to document requests as he completes them and the number of requests per year, and whether he keeps a priority list of requests.

"It's all kept in the vehicle itself," said Mr. Knowles, on paper.

He said he gives his workers a list of jobs to do, "And it's all on paper, and I've kept all those records."

He said that was the system already in place when he took over.

Mr. Espindola said he wondered if a digital system like the one the Building Department just adopted would be more efficient and easier to manage. Mr. Knowles said he used to share a program with the School Department documenting tickets that went into the computer, but admitted he got "lax" using the software.

The board asked Tree Warden G. Bourne Knowles to attend the meeting to explain why some members have received a significant number of complaints about delayed tree work requests and unanswered phone calls.

"I'm not a computer guy," said Mr. Knowles.

Also during the meeting, retired Millicent Library Director Carolyn Longworth was recognized for her 35 years of service and presented with a citation and bouquet. Ms. Longworth was visibly astounded when the board announced that the shallow pond behind the Atlas Tack Factory adjacent to Egypt Lane would now be officially named "Carolyn's Pond."

The site is significant to Ms. Longworth, an avid birdwatcher, who for years has spent her leisure time by the wetland identifying over 100

species of birds and even documented the pond's single sighting of a great white heron, unique to Florida.

"Oh my God," she said as the room gave her a standing ovation. "I can't believe it. Thank you so much."

Fairhaven resident Carol Baird-Molander was the one who approached the board and proposed naming the pond in Ms. Longworth's honor. She attended via Zoom and congratulated Ms. Longworth.

"You deserve it very much for all you've done for the town of Fairhaven and for birding," Ms. Baird-Molander told Ms. Longworth.

The board later had Marine Resources Committee Chairperson Michael McNamara present the advisory committee's proposed changes to the town's Waterways Rules and Regulations. Most of the updates were unanimously approved, he said, but some MRC members opposed new and increased fees.

The proposed updates to the regulations are posted on the town website for the public to review and provide comments. The matter will be brought again to the Selectboard once feedback is reviewed and considered.

In other matters, the board authorized Interim Town Administrator Wendy Graves to sign the renewal of the town's solid waste disposal service agreement with ABC Disposal.

The board convened in executive session "to investigate charges of criminal misconduct" relative to the mishandling of personnel records and for strategy with respect to litigation regarding New England Preservation and Development, LLC.

ATA Scholarships for college-bound Acushnet students

Press Release

The 2021 Acushnet Teachers Association Scholarship Program application forms are now available for students and their families to download online.

In order to assist Acushnet residents in continuing to build their academic futures, the Acushnet Teachers Association annually awards scholarships to qualified students. Residents of Acushnet enrolling or enrolled in a full-time

undergraduate college program in 2021-22 are eligible for these awards.

In addition to A.T.A. Scholarships, the A.T.A. Scholarship Committee is also responsible for judging applicants for the Acushnet P.T.O., Acushnet Lion's Club, the Carole Day Memorial Nursing Scholarship, and the Acushnet Historical Society Scholarship. By filling out the single application form, students are considered for any and all of the above-named Acushnet scholarships

for which they are eligible.

Visit www.acushnetteachers.com for printable application forms and more information about the Acushnet Teachers Association Scholarship Program. Applications and required paperwork are due on April 1, 2021.

For questions, please contact A.T.A. Scholarship Committee Co-Chairs, Kristine Daniels at kristinedaniels@acushnetschools.us or Ryan Powers at ryanpowers@acushnetschools.us

Study takes comprehensive look at marine pollution

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Press Release

For centuries, the ocean has been viewed as an inexhaustible receptacle for the byproducts of human activity. Today, marine pollution is widespread and getting worse and, in most countries, poorly controlled with the vast majority of contaminants coming from land-based sources. That's the conclusion of a new study by an international coalition of scientists taking a hard look at the sources, spread, and impacts of ocean pollution worldwide.

The study is the first comprehensive examination of the impacts of ocean pollution on human health. It was published December 3, 2020, in the online edition of the *Annals of Global Health* and released the same day at the Monaco International Symposium on Human Health & the Ocean in a Changing World, convened in Monaco and online by the Prince Albert II de Monaco Foundation, the Centre Scientifique de Monaco and Boston College.

"This paper is part of a global effort to address questions related to oceans and human health," said

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) toxicologist and senior scientist John Stegeman who is second author on the paper. "Concern is beginning to bubble up in a way that resembles a pot on the stove. It's reaching the boiling point where action will follow where it's so clearly needed."

Despite the ocean's size — more than two-thirds of the planet is covered by water — and fundamental importance supporting life on Earth, it is under threat, primarily and paradoxically from human activity. The paper, which draws on 584 peer-reviewed scientific studies and independent reports, examines six major contaminants: plastic waste, oil spills, mercury, manufactured chemicals, pesticides, and nutrients, as well as biological threats including harmful algal blooms and human pathogens.

It finds that ocean chemical pollution is a complex mix of substances, more than 80% of which arises from land-based sources. These contaminants reach the oceans through rivers, surface runoff, atmospheric deposition, and direct discharges and

are often heaviest near the coasts and most highly concentrated along the coasts of low- and middle-income countries. Waters most seriously impacted by ocean pollution include the Mediterranean Sea, the Baltic Sea, and Asian rivers.

For the many ocean-based ecosystems on which humans rely, these impacts are exacerbated by global climate change. According to the researchers, all of this has led to a worldwide human health impacts that fall disproportionately on vulnerable populations in the Global South, making it a planetary environmental justice problem, as well.

In addition to Stegeman, who is also director of the NSF- and NIH-funded Woods Hole Center for Oceans and Human Health, WHOI biologists Donald Anderson and Mark Hahn, and chemist Chris Reddy also contributed to the report. Stegeman and the rest of the WHOI team worked on the analysis with researchers from Boston College's Global Observatory on Pollution and Health, directed by the study's lead author and Professor of Biology

WHOI: cont'd on page 21

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AAA: Pedestrian fatalities soar across the nation

Press Release

Over a 10-year period, the number of pedestrians killed in motor vehicle crashes on America's roadways increased by a staggering 55 percent, according to a new report from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. The dramatic rise in deaths from 2009-2018 followed three decades of declines.

In Massachusetts, there were 725 pedestrians killed during that ten-year period, as well as 122 in Rhode Island and 439 in Connecticut. California, with just under 7,500, accounted for the largest number of the 51,000 deaths. In the Bay State, 17,000 pedestrians were injured, with Boston, Springfield, Worcester, New Bedford and Brockton seeing the greatest number of fatalities and injuries. Pedestrian injuries occurred most often between the hours of 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., and seniors are especially at risk: over the decade in Massachusetts more than 200 of the 725 killed were 65 or older.

"Each of these numbers represents a life lost," says Mary Maguire, AAA Northeast Director of Public and Government Affairs. "We should all be working overtime to help protect our vulnerable road users."

The AAA Foundation report found:

- A total of 6,374 pedestrians were killed in crashes with motor vehicles in 2018, representing a 55% increase from 4,109 a decade earlier and the highest number since 1990.
- Pedestrian fatalities among people ages 60-69 more than doubled over the past decade, from 436 in 2009 to 943 in 2018. Deaths of pedestrians in their fifties, sixties, and seventies all increased faster than the national average for pedestrians of all ages. The number of children and teens killed as pedestrians decreased slightly — the only groups for whom pedestrian fatalities decreased.
- Three of every four pedestrians killed on U.S. roads in 2018 were struck in darkness. Fatalities in darkness accounted for the vast majority of the increase in pedestrian fatalities over the past decade. The number of pedestrians killed in darkness in 2018 was larger than the total number of pedestrians killed in any and all lighting conditions in 2009, 2010, or 2011.
- 84% of all pedestrian fatalities in

2018, and 84% of the overall increase in pedestrian fatalities over the study period, occurred on roads with speed limits of 30 mph or higher.

- Pedestrians killed at non-intersection locations without crosswalks rose 70% over the decade.
- 32% of all pedestrians who died had a blood alcohol concentration equal to or greater than the legal limit for driving. However, sober pedestrians' fatalities increased by a larger amount over the study period, both in raw numbers and on a percentage basis. The number of sober pedestrians killed in 2018 was nearly as large as the total number of pedestrians killed in 2009.

AAA urges state and local transportation planning authorities to prioritize pedestrian safety and address this rising problem. AAA recommends that:

- Sidewalks should be installed in areas that are frequently traveled by pedestrians, with an increased

focus on older pedestrian safety.

- There be more emphasis on traffic education in schools at all levels, including school safety patrols, adult crossing guards, police and traffic control signs, signals, and markings.
- State and local governments are encouraged to develop traffic safety public information programs aimed at communities with large populations of new immigrants unfamiliar with local traffic rules and customs.

You can find the complete AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety research brief at https://aaafoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/20-1319-AAAFTS_Pedestrian-Fatalities-Brief_FINAL-122220.pdf.

AAA Northeast is a not-for-profit auto club with 70 offices in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, New Hampshire and New York, providing more than 6 million local AAA members with travel, insurance, finance, and auto-related services.

Research Brief Examining the Increase in Pedestrian Fatalities in the United States, 2009–2018



Figure 1. Types of Vehicles that Fatally Struck Pedestrians, United States, 2009–2018.

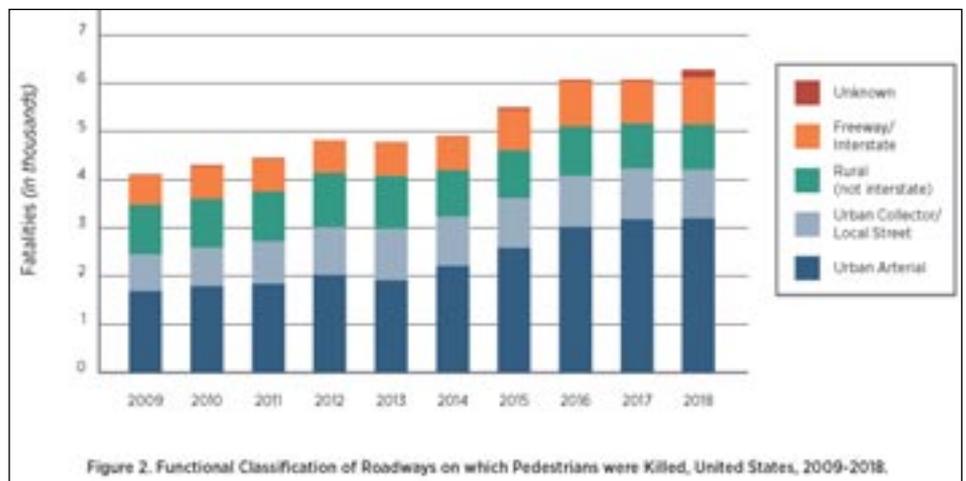


Figure 2. Functional Classification of Roadways on which Pedestrians were Killed, United States, 2009–2018.

Public Hearings/Legal Notices

NOTE: All legal notices are available on the Neighb News website, 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"

Town of Acushnet Board of Selectmen Public Hearing/Delta Realty

Notice is hereby given under Chapter 148, Section 13 of the Massachusetts General Laws that Delta Realty, of 280 Ayer Road, Harvard, MA, has applied for a fuel storage license of 35,000 gallons at 158-166 Main Street, Acushnet, MA. The application for this license is for the storage of (2) underground fuel storage tanks; (1) 20,000-gallon gasoline and (1) 15,000-gallon compartmentalized: 6K premium gasoline/9K diesel fuel.

A public hearing on the above referenced fuel storage license application has been set at a date & time certain for Tuesday, February 23, 2021, beginning at 6:00 p.m., via zoom. Info can be found on the Acushnet Website, www.acushnet.ma.us

Topic: Board of Selectmen/New England Farms
Time: Feb 23, 2021 06:00 PM Eastern Time
(US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84331680032?pwd=RW9Vbzc5S1ZkcG5ybWVvWFFtTk1xUT09>

Meeting ID: 843 3168 0032

Passcode: 356144

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US (New York)

Board of Selectmen: Kevin A. Gaspar, Sr., Chairman, David Desroches, David E. Wojnar
FNN: 1/28/21, 2/11/21, 2/18/21

Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearings

uesday, February 2, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
Town Hall Banquet Room, 40 Center Street
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/91852217577?pwd=R1RuUjRUCnpsMWVjdjBUQ25XWnJFQT09>

Or Join by Phone: 1-914-586-3471; PIN 496926416

- 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, May 5, 2020, June 2, 2020, and July 7, 2020, and August 11, 2020, and September 2, 2020.) Asking for a continuance to December 1, 2020 per applicant's request. **Continued to February 2, 2021.**
- 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 September 2, 2020 Meeting, see attached.) **Continued to March 2021, at applicant's request.**
- 18 Point Street. Owner: Antonio & Doreen Albuquerque.** 198-21: Special Permit request for an

extension of a legally pre-existing non-conforming (front, rear and lot size) structure to raze existing house and construct a new home with variance request for front and rear setbacks on flood zone-compliant foundation on non conforming existing lot size.

- 15 James Street. Owner: Kyle Costa.** 198-21: **Special permit** request for an extension of a legally pre-existing non-conforming for front, rear, and lot sizes. Propose to raze existing house and construct a new residence on flood zone complaint foundation. 198-18: Variance needed for 10' front setback in a required 20'; 10' rear setback, whereas 30' is required.
- 294 Huttleston Avenue. Owners: Robert & Judith Tubbs.** To request an extension of a previous Zoning Variance granted for frontage and lot size that was issued on January 8, 2019. See original variance approval attached.
- 3 Winter Street. Owner: Sanjiv A Patel.** 198-18: **Variance** request for 15.2' short of a 30' rear setback for a proposed 2-stall attached garage in a RA District.

Peter DeTerra, Chairman

FNN: 1/21/21, 1/28/21

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Fairhaven Conservation Commission

Monday, February 8, 2021 at 6:30pm
Town Hall, 40 Center Street
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

To Access Meeting Remotely:

<https://zoom.us/j/93785244980?pwd=eEJxYXVwcFVzalB1T3BISzVVU2cxUT09>
or CALL 1-929-205-6099
Meeting ID: 937 8524 4980
Passcode: 832636

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

- CON 023-202: **60 Bayview Avenue** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Maggie Frye for the expansion of the existing paved driveway at the property located at 60 Bayview Avenue, Assessors Map 28A, Lot 436. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage.
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

Geoff Haworth, Chair, Fairhaven
Conservation Commission
FNN: 1/28/21

Fairhaven Planning Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Tuesday, February 9, 2021, at 6:30 pm
Banquet Room, Town Hall, 40 Center Street
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Notice is hereby given that the Fairhaven Planning Board will conduct a Public Hearing at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday February 9, 2021, remotely from Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA. The Planning Board Meeting will be conducted **remotely for the public** and will be televised live on Fairhaven TV Channel 18 and fairhaventv.com. **To Join the Meeting from home log on to:**

<https://zoom.us/j/99529770820?pwd=VEJitKxQU08wZTZlOZYde1GZEVxUT09>
or Telephone 1-929-205-6099;

Meeting ID: 995 2977 0820; Password: 209015

The purpose of the hearing will be to receive information and public comment on the following Definitive Subdivision application: 1) **DS21-01-** 46 Scotic Neck Road, an 8-Lot Subdivision. The applicants, Joshua Alves and Antonio Alves of Alexander Gray Development LLC, are requesting approval through the Definitive Subdivision review process to demolish a house and create an 8-lot subdivision. The location is 46 Scotic Neck Road, Map 28 Lot 24, Fairhaven (28.13 acres). The proposal includes establishing frontage for the proposed 8-lot subdivision by creating a new street with a cul-de-sac turnaround and associated landscaping and stormwater controls.

A copy of the application is on file at the Department of Planning and Economic Development, Town Hall. The Department is currently by Appointment Only. To make an appointment call the Planning Department at (508) 979-4082, Ext. 122 or email pfoley@fairhaven-ma.gov.

For information on the project go to: <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/planning-board/pages/current-permits-being-reviewed-special-permits-definitive-subdivisions>

John Farrell Jr., Chairman of the Planning Board
FNN: 1/21/21, 1/28/21

I never doubted my ability, but when you hear all your life you're inferior, it makes you wonder if the other guys have something you've never seen before. If they do, I'm still looking for it.

Hank Aaron

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WHOI: cont'd from page 18

Philip J. Landrigan, MD. Anderson led the report's section on harmful algal blooms, Hahn contributed to a section on persistent organic pollutants (POPs) with Stegeman, and Reddy led the section on oil spills.

The Observatory, which tracks efforts to control pollution and prevent pollution-related diseases that account for 9 million deaths worldwide each year, is a program of the new Schiller Institute for Integrated Science and Society, part of a \$300-million investment in the sciences at BC. Altogether, over 40 researchers from institutions across the United States, Europe and Africa were involved in the report.

In an introduction printed in *Annals of Global Health*, Prince Albert of Monaco points out that their analysis, in addition to providing a global wake-up, serves as a call to mobilize global resolve to curb ocean pollution and to mount even greater scientific efforts to better understand its causes, impacts, and cures.

"The link between ocean pollution and human health has, for a long time, given rise to very few studies," he says. "Taking into account the effects of ocean pollution — due to plastic, water and industrial waste, chemicals, hydrocarbons, to name a few — on human health should mean that this threat must be permanently included in the international scientific activity."

The report concludes with a series of urgent recommendations. It calls for eliminating coal combustion, banning all uses of mercury, banning single-use plastics, controlling coastal discharges, and reducing applications of chemical pesticides and fertilizers. It argues that national,

regional and international marine pollution control programs must extend to all countries and where necessary supported by the international community. It calls for robust monitoring of all forms of ocean pollution, including satellite monitoring and autonomous drones. It also appeals for the formation of large, new marine protected areas that safeguard critical ecosystems, protect vulnerable fish stocks, and ultimately enhance human health and well-being.

Most urgently, the report calls upon world leaders to recognize the near-existential threats posed by ocean pollution, acknowledge its growing dangers to human and planetary health, and take bold, evidence-based action to stop ocean pollution at its source.

"The key thing to realize about ocean pollution is that, like all forms of pollution, it can be prevented using laws, policies, technology, and enforcement actions that target the most important pollution sources," said Professor Philip Landrigan, MD, lead author and Director of the Global Observatory on Pollution on Health and of the Global Public Health and the Common Good Program at Boston College. "Many countries have used these tools and have successfully cleaned fouled harbors, rejuvenated estuaries, and restored coral reefs. The results have been increased tourism, restored fisheries, improved human health, and economic growth. These benefits will last for centuries."

To read the whole press release visit <https://www.whoi.edu/press-room/news-release/comprehensive-look-at-marine-pollution-2/>

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

Visit <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov> for remote access information

Fairhaven

Board of Appeals

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

Planning Board

Tues., 29, Town Hall/Remote, 6:30 p

School Committee

Wed., 2/10, FHS Library, 6:30 p.m.

Selectboard

Mon., 2/28, Town Hall/Remote, 6:30

Sustainability Committee

Tues., 2/16, Town Hall/Remote, 6:30

Acushnet

Board of Appeals

Tues., 2/23, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

Lake Street Improvement

Thurs., 1/28, Remote/Zoom, 6 p.m.

Selectboard

Tues., 2/9, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	Jan. 2021	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	28	0727	1952	0019*	1309*
Friday	29	0811	2037	0107*	1353*
Saturday	30	0856	2123	0159*	1436*
Sunday	31	0941	2209	0249*	1516*
		HIGH		LOW	
		Feb. 2021		a.m. p.m.	
Monday	1	1028	2259	0335*	1556*
Tuesday	2	1121	2355	0421*	1640*
Wednesday	3	----	1218	0515*	1732*
Thursday	4	0052	1316	0624*	1836*
Friday	5	0149	1414	0741	1944*
Saturday	6	0249	1520	0907	2051*
Sunday	7	0358	1631	1110	2216
Monday	8	0502	1730	----	1209*
				----	2337*
Tuesday	9	0554	1819	----	1304*
Wednesday	10	0640	1904	0035*	1356*
Thursday	11	0725	1950	0135*	1437*

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

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

From our readers

Bird seed and dog poop can attract rats

For all the bird and animal (dog) lovers, a word of caution. Feeding the birds and not picking up (in a timely manner) after your dogs can bring RATS. Lots of them!

Years ago, as painful as it was, I stopped feeding the birds, and just lately have not been filling the backyard compost tumbler because we've had a rat problem in our area off

Scotcut Neck Road and still do.

We see bird seeds flying from the feeders when being used, but what we may not realize is that not cleaning up after our pets as soon as possible (*even in winter*) contributes to a growing rat problem. A local pest control person said to me that rats love dog "poop." It's all protein, he said!

An interesting fact is the common rat can have up to five litters a year, which is bad enough. But while the

original female is having more litters all her previous litters are having litters of their own. So, exponentially, that's a *lot of rats!*

We have a town bylaw that says not picking up after our dogs on town owner property can get the owner a \$100 fine.

It's not liek we can hire a Pied Piper of Hamelin to tune all our rats out of town. We *all* have do to our part.

Sallie Johnson, Fairhaven

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