



# Fairhaven

# Neighborhood News

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



The little paper  
with a big voice!

Volume 15, Issue 34 • September 3, 2020

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

## CIA: Christmas in Acushnet



Normandin Middle School faculty and staff pause for a picture in front of co-worker Lisa Carreiro's house in Acushnet after they decorated the yard for Christmas last week in response to Ms. Carreiro's request to have one more Christmas with her family after being told her cancer was no longer treatable. See page 12 for story. *Photo courtesy of Frank Carreiro.*



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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.

Oh, boy, it's the BPW's turn to play bozo-board this week (page 14). I hate it when dad and dad fight.

Acushnet was pretty busy this week. In addition to our cover story (more on that later) they had a protest (page 7), the closing of the Farm to Families program (page 6), and the Council on Aging/Senior Center is building a cool outdoor space for programs (page 6).

We have some other meeting coverage for you. We're trying to keep up with the School Committee meetings (page 4) to keep you informed of the back-to-school schedule and options.

Our cover story is bittersweet to say the least (page 12). It's heart-warming that Lisa Carreiro's co-workers and neighbors made such an effort to give her a Christmas this year. It's hard, though, to realize that her cancer is no longer treatable.

She really appreciates a Christmas card, so if you can, please send one. The info is in the article.

I contacted her husband Frank and he called me back while he was with her in the hospital. She felt well enough to talk to me and I am grateful that she did. She sounded upbeat, and did not hesitate to say that she's just doing the best she can, no one is to blame, and that you have to make the best of the time you have.

It's a lesson we all need to learn. Things happen in life, things we can't control. I always figured that those of use who grew up with crazy New England weather knew that. But, this pandemic has made it clear that many people think they can control all kinds of things that they clearly cannot control. Others think if they can't control it, then somewhere, somehow, there's a dark figure in a cloak pulling all the strings.

Well, that's mostly a crock of bull.

As Lisa said: "There's nobody to blame."

Just do the best you can.

Unitl next week then...see ya,



Beth David, Publisher

# Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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## Contents

Acushnet Farm to Families .....	6
Acushnet COA Outdoors.....	6
Classifieds .....	21
COVER: Christmas in Acushnet.....	12
COVID-19 update .....	3
Fairhaven BPW .....	14
Fairhaven School Committee.....	4
Fairhaven cruiser hits pedestrian.....	10
Happenings .....	5, 8, 9
Legal Notices/Public Hearings.....	20
Letter from the editor.....	2
From our readers .....	22
PJ Keating protest .....	7
Senior Center/Rec. Ctr. ....	14
Shots fired in Fairhaven, arrest made .....	18
Tides .....	21
Upcoming meetings/Fairhaven & Acushnet .....	22

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## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

# COVID-19 update: New policies on childcare

## Press Release

The Baker-Polito Administration announced on Friday new policies that will provide families who require childcare while their children are engaged in remote learning additional options by allowing programs to offer supervised care during regular school day hours.

Governor Charlie Baker signed an Executive Order that allows the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) to authorize currently licensed after-school and out-of-school programs to operate during the school day while children are learning remotely.

As schools prepare to reopen, working parents need to find care and learning support for their school-aged children while they are engaged in remote learning. Current state statute prohibits licensed after-school and out-of-school time programs for school-aged children from offering care during school hours. The Executive Order allows EEC to authorize childcare programs, like YMCAs, Boys and Girls Clubs,

family childcare homes, and others, to care for school-age children while they participate in remote learning.

The Department will also exempt informal remote learning parent cooperative arrangements organized by families, if the groups are supervised by unpaid parents. These parent cooperatives are still subject to any state orders regulating gatherings in place under the COVID-19 state of emergency.

In addition, the Executive Order creates a temporary license exemption for remote learning enrichment programs to provide supervision and care for school children up to age 14 while they participate in remote learning during the school day. These remote learning programs, which must meet specific criteria, will need to first be approved by their local municipality before they can apply for the license exemption.

The Departments of Early Education and Care and Elementary and Secondary Education will issue joint guidance that details the minimum requirements for remote

learning programs, including background record checks, health and safety standards, facilities checks, and child to staff ratios.

Municipalities will ensure programs, that are approved for the license exemption, comply with health and safety requirements.

“We all want our children to get back into school as soon as possible and we applaud the schools and districts that are making the extra effort to bring their students back in some form,” said Education Secretary James Peyser. “At the same time, we know that remote learning will be part of the educational experience for many students this fall, so it’s critical that we enable parents, after-school providers, and community organizations to offer additional childcare options and learning supports when students are unable to attend school in person.”

For more information and EEC guidance, visit [https://eeclead.force.com/apex/EEC\\_ChildCareEmergencyHybridLearning](https://eeclead.force.com/apex/EEC_ChildCareEmergencyHybridLearning)

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# No decision on school sports in Fairhaven yet

By Jean Perry

## Neighb News Correspondent

The Fairhaven School Committee did not decide on whether to allow some form of a school athletics program to commence this fall. During a discussion with Fairhaven High School Athletics Director Chris Carrig on 8/26, Superintendent Dr. Robert Baldwin pointed to how the need to keep students safe in school is seemingly at odds with the potential exposure on the playing field.

As the committee and administration is aware after meeting consecutively for weeks, the state is asking the district to, as Dr. Baldwin put it, “excruciatingly cohort kids in groups of under 25” at six feet apart while offering three different learning models in the midst of a global pandemic.

Now hearing the guidelines and recommendations that “we should cohort our kids and then after school we should have them all meet for soccer, field hockey.... Why are we working this hard to do six feet apart ... if the rest of the day ends and it doesn’t matter?” he said.

“That is what a lot of superintendents are saying,” Dr. Baldwin continued, “is that we’ve been guided to be so stringent on safety, and yet this is the case (with sports)...”

Dr. Baldwin said he is certain that most people recognize him as “an athletic superintendent, and he understands that students’ love of sports, drama, and art are often what drives them to attend school every day. But the apparent contradictions are there, especially when one witnesses another area school committee vote to begin the school year fully remote and then subsequently vote ‘yes’ to allowing after school sports.

“We’re not taking it (sports) away, we’re delaying the situation because we don’t even know how things are going to happen on September 19” when school reopens, said Dr. Baldwin. “It just really boggles my mind, the priorities of a community that would be fully remote and vote to do this (sports).”

The committee did not have to take a vote that evening, and likely will not until its 9/9 meeting, but Dr. Baldwin said he was expressing his

feelings that night, not because he is not a great advocate for getting kids out playing high school sports, “But I will tell you that we really, as an institution from the Department of Education down, look really duplicitous at this thing.

“Athletes need to have this. We want to bring back what’s normal,” said Dr. Baldwin. “I am an advocate for this, I just want you to know what else is out there in the commonwealth....”

Dr. Baldwin also pointed out that Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical High School was the only school in the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators (MAVA) that voted to participate in the early fall “Fall 1” athletics schedule and allow sports to begin.

“I totally see the rock and the hard place that [Superintendent-Director

could be adjusted so that any sport that could not be safely run during that time could be moved to a “Fall 2 wedge season” between the end of the semi-traditional winter season in January and the semi-traditional spring season in late April, providing an eight to nine-week window.

Only football has been mandated to that Fall 2 schedule, he said, since it is considered a high-risk sport.

Other sports have been deemed low or moderate risk and, with appropriate accommodations, “We do feel confident as a school and as a league that we have an interesting and a safe plan ... to provide an opportunity for our athletes to be back on the fields,” said Mr. Carrig.

There are obstacles, he said, and questions, but the league schools are working daily to be airtight on safety first.

Regardless of whether there was a Fall 1 season, Mr. Carrig said he would support the idea of holding off-season practices and workouts so coaches can coach athletes and keep those important relationships in tact. He also suggested allowing the Unified Basketball to proceed, which would likely not work under a Fall 2 schedule.

Dr. Baldwin asked, with a Fall 2 schedule, if the Fairhaven School District does not deem itself ready for Fall 1, would that mean sports could still run, albeit delayed within that wedge season? Yes, said Mr. Carrig, as a Plan B of sorts.

Mr. Carrig encouraged the committee to allow registration to proceed even before it takes a final ‘go’ or ‘no-go’ vote on sports later in September. A student council representative present that night offered a suggestion of keeping an open mind about drama and perhaps allowing performances to remote audiences if the times still called for social distancing in the spring.

Dr. Baldwin said he would be fighting to get athletics and clubs going again, but was concerned right now only because the focus has been on “safety, safety, safety.”

“And then take the kids out of their pods ... their groups.... If safety has been the mantra, when did it all of a sudden change?” said Dr. Baldwin.

**SCHOOL: cont’d on page 11**

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...and I don’t know what back-to-school supplies will look like, but I don’t think that they will look like they did in the past. [School Superintendent Bob Baldwin]

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James O’Brien] is in,” said Dr. Baldwin, believing that many Voc-Tech students would leave the school and attend schools that will offer sports when school begins. “[Voc-Tech] can’t go along with them. If [Mr. O’Brien] follows their lead, children may leave his school for that purpose.”

Mr. Carrig had opened the discussion by presenting the progress made during meetings between various schools in the region and within the league after the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education on 8/19 provided a pathway for districts to make their own decisions based on recommendations from their leagues and member schools of the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletics Association (MIAA). He said the fall 9/18-11/20 sports schedule

# AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

## Fund-raiser for Paul Starvish

Relatives have started a GoFundMe page to help the family of Paul Starvish, who suffered a fatal heart attack on 8/24. He leaves behind his wife Kath, and his children Makenna, 13, and Garrett, 11. Anyone who knew him, loved him. He was the kind of guy who would give you the shirt off his back. He was a very hard worker and loved his family and friends with all his heart. He made friends anywhere he went. And always had a great time.

He was also the primary source of income for the family. Any help with funeral expenses and life expenses while we figure out where to go from here, is greatly appreciated.

Please visit <https://www.gofundme.com/f/paul-starvish-funeral-expenses-and-family-support> to donate and to leave a Pauly memory.

## 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](mailto:allnaturalbeef@comcast.net)

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

## Answer the Census

*Time Is Running Out. Let's Do This!*

We need your help to remind your friends, family members, co-workers, and neighbors to respond to the 2020 Census. Time is running out! Everyone who lived in the United States on April 1, 2020, is required to be counted — whether or not they are a U.S. citizen.

The time to act is now, at [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov)!

Where there are more people, there are more needs — for schools, roads, and services for families, older adults, and children. Communities will miss out on funding for critical

public services for the next 10 years unless everyone is counted. Every response matters!

## 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](mailto: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.**

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

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

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

## License Plate Lottery

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is announcing

that applications for the 2020 Low Number Plate Lottery are now being accepted online at [Mass.Gov/RMV](https://Mass.Gov/RMV) using the Online Service Center. **Applicants must apply by September 6th** and, if selected for a low number plate, will be notified after the drawing takes place later in September.

This year, there are 100 plates available through the low plate lottery. Some of this year's low plate characters are 751, 7660, 6P, 12K, K5, B35 and V35.

Applicants should note that there is no fee to apply. However, should the applicant be selected as a winner, there is a fee that will be required, as the fee is required of all new license plates, as well as a standard registration fee.

Customers are encouraged to visit the RMV's website or follow @MassRMV on Twitter for upcoming details on the drawing, including the date, time, and location of the event. In addition, applicants will be sent a notification via email. The lottery results will be posted on the RMV website.

## 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](mailto:wjlevasseur85@gmail.com) for more information.

# Acushnet Farm to Families program ends

*From submitted materials*

For the past 15 weeks the Acushnet Council on Aging has participated in the USDA Farm to Families program which allowed us to distribute 20 pounds of fresh produce once a week.

Thanks to our partnership with PACE (People Acting in Community Endeavors) we were also able to distribute 20 pounds of shelf stable food and frozen protein at the same time. The program ended on Thurs-

day, 8/27/20, but we were able to help 630 families, 575 of which were Acushnet residents.

“The positive energy over in Acushnet has been overwhelmingly amazing and we continue to be so fortunate with great department heads, volunteers and friends,” wrote COA Director Heather Sylvia in an mail. “It truly is #TeamAcushnet.”

Thank you to our dedicated volunteers, many of whom have become

like family: Gary Melo, Tyler Melo, PACE; Alice Rebeiro, Vibra Hospital; Ed Caron, Donna Lake, Geoff Haworth, Eric Chew, Duncan Merrey, EMA: Selectboard member David Descroches; Maddox Merrey, Sophia Merrey, volunteers; Patricia Midurski, Jan Fortin, Roger Fortin, Linda Guilbeault, COA; Jeanne Sheridan, Acushnet School Department; Acushnet Police Department.



LEFT: The truck from PACE (People Acting in Community Endeavors) drops off some food at the Acushnet Council on Aging and Senior Center on 8/13/20, for the Farm to Families program. RIGHT: Workers staffing the Acushnet Farm to Families table wave at the photographer near the end of the program in late August. Photos from Acushnet Emergency Management Agency Facebook page courtesy of Ed Caron, Assistant Deputy EMA Director.

## Coming soon: Outdoors at the Acushnet COA



After researching tent rentals in order to be able to offer safe, socially distanced outside programming, the Acushnet Council on Aging and Senior Center decided the cost was prohibitive. Building inspector Jim Marot, a huge COA supporter, stepped up and offered to design and build an amazing covered patio behind the Senior Center. The target date to start programming is next week. ABOVE: The canopy under construction at the Acushnet Council on Aging and Senior Center will be able to accommodate eight people for aerobic activities, and more for people engaged in more sedentary activities. Photos from the Acushnet COA Facebook page.

# Residents protest PJ Keating operations

By Beth David  
Editor

A group of residents gathered on South Main Street to protest the dust, noise and other nuisances from the PJ Keating quarry and asphalt plant. The town found more than 20 violations last month and issued a cease and desist order (*Neighb News*, 8/20/20).

On Thursday, 8/27/20 the group of about 25 gathered in the rain in front

of the Acushnet Senior Center, which is very close to PJK.

"Enough is enough," wrote Linda Lee Skapik, who organized the event, on her Facebook page. "When this Quarry was owned by Tilcon we had no problems. PJ Keating Enough is Enough!!!"

She also said she was very happy that Acushnet's state representative Chris Hendricks (11th Bristol

District) joined the protest, even holding a sign that said "Save Our Health."

"Last night I was proud to stand with Acushnet against the continued pollution of the air, land, and water in our community by PJ Keating's operations," wrote Mr. Hendricks on Facebook. "It has gone on far too long and they need to step up and protect their neighbors."



ABOVE: Activists, including Mass. State representative Christopher Hendricks (R), protesting against the operations at PJ Keating, the quarry and asphalt plant on South Main Street in Acushnet, pose for a quick photo in a light rain on Thursday, 8/27/20. PJ Keating has been cited for more than 20 violations, including for air pollution and wetlands violations. BELOW LEFT: Protesters, wave at cars on South Main Street. BOTTOM LEFT: Acushnet resident Doug Thomas holds a sign at the protest. He said he just doesn't understand how PJ Keating "can just get away with this." BELOW MIDDLE: Sharon Borges of Acushnet holds a makeshift tombstone instead of a sign. "This says it all," she said. BELOW RIGHT: Karen Pinard of Acushnet chooses to highlight the wetlands with her sign. *Photos by Glenn C. Silva for the Fairhaven Neighborhood News.*



## 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](mailto:asmith@nbsymphony.org) or 508-999-6276 ext 222.

## Art Exhibits

The New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks! has three exhibits running now.

- **Members Exhibition Online** Check out our Mini Members’ Exhibition! Featured in our in-person gallery are the winners of the Juror’s Choice Awards: Check out our Mini Members’ Exhibition! Featured in our in-person gallery are the winners of the Juror’s Choice Awards. See the exhibit online: <https://newbedfordart.org/members-exhibition/>
- **Pastoral Light** 19th century landscapes from NB Library’s Collection. In the 19th century, landscapes had become increasingly popular subjects for American artists, as the first industrial revolution meant more families living in urban centers looking for vicarious experiences in their art. This interest gave rise to “artist adventurers” like William Bradford, and allowed for the development of new movements in American art, like the Hudson River School painters. Artists who created

landscapes that sought to evoke feelings of awe, fear, or exaltation were said to be depicting the Sublime. These artists often enhanced the grandeur of their landscapes with dramatic contrast in lighting and exaggeration of certain natural features, like the height of a cliff, in order to recreate the feeling of that scene inside the safety of their studio.

- **A’s B4 Benefit Exhibition** After our successful collaboration with A’s B4 Nonprofit Corporation on the Creative Courts project, NBAM is thrilled to host local artists whose work will be sold online in support of A’s B4 youth mentoring programs. A’s B4 nonprofit corporation is sponsoring the online auction, funds raised will be used to support programs geared to local youth and enact change in our community. For more information about A’s B4 and the auction, please visit [achievementsby4.org](http://achievementsby4.org).

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](http://newbedfordart.org), on Facebook, and on Instagram @nbam\_aw

## Last Blast FR

The SouthCoast Community Foundation will host its biggest event of the year online marking 25 years of philanthropy in the region that included raising and disbursing nearly \$5 million for COVID-19 relief.

**Summer’s Last Blast will occur online Sept. 11 at 6 p.m.** with a program that showcases such well-known local performers as the SouthCoast Brass Band and the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra.

The SouthCoast Community Foundation, which matches donors and resources to community needs, has played a key role in the region’s fight against the pandemic. In March, it created the South Coast COVID Relief Fund. With that fund, the foundation was able to award nearly \$5 million in grants to organizations on the front lines of the pandemic.

These organizations provide food, housing assistance, support for children and youth, and other help to our region’s most vulnerable populations.

**Tickets for Summer’s Last Blast are available until September 10.** To purchase tickets or make a donation, visit <https://southcoastcf.org>. Along with the purchase, ticketholders will receive a Last Blast Mystery Box to enjoy along with the event. This is an exclusive event for ticketholders only. If unable to join that evening, ticket holders will have access to an extended viewing.

All proceeds go to the SouthCoast Community Foundation. For any inquiries regarding sponsorship opportunities, donations or about the event, please contact Tricia Grime [pgrime@southcoastcf.org](mailto:pgrime@southcoastcf.org).

The SouthCoast Community Foundation is a public charity serving thousands of people who share a common goal of improving the quality of life through philanthropy throughout the region. Visit <https://southcoastcf.org/>

## 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](mailto:amfenton@msbdc.umass.edu) with questions.

## RMV Senior Hours

The Mass. Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) will begin offering dedicated service hours for customers 75 years of age or older and are required to renew their driver's license in person. The new designated service hours will be by appointment only and will be offered on Wednesdays through the month of September at select service center locations. The New Bedford location will offer the service beginning on 9/9. The RMV is offering this new customer service option to facilitate proper "social-distancing" protocols to keep customers and staff safe and healthy.

Following are the options for seniors to renew by appointment. If you are a AAA member, you may make a reservation now to renew your driver's license/ID at a AAA location. Visit [aaa.com/appointments](http://aaa.com/appointments) to schedule your visit.

If you are not a AAA member, visit [Mass.Gov/RMV](http://Mass.Gov/RMV) to make a reservation to renew at an RMV Service Center. Select the Seniors License Renewal option on the Make/Cancel a Reservation transaction.

Email the RMV for assistance to renew at [MassDOTRMVSeniors@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:MassDOTRMVSeniors@dot.state.ma.us) email address.

Call the RMV at 857-368-8005.

## Slavery in RI

Rhode Island ruled the slave trade. For more than 75 years, merchants and investors bankrolled 1,000 voyages to Africa. Their ships carried some 100,000 men, women, and children into New World slavery.

Visit <https://stories.usatoday.network.com/slaveryinrhodeisland/home/site/providencejournal.com/> to read the powerful Providence Journal, 15-part series.

## Art Reception/ Exhibit

This Friday, 9/4, the amazing artwork of Sig Haines will be celebrated with an **artist reception from 6-8 p.m.** Join us in welcoming Sig to the Dartmouth Cultural Center, 404 Elm Street South Dartmouth, MA 02748. Please observe all COVID-19 guidelines. Visit [shttps://www.dartmouthculturalcenterinc.org](https://www.dartmouthculturalcenterinc.org)

## Hurricane Talk/ Virtual

*A Furious Sky: The Five-Hundred-Year History of America's Hurricanes*

Thurs., 9/10, 5 p.m. Westport Historical Society presents a virtual book talk by author Eric Jay Dolin.

Visit [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_fmY7Y7gnRbCmc645aXCAuw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fmY7Y7gnRbCmc645aXCAuw) to register to attend this webinar

From the moment European colonists laid violent claim to this land, hurricanes have had a profound and visceral impact on American history — yet, no one has attempted to write the definitive account of America's entanglement with these meteorological behemoths.

Now, bestselling historian Eric Jay Dolin presents the five-hundred-year story of American hurricanes, from the nameless storms that threatened Columbus' New World voyages, to the devastation wrought by Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico and the escalation of hurricane season as a result of global warming. Populating his narrative with unlikely heroes such as Benito Viñes, the nineteenth-century Jesuit priest whose revelatory methods for predicting hurricanes saved countless lives, and journalist Dan Rather, whose coverage of a 1961 hurricane would change broadcasting history, Dolin uncovers the often surprising ways we respond to natural crises. *A Furious Sky* will change the way we understand the storms on the horizon of America's future.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Westport Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Westport Historical Society, 508 636-6011; [westporthistory@westporthistory.net](mailto:westporthistory@westporthistory.net); [www.wpthistory.org](http://www.wpthistory.org)

## Evening at the Farm

Coggeshall Farm Museum is hosting its first "Evening at the Farm" event on Sep. 4, offering a night of casual entertainment after typical museum hours. **From 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, 9/4**, visitors are invited to set up a blanket or chair and relax while enjoying an evening

of traditional music performed by Atwater Donnelly.

Visitors can also explore the 1790's salt marsh Farm, view heritage breed animals, learn from various textile demonstrations by costumed historians, and bring a picnic to enjoy on the grounds. Atwater-Donnelly, will perform a unique and thrilling blend of traditional American and Celtic folk music and dance along with original songs and poetry for the evening's entertainment.

While visiting Coggeshall, guests are encouraged to take advantage of the 48 acres of coastal farmland in Bristol, Rhode Island that recreates the daily experience of tenant farmers on a salt marsh farm in the late 18th century. Guests are free to stroll across the scenic landscape and view Coggeshall in an evening setting usually not available.

**Tickets for the event are just \$8 for member adults, free for member youth (4-17), \$10 for non-member adults**, and for non-member youth (4-17) 3 are admitted free with each paying adult as part of our Kids FREE promotion (\$5 per additional non-member youth). Due to current capacity limits, pre-registration is required and can be completed online at: <https://www.coggeshallfarm.org/event/evening-at-the-farm/>

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. Visit: <https://www.coggeshallfarm.org/>

## Alice Walker Joy of Work

"So in the end you can't even really regret your misfortunes," explains the beloved author Alice Walker, "because they led you somewhere. Visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JJR86ncuMgE> for a conversation with Alice Walker on the importance of doing work you love.

## Dianna Ross Sings

Visit

<https://www.stagesoffreedom.org/forum/make-new-friends/diana-ross-sings-ain-t-no-mountain-high-enough> to hear Dianna Ross sing "Ain't No Mountain High Enough."

# Recipe of the Week

## Garlic-Brown Sugar Chicken Thighs

- 8 pieces bone-in, skin-on chicken thighs
- 1 pinch salt and ground black pepper to taste
- 3 tbsps unsalted butter, divided
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- ¼ cup packed brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon honey
- ½ teaspoon dried oregano
- ¼ teaspoon dried thyme
- ¼ teaspoon dried basil

Preheat oven to 400°

Season chicken thighs with S&P.

Melt 2 tablespoons butter in a large oven-proof skillet over medium-high heat. Add chicken, skin-side down, and sear until brown, 2 to 3 minutes per side. Remove chicken to a plate.

Melt remaining butter in the skillet. Add garlic; cook and stir until fragrant, 1 to 2 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in brown sugar, honey, oregano, thyme, and basil until well combined. Return chicken to skillet.

Bake in preheated oven until chicken is no longer pink at the bone and the juices run clear, 25-30 mins. An instant-read thermometer inserted near the bone should read 165° F.

*From allrecipes.com*

# Pedestrian hit by Fairhaven cruiser dies

*From Press Release Materials*

Massachusetts State Police currently investigating a motor vehicle vs. pedestrian crash involving a Fairhaven Police cruiser, which occurred last week.

At around 11 p.m. Tuesday, 8/25/20, a Fairhaven Police cruiser was being driven westbound on Route 6 when it struck a pedestrian in the roadway just west of the 7-Eleven convenience store. The officer who had been driving the vehicle rendered aid to the victim.

The pedestrian, 32-year-old Christian Lapaz-Dejesus, previously

of South Weymouth, and most recently living in New Bedford, was rush to St. Luke's with serious injuries, then transferred to Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston, where he later died from his injuries.

The police cruiser involved in the crash was a 2014 Ford Explorer.

The investigation into this crash is being conducted by Massachusetts State Police detectives assigned to the district attorney's office and accident reconstruction is being conducted by the Massachusetts State Police Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Section.

## Primary election results

Massachusetts held its state primary on Tuesday, 9/1. The following are preliminary results.

US Sen. Edward Markey (D) fended off a challenge from Joseph P. Kennedy III (D), although both Fairhaven and Acushnet voted to oust the incumbent. With 76.3% of the precincts counted by press time, the Associated Press called the race for Markey.

In Fairhaven, Kennedy received 1831 votes to Markey's 1250; in Acushnet Kennedy received 845 to Markey's 403.

There were no other contested races on the Democratic ballot.

On the Republican side, it was a split decision for the two towns:

Shiva Ayyadurai received 354 votes and Kevin J. O'Connor received 424 in Fairhaven; in Acushnet, Ayyadurai nudged out O'Connor 269 to 250. O'Connor was the projected winner by the Associated Press.

Voter turnout in both towns was way up compared to other state primaries, and both town clerks attributed early voting and vote-by-mail as contributing to the larger participation.

In Fairhaven, 3989 voters cast ballots, a whopping 33+%.

Town Clerk Carolyn Hurley said that four years ago, 414 voters cast ballot for a dismal 3.7% of the electorate.

ELECTION: cont'd on page 21



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## SCHOOL: cont'd from page 4

Assistant Superintendent Tara Kohler said high school will undoubtedly feel different this year, but the more they limit student exposure now, "the more other exposures you can have."

Also during the meeting, Fairhaven High School Assistant Principal and Hastings Middle School Principal Dr. Nicholas Bettencourt gave a presentation on the hybrid learning model for the committee, including the various online learning platforms such as the Florida Virtual School that Fairhaven teachers will be using to supplement the more robust virtual learning component of the hybrid model.

During the presentation, they announced the start and dismissal times for the schools: Wood and East Fairhaven Schools will start at 8:40 a.m. and dismiss students at 1:54 p.m. Middle School will start at 7:45 a.m. and end at 1:24 p.m., and the high school will start at 7:35 a.m., with some students being dismissed at 1:03 p.m. and others at 2:07 p.m.

Although all information is still not coming out as fast as many would like

it to, said Dr. Baldwin, he expressed optimism about the upcoming school year.

"We are building a thousand piece puzzle and I can see the final picture," said Dr. Baldwin. "It's gonna work, it's gonna be great, but people just have to be patient that [the information] is coming when it's here, and I don't know what back-to-school supplies will look like, but I don't think that they will look like they did in the past."

"I'm sure this is stressful, I know it is," said chairperson Mr. Monroe, "but we'll get through this ... and it's all going to work out great."

Before adjourning, Dr. Baldwin stated that the district would be especially vigilant this year in verifying the residency requirements for Fairhaven school attendance.

In other matters, the committee approved the Request for Proposal to contract with Champions for before/after care for elementary school-level students. Champions is a part of KinderCare, a national childcare corporation that has been the largest child care provider throughout the

COVID-19 pandemic. The committee will subsequently receive a contract to approve and then schools will disseminate further information on programming and costs. The program would be eligible for early education and child care subsidies for families that currently receive this funding.

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# Christmas in Acushnet

By Beth David

Editor

It's Christmas in Acushnet.

Really. It is.

And Frank Carreiro can hardly believe his eyes. His wife Lisa is battling cancer, and doctors say her time is short. All she wanted was to have one more Christmas with her family.

Someone mentioned it to someone who mentioned it to someone.

"People ask all the time what they can do to help," said Mr. Carreiro. "I said she would like to see Christmas."

You say it, he said, but you don't really expect people to go out of their way. Then "they" asked if it would be okay to put a "little Christmas stuff in the yard."

"And they came out and did just that," said Mr. Carreiro. "I wanted to thank them publicly, because that was an amazing thing they did."

"They" are Lisa's co-workers at Normandin Middle School in New Bedford. At the time, she was home and could watch them, and see the decorations out the bay window from her hospital bed in the house.

"If she doesn't make it to Christmas, she's going to have Christmas now," said Mr. Carreiro, and asked that people who can, please send Christmas cards to the house: 34 Lisa Avenue, Acushnet, MA 02743.

Mr. Carreiro said he contacted the news outlets to say "thank you" to the decorators.

He said people say "thank you" all the time, but it doesn't mean a thing. It's just words.

"I said, 'how can I thank them in a big way?' They did such a great job decorating the house like Christmas."



ABOVE: The Carreiro house on Lisa Avenue in Acushnet is decorated for Christmas in August in response to Lisa Carreiro's request to have one more Christmas with her family after being told her cancer was no longer treatable. BELOW: Neighbors show support by decorating for Christmas for Lisa. Photos by Glenn C. Silva.

He wanted it to be special. And it was.

After the story ran in one of the local outlets, the Christmas cards started pouring in.

"The Christmas cards have been keeping her occupied. She likes Christmas. And just thinking of the cards has been boosting her morale," said Mr. Carreiro.

"It's just been amazing," he said of the outpouring of support. "Strangers

are only friends you haven't meant yet."

Unfortunately, as of press time, Lisa is back in the hospital, but her fighting spirit is strong.

Ms. Carreiro was diagnosed with uterine cancer a couple of years ago. She had chemo and it went into remission, but then it came back with a vengeance this year. The doctors had warned her that it was a highly

CIA: cont'd to next page



## CIA: cont'd from previous page

aggressive cancer, she said, letting her know that if it did come back, it would be long odds to fight it off.

"So I got a year of remission," said Ms. Carreiro by phone from the hospital. "It is what it is."

She said you can look at it two ways: Sit in the corner and say "why me" and "why did God do this to me" or make the best of the time you have.

"People have to understand," said Ms. Carreiro. "God did not do this to me. Nobody did this to me. It's the luck of the draw."

She said she did chemo "last time," she did radiation, internal radiation, and tried it all.

"I gave it the fight," she said. "I wasn't ready to leave my husband and kids. But now, it's just waiting to see what's happening, what's going on. Is there going to be some kind of miracle for me."

She said her one wish was to have one last Christmas with her family.

"All the people I work with showed up at my house last Wednesday night with a truckload of decorations," she said. "They spent half the night decorating my house. Now I've got three other neighbors who've done it, and signs that say we support Lisa."

The've lived in the neighborhood since 2007. The Carreiros have twin

sons, 21-year-old Jonathan and Andrew, who live with them.

"It's just a very good neighborhood," said Ms. Carreiro. "I love my neighbors."

Mr. Carreiro said he wanted to get the word out because there are "so many bad people out there. I just want to show there are so many great people out there."

He joked that some people have neighbors who make them cringe.

"My whole neighborhood is just amazing," said Mr. Carreiro, mentioning the lady across the street who just loves Christmas.

He said he started decorating his house when his parents were no longer able to travel to La Salette for the lights. It got bigger and bigger.

"My house was like the Griswolds," he said.

And then it had a ripple effect, and more and more neighbors started decorating, with a couple really going all out.

"And we decorate for the neighbors who can't decorate," he said. "But this year I love it better, because of the love they put into the decorations. That is just amazing."

"Don't look at this as a death sentence," said Ms. Carreiro as she was waiting to be taken out of her room for a test. "Use it to do as much

with your life as you possibly can. There's nobody to blame. There's nobody to blame."



A Christmas tree is on the lawn at the Carreiro home on Lisa Avenue in Acushnet, which is decorated for Christmas in August in response to Lisa Carreiro's request to have one more Christmas with her family after being told her cancer was no longer treatable. *Photo courtesy of Frank Carreiro.*



LEFT: A few illuminated reindeer grace the lawn at the Carreiro home on Lisa Avenue in Acushnet, which is decorated for Christmas in August in response to Lisa Carreiro's request to have one more Christmas with her family after being told her cancer was no longer treatable. RIGHT: Santa and his reindeer have a prominent spot on the lawn at the Carreiro home. *Photos courtesy of Frank Carreiro.*

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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.

## BPW members bicker about bill paying procedure

By Jean Perry

### Neighb News Correspondent

The Fairhaven Board of Public Works meeting on 8/25 proceeded despite a so-called “glitch” in the meeting notice posting, which was posted for two days but not a full 48 hours. The board discussed the agenda items but withheld from taking any votes, including a vote to adjourn the meeting when it ended, which Chairperson Brian Wotton voiced would not be allowed because it was a form of a vote.

At the start of the meeting, BPW Vice Chair Robert “Hoppy” Hobson was eager to know if fellow board member Frank Coelho was satisfied in his research of some prior still-yet-to-be-signed bills and willing to approve signing them. Mr. Hobson asked BPW Office Manager Becky Vento if there had been a conclusion to a recent visit Mr. Coelho made to her office to review said bills and understand the

bill signing process.

“I’m still reviewing them,” said Mr. Coelho.

“I would like to know what the outcome was, asking all these questions about the bills,” said Mr. Hobson. “I want to know why he’s asking it and what he’s found.”

“Well, you can’t blame the guy —” began BPW Superintendent Vincent Furtado before Mr. Hobson interrupted him.

“I’m not blaming the guy,” said Mr. Hobson over Mr. Furtado.

Mr. Coelho said the board has the right to ask questions and since he is unfamiliar with the process bills go on their way to the BPW desk, he was trying to get caught up.

“I don’t know what the problem is and why I should have to explain what I’m doing as far as checking something out,” said Mr. Coelho. “You got the same right — you’re here [at the BPW building] more than I am.”

“I been on the board for ten years,” said Mr. Hobson. “I don’t even know why you’re questioning them.” He explained that superintendents submit bills to Mr. Furtado who passes them to Ms. Vento, who then presents them to the board. After they are signed the Town’s finance director reviews them.

“That’s the routine for 10 years,” Mr. Hobson said.

Mr. Furtado said BPW staff also keeps an updated tally of the budget on the back of the bills packet every two weeks and that there are thorough checks and balances.

Mr. Hobson asked Ms. Vento how many times Mr. Coelho has visited her to talk about bills. She said only once or twice.

“What difference does it make?” asked Mr. Coelho. “Can I—”

“I got the floor! I got the floor!” Mr. Hobson said raising his voice. “When

BPW: cont’d on page 18



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# Fairhaven School Department participates in National School Lunch Program

Fairhaven Public Schools is pleased to announce our participation in the National School Lunch Program. Meals will be available to all children at the following schools: Fairhaven High School, Elizabeth Hastings Middle School, East Fairhaven Elementary, Leroy L. Wood Elementary and St. Joseph School in Fairhaven. Meals meet nutritional standards set by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Our schools will participate in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program.

If your income is less than or equal to the following guidelines, you are eligible for free or reduced-price meals (.30 for reduced breakfast and .40 for reduced lunch). If you have children who are approved for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) formerly known as Food Stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), they are automatically able to receive free meals by filing an application that includes their assistance number from one of those programs. Students who are migrant, homeless, foster or runaways are automatically eligible for free meals. Note: Medicaid case numbers do not qualify for eligibility.

If you have a child(ren) in your household not listed on your

notification, to decline benefits or to get an application for free or reduced-price school meals, contact Barbara Loranger at 508-979-4000 x 135 or [bloranger@fairhavenps.net](mailto:bloranger@fairhavenps.net). Applications and income guidelines can be found online at [www.fairhavenps.org](http://www.fairhavenps.org) under Our District/Food Service.

We cannot approve your application unless it is complete. You may apply at any time during the school year if your situation changes. If you become unemployed, your child(ren) may be able to have free or reduced-price meals based on your unemployment income. If we deny your application, you will be given an opportunity to appeal the decision.

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	YEAR	MONTH	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	WEEK	YEAR	MONTH	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	WEEK
1	\$16,588	\$1,383	\$692	\$638	\$319	\$23,606	\$1,968	\$984	\$908	\$454
2	22,412	1,868	934	862	431	31,894	2,658	1,329	1,227	614
3	28,236	2,353	1,177	1,086	543	40,182	3,349	1,675	1,546	773
4	34,060	2,839	1,420	1,310	655	48,470	4,040	2,020	1,865	933
5	39,884	3,324	1,662	1,534	767	56,758	4,730	2,365	2,183	1,092
6	45,708	3,809	1,905	1,758	879	65,046	5,421	2,711	2,502	1,251
7	51,532	4,295	2,148	1,982	991	73,334	6,112	3,056	2,821	1,411
8	57,356	4,780	2,390	2,206	1,103	81,622	6,802	3,401	3,140	1,570
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NMLS # 422864

# Man allegedly fires gun during argument in Fairhaven

*Press Release*

Lt. Kevin Kobza reports that the Fairhaven Police Department arrested a North Carolina man after a dispute early Saturday morning that resulted in shots being fired in a vehicle.

Christopher Gaskill, 24, of Grantsboro, NC, was arrested and charged with:

- Discharge of a Firearm within 500 Feet of a Building
- Carrying a Firearm while Intoxicated
- Unlawful Possession of Ammunition
- Carrying a Firearm without a License
- Assault with Intent to Murder
- Assault and Battery by Means of a Dangerous Weapon
- Unlawful Possession of a Large Capacity Firearm
- Possession of a Large Capacity Firearm in Commission of a Felony.

Shortly before 2 a.m. Saturday, Fairhaven Police responded to a location on Main Street for a report of a fight and shots fired.

Upon arrival, officers found three males standing in the middle of the street near a 2011 white BMW car.

Police separated and interviewed the males individually.

A police investigation determined that the driver of the BMW got into a heated argument with his cousin, who was a passenger in the vehicle. During the argument, the driver is alleged to have produced a handgun and fired one round towards his cousin, narrowly missing his head.

The suspect is also alleged to have pistol whipped the man during the dispute.

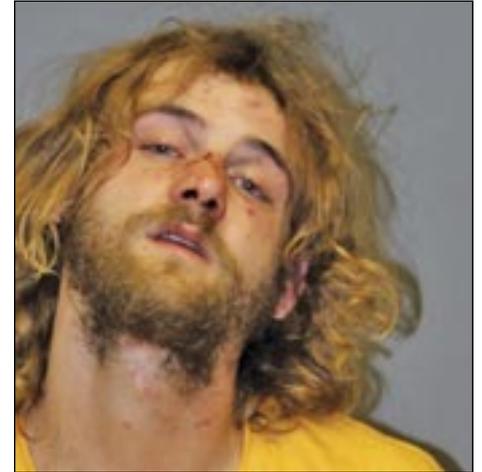
The two passengers in the vehicle began to struggle with the driver to secure the handgun, at which time two more shots were fired. One of the bullets penetrated the front windshield of the vehicle, and the other two were fired into the floorboard. No one was struck by the three total shots.

The driver, identified as Gaskill was arrested at the scene. He was transported by Fairhaven Paramedics to St. Luke's Hospital to be treated for injuries sustained during the struggle in the vehicle.

Officers recovered a 9mm Baretta handgun, ammunition and shell casings from the scene.

Gaskill was soon released from the hospital and transported to the Fairhaven Police Department for booking before he was taken to Ash Street Jail and Regional Lock-Up in New Bedford. He was at New Bedford District Court.

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



Christopher Gaskill has been charged with a eight offenses related to a shooting on Main Street in Fairhaven, MA on 8/29/20. Fairhaven police photo

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## BPW: cont'd from page 14

I'm done with the floor you can ask your question!"

"How many times did he meet with you?" he asked Ms. Vento.

"I think this is the second time," she replied.

"And what did he find so far?" asked Mr. Hobson.

"I still haven't made a decision on what I've found," said Mr. Coelho.

Ms. Vento said Mr. Coelho is still trying to figure out the process and get up to speed and making sure he feels comfortable with what he is signing.

"Yeah—" began Mr. Wotton before Mr. Hobson spoke over him.

Mr. Furtado also tried using a friendly tone to say that Mr. Coelho was right to try to understand what he was signing, and Mr. Hobson spoke over him as well.

"You want to know what you're signing," said Mr. Wotton.

When he could, Mr. Coelho began to speak, saying, "If you're a board member you should be able to understand and know exactly what you're doing if you have any questions about any procedure or policy.... I should have the right to ask Becky or go to a superintendent to find what it's all about. How many times I come here? I don't count how many times any board member comes here, which I don't care, they come here as often as they want ... so to be questioning me how many times I come here...."

"My only problem is, why are you doing it?" said Mr. Hobson.

"Well, he's interested in trying to find out, he wants to learn," said Mr. Furtado.

"I'm good," said Mr. Hobson over Mr. Furtado's last few words. "Before you sign these bills you got a right to look at 'em."

Meanwhile, speaking indirectly and away from the microphone, Mr. Coelho was heard saying, "I really - I can't - I cant - I cant believe this, you got to be kidding."

"I'm just thinking that he's wasting her time and your time," said Mr. Hobson. "He's got a right to his opinion, I got a right to my opinion."

Moving on, the board discussed the West Island Town Beach and how staff would be short until the season closes on 9/5, with only one gate attendant and one lifeguard. Mr.

Furtado said he was optimistic, though, that the season would end okay with the limited staff.

Mr. Furtado then announced that Fairhaven would for the first time owe money to Mattapoissett for water that Fairhaven needed after the Tinkham Lane well broke down.

He explained that historically Fairhaven supplements its water supply during the busy summer months with Mattapoissett water, while every winter Mattapoissett supplements its drinking water from Fairhaven with the whole transaction resulting in an equal exchange — a "wash," Mr. Furtado called it.

But for the first time, due to the well shutdown, the COVID-19 pandemic, and with the needed part to fix the pump on backorder, Fairhaven used more water from Mattapoissett than Mattapoissett used from Fairhaven. Without that

---

What do you mean we have to? Who says we have to? Get town counsel to negotiate it, he's good at negotiating  
[Robert "Hoppy" Hobson]

---

balanced exchange, said Mr. Furtado, Mattapoissett expects payment for the extra water.

"We were using their water all year long and it finally came to a head," said Mr. Furtado, adding that the Mattapoissett River Valley Water Supply District has had a bylaw built-in for 30 years to address this very situation which was not needed before.

Mr. Hobson was not pleased.

"If we gotta pay 'em in the summer, they gotta pay us in the winter," said Mr. Hobson clicking his pen wildly.

Mr. Furtado tried to explain, "In the past—"

"I don't care about the past," said Mr. Hobson. "They're changing the rules."

"No," said Mr. Furtado, they're not—"

"But they didn't charge us," Mr. Hobson interrupted.

Mr. Furtado tried to explain but Mr. Hobson kept interrupting him.

"But now they're charging us, so we should charge them in the winter," said Mr. Hobson.

"But you don't understand," said Mr. Furtado. "They're charging us because in the past ... when they gave us water in the summer, we gave them water in the winter." This year, Mattapoissett was giving Fairhaven water all year round, he said.

Mr. Wotton repeated the "it's usually a wash" figure of speech. Mr. Hobson was sure it was not fair.

"If you're gonna have a contract with them then you gotta put it in writing and it can't be 'Oh, we forgive you this year and you forgive us next year.' They're changing the rules," he said, punctuating it with a laugh.

"No," said Mr. Furtado. "We couldn't keep up with the demand."

"I understand that," said Mr. Hobson, "but they never charged us before so they changed the rules."

"No, the rules were always there," said Mr. Furtado.

"But they never enforced them," said Mr. Hobson.

"But like I said," Mr. Furtado kept on. "It was always a wash, we gave all—"

"Vinnie! Vinnie, I get it," said Mr. Hobson, "but it's not right."

"But it's actually right," said Mr. Furtado.

Mr. Hobson asked how much Mattapoissett thinks Fairhaven owes them, which Mr. Furtado said was about \$100,000.

"A hundred-thousand dollars?" said Mr. Hobson. "It's cheaper to buy it from New Bedford!" and added he was against paying it.

"We have to," said Mr. Furtado.

"What do you mean we have to?" said Mr. Hobson. "Who says we have to? Get town counsel to negotiate it, he's good at negotiating."

He called the bill a "\$100,000 con."

"Just tell them the board refuses to pay it," said Mr. Hobson, "I don't like that, I tell ya. I don't like that," adding that he would fight it at Town Meeting.

The board did not vote on FY 2021 water and sewer rates, and will discuss it at the 9/8 meeting. Although the board already approved a 10% hike in the water rate, Mr. Furtado said the board could consider reducing it to 5%, because the town has seen a significant increase in water revenue for FY 2020.

# Public Hearings/Legal Notices

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

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Fairhaven Conservation Commission

Monday, September 14, 2020 at 6:30pm  
Town Hall, 40 Center Street  
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

To Access Meeting Remotely:  
<https://zoom.us/j/99634319498?pwd=L2wyMnYwd3gxSVV3NEV2ZWRQSn1rQT09>  
or CALL 1-929-205-6099  
Meeting ID: 996 3431 9498  
Passcode: 303944

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

1. CON 023-170: **200 Mill Road** Notice of Intent filed after-the-fact by Paul Downey, Mill Bridge Holdings LLC, for curb and pavement rehabilitation and drainage pump and outlet replacement at the property located at 200 Mill Road, Assessors Map 36, Lot 11A. Work to take place in the 100-foot buffer zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetland.
2. CON 023-171: **172 Balsam Street** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Stephen Hickox for the installation of a 3-foot by 5-foot wooden

platform for a generator at the property located at 172 Balsam Street, Assessors Map 43B, Lot 35. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage and the 100-foot buffer zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetland.

3. CON 023-172: **37 Washburn Avenue** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Lavar Gilbert for the addition of loam and seed throughout the yard area, removal of overgrown shrubs, and planting native vegetation at the property located at 37 Washburn Avenue, Assessors Map 4, Lot 158. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage and the 100-foot buffer zones to Salt Marsh.
4. CON 023-173: **18 Bass Creek Road** Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation filed by John Kalife requesting confirmation of a boundary delineation of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland at the property located at 18 Bass Creek Road, Assessors Map 43C, Lots 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 309, 310, and 311.

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: 9/3/20

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## 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

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**HELP WANTED Fitzgerald Tree Service.**  
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### ELECTION: cont'd from page 10

This year was a "fabulous turnout," said Ms. Hurley.

She said she could not give a breakdown on how many mail-in ballots there were, but clearly it had a huge impact.

"They were coming in right until the end," she said, with ballots getting dropped in the drop box as late as 7:45 p.m.

In Acushnet, early voting and mail-in voting had an "incredible impact" on voter turnout, according to Town Clerk Pamela Labonte. Normally a state primary would see 1200-1300 voters. This election brought out about 1900 voters.

In a closely watched race eight Democrats and two Republicans ran for a shot at Joe Kennedy's House seat (4th Congressional District). At press time the race had not been called for either party. On the

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Democratic side Jesse Mermell had a slight lead over Jake Auchincloss, with the other candidates trailing behind the two leaders. On the Republican side, Julie Hall beat David Rosa by with just about 53% of the vote and 69.55% of precincts reporting by press time.

High profile US Representative from Mass. (6th Congressional District) Seth Moulton (D), easily fended off two challengers.

US Rep. Richard Neal (1st Congressional District), who chairs the House Ways and Means Committee, fended off a challenge from Holyoke Mayor Alex Morse, with 61% of the vote with 40% of precincts in. Neal has no Republican challenger.

Long time US Rep Stephen Lynch also easily fended off a challenge in District 8, from Robbie Goldstein, with 66.97% of the vote of 65.74% of precincts reporting.

## 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](http://FairhavenTV.com)*

### Fairhaven

#### Board of Appeals

Tues., 10/6, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

#### Conservation Commission

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

#### Council on Aging

Tues., 9/8, Senior Center, 9 a.m.

#### Finance Committee

Thurs., 9/10, Zoom, 7 p.m.

#### Marine Resources Comm.

Thurs., 9/3, Town Hall, 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 Appeals

Thurs., 9/24, Zoom, 6:30 p.m.

#### Golf Committee

Thurs., 9/3, Golf Course Tent, 4:30

#### Selectboard

Tues., 9/8, Town Hall, 5 p.m.

## TIDE TABLE

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

	Sept 2020	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
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
Wednesday	9	0122	1349	0605	1851
Thursday	10	0215	1441	0702	2000
Friday	11	0308	1536	0809	2104
Saturday	12	0407	1638	0912	2207
Sunday	13	0512	1740	1015	2311

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

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## From our readers

### What's going on in Fairhaven?

Aside from the serious disruptions and drama of late — it turns out some very impressive initiatives are underway in Fairhaven. Flipping channels, I came upon a replay of the July 23, 2020 Economic Development Committee meeting. (FairhavenTV.com) Here was a group of dedicated citizens proposing positive initiatives for Fairhaven's future and especially focused on the here-and-now to get us to that future in good shape. WOW — it was like a breath of fresh air and a great example of what good government looks like in action.

BUT and there is always a but...

Everybody knows that we are in for some exceptionally difficult times. After the 2008 financial meltdown it took many years to recoup. Likewise, this ongoing pandemic will have serious lasting repercussions for everyone including the town's financial base. Costs are going up and revenues are going down. Services may need to be cut and revenues tapped.

Yet, there are initiatives that our BOS [Selectboard] can take that would help position Fairhaven to weather some of the uncertainties. For example, fully exploring grants could offset some of the financial hits. Likewise, requesting the Massachusetts Department of Revenue/Division of Local Services to update their Fairhaven 2012 review which is now terribly out-of-date. They are the pros and have the necessary information at their fingertips to factor-in current and predictive conditions for our consideration. But, access to this review is not automatic — the BOS must ask for it.

So, WHY NOT do it?

There are only upsides and no downsides: It is FREE, objective, and would provide us with current best practices for planning and measuring progress. And, there is nothing to be afraid of because DOR recommendations are not mandatory — if the

town does not wish to implement them, they don't have to. Importantly, the town would benefit by being armed with the latest information to make informed decisions.

Selectman Bob Espindola has proposed that the board move forward with an updated DOR review. The BOS Chairman Daniel Freitas has said flatly "no." He should explain his rationale in a coherent way for the benefit of the public. Calling it a "waste of time" is an arbitrary slap-down. It makes me think he is afraid of something that might be exposed to scrutiny.

One would think Mr. Freitas would welcome a review clearly designed to help Fairhaven as it has many MA communities. The more he disparages good, well-intended and open-minded proposals the more red flags are raised about his heavy-handed management style (see FNN August 20, 2020 "Selectboard Differences on Display"). His resistance, bordering on contempt, only serves to awaken the public that something is radically wrong on his watch and his insulting attitude may be the root cause of the chaos that has overtaken the town hall.

Now is the time for people of good conscience to make their voices heard. The BOS needs to hear from YOU!

PLEASE email the Fairhaven BOS at [www.fairhaven-ma.gov](http://www.fairhaven-ma.gov) and select "Board of Selectmen" under the tab labeled "boards and commissions." When the correspondence form pops up you can ask "why not?" You could tell the selectmen that applying for grants and renewing the DOR report are just two of the low hanging fruit that the BOS could and should easily champion with their vote.

Goodness knows we could use some dispassionate objectivity — a "sanity check" for situations that have been encouraged to devolve into chaos. Enough of the drama and disrespect — let's get back to good governance!

*Cathy Delano, Fairhaven*

### Support Sustainable Energy and Increase Green Jobs-

At our meeting in May, the Fairhaven Sustainability Committee voted unanimously to support the 10 percent increase in renewables in the Good Energy Contract.

Fairhaven has the opportunity to be a model for other Southcoast towns by leading and supporting this initiative. We are a Green Community and should continually research ways in which Fairhaven can further improve our carbon footprint.

By agreeing to support this increase, we would also be helping our community in creating and sustaining locally sourced renewable energy, thereby creating more local jobs and boosting the economy. This small increase to the electric bill of our residents and businesses will not start until after January 2021.

We did create a survey that was on the Town's website and also had a full page ad in the local paper. The results of the survey were favorable in all categories including seniors. Anyone is able to opt out of the increase.

We hope that the Fairhaven Selectmen vote in favor of this increase and realize how important every change is to helping our environment and creating a better future for our community.

Show your support by attending the meeting on Sept. 8th by Zoom or contacting them directly.

*Ann Richard, Fairhaven Sustainability Committee*

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in a world that is  
constantly trying  
to make you something  
else is the greatest  
accomplishment.

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*



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### ENTERTAINMENT

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**Fri., 9/4:** Matt Silva  
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 next door to Fairhaven High School  
 508-979-4085  
 M, T, Th, F: 8:00-noon & 12:30-4:30  
 Sat: 8:00-noon & 12:30-4:30  
<http://FairhavenTours.com>  
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**Fairhaven Neighborhood News**

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